

Express

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND LCN's SEMI-ANNUAL CAMPOUT

Mark your calendars for March ~~19th, 20th and 21st~~ ²⁶⁻⁸. LCN is hosting their 7th Semi-Annual Wekiva Falls campout. All campsites are first-come first-served. The cost is \$14.00 per campsite per night, for up to two women. Pets, children, and alcohol are permitted. A convenience store is located on the property.

In the past we have had up to 105 women attend. During the day we enjoy canoeing, volleyball, fishing, and just relaxing in the sun. At night we surround a campfire with women singing, playing guitars and other instruments. On Saturday night we would like to see everyone bring some kind of instrument to join in the fun.

To get to Wekiva Falls Resort, take I-4 East to Sanford Exit # 51. (Hwy 46). Go left exiting and stay on 46 approximately 5 miles. Go across the Wekiva bridge and take your first left after the bridge. Follow this road until it dead-ends into the entrance of Wekiva Falls Resort. You will find us in the primitive section of the campgrounds. For further information, please contact Cathy or Lucy at 291-3791.

Don't miss it!!

Jamie Anderson

in concert in Orlando!

Sunday, March 14

*A benefit for GLPCI and the
March on Washington.*

See back cover for details.

Lift The Ban

by Stacey St. James

For several weeks now I have listened to the homophobic heterosexual lawmakers of this country talk about the ban on gays in the military and what it would do to the people in the military to have the ban lifted. Well, let's talk about what it'll do to the homosexuals if it isn't lifted and what it has done to gays who were in the military.

Since this change in military policy has been compared to what Truman did in 1948-50 by other notable writers, I too will draw a small parallel. "These people will create problems by their very presence in the barracks." They're already in the barracks. *We* are already there. Now that *they* actually know who *we* are, does it change anything between us and them? NO, only in insecure little minds.

Gays are openly a part of civilian life in every walk of it and a lot of them are out of the closet. We work in offices, construction, churches, universities, prisons and the daily function, discipline, order and morale of these places seems to continue on a daily basis unaffected. Are the armed forces any less? Judge Terry Hatter Jr. of the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California said on Thursday, Jan. 28, 1993, that it was unconstitutional to ban gays in the military. It took the case of Keith Meinhold to enact this law. A law that by all rights should be obvious to every American who has ever read the constitution and believes in it. Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Well, how can I be happy if I'm living daily in a closet in fear that someone

may find out about my lifestyle and end my life?

Why cannot we be judged on our conduct and not our sexual orientation? Why is it, if a heterosexual couple is caught in the act of sodomy, it would be overlooked by officials. However, a gay couple would be immediately expelled. Why is it so very, very relevant with one and not the other? Breaking of the law is breaking of the law. Did the discharge of Col. Margarethe Cammermeyer who won the bronze star in Vietnam in the Army Nurse Corps and served 27 years in the military make it a more effective organization? On the contrary, I don't think it did. It removed a person who had proven her effectiveness for over a quarter of a century to the approval of many. What about Thorne who also was discharged last year and Meinhold who was just reinstated? These peoples' records were impeccable. The witch hunts that go on in the military are exactly that. They are hunts, where, when you're caught, the penalty is crucifixion. Your life is ruined and a lot of these people are still very young. And the cost to do this is almost as exorbitant as the number of casualties. In the eighties, almost \$500 million was spent finding homosexuals, discharging and replacing them. Seventeen thousand gays fell during this time frame.

And as far as AIDS is concerned, I feel stupid even

THE PARENT PERSPECTIVE

by Diane P. Kerkhoff

I hope you were all at the Lazy Pig on January 16 for the March on Washington fundraiser. If you weren't, you really missed something. I've never seen so many lesbians in one small place in Central Florida before. Being claustrophobic I couldn't really enjoy the event to its fullest possibilities, but my friends assured me that the girl-watching was spectacular. A couple of my friends also commented on the number of cute women who stopped by to hug me, so if you stopped by to hug me, you can consider yourself cute. Better yet, if you want to be considered cute, you'd better stop by and hug me at the next event.

Speaking of the next event, between the time I write this and the time you read this, we will have had Alix Dobkin here (in a larger venue with a seat for every body and a body for every seat, I hope.) Then on Sunday, March 14, the March on

Washington committee and GLPCI (Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition International) are co-sponsoring a fundraiser featuring Jamie Anderson. I hope you all will attend, have a great time, and help us raise some funds.

GLPCI is raising these funds for our 14th annual international conference which will be held in Orlando July 1-4, 1993. Some of the funds raised are used to offset the costs for all attendees, and some are set aside for scholarships for people who couldn't otherwise attend. The parent conference features speakers, workshops, entertainment, networking, and all the love you can stand in one weekend. We have a list available of 40 workshops that will be offered. Call to have some information mailed to you: 420-2191.

