

The LCN

Vol. 10, Issue 2

February, 1993

A LOVING COMMITTED NETWORK

Express

TAKING CARE

by Judy Shaw, M.A.

The idea of running a column on "Health Issues" is an excellent one. When Barb Fallon first approached me, my first questions were: "What do you mean when you say health? Are you referring to mental health, physical health, spiritual health, socio-political health? Would I address issues specific to lesbians or Women in general?"

It seems, after reflection, that the answer is "Yes" to all the above. Health covers a full range of physical, emotional and social issues that affect us as Lesbians, as Women and as members of the homosexual community. Fortunately, we are not alone in our interest. We now have the National Lesbian & Gay Health Conference (NLGHC) meeting annually to raise questions, present research and develop strategies to deal with the major health problems affecting our community. This group of Gay and Lesbian health professionals from all over the country has identified three major crises working to destroy the Gay and Lesbian Community - Aids, Alcohol and Abuse.

We are all increasingly aware of the devastation wrought by AIDS. However, at this past year's conference in Los Angeles more Lesbian-specific research was presented on breast cancer, which, if left untreated, is a major killer of all women. For Lesbians, the statistics are even more frightening.

Strong clinical evidence indicates that Lesbians are three times more likely than other women to develop breast cancer. As Lesbians we have been involved in every political movement. These startling statistics on

Lesbians and breast cancer seem to be a "call to arms" for us to organize and politicize for our own survival.

When discussing the alcohol crisis, it is important to include all areas of substance abuse and other addictions. Research suggests that the chemical dependency issue may be three times greater among Gays and Lesbians than the heterosexual population. This is not a result of a genetic predisposition, but rather the result of the additional psychosocial stressors created by living in a homophobic society. At recent NLGHC conferences, presentations have suggested integrating a feminist model into chemical dependency recovery for Gays and Lesbians.

We have not even begun to really deal with the third major crisis, abuse. Many of us first became aware of personal violence in our childhoods. Emphasis continues to be placed on the need and benefits of healing from childhood physical and sexual abuse. However, the crisis that many of the NLGHC presenters have chosen to focus on is domestic violence. We have not even begun to face the issue of domestic violence and acknowledge it as a real threat. Much work still remains to be done.

In addition to the above, there are many other health issues we are all seeking help with. It is my hope that you will respond to this column and tell me which ones you would personally like to receive information about.

Please suggest future health topics to me directly, either by calling me at 628-2166 or by mailing them to The Center for Healing and Learning, 727 Executive Drive, Winter Park, 32789.

Celebrate Black History Month

Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press has just released a three-color commemorative poster as part of its FREEDOM ORGANIZING SERIES. Publisher, Barbara Smith, states: "We believe that the poster will inspire people and that it offers a concrete example of how political activism can make a difference in these very difficult times." Contact Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press, (518) 434-2057.

Let's Go Camping

Mark your calendars for March 26 - 28th. LCN is hosting our 7th Annual Wekiva Falls Campout. All campsites are first-come first-served. The cost is \$14 per campsite per night, for up to two women. Pets, children, and alcohol are permitted.

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'd like to see everyone bring an instrument to join in the fun.

We'll print directions next month. For further information, contact Cathy or Lucy at 291-3791.

Alix Dobkin

in concert in Orlando!

Feb. 19

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

See p. 7 for details.

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
Joy MCC (Orlando)	894-1081
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:

AIDS Hotline/English	1(800)FLA-AIDS
AIDS Hotline/Haitian/Creole	1(800)AIDS 101
AIDS Hotline/Spanish	1(800)545-SIDA
AIDS Resource Alliance	425-2233
AREA AIDS Related Services	647-2765
CENTAUR AIDS Related Services	849-1452
Hope & Help AIDS Related Services	628-8542

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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 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:

Barb Fallon, Cathy McElhiney, Rita Krossber, Sue York, Stacey St. James, Madeliene Abing, Patty Sheehan, Becky Acuna, & Rachel Gardiner.

ADVERTISEMENT SIZES AND RATES

Ad Type	Dimensions	Price
3 Column Ads		
Large Banner	8" tall x 7½" wide	\$50
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Business Banner	2" tall x 7½" wide	\$15
2 Column Ads		
Large Double	8" tall x 5" wide	\$40
Medium Double	5¼" tall x 5" wide	\$25
Small Double	3½" tall x 5" wide	\$20
1 Column Ads		
Single Medium	5¼" tall x 2¼" wide	\$15
Business Card (or vertical)	2" tall x 3½" wide 3½" tall x 2" wide	\$5 \$5
Classified Ads	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: _____

Address: _____

Please make your check payable to LCN, and mail to:
LCN, P.O. Box 149512, Orlando, FL 32814-9512.

