

SEPTEMBER

1996

*The  
New Voice*

O F N E B R A S K A



# OUR TURN: Opinions of New Voice Staff

## HER HIGHNESS SPEAKS

By Sharon Van Butsel

Yes, my loyal subjects, allow me to sprinkle you with faerie dust — Imperial faerie dust — guaranteed to endow you with passion, love, determination. And then I will reward you with hours and hours of hard work. At the end of your labors you will be allowed to lay your burden aside and sit down while someone else accepts both the endowments and the rewards.

What, you may ask, is this silly woman talking about? It's really quite simple. I'm still on an incredible high after being invited to serve on the Royal Family of Empress 16 Phoenix Fallentino. I was absolutely floored when Phoenix asked me and incredibly honored — especially since she invited me to serve as her "Princess Royale." The Princess Royale is actually the second person in the line and in theory is in a position to accept the position of Empress if the reigning Empress steps down. In practice, I am positive that Phoenix will complete her reign with honor and dignity and I will retire as "Her Imperial Highness, Princess Royale." (Unless I do something really stupid and get removed before the year is over.)

For those of you who are not familiar with the Imperial Court and what it does, The Imperial Court System is an international group of "courts" like our own, all of which have the basic function of raising money to help groups and causes in the G/L/B/T community. The first "Court" began in Portland, Oregon, over 35 years ago, but 25 years ago, Empress Jose the First and her Emperor

founded the Imperial Court System and guided it in its formative years. The Emperor passed away years ago, but his "widow" continues to lead and direct the Imperial Court System. The Widow Norton, Empress Jose the 1st, is in her 70's but still travels across the country visiting various courts and helping maintain the goals and ideals of the original court. As a matter of fact, Jose will be in Omaha for a "State Visit" during September.

The Imperial Court of Nebraska, like all the Imperial Courts, is a world of make-believe with an Emperor and Empress and Royal Households working with a Board of Governors or a Privy Council to conduct the business of their "realm." Each Emperor and Empress serves for one year and then steps down so a new Emperor and Empress can be crowned. This crowning of the Emperor and Empress chosen by the membership takes place at Coronation — a grand, gala affair that is all pomp and circumstance, whimsy and fantasy. This event is the culmination of the Emperor and Empress' reign — a time when they are honored by the court and by the community and a time when they recognize those who have served them well during their reign. Monarchs and other members of various Courts will travel across the country to spend a weekend of fun and frolic as they recognize a fellow Emperor or Empress at the various Coronations.

Here in Nebraska, the Imperial Court was founded 16 years ago to "advance gay society."

My impression is that the Court originally provided a place for gay men and female impersonators to dress in their finest and be themselves in a safe environment. In addition, the members of the Court adopted various causes, including the Jerry Lewis Telethon and MDA, and began to raise money for these causes. With the emergence of the AIDS epidemic, the fundraising efforts of the Imperial Court turned to AIDS related causes. Over the 16 years it has been in existence, the Imperial Court of Nebraska has donated approximately \$200,000 to various organizations, and has scored many other firsts including the first Pride Parade in Omaha, the original gay bowling league, and the first community picnic.

All of this history is really just to get to this point in time when the Court has marked another first — naming a lesbian to hold the position of Princess Royale. The first Prince Royale was a woman but the Princess Royale position and the position of Empress had always been held by female impersonators. So this year, Phoenix, with her commitment to diversity, broke with tradition and carefully pinned a crown on my head and named me Princess Royale at the Investiture of the Imperial Court on July 28. Royal also (to the best of my knowledge) scored a first as he named Leatherman Jim Gau to serve as his Prince Royale.

Jim and I will work closely together during this coming year and will work closely with our monarchs. I have already held one fundraising show at DC's (Womyn Take Center Stage — a show featuring all women performers that raised \$600 for the American Cancer Society to be used for Womyn's Cancer Research.) And Jim and I have scheduled several other events — a Chili Cook-Off in November, an old-fashioned "Prom" in February, and an Easter Bonnet Contest on Easter Sunday. It is going to be a busy, busy year but also a very fun year. Phoenix and Royal are great to work with and I am thrilled to be working hand in hand with Jim Gau. I think he is one of the most talented men that I know and I love working with him.

Oh, by the way, last month David Lee from Lincoln asked for my comments about the Imperial Court. I think I've probably said enough, but to sum it all up — I think the Imperial Court is a wonderful community service organization that devotes itself to raising money that it can give away to other groups. Last year we raised over \$13,000 and our goal this year is to give out over \$20,000 in grants to various organizations. I am proud to be part of an organization that works only to help others. As for the "problems" Mr. Lee alluded to, I don't think the Imperial Court has any more problems than any other organization — we just don't keep them a secret — we let the whole world know what's going on, whether it's good or whether it's bad.

My thanks to Phoenix for asking me and to the Board for approving her selection. Your most Imperial Majesty, I will try to serve you well.



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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## REMEMBERING LINDA WIERZBICKI

by Butch Addleman

I have been doing a lot of reminiscing lately, and at several moments, I reminisced on people. At this time, one person in particular comes to mind. This year is the 10th anniversary of her death. It was on August 1, 1986; a special person had tragically lost her life to the hands of another human being.

Ms. Linda Wierzbicki, a local actress and teacher, was murdered outside her apartment building in a robbery attempt. Linda was more than a teacher or actress to those who knew her at a personal level. When I met Linda, we were doing a fund raiser for the "Dr. Sanguinary" telethon for muscular dystrophy. I knew then that she was special. She was a very special and loving person who gave a lot of herself.

I personally appreciated her sense of humor. She always had us laughing. My fondest memory was when she sang. She sang with a strong but subtle voice. We loved her for her live performance of Billy Joel's "Piano Man." She had her own version and did it as a theatrical skit.

The day a friend informed me of her death still lingers in my mind. I didn't believe him till I saw it in the newspaper. According to the paper, Linda had just finished performing in "A Streetcar Named Desire" at the Norton Theater. She was found "stabbed to death." A friend had gotten concerned and went to check on her. She was killed in her apartment complex parking lot. As time passed Courtney Starks was arrested, convicted and sentenced to life for Linda's slaying.

Others and I were cheated by this man. No more friend to socialize with, no more "rolling in the aisle" to "Piano Man," no more morals and knowledge to pass on to her students. I went to as

many of his trials as I could. I wanted to see him get punished. To tell the truth, I hoped to tell him how he cheated me out of a friend.

To Linda—you were more than a friend. You were also a sister. You never let feelings stand in the way of humanity— whether it be friendship or relationship. Those of us who knew you shall not forget you. We have felt a huge loss to humanity. May your spirit live on in all of us.

### In Memory

Even as the Blessed, At the final summons,  
"So, Upon the Celestial Chant;  
Have seen, At the approach of the day,  
The Sun's face uprising in the sky.

O Sweet, Sweet death! Fortunate fire that burns,  
Remain within us still, to renovate our days;  
Though our days are limited, with the dead,  
It is by Nature, unto Heaven, we return!

Love is not the guilty, Nor thy fair face,  
Neither disgrace, or chance, or destiny;  
But fortune and cruelty, is the cause of pain,  
And death o'er life, was the final rein!

The ill we feel, and the good that we believe,  
In thee Fair Lady, so lofty and Divine;  
The art of desired success, you do leave,  
And the sweet-bitter tears of our hearts, are thine.

I think of Linda every time there is another killing that has occurred in our city, or when there is a Pride Parade and others have to march for her, or when a murderer is paroled somewhere. But I also think of her during school season and the loss to students everywhere. And when I go to a play somewhere—I "see" her.

Thanks, Linda, for the Memories.

## EATING DISORDER? TALK TO ME!

Dear Editor,

As you probably know, eating disorders such as anorexia nervosa and bulimia are on the rise. It has been estimated that 10 - 15% of the American population struggle or have struggled with some form of eating "problem." Of that number, at least 1% are male. Unfortunately, gays and lesbians are not exempt from these disorders. As a doctoral student, I am interested in studying and writing about the roles of eating disorders in our lives. Currently, I am looking at how eating-disordered (past and present) men and women experience and feel about conflict with significant others, family members, and friends. If any of you would be interested in talking with me about your experiences with conflict, please contact me so we can talk more about this study. I am interested in talking with gay, lesbian, bi-, or heterosexual individuals. All names and identifying information will be altered so that anonymity will be assured. Participants will be compensated for their time. Call or write to:

Sheri Blok  
c/o S.C.S.  
P.O. Box 30893  
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The *New Voice* will publish only those letters to the editor which include full name and either address or phone number so we can verify authenticity. You can request that your name not be published but we must be able to contact you for verification.

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## WHY NOTHING ON PROBLEMS AT MOTHERHOUSE

Dear Editor New Voice:

By now it should be obvious that the Franciscan Community of Divine Mercy, Inc. and its organizer, Brother Andrew Mary Francis, are complete frauds. On August 15, 1996 the Trustee sold the Franciscan Motherhouse to pay the mortgage arrearages held by the former landowner. Bring to a close a sad chapter of the local Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender (GLBT) communities' history.

Hopefully the GLBT community will learn the importance of credibility from these events. An incredible amount of deliberate blindness by numerous members of our community enabled Mr. Dick McCollough to continue, far longer than usual, his deception.

Shysters exist everywhere. It's impossible to protect oneself from fraud at all times. However, Mr. McCollough skillfully played the Omaha market, often with the witless support from our community. Outsiders would not fall for McCollough's endless explanations that our community believed.

Within two weeks after being hired as an attorney for the Franciscan Community, I realized serious problems existed. Yet, not one hint of the existence of these problems appeared in the *New Voice* or the newsletter of the Metropolitan Community Church. (My principle source of community information.) Even though NAP and local hospitals ceased making referrals to the Franciscan Motherhouse several months prior to my involvement with it.

Obviously fear of lawsuits, bad publicity, and the reluctance to publish erroneous claims factor heavily in their decisions over what to print. The lack of publication concerns me not. I can deal with frauds like McCollough.

My concern relates to the number of people who disbelieved or failed to act in response to warnings issued by others including myself. It's ironic that some people heard stories from former board members, organizers, volunteers, and guests of the Franciscan Motherhouse, and still failed to react.

All those I warned knew me as an attorney, and knew me personally for the last two years. Yet some continued to listen and accept the phony excuses of Dick McCollough. Many others with much longer histories of working with the local GLBT community testified in a similar manner to no avail. I suspect they also felt ignored and felt their efforts trivialized. This demonstrates a serious weakness in our community. Too many of us follow the code "If It's Gay, It's Good." When an individual states "I support gay issues." We bestow instant credibility upon the speaker. We don't investigate the speaker's background, prior behavior, or current affiliation. We fail to question the excuses made. Sadly, we often ignore criticisms raised by others of our community who dare contradict the speaker's words.

Fundamentally this shows the depths of our internalized homophobia and our reaction to it. Many deeply fear that lies and deceptions are inherent in the "non-straight" community. We use forced trust, acceptance, with occasional denial to overcome these irrational fears. These aspects are often necessary for many of us to initiate our first contacts with the GLBT community. However, to continue to present these aspects to those who take advantage of us, be it friends, partners, organizations, or businesses, shows internalized homophobia that needs addressed.

Only by understanding deeply the sources of our fears and our reactions to them will we ever, individually and as a community, develop and grow. To clue us into our development we need to listen to those of us who invested years in our community, who invested the resources to become professionals, and who worked hard to be upstanding members of society. But, this does not entail blind obedience to "our betters." Individually we must develop rational conclusions based upon our personal knowledge of the events and the level of trust and credibility demonstrated by others. Until then we are but sheep, easily herded to be sheared or slaughtered.

Sincerely, Ned Harrison

### EDITOR & STAFF RESPOND

For lack of financial support, an organization closes — does this constitute fraudulent use of our trust?

Many in our community are subject to rumor and debasement, often times without evidence. We at the *New Voice of Nebraska* have heard them all. We have not, do not, and will not base our exchange of information on this type of criteria.

No evidence has been presented to our editor or staff regarding this "fraud." We continue to be objective and non-judgmental. However, we respect the right of our readership and contributors to express their opinion. Perhaps you have evidence and facts which will support your comments and "charges." Until then one is innocent until proven guilty.

Thanks for the letter.

Editor and Staff

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**WHERE IS COUNTRY?**

Dear Sharon,

I thought I'd take a few moments to whine a little. I don't know what you can do about it but maybe some of your readers can figure out a solution to either of my complaints.

First, I'd like to say that I do have interests in the gay rodeo associations, but I find it is much easier to get information about rodeo associations other than the one in my area. It's usually easy for me to find information about rodeos all around the country, but recently I tried to learn about the rodeo events in Omaha with no success. I think you need to be a frequent bar patron at DC's to be in the know. In Lincoln there was no information to be found. You can imagine how many cowboy types there are here to ask; none. If the HGRA wants more participation and interest, they need to realize that the community extends beyond the bars. Please advertise a little better.

Second, I am quite discouraged without the so-called "country night" in Lincoln at the Q. I don't enjoy frequenting the bars as much as I once did, but when I heard there was opportunity to dance to country music I was willing to give it a try. I have gone five nights thus far, and four of the five nights they began playing dance music before the night had ended. The one night they did not was due to a live performance with Sheza Mann and Linda Mackey. I can listen to dance music six nights a week. Can't they stick with country one night? If anyone came from Omaha and arrived late, expecting country music, they might be surprised.

Frustrated in Lincoln

*Editor's comment: I have passed your letter on to both HGRA and Q. Your letter arrived too late for them to reply in this issue, but we will certainly print any response we receive.*

*I'm sorry you weren't able to get information of the International Gay Rodeo Association Convention held in Omaha last month, but to be quite honest, this event was a real convention with long business meetings, voting by delegates, etc., etc. Now the Dance competition was a different story - it was open to the public and was a great event. But I caution you to mark your calendar NOW for the last weekend in June, 1997. HGRA will be presenting the Heartland Regional Gay Rodeo at Christiansen Field in Fremont, Nebraska. This actual Gay Rodeo will include the excitement of the regular rodeo events, plus the special fun of such things as goat dressing and the wild drag race.*

*HGRA does put out a newsletter and it might be worth the cost of a membership to get on their mailing list. I would suggest writing to them at the address shown in the Resource Directory. I think you can expect a prompt response this time.*

**THANKS TO PRIDE TEAM**

Dear Editor,

I would like to thank Matthew Petersen-Samp and his Team for the 1996 PRIDE Event. Also, Matt, thanks for bringing the Pride Parade out of the closet. We have been there for much too long. Your work helps make "New Era of Pride," such a huge success. This was the largest Pride Parade I have ever seen in Nebraska and I remember the first one and several others. This was a BEST. Thanks to ALL the groups who took part and the individuals. Because without you all, there would have been nothing. I am not saying 12 years was not good, but too many people seemed to want us our own community to stay in the closet and take an out of the way parade route. Well, We Have Come Along, from the bags over some marchers' heads. Thank you New Voice for the trolley because without it, I and others would not have been able to go on the parade route. Thanks, I am so happy to see the New Voice alive and running. I am so proud of the staff who brings us this wonderful monthly publication.

I believe there were more people present at the parade than expected. I only found two trouble spots in the whole wonderful event. (And for those who really know me, hell that is Great!!!) 1. There was no handicap parking, the city could have helped you there. 2. There were not enough food stands, too long of lines. Again, Matt you did one hell of a job with your team, I am looking forward to next year's. Remember, We Have Reason To Be Proud Each and Every Day. PRIDE, make it yours today.

Sincerely,

**PERSONAL RESPONSE  
TO HARRISON LETTER**

As a member of the *The New Voice* staff, I was able to read this letter prior to publication. My comments are not only to Ned but to our community.

#1 Why do we thrive so on rumors and innuendoes, i.e. Franciscan Motherhouse, New Chance House, the Franklin Credit Union scandal. Why do we choose to look for the worst possible attributes within our own community? Homophobia?

#2 Why if so much is wrong, are we not coming forth with evidence?

#3 Why, after a certain amount of time, the accused, hung and cast out, return to the fold without retribution - clean slate without apology? Maybe we should try harder to walk in another's shoes before we condemn. Wanna give it a try? Let's clean our own houses first before trying to clear others.

P.

**FJS**

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## HIV and the Omaha Gay Community Reply

by Gary L. Beck

I would like to express some concerns regarding the article entitled "HIV and The Omaha Gay Community" in the August issue of *The New Voice*. First of all, I express my condolences to this anonymous PLWA for any hurts he has experienced due to his HIV status. However, I must also say that your one-sided view of your situation left me a little upset.

I think the thing that bothered me most about your diatribe is that you blatantly accuse people in the gay community as being unable to accept you because of you have AIDS. Have you ever considered that maybe you ostracize yourself? Has it ever occurred to you that some people try to get close to you and maybe you have barriers built around yourself and no one can get through to you?

Please don't get me wrong, I know, as do most gay and lesbian individuals, what it means to be ostracized. We have all been there by coming out. I know too from interacting with different individuals with AIDS that they are oftentimes wedged out of the gay community because of fear or ignorance. On the flip side of that, however, I am someone who is HIV-negative and was misled or misunderstood in a relationship with a PWA and I got dumped. I fell for this person because he happens to be someone with exemplary character whom I greatly respect. This person accepted responsibility for his actions and lived accordingly. I never once was concerned about being at risk of contraction from him. However, there were barriers he placed because of his life situation. As a result, I lost someone I considered a good friend and potential lover. I have been shut out of maintaining a friendship. Perhaps you are doing the same in an inadvertent fashion. Think about it.

On a final note, if you are meeting people that turn tail and run when they find out your HIV status, remember that informed, mature individuals with solid character and integrity will not run away. Perhaps you are meeting a bunch of dregs who are not worthy of your time. If they are that shallow that they run away, you are better than that and they are certainly not worth it. Try to find some people of higher quality.

### "COME TOGETHER" MOVES TO A NEW OFFICE!

"Come Together", a foundation run on a non-profit basis in north German Oldenburg, is doing its best to help gays and lesbians contact each other world-wide. Since April of 1995, "Come Together" Foundation International has been active for gays and lesbians in Germany and Japan, St. Petersburg and Rio de Janeiro, the U.S.A. and Norway arrange penpals, friendships, contacts and inexpensive accommodations within the country and abroad.

Whoever likes writing letters, entertaining guests, visiting other cities, just exchanging recipes, or whoever needs the 83rd sequel of "Golden Girls", they are at the right address with "Come Together." The Foundation works on a totally non-profit basis; only the donations of members helps defray the cost of mailing and packaging.

More information and/or membership applications can be obtained by writing to: CTFI, Staigraben 7, 26122 Oldenburg, GERMANY.

## OVER-THE-RAINBOW ON-LINE FOR TRAVELERS

The most complete on-line travel resource for gay and lesbian travelers, *Over the Rainbow*, debuts on America Online (AOL) in September. The cyberspace newsletter is being produced by Remy Publishing Company. Travelers interested in locating gay/lesbian-friendly neighborhoods, establishments, attractions, activities and more will be able to get instantaneous, up-to-date information on the specific destinations. From restaurants and accommodations to tourist sites and nightlife, *Over the Rainbow* will provide information from the perspective of gay men and lesbians.

The on-line newsletter will include evaluative reviews, feature stories and up-to-the-minute news briefs about places of particular interest to gay travelers, including popular destinations such as Key West and Amsterdam, as well as more off-the-beaten-path and exotic locales. Featured will be a guide to cities around the world, from hotspots to hometowns.

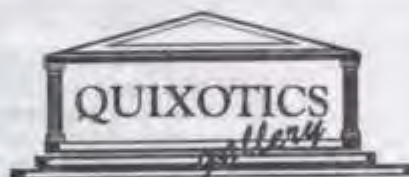
Listings will be continuously updated to assure the latest information — no more searching for a bar described in a recently published guidebook only to find that it is no longer in business. In addition, *Over the Rainbow* will include a complete travel calendar, providing information about major events around the world - Mardi Gras in Australia, the White Party in Palm Springs and the International Mr. Leather Contest in Chicago, for example. The calendar will cover the coming twelve months, so plans can be made well in advance. For information contact the Editor, *Over the Rainbow*, Suite 440, 350 W. Hubbard Street, Chicago, IL 60610 or e-mail address: DLM629@AOL.com



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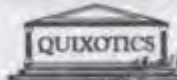
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## "A MODERN-DAY LOVE BETWEEN A GURU AND TECHNOLOGY..."