Our children also attend the conference. They are split into 3 groups. The youth (13+) run their own conference and it is powerful. Here is

what one mother had to say about attending last year's conference with her 17-year-old son: "In he walked, awkward and skeptical. And it was amazing - he connected. He found a home - a safe place where he could be who he was - totally and completely. I never saw this side of him before. It was so empowering for me to see him come alive .. It's been a gift for me as a parent. It's the greatest gift you can give your kids. And I can't imagine any parent not wanting that for their children."

The children (age 6-12) have a full slate of fully-chaperoned events planned for them including a day at Disney World, an overnight campout, and back by popular demand, the infamous marshmallow games. This is what my son said about 100 times last year during the conference: "This is SO cool. I love this." His highest praise.

Babysitting will be available for pre-schoolers. This is what one baby told me about her conference experience: "Goo goo gah gah," which means, "I'm so glad my moms came to this, and I hope they're attending the "Helping Your Child Deal With Her Sexuality" workshop or the "Talking To Your Kids About Sex" workshop because I feel those questions coming on soon, but if they're goofing off in the "Country Western Dance Lessons" workshop or chatting in the family lounge, that's okay too, because I love them with all my heart and want them to have a good time."

If you are a parent, or otherwise interested in parenting, call for information. All you lose is a minute of your time, and there is so much to gain, you can't afford not to.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Mar. 12, 7:30 p.m. Parents Rap Group, adults only. at the GLCS, 714 E. Colonial Drive.

Mar. 14, 7 p.m. Jamie Anderson concert at the Unitarian Church, 181 E. Robinson St. Babysitting available.

Mar. 20, 6 p.m. Social/support meeting at a member's home. Bring a covered dish to share. Children welcome. Call (407) 420-2191 FMI.



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The Bridge

by Jo Wiggins

Don't Believe the Hype!

Here's a creepy coincidence--one of the most homophobic rap groups ever is also relevant to today's angry young gays and bis. Public Enemy puts out songs with such titles as 'Burn, Hollywood, Burn,' 'Fight the Power,' and my favorite, 'Don't Believe the Hype.'

As a young bi-chick, I repeat "Don't believe the hype" to myself a

lot. At school, I am fairly quiet about my bisexuality. I overhear comments by straight boys like "Bisexual girls are cool 'cause they'll do anything with anyone." Bi-women have been in the media quite often recently. Unfortunately, the same tired stereotypes permeate these depictions. In *Basic Instinct* Katharine Trammel (played by Sharon Stone) is a promiscuous "danger-woman" accused of murder. Camille Paglia, the quasi-feminist academic/author, is butch, abrasive, and seems to regard other women only as sex objects. Madonna exploits bisexuality in *Sex*.

When I was younger, I did not acknowledge my bisexuality; mostly because of stereotypes. You know what I'm talking about--we're promiscuous. We're kinky We're dangerous. I guess I'm an exception, for at the age of 19, (as of March 11!), I am a Christian, caring,

monogamous virgin. I am currently dating my first (hopefully last!) female. I look forward to sharing experiences such as college and vacations with her.

I look for positive bi-woman role models now. Eleanor Roosevelt may have been bi-sexual. Sinead O'Conner, my favorite singer, admitted to one having a "very physical" relationship with another woman, though "nothing sexual happened." Writer Vita Sackville-West was openly bisexual; so is Patricia Ireland, the smart, classy president of NOW.

I would like to be a U.S. Senator or a political analyst after I finish college. I refuse to let homophobic attitudes hold me back. One day, I hope that I can be a role model for young bisexuals, for we need as many as we can get. We certainly can't believe the hype. None of us can afford to.

Carol F. Ruff

Clinical Psychologist

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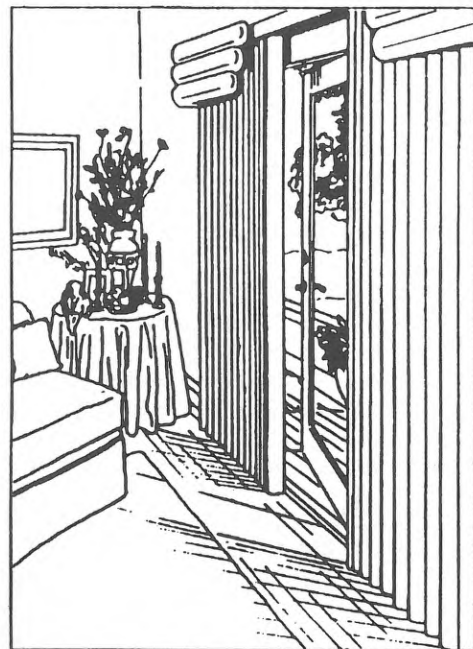
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Taking Care

by Judy Shaw M.A.