LCN Books at the Center

continued from Dec. issue...

LCN has permanently loaned the books we receive from publishers to the Center. You can borrow the books listed below for the mere purchase of a Center library card. (About a buck or so.) Happy reading!!!!

Mystery

▼ **A Tiger's Heart** by Lauren Wright Douglas. Caitlin Reece searches for the murderous husband of a past lover.

▼ **Houston Town** by Deborah Powell. A Hollis Carpenter Mystery in which the private eye "follows a trail of corpses to unearth a deadly scheme of black-mail" as she tries to solve a murder.

▼ **Introducing Amanda Valentine** by Rose Beecham. Detective Inspector Amanda Valentine cleans up the streets of New Zealand while being "stalked by a beautiful TV reporter.

Non-Fiction

▼ **A Lure of Knowledge: Lesbian Sexuality and Theory** by Judith Roof. "Roof argues that attempts to depict or explain lesbian sexuality spur anxieties about knowledge and identity. In reaction to and denial of anxieties, lesbian sexuality is represented in film, literature, theory and criticism as foreplay, as simulated heterosexuality, as erotic excess, as artful compromise, or as a masculine mask."

Les Books

by Dee

Either Is Love by Elisabeth Craigin

A review of this book appearing in a New York paper in 1937 describes it as a "strange little book written by an exceedingly intelligent woman... elegant...cerebral... dignified." This description is true, however the reviewer fails to mention a few things.

It would appear that in order to get her story of a great love between two women published in those homophobic dark ages she had to resort to the fiction of the women "going straight" in the end. Craigin attempts, very successfully, to depict the agonizing struggles of a heart born to quest after spiritual union with another. The protagonist, like Jacob, wrestles for her identity, a secret pariah.

The quality of the writing, and its part in our history, is worth any effort to get the book. It is still in print, like "Well of Loneliness", and can be ordered thru interlibrary loan.

▼ **A Woman's Odyssey into Africa** by Hanny Lightfoot-Klein. Klein undertook 3 solo, year-long treks thru the Sudan, Kenya, and Egypt to study female genital circumcision. This book chronicles her personal experiences.

Music Review

by MAW

Heather Bishop
Old*New*Borrowed*Blue

Heather chooses to open the album with an acapella song which reminds me of the older Joan Baez stuff. "Do I Move You" is a bluesy number complete with slide guitar and harmonica that really gets you into the groove. But then Heather tries her hand at the rock/dance tempo in "I'm Not The One" and frankly, it misses.

As a whole the album possesses the ability to communicate feelings into song but what is lacking is a distinct style. If you like to listen to Joan Baez, Bonnie Raitt and Tracy Chapman, this album is for you.

Thanks

to all you brazen women who came to hear the Creamettes. We had no idea so many of you would attend. Sorry about the crowded conditions...unless of course you enjoy rubbing elbows (and...!?) with so many beautiful gyrls!



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Lesbian needs job! Highly trainable. Former teacher, truck driver, landscaper, sound tech. Degrees, experience, hard worker. Available immediately. Call Nan 407/657-5651.

Deltona room for rent - 2Bd/2Ba house, washer/dryer. Must be quiet, non smoker. No drugs! Social drinker OK. Steady employment, references. \$250/month includes all but phone. (407) 574-4675 leave message.

Home cleaning: Working and trying to keep up your house too? For a nominal fee your general cleaning needs will be met. 11 years Orlando area, references upon request. Call G/P Cleaning, 438-0684.

Roomate to share 3Bd/3Ba home, washer/dryer, pool and utilities. \$325/mo in Apopka. Pets, children, smokers all negotiable. Call Hope, 886-0390.

House for sale: 4 bd/2 ba, fenced yard, double garage. Winter Park Pines. \$82,000. Call Nan at 657-5651.

Old Lesbians March on Washington April 25, 1993!

Join Old Lesbians Organizing for Change (OLOC) as we march for equal rights and liberation! Old Lesbians will be visible near the front of the parade. OLOC OPEN HOUSE! Holiday Inn Laurel, Maryland, on Saturday, April 24, 2 to 5 pm. To be with other old lesbians and for a special discount rate of \$50-\$55, register at the Holiday Inn Laurel and mention OLOC. Further info: OLOC, Box 980422, Houston, TX 77098.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Attendee's of Nancy's Party,

Where do I begin; maybe with I survived my most wonderful 30th birthday party. Ladies, ladies you should not have, but how glad I am that you did. Turning 30 was one of the highlights of my life. The other one was Fluffy accepting my ring and life commitment to her.