Good afternoon, my little poetic-verse junkies! After recovering from my lengthy bout with phlegm (and I would like to give a big "thank you" to all those who showed concern, or at least asked me about what mixers work well with Nyquil), I at last discovered true love! And this is the kind of love that just fits with this new technological age we live in. Somebody (a very nice man, who will always have my undying gratitude) gave me a new, faster modem for my computer! Now, when I am on-line, the other cyber-people won't make fun of me! I love my modem, and here are some reasons why:

### Reasons why modems are better than men!

- 1.) a modem will never tell its parent that you are "just a roommate."
- 2.) a modem would never dump you on a major holiday.
- 3.) a modem will work with just a flick of the switch.
- 4.) even small modems pack a lot of power!
- 5.) a modem would never make you check into a sleazy motel under the name, "Mr. & Mrs. Modem," or "Modem and son."
- 6.) a modem won't talk to you about other modems.
- 7.) a modem will never ask, "do I look fat?"
- 8.) you can stick your modem in the trunk of your car, and no one will even care.

I know what you are thinking, and yes, I do need to get out more. Anyway, this month I am featuring poems from Ray Allen, who has graced these hallowed pages before, and hails from Craig, Nebraska. And I will include a couple of my own (because I am so smitten, I don't care if I print too much of my own stuff!) just to round out the page. So until next month, gang, take care of each other and SAFE-MODEMING.

Brian

## A SKY OF PERFECT JOY

By Ray Allen

Men looking at erotic pictures in book stores usually don't make much noise. Even if they climax it is quick and silent as the proverbial fog on cat's feet into polluted and dehydrated harbors where every vulgar boatman hopes for rain.

Are any ships due to leave this place soon? If so, they'll have to pay a fee for souvenirs they take away

and no loud change jingles in trouser pockets just a quiet plastic credit card exchange is made for all the books and video tapes they can carry home inside freshly laundered outfits.

Nobody stands naked in the 24 hour a day adult emporium. No proper attire, no service unlike bodies between the covers rendered in ink and paper or magnetic tape and the magic of light to where eventually every vulgar boatman takes flight.

## PINK SATURDAY'S SONG

By Ray Allen

The Madonna is now laughing her son's dressed pretty funny those standard issue pink earrings are about the ultimate.

his miracles make mountain spring water into rainbow colored wine coolers and while the parent companies of Colorado give money to foreign war machines they smile and deny it, but I guess it's all right now if you drink the Rocky Mountainous stuff and grope a happy drunken neighbor wearing safety gloves because the stuff will give you a halo...

and Colorado Springs will give you 13 to life if you heave the proper boulders at right wing targets being like Harry the Radical Faerie and the misfit machine society every Saturday before Stonewall Jackson's anniversary of the march of death on the trail of tears.

Jesus the Peacenik flashes the pinko sign off a beautiful billboard on Broadway and the disciples look up from sublime porno peckings on 42nd Street to see the second coming of an army of lovers some naked and with bows and arrows drawn ready to fly into the heart of Pink Saturday's horrible beast.

## SCARS OF MY PAST

By Brian E. Bengtson

I will hold you like the first day of spring; the wait for new birth tastes sweet on your skin. Your eyes touch deep, and leave no bitter sting; as one story closes, one will begin. I hold your hand as we drift off to sleep. The night blows through us, the chill cuts us deep. Our breathing grows joined and our dreams become clear; the seed of our lives lies safe in our keep. The scars of my past fade with you so near.

I walk on a path of change and small dreams; my vision shrinks tight each turn of the road. I know that some stops are not what they seem, some may add to, some lighten my load. You know my virus, my piece of the plague; a past mistake turning my future so vague. I think I could tell you about these fears; my breath grows short. I am weak in my legs. The sins of my past fade with you so near.

In the mornings we wake, bodies still close and the light of the sun harsh on our eyes. I think these are moments I treasure most along with your laughter, each of your sighs. You hug me tight - still under the covers; a kiss on the cheek like age-old lovers. We toy with the notion of staying here, forgetting our jobs just like the others. The ghosts of my past fade with you so near.

I said I would hold you just like the spring; to nurture and grow, not scar or to cling. I will not hold you just to keep you here; This time I can wait for words or a ring. The fears of my past fade with you so near.

## A CIGARETTE WITH LONI

By Brian E. Bengtson

It is Thursday night, ten days until rent is due; her brittle-thin legs stake as the wind skims past her like headlights on the pavement.

There is a desert in her eyes. She pulls at the purple dress Momma sent her with the money to stay away from home. Her hands quiver like a child.

She walks like a puppet with three strings cut; her ashen skin glows under the streetlights as she looks for a new man.

There is a struggle in her breath. She clutches a wrinkled brown bag and the malt liquor inside with the same callused need that held her pipe thirty minutes ago.

No familiar cars pass us and she asks for a cigarette like she is passing the basket at a Sunday morning service. We silently smoke and wait.

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## FROM THE POOP SHEET

by Ace Landon      Nationally Syndicated Columnist



Well kiss ma' grits and butter ma' buns! Dr. Joycelyn Elders said it — along with the "M" word: "Any time we see the truth and fail to act, we begin to die."

So! You don't think a support group is important? Well, let me tell you how full of dog poop you are. Or maybe you're just a bit like I used to be: most of my life I probably never gave it much thought. Then, I began to do something very disconcerting — I aged. And the more I aged, the more I ran into folks with great losses in their lives. It was evident they NEEDED and DEPENDED UPON support from others.

Then it began happening in my own life. My Dad was buried alive in a landslide and crushed but lived. A few years of pain later, he died. Then Mother died. How could the years have sped by so fast! How could I be left alone and feeling so rootless!? As in most instances of parental death, I too was surrounded by numerous kin and the load of my loss and grief was not quite so bitter. Had those kin not been around, I might have had to seek an outside support group.

I also share with you, however, that the loss of parents in some lives may be no seeming big loss since no real bonds existed except the genetic tie. It would logically seem to me that maybe the AMOUNT of pain created from the loss of parent may be equal to the amount of communication and closeness achieved prior to the parents' death. Thus it might be realized that some need no support as their alienation from parents left them unable to feel the pain of loss and they actually had nothing to lose except a genetic tie.

The pain of loss of a parent is VERY DIFFERENT from the loss of your lifemate! It goes to say therefore: the divorce pain is also on this same frequency. However, it also allows into lives some very different feelings like anger, hatred, vengeance, etc. THIS group may be more in need of a support group than those who have been separated FOREVER from their mate.

Then, there are those of us who are presently caring for or who have cared for a loved one dying from AIDS... and what would I have done without that support group around me during those days and the days following my Patrick's death? I don't even want to think about what I'd have done without them. Our beautiful neighbors with knocks at our door to see if we were OK and then gifting us with culinary delights. What a beautiful support group June and Betty became to me! Bit I guess this is what being neighbors is supposed to be all about anyway, isn't it?

So how about my workplace? This is what coworkers are all about too, isn't it. Well, from my manger on down the line, there was empathy and concern for my well-being during those difficult days. It felt good because I was the only gay in the place (at that time!) and many of my coworkers had never known an out-of-the-closet gay prior. Through my time of trial and grief I became a tool in their lives to allow them to become a support group for a home!! Like wow! If there are to be any so-called "stars in our crown" when one gets to heaven, I truly believe these folks will be getting star status. What a support group they turned out to be! And they did it probably without even realizing how important they were to me.

Then there is also the organized support groups and at that time, although it was a fledgling, the AIDS Foundation locally provided Patrick with his rent money; without which we would have both probably ended up on the streets!

Although it would seem logical to rely on family and relatives as a support group during times of trial, we must remember these folks may be going through as much trauma as Pat and I were because of his AIDS. We must remember these folks who really do love us deep down inside and sometimes it takes a while for loved ones to feel strong enough themselves to even provide a support when our lifemate is dying. I guess what I'm trying to say is: rather than judging relatives too quickly when they don't respond immediately, give them time to pull their act of love together. In some cases it may be similar to giving a man enough rope to hang himself, but if this is the truth, then it's good to know.

In our case, we were hundreds of miles from our relatives. It took them time to even fly up to see us as money didn't grow on their yard trees! One by one, they made their trip to let us know we were their loved ones. Also we certainly thank God for Ma Bell and the P.O. during times of trial as they provide the avenues where loved ones can call and write their love and concern. All told, it becomes a terrific time of growth when our straight relatives may bond with us in deeper ties than we may have dreamed possible previously.

What it all boils down to is this: we are all needy and especially so when a mate is dying. We NEED support and — in so many small and wonderful ways. We receive it from neighbors, co-workers, organized support groups, our family and relatives, and, those very special folks we have chosen to call "friends."

Maybe you've never thought of yourself as being a support group of one, but it would seem to me that for those of who are survivors, it would be a logical step to be a good neighbor, coworker, family member or friend to anyone around us who may be needing a support group at the moment. If they are straight and you are openly gay/lesbian, I do think it would be pretty difficult for them to vote you into ignominy. I know it may be difficult but the truth is that we are truly angels in disguise... IF WE SO CHOOSE to be!! And that's the straight poop from the Poop Sheet!

Mr. Landon is former Mg. Editor of Zipper Magazine and The Coast to Coast Times. His autobiographical legacy: *The Closets Are Empty...The Dining Room's Full by Ponderosa Publishing. Visa/MC orders: 800-356-9315.*

## SMOKIN' HOT REVIEWS

By Al S.

I recently rediscovered a revamped (pun intended) band that is really different. It's hard to imagine in the homogeneous (no pun intended) local scene with **Blue Moon Ghetto** as the self-appointed leader. Many bands share the loud, raucous, testosterone-filled "Omaha sound," but one breaks the mold (pun intended.)

**Hang Dog** is a breath of fresh air. It's a jazzy, funky, speed-Goth quintet with a sex-goddess lead singer and four skinny boys who used to be called **Sabin's Echo**. Renee Gosh is kind of a punk Tina Turner, who moves constantly, moans like a porno-queen and sings some of the horniest lyrics I've ever heard. One song is called "F\*\*k-arama" and, in fact, it is. Another had lyrics defending gay rights. I loved it.

James Crye is the other singer. He couldn't be more different from Renee. He is short, dark-haired, preppy-looking guy who nearly personifies the word "hangdog." He always looks serious, shy and stiff, but he howls, screams and sings like a man possessed.

Drummer John Mitchell has a satanic beard like someone in a doom-metal band and pounds the devil out of his drums. Lead guitarist Joel Stanner is a waifish, grunge-looking dude who pulls all kinds of sounds out of his guitar. He uses lots of electronics and feedback to come up with his other-worldly leads.

The last, but not least Hangdog is Tom Garrett who is one talented bass player. He plays it like a lead guitar half the time, providing a lot of the band's unique sound. Tom is a cute, nearly skin-headed guy with a sexy thin boy-body which he shows off every time. He has a full back tribal tattoo (by Bill Haire), so he takes his shirt off whenever he plays. And no one complains!

**Hang Dog's** name may not be as obscene as it sounds, but their music has plenty of bite! They play at the Ranch Bowl, Cog Factory, the Capitol Bar, and recently had a cassette-release party at the Saddle Creek. The 5 song cassette is called "The Poop Queen" — sounds like some people I know. The title is based on a baser interest of Renee's. Pick up "The Poop Queen" at any of their shows and at the Antiquarium.

Watch out for **Hang Dog**, you might just get hung up on them!

## PROTECTION IN THE WORKPLACE

A report by the Human Rights Campaign says although corporate America is making progress toward fairness for gay/lesbian workers, there is a pressing need for federal protection from discrimination in hiring, firing, promotion and compensation. "The State of the Workplace for Gay and Lesbian Americans," looks at the proliferation of non-discrimination policies covering gays, domestic partner benefits and gay/lesbian employee groups in America. 6-48 employers have non-discrimination policies that include sexual orientation, including more than half of the Fortune 500. Only nine states, California, Connecticut, Hawaii, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Jersey, Rhode Island, Vermont and Wisconsin — and the District of Columbia — have comprehensive laws prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation.

## ROBERTS' RULES: If It Quacks Like a Dyke

by Shelly Roberts

I was approached by a producer of a magazine-style tv show for some help with a segment they are doing for their premiere. Naturally flattered, I rolled up my sleeves and said, "What do you need?"

"Well," she replied, then absolutely floored me with her request. "As you know (I didn't), it is now so cool to be a lesbian (Well, I did know *that*.) that straight women are now *pretending* to be lesbians (What?!) in order to look chick. (Really?)

So we want to do is a segment on how to look like a lesbian. You know, short hair, pinkie rings and combat boots...

"Dyke Martins," I interrupted.

"What!"

"Dyke Martins are those black leather, round toed boots that look like they're issued when you check into boot camp. They cost a mint, come a couple of inches over your ankles. You wear them with long, white socks, and only if you have an actual waistline and were born anytime after 1965."

"See," she enthused. "This is just the kind of thing I don't know."

"And about those pinkie rings...? ...More like hand carved wedding rings, or rainbow rings. Or something visibly pierced."

"What else?"

I needed some time to think, so I put her off for a few days to ponder how, if you are a straight woman, do you give the impression that might be a lesbian? And why?

And to whom?

I mean the reason that lesbians want to be recognized is to clue other lesbians in. But if a straight lady wears the identifiable costume which lets other lesbians know, won't they be inviting the thing non-gay women say they are most terrified of? The dreaded, "Hey, Babe, come here often?" Now, most lesbians know that they could get seriously dead, or worse from just such a wrong footed first move. Not to mention the hazard of getting yourself strung out on the emotional clothes line from falling for a lady who has to decide if she can take the heat, and also has to get out a husband's kitchen. That's been known to take decades.

So I presume they want to make other straights think they belong to the sacred sisterhood. Hmmmmmm. To make clueless hets think they're lesbian, need blatant. But being a lesbian is a study in practiced invisibilities. Subtleties. This was tricky.

Being as co-dependent as the next lesbian, I offer here a sampling from the list I came up with. So if you know any non-lesbian wannabe's cut this out, pencil your best suggestions, and hand it over. (Or just leave it anonymously. And wear gloves, in case management dusts for prints.)

1. A Stonewall t-shirt would be a pretty good clue. So would enough pink or purple triangle thingies: Earrings, watches, necklaces, pins. Ditto double female symbols.

2. Lambdas, and labris are still way too subtle. Ditto rainbows. And you could be mistaken for a precious moments optimist.

3. Removing all the het pictures from your office could be a good start. Replacing the framed one on the desk facing you with a personal snapshot of Cindy Crawford or Martina could do it. And you could always forge an autograph with appropriate inscription. For example, "It's a love match." Or "Richard would have been soooo jealous." Add a bunch of x's and o's, and you're in queer business.

4. Festoon your car with triangles, rainbow flags, "We're here, we're queer, you're jealous!" bumper stickers.

5. Shake hands all the way to the hilt. Give up that limp fish girly grasp. Remember it isn't two out of three falls. Not the incredible hulk. Just definite wedge to wedge contact. Of course, on the other hand, if you are showing off for the terminally dull, go for the gusto. Pin her arm right to the table.

6. Go to your local au so currant Barnes and Noble, where you'll likely find a local g/l paper. Study it as though there will be a midterm later. then, in your next conversation with your impressionable target, drop some place names. The local gay bookstore. One or two bars. When you mark asks, "Isn't that a gay place?" you can obliquely shrug and respond, "Oh, no. They serve lesbians, too."

7. Introduce your old friends to a couple of your new ones, Helen and Charlotte, or Viv and Alison, and let 'em wonder.

8. As a last resort: Buttons! You're way beyond subtle now. Time for socko! Try one that says, "Who says I'm straight?" Or the one-word declaration: "Dyke."

That should be a pretty good start. After all, we can't give away *all* the secrets. Then we wouldn't be so chic and exclusive.

Maybe it is true, what Suzanne Westenhoffer says. That lesbians are so cool, so chic, that we don't have to let just anyone in any more.

So we're only taking the *cute* ones.

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# "OUT IN THE STARS" Astrological Forecast for September 1996

by C. Lichtenstein

**ARIES (March 21 - April 20)** Queer Aries are devised to speak softly and avoid the schtick in partnership matters. Retrograde Mercury mindlessly throws a wrench in even the best laid relationship plans. Happily though, lucky Jupiter rubs your career the right way and it may seem that you can do no wrong. Take it to the top my proud Rambo and demonstrate why you were born to lead the troops.

**TAURUS (April 21 - May 21)** Gay Bulls squander energy on the job. You're either not listening properly or not communicating effectively. Either way, projects have a way of going astray. Blame it on retro Mercury if you must, but forewarned is forearmed. Jupiter, on the other hand, opens the world to you with zesty opportunities for travel and exotic excitement. Get those lovely hooves on the road.

**GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)** Even chatty pink Twins find more than a tad of creative blockage when Mercury retrogrades this September. OK, so you won't write that great gay novel this fall. Why waste the brain cells worrying and pouting? Thankfully, Jupiter pours on the red hot moxie and enlivens a rather moribund sex life. Lucky gay Geminis find artistic expression is put to much better use in more sociable outlets.

**CANCER (June 22 - July 23)** If you have a hankering to discuss any unpleasant family issues, I suggest that you wait until the end of the month when Mercury goes direct. Pink Crabs inevitably say something they don't mean as the home fires rage. Cool down cousin, and enjoy a heavenly jolt in relationships, happily sponsored by Jupiter. Spoil who you have or, if you're still searching, search to your hearts content.

**LEO (July 24 - August 23)** Retro Mercury double crosses your free expression. Be well warned to zip the lip before you slip. Proud Lions are usually elegant and disarming, but now you have a way of saying the exact wrong thing at the exact wrong time. If it makes you feel any better, Jupiter provides you with a few victories at work. Of course, it may also mean that you acquire many many new job assignments. Lucky you...

**VIRGO (August 24 - September 23)** Here's easy advice for the ever frugal queer Virgo; Hold your pennies and don't rush blindly into investments during retro Mercury. The specter of easy wealth is a mirage. Feast instead on glorious Jupiter which brings gobs of good times, albeit perhaps a little too much in the drink and jollies department. Moderation, as all good Virgins know, is the most efficient way to go.

**LIBRA (September 24 - October 21)** Sassy pink Scales are better off thinking it rather than saying it with retro Mercury. You've ample opportunity to disenfranchise anyone you meet despite your best diplomatic efforts. Don't let it worry your pretty head; Jupiter spreads a fair amount of joy in your home life so when all hell breaks loose, happily cocoon yourself. Invite a few kindred souls to share the campfire.

**SCORPIO (October 22 - November 22)** Even the most prescient queer Scorps are bound to have static on the psychic line with Mercury retrograde. Also, your best charitable efforts for our community may not have the impact you may wish. Thankfully, boisterous Jupiter jump starts your more eloquent quests. Fire off a letter to the editor and take our cause one giant step further. Jupiter gives it great impact.

**SAGITTARIUS (November 23 - December 22)** That old Sagittarian foot in mouth disease is planted right in friendships thanks to retro Mercury. No matter how hard you may try, Gay Archers are not meant to gather the troops this month. What the heck; Jupiter brightens your financial picture and can either bring in a windfall or cost one for an absolutely fabulous object of beauty. (Antiques, not lovers, dear...)

**CAPRICORN (December 23 - January 20)** Don't plan on spending that grand raise just yet, dear queer Cap. Retro Mercury temporarily squashes a magnificent end run to the boardroom. (Was it something you said? You bet!) No matter; Jupiter in your own sign gives you confidence and panache aplenty. You'll have oodles of self confidence and can win the bastards over eventually. Be patient and keep away from fattening foods.

**AQUARIUS (January 21 - February 19)** Travel plans should be kept to minimum with retro Mercury. Luggage gets lost or you get the room by the dumpster rather than the pool. Tough luck cousin! Why travel when marvelous Jupiter makes your altruistic efforts come true? Volunteer for a good gay cause (is there any other?); you'll be happy with the results. Closets get a good cleaning at this time too, thank goodness.

**PISCES (February 20 - March 20)** Pink Fish may upset the applecarts of true passion with retrograde Mercury. You may find the one utterance to cool an otherwise hot patoot. Who needs 'em anyway? Jupiter brings your fiends to the rescue and good times are not far off. Enjoy platonic pleasures and don't sweat the sweaty encounters for now. There's plenty of time at the end of the month to revive more basic urges.

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## WRITE THIS DOWN: 1-800-GAY-MEDIA

The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation can now be reached from anywhere in the United States, toll free, by dialing its new AlertLine: 1-800-GAY-MEDIA.

GLAAD's nationwide AlertLine is available to anyone reporting homophobia and discrimination in the entertainment or news media. A state-of-the-art automated telephone system guides callers through a question and answer session specially designed to get the most accurate information on what was seen on television or in a film, heard on radio or reading print.