In my first article, I asked for assistance in addressing your health care concerns. I happily received the following letter which state very articulately a reader's view regarding emotional health.

Dear Judy: I really enjoyed your article on Taking Care in the last LCN. I was really happy to read an article on the emotional health that affects Gays and Lesbians.

It seems that it is an issue that is not brought up very often. The truth is--it is a very important issue and it affects us all in some way or another.

I am no expert, but I myself am a recovering alcoholic and drug abuser. I have 8 years of sobriety this month. I found through staying sober that a lot of my problems emotionally come from my childhood. Most of us, like 99.9% of us, came from dysfunctional homes. Our parents raised us the best they knew how. Unfortunately, today we are unable to hold jobs,; have good, loving, spiritual relationships or be good to people we care the most for. Usually it's because we aren't good to ourselves. We need to be good to ourselves to treat ourselves the way we would treat a dear, dear friend.

I've been working on some inner child work with John Bradshaw and it has helped me tremendously. We all, each one of us, have a scared little girl or boy in us afraid and lonely. We need to bond with that child and tell it "everything is gonna be o.k. and I love you and I'm here for you."

Thanks, anonymous

Thanks to this individual for sharing a personal and successful healing experience. Re-connecting with our emotional self as women and lesbians is essential to our very well-being and is one of the places where we have gotten shamed the most.

It is important that we balance our emotional, spiritual, intellectual and physical need is we are to have the strength to create the lives we need and deserve.

I am sincere in asking for your personal health questions or comments. Please reply to **The Center for Healing and Learning**, 727 Executive Drive, Winter Park, FL 32789.

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COMMUNITY CONTACTS

Alcoholics Anonymous/Orlando	647-3333
Alcoholics Anonymous/Brevard County	242-8063
Breaking the Silence MCC (Cocoa)	631-4524
Delta Youth Alliance	425-4527
GLCS Hotline & Info Line	THE-GAYS
GLADD	236-9499
GLPCI (Parents' Group)	420-2191
Gay & Lesbian Center	425-4527
Family That Cares	365-3762
Joy MCC (Orlando)	894-1081
Lambda Center Daytona	904-255-0280
LCN Express INFORMATION	831-2971
LCN Express SUBSCRIPTIONS/ADDRESS CHANGES	291-3791
LCN Express ADVERTISING	648-4154
Metropolitan Business Assoc.	299-1439
Orlando PRIDE	236-9480
PLAG (Parents & Friends of Lesbians/Gays)	236-9177
Rape Crisis Center	648-3028
Runaway Switchboard	1 (800) 621-4000
Spouse Abuse Hotline	886-2856
WILLOW (Women in Lake County)	(904) 383-2883
WIT (Women in Brevard County)	1-727-1336
Women's Health Center	896-2022
Women's Resource Center	898-1599

[Aids Resources: see page 9]

LCN *Express*

Publication Information

LCN Express is a monthly publication for and by the Central Florida Lesbian community. We invite readers to submit articles, letters, announcements, poems, short stories, and other items of interest.

Deadline for articles & ads: 15th of each month

Length: 300 words

By-Line: Anonymity guaranteed if desired (please specify) but telephone number is required

Editorial policy is as follows: The views expressed in the **LCN Express** are not necessarily those of the LCN or the newsletter editors. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit all contributions for clarity, conciseness and length. It is strongly recommended that caution be exercised to address an opinion, not to assault the author of an article, letter (or anyone else for that matter).

Thanks! The LCN Express Editorial Staff:

Madeliene Abling, Becky Acuna, Cathy McElhiney, Barb Fallon, Rachel Gardiner, Stacey St. James, Rita Krossber, Marianne Wittels & Sue York.

ADVERTISEMENT SIZES AND RATES

Ad Type	Dimensions	Price
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Large Banner	8" tall x 7½" wide	\$50
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Large Double	8" tall x 5" wide	\$40
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Small Double	3½" tall x 5" wide	\$20
<i>1 Column Ads</i>		
Single Medium	5¼" tall x 2¼" wide	\$15
Business Card (or vertical)	2" tall x 3½" wide 3½" tall x 2" wide	\$5 \$5
<i>Classified Ads</i>	Maximum 35 words	\$2

Payment for ads should be submitted in advance, checks payable to LCN. We can do typesetting for you; cost to equal the price of the size ad you are running.

Subscriptions

Suggested subscription donation is \$12.00 annually, more if you can, less if you can't. We welcome (and appreciate) subscription donations for women who can't afford to pay.