I have watched the video numerous times and laugh everytime I see it. The performances were unmatched by any. I wanted to send out Thank You notes to everyone. However, my behavior due to my intoxication did not warrant thank you notes. I can not figure out who gave me what. I can however figure a half bottle of Tequila (joke Frogger) and a bottle of wine.

I can assure you not a drop will go to waste except, of course, those few that fell out as Patti flung my bottle of Jack Daniels across the stage. As you see, I married Fluffy for her quickness and ability to watch out for my needs.

So to all of you who made my birthday so special, thanks for the laughter, best wishes, gifts, performances but mostly for the friendships. I love you all even though you wanted to torch my back yard.

*Much love and gratitude,
Nancy*

Dear Women,

Here's a donation, not enough for a subscription, but it's all I can afford right now. I can not imagine this town without you (the **LCN Express**) and hope I never have to. Loved the Justina and Joyce concert!

*Signed In Appreciation,
Gigi from Maitland*

Dear LCN,

Just wanted to drop a quick note say hello. The LCN still keeps us in touch and unfortunately the Detroit area is really lacking in women's organizations and there are no newsletters. Can't say either of us are jumping to start one as we are both in school and working... We both miss Florida but are finally settled. We will be in town in May for the annual Pass-a-grille bash plus get a chance to visit in Orlando. Keep the newsletter coming and let us know if we can help (long distance). Take care and best wishes!

*Love Always,
Charlie and Laurie*

How About Passionate Retirement?

Anyone really wanting to retire to better living and not less living? Any one wanting to go into a retirement that means more choices, greater pleasures, learning new things, interacting with quality people and passionate pursuits? I'm interested in old lesbians who want to discuss an exciting retirement community future-- the 50+ population who wants to band together to enjoy the fruits of our labors, the richness of diversity in mature women.

I seek a space where very hard physical labor isn't necessary for survival yet daily physical activity is required for maintenance of the area. I long for the community where older women are the majority, the ruling force, the breadwinners, the shakers and movers. My passion is rural living but a few acres would be OK instead of the 100+ I presently caretake.

*She Wolf, c/o OLOC Reporter,
PO 980422, Houston, TX 77098.*

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THE TRIANGLE MAKES NEWS

submitted by *The Triangle*

The Triangle, the monthly newspaper of Gay & Lesbian Community Services of Central Florida (GLCS), recently announced major changes aimed at increasing the paper's responsiveness to the entire lesbian and gay community.

In addition to dropping the paper's former name, *The Center Fold*, which LCN leadership and others objected to as degrading to women, the GLCS Board of Directors appointed Monique Burns, a professional editor and writer, as the paper's executive director.

The need for a name change was one of several issues Editor Barb Fallon raised at August's GLCS Board Meeting. The Board responded by instituting the name change effective with the January issue. "The whole idea is to bring the community together," explains GLCS vice-president John Rose, "not to continue doing things that foster separatism."

Judy Shaw, one of two lesbians recently re-elected to the GLCS Board and a mental-health therapist who has provided counseling services at the GLCS Center for several years, says, "I think what's important about the name-change issue is the Board's commitment to responding to the les-

bian community. It's clearly a sign of a raising of the Board's awareness of internalized sexism within the gay and lesbian community." Moreover, says Shaw, "It shows the power of lesbians when we come together and ask for what we want."

Beginning with the February issue, a number of editorial changes are planned under Burns' leadership. In addition to adding new columns, *The Triangle* will increase coverage of community news, events, issues and individuals, as well as state, national and international events and issues.

Burns has also pledged to include greater coverage of lesbian issues. "The GLCS newspaper is meant to serve us all, yet it's widely acknowledged that, in past years, lesbians have gotten short shrift at the paper. As a lesbian, and as a journalist trained to present balanced coverage, I'm totally committed to insuring that we lesbians get equal time."

Recruiting more volunteer staff members--especially women--is one key to assuring more wide-ranging coverage, says Burns. "In the recent past,

gay men have really been the only group involved at the paper. But to reflect the needs and interests of the entire community, we also need the talents, viewpoints and energies of lesbians. And I don't just mean some lesbians. To represent our community in all its diversity, we need input from as many women as possible."

"If you can't work or submit something on a monthly basis, submit a short essay for our new *Viewpoint* column or a *Letter to the Editor*."

A *Triangle* Staff Recruiting Party is planned for Feb. 9, at 7:30 p.m., at the new GLCS Center, 714 East Colonial Dr. (near Summerlin Ave). Regular editorial meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of each month. Because of the Recruiting Party, the next editorial meeting is February 2.