William Waybourn, GLAAD's managing director, said, "Media coverage influences public perception of the lesbian/gay community. The more GLAAD knows about how we are being portrayed in the media, whether major Hollywood films or on a radio show in Kansas City, the better able we are to challenge defamation."

GLAAD, founded in 1985 by writers outraged by defamatory headlines about AIDS in the New York Post. They mobilized to change the way lesbians and gay men are represented in all media. GLAAD promotes fair, accurate and inclusive representation, challenging discrimination based on sexual orientation or identity.



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# VOTING AGAINST CLINTON

by Richard D. Mohr

I will be voting for Bob Dole in November. I will do so not because I think Dole is such a good guy on gay issues — though at least he is struggling with them — but because I think Clinton deserves to be punished for his treatment of gays. Indeed Clinton has been uniquely and distinctively evil in this regard.

He is uniquely evil in his role as President of the United States and leader of the First World. When he puts his imprimatur on antigay legislation, he impresses the whole of Western Civilization's condemnation upon gays. No senator, no televangelist, no pundit can do that. Only the President can.

Clinton has been distinctively evil, because the antigay legislation he has been calling into being attacks gays' very dignity and moral agency, not just our interests and happiness. When Clinton's apologists say that the President has simply been "disappointing" on gay issues, they misrepresent the range of values involved in the President's actions. I'm disappointed when I fail to win the lottery or when my taxes or the price of milk goes up. I'm disappointed when my happiness and interests are not advanced in ways I reasonably hope they might be.

Clinton's actions are worse in kind. In signing Don't-Ask-Don't-Tell into federal law and in craving to sign the so-called Defense of Marriage Act, Clinton has degraded and humiliated gays. Don't-Ask-Don't-Tell institutionalizes the degradation of gays in the very instrument by which the country takes the measure of citizenship — the military.

The policy's specific form is that of a shaming ritual by which society designates things, like excrement or pus, as loathsome and abject, as the unmentionable, the unspeakably gross. The policy enshrines the view that within the public sphere, gays are less than human, gays are scum.

DOMA does the same for the private sphere. Marriage is the institutionalized ideal governing the realm of body and bedroom, hearth and home. In barring gays from marriage and military service, Clinton tells the world that there is no proper place for gays either in the public sphere of citizenship or the private sphere of family life. Clinton's actions establish gays as exiles in their own country.

In protesting Clinton at the ballot box, one does two things. First, by placing one's interests imminently at risk for the sake of what is right, one advances one's dignity, the very value Clinton would deny gays.

In this way, one acts like Martin Luther King, Jr. and other civil disobedients who put themselves at risk of arrest in order to let their human worth shine forth as a moral witness to what is right.

Second, protest votes aim at the future — the next election, and the one after that. Protest votes tell political parties, "We will not be taken for granted. You have to do better at fielding candidates." Remember that the problem with being taken for granted by someone is not that his enemies will write you off, but that he will. This is what Clinton has done to gays. After getting the endorsement of the Human Rights Campaign, Clinton turns right around and tells the country how eager he is to sign DOMA "to strengthen American families."

For a protest vote to work as moral witness, one needs to tell people what one is doing — friends, political organizations, exit-poll takers. Doing so will require courage. For in general gays have debased themselves for so long at the altar of the Democratic Party that they have lost any sense of themselves and their values. The Human Rights Campaign has groveled under the Democratic table for crumbs so long that it has become a dog.

David Mixner says he is going to vote for Clinton even though he compares his doing so to a battered wife returning to the husband she knows will batter and humiliate her again. Something is obviously wrong here. We can do better than this.

Still, in lifting our consciousness, rising up from these debased stations, and voting in protest, gays will appear as traitors in some quarters and be dismissed as crazy in others. But that is only because so many gays have been snookered for so long by smiling devils speaking the words we wanted to hear when words were the only thing on the political menu.

Now is the perfect time for gay protest votes on the federal level. Substantial national legislative reform on gay issues is a generation off. It will take that long for the cultural transformations now underway around gay issues to soak into the interstices of national politics. As a guide, remember that the federal Civil Rights Act, twenty-two years in the making, passed in 1964 only after it had the support of 85% of all Americans and over 50% of every sector and demographic category in America.

In protest vote, one looks to the future, but must be willing to live with what one's vote might

effect in the present. Gays can live with Dole. He is no more conservative than George Bush. And George Bush was better on gay issues than Clinton has been. He wrote antigay legislation out of existence — when in 1990 he signed a bill lifting the ban on gay immigration — while Clinton hasn't seen a piece of antigay legislation he couldn't embrace.

If you want to help hold gays' dignity and pride in trust, then vote for Dole. Or vote Libertarian — they support gay marriage. Or simply skip voting for president. But if you wish to participate in your own degradation — to kiss the rod that beats you, to prepare the mud in which your face will be ground yet still again — then, yes, by all means vote for Bill Clinton.

*Richard D. Mohr is the author of Gays/Justice: A Study of Ethics, Society, and Law.*

## MLB PITCHER ENRAGES CROWD

During the third annual "Until There's a Cure" day, an event hosted by the San Francisco Giants to raise money for and increase awareness of the fight against AIDS, Giants pitcher Mark Dewey disappointed and enraged many fans and viewers with a series of antics.

Dewey, a fundamentalist Christian who strongly believes that homosexuality and safe sex "fly directly in the face of Scripture," refused to walk on the field with his teammates to show solidarity with the fight against AIDS and during the game, wore his red AIDS awareness ribbon sideways, which made the looped ribbon resemble the Christian fish symbol.

Additionally, on souvenir pennants players were signing for the food bank, Dewey included a biblical verse next to his name.

While Dewey is entitled to his beliefs, the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation believes he chose an entirely inappropriate forum in which to express them.

In making a spectacle of his own beliefs about homosexuality, he detracted from the overall message of the event — that AIDS is an epidemic that touches all communities, regardless of sexual orientation.

The Giants organization did nothing to stop him and has remained silent in the ensuing controversy.

## JEWELRY THAT DARES TO BE GAY!

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## WHAT KEMP MEANS TO GAYS

Now that Bob Dole has picked Jack Kemp as his running mate in the Presidential election, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force has released its opinion on what Jack Kemp means to gay Americans.

Dole's selection as Kemp as his running mate is one more attempt to pacify the Christian Coalition and the ultra right-wing Council for National Policy.

Kemp is a Trojan Horse candidate. While he appears to be a mainstream conservative who offers the ticket a focus on conservative economic policies, Kemp is in fact an extremist out of step with mainstream America.

Over the last 15 years, Kemp has been part of the leadership of the hard right, whose agenda is antithetical to democracy.

His voting record brands him as a right-winger on issues as abortion, discrimination against gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgenders, and people living with HIV and AIDS.

Even Kemp's arguably moderate views on affirmative action and immigration can be called moderate only in the context of the Republican extremism that surrounds him.

We must judge this ticket by its platform, its record and its leaders.

The GOP convention platform provides a

clue: A Pat Buchanan inspired platform that scapegoats poor people, people of color and immigrants.

The platform re-writes the GOP's checkered history related to AIDS and AIDS funding by falsely claiming its traditional support for funding for AIDS research and prevention.

It was this GOP that placed serious limits on the efforts of AIDS educators to speak plainly about sex and sexuality.

This is a platform that, while it claims to support equal opportunity for all, continues to perpetuate discrimination against the gay community in the areas of same-gender marriage and service in the military.

Leadership of the Republican Party is so far to the right that it is chilling. The convention's speaker line-up included some of the right-wing's most notorious spokespeople: militia advocate Helen Chenoweth, anti-gay and AIDS-phobic Congressman Robert Dornan, and Christian Coalition leader Ralph Reed.

Jack Kemp is the Trojan Horse and America is Troy. Let's not open the gate of the country for the Trojan Horse to enter.

We must keep ourselves defended from the forces of the Right.

## USA TODAY "GAY COUPLES SHORT-CHANGED"

USA Today's Money section included "Unmarried Couples Face Financial Planning Obstacles", which details challenges unmarried couples — specifically lesbian and gay couples — face trying to protect themselves in a legal system that does not recognize them. Without the safeguards of legal marriage, same-sex couples have to go through many hoops to preserve the right to inherit one another's property, visit one another in the hospital, make decisions about burial and uphold child custody, among others. Many tax breaks and other marriage benefits are impossible for same-sex couples to access.

Financial planners from companies, including American Express, discuss ways the business is ahead of the government in recognizing same-sex couples' financial and legal needs. Since one in four families in the U. S. resemble the so-called traditional nuclear family, financial planning companies realized the reality of changing demographics and responded to those needs. American Express financial planner Sherry Bierman points out, "They're the same products everyone needs, life insurance, annuities, mutual funds, savings certificates... It's not a moral issue. It's a practical issue."

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## REP. GUNDERSON CALLS IT QUILTS

Rep. Steve Gunderson, a Republican from Wisconsin, says he will not seek re-election, claiming a conservative group had planned to attack him on the campaign trail.

Gunderson, who until recently was the only openly gay Republican Congressman, says House Speaker Newt Gingrich had alerted him that the group called "Free Congress Foundation" was planning to launch a full assault against him — making an issue of his sexual orientation.

Gunderson also claimed that the group was going to make claims about his health and AIDS.

Gunderson said, "Speaker Gingrich made it clear that he would support me if I chose to run. He wanted me to understand the circumstances that were developing before us. I have been informed that these people were prepared to do whatever was necessary not only to defeat me, but to destroy me personally. I have been informed that these people were going to make allegations regarding my health status and AIDS. I have been informed they were going to engage in other elements of character assassination. Let me make it perfectly clear, I am not sick. Rob is not sick. I do not have AIDS. He does not have AIDS. I would go so far as to put my health condition up against literally anybody's in this room. Unfortunately, this is about more than that."

The 45 year old Congressman says he was willing to fight the negative campaigning, but he did not want to put his friends and family through that kind of turmoil. He added despite Gingrich's support, the House Speaker urged him not to run.

## ABBY & MISS MANNERS GIVE SAGE ADVICE

Abigail Van Buren (Dear Abby) and Judith Martin (Miss Manners) both gave nods to lesbians and gays in recent articles. Several months ago, a woman wrote to Abby using the name of Michael Deibele, a practical joking male friend who wanted to come out as a devoted baton twirler. Abby's advice at the time had been to ignore the taunts and keep on twirling. Since then, Michael (who is straight) received numerous homophobic crank calls and the attention of the national media for his "hobby", so the woman wrote back to clear up a joke that went awry. Abby's response is articulate and precise: Not all people who engage in activities thought to be cross-gender are lesbian or gay, and she condemned the "outdated public perception that certain activities are 'masculine' or 'feminine'." She continued "homosexuals are represented in every profession, sport, and hobby, whether they choose to disclose it or not.

In Miss Manners, a gay man complained about difficulty finding an appropriate label for the man he "had chosen to spend his life with... 'Love' seems to imply the basis for our relationship is sex. 'Friend' doesn't work; we are more than friends. 'Partner' draws puzzled looks. 'Significant other,' nobody likes. 'Domestic partner' sounds like 'roommate'." When gay marriages are legal, they plan to wed. Miss Manners eloquently replied acknowledging the traditional stage of the relationship. "So you're engaged. There is a standard term, 'fiance,' for people who plan to marry, whether or not they eventually succeed." In doing so, Miss Manners suggests same-sex couples should enjoy the same cultural standards that cogenerated couples do, including engagement and marriage.

## CONGRESSMAN COMES OUT

Representative Jim Kolbe, a Republican from Arizona, has come out of the closet while facing mounting pressure from lesbian and gay journalists and activists. Since the House passage of the "Defense of Marriage Act", a renewed trend in gay media has emerged which encourages gay politicians to come out of the closet. A July 21 airing of the "Gay Show" on New York's WBAI-FM reported that Kolbe and another Republican Congressman, Jim McCreary of Louisiana, were closeted gays. On July 26, the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation and the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force placed "A Call to Conscience," a full-page ad in the Washington Blade. Without naming names, the ad called closeted gays and lesbians in Congress to "end your silence and defend your community in this time of unprecedented hostility."

Additionally, Kolbe discovered that the *Advocate*, a national lesbian and gay magazine, would be running a story on him in its August 20 issue. "I'm not bitter about this," said Kolbe in an interview with *Arizona Daily Star*. "I'm the same person I was yesterday, and I'll legislate just the same way. This should be as irrelevant as the fact that I am blue-eyed, right handed and balding."

Kolbe says he voted for the Defense of Marriage act because he believes it is an issue of states' rights. The bill would allow individual states to reject recognition of same-sex marriages performed in other states.

Log Cabin Republicans, a gay organization, applauded Congressman Kolbe for coming out. The organization rated Kolbe sixth among all House Republicans with a 92 rating.

## GAY MEN OF COLOR HIV/AIDS INSTITUTE

The 7th Annual Gay Men of Color HIV/AIDS Institute will be held August 30 - September 2, 1996 in Miami Beach, Florida.

The National Task Force on AIDS Prevention is proud to continue this tradition of empowerment and education for gay men of color and those working with them for HIV prevention and treatment. This is the only national conference focusing on the HIV prevention needs of gay and bisexual men of color.

This year's Institute will enhance skills to develop effective HIV prevention programs; continue development, implementation, and refinement of HIV prevention standards for gay men of color. Other workshop highlights will enhance leadership skills and heighten the knowledge and awareness of how to take care of individuals suffering from HIV.

This year's guest speaker will be Mr. Reggie Williams. Mr. Williams recently wrote an autobiography entitled "Yours in the Struggle", chronicling the fight against HIV/AIDS from a person of color perspective.

For more information, please contact the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention at (415) 356-8100 or via e-mail: [nfap@aol.com](mailto:nfap@aol.com).

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5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

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ALL YOU CAN EAT

We at DC's wish Miss Aramis good luck at Iowa's Run for Empress on Saturday, Sept. 21.



# PRESIDENT CLINTON INTERVIEW WITH GAY/LESBIAN PRESS

He never followed through on his promise to open the military's doors to gays and lesbians. He signed The Defense of Marriage Act. He allowed the Supreme Court to stay out of Colorado's Amendment 2 fight, and he fired Jocelyn Elders. Despite these disappointments, Clinton and his administration have done more than any other to help gay and lesbian Americans. How committed to gay and lesbian causes will he be in a second term?

With election '96 around the corner, Clinton gives "The Advocate" his first and only interview with a gay and lesbian publication since he was elected president. In fact, he is the only president ever to grant a gay magazine an in-depth interview. After almost four years in the line of fire, Clinton agreed to discuss a range of sexually-charged subjects that most politicians try hard to avoid. The following are excerpts from "The Advocate" cover interview with President Clinton, conducted by Washington Correspondent J. Jennings Moss:

**What do you say to those gay voters who invested so much emotionally in your candidacy but have felt let down?**

We have truly accomplished a great deal during my administration. We have also learned a lot about what we can do—and how to get it done. My administration has taken more steps than any previous in bringing the gay and lesbian communities to the table. I am proud of my record, and it is a record to build on.

I remain dedicated to ending discrimination and to protecting the civil rights of every citizen in our society. I am proud that my administration has more openly gay and lesbian individuals serving in appointed positions than in any previous administration, and their impact, both in expertise

and in efforts to advocate for the concerns of gay men and lesbians, is significant.... I am the first president ever to endorse a gay and lesbian civil rights bill, the Employment Non-Discrimination Act. We have opened the door for qualified gays and lesbians to receive top security clearance. I pledge to you that I will continue striving for greater education and compassion, working not simply to tolerate our differences but also to celebrate them.

**What gay or lesbian person has had the biggest impact on your life?**

Bruce Lehman, Roberta Achtenberg, Richard Socarides, and Bob Hattoy, to name a few, have all made valuable contributions. I've worked closely with congressmen Barney Frank and Gerry Studds and with Elizabeth Birch of the Human Rights Campaign. I've had a long friendship with David Mixner, whose advice has meant a great deal to me over the years.

**If you had the chance to start over, only this time knowing the extent of the opposition to opening the military's doors to gays and lesbians, how would you approach the issue? What lessons did you learn from the fight?**

It's fair to say that I have thought a lot about this and that there are some things I think I should have done differently. I now believe that we needed to build a broader consensus on this important issue before moving forward. Sometimes change comes best when it is achieved through incremental steps.

**Why do you oppose same-sex marriage? Is there a chance you could reconsider?**

I remain opposed to same-sex marriage. I believe marriage is an institution for the union of a man and a woman. This has been my long-standing

position, and it is not being reviewed or reconsidered. I also strongly believe that the issues related to gays and lesbians should not be used to tear our communities apart.

**You spoke out against the spate of antigay initiatives that were popular in past elections, yet your administration decided to sit out of the Supreme Court fight on the issue. How can you justify speaking out in one instance and then staying silent in another?**

I've never stayed silent on this issue. I have continually stated my belief that those who would legalize discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or any other grounds are gravely mistaken about the values that make our nation strong. The essential right to equality must not be denied by a ballot initiative or otherwise.

**What will a second Clinton term do to fight the war on AIDS?**

First and foremost, we must continue the search for a cure and a vaccine. At the same time, we will continue the search for better treatments for people living with AIDS. No president can guarantee success in science, but we must marshal all our resources, public and private, toward this effort. I will continue to stand up to efforts to dismantle this program by the Republican majority in Congress. This program is a lifeline of support for millions of Americans, including many people living with AIDS.

*Founded in 1967, "The Advocate" is the award-winning gay and lesbian magazine of record, reporting biweekly on news, politics, business, medical issues, the arts, and entertainment.*

## TALKING ABOUT SEX

©1996 by Scooter Merriner

I was lucky enough to be snogging with a real cutie a few weeks ago. We'd flirted on and off since 1984, and he eventually invited me home for a private rodeo. We smooched, got naked, smooched, rolled around, and smooched some more. After a bit he settled into the butt-wiggling, face-in-the-pillow posture that says "saddle up and ride."

I got the hint and rummaged through the drawers in the bedside tables. I found tissues, cough drops, magazines, an address book, and some interesting Polaroids. I didn't find what I needed, so I asked "Where do you keep your rubbers and lube?"

My little stud pony said the cupboards were bare. Fortunately, I learned to "be prepared" in the scouts, and dug down into my backpack for my emergency baggy of sex supplies. Bronco boy was still bucking and kicking as I bit the tip off the little lube packet and goosed him the slippery stuff.

Those little one-use lube packs aren't cheap (about 75¢ for 1.3 ounce at most adult bookstores), but they sure come in handy. I was surprised that my friend wasn't better stocked for gentleman callers, but I'm glad I had my kit along. I always saddle up when I ride, and I keep my tack in order.

In case I've lost you, we're talking about personal lubricants for anal intercourse here.

One day a 4-oz. bottle of lube splooged all over the bottom of my knapsack, so now I keep "single serving" size lubes in a baggy. I've gotten them for free in safe-sex kits given away by AIDS organizations, I've picked them up at baths, and I've purchased them at drug stores, bookstores,

and through mail order.

Mini-lubes come in little plastic "pillows" and in foil envelopes. Like ketchup for fries, it seems to take both hands and teeth and then the whole thing rips open and splatters you. And be careful you don't roll over onto a half-empty packet. Still, there are worse problems in life than squirting lubes.

I usually keep my own supplies along anyway, because I like to know which products are slipping between me and my beau-du-jour. Many lubes (and condoms) contain Nonoxonyl-9. Nono-9 is a spermicide with no proof HIV protection. What is proven is that it irritates my delicate parts (and many of my friend's too). "Excuse me dear, can I read the ingredients on your rubbers?" Might douse the flames of passion, so I pack my own saddle bags instead.

There are dozens of lubes available now. Walgreens drugstore on Castro Street (San Francisco) has an entire aisle of lubes and condoms. Everything from half-ounce tubes to the 42-ounce econo-size jumbo pump. They had gels, liquids, creams, lotions, potions, sprays, and more. Something for everybody.

I use "regular weight" water-based liquid lubes like I-D (Westridge Labs, 1-800-646-2096), Wet (also comes in "light formula"), Astroglide (Biofilm Inc, 1-800-848-5900) and Kimono Aqua Lube. There are flavored lubes available for oral activities, but they get sticky very quickly if not kept wet with saliva. Keep them away from your butt or you'll end up stuck like Winnie-the-Pooh in Rabbit's hole. Oil-based lubes—Vaseline, Crisco, baby oil, petroleum jelly, axle grease,

bear fat—are not made to be used with condoms. They can eat through a rubber as fast as you can put one on (and they can shorten the life of rubber adult "toys" too).