Name: _____

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Please make your check payable to LCN, and mail to:
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Jamie Anderson in Concert

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"...(she) sings funny and touching songs about the life & romances of the average goddess babe lesbian. *Dirty Linen*, MD

"...an impressive ability as a songwriter with a wide range of material." Jorjet Harper, *Outlines*



A Benefit performance for the

Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition International
and the D.C. in '93 Coalition

Sunday, March 14th at 7pm

at the Unitarian Church, 1815 E. Robinson St.

\$4.00-7.00 sliding scale

Advance tickets available at: Out & About Books,
Power House, and the GLCS Center

Call GLPCI for more info: 420-2191



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*Our deepest sympathy
to Donna Coleman,
whose father passed
away last month.*

Happy, Happy Birthday
Suzanne Pazkowski, March 16th!

Happy 25th Anniversary to
Olivia Records (the first lesbian
record label in the U.S.)

LIFT THE BAN

Continued from page one.
addressing this issue, but I will. A
greater number of homosexuals in
the military will not increase the
risk of AIDS for heterosexuals.
AIDS testing in the military is by
far probably one of the best around.
Upon entering the service you are
tested, then once every six months
thereafter. The education of the
military on safe sex procedures and
the risk of HIV is said to be one of
the best in the country. So in the
opinion of this writer, that
argument holds less water than
some of the others.

It is my opinion that the issue
here should be conduct of people in
the military whether they be gay or
straight. We have the Uniform
Code of Military Justice to govern
conduct and I do not feel that
sexual orientation is a conduct
issue. To quote President Clinton,
"Gays and lesbians have served,
and continue to serve, the United
States military with honor, pride,
dignity and loyalty." Let us do our
jobs. [Please see page 4 for related news.]

MBA UPDATE

At the February meeting, the
Metropolitan Business Association
(MBA) gained 10 new members,
growing to a total count of 86! A
goal of 100 has been set for the first
anniversary of the organization, in
April. Anyone interested in joining,
or with a referral of a business
owner or professional who could
benefit from MBA, should contact
the membership chair, Vicki
Meachum, at the MBA number.

Several opportunities are
available to members, such as
assisting with the development and
production of a monthly newsletter
which would feature community
announcements, events, articles of
interest, and an advertising section.
Writing, design, typing and printing
services are needed. Additionally,
Cindy Abel, Media Director, is
compiling a list of individuals who
are willing to be interviewed, on
and/or off-camera, by the media. She
may be contacted at 273-2389. Any
member desiring to speak or recom-
mending a speaker may contact Sam
Odom, Program Director, at the
MBA number, for a Speaker Profile,
which will be submitted to the
Board for recommendation and
scheduling.

Board elections will be held in
April, and nominations are being
accepted for the following positions:
VP, Media Director, Treasurer, At-
Large Board Member I (assists
secretary), and At-Large Board
Member II (assists Membership
Chair). Contact Dick Schull, VP, at
the MBA number prior to March 15,
to make nominations.

Mr. David Bain, of Gay and
Lesbian Community Center (GLCS),
will address the March 4 meeting,
presenting the services provided by
the organization, as well as discuss-
ing recent changes. Ms. Barbara
West and Mr. Burd Bullock, of
WFTV, are scheduled to speak on
the topic of "AIDS and the Media."

MBA general meetings are the
first Thursday of each month, at the
Radisson Hotel on Lake Ivanhoe.
Networking and social hour is from
6:30 to 7:30pm. Guests are welcome.

For additional information,
contact MBA at 420-2182.

Classifieds

Roommate to share 3bd/3 ba
home, washer/dryer, pool and
utilities. \$325. month in Apopka.
Pets, children, smoking all nego-
tiable. Call Hope 886.0390.

Roommate wanted to share
3br/2ba house in S.W. Orlando,
with couple. No pets, non-smoker
preferred. \$300.00/mo. including
utilities. Call 851-4198.

Guest house for rent, full
equip. including phone and utilities,
fireplace, pool and whirlpool - 1152
N.Y. Ave., Winter Park. Women
only, prefer 40 - 60 year old. Will
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1682. Available March 1st on month
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LCN Express Production Schedule

Call 831-2971 for more info.

Submission deadline: March 15th

Tues., Mar. 16: Production Meeting at 7pm. Call for directions. (You may be able to help do this on your own computer!)

Mon., March 29: 7:00pm Folding Party at **Faces!** If you happen to be there, we could use your help. Feel free to jump in!

Many thanks to the frisky folders, lovely lickens, and sexy stuffers who stuck it out last month... every thing that could go wrong did!