For information about working on the paper, or to pass on news about events or issues in the lesbian community, contact Monique Burns at the Center, 407/425-7450. *Letters to the Editor* and *Viewpoint* articles can be sent to Editor, *The Triangle*, GLCS, PO 533446, Orlando, FL 32853-3446.

March on Washington Update

A lot is happening in connection with the March on Washington scheduled April 25, 1993. We are getting an increasing amount of interest for local organizing, travel info as well as those wanting the details of related events (parties, dances, concerts) in DC. Here's what we know at this point.

Travel Options

Plane, train reservations:

Kelly or Sharon, Multi Travel...869-9719
Bill at Andrea Tours.....345-4814
Cindy at The Travel Superstore...339-3723

These travel professionals are getting the best rates possible designed around your travel needs.

Bus:

The Gay Express I departs Thurs.pm
The Gay Express II departs Fri.pm
Cost is \$70-110 sliding scale; 648-4154.

There is only 45 spacious seats per bus and a \$45 deposit is required to

hold your space. Both buses return Sunday night after the March and arrive Orlando Monday. Call now!

Hotel:

DC in '93 has a limited amount of space left at the Hotel Harrington. \$23 per night per person, 4 persons in room or reserve an entire room (for as many as you like) for \$92 + tax. 648-4154

Other options are to call the travel agents listed under planes and trains. They have also reserved rooms.

Local Notes

Local DC in '93 meetings are being held about every two weeks. For dates and times call GLCS at 425-4527.

Calendar of Events

Wed, April 21: Historical exhibit opens (thru April 28)

Thurs, April 22: Lobbying, Student Conference opens (thru April 24), Chorus Festival, Masquerade Ball

Fri, April 23: BiNet Annual Mtg, Chorus Festival, MoW Banquet, Drag Show Extravaganza, GLPCI Banquet

Sat, April 24: Commitment Ceremony, Drag Show, Texas 2-step Party, Bi Nat'l Mtg, Motorcycle Run, S/M Conference, Interfaith Service, Nat'l Minority AIDS Reception, Lesbian/Gay Bands Concert, PWA Day of Healing

Sun, April 25: THE MARCH

Civil Disobedience Actions are scheduled during the event. The two we know about so far are as follows.

Friday April 23, 10am, Health & Human Services Bldg to White House. Organized by ACT UP for AIDS Cure Now. Phone (212) 564-2437 for info.

Tues. April 27, Capitol Building. Organized by Queer Nation and Official March CD Action Group. Theme: Universal Health Care and Coverage. Phone: 1-800-832-2889.

The Parent Perspective

by Diane P. Kerkhoff

Panic struck on January 1. I realized that I have only 6 months (how can I be down to only 6?) left before I have to put on the biggest and best GLPCI (Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition International) annual conference ever.

We already have over 200 people registered - very few of whom are from laid-back, non-committal, stay-in-your-own-clique Central Florida. The hotel, food, youth, workshops, and entertainment committees have been hard at work; I know that those parts are going to be super. That just leaves a few small details to take care of, like fundraising, publicity, children, logistics...Yikes! Volunteers and donations gratefully accepted: 420-2191.

I was sitting home alone on a Saturday night having my own private Sigourney Weaver film festival, when I got to thinking that this is one half of being a parent (or maybe I should say a single parent.) I mean that half of being a parent sitting home on a Saturday night because I don't have a babysitter, arguing with my kid about the importance of homework, worrying about what he is or isn't eating, going ballistic after step-

ping on yet another plastic Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle in the living room, crying late at night over whether I'm doing this right. But then there's the other half - his sweet face when he sings a solo in chapel, his pride and excitement when he gets a good hit in baseball, the unrestrained joy he gets from dancing, our wonderful hot chocolate conversations right before bedtime, hugs and kisses and unconditional love. The good half outweighs the bad half by quite a bit. Please feel free to remind me of that any time I lose sight of it.

Overheard: "I don't socialize with my ex because we have nothing in common." Think about it.

Some country music philosophy: "Life's a dance you learn as you go. Sometimes you lead, sometimes you follow. Don't worry 'bout what you don't know. Life's a dance you learn as you go."

My Dear Friend shared with me (between bites of chocolate chip cookies) her Serenity Prayer for 1993. I'll share it with you so that you also may be serene in 1993. Here it is in its entirety: *Lighten Up!* You may have to remind me of this also.

Gay goes Long Distance

Let your dollars do some talking!

Overlooked Opinions, Inc., Chicago, the national opinion polling firm, dedicated to the lesbigay community, proudly announces *Community Spirit*, the first national long distance calling program designed for lesbian and gay America. With *Community Spirit* there are no special fees, no switching charges, no additional bills (in most areas), no minimums, no restrictive calling circles, and free calling card.