At home use a 4-ounce or 8-ounce bottle that can be opened with one hand. I remember one dome-topped and very phallic bottle that was impossible to open once your hands got slippery. Now I look for "press here to open" tops so I can hold the rubber in one hand and squeeze a little blob of lube into the tip of it (or sometimes I need a little more lube and one hand is busy doing something else...). Lubing the inside and outside of the condom helps me slip inside the condom while the condom and I slip inside of him. Or vice versa. And slipping around keeps me riding happy.

Well, when I timed out in the stirrups my buddy got his turn to be the cowpoke, too, so it was good thing I was well provisioned. He may have been counting on Divine protection, but I carry my insurance with me; in the backpack or beside my bed. Happy trails!

**The New Voice of Nebraska is looking for responsible volunteers to train in all areas of publication & distribution. If interested, call 556-9907**

## BARNEY FRANK TO ANALYZE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION AT 9TH ANNUAL CREATING CHANGE CONFERENCE

Barney Frank, the outspoken Democratic Congressman from Massachusetts, will kick off the 9th annual Creating Change Conference, regaling attendees with his views of the 1996 Presidential election. Frank's keynote address opens the conference on Thursday evening, November 7, 1996.

The preeminent national gathering of gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender activists returns this year to its birthplace of Washington, D.C. Pre-conference institutes and trainings will be held November 6 and 7, with the core conference running November 7-10, 1996.

All events during this 9th annual national gathering sponsored by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) will be held at the Radisson Plaza Hotel at Mark Center in Alexandria, Virginia.

This year's conference features the 1st Annual Vito Russo Memorial Lecture on Art and Politics, to be delivered Friday, November 8 by author and poet June Jordan. Jordan is a prolific writer and social critic whose greatest strength is her ability to live what she believes.

The late Vito Russo, a 1989 Creating Change keynote speaker, wrote the critically acclaimed study of cinema "The Celluloid Closet".

Veteran organizer Carmen Vasquez, currently the director of public policy at the New York City Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center, will deliver a keynote address on Saturday, November 9.

Vasquez, a self-described Butch-Puerto Rican-Socialist, is co-director of Promote the Vote, a national voter registration and mobilization project of the country's 65 community centers.

Five all-day pre-conference institutes are scheduled prior to the core workshops and roundtables of the conference. On Wednesday, November 6, two institutes will run simultaneously: the annual "People of Color Organizing Institute," and "Race is the Issue: An Institute for White Activists."

On Thursday, November 7, the three simultaneous institutes scheduled are "Finding Common Ground: Building Alliances Across Race, Class and Gender Lines," "Youth Organizing Institute," and "Community Centers: Laying the Foundations to Create Change."

Two special all-day tutorials are offered: Fundraising Training with Kim Klein on Thursday, November 7 and Board/Leadership Development with Karl Mathiasen on Friday, November 8.

Participants at these special trainings are expected to attend them for the entire day. Registration for these trainings is not included in the conference registration fee; a separate fee will be charged and lunch is included.

A Strategy Meeting for Statewide Organizations will be held on Thursday, November 7. This day-long gathering is by, for, and about the people and groups that toil in the

state legislatures, building networks across their state, county by county and town by town.

A panel of inside-the-Beltway pros will lead off the morning on Friday, November 8 with a pithy discussion of The Next Presidential Administration.

The current discussions of same-gender marriage, the status of ENDA and federal hate crimes law and the outcome of Colorado's Amendment 2 provide much grist for this mill.

Conference-goers can choose from dozens and dozens of workshops, panels, caucuses, meetings and small group sessions about activists' work in their communities. Subject matter includes: freedom to marry, media, sex and gender identity, organizational development, anti-violence, workplace organizing, speakers bureaus, leadership skills, sodomy laws, and current hot topics and trends in the movement.

Digital Queers returns for the fourth year with a full schedule of computer, on-line, and web trainings for everyone, from the weak-fingered rookies to the veteran cyberjocks.

For more information or to receive a Creating Change 1996 brochure and registration brochure, call 202.332.6483 ext. 3329. It is also available on the world wide web at <http://www.nglhf.org/cc96>.

To reserve a room at the Radisson Mark Center Hotel, call 703.854.1010; mention the NGLTF Creating Change conference to get the special conference room rate of \$89/night.

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## PRESIDENT CLINTON AND THE FIRST LADY TO SERVE AS HONORARY CO-CHAIRS FOR THE DISPLAY OF THE ENTIRE AIDS MEMORIAL QUILT

President Bill Clinton and First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton have agreed to serve as Co-Chairs of the Honorary Host Committee for the display of the entire AIDS Memorial Quilt in Washington, D.C., which will occur October 11-13, 1996. This is the first time a U.S. president has served in such a capacity for a display of the entire Quilt.

The Honorary Host Committee for the display includes notable American figures from the worlds of entertainment and the arts, politics, sports, religion, and AIDS research. Among those participating are: U.S. Senators Barbara Boxer, Dianne Feinstein, Orrin Hatch, and Edward Kennedy; U.S. Representatives Nancy Pelosi, Gerry Studds, Steve Gunderson, and Barney Frank; actors Ted Danson and Mary Steenbergen; ice skater Rudy Galindo; philanthropist James Hormel; TV producer Norman Lear; actress Judith Light; Olympic diving champion Greg Louganis; Harvard AIDS Institute leader Jonathan Mann, M.D., M.P.H.; country-western singer Kathy Mattea; former "New Republic" editor Andrew Sullivan; entertainer Lily Tomlin; AIDS researcher Paul Volberding, M.D.; The Most Rev. Edmond L. Browning, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church; and the Rev. Cecil Williams of Glide Memorial Church in San Francisco.

"We are deeply honored that President and Mrs. Clinton are participating in this historic event," said Michael Berg, President of the NAMES Project Foundation Board of Directors. "The leadership they demonstrate through their affiliation with this display of the entire AIDS

Memorial Quilt sends a message to our nation that the U.S. government has a strong, central role in helping us reach that time when the last panel will be made for this Quilt."

Since its last showing in Washington in 1992, the AIDS Memorial Quilt has doubled in size to include 40,000 individual memorial panels. More than 10,000 volunteers will participate in the three-day display, and an estimated 750,000 visitors are expected—50,000 of whom will be school-aged children. Major sponsors for the display are American Express and Stadlanders Pharmacy; supporting sponsors are United Airlines and Banana Republic. "POZ", "The Advocate", and "Out" magazine are media sponsors. A number of organizations are staging dozens of AIDS-related events in Washington to coincide with the display, including "Rage Against the Dying of the Light: The 1996 National AIDS Candlelight March."

Founded in 1987, the NAMES Project Foundation sponsors and displays the AIDS Memorial Quilt to help bring an end to the AIDS epidemic. Through a network of 41 national NAMES Project chapters and 34 international affiliates, the AIDS Memorial Quilt is seen by more than one million people annually at nearly 2,000 displays. Money raised at Quilt displays is granted to organizations that provide direct service to people everywhere who are living with HIV and AIDS. To date, almost seven million people have visited the AIDS Memorial Quilt. For more information on the Quilt, visit the NAMES Project worldwide web site at <http://www.aidsquilt.org>.

## GAY PHYSICIANS HONOR ACHIEVERS

The Gay and Lesbian Medical Association has announced the recipients of its 1996 GLMA Achievement Awards, which recognize outstanding contributions to the community. Individuals are honored for their exemplary commitment to improving the quality of health services for lesbians, gay men or HIV-infected persons; for in some way bettering the professional environment for lesbian, gay or HIV-infected healthcare workers; or for contributing significantly to gains made by the lesbian and gay civil rights movement in general over the past year. The awards are given without regard to the recipients sexual orientation.

The 1996 GLMA Achievement Award winners (in alphabetical order) are:

**SCOTT HITT, M.D.** of Los Angeles for his visionary leadership and the courage he has demonstrated while Chair of the President's Advisory Council on AIDS. By devoting his time, personal resources and political savvy to this critical challenge, he has advanced the goals of President Clinton's Advisory Council in a profound way. We applaud him for many years of activism on behalf of gay and lesbian and HIV-related issues.

The owners of the **LITTLE SISTERS BOOKSTORE** of Vancouver, British Columbia, for their years-long courageous struggle to allow Canadian readers access to lesbigay literature and information. Their legal battles with Canadian Customs have benefited not only Canada's lesbigay community, but activists world-wide who seek greater visibility of lesbian and gay issues and greater understanding of lesbian and gay lives. Their fight has helped inspire others who believe one organization cannot effectively resist government policy. We have followed their efforts with pride.

**KEVIN SPEIGHT** of Halifax, Nova Scotia, for helping lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people in medicine find each other electronically. By creating the on-line discussion group "glb-med", he has launched an invaluable tool of communication for these physicians and medical students across the globe. He has given them a forum for discussing pressing issues, an audience they can turn to for advice, a sympathetic shoulder on which they can share stories of isolation and hurt, and a collective source of personal and professional support. We applaud "glb-med" as an invaluable tool for building the lesbigay medical movement.

**TOM STODDARD, JD.** of New York for the remarkably effective way in which he has helped shape this country's legal approach to its lesbian, gay and HIV-positive citizens. And we applaud the eloquent way in which he has stepped forward as a community spokesperson on so many occasions, advancing the community's agenda forthrightly from the pages of the "New York Times" to the cameras of "Nightline." His work has immeasurably improved the scope of legal rights that are available to lesbigay Americans today.

### PEOPLE NEEDED FOR NEW STUDY AT UNMC

The University of Nebraska Medical Center is actively recruiting individuals to participate in a clinical research protocol evaluating the safety of the protease inhibitor Viracept® administered in combination with current standard therapies. The study lasts 12 months; medication and clinic visits provided free of charge to participants.

#### Study Inclusion Criteria:

HIV positive & 13 years of age or older

CD4 cell count less than 100 cells/mm<sup>3</sup>

No previous protease inhibitor medication usage

Stable on monotherapy or combination therapy for over 1 month

Stable on prophylactic therapies for opportunistic infections

#### For more information on this study, please contact:

Daniel Cobos, B.S.N., B.A., R.N.

University of Nebraska Medical Center

600 South 42nd Street

PO Box 985130

Omaha, Nebraska 68198-5130

(402) 559-5750 or (402) 559-4000, pager 1010

## NEW AIDS MINISTRY Q&A PAGE ON THE INTERNET

The Body, an interactive HIV/AIDS information site on the World Wide Web, now offers a question and answer page for faith issues related to HIV/AIDS. Rev. Steve Pieters, Field Director of UFMCC AIDS Ministry, answers questions posed by readers of the web site.

For the past eight months, Pieters has also been writing a biweekly column on HIV and Christian spirituality for The Body.

Pieters' columns, as well as the question and answer page, can be reached at <http://www.thebody.com/pieters/revpiet.html>. Other UFMCC AIDS Ministry resources can be accessed at <http://www.thebody.com/ufmcc/ufmccix.html>.

## RESOURCE CENTER SEEKS INPUT

The Steering Committee has been working on creating a Community Resource Center for nearly two years now. Although the going has been slow, much of the preparatory work has been completed.

During these two years, a number of people have been actively involved with the effort. Some of these people have been with the Steering Committee from the beginning and some are relatively new recruits. Some of the original members have moved on to serve the community in other organizations.

Presently, the work is being done by a core group of about 9 people. As we move nearer to the reality of a center actually opening, the workload is steadily increasing.

We ask that each member of the GLBT community consider becoming actively involved in some aspect of the effort to open a community center. We believe this is an excellent opportunity to serve the community.

The needs are many, but we especially need people to help with:

- developing fund raising events
- assisting with PR, especially if you have design/lay out skills
- creating a fiscal plan
- working on the Steering Committee itself

If you would like additional information about how to get involved and how your skills and interests might best be used, call ANGLE's Info Line, 558-5303, and leave a message for Darrin.

**Check the Classifieds!  
You'll be Surprised  
at All the Things  
You Can Find.**

## Gay ... Some Assembly Required poems by: Brian E. Bengtson



*"...a poet of the disenfranchised, speaking for...those whom many in America would like to silence ...*

*— Steven Blaski*

**LONE WILLOW PRESS BOX 31647 OMAHA, NE 68131**

Please send me copies \_\_\_\_\_ of *Gay ... Some Assembly Required* at \$7.95 \_\_\_\_\_

Postage & Handling of \$100 per copy \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Enclosed** \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

## LOCAL YOUTH ACTIVIST TO SPEAK TO ANGLE

Local Youth Activist, Brian Davis will speak to ANGLE's September meeting. Brian has recently attended an intensive training provided by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. He then joined with other GLBT youth to sound protest at the Republican National Convention.

Brian, a member of the Proud Horizons Youth Group (for Omaha GLBT Youth), will speak on his experiences in the training and the protest and will announce his plans for a youth oriented cable access show on Queer issues.

Brian has long been interested in Queer Activism. He was a planner for the NGLTF Youth Intensive Institute prior to the 1995 Creating Change Workshop in Detroit. He will be a staff member for the Institute this year.

The ANGLE meeting will start at 7:00 p.m. at the UNO Religious Center at 101 N. Happy Hollow. Brian's presentation will be at 7:30.

## WORLD AIDS DAY '96 SEEKS "ONE WORLD, ONE HOPE"

"One World, One Hope" will be the theme for the ninth World AIDS Day, held December 1, 1996. The World Health Organization establishes the date and theme for the annual international observance.

A resource book for congregations, schools, communities, and organizations planning World AIDS Day events is being prepared by the American Association for World Health. To be placed on the list to receive a FREE copy, write to: AAWH, 1129 - 20th Street, N.W., Suite 400, Washington, D.C. 20006 or phone 202.466.5883.

## UFMCC AIDS MINISTRY OFFERS AIDS ACTION E-MAIL

UFMCC AIDS Ministry has instituted an AIDS Action Alert program via e-mail. Periodically, UFMCC AIDS Ministry receives action alerts from the AIDS Action Council, the U.S. AIDS National Interfaith Network, the U.S. National Minority AIDS Council, and a variety of political action groups and community based organizations. These action alerts are now being directly forwarded to all persons on the AIDS Action Alert e-mail list.

UFMCC AIDS Ministry also sends other articles of interest to those in HIV/AIDS Ministry over the Internet, and responds to requests for help and resources directly by e-mail.

If you are currently receiving these alerts, and have an e-mail address, please send your request with your e-mail address to UFMCCCHQ@AOL.com, and write "Attn: UFMCC AIDS Ministry" in the subject line.

Out of respect for the international diversity of the UFMCC, there are currently two AIDS Action Alert lists: one for U.S. residents regarding U.S. legislative issues, the other for those outside the U.S. Many of the action alerts received at UFMCC Headquarters concern issues particular to the United States legislative process, but we welcome action alerts regarding relevant issues from other countries and regions of the world.

## RESOURCE CENTER ADOPTS BYLAWS

### Candidates for Board of Directors Sought

In a special meeting of the Resource Center's Steering Committee, held July 27, the ByLaws proposed by the Policy and Procedure committee were adopted. The ByLaws were accepted unanimously, after the acceptance of several amendments designed to clarify the terms of the Board of Directors.

The Policy and Procedure committee will now begin the process to select and install a Board of Directors. Applications for the Board will be available through various community organizations, flyers in the bars, *The New Voice*, etc. The application will be a brief, open-ended questionnaire.

Applications will be evaluated by an independent screening committee. They will individually rate each application; the names of the applicants will not be disclosed to the screeners.

When the screeners have completed their ratings, an overall score will be determined for each applicant. The top eighteen applications will then be given to the Steering Committee, who will select twelve Board members from them.

If you are interested in serving on the Board of the Resource Center, watch for the applications, or you may call ANGLE's Info Line, 558-5303, and leave a message for Darrin to request and application.

## METRO CLUB TO FEATURE SPEAKER ON EARLY 20TH CENTURY GAY AND LESBIAN ART

Gender and Identity in Gay and Lesbian Art of the Early Twentieth Century will be the topic at the September 19 meeting of the Metropolitan Club of Omaha. Brandon Ruud, Curatorial Adjunct at the Joslyn Art Museum will provide examples of art of the early 190's. These works, many of which hang in public galleries and museums, will be discussed in light of the gay and lesbian themes.

Mr. Ruud is new to the staff at the Joslyn in a position which is funded by the National Endowment for the Arts.

The Metropolitan Club will meet Thursday, September 19, and every third Thursday of the month at the Neon Goose. Members usually gather about an hour before the presentation which will be at 7:00 p.m. A five dollar door charge is requested to offset the cost of the room and hors d'oeuvres. For more information about the Metropolitan Club and its programs, please write to PO Box 8603, Omaha, NE 68108.



## WESTENHOEFER RETURNS TO OMAHA

From the time Suzanne Westenhoefer walks on stage with her long blonde hair and dazzling smile and a very quick wit, she delivers her laid-back monologue to both gay and straight audiences with self-confidence and style. She's pretty, she's very hip, and she's gay.

As she performs in comedy clubs across the country and on television, her name is preceded by "famous lesbian comedian," a label she wears with pride, but she's more into destroying labels stuck on the gay community and if it involves some lighthearted straight-bashing, so be it.

When people ask her if she chose to be a homosexual, she tells them "no... I was chosen." In her performances Westenhoefer tackles everyday problems about being gay with a humor that reaches both gays and straights while the visibility of gay and lesbian comics is on the upswing, not many of them play straight clubs. But Westenhoefer jumps at the opportunity to reach out and educate.

She is disarmingly funny in all the unpolitically correct ways. Don't like her sexual preference, then leave. Suzanne is perhaps one of the most confident comedians, men or women performing today. Timely and topical and very, very funny, that's famous lesbian comedian Suzanne Westenhoefer.

Women of the Plains, Inc. is proud to bring Suzanne back to Omaha Oct. 19 at the Joslyn. Ticket prices are \$15 in advance and \$17 at the door. Tickets are on sale at New Realities in the Old Market, Borders Books and Music—132nd and Maple, and The Way Home Music and Books in Lincoln or by mail to P.O. Box 24355, Omaha, NE 68124.

## MCC OMAHA ON-LINE

MCC Omaha has made the leap into the 1990's! At the last Board meeting it was decided to connect the church to much of the rest of the world by use of the internet. This decision will most certainly aid Rev. Lewis and others at the church with outreach, research and better communication between others MCC's as well as individuals. The e-mail address is MCCOMAHA@radiks.net. Will there be a web site in the future? Stay tuned.

### MCC & PFLAG Play Putt-Putt

Want to have some fun? Of course you do! September 6th at 7:30pm at 91st and Center, MCC-O along with PFLAG will be hosting a grand evening of golf... Putt-Putt style that is. Discount tickets are available through either group for just \$6 (a 25% savings) for two games! If you have a Pleasure Pac, you might take a peak inside for additional savings on the event. In case of bad weather or you can't make it out that Friday, the tickets are good anytime at both Putt-Putt locations. Golf shoes not required! BE THERE!

### EXCEL Spiritual Retreat

EXCEL (which stands for "Exercise in Christian Living") has planned a terrific weekend retreat to be held on September 27th-29th at Camp Kitaki, located about halfway between Omaha and Lincoln. The weekend will consist of talks, group discussions, activities, worship experiences and time for solitude.

Trying to adhere to basic Christian principles in today's hectic world is sometimes made difficult and complex. An EXCEL weekend helps guide us back to these basics. The fee is only \$65 for the entire weekend if paid for by September 20 and \$70 after that date. Contact Becky at 402-344-0610 for further information.

### Thanks & Congratulations

In other news... Thanks goes out to HGRA for a generous donation of \$107.00 to the MCC-O food pantry! Also, a big round of applause to Inga, all of her friends, and DC's for \$450 raised at the benefit show on August 11th. The money will go to the Benevolent fund and to the Christian Social Action Committee. Did you know that Rev. Lewis can really belt out a tune? Well, he most certainly can!

Congratulations to two recently elected Board members, Joni J. and Ted W., and also to two Deacons-in-training Sharon V. and Fran B.

One final thought... All the members of MCC-O would like you to join us. It's hard to describe the warmth, fellowship and love that fills our church. Allow us to share some of the love in our hearts with yours. MCC-O is not just for members, it's for EVERYONE!

Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha is located just 1/2 block south of Leavenworth Street at 819 So. 22nd. Services are held at 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. each and every Sunday.

The doors are open. See you next Sunday!

## PLEASURE PAC'S ARE IN!

You can save a bundle with the valuable coupons in the '97 Pleasure Pac's for sale at MCC-Omaha

Do you like to go out to dinner? Do you like to try new places? Like to rent videos? Go to sports events? Catch the symphony or the opera? Try your luck at Harvey's? No matter what is your favorite style of entertainment you can save big money by getting a '97 Pleasure Pac from MCC-Omaha. These coupon books feature 2 for 1 and other discount coupons for the best restaurants, theaters, sports events, specialty shops, etc. The book itself costs \$25 and contains several hundred dollars in savings. Even those who use their books only occasionally have saved 2 and 3 times the purchase price. For those who use it faithfully there is virtually no limit to the amount you can save.

