

Express

Congratulations to all the Lesbian finalists in the Spectrum Awards:

Dr. Lynn Hopkins

LeJune Perrin

Judy Shaw

Debbie Simmons

Ellen Hone

Phyllis Murphy

Patty Sheehan

Carb Fallon

Monique Burns

Lorraine Reed

Becky Acuna

Lisa Lacy

Pronto Press (Dottie & Carol)

*Shelbie Press (Debbie &
Michelle)*

**We appreciate your work
and dedication to our
community.**

Back By Popular Demand- The Campout!

March 25th-27th. See back
page for more details.

And the Winners Are...

Social Services ▼ G.L.C.S.
Religious/Spiritual ▼ Joy MCC
Recreation ▼ GLCS
Business ▼ MBA
AIDS ▼ Dr. Nila Desai &
Hope & Help Center
Citizenship ▼ Chris Alexander
Diversity ▼ Chris Alexander
& Robert Russell
Community Support ▼ Allene Baus
Entrepreneurship
▼ Out & About Books
Coming Out ▼ Clive Thomas
AIDS Pioneer ▼ Dr. Nila Desai
Human Spirit ▼ P-FLAG

Political Activism
▼ Rainbow Democratic Club
Lesbian Activism ▼ LeJune Perrin
Journalistic Excellence
▼ David Bain & Jeff Campbell
Outstanding Community Service
▼ Hope & Help Center
**Volunteer Organization of the
Year** ▼ GLCS
Volunteer of the Year
▼ David Bain & Allene Baus
Entertainment ▼ Orlando Gay
Chorus & Paul Wegman
Lifetime Achievement
▼ Judge Rand Hoch

Congratulations and

thank you for your commitment!

Lesbian Invisibility Plagues Award Ceremony

by Rachel Gardiner

We went to the Spectrum Awards full of expectation. There had been 300 nominees, 140 finalists, 20 categories. These awards were to have represented the lesbian, gay and bi-sexual activists who have helped shape and motivate this community. Or so we thought. There *were* some gay-friendly straight women honored, providing their focus was in predominately male-oriented issues. Otherwise, Lesbians were noticably absent from the winner's circle, except as members of "lesbigay" groups.

Even the "Lesbian Activism" award was defined as "promoting lesbian-gay-bisexual" Read "if it doesn't involve or support men directly, it isn't worthy of our attention." Doesn't this sound just like the patriarchy? (To our surprise, a Lesbian did, in fact, win the Lesbian Activism award. Congratulations to LeJune Perrin, whose achievements and long-time activism deserve recognition.)

Just in case you might think this is all about sour grapes, I wasn't up for any of

these awards. I was, however, excited at the possibility of standing and honoring other Lesbians, and their achievements for Lesbians, publicly. It was an idea long overdue. It still is.

I realize that I may be perceived as attacking the winners of this well-deserved recognition event. This is not my intention. The problem, as I see it, is not with the people who won... they all deserve recognition for their commitment; as do all the finalists, nominees, producers, volunteers and behind-the-scenes people. The problem is that out of all these fine choices, the winners did *not* include *ONE* Lesbian whose work focused on *Lesbian issues*, not *ONE* organization that focused on *Lesbian issues*.

Coalition? I don't need a condom, thank you, I need a breast exam. And that, my friends, is where the concept of "coalition" fails the Lesbians in our Community. When Lesbian issues are treated with the same intensity as Gay issues, we'll be a lot closer to unity.

Get the Love You Want!!!

You deserve it, don't you? We all do. But establishing and maintaining healthy, long-term, loving and committed relationships is difficult at best. When we add in the particular challenge of living in the gay and lesbian community the task may feel overwhelming. We have not had an established social structure that recognizes and supports our relationships. For years the straight community has had classes, workshops and retreats available to them that support and honor their intimate relationships. And now finally, so do we!

The weekend of April 22-24, 1994 "Getting the Love You Want," a workshop for Lesbian and Gay couples will be presented in our community. This is an intensive workshop for couples to discover or rediscover the joy and spiritual potential of being together while utilizing their relationship for personal growth.