▼ Local Events Calendar ▼

Thursday, March 4: MBA monthly meeting, see article.

Monday, March 8: GLCS extends a special invitation to LCN, including discount coupon included in the issue, to come have some fun at Gay Skate. The cooperative network and political efforts between LCN and GLCS have grown immensely over the last year and we all thought it time to have some fun too! See you there!

Tuesday, March 9th: LCN General Meeting will be at Out and About Books, 7pm. The focus will be the Editorial Policy as well as other general business. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Sunday, March 14: Jamie Anderson in Concert. A event to benefit GLPCI and the DC in '93 effort. See ad this issue.

Sunday, March 14: Willow Welcome Back Reunion for all Willow members present and past at the March meeting. Call 383-2883 for info.

March 26-28: LCN Campout at Wekiva Springs for more info call Cathy at 291-3791.

Due to the change in administration, the light at the end of the tunnel will be turned back on.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sisters at LCN,

My spouse and I are currently chasing work across the country, and we are very homesick. Any news we get from home lifts our spirits.

Our friends send us occasional LCN newsletters, and we found out we need consistent news...so here's our check for this year's subscription.

We used to receive LCN regularly in the past, but lost contact in our moving around.

I am very impressed with the way the letter has grown and matured. You all should be very proud. I plan on sharing your letter with our friends here in Utah. They also have a fine newsletter.

Good luck and keep up the good work!

God Bless, Irene & Brenda

STATE AND LOCAL NEWS

Sunshine State News On March 8, International Women's Day, WMNF Tampa, will broadcast 24 hours of music, features, poetry, interviews and documentaries by and about women. This special programming will begin at 2 am on Monday, March 8 and end at 2 am on Tuesday, March 9.

To kick off the event, WMNF is holding a special benefit concert on Sunday, March 7 with the popular cabaret trio BETTY. BETTY weaves original songs and character sketches together with wit, intelligence and provocative humor. Opening for BETTY will be the imaginative poet Phyllis McEwen Taylor. The evening concert will be

preceded by a free afternoon of activities at the State Theatre. From 2-5 pm an outdoor community bazaar will be set up, with information tables for Tampa Bay organizations, and items for sale. Inside the State Theatre will be a variety of musical performers, including The Fallopian Tubes and Spoken For. Tickets are \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door. For ticket information call WMNF Radio Tampa (813) 238-8001 or Ticketmaster (813) 287-8844.

4th Lesbian Bizarre March 19-22, 7762 Northwest 14 Court, Miami Fl. Crafts, Music, Food, Fun, Sun, and Wimmin only. For more information call (305) 696-8826.

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LES BOOKS

by dee

We Too Are Drifting

by Gale Wilhelm

For pure reading enjoyment one can't do better than the books of Gale Wilhelm. First published in 1935, critics lavished phrases such as "exceptional literary merit" and "luminous prose" on "We Too Are Drifting". The reader is expected to discern the subtle, almost poetic expressions of emotional transactions in the story.

The protagonist, Jan, a young artist-rebel struggles to end a love affair gone sour without hurting her ex more than is necessary...in itself a delightful essay in old-fashioned good manners. In the depths of her depression she meets young and beautiful Victoria, and her inner fires come back to life.

Interesting biographical notes are included in Naiad Press' republication of this book, and also in "Torchlight To Val Hala".

You can help lift the ban on lesbians & gays in military service!

Western Union News: To simplify efforts to demonstrate support for President Bill Clinton's proposal of lifting the ban on gays and lesbians serving openly in the military, a special messaging program has been created by Western Union. With a single phone call, supporters of lifting the ban can send separate cablegrams to Pres. Clinton at the White House, their two US Senators, and their Congressperson in the US House of Representatives.

Western Union will automatically identify a caller's congressional leaders and send messages to the appropriate individuals. To take advantage of this program, individuals should call Western Union at (800) 258-2222, and refer to Hotline Number 9342. The cost is \$8.75, billable to a home phone number, VISA or Mastercard. The cablegrams express support for ending the ban on gays and lesbians in the US Armed Forces.

FESTIE NEWS

5th Anniversary Gulf Coast Women's Festival April 7-11, 1993.

Thirty miles north of New Orleans. Workshop space available: Send SASE for application. Womyn's Music and Culture networking and nightstage. Friday and Saturday night dances featuring TRYST. Range of ticket prices is \$80-195 sliding scale, depending on how long you stay and whether you stay in your own tent or a cabin. For information or tickets please send a Self-addressed, legal size, stamped envelope to GCWF, 1806 Curcor Dr. Gulfport, MS 39507, Or call (601) 896-3196, voice only.