Most importantly, with *Community Spirit*, 2% of all long distance calling charges are donated to the gay, lesbian or bisexual organizations of the customer's choice. Because of our buying power, we are able to offer a savings potential of up to 25% when compared to AT&T, MCI or Sprint.

If all goes according to plans, *Community Spirit* will generate over \$11.5 million a year for gay, lesbian, bisexual and AIDS groups across the country. With an enrollment of 1 million, *Community Spirit* will capture more than a full percent of the total US consumer long distance market representing an estimated \$576 million dollars of lesbigay spending clout. That kind of shift will register on Wall Street.

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LCN Express Production Schedule

Call 831-2971 for more info.

Tues., Feb. 16: Production Meeting at 7pm. Call for directions.

Feb. 17-19: Type articles (You may be able to help do this on your own computer!)

Mon., March 1: 7:00pm Folding Party at **Faces!** If you happen to be there, we could use your help. Feel free to jump in!

Orlando PRIDE Dinner

Love is in the air this month as Orlando Pride sponsors "A Night to Remember" dinner dance at the Radisson, Lake Ivanhoe. The event will take place on February 13, 1993 at 6:30pm. Dinner will be served promptly at 7:00pm, so do avoid being too fashionably late, as you may miss dinner! A delicious dinner and music will be provided and a cash bar available. The cost is \$25 per person. Parking for all Pride guests is complimentary. Seating is limited, so put your name on the guest list now, and celebrate gayly with Orlando Pride Saturday Feb. 13th. Checks will be accepted in advance only, cash only at the door. For reservations and more info call (407) 236-9480.

Gulf Coast Festival

The 5th Gulf Coast Women's Festival will be April 7-11, 1993, 30 miles north of New Orleans. Sliding scale. No one turned away. For info: 601/896-3196 Wanda or Brenda or send SASE legal size envelope to GCWF, 1806 Curcor Drive, Gulfport MS 39507. Mention LCN when ordering tickets and we will receive \$10 from GCWF.

▼ Local Events and Projects ▼

Fri, Feb 19: Alix Dobkin Benefit Concert for LCN and the March on Washington, at Rollins College, Crummer Hall next to the Annie Russell theater. Tickets are \$8-12.00 Sliding scale with Rollins students attending free. See full page promo.

Mon, Feb. 22 at 4:00pm - Alix Dobkin Lecture at Rollins College open to public. Location TBA at concert or call Penny Schafer 646-2624, Rollins Student Activities.

Joy MCC Art Exhibition and Auction: Friday, Feb. 15. Preview at 7:00pm; auction begins at 8:00. \$4 donation/person; refreshments served. Orlando Garden Club, 710 Rollins Ave. Whether you're collecting or just looking, this exhibition will be worth seeing. A **Stand Up Sale** will also be held Sat. Feb 16, 9am-12noon at the church, 2351 Ferncreek Rd. For more information, call 894-1081.

March on Washington meeting: Jan. 31, 4pm, Out & About Books.

Local Lesbian Writers Circle: Exclusive forum for lesbians. Supportive. Any level of writer welcome. Write to PO Box 951263, Lake Mary, Fla. 32795-1263

LCN General meeting: March 9 at Out and About Books on Mills Ave, at 7:00pm. The focus of this meeting will be the editorial policy of *The Express*. Call 831-2971 for more info.

JOY MCC - We, the Ministerial Staff and Board of Directors of Joy Metropolitan Community Church, announce the appointment of Ms. Carol Hale. She has joined the staff of Joy MCC as Assistant to the Pastor. Once she is licensed as clergy by the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches in the Spring she will become our Associate Pastor.

Ms. Hale will be the primary liaison between the church and organizations in metropolitan Orlando. She is accompanied by the Rev. Linda Beane, her partner in life.

[Note: LCN sends a warm welcome to Carol and Linda.]

Running Group - Orlando Front Runners. A Lesbian and Gay running group is looking for members. Call Will, 422-9111.

Women's Soccer League - The Women's Outdoor Soccer League starts Feb. 22nd. Call Cheryl Page for sign-up and info. 677-1882. They are always looking for new players and especially goalies. There will be a minimum of 4 teams.

GLPCI - The Central Florida Chapter of Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition International (GLPCI) is hosting John Sheets, the president of the International organization, on February 1-4, 1993. Scott-Laurent Galleries on Feb. 2 and at the Phoenix on Aloma on Feb. 3. For more information call: (407- 420-2191

THE FAMILY THAT CARES CHURCH

We would like to invite you to come and worship with us in our new location, 915 N. Mills Ave., Orlando, each Sunday at 4:30 PM. We are an Independent Christian Church which welcomes all persons who are seeking to know Jesus as Lord and Savior, and who would like to become a part of His Family. Let us share with you the love we have found together in Christ. For more information, directions, counseling, or spiritual help, please call 365-3762, and remember, "A family is a group of friends who love you." Reverend Mary Jo Gunn, Pastor

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Alix Dobkin

The Lesbian Legend Comes to Orlando!