Through participating in this workshop you can expect...

- ▼ To discover why the very qualities that attracted you to your partner now often drive you crazy
- ▼ To develop new communication skills that break destructive cycles of relating
- ▼ To create new ways to re-romanticize your relationship
- ▼ To gain greater compassion for your partner and for yourself
- ▼ To help each other get in adulthood what you didn't get in childhood
- ▼ To get the benefit of three to six months of therapy
- ▼ To learn how to use your relationship for emotional healing and spiritual evolution
- ▼ This workshop is appropriate for you if...
- ▼ You want to enrich a good relationship
- ▼ You are beginning a relationship you want to keep
- ▼ You are in a difficult relationship and want to resolve longstanding conflicts
- ▼ You are near break-up and want to decide if the relationship can be saved

The workshop emphasizes partners privately sharing with each other. While you are invited to share with the group to help build a supportive atmosphere, you are not pressured into unwelcome self disclosure. Confidentiality is emphasized in order to create a safe and comfortable environment.

The gifted and compassionate presenters, Maya Kollman, M.A. and Barbara Bingham, have presented this workshop to enthusiastic participants internationally.

To request a brochure and registration information, please call Leslie Bennett, M.S. or Sharon Durrant, M.A. at 898-4227. We expect this workshop to fill up quickly, so call soon.

WINTER PARK LAWN MANAGEMENT COMPANY

• Residential • Commercial •

SANDY MATTHEWS
MONIE BUCHANAN
(407) 658-0423
PAGER 741-7935



Licensed

Est. 1986

WOMYN'S WORK

Weekly - Biweekly
One Time Cleaning
Residential - Commercial

Free
Estimates

Cindy Reach
Ph. # 260-8382

Camp Sister Spirit Update:

Last month's front page article was about the nightmare that is occurring to the lesbians in Ovett, Mississippi. You may have seen the article in Saturday, Feb. 19th's Orlando Sentinel about the Attorney General's intervention into the terrorist behavior on the part of some of the local people, led by their "spiritual leaders." Following are some excerpts from the letter written by the Attorney General, Janet Reno to the Executive Director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, dated February 17th:

Dear Ms. Radecic: Thank you for your letter concerning the situation in Ovett, Mississippi. As are you, I am deeply troubled by the harassment and intimidation of Brenda and Wanda Henson, the lesbian owners of Camp Sister Spirit. The intolerance and bigotry demonstrated by some to the people of Ovett has no place in this country.

In addition to initiating (an) FBI investigation, I have signed a tasking order... asking the Community Relations Service (CRS) to intervene in the matter and to help mediate the dispute. While CRS is statutorily limited to assist only in conflicts arising from race, color and national origin issues, I consider the threat of violence in Ovett to be real and believe CRS's involvement is both appropriate and necessary to restore calm to the community.

I intend to keep fully apprised of the situation and ask that you continue to provide information to the Department. ...Together we can and will fight the discrimination faced by the Hensons and others like them.

Sincerely, Janet Reno

MASSAGE THERAPY

Take a Mini Vacation From Stress

- Reduces Stress * Reduces Headaches
- Increases Circulation * Soothes Nerves & Relaxes Muscles
- * Relief from Pain due to Illness or Injury

Introductory Massage
One Hour, \$30, in office

Ask for
TERRI TARR, LMT
Licensed Massage Therapist
MA0012951
MM0004357

(407) 539-0040 voice pager **839-8165**
540 So. Maitland Ave., Suite 101A * Maitland, FL 32751

FACES

A Womyn's Bar

Now Serving Full Liquor
4910 Edgewater Avenue

291-7571

MULLEIN'S HANDYWOMEN SERVICE

MULLEIN 'S TRUCK BROKE DOWN
OUT WEST.
SHE IS WORKING OUT THERE
TO PUT IT BACK TOGETHER.
RIGHT NOW, SHE IS NOT SURE
WHEN SHE WILL BE BACK.
SHE APOLOGIZES FOR ANY
PROBLEMS THIS MAY HAVE
CREATED FOR HER CUSTOMERS,
AND HOPES TO BE ABLE TO
SERVE YOU IN THE FUTURE

Responses to LCN's name-change survey

Last month we asked how you felt about the changing name of your organization, the Loving Committed Network. We've heard from several by phone or in person, but have decided to delay making the final decision to give more time for others to reply. Please feel free to call if you are too busy to fill out the survey. You can leave a short message at 332-2311. Thanks!