The 10th Annual Southern Women's Music & Comedy Festival is postponed until May 26-30, 1994. Due to enormous response to the April 25 March on Washington, this festival is being postponed until Memorial Day Weekend of May 1994. Robin Tyler is co-producing the Main Stage Rally at the March and feels that in these historic times, it is important that as many lesbians and gays as possible attend the March on Washington. Robin would like to encourage as many people as possible to attend the March.

RhythmFest, 4th Annual. Labor Day weekend in North Carolina. FMI: RhythmFest, PO Box 15427, Atlanta, GA 30333. Phone (404) 687-8833.

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Voices

March 26, 1993 will be an exciting evening for hundreds of people as the 300 singers, dancers and cast members of Voices...A Time to Listen, take to the stage at the Tupperware Center to present a two hour musical and theatrical event. Rehearsals are taking place and the combined efforts of the singers, dancers, cast members, technicians and staff will produce an event unlike any other in Central Florida.

The beneficiary organizations for this first-time-ever spectacular event are CENTAUR, Genesis AIDS Project, the Hope & Help Center, Serenity House, the University of Central Florida HIV/AIDS Institute and the Actor's Fund of America. The monies will go to these organizations for direct client services and will benefit the hundreds of Central Floridians infected and affected by this disease.

March 27, 1993 Echoes...An Evening With the Stars will be held at the beautiful Isleworth Country Club. The evening at Isleworth will hold in store a gala Celebrity Auction, a sumptuous feast of gourmet hors d'oeuvres and will feature celebrity entertainment. Just one of the items to be auctioned during Echoes is a walk-on performance on Evening Shades starring Burt Reynolds.

Tickets for Voices...A Time to Listen are on sale now at the Tupperware Center (407) 826-4450 and at all TicketMaster outlets. Tickets for Echoes are on sale at all TicketMaster outlets.

A Rock, a River, a Tree

The text of Maya Angelou's poem written for the inauguration of Bill Clinton.

A Rock, A River, A Tree. Hosts to species long since departed, marked the mastodon. The dinosaur, who left dried tokens Of their sojourn here On our planet floor, Any broad alarm of their hastening doom Is lost in the gloom of dust and ages.

But today, the Rock cries out to us, clearly, forcefully, Come, you may stand upon my Back and face your distant destiny, But seek no haven in my shadow. I will give you no hiding place down here.

You, created only a little lower than The angels, have crouched too long in The bruising darkness, Have lain too long Face down in ignorance. Your mouths spilling words Armed for slaughter. The Rock cries out to us today, you may stand upon me, But do not hide your face.

Across the wall of the world, A River sings a beautiful song, It says, come, rest here by my side.

Each of you a bordered country, Delicate and strangely made, proud, Yet thrusting perpetually under siege. Your armed struggles for profit Have left collars of waste upon My shore, currents of debris upon my breast. Yet, today I call you to my riverside, If you will study war no more, Come, Clad in peace, and I will sing the songs The Creator gave to me when I and the Tree and the rock were one. Before cynicism was a bloody sear across your Brow and when you yet knew you still Knew nothing. The River sang and sings on.

There is a true yearning to respond to The singing River and the wise Rock. So say the Asian, the Hispanic, the Jew The African, the Native American, the Sioux, The Catholic, the Muslim, the French, the Greek The Irish, the Rabbi, the Priest, the Sheikh, The Gay, the Straight, the Preacher, The privileged, the homeless, the Teacher. They all hear The speaking of the Tree.

They hear the first and last of

every Tree Speaks to humankind today, Come to me, here beside the River. Plant yourself beside the River.

Each of you, descendant of some passed On traveler, has been paid for. You, who gave me my first name, you, Pawnee, Apache, Seneca, you Cherokee Nation, who rested with me, then Forced on bloody feet, Left me to the employment of Other seekers-desperate for gain, Starving for gold. You, the Turk, the Arab, the Swede, the German, the Eskimo, the Scot... You the Ashanti, the Yoruba, the Kru, bought, sold, stolen, arriving on a nightmare Praying for a dream. Here, root yourselves beside me. I am that Tree planted by the River, Which will not be moved. I, the Rock, the River, the Tree I am yours-your Passages have been paid. Lift up your faces, you have a piercing need For this bright morning dawning for you. History, despite its wrenching pain, Cannot be un-lived, but if faced With courage, need not be lived again.

Lift up your eyes upon This day breaking for you. Give birth again To the dream.

Women, children, men, Take it into the palms of your hands Mold it into the shape of your most Private need. Sculpt it into The image of your most public self. Lift up your hearts Each new hour holds new chances For new beginnings. Do not be wedded forever To fear, yoked eternally To brutishness.