Watch for Pleasure Pac sales displays or contact the church office at 345-2563.

## ATTEND OUR SEPT. YARD SALE

by Carla

The Community Resource Center Steering Committee invites you to shop with them at their very first Yard Sale. There'll be treasures galore just waiting for you! Big items! Small items! We have it all and it's priced to sell! Come check us out Sat., Sept. 14, from 9:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. at 4328 Chicago Street, Omaha.

For those of you who have just cleaned your closets for the summer—we are accepting donations of household and personal items for sale. Just call the Information and Referral line at 558-5303 and leave a message for Darrin.

If you would like to get involved in the Resource Center or helping with the Yard Sale, just call 556-9907 and leave a message for Carla. See you Sept. 14!

### HGRA AND FRONTRUNNERS

PRESENT

## BARN DANCE AND HAYRACK RIDES AT LAKOTA STABLES

The Heartland Gay Rodeo Association and Omaha Frontrunners/Walkers are sponsoring a big party on Saturday, September 28th at Lakota Stables in Ashland, Nebraska. The first Hayrack ride will take off at 7pm, with more to follow throughout the evening. Hamburgers, hot dogs, sodas, and other munchies will be available for your eating pleasure after 8 p.m. Then Shelley will spin your favorite dance tunes from 9 until 1 a.m. B.Y.O.B.

To purchase tickets or get directions to Lakota Stables, contact: Patrick in Des Moines @ 515-255-3843, the Omaha Frontrunners/Walkers @ 402-496-3658 or see Shelley at the Chesterfield Thursday, Friday, Saturdays. Advance tickets are only \$12 each, for HGRA and Frontrunner members tickets are just \$10 each. But, if you procrastinate...it will cost you \$15 at the gate. Lakota is just south of Mahoney State Park, between Omaha and Lincoln.



## MR. MAX IV TIM PEDERSEN SAYS THANKS FOR THREE VERY GOOD YEARS

Dear New Voice's Editor,

I want to say a big Thank You to the community for all the support and love I have received during my three years as Mr. MAX. They were very good years — years that actually changed my life.

I moved here just 9 months before I was chosen Mr. MAX. I had been in California while serving in the Navy for three years. Then I worked for Nutri-system for two years before I moved to South Dakota for a year but things didn't go well there — I couldn't find a decent job and felt very isolated — and so I came to Omaha, got a job right away and started making friends.

In fact, part of the reason I ran for Mr. MAX was because I felt so welcomed and accepted by the female impersonators of Omaha. They were easy to relate to and became positive friends. They encouraged me to run for Mr. MAX. The year I ran there were 4 entrants: Jesse, Michael, Scott, and myself. I was really nervous. I had never been under a spotlight before but I tried to be as consistent and as competent as I could. When I ran there was a swimwear competition which has now been replaced by the "Brief Events" category.

Taking part in the competition really helped me realize that I really just don't like wearing clothes. (I guess it was good that I won when I did because I'd be in trouble if I had to compete in the underwear category — I don't wear any! Makes Aunt Mike's Underwear nights a little awkward, too.)

I think my biggest reward from being Mr. MAX was how I really found myself and became more relaxed and confident. I made friends and became comfortable with who I am.

I became able to walk up to people and talk to them comfortably and made lots of new friends. I am very pleased with the money that I raised as Mr. MAX — I feel like I did my share for the community with things like my annual Sweetheart Valentine's Day Dinner and other fundraisers.

After being chosen Mr. MAX 4 I worked very hard doing benefits and appearing in benefits when asked (I even volunteered for many of them)

About 1 1/2 years after being chosen Mr.

MAX I ran for Mr. Gay Iowa - USA and was honored to receive that title. With that title I did even more fundraising, traveling in Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota and Missouri. I went to the National competition for Mr. Gay USA and placed 9th in the competition and was chosen "Mr. Personality" because of my positive attitude and how I related to all the other contestants. Competing in nationals was a great experience, allowing me to meet all sorts of people. The other competitors were very diverse, some outgoing like myself and others very quiet and shy, but we all became friends, almost like a family. I don't think people understand what it's like to compete — anyone who enters a competition deserves a lot of respect because of how much it takes to go out on stage and try for a title. And the title-holder has incredible demands placed on him because of all the traveling, all the benefits, week after week. It is hard to hold down a full-time job and still meet all the demands placed on title-holders. Our title-holders do an incredible job of fundraising for all sorts of things, from AIDS to breast cancer and all other sorts of causes.

Now that I have stepped down from my position as Mr. MAX, I intend to relax! but I still want to help people out with benefits and fundraising.

I think there need to be more male competitions in the community — male performers have just as much to offer the community as the female impersonators do, and after watching the Mr. MAX competition I know that we have enough talent and dedication to support more competitions.

I would like to see a Mr. Gay Omaha and a Mr. Gay Nebraska—USA title awarded — I feel sure that we have enough support to carry both the titles.

I wish the best of luck to Mr. MAX 5 Jeff McKenzie. He did a wonderful job in the competition as did all of the contestants.

I'm sure Jeff will be a strong representative of The MAX. As for me, you'll see me as soon as I get out of Betty Ford.

Thanks Bruce and Stosh!

See Ya!  
Tim Pedersen

## JEFF MCKENZIE NAMED MR. MAX

After a delay of three years, Mr. MAX Tim Pedersen was finally allowed to step down. It seems that he finally got time off for good behavior and could make parole. No, seriously, Tim Pedersen has done an outstanding job representing The MAX and paved the way for those who will follow.

The new Mr. MAX is well-known to the community but Jeff McKenzie took on a whole new style as he prepared for Mr. MAX. His blonde hair was cut into a short crew cut. His muscular body became even more lean and he replaced his corporate attire with snug fitting jeans and T-shirts. And then he topped it off with a completely coordinated presentation as he competed for the Mr. MAX title. Throughout all the different categories Jeff maintained a strong Agent 007 theme, working through a series of skits and poses that were choreographed to perfection — including being let down through the MAX's ceiling on a cable!

There was ample competition from Mark, Eric, and Matt but Jeff's style and presentation prevailed and took the title. Matt was named first runner-up.



**NAP APPOINTS  
CLIENT SERVICES  
DIRECTOR**

Susan B. Merrick, MSW, LCSW, has been named Director, Client Services, at the Nebraska AIDS Project, according to Joseph Hall, NAP Executive Director. In this position Merrick oversees the case management services NAP provides to people living with HIV/AIDS. She is also responsible for program development and grant management.

Merrick comes to NAP from the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine AIDS Service in Baltimore, MD, where she was a Clinical Social Worker at the Moore Clinic. She was also in private practice in Maryland, specializing in psychotherapy for adjustment to life-threatening and terminal illness as well as gay and lesbian issues.

In addition to her social work experience, Merrick has more than 10 years of management experience in international finance.

Merrick received her master's in social work from Catholic University of America in Washington, DC. She is a member of the National Association of Social Workers. Merrick has been a frequent speaker on AIDS, cancer, and gay and lesbian issues.

The Nebraska AIDS Project is the only state-wide agency working exclusively on HIV/AIDS in Nebraska and southwest Iowa. The organization provides case management and counseling services to people living with HIV or AIDS, as well as anonymous HIV testing and counseling, HIV/AIDS education, and Teens Educated to Combat AIDS (TECA). NAP maintains offices in Omaha, Lincoln, Kearney, Norfolk, and Scottsbluff. The agency has an active caseload of 325 clients.

**COMMUNITY  
CENTER ON-LINE**

The G/L/B/T Community Resource Center internet location is <http://www.angle.org/comment.html>.

Since the page has been active, there have been over 150 visits to the site.

We plan to have monthly updates and encourage any comments you may have.

If you would like to get involved with the PR committee, please send an E-Mail from the web site or call ANGLE's Info Line, 558-5303, and leave a message for Jay.

**GILLIGAN'S  
LABOR DAY PICNIC  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2nd**

Drink Specials and Food Open at 12:00 Noon  
Shuttle Bus Provided for ICON Picnic (Vennelyst Park)  
1st Bus Leaves Gilligans at 12:00 Noon - Shuttles On The Half Hour  
Last Bus From Picnic 5:00 P.M.

**COOL SUMMER HOURS**



**MONDAY - THURSDAY  
4:00 P.M. - MIDNIGHT  
FRIDAY & SATURDAY  
2:00 P.M. - 4:00 A.M.**

**DINE IN  
OR  
TAKE OUT**

**SUNDAY 2P.M. - MIDNIGHT**

**After Hours  
Breakfast & Full Menu**

**APPETIZERS ... GILLIBURGERS  
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Build your own BAKED POTATO  
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**PRIVATE PARTIES  
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BACK BAR**



# WOMYN TAKE CENTER STAGE AT DC'S

By Sharon Van Butsel

August 4 was a very special night at DC's Saloon. The Saloon was crowded with generous men and women who had come to see the very best female performers in the area take their place in the spotlight. And the women brought down the house!

It was my very first official function as Princess Royale 16 of the Imperial Court of Nebraska and I tried very hard to make it special. The idea was born at one of Phoenix's Pride Benefits when she invited the incredible Kathy Banta from Sioux City to perform. After her performance, one of the women in the audience commented, "I wish they'd use more women in the shows." My reply was, "It would be nice to see more women take center stage." — And with that, the idea was born.

Of course, Emperor 15 Annie Welty has given me another boost along the way with her Imperial Proclamation which was announced during Coronation. "From this day forward the reigning Monarchs of the Imperial Court will be responsible for holding one fundraising event each year designated for Women's Cancer Research." It seemed a natural to bring the two

together. My Empress gave her approval and I was off to show Phoenix that I could do a good job.

Emcees for the evening included Emperor 15 Annie Welty, Co-Emperor 9 Carla Petersen, with me filling in. The set was simple — a black wall with a single pink ribbon in the center as a reminder of our fight against breast cancer. At one point in the show, the audience was invited to come forward and place a small pink ribbon on the wall in honor of someone who has died of cancer or who is living with cancer. 29 small pink ribbons were placed around the larger ribbon, including two that I placed there. One was in memory of our own Jo Jo Morrison, Mother to All Athenas; and the other remembered Sammi, a warm, lovely lady from the Chesterfield. She had a smile as big as the sky.

There were lots of special guests and lots of wonderful performances: Annie opened and closed the show with her incredible live music. Other live performers included: Kathy Banta who drove from Sioux City through severe thunderstorms and floods to be with us, Nicole Hedges, an up and coming young performer

whose voice soars with incredible power and beauty; Theresa Robinson whose personal style makes you feel she is singing to you alone; Karla Oliver, lyricist, composer, and song stylist; Cindy Wagner, who sings of her journey that finally allowed her to become a woman. The incomparable Christine Peek-Blankman signed two beautiful pieces from the archives of women's music and Terry stood on center stage and told of her personal fight against cancer and how she is now a 5 year survivor. Members of the staff at Creighton Cancer Center joined us with a slide presentation about the severity of the epidemic of cancer that effects the women's community. A very special thank you goes to these staff members for showing their support of our cause.

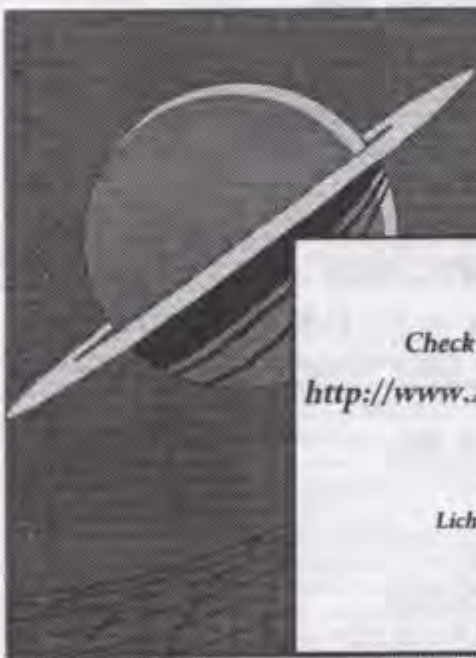
Lighter moments were provided by Emperor 13 Connie Henke, her back-up singers, and a "teeny-weeny yellow polka dot bikini;" Grand Czarina 16 Michele Korman; Co-Emperor 9 Carla Petersen, myself, and an incredible first-time performer from Lincoln who took center stage doing male drag. "Michael" was great. I'm only sorry I didn't have sense to make her wait for Closet Ball — we would have walked away with the title. I didn't even realize she was a woman at first, much less recognize her.

My personal thanks to all the performers. Together we raised \$600 which has been donated to the American Cancer Society for Women's Cancer Research.

And a very special thanks to Shelley Foster for returning to DC's for the night to be our DJ, as well as to Dan, Charley, David, and Ashley who made us so welcome at DC's!

## BOOTS AND BOXERS AT DC'S

The Heartland Gay Rodeo Association will be hosting their 2nd "Boots & boxers" contest at DC's Saloon in Omaha on September 7th at 9pm. The contest is open to men as well as women — in fact, a woman won last year. You simply wear nothing but boots (shoes) and a pair of boxer shorts. If you are modest, or of the female persuasion, you may wear a shirt. Prizes will be awarded to the 3 best pairs of boxers!!! There is no entry fee.



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# A NEW ANGLE IN NEWS

By Stan Brown

A "Slice of Summer" was a huge success thanks to the 60+ people who attended from 17 organizations and bars in the area. Representatives from MCC, RCMC, HGRA, RCGA, CFEP, PFLAG, LEO, Onyx Images, Proud Horizons, ICON, *New Voice*, GALP, GALO, DC's, The Diamond, The MAX, and Frontrunners attended the free cookout and heard more about ANGLE's many activities and committees. My thanks to Joni, Jim, Eric, and all the ANGLE members who helped and contributed food for this fun event.

If you missed the event and still want to be involved in the community, please contact the Gay/Lesbian Information and Referral Line, and we will get you in contact with someone from the phonline, the pride celebration, the recognition dinner, or the community resource center. We always need volunteers in every area of the organization.

Planning has begun for ANGLE's Annual Recognition dinner and Awards on Saturday, Oct. 26. Details on location, time and ticket prices are still being determined by the dinner committee. Information and nomination forms will be available at the ICON Labor Day Picnic, the bars, MCC, NAP, and next month's issue of the *New Voice*. The nomination committee consisting of past recipients including Brian Bengtson, Carla Petersen, and representatives from the River City Mixed Chorus, PFLAG, ICON, HGRA, GALO, and others will be updating the nomination form. The same committee will also rate the nomination forms once they come

back to determine special recognition in each category.

Jeff S. from ANGLE will be taking over the writing duties for this article each month—starting next month. This will give me, Stan "INGA" Brown, a chance to work on my own column for the *New Voice*. I will be promoting and sometimes reviewing community events. If you have ideas or events, please send them to me before the 10th of each month so I can get them into the column. Let me know about anything that would especially appeal to the GLBT community, including plays, musical events and movies. Look for "Inga Does \_\_\_\_\_" in next month's issue and be sure to send or tell me your ideas.

As always please join us the first Tuesday of each month for ANGLE's general meeting at 7:00 p.m. Please call the phonline for the location or look for our newsletter with the information.

## WHAT'S UP AT THE Q

September will bring a spectrum of events to Q in Lincoln. The Q will showcase Sheza Mann and her friends on September 8. September 15, Q will feature the always hilarious fun of the Drag Race. James Debray and Friends from Denver, Colorado will take the stage at Q on September 22 and then, on September 29, it is a trip into fantasy and fun as Frieda Lae presents Ms Parallel Galaxy. This event encourages the contestants to be as creative and imaginative as they can be. And for a totally different experience, check out Q on September 14 for Lincoln PFLAG's Flea Market.

## AIDS WALK NEBRASKA GATHERS THOUSANDS FOR AIDS AWARENESS

The Nebraska AIDS Project (NAP) will hold the fifth annual AIDS Walk Nebraska. The event, which is the largest public display of support in Nebraska for people living with AIDS, is a fund raiser will all proceeds benefiting the state-wide programs of NAP.

Walks will be held in three Nebraska cities on two different dates. The Omaha Walk is scheduled at Memorial Park on Sunday, September 8. Walks will be held in Lincoln and Kearney on the UNL and UNK campuses on Sunday, September 29. Registration begins at 11:00 a.m. for all of the events. Walkers will step-off at Noon.

The walk is open to anyone wanting to help raise money and increase awareness about HIV and AIDS. According to NAP Executive Director, Joseph Hall, "This isn't open only to people who have AIDS or know someone with AIDS. We encourage all Nebraskans to come out in support of the men, women, and children living with AIDS in communities throughout Nebraska."

The Nebraska AIDS Project is a non-profit AIDS service organization that provides social services and financial assistance to people living with HIV or AIDS in Nebraska and southwest Iowa. NAP also serves as a primary resource for anonymous HIV testing and counseling, toll-free HIV/AIDS information hotline, speaker's bureau, and Teens Educated to Combat AIDS. Participants may call the NAP hotline at 800-782-AIDS for more information or to register for the event.



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- 2<sup>nd</sup> To your parents.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> To your brothers and sisters, if any.
- 4<sup>th</sup> To your grandparents.
- 5<sup>th</sup> To your aunts and uncles.

## WHERE IS YOUR "UNMARRIED" PARTNER ???

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## HOME TESTING FOR HIV QUESTIONED Nebraska AIDS Project raises concerns

A new test for the AIDS virus recently went on sale in the United States after being approved by the Food and Drug Administration. Home Access Health Corporation of Illinois became the second company to win FDA approval of the test kits that lets people take a blood sample at home, mail it to a laboratory, and learn by telephone if they have HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.

Johnson and Johnson's Home HIV test was introduced in Texas and Florida and is now available in most of the country through a toll-free number, said Jeffrey Leebaw, a company spokesperson. He said the test would be available in drugstores nationwide by September 1.

The Home Access Express test also began selling nationwide recently via a toll-free number. It promises results in three business days. Later this year the company will offer regular Home Access tests in drugstores that offer results in one week. To conduct the test, a person pricks a finger and places drops of blood on a test card and mails it in a prepaid, protective envelope to a laboratory. The sample has a personal identification number.

To get the results, the person calls a toll-free number and gives the identification number. People with positive or inconclusive results get the news from counselors who can refer them for long-term counseling and medical treatment. Negative results will be given by a recording although the caller can request a counselor at any time.

The State of Nebraska Department of Health, Communicable Disease section commented, "At this time, the legal ramifications have not yet

been determined, and are being discussed."

Rich Santee, Volunteer Coordinator for the Nebraska AIDS Project, recently told hotline operators who are receiving calls about Home Testing that HIV Educators are concerned for a number of reasons. "No telephone counseling can begin to replace a live counselor," he said. "Whether a person tests negative or positive, that person needs a friendly face and an understanding counselor to discuss the results."

Santee further indicated that he feared people would buy the kit and test themselves without reading all the literature. "Will the person understand the Window Period? Will someone be participating in a risk exposure on Saturday night and then take the test on Sunday, not understanding that they need to wait until their body manufactures the antibodies for the virus?"

Santee indicated that other concerns include the availability of such tests to people who cannot afford the \$50 fee, whether or not risk reduction counseling will be a part of the automated telephone message, and the lack of information for demographic reporting.

People are encouraged to call the Nebraska AIDS Hotline for additional information about Home Testing.

## GLAGN HOSTS RIVER RAFT REGATTA 96

A small, yet tasteful crowd gathered at Hall County park [in Grand Island] to visit, picnic, and tube down the South Platte River.

Some of us spent the day hanging out in the park, sweating (tastefully) and swatting at bugs while the rest of the crowd joined in on the GLAGN flotilla.

The seven princesses of the Platte set sail for their 5 1/2 hour tour with full coolers, full tubes, dry smokes, and high hopes.

After getting settled in and finding the deepest channel (deep being a relative term) the gang made their way from Alda to Grand Island. Anyone watching from the bank got an eyeful as the regatta drifted past. Ask anyone who was there what kind of ziploc bag to keep your lighter in and what a goose has to do with GLAGN.

As the shadows grew long and concern for the tubers grew strong, several search parties were formed and shortly before dark, the tubers were dragged from the river, sunburned, tired, sore, hungry, and out of refreshments. All in all, it appeared a great time was had by all.