Below are two responses and one editor's reply:

Comments from a reader... Loving Committed Network is my vote!

The entire newsletter needs revamping! It seems to focus on the same old stuff. Prior to "the take over" it was interesting, localized and on time (delivery). We need more local input, more local news. There were 25 advertisements in 14 pages! What happened to sports updates? Once a month gatherings, poetry, reports on famous lesbian singers, actresses, etc. In conclusion, the publication is boring... thanks for listening.

(No Name)

Editorial Response:

In November of 1991, a meeting was called to advise the community of the impending doom of the newsletter... the then current editor was understandably burnt out, and the community responded with an overwhelming majority in favor of the continuation of the newsletter. A handful of lesbians volunteered to "take over" the responsibilities involved in putting together the newsletter. The group is listed in every issue of the newsletter, names being added or dropped as each individual has been able or unable to continue her own current level of contribution.

New monthly contributors to the newsletter send in articles with an enjoyable degree of regularity, while certain previously-enjoyed columns such as the sports news have faded out. We, as editors, compile what is sent to us by the community-- you. Occasionally we also write articles, opinions or comments. Since our goal is not to just tell you what we think, we depend on *everyone* in the community to contribute... call in an event you would like listed, send a paragraph about what happens at your bowling league, weekend football party or whatever! It does not have to be a lengthy article to be interesting. When there is insufficient material from our geo-centric community, we look to other publications and sources to pick out material that we feel will enlighten/amuse/entertain/anger/inspire all of us about what is going on in the rest of the lesbian/gay/bi world.

Help keep your community informed and your newsletter interesting.

Participate.

Rachel Gardiner, Staff Editor

To: Editor and Staff

From: Dorothy Kuhlman, Vice Moderator/Joy MCC

Again, I want to thank you for your inclusion of Joy MCC in the newsletter. It is deeply appreciated. We recently celebrated our 15th Anniversary with over 300 members and a renewed commitment to serve the Gay and Lesbian Community. Also, I want you to know that I really appreciate receiving the newsletter and understand the hard work and dedication that it takes to achieve the 10-year mark. LCN has survived growth, change and controversy like an "eagle" and certainly deserves to be commended for continuing and persevering when many would have simply given up. I hope that we might work together on a project in the future to the benefit of every

In considering the change of Loving Committed Network to a Lesbian focus, I would simply suggest changing "Loving" to "Lesbian." The word "Community" to me has become separatist and overused. I feel that we are all members of a community, but few of us are committed, or, for that matter, care enough. Perhaps commitment, within itself, exemplifies those of you that have brought LCN to the 10-year mark.

Just a thought.

Thank you again, for simply being.
DK

**Innkeepers/Artists
Deb & Cat**

P.O. Box 6094
Orlando
Florida 32853

(407) 649-0009

OPEN YEAR 'ROUND

A women's guesthouse with a private & relaxed atmosphere and personalized service. Conveniently located in downtown's Historic District. Recently renovated and comfortably furnished in period antiques.



**unique homes
& investments, inc.**

o: 407-425-9982

h 407-249-0080

fax: 407-425-0121

beeper: 741-1441

sandy short
realtor

805 east washington street
orlando, florida 32801



Together Alone

We'll grow old,
 we'll take care of each other
 I'll be your sister, your mother,
 your lover
 We'll be friends
 during changes of weather
 Let's be together on our own
 Let's be together alone

We're believers,
 we've been hurt by believing
 Needing people,
 we know looking's not seeing
 I see needs that might
 be answered by forever
 Together on our own
 Let's be together alone

We'll learn living,
 like the words of a good song
 We'll learn timing,
 balance and rhythm
 We'll make it music
 I don't want to sing it on my own
 Let's be together,
 let's be together alone

Melanie Safka



OUT & ABOUT BOOKS

Tuesday, March 8
International Women's Day

20% discount on everything in the store;
 one day only; women only.