Friday

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8:00 pm

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*Alix will also deliver a lecture at Rollins College entitled "**A Survey of Contemporary Lesbian Culture**" on Monday, February 22, 4:00pm (Lecture Hall TBA.) The public is welcome to attend at no charge. Call Penny Schafer. 646-2624 for details.*

**Sponsored by LCN and RFLAG,
Rollins College Productions, Voices for Womyn, & Women's Studies Program**

TREKKIE DYKES TAKE NOTE

submitted by J. Desort

Last summer, Gene Roddenberry, (now deceased) creator of two Star Trek television series, released a statement to The Advocate confirming that viewers would see "gay crew members in day-to-day circumstances" on the 1991/92 season of Star Trek: The next Generation. While the spring episode "The Outcast" was an interesting sexual/gender parable, it did not end the invisibility of gays/lesbians in the Star Trek universe, as Mr. Roddenberry had stated. I encourage your readers to write Mr. Piller and Mr. Berman (and a copy to Paramount Pictures chair Brandon Tartikoff at Paramount Pictures, 555 Melrose Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90038) requesting that Star Trek include gays and lesbians.

NEWS OF JOY by Dot

I was in Orlando for 23 months before I knew there was a "gay" church in the area. My friends L&C invited me to a women's seminar the church was conducting. It felt wonderful to be around other family and feel safe.

I even went back to the church that night to hear a Marsha Steven's concert-whatever that was supposed to be. The concert was a Gay female Christian singing her testimony. It was great.

I finally realized that "I can be gay and that GOD STILL LOVES ME!" I started attending Sunday services the very next day. Our pastor, Jimmy Brock, is wonderful and very supportive of the females in the church. It felt good to be in church on Sunday and not have to hide a part of me that I have kept hidden for so very long.

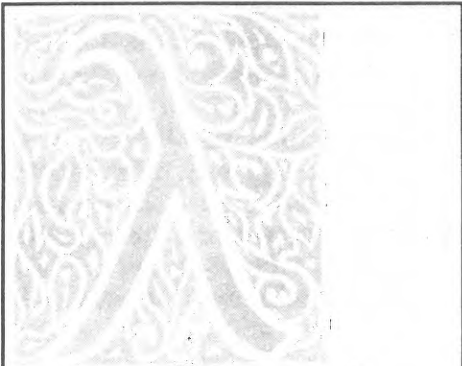
I have gotten involved in several of the many activities the church offered at the time: volleyball (of course the women were more aggressive players!), the 91 Christmas Contada, their quarterly women's seminars, facilitating a seminar and helping with planning the Women's Retreat Weekend. This retreat brought together 26 women from as far north as Daytona

and south from Bradenton, all of us come together to share our spirituality. Lots of tears and cheers were shed by many.

Joy MCC has given my life a purpose and direction. It allowed me the opportunity to find my partner, lover and friend. It has so many different things going on-on a regular basis such as: Sunday morning Sunday School at the 10:30 AM service and Monthly Grief Support Groups, Choir rehearsal every Sunday at 5 PM, an HIV Support group for those with HIV and HIV caregivers, a weekly Wednesday night dinner at 6:30 PM (call for reservations), a weekly discussion group which sometimes has guest speakers, TLC Training, a food bank and thrift shop. Our church does a lot for not only our members but the community.

We also have a FEMALE Assistant to the pastor. Her name is Carol Hale and her spouse is Linda. Watch for an article on them and other items that might interest you.

Joy Metropolitan Church is located at 2351 S. Ferncreek Road. For more information, you can call JOY at 894-1081.



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STATE AND NATIONAL NEWS

excerpted from other publications

In October, the **Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation** launched a 25-billboard advertising campaign in the state of California to increase lesbian visibility. The couple featured, Pat and Karen Norman of San Francisco, are now the proud mothers of four-month-old Zachary. This bold campaign was arranged through the public affairs program of the Patrick Media Group, one of the U.S.'s leading outdoor advertising firms. GLAAD intends to take the campaign to other states in the U.S. Stay tuned!

Summit County, Colorado may have become the first county in the state to pass resolution in opposition to Amendment 2. The county joins Frisco, Silverthorne, Boulder, Aspen and the City of Denver in taking a stance against the amendment that bans anti-discrimination laws for gays, lesbians and bisexuals. Members of the Colorado lodging community are taking steps either to "repeal this stupid thing," or take it to court to fight it.