—GLAGN Newsletter

**Want to know what will be happening this month?  
Check the Community Calendar!**  
**Want to know what's being planned for the coming year?  
Check out Looking Ahead!**  
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## RIVER CITY MIXED CHORUS NEWS

The River City Mixed Chorus ended their twelfth season with a hectic summer performance schedule. Chorus appearances included their annual Pride Concert and performances for the U.S. West Diversity Week Celebration, the Omaha Pride Rally, and GALA Festival V in Tampa, Florida.

This year's Pride Celebration was a variegated program of music which featured the "Missa Luba- an African Mass in Congolese Style." Vocalist Kathy Tyree performed as a guest soloist with the Chorus in an inspiring arrangement of "Hold Strong Together" for Omaha's twelfth annual Pride Rally.

For many Chorus members the event that highlighted this performance season was GALA Festival V. Approximately 45 delegates traveled from Omaha to Tampa for the week long celebration which was the largest Gay and Lesbian performing arts festival in history. Opening ceremonies for the festival included a stirring keynote address by world renown poet/author Maya Angelou. Throughout the week delegates sang in and attended concerts presented by more than 104 ensembles and choruses. The festival also offered numerous workshops, networking sessions, and social events for the more than 6,000 participants. The week was filled with pride, power, passion, and the knowledge that through our singing our voices win freedom.

The River City Mixed Chorus thanks all our patrons and benefactors for their continued support and extends a special thank-you to the Imperial Court of Nebraska for their generous gift of \$1,000 to the GALA Festival Fund.

It is only through the community support that we receive that we can continue to provide enthusiastic, professional performances that reflect pride in our gay and lesbian community.

Please join in our enthusiasm as we enter our thirteenth performance season "Out Loud!"

## AN ACCOUNT OF GALA FESTIVAL V - or "Can't You Just Tell a Queen Choreographed This?"

By Deirdre O'Farrell

July 6-13, the Gay And Lesbian Association of Choruses (GALA) hosted the largest gay and lesbian performing arts festival in history! Festival V attracted nearly 6000 delegates to Tampa, Florida, from GALA member choruses throughout the United States, Canada, and Europe.

In addition to the obvious attraction of 6000 beautiful creative people (with fabulous accessories), Festival V featured twinkling celebrities (M.C. Harvey Fierstein; keynote speaker, Maya Angelou....) chic entertainment (Betty, The Flirtations, The Rhythm Method...) and impressive parties (Men Wet & Women Celebrating parties, Black & White Ball, G&L night at the local amusement park...). But the central activity of every GALA festival is concert performance.

Eighty-six choruses and thirty-four small ensembles performed during the week by invitation, including Omaha's own River City Mixed Chorus. Representing RCMC onstage at Festival V were 33 singing delegates plus Director John Bennett, Pianist Ron Guthrie and Interpreter for the Deaf, Christine Peek-Blankman.

The River City Chorus performed to much acclaim, and were further honored with a grant award to commission new work from a local composer (in collaboration with *Harmony: A Colorado Chorale*). Those are just the facts, ma'mn...now, to convey the feeling of the event here are GLIMPSES OF GALA FESTIVAL V: *Silicon Valley Gay Men's Chorus*, (Computer Capital of the U.S., from their intro): "We've got the hardware for you!"

Female conductor of a mixed chorus, wearing a strapless dress: "When I announced to the chorus I would retire this dress after the Festival, a bitch fight broke out among the tenors."

Member of *Quintessential Women Singing A Capella* (7 women without accompaniment)

from Falls Church, Virginia: "I took an informal survey which challenges some of the stereotypes about lesbians. Between us, we have only two tattoos and one truck..."

*Fro Homo Voci* of Seattle, Washington - 16 mixed gender singers (lyrics by composer David Maddux directed toward the Far Right): "Get on the clue-bus. This isn't my lifestyle, it's my life!"

Male conductor of the *Atlanta Women's Chorus*, Atlanta, Georgia: "Can't you just tell a queen choreographed this? This final song is dedicated to the lesbians in the audience. And to all you men - if you don't have lesbians in your life, get some. They're wonderful!"

About the small ensemble from Berlin, Germany: "Manner-Minne" performed in European cabaret style. They were about 17 men, dressed in leather and T-shirts, who began with "I'm Just Wild About Johnny." They crooned in both English and German about "Johnny," the elusive trick who steals your heart and eventually disappears. Make way for Carmen! The Manner men closed with a counter-tenor performing the famous fan-wielding aria, as the chorus swooned over every scornful gesture...

Finally, about RCMC's technical rehearsal (day before concert!): "Volunteers whose headphones had microphones attached - dykes with mikes - turned heads as they shooed us through the corridors between theaters. We stood on the risers of each stage for light and sound checks and even sang a tad..."

You can hear River City Mixed Chorus sing more than a tad at their concerts in January '97, when they'll uphold GALA standards of music excellence and pride. Join their fabulous audience! Call 341-SING for reservations & info.

Deirdre O'Farrell sings Alto II with River City Mixed Chorus and publishes their newsletter, *Crescendo*.

## PRIDE DAY PICNIC IN GRAND ISLAND

Pride Day wasn't just for Omaha and Lincoln this year. Over 40 people gathered on Saturday, June 22, in Grand Island for their own celebration.

GLAGN [Gay & Lesbian Association of Greater Nebraska] sponsored the fourth annual Pride Day festivities with members and their families from all parts of Central Nebraska and Northern Kansas showing up to participate. Cool weather offered a great chance for outdoor recreation ranging from volleyball to horseshoes, some friendly conversation and way too much food. (Wouldn't it be a picnic without that, now would it?)

Making their debut this Pride Day were GLAGN's Pride Day T-shirts. Perhaps you saw more than a few of them in the crowd at Omaha's Pride Celebration. Keep your eyes open for them around town. -GLAGN Newsletter

## COMING OUT DAY

DATE: October 13, 1996

TIME: 1:00 - 6:00 P.M.

LOC: Milo Bale Student Ctr Ballroom  
University of Nebraska @ Omaha

Plans are in progress for the various activities and events. If you are interested in volunteering to help plan the day, please call the Citizens for Equal Protection phone line at 398-3027. Work is in progress for an exciting and fulfilled day to celebrate coming out and being visible.



GLAGN Pride Day Shirts appeared at Omaha's Pride Festival. Wearing these festive shirts were Todd Rutherford, Michael Pollard, and Ken Hutchinson

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## COWBOY CHUCK WAGON CHILI AT DC'S

ICON's Grand Czar Ashley says  
"Join the Trail Drive for Good Eats!"

Ashley is taking his position as Grand Czar in the Emperor's Royal Family very seriously. September 1 Ashley teams up with Grand Czarina Michele for a very special show "Hats Off to Phoenix and the Emperor's New Clothes."

And on September 15, Ashley will be busy cooking over the old camp fire as he prepares some of the best varieties of chili around. He promises that there will be chili to suit every taste - from fiery hot to gentle like a lover's caress. With beans, without beans, with meat, without meat - who knows what variations you will find.

All we know is that you'd better plan to be at DC's on September 15 from 5 - 9pm to sample some of the best food ever cooked. There are basic prices for those who want just one little bowl and there are special bargain prices for those who want to go back as many times as they can. But everybody will agree that it is good eating!

## NORTH PLATTE HOSTS LAMBDA CAR GROUP

For the second year in a row, North Platte was the site for a "road trip" sponsored by the Denver Chapter of the Lambda Car Club International (LCCI). Nineteen members from Denver spent the weekend of August 9, 10, 11 in the North Platte area enjoying activities ranging from viewing private car collections, attending a car show, and touring junk yards as well as enjoying social times. Hosting the event were Brian, Mitch, and Chuck. There are several members of the Denver chapter living in the North Platte area. The LCCI is a club for gays and lesbians interested in antique and classic cars, car models, and literature. It is not necessary to own a classic or antique car to belong to the organization.

Persons who would be interested in joining the club and becoming a part of its activities may get more information by writing to Brian at Box 2325, North Platte, NE 69103.

## TWELFTH ANNUAL I.G.R.A. CONVENTION

by Jim B.

Was there a cattle drive in town, and if not, just where did all those cowboys and cowgirls come from. Well, it wasn't a cattle drive. It was the twelfth annual IGRA Convention. As for the cowboys and cowgirls, they came from all across the country and Canada to participate.

The Heartland Gay Rodeo Association was host to the convention that was held at the Red Lion. The Convention started on Wednesday, July 24, with registration and a get-together in the hospitality suite. Thursday again was registration, a party at the hospitality suite, and a welcome party at DC's Saloon. Friday, the actual work began as almost two hundred delegates and alternates attended workshops and committee meetings. Friday night was the first night of the International Country/Western Dance Finals. The seventeen couples competed in the categories of two-step and waltz. Darren and Scott were representatives HGRA and did a wonderful job. Saturday and Sunday all the delegates and alternates gathered on the convention floor to discuss the business at hand. The business included the changing of by-laws, rodeo rules, scheduling of rodeos, meeting with officials, and anything that directly affects the International Gay Rodeo Association for the next year. Saturday

night was the second category of the dance contest which was Free-Style. Of the categories this was probably the most exciting to watch because, as the name implies, this is a no-holds barred category. After the dance contest, buckles and awards were presented to the dancers. Although Darren and Scott did not win a buckle, we were very proud of them. Sunday night, HGRA hosted a show at the Chesterfield that brought in entertainers from across the country and helped raise money for the MCC-O Food Pantry.

HGRA would like to thank everyone for helping us host a very successful convention. Special thanks to Shelly F., Phil L., Scott F., Sue G., Charley W., David B., DC's Saloon, and The Chesterfield for their help and support. Also, a special thanks to all our buckle sponsors for the dance contest.

During the Convention, HGRA announced its plans to hold THE FIRST ANNUAL HEARTLAND REGIONAL RODEO at Christiansen Field in Fremont, NE, June 27-29, 1997. In order to have a successful rodeo we will require a lot of assistance from the community. We would like to extend an invitation to everyone to join HGRA and help us plan for and be a part of this major area event.

## HGRA GIVES THANKS TO THE COMMUNITY

The last weekend of July, HGRA hosted the 12th Annual International Gay Rodeo Association Convention at the Red Lion Hotel. We would like to let the outside volunteers know how much we appreciated their help. I ran into Sharon and Carla from ICON in our steno pool. I'm not sure who else was there, but I know a lot of local non-members offered their assistance. And we had a great turnout from within our membership. At times I think we had so many volunteers we didn't have enough for them to do. The convention went off without a hitch and was a big hit with all the other gay rodeo associations. The Dance Competition was fantastic!! What great dancers! I had a lot of fun helping them with rehearsals and then actually DJ'ing the contest. We had 5 guest judges from around the Midwest, all professional dance instructors and/or professional dancers.

After convention was over, we got most of the visiting royalty to perform in a farewell show at the Chesterfield on Sunday evening. We experienced some equipment problems that delayed the show, but they were all troopers!! They all stayed till the problems were corrected (with a little help from Miss Golden State Gay Rodeo Association) and then put on a fantastic show. The money that was raised was donated to the M.C.C. Food Pantry.

## OMAHA WOMEN'S RIVERBOAT CRUISE

by Tauni and Dana

This year's 12th Annual Women's Riverboat Cruise is Sunday, Sept. 15, 1996, from 6pm until 9pm. There are a couple changes this year. The Belle of Brownville leaves from Freedom Park, a new location for the boat dock. Something new this year is a sober deck for those who want an alcohol-free area. We look forward to a successful and fun cruise this year. Ticket information: 467-5737 or 466-4400 in Lincoln. Hope to see you on the river.

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## ICON NAMES ROYAL FAMILIES FOR REIGN 16

By Sharon Van Butsel

We bid farewell to Prince Royale 15 Gary Frazier and Princess Royale 15 Red Essence and named the Royal Families for Reign 16 during Investiture, held July 28 at The MAX.

The first half of the show belonged to Gary and Red Essence who took us on an Island Holiday, complete with leis and palm trees. And they put together an event that showed the talent and dedication which was so evident during their reigns. Congratulations on a job well done!

The second half of the show was the first official event by the Monarchs of Reign 16, Emperor Royal Bush and Empress Phoenix Fallentino. And let me tell you that this event set the tone for the year. As he has promised, Emperor Royal Bush, "The Jubilation of the Heartland," "The Flame-Broiled Cheeseburger Emperor," was headed for FUN. He and his entire royal family sported shorts in the colors of the Olympic rings and matching T-shirts adorned with huge ICON Cheeseburgers! Empress Phoenix Fallentino, "The Benevolence of the Heartland," "The Crystal Pearl Iris Empress," presented her royal family with grace and dignity. And somehow the two styles blended into a wonderful mix that made the affair glamorous but also relaxed and fun. This was shown nowhere more than in their final number when Royal and Phoenix appeared as Rainbow clad clowns to perform a poignant number that touched the hearts of the audience.

But the high point of the evening was the naming of the Royal Families.

For the Emperor:

Prince Royale: Jim Gau  
Grand Duke: Bob Ewing  
Grand Czar: Ashley Mattox  
Prince: Dan Mathew  
Duke: Chris Alberico  
Czar: Byron Langenfeld  
Baron: Mark East

For the Empress:

Princess Royale: Sharon Van Butsel  
Grand Duchess: Inga  
Grand Czarina: Michele Korman  
Princess: Dorian Drake  
Duchess: Feleena Katz  
Czarina: Sally Presby  
Baron to the Empress: John Winter



Prince Royale 16 Jim Gau and Princess Royale 16 Sharon Van Butsel,

Princess Royale 15 Red Essence and Prince Royale 15 Gary Frazier

## FALL HARVEST '97

by Stef Matthews

Believe it or not, things are starting to happen in regards to Omaha's RCGA hosting the 1997 Fall Harvest Event for MAGGIE. I'll give a quick summary of some of the key points and then fill you in monthly as things progress further.

First and foremost, we have booked a hotel! The Red Lion in downtown Omaha has a signed contract from us booking the dates of November 6-9, 1997. (So mark your calendar! Well, then buy a 1997 calendar and then mark it!) As anyone who has ever stayed at a Red Lion knows, this place is first class (and even that is an understatement!) and the people that we have worked with so far have bent over backwards to accommodate us and the event. Secondly, a theme for FH97 has been selected. If you attended the July meeting you already know what it is, but for those that weren't there: "A GLORIOUS AFFAIR...TRULY A TOUCH OF CLASS" was voted on, virtually unanimously by those at the meeting.

Finally, committees have been formed to handle the details of the event. If you would like to volunteer for a committee contact me or Joni and I'm sure we can find something for a body to do.

So plan to attend, or better yet, plan to help on one (or more) of the committees. Either way, watch for more FH97 reports!

## RICK STRUB TAKES MR NEBRASKA FANTASY

For the second year DC's Saloon was the host location for Mr. Nebraska Fantasy July 13th.

Although only two contestants participated the competition was tough. Judges found that indeed Nebraska does offer a great deal for the Fantasy/Leather Community.

Rick Strub was the selected as the winner of Mr. Nebraska Fantasy 1996 and Mr. Todd Nelson was runner-up. Todd surpassed his previous attempts with an "edge-play" fantasy that had everyone's attention. Rick Strub pulled it all together with his fantasy — a "fraternity" kind of trip. Congratulations to both for jobs well done.

The judges for Mr. Nebraska Fantasy were: Bob Ewing — Fantasy Productions/Printing Plus, International Mr. Leather 1984 — a Nebraska native returned home, Jim Sterba — Des Moines Corn Haulers, Joey Kralej — Mr. Great Plains Drummer 1994, Rick Noss, Mr. Nebraska Fantasy 1995, our current Desert Plains Drummer, Jim Gau, Mr. Desert Plains Drummer 1995, and International Ms Leather Sash Widow Blake. Tally master, Dick Brown, had his job cut out for him.

All this was a benefit for Art AIDS Awareness and thanks to the efforts of Pat Phalen and DC's owners David, Danny, and Charlie over \$400 was raised. Thanks DC's! See you next year.



ICON Emperor Royal Bush and Troy enjoy the Orient Express at Worlds of Fun's "Gay Days"



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# PFLAG PROMOTES PUTT-PUTT

The Omaha Chapter is repeating its Putt-Putt sputtacular event this summer. On Friday, September 6th, at 7pm at the Center Road location (9112 Center) the chapter is hosting a fun event for the whole family. Bring Mom, Dad, son, daughter, friends, or even sister or brother to the course for some great fun. Tickets are available from PFLAG members for \$6.00 for two games (regular price for two games — \$8.00), which is a 25% saving.

If you are looking for something to do that evening, get your calendar out and reserve that date. It is not too early to do that.

If you need some good reasons to be there or to buy a ticket, here are the Top Ten Reasons to Buy Putt-Putt Tickets. (If you look carefully, there are more than 10 because there are so many great reasons that 10 was not enough):

17. Birthday Gifts
16. Reward for not watching Rush Limbaugh on television.
15. Thank You Gifts
14. Tickets can be used at either Center Rd or Maple course.
13. To have some fun
12. Imagine Rush is the little red, blue, yellow, green or orange ball and you have the club.
11. No Reason
10. Twenty-Five (25) per cent savings
9. Take pride in beating your opponent.
8. Incentive gift to not listen to Rush Limbaugh on radio.
7. Fun in the sun.
6. Tickets can be used on any date, not just September 6th.
5. Practice your stroke
4. To have some more fun
3. Does not involve the same old thing.
2. Tickets can be worn in place of a Rush Limbaugh necktie.
1. **DONATION TO PFLAG**

That's right. This is a fund raiser for PFLAG and we receive a portion of the price for each ticket we sell. **BUT WAIT, THERE IS MORE!!!!!!** If enough people participate on September 6th, the owner will set up some special challenges for us on the course. Let's sweep the place and show Omaha and the Fundamental Religious Extremists that we know how to have a good time.

Don't be left out. Look for a PFLAG member today to get that Putt-Putt ticket. Pick up your phone and call 291-6781 right now.



Watch for our "NEW NAME" next month

## THE RUN

*New Disco under construction*



We have a new **ATTITUDE**

**THE RUN**

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## TECHNOLOGY AND THE RISE OF THE CHRISTIAN RIGHT

by Gary L. Beck

Channel surfing can oftentimes result in finding television programs that are not the most wholesome. Some nights I find myself settling on watching a program that does nothing but spew forth hatred that is more destructive to the uninformed mind than Mt. Kilauea is for the Hawaiian landscape.

No, I am not talking about watching supporters of Gary Lauck and his ilk. I am talking about "The 700 Club".

Has Pat Robertson built a multi-million dollar empire designed to promote Christianity? No, not if you listen to what is being said on his programs. He uses the media to manipulate those who do not question religious leaders.

This empire has spawned the Christian Coalition who is currently under investigation by the Federal Election Commission. Yet because the Christian Coalition and Pat Robertson's horde are "Christian" much of mainstream America does not question their motives or actions.

At the next Citizens for Equal Protection meeting, the video "Narrowcasting: Technology and the Rise of the Christian Right" will be shown. This video provides insight from the more liberal perspective of what the religious political extremists are doing.

What can the G/L/B/T community do to counter their actions? How can we provide an alternative viewpoint? Come to the meeting on September 5, 1996 at 7:00 P.M. at the First Unitarian Church at 31st and Harney.