Hours: Mon - Sat 10 am - 8 pm; Sun 1 pm - 6 pm
 930 North Mills Ave. • Orlando • (407) 896-0204

Support Lesbian & Gay Owned or Friendly Businesses
 Let them know you saw their ad in the LCN!

FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH MEDICAL CENTER

FOR

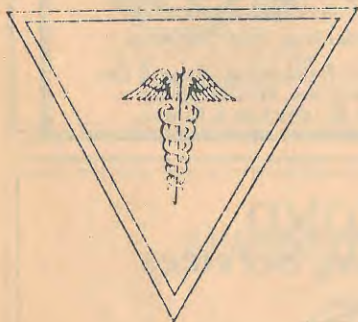
YOUR MEDICAL NEEDS

CALL TODAY FOR YOUR APPOINTMENT

(407)426- 9990

1(800)716-0999

401 W. COLONIAL DR. ORLANDO, FL. 32804



INSURANCE ACCEPTED



OPEN EVERYDAY

3434 4th Street North #5
 St. Petersburg, FL 33704

813-522-5775

Patty Callaghan

▼ Support our advertisers--they support us! ▼

Cruise Your Heart Away

Do you love going to Festivals, but you hate roughin' it? Do you really enjoy the great musicians and comedians, but you hate standing in line to shower? Wouldn't you love to vacation with hundreds of lesbians aboard a luxurious cruise ship? If you are saying yes! Yes! yes!, then perhaps an Olivia cruise is for you!

The next cruise sets sail on July 3 from New York City then on to Provincetown for Fourth of July celebrations. Then on to Portland, Nova Scotia, Quebec City and finally Montreal. Olivia has planned pre-cruise excursions in Montreal are being planned by Lucie Blue Tremblay.

If you would like more information on this cruise or future cruises, contact Robin or Deb at (904) 383-1722 day or evening.

▼ Find the Woman of Your Dreams ▼

Electronic Mail / Live Online Chat



"Get Connected!"

With The SouthEast's Largest "Community" B.B.S.



300 / 1200 / 2400 Baud
24 Hours • User Friendly

Have Your Computer Call (407) 645-4833
System Password: LCN

Try It For 10 Days - FREE!!

This service is for Adults Only - 18 and over

Customer Assistance (Voice): (407) 645-4135

Info About Community Events

▼ Meet New Friends/Network Your Business ▼

Carol F. Ruff, Ph.D.

Clinical Psychologist

Depression, anxiety, relationship problems, low self esteem, self-defeating behaviors, general discontent.

400 N. New York Avenue

Winter Park

(407) 628-7079



SUPPORT THE "FAMILY"!

TRUST YOUR CARPETS AND UPHOLSTERY TO A CERTIFIED, TRAINED WOMAN.

CARPET BUSTERS

Call Linda - (407) 672-6485

FOR A FREE ESTIMATE

SPECIAL NEW YEAR DISCOUNTS

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL, CARPETS & UPHOLSTERY, STEAM & DRY CLEANING, TEFLON CARPET PROTECTION, AUTO INTERIORS, PET ODOR ELIMINATION, CARPET RE-STRETCHING & REPAIRS.

MARGARET E. LEDERER, P.A.