The horizon leans forward, Offering you space to place new steps of change. here, on the pulse of this fine day You may have the courage To look up and out and upon me, the Rock, the River, the Tree, your country. No less to Midas than the mendicant. No less to you now than the mastodon then.

Here, on the pulse of this new day You may have the grace to look up and out And into your sister's eyes and into Your brother's face, your country And say simply Very simply With hope Good morning.

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National--March on Washington Highlights

National Lobby Days - April 21, 22, 23, 26, and 27 have been declared National Lobby days by the 1993 March on Washington. The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) strongly urges you not to end your march at the Capitol door. Go on in and ask the people with the voting power for what we've been waiting far too long for. We have the potential to achieve our civil rights. We proved to our new president during his campaign that we were a real force in US politics and we are beginning to reap the fruits of our efforts. But President Clinton cannot sign civil rights legislation that Congress does not pass. And we cannot afford to stand by and watch the religious Right erode our basic freedoms at the state and local level. The protection of federal legislation that will supersede Colorado's Amendment 2 is within our grasp. Yet Congress will not give it to us unless we ask. NGLTF will offer continuous training sessions-- general and issue/contingent specific, Capitol Hill orientation and guides, and debriefing sessions with experts so that information you gather from your

Congressional office visits can be put to work by professional and citizen lobbyists to achieve our goals.

NGLTF Town Meeting April 24 - NGLTF will host a Town Meeting: "Fight the Right" to strategize the fight against anti-gay initiatives, referenda, legislation and high-profile public relations campaigns. Saturday, April 24, 4-7pm (time tentative) at the Washington Hilton Ballroom. Admission is open to anyone who registers now or on site. Contact NGLTF at (202) 332-6483.

NGLTF FUN Events over the "March on DC" Weekend. These great events and more benefit NGLTF. Hot & Dirty Dancing: "Gay Rites" Sat., April 24, 9pm-3am, Washington Hilton Ballroom, \$30 through Ticketron. Concert: Romanovsky & Phillips, Margie Adam, and Karen Williams, Sat., April 24, 8pm, University of the District of Columbia Auditorium, \$18 tickets by mail through NGLTF (1734 14th St. NW, DC, 20009-4309) or walk into DC's Lambda Rising and Lammas Books. "Freedom Rings" Dance: Sun, April 25, 9pm - 2am, Washington Hilton Ballroom, Tickets \$25 through Ticketron.



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LESBIAN, GAY, AND BI RIGHTS NOW!

DC in '93

Catch a ride on the Gay Express to D.C. for the largest civil rights demonstration in U.S. history happening April 25, 1993. The local D.C. in '93 coalition has put together bus and hotel packages at the lowest possible rates available. We are a non-profit organization formed for the sole purpose of insuring that you get there!

The Gay Express I departs Thursday evening at approximately 7:30pm, April 22nd and arrives in Washington the following morning. Overnight accommodations (if needed) are at the Hotel Harrington on the corner of 11th and E St. for both Friday and Saturday. Breakfast is included.

The Gay Express II departs Friday evening at approximately 7:30pm, April 23rd and arrives in Washington the next morning. Overnight accommodations (if needed) are at the Hotel Harrington on the corner of 11th and E St. for Saturday. Breakfast is included.

Both buses will leave Washington after the March on Sunday evening from the Hotel and return to Orlando Monday morning.

Details, Details, Details... Bus accommodations include only 45 spacious seats with smoking and non smoking sections. Food and beverages are permitted, as we assume a bit of celebrating will be going on in anticipation of this Great Event. A TV and VCR are also provided and anyone is encouraged to bring your favorite VCR tape/movies. We hope to show the JEB video of the last March in 1987.

Cost. The Gay Express I and II (bus only) cost is \$70-110.00 sliding scale. (Sliding scale is a

feminist idea that allows you to decide what you can afford; self determined based on your own economic situation.) There is a \$45.00 deposit required by April 5th to hold your space, although I do not recommend waiting if possible since space is going rather quickly! Balance due by April 12th.

At the Hotel Harrington the DC in '93 coalition has a limited amount of space left. The cost is \$23.00 per night/per person/based on 4 persons in room. You may reserve an entire room for \$92.00 per night and sleep as many as you like. Each room includes breakfast the next morning as well as storage the day of the march for your belongings prior to bus loading that evening. Deposit required by April 5th and remainder is due by the April 12th. Again, we do not recommend waiting to put down deposit since there is limited space! Call now!

Check should be made payable to LCN/DC in '93 and sent to P.O.Box 149512, Orlando, FL, 32814 or dropped off to Barb Fallon, call 648-4154 for directions.