# LOOKING AHEAD: A Calendar of Events for the Coming Year

## September

Check the Community Calendar

## October

AIDS Awareness Month  
 TBA AIDS Awareness Art Show  
 5 - HGRA Mtg in Des Moines  
 6 - Lutherans Concerned  
 10, 11, 12 - ONYX Images  
 11-14 - Int'l Frontrunners Conven  
 11- National Coming Out Day  
 11 - HGRA Royalty Step Down Show  
 12 - HGRA Royalty Contest  
 13 - CFEP Nat'l Coming Out Day  
 13 - AIDS Quilt Display - D.C.  
 17 - 20 - IGRA Rodeo Finals  
 Albuquerque, NM  
 18 - ACLU-Nebr Annual Dinner  
 19 - MCC-O Hayride  
 19 - Suzane Westenhoefer Concert  
 25 - Last day to Register to Vote in  
 Nebraska  
 26 - ANGLE Recognition Dinner  
 31-Nov 2-Transgender Festival  
 TBA - Mr & Ms Leather Nebraska  
 TBA - Beauty & Beast - Lincoln  
 TBA - GLAGN Halloween Party

## November

2 - HGRA Election & Awards Dinner  
 3 - ICON Food 4 Thought - Lincoln  
 5 - VOTE!! It's Election Day  
 6-10 Creating Change - Wash,DC  
 9 - Karaoke at MCC  
 10 - ICON Food 4 Thought - Omaha  
 10 & 17 - All Iowa AIDS Benefit  
 16 - HGRA Indoor Rodeo  
 17 - ICON Chill Cook Off

## December

1 - Lutherans Concerned  
 1 - PFLAG Holiday Gathering  
 7 - Night of 1000 Stars  
 8 - ICON Toyz 4 Totz - Omaha  
 14 - HGRA Mtg, Des Moines  
 14 - MCC Caroling  
 15 - ICON Toyz 4 Totz - Lincoln

## January 97

26 - Miss MAX  
 TBA - ICON Live Extravaganza  
 TBA - MCC 23 Anniversary

## February 97

TBA - ICON Sweet 16 Prom  
 TBA "Hearts of Fire" Hastings

## March 97

## April 97

TBA - Easter Services at MCC-O  
 TBA - ICON Easter Bonnet Contest

### Bars & Restaurants

#### Des Moines (A.C. 515)

Blazing Saddles 416 E. 5th St.  
 Faces 416 E Walnut, 280-5463  
 The Garden 112 SE 4th St. 243-3965  
 Tacky's 515 E 6th 245-9126  
 Chat Noir Cafe 644 18th 244-1353

#### Omaha (A.C. 402)

The Chesterfield 1901 Leavenworth  
 345-6889  
 CR Babes 1951 St. Mary's 344-2310  
 DC's 610 S. 14th, 344-3103  
 The Diamond 712 S. 16th, 342-9595  
 Gilligan's 1823 Leavenworth, 449-9147  
 The Max 1417 Jackson, 346-4110  
 The New Run 1715 Leavenworth,  
 449-8703

#### Lincoln (A.C. 402)

Panic 200 S. 18th St., 435-8764  
 Q 226 S. 9th St. 475-2269

#### Sioux City, IA (A.C. 712)

Kings & Queens 417 Nebr. 252-4167  
 3 Cheers 414 20th St, 255-8005

#### Sioux Falls, SD (A.C. 605)

Touchez 323 S. Phillips Ave., 335-9874

## May 97

ICON Memorial Day Picnic

## June 97

27 -29 - Gay Rodeo - Fremont  
 TBA - RCMC Pride Concert  
 TBA - Desert Plains Drummer  
 TBA - Pride Parade & Festival

## July 97

4, 5, 6 ICON Picnic & Coronation  
 TBA - Mr. Nebraska Fantasy Contst

## August 97

TBA - Int'l Mr. Fantasy Contest

Let Us Know About YOUR Events so we can include them in the calendar!!

### WHERE CAN I GET A COPY OF THE NEW VOICE?

We've listed many of the regular distribution points below. If your group or business would like to be included on our distribution list, please contact us.

#### Omaha:

Borders (Books-Music-Cafe)  
 The Chesterfield  
 CR Babes  
 D.C.'s  
 The Diamond  
 Downtown Grounds  
 Gilligan's Pub  
 The MAX  
 Metropolitan Community Church  
 Nebraska AIDS Project  
 New Realities  
 Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays  
 Retro  
 The Infield  
 The Mystery Bookstore  
 The Run  
 St. Mary's Tait  
 Visions (Custom Framing)

#### Council Bluffs:

Adult Emporium

#### Lincoln:

The Panic  
 Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays  
 Q  
 UNL Gay/Lesbian Resource Center  
 Women's Resource Center

#### Kearney:

GLAGN  
 Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays

#### Des Moines:

Blazing Saddle  
 Faces  
 The Garden  
 Tacky's  
 Chat Noir Cafe

#### Sioux City:

Kings & Queens  
 Three Cheers

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# AIDS/HIV RESOURCES

## HIV TESTING\*

\*We urge you to inquire about anonymity & confidentiality before testing.

**Charles Drew Health Center,**  
2201 N. 30, Omaha 68111 (402) 453-1433

**Douglas County Health Department,**  
1201 S. 42, Omaha 68105 (402) 444-7750

**Outreach Center,** 1723 Leavenworth Omaha,  
NE 68102, Open every Friday 1-4pm, Every  
other Friday from 10pm - 2am. HIV testing,  
education, support.

**Equilibria Medical Center,** 544 S. 24,  
Omaha, 68102 Call (402) 345-2252

**Lincoln-Lancaster Co. Health Dept** 3140 'N'  
Lincoln 68510, 441-8065 Testing, counseling  
Walk-in tests: The Panic, 200 S. 18, 2nd Tues.  
Urban Indian Health Ctr, 140 S. 27, 434-7177

**Grand Island-Hall Co Health Dept,** 105 East  
1st St, Grand Island, Mary (308) 385-5175

**Hastings College Health Center,** Hastings,  
NE 68901 402-461-7372 Ask for Judy

**McCook Family Planning,** 111 West "C" St,  
McCook, 69001, (308) 345-3626

**Nebraska AIDS Project,** 3610 Dodge, Suite  
110, Omaha 342-6367; AIDS Hotline 402-  
342-4233 or (800) 782-AIDS [2437] or  
info@nap.org http://www.nap.org/

**Nebraska Dept of Health,**  
Kearney, 3423 2nd Ave, 68847, 308/865-5609  
**Norfolk,** Norfolk Regional Ctr, Adm Bldg #16,  
(402) 370-3395

**NorthPlatte,** Craft St. Office Bldg,  
200 So. Silber, 69101 (308) 535-8133

**Nemaha County Health Department,**  
1824 N. Auburn, 68305 (402) 274-4549

## LEGAL

**Petersen Law Offices, Thomas M. Petersen**  
Attorney & Counselor, 2712 S. 87th Ave.,  
Omaha, 68124 (402) 393-8080

**Taylor & Wild,** Suite 25, Gold's Galleria,  
1033 "O" St., Lincoln, (402) 434-9482

**Nebr Bar Assoc,** 635 S 14, Lincoln, 475-7091  
**Nebraska Civil Liberties Union,** Box 81455,  
Lincoln 68501, (402) 476-8091

## AIDS ADVOCACY

**Art/AIDS Awareness,** (402) 592-7812, Group  
of HIV+ visual artists educating public about  
realities of AIDS through art.

## PASTORAL CARE

**AIDS Interfaith Network,** 100 N 62, Omaha  
Br Wm Woeger 558-3100 (Chancery)  
Service: 2nd Monday, 7pm, St Cecelia's,  
Nebraska Chapel, 40th & Webster

**Lincoln Interfaith Council,** 140 S. 27th St.,  
Lincoln 68510, 474-3017, AIDS/HIV Healing  
Service: 1st Tues, 7pm, St Francis Chapel,  
1145 South Street, Lincoln, Public is invited

## INFORMATION & REFERRAL\*

\*More info call **Neb AIDS Project 342-6367**

**AIDS Educ Project,** UNL G/L Resource Cntr,  
Rm 342, Neb Union, Lincoln 68588, 472-5644

**American Red Cross,**  
2245 Heather Dr, Crete 68333 (402) 826-3785  
1701 'E', Lincoln 68501 (402) 471-7997  
2515 St Marys Ave, Omaha 68105 431-4447

**Community Prescription Service AIDS Info,**  
medicine, supplies by mail, 1-800-677-4323

**Douglas County Health Department,**  
1201 S. 42, Omaha 68105 (402) 444-7750

**Grand Island/Hall Co. Health Dept,**  
105 E. 1st, Grand Island (308) 385-5175

**HIV Clinic,** Univ of NE Medical Center,  
600 S. 42nd, Omaha, (402) 559-6681

**Lincoln Cancer Cntr,** 4600 Valley, 483-1872

**Lincoln-Lancaster Co Health Dept** 3145 'N',  
Lincoln 68510, 441-8065 Testing, counseling

**Neb AIDS Educ/Training Center,** AIDS  
education to health care professionals. UNMC,  
600 S 42 Omaha 68198, (402) 559-6681

**Nebraska AIDS Project**  
{statewide} (800) 782-AIDS [2437] or  
info@nap.org http://www.nap.org/  
**Omaha Office:** 3610 Dodge, Suite 110, 68131  
Volunteer Services, Administration 342-6367,  
AIDS Hotline 402-342-4233, HIV testing,  
AIDS awareness, practical support, counseling  
**Lincoln Office:** 3818 Sheridan Blvd 484-8100  
**Central Nebraska Office:** 3423 2nd Ave  
Kearney, NE 68847, (308) 865-5610  
**Northeast Neb Office:** 304 N. 5 St, Ste C,  
Norfolk, NE 68701, (402) 370-3807  
**Western Nebraska Office:** 3707 Ave. D,  
Scottsbluff, NE 69361. (308) 635-3807

**Nebraska Dept of Health,**  
Kearney, 3423 2nd Ave, 68847,  
(308) 234-8183  
**Norfolk,** Norfolk Regional Ctr, Adm  
Bldg #16, (402) 370-3395  
**NorthPlatte,** Craft St. Office Bldg,  
200 So. Silber, 69101 (308) 535-8133

**Nebr Regional Hemophilia Center,**  
UNMC, 600 S. 42, Omaha (402) 559-4227.

**Nemaha County Health Department,**  
1824 N. Auburn, 68305 (402) 274-4549

**ScottsBluff Co Health Dept,**  
Gering, NE 69341 (308) 635-3866

**Siouxland AIDS Coalition,** meets 2nd Tuesdy  
at 12 noon at Siouxland Chapter of American  
Red Cross, 1512 Pierce St., Sioux City, Iowa.  
Call (712) 252-0722

**Veterans Admin Medical Center,** 42 & Wool-  
worth, Omaha 346-8800; Dean Pierce, x 4119

To Have A Service Listed on Either  
Resource Page, send info to:  
The New Voice of Nebraska  
Box 3512  
Omaha, NE 68103

## COUNSELING & SUPPORT

**AIDS Care,** The Mercy Center, 427 E.  
Kanesville Blvd, Council Bluffs, IA 51503, att:  
Colleen Kibbe-Vest (712) 328-2609

**AIDS Support Group:** Sponsored by PFLAG,  
Box 4374, Lincoln, 68504, 7pm, 475-2437

**Calico II HIV-AIDS Support Group,** Meets  
1st & 3rd Tues, 7pm, Alliance For info call:  
(308) 762-8259

**Douglas County Mental Health - Outpatient  
Program,** 4102 Woolworth, Omaha, 68105  
Att: Leslie A. Epstein (402) 444-7930

**Family AIDS Support Group:** Sponsored by  
PFLAG-Omaha, Meet 1st Sunday, 2p.m. First  
United Methodist, 7020 Cass, Omaha

**Grand Island Area HIV/AIDS Support  
Group,** Meets 3rd Tuesday, (308) 385-5175

**Harambee Mental Health Services,** Business  
& Technical Center, 2505 N. 24, Omaha, NE  
68110, (402) 451-3913. Mental Health Services  
to people of color who are infected with HIV,  
their partners, and their families. A program  
developed by Charles Drew Health Center.

**Kearney Area HIV/AIDS Support Group,** 1st  
Monday, info, phone Barb (308) 865-5610

**Nebraska AIDS Project**  
{statewide} (800) 782-AIDS [2437] or  
info@nap.org http://www.nap.org/  
**Omaha Office:** 3610 Dodge, Suite 110, 68131  
Volunteer Services & Administration 402/342-  
6367, AIDS Hotline 402-342-4233, HIV tests,  
AIDS awareness, practical support, counseling  
**Lincoln Office:** 3818 Sheridan Blvd 484-8100  
**Central Nebraska Office:** 3423 2nd Ave  
Kearney, NE 68847, (308) 865-5610  
**Northeast Neb Office:** 304 N. 5 St, Ste C,  
Norfolk, NE 68701, (402) 370-3807  
**Western Nebraska Office:** 3707 Ave. D,  
Scottsbluff, NE 69361. (308) 635-3807

**North Platte Area Support Grp,**  
Call: (308) 535-8133

**Western Nebraska HIV/AIDS Support  
Group,** Scottsbluff, Call (308) 635-3606



THE NEW VOICE



# SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

EVERY SUNDAY

EVERY MONDAY

EVERY TUESDAY

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Worship Services, 9 & 10:30a.m.  
MCC- Omaha, 819 S. 22, 345-2563  
Gay/Lesbian Walking Club, 10am, 38th & South, Lincoln, by tennis courts

GaLo UNO -- 4-6pm, Milo Bail Student Center, 3rd Floor Board Room, Omaha Call Jonathan 571-8518 for info  
HIV Tests, NAP, 3610 Dodge, Suite 110, Omaha 7-9:30pm  
River City Mixed Chorus Rehearsals, 1st Methodist, 7020 Cass, Omaha, 7:15pm

Women for Sobriety 5:30pm YWCA, 222 S. 29, Omaha, Call Judith 472-2598  
Mens Support Group 7:30pm MCC, 819 S. 22, Omaha

Gay Men Disc Grp, Lincoln 6pm, Contact Luis 472-7450  
Frontrunners Run, 6:30pm, Brownell-Talbot, Omaha  
PFLAG AIDS Support Grp, Lincoln 7pm, call 475-2437  
Alcoholics Anonymous, 7:30pm, Mercy High, Omaha  
Integrity Prayer Svc, 6pm, St. Thomas Episc, Sioux City, IA

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

**September 1 (1st Sunday)**  
Frontrunners, 10am, Keystone Trail at Aksarben, Omaha  
Family AIDS Support, 2-4pm, 1st Meth, Om  
"Hats Off to Phoenix, The Emperor's New Clothes, DC's, Omaha

**Sept 2 (1st Monday)**  
ICON Labor Day Picnic, Vennelyst Park, 9100 N. 31, Omaha, 12n-5pm, Admission \$5 membs, \$7 non-membs

**Sept 3 (1st Tuesday)**  
AIDS Healing Service, 7pm, St Francis Chapel, South & 11th St., Lincoln  
ANGLE Meeting, 7pm, UNO Religious Center, 110 N. Happy Hollow, Omaha

**Sept 4 (1st Wed)**  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
**Sept 11 (2nd Wed)**  
GALO Talk Group, 3pm, Q's call Jonathan 571-8518 for info

**September 8 (2nd Sunday)**  
Frontrunners, AIDS Walk Nebr, Omaha  
AIDS Walk Nebr, Memorial Park, Omaha  
PFLAG, Mayflower Congregational Church, 1407 W. 18, Sioux City, IA, 2-4pm  
Miss Gay Nebraska--Am, The MAX Omaha  
Sheza Mann Showtime, 9pm, Q Bar Lincoln

**Sept 9 (2nd Monday)**  
ICON Board Mtg, 7pm, The Panic, Lincoln  
AIDS Interfaith Service, 7pm, St Cecelias, Omaha

**Sept 10 (2nd Tuesday)**  
Siouxland AIDS Coalition, 12n, Red Cross, Sioux City, IA  
Free/Confidential HIV Tests by Lancaster Co Health Dept 5-7pm The Panic, Lincoln

**Sept 18 (3rd Wed)**  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
**Sept 25 4th Wed)**  
GALO Talk Group, 3pm, Q's call Jonathan 571-8518 for info

**September 15 (3rd Sunday)**  
Frontrunners, 10am, Ford Birth Site, Omaha  
Community Resource Center Development Mtg, MCC-Omaha, 819 S. 22, 2-5pm  
PFLAG/Kearney, St Luke Episcopal, 3pm, 2304 2nd Ave, (308) 382-0752/995-5490  
Panhandle Mens Group (308)635-8488  
Omaha Women's Riverboat Ride, 6pm, Freedom Park, Omaha  
Chili Feed, 5-9pm, DC's, Omaha  
Drag Race, Q, Lincoln

**Sept 16 (3rd Monday)**  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
**Sept 23 (4th Monday)**  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
**Sept 30 (5th Monday)**  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
**October 7 (1st Mon)**  
ICON Board Mtg, 7pm, The New Run Bar, Omaha

**Sept 17 (3rd Tuesday)**  
NOW-Nat'l Org for Women  
Lincoln: 7pm, Women's Club, 407 S. 14th, 477-1226  
Omaha: 7pm, 1st Unitarian, 3114 Harney, 391-7303  
Grand Island HIV Support Grp, 7pm, (308) 385-5175

**Sept 24 (4th Tuesday)**  
PFLAG, 7pm Unitarian Church, 6300 A, Topic "Gay Marriage" Lincoln, 467-4599  
Straight Spouse Support Group 7pm, Unitarian Church, 6300 A Lincoln  
Frontrunners Monthly Mtg, 6:30pm, Omaha, 496-3658

**September 22 (4th Sunday)**  
Frontrunners, 10am, Heartland Park, Omaha  
Lambda Business Assoc, 3pm, Lin 483-6183  
MCC PSC Circle, 6pm, 477-3215, Lincoln  
James Debray & Frnds from Denver, 9pm, Q, Lincoln

**October 1 (1st Tuesday)**  
ANGLE Meeting, 7pm, 3923 Farnam, Omaha  
AIDS Healing Service, 7pm, St Francis Chapel, South & 11th St., Lincoln

**October 2 (1st Wed)**  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
**October 9 (2nd Wed)**  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
**October 8 (2nd Tuesday)**  
Siouxland AIDS Coalition, 12n, Red Cross, Sioux City, IA  
Free/Confidential HIV Tests by Lancaster Co Health Dept 5-7pm The Panic, Lincoln

**September 29 (5th Sunday)**  
Frontrunners, 10am, Elmwood Park by Pool, Omaha  
AIDS Walk Nebraska, Lincoln & Kearney  
Frieda Lae presents Miss Parallel Galaxy, 9pm, Q, Lincoln  
MCC's EXCEL Retreat, Camp Kitaki

**October 8 (2nd Tuesday)**  
Siouxland AIDS Coalition, 12n, Red Cross, Sioux City, IA  
Free/Confidential HIV Tests by Lancaster Co Health Dept 5-7pm The Panic, Lincoln

**October 6 (1st Sunday)**  
Frontrunners, 10am, Omaha  
Lutherans Concerned meet in Omaha

# SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

## EVERY THURSDAY

**HIV Test Site, NAP**, 3610 Dodge, Ste 110, Omaha 7-9:30pm  
**G/L Alcoholics Anonymous**, 7:30pm, Unitarian Church, 6300 "A" Lincoln, Call V.J. 477-3526  
**Univ. of Nebr-Kearney GLBT Support Grp**, 4pm, Student Affairs Bldg, info Call Ronnie at 308-865-8488 or 236-5312

## EVERY FRIDAY

**Outreach Center, HIV Info/Tests**, 1-4pm, 1723 Leavenworth, Omaha  
**Lesbian Discussion Grp Lincoln** 7pm 488-2043  
**Network Q**, 9pm, Cable Channel 20, Lincoln  
**Alcoholics Anonymous Omaha: "An Alternative"** Mens Stag 7pm, Lowe Ave  
**"Live & Let Live"** 8:15pm Pella Lutheran, 303 S. 411  
**Lincoln: 8pm**, Plymouth Congregational, 438-5214  
**Youth Talkline**, 7pm-12m, Support/ Info for callers up to age 23, 473-7932, Lincoln

## EVERY SATURDAY

**Lincoln Women for Sobriety**, 10am, Gathering Place, Lincoln, Judith 472-2598  
**Womens Support Grp**, 11am, MCC-Omaha  
**Youth Support Grp**, 291-6781, age 13-21 gay, lesbian, or questioning sexuality, Omaha  
**Youth Talkline**, 7p-12m, 473-7932, Lincoln

## THURSDAY

## FRIDAY

## SATURDAY

### Sept 5 (1st Thursday)

**Gay & Lesbian Parents Support Group**, 7:30pm, MCC-Omaha

**Citizens for Equal Protection**, 7pm, 1st Unitarian, Omaha

### September 6 (1st Friday)

**Outreach Center, HIV Info/Tests**, 1-4pm & 10pm - 2am, 1723 Leavenworth, Omaha

**Putt-Putt Golf with PFLAG & MCC** at Putt Putt, 91 & West Center, Omaha

### September 7 (1st Saturday)

**Omaha Players Club**, Workshop "Electricity", 2pm, Play Party, 8pm

**River City Gender Alliance**, for Transgender community, Box 3112, Omaha 68103

**HGRA "Boots & Boxers" Night**, 9pm, DC's, Omaha

### Sept 12 (2nd Thursday)

**P-FLAG** 1st Methodist-Mead Hall, 7020 Cass Omaha 291-6781 7pm

**Straight Spouse Suppt Grp** 7-9pm, Mead Hall, 1st Methodist 7020 Cass, Room 209, 291-6781

### September 13 (2nd Friday)

**Frontrunners Friday Afternoon Club**, The MAX, 6:30pm

### September 14 (2nd Saturday)

**Rosh Hashanah**

**Frontrunners**, 9am, Ford Birthsite, Omaha

**SAGE Coffee House** 6-9pm, Lesbian Videos, 7:15pm, 3319 S. 46, Lincoln, 488-4178

**PFLAG Flea Market**, at the Q, Lincoln

### Sept 19 (3rd Thursday)

**Metropolitan Club**, 6:30pm, Neon Goose, 10 & Pacific, Omaha

**GLAGN Support Group**, Grand Island, (308) 384-7235

### September 20 (3rd Friday)

**Womyn's Book Discussion Group**, Call Laurie 556-0937 or Beth 435-2418

**Outreach Center, HIV Info/Tests**, 1-4pm & 10pm - 2am, 1723 Leavenworth, Omaha

### September 21 (3rd Saturday)

**Imperial Court of Iowa Coronation**, Des Moines

### September 28 (4th Saturday)

**Frontrunners**, 9am, Ford Birthsite, Omaha

**Omaha Players Club**, 2pm, Workshop S & M 101; 8pm, Play Party

**American Professional & Business Guild**, Sioux City, IA, For Information, write: ABPG, Box 142, Sioux City, Iowa 51102