ATTORNEY AT LAW

227 N. Magnolia Ave.
Suite 200
Orlando, FL 32801

Phone: (407) 246-0044
Fax: (407) 426-7227

DIAMOND Housekeeping Services



2633 Homer Circle
Orlando, FL 32803

LeAndra E. Gudowski
407/895-1515

COMMUNITY CONTACTS

Alcoholics Anonymous/Orlando	521-0012
Alcoholics Anonymous/Brevard County	242-8063
Hotline/Sanford-Lk Mary	647-3333
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
FLOLAC (Old Lesbians-60 and over)	(407) 779-4874
Joy MCC (Orlando)	894-1081
LCN Express INFORMATION-[Leave your # & time to call]	332-2311
LCN Express SUBSCRIPTIONS/ADDRESS CHANGES	291-3791
LCN Express ADVERTISING	648-4154
Metropolitan Business Assoc.	299-1439
Orlando PRIDE	236-9480
Primetimers (Travel Club)	895-1965
PFLAG (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

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



WOMEN ON THE WATER

Captain Kathy Kirkland
First Mate Leslie Devereux
P.O. Box 502
Key West, FL 33041
305-294-0662

A SAILBOAT CHARTER
FOR WOMEN



RAINBOW SPECIALTY ITEMS INT'L

Custom Clothing

T-Shirts ▽ Shorts ▽ Sweats ▽ Etc.

C. WHITE - Owner
J. BELCHER - Sales Mgr.
(407) 843-8729

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, Cherie Goyette,
Barb Fallon, Rachel Gardiner, Rita Krossber

ADVERTISEMENT SIZES AND RATES

Ad Type	Dimensions	Price
<u>3 Column Ads</u>		
Large Banner	8" tall x 7½" wide	\$50
Medium Banner	5¼" tall x 7½" wide	\$35
Small Banner	3½" tall x 7½" wide	\$30
Business Banner	2" tall x 7½" wide	\$15
<u>2 Column Ads</u>		
Large Double	8" tall x 5" wide	\$40
Medium Double	5¼" tall x 5" wide	\$25
Small Double	3½" tall x 5" wide	\$20
<u>1 Column Ads</u>		
Single Medium	5¼" tall x 2¼" wide	\$15
Business Card (or vertical)	2" tall x 3½" wide 3½" tall x 2" wide	\$5 \$5
<u>Classified Ads</u>	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.

Don't Miss It!

The Campout is Here!

March 25, 26 & 27 at

Wekiva Falls Campground

Camping Fee: \$14 per night (1-2 people)

Pets: \$3 per night per pet (Leash rule)

Directions: From Orlando take I-4, exit 51 (Sanford exit) go west on S.R. 46, 5 1/2 miles, cross Wekiva River Bridge and take the first paved road on left. Take the fork to the right as you come into the park and keep going until you see a great big group of lesbians!

Bring: Camping gear!
Toys! Swimsuits! Towels!
Guitars/musical instruments!
Chairs! Food! Bicycles!
Beverages! Games!

Leave:



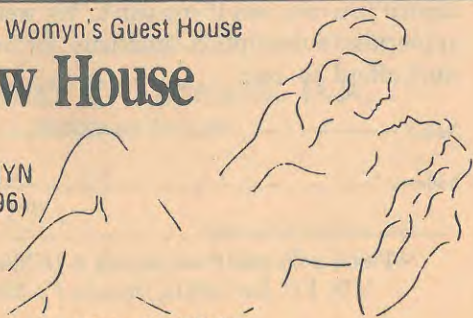
Key West's Only Womyn's Guest House

Rainbow House

1-800-74-WOMYN
(1-800-749-6696)

305-292-1450

525 United Street, Key West, FL 33040



MONA CALDWELL

Specializing In

HOME IMPROVEMENTS & REPAIRS

Ceramic Tile · Tubs, Showers, Floors, Counter Tops & Repairs
Also

Painting · Interior & Exterior / Carpentry

Minor Plumbing & Electrical, Etc.

FREE ESTIMATES

Member Of MBA

292-9784

Classifieds

For Sale: Double-wide stainless steel hot dog cart with gas BBQ grill. Excellent condition, \$2,800.00. Call 407-894-1081 Mon-Fri 10 am to 4 pm, ask for Shirley.