Contacts

Travel info: Kelly 869-9719
Scholarship money: Joel 896-7009
General & meeting info: Barb 648-4154

HETRICK-MARTIN INSTITUTE (HMI)

Political Wrangling Stalls NYC Multicultural, AIDS Curricula

Two of the primary missions of the Institute-fighting anti-lesbian and gay prejudice and preventing HIV among youth-are under intense attack. Our gains on these issues over the past few years have recently been dealt several blows both nationally and locally. In 1989, the New York City Board of Education passed the Multicultural Education Resolution mandating that all school programs reflect the various realms of diversity within the city, including the area of sexual orientation. As curricula have been revised, gay and lesbian themes have been integrated. The new first grade curriculum, Children of the Rainbow, for instance, makes teachers aware that some students come from families headed by gays and lesbians and that children should respect varied family structures. This year, five of the City's thirty-two local school districts took the extraordinary action of banning this curriculum. In 1991, the New York City School Board adopted the Chancellor's Expanded HIV/AIDS Program, which included condom availability in high schools, by a vote of 4-3. "AIDS Teams" were organized in every high school. Opponents of frank AIDS education, led by Board Vice President Irene Impellizzeri and influenced by the Catholic

Archdiocese, have sued the Chancellor, tried to ban HMI from working in the schools, and held up the approval of the K-6 AIDS curricula for over a year. And, as if these attacks were not enough, Senator Jesse Helms is now attacking gay and lesbian youth. His amendments forbidding recipients of federal funds from teaching anything about homosexuality or bisexuality and barring consideration of homosexuality as a risk factor for substance abusing youth were passed by the Senate but rejected by the House-Senate Committee. In response to nationwide attacks on gay youth, the Institute organized a national colloquium on gay and lesbian youth issues on October 12 in Washington to respond to Helms and to form a national coalition to defend the gains we have made.

MUSIC REVIEW

by *maw*
Center Of Balance
Jamie Anderson

Jamie has the ability with her lyrics to express feelings that one experiences in every day life and relate them to the lesbian lifestyle. When listening to the tape, you might sit back and say "Yeah, how did she know that" and "I know exactly where she's coming from". "Bad Idea" is about a lesbian who seduces married women, gay and straight. Over and over again she refers to this as a *bad idea* but continues on her quest. "When A Friend Is Near" is a song about friendship, the bonds between two friends that bare their souls to each other, and through it all they keep together. All in all, the lyric quality far outweighs the lyric content but it is definitely palatable.

Don't miss Jamie's concert this month! She appeals to every emotion of our lives with humor & heart. Ed.

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PRIME TIMERS

Starting in Boston, Woody Baldwin founded an organization that is dedicated to making life just as exciting for middle-aged and older gays as it is for the younger ones. There are now eleven chapters in the United States and Canada with others soon to be formed.

Activities may include dining out or pot luck dinners, theater outings, discussion groups, bowling, card games, sexually-oriented parties, trips, picnics, camping, etc. A general meeting is held monthly for socializing, enjoying light refreshments and listening to a program on an interesting and relevant subject. A monthly newsletter tells of upcoming events, and a roster lists all members who choose to be listed, giving their special interests. This is to encourage one-on-one meetings to supplement the club activities.

Privacy and anonymity are studiously protected to the extent the member wishes. Dues are kept as low as possible, usually \$15 to \$20 annually; this money covers postage, printing and other overhead costs. Each event is financially self-supporting.

For more information on the Orlando Chapter, recently formed, contact Charles at 407-895-1965.

THE NAMES PROJECT

San Francisco-The board of directors of The Names Project Foundation announced selection of Anthony Turney as its new Executive Director. The Names Project coordinates the assembly and display of the Quilt. Turney, 55, has over 20 years experience direction non-profit organizations. He is a former Deputy Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts (1979-87), Administrative Director for the San Francisco Opera (1987-89) and Executive Director for the Dance Theatre of Harlem (1989-91).

Comprised of more than 22,000 three-by-six-foot fabric panels, each a handmade tribute to an individual who has died from AIDS, the Quilt has been called the world's largest work of folk art. Since its founding in 1987 by San Francisco community activist Cleve Jones, the Quilt has become the world's largest most visible, respected, and recognized symbol of the human toll of AIDS.

Portions of the Quilt are displayed around the world over 200

times yearly, including at last year's International AIDS Conference in Amsterdam. The entire Quilt, which now covers over 14 acres, has been displayed in Washington, DC four times, most recently last October. Donations made at each display site benefit that community's local direct-care AIDS organizations.

For more information on the Names Project Foundation please call 415-863-5511 or write to 2362 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94114.

Aids Resources:

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1(800)FLA-AIDS

AIDS Hotline/Haitian/Creole

1(800)AIDS 101

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