**HGRA/Frontrunners Barn Dance & Hayrack Rides**, Lakota Stables, Ashland

**International Mr. Drummer**, Rick Noss Competes in San Francisco

**MCC's EXCEL Retreat**, Camp Kitaki

### Sept 26 (4th Thursday)

### September 27 (4th Friday)

**MCC's EXCEL Retreat**, Camp Kitaki

### October 3 (1st Thursday)

**CFEP**, 7pm, Omaha

**G/L Parents**, 7:30pm, Omaha

### October 4 (1st Friday)

**Outreach Center, HIV Info/Tests**, 1-4pm & 10pm - 2am, 1723 Leavenworth, Omaha

### October 5 (1st Saturday)

**River City Gender Alliance**, for Transgender community, Box 680, Council Bluffs 51502

**Heartland Gay Rodeo Assoc**, General Membership Meeting, Des Moines

### October 10 (2nd Thursday)

**ONYX Images Fall Celebration**, Omaha

### October 11 (2nd Friday)

**ONYX Images Fall Celebration**, Omaha

**HGRA Royalty Step Down**, Chesterfield, Omaha

### October 12 (2nd Saturday)

**Frontrunners**, 9am, Ford Birthsite, Omaha

**SAGE Coffee House** 6-9pm, Lesbian Videos, 7:15pm, 3319 S. 46, Lincoln, 488-4178

**Mr/Miss/Ms HGRA**, DC's, Omaha

**ONYX Images Fall Celebration**, Omaha

# CLASSIFIEDS

**WANTED: Donations of household and personal items** for the G/L/B/T Community Resource Center Yard Sale to be held September 14, 4328 Chicago Street. Call 558-5303 and leave a message for Darrin. (Sp96)

**HELP WANTED: Looking for entertainers** of all kinds (dancers, female impersonators, etc.) Call Allen Dean Davis Entertainment at 402-697-1593. (Sp96)

**Psychic Fraud?** True future through handwriting, Personalities, Compatibility, SASE. J. Doudney, 8929 Cuming, #8, Omaha, NE 68114. (Sp96)

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322-2255

**Woodburning Artist** Specializing in Alternative Lifestyles. SASE. J&N, 8929 Cuming, #8, Omaha, NE 68114. (Sp96)

**Booking Entertainment: Clowns, magicians, and many other performers** for company picnics, business events, birthday parties, and much more. Call Allen Dean Davis Entertainment, 402-697-1593. (Sp96)

**School's In!** And you know what that means — better reserve your spot early for **St. Mary's Tan**, 2202 St. Mary's Ave., 341-3740.

**HOUSE CLEANING The Way You Like It**  
References, reliable.  
"Au Nautural"; you will be pleased.  
Call before 10:00 p.m. 289-3441. (Sp96)

**Go Online** locally with TnanGLE BBS, a Gay and Lesbian computer system. 24 hours. Call 402-597-2908 with your modem now! (Jt97)

**LEATHER JACKETS, VESTS, CHAPS, PANTS, CAPS, GLOVES, BOOTS, ETC. PHIL'S FUN STUFF, BOX 431, DECORAH, IOWA 52101-0431 (Catalog \$5.00, Refundable)** (Ja97)

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web: <http://www.netzone.com/~dburns/nord2.htm>

## ORGANIZATIONS

"New members welcome for the gay and lesbian organization at UNO (GALO). Join the fun at the Milo Bail Student Center, 3rd Floor — Board Room. We meet every Monday from 4 - 6 p.m. Fun activities planned every month such as gay and lesbian creative night, movie nights, coffee talk and the creation of a speaker's bureau. If you have any questions contact Jonathan Raymond — President of GALO — at 571-8518" (Nv96)

## EVERYONE WELCOME!

Attend the Imperial Court of Nebraska (ICON) Board Meeting **Monday, September 9**, at **The Panic**, 200 S. 18 St., Lincoln, 7:00 p.m.

"New members welcome for the gay and lesbian confidential talk group — a part of GALO. Meet new people over a cup of conversation. Meets every second Wednesday of the month at 3 p.m. Call Jonathan at 571-8518 to receive more details."

## MASSAGE

**Full Body Swedish Massage.** Healing, Nurturing (in a Peaceful Environment) Downtown Omaha. Juan-Carlos, C.M.T. (402) 342-1017. (Ja97)

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**Autumn is upon us.** There's plenty of hot weather but the sun's rays just aren't as strong as they were — try a safe, consistent tan at **St. Mary's Tan**, 2202 St. Mary's Ave., 341-3740

## FOR RENT

**For Rent: 1 Bedroom House.** Nice, Bohemian Cafe Area, \$325.00 plus deposit. Responsible Employed Person Only. 345-7081. (Sp96)

**3 bdrm home** in nice neighborhood to share with female. \$350 + 1/2 utilities. Drug, alcohol, smoke free house. 341-8212. (Sp96)

## Boarder Wanted

Gay oriented home in the Gold coast, Cathedral area. Third floor available after October 1. \$275 rent, lease required. Call after 5 p.m. 342-7860 for details. (Sp96)

## PERSONALS for Women

**SWM, 30, 5'10", 180 lbs, seeks bi female** for friendship/relationship. Open-minded, honest. R.E., P.O. Box 37812, Omaha, NE 68137-0812. (Nv96)

## PERSONALS for Men

**ATTENTION: 38, 27, 35 SUB CROSSDRESSER — WE COULD NOT USE YOUR AD BECAUSE THE PO BOX NUMBER WAS NOT CLEAR.**

**REMINDER TO ALL WHO PLACE ADS — WE MUST HAVE YOUR NAME AND PHONE NUMBER SO WE CAN VERIFY THE INFORMATION OR WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO PLACE YOUR AD.**

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**Bi/BM, Mid-30's, 5' 7", 185.** Avg looking, not into bar scene, ISO masculine G/BiM 19-38 for friendship — possibly more! No games — serious and sincere. Need only call. 457-6003 or leave message. (Sp96)

**G & Bi/M of all ages and builds** are tanning at the friendliest place around. Check it out. **St. Mary's Tan**, 2202 St. Mary's Ave. 341-3740

**Young Boyfriend Wanted.** GWM, 28yo, 5' 10", 155, br/bl, ISO 18-30 y/o thin build. I like movies, dining out, music, nature hikes, liberal politic, lots of kissing/cuddling, and can be experimental/kinky. Let's spend the weekends together! starcat@top.net

**Drug + Disease Free Bi-Curious W/M, 45, 5' 9", 160lbs, uncut.** Seeks same, 18 years plus. Photo appreciated. Bill, P.O. Box 4034, Omaha 68104. (Dc96)

**W.M., 6', 180#, discreet, and young-thinking-acting-looking 54, seeking friends.** Someone to call, date, do things with and "what-ever," Unlimited variety of interests. Younger, good build, and well-endowed would be a "plus," but age, race, "etc" is really unimportant. All replies promptly answered. P.O. Box 34126, Omaha, 68134-0126. (Sp96)

**Bear Cub, 24, Facial and Body Hair.** Large, Stocky Build. Dark Blonde, Blue, 280#, 5' 10" Looking for New Friends. Be Fun, Honest, Mature, and Drug Free! Write Omaha Cub, 10829 Blondo, #14, Omaha, NE 68164. (Sp96)

**ETHNICS PREFERRED** for playmates by GWM, HIV Neg. 6' 1", 195, seeking safe but imaginative fun times. Daniel, Box 84634, Lincoln, NE 68501. All replies speedily answered. (Oc96)

**G.W.M. HIV neg, 5' 9", 160lbs, seeking discreet, masculine, slim males, well-endowed, age 30 on up, into LEVIS and being pampered.** 402-491-3111. (Sp96)

**Looking to attract individuals** to join a Naturalist Alternative Group. Pay \$50 for a whole year to deer hunt, camp, and enjoy thyself in the privacy of wooded area that is about 15 minutes from Omaha. If interested, write to Richard, PO Box 3381, Omaha, NE 68103. (Sp96)

**GWM, HIV poz, Medication free, great attitude, Young/Good-looking 36 yrs, 6', 180#, brn/blue, tan, clean shaven, good body, good job.** Seeking mature-minded Gay males for friendship and possible more. 467-1413 (Lincoln) (Sp96)

**Gay Black Males** (any age) wanted for FUN & friendship. GWM, HIV Neg. 6' 1", 195, enjoys arts, jazz, movies, group games. Write to 3F3SC, Box 84634, Lincoln, NE 68501. (Oc96)

**GWM, 32, HIV-, 6' 0", Straight Acting, Attractive** service oriented oral enthusiast, seeking masculine men 30 - 50+ who want to be serviced. Write to: C. Mealer, 5123 S. 41st Street, Omaha 68107. Photo a plus. (Sp96)

**2 GWM Looking for GWM 20-40** for fun safe sex. Call Frank 170#, 5' 11", 39 or Murray 190#, 5' 11", 39 at 457-4271. (Sp96)

## S&M/Leather

**W/M, 46,** wants a healthy part-time bondage house slave, 21-35, with weight proportionate to height. Slave must correctly perform masculine chores in return for bondage play. Gary, PO Box 8050, Omaha, NE 68108-0050 or OmahaGary@aol.com. (Sp96)

**COLLEGE BOYS:** Been naughty? Out too late? Bad grades? Need a spanking to keep you in line? Daddy available to warm up your bare butt. Box 12094, Omaha, NE 68112. (Sp96)

**Daddy likes a bare butt** with a golden tan. His hand tingles thinking about it. Tan all over at **St. Mary's Tan**, 2202 St. Mary's Ave. 341-3740

# NEBRASKA PERSONALS

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### Nebraska

**GOURMET PARTNER** GWM, 32, 5'9", 175, "stache/beard, brown hair and eyes, interested in movies, music and stuff, seeks other GM's with similar interests. (Bellevue) #39953

**MARRIED BI GUY** I'm a 37 year old married Bi White male, 5'11", 170lbs, Brown hair, Blue eyes. I'm looking for guys close to the Columbus area. Call me. (Columbus) #30307

**OLDER MEN A TURN ON!** GWM, 36, dark hair, medium build seeks older guys, 30+, for fun, friendship and more. Please leave a message. (Craig) #19950

**MASCULINE MAN** I'm 27 years old, 6'4", 200lbs, dark hair, dark eyes, very attractive, very masculine. I'm seeking guys in central Nebraska to get together with. Call me. (Grand Island) #42438

**BUTCH BOTTOM** I'm 6'2", Brown hair, Green eyes, total butch bottom. Call me. (Lincoln) #4674

**BIG GUYS WANTED** I'm looking to have some fun. I'm 45 years old, 190lbs, Brown hair, Blue eyes. I'm looking for well endowed men of any race for good times. Call me. (Lincoln) #3975



**LOOKING FOR BOTTOMS** I'm a 28 year old total top looking for bottom men. I got blond hair and blue eyes. I run 5 miles a day and I'm in great shape. I'm looking for young bottoms. Call me. (Lincoln) #3395

**LOOKING FOR FRIENDS** I'm a Gay White male, 32 years old, 165lbs, Brown hair, Green eyes, average build. I'm looking to meet people for friendship, maybe more. I like to do most things. Call me. (Lincoln) #32320

**NO STRINGS** I'm a Black male, 5'11", 240lbs, good looking. I seek no strings fun from other attractive or well endowed guys. I'm looking for fun and good conversation. I prefer older men. Call me if this sounds good to you. (Lincoln) #31817

**WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?** I'm looking for friends in my area. I'm a Bi White male looking for singles and couples. I like to try new things and new ideas. Call me. (Lincoln) #22624

**SAFE AND SANE** I'm looking for people in Eastern Nebraska. I'm 23 years old, 5'9", 200lbs. I like camping, reading, entertainment, safe partying, and more. I'm versatile. (Lincoln) #22765

**SADDLE UP** I'm a Gay White male bottom, 6'1", Blue eyes, Brown hair. I'm looking for top men in my area. If you would like to top me please call. (Lincoln) #20295

**WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?** I'm 33 years old, 6'1", 190lbs, Blue eyes, Brown hair. I like football, volleyball, tennis, etc. Call me. (Lincoln) #20291

**CLEAN AND SAFE** I'm 5'11", 170lbs, 34 years old, dark blonde hair, Blue eyes, 34" waist, moderately hairy. I would like to meet some guys for clean and safe fun. Call me. (Lincoln) #20411

**JUICY JOCK** I'm 22 years old, 5'9", 160lbs, short crew cut, Blonde hair, Green eyes, good gymnastic build, work out every other day. I'm looking for other guys who are 18 to 25. Call me. (Lincoln) #19288

**READY FOR SOMETHING NEW?** I'm a Bi White male looking for exciting married or single guys to try new things with. Call me. (Lincoln) #16972

**BUSINESS BEARS WANTED** I'm a White male, 46, 240lbs, looking for a 30 to 50 year old business man, bear type. I like bigger men. Call me. (Lincoln) #15595

**LET'S TALK OVER COFFEE** I'm 27 years old, 5'7", 120lb, nice muscular body, drug and alcohol free. I do smoke and drink coffee. I like dancing, movies, reading, etc. I'm looking to meet White men around my age for fun and more. (Lincoln) #15190

**SUMMER HEAT** I'd like to meet some guys to get together with. I'm not interested in a boring relationship, just hot fun. Call me. (Lincoln) #3927

**LET'S CUDDLE** I'm 46, 300lbs, and I love sports. I also like cuddling and watching movies. If you are interested please call me. (Lincoln) #24223

**READY TO PLAY?** GWM, 43, professional, dominant and hairy, seeks submissive and open minded boys who are ready to play. Please leave a message. (Lincoln) #23767

**LET'S MEAT** GWM, 33, variety of interests, seeks others for friendship and whatever! Please leave a message. (Lincoln) #18733

**LET'S GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER** GWM, 23, 6'2", 180, blonde hair, blue eyes, seeks other guys for friends and more. Please leave a message. (Lincoln) #20388

**CHURCH GOER** GWM, 26, 110, brown hair, blue eyes, student, varied interests, seeks other guys for friendship and possibly more. Please leave a message. (Omaha) #18490



David Christian Brown

**THE SENSUALIST** I'm looking for a young and sensuous guy 25 to 35. Please be smooth to hairy, uncut, and well endowed. Call me. (Omaha) #17628

**ARE YOU BEING SERVED?** I enjoy servicing men and making them feel good. I like cooking, entertaining, travel, etc. I enjoy meeting new people and look forward to meeting you. Call me. (Omaha) #14922

**OMAHA TOP MAN WANTED** I'm a 32 year old Gay White male, 5'7", 135lbs, Black hair, Hazel eyes, well endowed bottom looking for Gay Black men in my area. Call me. (Omaha) #21003

**FRIEND SEEKER** GWM, blonde hair, blue eyes, good shape, 5'10", 160, versatile, varied interests, seeks others for good times and friendship. Please leave a message. (Omaha) #20785

**LET'S MEAT SOON** GWM, 32, 6'1", 190, blue eyes, brown hair, seeks others for companionship and friendship. Please leave a message. (Omaha) #21150

**BOTTOM'S UP** GWM, 35, well built, 5'10", beard, blue eyes, blonde hair seeks other submissive males for pleasure. Leave me a message. (Omaha) #12385

**FRIENDS FIRST** GWM, 5'11", 175, well built, seeks GWM's, 20-45, interested in friendship, and fun with relationship possibilities. Please leave a message. (Omaha) #12874

**SIR, YES SIR!** GWM, 32, 5'11", 170, dark blonde hair, blue eyes, seeks other males interested in friendship and Master/Slave reality. (Omaha) #21159

**TALK TO ME** GWM, young professional, seeks other professional GWM's, 25-35, for interesting conversation and meetings. Please leave a message. (Omaha) #13101

**ANY PORT WILL DO** GWM, 5'6", 160, moderately hairy, Greek pass/act, good endowment, seeks GRM/GRM, age not important. Please leave a message. (Omaha) #14073

### Kansas

**NO FRILLS LOVE** GWM, 5'11", 170, good looking, seeks no strings attached fun from other attractive and well-endowed guys. Please leave a message. (Kansas) #14323

**LOOKING FOR COMPANY?** I'm looking for young guys 18 to 20 who like to have fun. I'm shy, outgoing, and into cuddling. If you are interested in meeting a nice guy call me. (Kansas City) #15845

**SPANISH BOTTOM** I'm a 35 year old Gay Spanish man. I'm 5'7", 155lbs. I'm an attractive, hot bottom looking for hot, well-endowed top men for uninhibited fun. Call me. (Kansas City) #3958

**LOOKING FOR LOVE IN LAWRENCE** I'm a 37 year old Gay White male, 6'3", 170lbs, dark hair, mustache, and beard. I'm looking for non smoking, relationship minded men. (Lawrence) #10931

**SOLDIER WANTED** I'm looking to meet soldiers of any race. If you are a soldier and want to have fun call me. (Marhattan) #2098

**COCKED AND LOADED** GWM, 27, varied interests, seeks local white guys, 18-30, for pleasure and fun. (Marhattan) #14751

**STUDENT LIFE** GWM, grad student K State, 28, 5'7", 155, weightlifter, seeks other males for friendship and other things. (Marhattan) #13662

**LET'S HANG OUT TOGETHER** I'm 33 years old, 5'9", 140lbs, Black hair, Brown eyes, Olive skin. I'm into sports. I'm looking for guys early 30's or 40's to hang out with. (Overland Park) #1323

**LET'S GET TOGETHER** GWM, 31, 5'10", 155, brown hair and eyes, "stache, Italian/Irish/Dutch descent, professional nurse, varied interests, seeks others for fun and friendship. Photo appreciated! (Pawnee) #13133

**CLOSE ENCOUNTER** I'm a 35 year old Gay White male, 5'10", 150lbs, blonde hair, Hazel eyes, friendly, attractive. Straight acting. If you are Gay, White, and attractive call me. (Topeka) #21705

**LET'S GET HOT AND SWEATY** I'm a very attractive 30 year old White male. Blonde hair, blue eyes, clean cut, clean shaven, ex Marine, 5'9", 160lbs, nice build, very well endowed, very open, very versatile. I'm looking for a hot and sweaty time. (Topeka) #20158

**PRIDE & POWER** I'm in Western Kansas. I'm 6'3", 250lbs, lousy beard. I prefer shorter stocky men who are in shape. I'm an aggressive top. I have horses and dogs. I'm looking for new friends. I love all aspects of gay life. Call me. #29899



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**Bring America Back To**  
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Sunday, September 15  
***Miss Max, Dietra Snow***  
**Is Our September Super Star**  
**Join Her For Her Birthday Bash**  
**A Night Of Omaha's Top Stars**

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**The Church Lady - Sister Act**  
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# AIDS Walk Nebraska



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A 10 Kilometer Fund Raising Walk-a-thon  
Benefiting The Nebraska AIDS Project, Inc.  
**OMAHA WALK: SUNDAY, SEPT. 8, 1996**  
**LINCOLN WALK: SUNDAY, SEPT. 29, 1996**  
**KEARNEY WALK: SUNDAY, SEPT. 29, 1996**

## **Registration Form:** Please Mail a Walker Information Kit To:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Evening Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

- I am registering for the AIDS Walk in:  Omaha  Lincoln  Kearney  
 In addition to participating in the AIDS Walk, I would like to volunteer at the event.  
 I can not participate, but please accept my donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Registration To: AIDS Walk Nebraska, 3610 Dodge St., Suite 110W, Omaha, NE 68131-3218  
For More Information Call: 1-800-742-AIDS, or Check the Internet: <http://www.nap.org/>