Excellent Business Opportunity: Printing, typesetting, fax, copies, FULL PRINT SHOP SERVICES (all inventory, equipment stays, owner will train buyers). Established and money-making business, Priced for Quick Sale. GOLDEN EGGS: this is the goose that can lay them! Ask for Margaret, Unique Homes 425-9982. Agent must accompany. Thanks.

GWF, 35, seeks penpals. Would especially like to hear from women in law enforcement, firefighting, military. All are welcome, though, just be honest and sincere like myself. Write R.L.S. PO Box 5992, Oxnard, CA 93031-5992

Are you a Veteran? Clean credit, stable income-- you can buy a home with NO DOWN PAYMENT! Why rent? Invest in your future! FHA & VA foreclosures, low down. Call Us TODAY at the real estate broker that understands your needs. Unique Homes & Investments. 425-9982.

With Spring around the corner now's the time to brighten things up. I do pressure washing & painting of residential homes, interior & exterior. Free estimates & excellent references upon request. Call Greg 354-3153

Out of the Closet Cleaning Company. Professional home or office cleaning. Reasonable rates. [2 bed/2 bath size home-\$40] Reliable. Refences available. Call Pat for a free extimate. (407) 671-8963

Looking for investors and property. Would love to put together a good women's restaurant-no smoking-bar-gathering place. Hoping to attract and offer a safe have to professional women. Possibly forming a club-- female investors only. Also need some legal advice-talent-brains. Call (407) 628-1682.

Why rent when you can own? Invest in your future... experience pride of ownership! Interest rates are low... great time to buy! Services include selling & purchasing property (real estate consultations & property evaluation). "Here to serve our community." Unique Homes & Investments, 425-9982. Ask for Sandy at 249-0080 or Margaret at 629-5870.

Help wanted for lawn maintenance company. Forsyth area. Part time advancing to full. Must be a responsible, hadr-working person able to take the summer heat. Drug-free work environment. Call 658-0423.

601 Indiana (downtown) Only \$58,000. Has assumable mortgage. 3/1.5 has been converted to 2/1.5-(huge master suite). Oakwood Park, well-cared for home, private yard/fenced. Assume/No Qualifying.. Ask for Dennis or Margaret. 425-9982 Unique Homes.

Room for rent. West Colonial. 15-20 minutes from downtown, all utilities included. (cable, electric, water/sewage, security system, washer/dryer) \$300 per month. Call Tiffany at 294-7079. Avail. 3/1.

Surrey Ridge (east side) home; like new! 3/2, spa, deck screen porch, loaded with extras. Priced for quick sale only \$78,000. Ask for Margaret, 425-9982 Unique Homes.

LCN Express Production Schedule

Call 831-2971 for more info.

Submission deadline:

March 15th

Tues., March 15: Editorial/
Production Meeting at 7pm.

Mon., March 28: 7:00pm

Folding Party at GLCS! If you are looking for a way to get involved, this is a great help and a chance to meet some of the community!

Many thanks to the womyn who helped last month!

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor, Thought you might enjoy some feedback on one of your advertisers. My lover and I spent a Saturday night at the Triangle Palms Guest House in Cocoa Beach. Our hosts Tony, John, and Jeff were all very enjoyable and the place is a real romantic getaway. Tony was a real delight and they treat women with the same respect as men. We loved the place and can't wait to go back.

Gail Napier & Tammy Hightower

NEW! Gay & Lesbian Radio
for Central Florida

Family Values

Hosted by Chris Alexander
Produced by Tommy Manley
•Interviews • News • Music •
•Entertainment•

Call the 646•2398 talk line
Tuesdays 7-8 pm
on WPRK 91.5 FM

"To promote individuals,
businesses, and organizations
who value our family."

STATE NEWS

New Address for Daytona Gay Pride!

There is now an address where you can send your ideas, letters and suggestions when you can't attend a meeting.

Daytona Gay Pride, PO Box 15074, Daytona Beach FL 32115

The meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at 7 pm.