Lambda Book Report has opened nominations for the Fifth Annual Lambda Literary Awards. The "Lammys", now recognizing excellence in gay and lesbian writing and publishing, will be presented in Miami, on May 28, during the American Book-

sellers Association Convention.

The public is invited to nominate their favorite gay and lesbian books of 1992 in 15 categories, including: Lesbian fiction, non-fiction, anthologies, mystery, science fiction/fantasy, poetry, Lesbian & Gay humor, Small Press Book Award (for a single book published by a gay men's or lesbian press), and Children/Young Adult. Books must have a 1992 copyright date in order to be eligible and must have been published in the United States. February 10 deadline. Five finalists in each category will be announced nationally on March 1, 1993. For more information about the awards, please contact Lambda Book Report, 1625 Connecticut Ave, NW, Washington, DC, 20009-1013 or phone (202) 462-7924.

Florida Roundup's 10th Anniversary Convention is an all-volun-

teer non-profit organization which primarily supports gay men and lesbian women who are recovering alcoholics, and their friends and loved ones.

In addition to various fundraisers held during the course of the year, Florida Roundup annually holds a 4 day convention which attracts about 1000 gays and lesbians in recovery from all over the country. Attendees savor fabulous fellowships, stimulating workshops, exquisite feasts, and tantalizing events and entertainment, all under one luxurious roof.

This year's 10th Anniversary Extravaganza, "Back to Basics: A Decade of Celebration", will be held March 18 - 21, at the newly renovated Ramada Resort Deauville, 6701 Collins Avenue, on Miami Beach. To receive a Registration Packet, make a tax-deductible contribution, or for additional information, please write: Florida Roundup, PO Box 030237, Fort Lauderdale, Fla, 33303 or phone Gary at (305) 565-0067 or Bobbie at (305) 356-4206

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Support Needed

for the

Nat'l Lesbian Conference

compiled by Rachel

The March on Washington is just around the corner, and the local coalition is doing their best to make the price of attending the significant event of the decade affordable to the entire community. Unfortunately, this "sliding scale" occasionally leaves the organizers holding the financial bag.

This is the case with National Lesbian Conference of '91. Due to the NLC's sliding scale many women were able to attend who would have otherwise been prevented by the price. Now, "they" are being expected to cover the difference. "They" are us.

Anyone who wanted to or did attend the NLC- and can afford \$5, \$25 or any amount to cover the "leftover" expenses, it will be dykefully appreciated. Any donations over the \$5,000 deficit will be donated to the March on Washington. Please make donations to:

National Lesbian
Conference
502 N. Highland Ave., NE
Atlanta, GA
30307

METROPOLITAN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

by Cindy Abel

The holiday party Dec. 3 was a tremendous success with approximately 100 people in attendance, enjoying the entertaining music of Lisa Lacy, The Creamettes, and Acacia.

On Jan. 7, Carmen Vega, of Vega & McDermott Investments and Joint Ventures, Inc., presented the concept of the "investor's pool," in which a group of individuals combine their financial resources to make larger investments than would be possible on their own.

Diana Cox, of Sign It Quick, also spoke on the importance of properly networking with other professionals and used the growth of her business as an example. She is currently planning a networking structure within the MBA to enable participants to increase their knowledge of other businesses while promoting their own.

Ms. Sue Ellen Fagan, a partner in the law firm Colby, Fagan, & McIntyre, provided the musical entertainment for the evening, performing a wide range of numbers from various musical styles.

The February 4 general meeting will feature Veterinarian Dr. Sandy Fink, owner of the Hiawassee Veteri-

nary Clinic, speaking on preventative maintenance for pets. Local singer Lisa Lacy will be providing the entertainment. Mr. David Bains, of GLCS, is scheduled to address the March 4 meeting, presenting the services provided by the organization, as well as discussing recent changes.

MBA general meetings are the first Thursday of each month, at the Radisson Hotel on Lake Ivanhoe. Networking is from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., and the meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Guests are welcome. For information, contact the MBA at 420-2182.


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Iran Persecutes Gays

submitted by Diane G.,

formally of Orlando,

from Chicago's *Outlines* newspaper

Iranian authorities executed one gay man and jailed 92 others in August, according to KAYHAN NEWS-PAPER, a Farsi-language publication in London. Authorities also executed a second gay man in August, according to Sweden's National Federation for Sexual Equality (RSSL).

KAYHAN reported that on Aug. 3, 90 homosexuals were arrested in southern Iran after they appeared at a "wedding" between an 18 year old and 19 year old man. The grooms-to-be were also jailed; under the Iranian Penal Code, they face the death sentence. The 90 guests face flogging or prison.

According to Jack Anderson and the BBC, homosexuals have been tossed off mountains, decapitated, stoned and burned. Non-sodomy homoeroticism is also illegal and can lead to execution. Basically the law reads the same for lesbians.

The Eco Corner: PEST CONTROL

by Becky Acuna

A topic near and dear to the lesbian community I'm sure, this article is about your cats and dogs...not those first dates who long to linger past your initial interest. For all you confirmed or potential eco-dykes, there are now many inexpensive products you can buy to control fleas that won't poison your animals, friends and homes.

First, try dusting your house with diatomaceous earth. This is a natural, fossil mineral that is completely non-toxic to anything but insects. (Static electricity causes it to cling to them, removes the wax coating covering their little bodies, and makes them flee or die of dehydration).

Don't however, use the diatomaceous earth marketed for swimming pools. It is chemically treated and **can be harmful** to your pets. Diatom dust, the good kind marketed for flea control, has actually been found to be beneficial to farm animals by killing parasites in their intestines.

It should be sprinkled in liberal amounts all over your house-- especially in areas where animals like to hang out or sleep. (Don't forget under sofas, beds, etc.) A flour sifter helps spread the dust evenly. Work it into carpets with feet, broom or rake and wait as long as you can stand it before vacuuming.

Use herbal flea collars, too. You simply apply to a cloth collar an oil comprised of such harmless substances as eucalyptus, pennyroyal and citronella. Popping an appropriate sized clove of garlic down your dog's throat pill-fashion also makes them unpleasant to fleas-though you will smell no odor.

These products can be purchased at the Eco-Store, which has moved to College Park. (Chamberlain's sells Diatom Dust for \$9.50 @ 8oz. while the Eco-Store charges \$5 @ lb.) They'll give you great advice and they promote progressive causes...like ours!

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MEET ME AT MOOREFIELD'S: AN EXPERIMENT IN COUP D'ETAT

by N.T.

Here we are as always, wanting a night out on the town with our female companions, yet with such limited options and atmospheres one is more inclined to stay home and read a good book. There are still many of us who are appalled by loud disco music, drag shows, and dressing up like cowgirls dancing to hillbilly music. Where does a lesbian lady go for a quiet sophisticated dinner, some easy listening music and a relaxed atmosphere?

Maybe anywhere, but let's add a few more variables to the scenario. Where is there such a place owned by women that have the moxie to display a larger than life rendering of a naked male flying into the sun?

Now we have narrowed the field considerably, a location with good food and good taste; not a pick-up joint, not a separatist club, but a new proving ground for socially integrating lesbian women into acceptance by the mainstream.

It's an "experiment" that's catching on all over the country. Here's how it works. The lesbian community declares a place, takes it, and makes it their own. Maybe forever, maybe for a month or even just a weekend. Let's call it the Club Coup d'etat.

We set a date, say, Feb. 12th and we each invite a few friends of like mind and body. We all show up be-

tween oh,...10 pm and 11 pm and we enjoy the secret of knowing at least half the place is full of gay women having a great time doing something different.

But it won't be a secret for long. If the first part of the experiment is successful and satisfying, we move on to every Friday night, as it catches on and word gets around within a month Friday nights are ours! It's endless from there. The management sees the support of the Lesbian community and begins catering to us just as eagerly as any gay club (inside sources tell me management would be thrilled to have us...)

What do you say? It's worth a try! Meet me at Moorefield's, 123 South Orange Avenue in the heart of downtown Orlando, Friday, Feb. 12th, 10pm or come early for a scrumptious dinner. The Club Coup d'etat starts here!

Are You Ageist?

Submitted by an LCN reader

1. Do you consider "young" to be a complimentary term and "old" a derogatory synonym for ugly, decrepit, out of date? 2. Why is it indelicate to ask a woman how old she is? Do you lie about your age? Are you into "passing" as young? 3. What is your reaction to phrases like "She is 70 years young" and "you don't look your age"? 4. How do you like being the age you are? Do you feel your age? 5. How do the images of women on TV and in films affect your self-image? 6. How do you feel about the way women fight obsolescence with cosmetics, surgery, clothes? Why aren't women's faces good enough as is? 7. When an old woman shows courage, do you trivialize her by calling her "feisty"? Would you call superman "feisty"? 8. Why has this youth-oriented society developed at this time? Have women always had this terror of aging?

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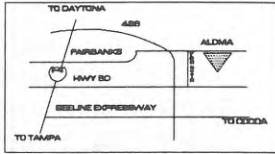
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