GAYLINK- a new local publication

GAYLINK which now consists of an automated telephone information system is about to expand with the addition of a printed publication. GAYLINK's main goal is to enhance the public exposure of the gay and lesbian business community to all of Orlando, Central Florida, and the

World. As Orlando grows we know that our community is also going to grow. GAYLINK The Report will introduce new businesses, business people, business ideas, and current statistics pertinent to the gay and lesbian community on a monthly basis. FMI call the GAYLINK 24 hour hotline 857-1777.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Linda Beekman Returns to Sarajevo

Thanks to everyone who is supporting the effort to evacuate Renata Zbanic and baby Haris from Sarajevo. Unfortunately it takes tremendous pressure on those in control to create a change in policy. It is most important to continue to write letters to Senator Bob Graham, Congressman Bill Young and to President Clinton and Hillary Clinton asking them to help Renata and Haris and others evacuate Sarajevo.

I will be returning to Sarajevo the first week of February. My goals for this trip are: 1) to continue to be a witness for peace, 2) to take supplies, basic first aid, strings for musical instruments for the music school and answers from U.S. pen pals to the letters that we brought back home in September (a former teacher of my son Matthew has taken on this project), and 3) to gather information for future articles so as to continue to be a voice for the people in Sarajevo. As with my previous trip, I depend on your emotional, spiritual and financial support to help me make this project possible. While I can't solve the problems of the former Yugoslavia, I do have the possibility of making a difference for some of the 30 to 40 people that I know in Sarajevo who are suffering great hardships. When I was there last summer, Renata said "Since you're here is the first time since the war began 18 months ago that I haven't been hungry."

By making several trips in and out of Sarajevo, I hope to provide several hundred pounds of food; much of this will be purchased in Italy (where prices are similar to those here). The World Health Organization found that in Sarajevo mothers have the most weight loss, because many times they give their food to their children. My budget includes \$1300 travel expenses plus \$1200 for supplies. In addition to these expenses I also have the expense of loss of income for one month, and my own monthly expenses (phone, car insurance, etc.). It's a privilege and a gift to be able to return to Sarajevo.

On behalf of those in Sarajevo and myself, thank you for your past and future support. Donations by check can be made out and sent to: Linda Beekman, 2001 Beach Drive SE, St. Petersburg, FL 33705, or Tampa Bay Peace Education Program, Attn: Sarajevo Project, 130 19th Ave. SE, St. Petersburg, FL 33705 (for tax deductibility). Linda Beekman

P.S. Please continue to write on behalf of Renata and Haris to: Senator Bob Graham, 524 Hart Senate Bldg., Washington DC 20510; Congressman Bill Young, 2407 Rayburn House Office Bldg., Washington, DC 20515; President or First Lady Hillary Clinton, 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., Washington, DC 20500.

NATIONAL NEWS

New York State Supreme Court Justice, Diane Lebedeff, ruled that because the Pentagon discriminates against gays and lesbians, military recruiters cannot come on the campus of SUNY-Buffalo. Lebedeff cited that the recruitment would violate the anti-discrimination order issued by Gov. Mario Cuomo. - *Southern Voice*, 12/2/93

Miller Brewing Company has signed on as the official beer sponsor of the Gay Games IV and Cultural Festival in New York next June in what is the largest-ever corporate sponsorship of a gay/lesbian event. Other corporate sponsors include Continental Airlines, Mayer Laboratories, and Nora Beverages. - *Washington Blade*, 12/3/93

Movie Featuring Lesbian Soldier to be produced. Barbara Streisand and Glenn Close are teaming up to produce a made-for-television novel based on the true story of Col. Margarethe Cammermeyer. Close will also star in the role of Cammermeyer, 51, an Army Reserve officer who served for 26 years and was decorated for her service in Vietnam. Cammermeyer, who was named Nurse of the Year in 1985, was expelled from the Army in 1992 after she acknowledged that she was a lesbian during a security clearance interview. The two-hour movie is tentatively slated to air in the fall of 1994. - *Entre Nous*

Upcoming Events Calendar

Sunday, March 6th- Gay Day at the Central Florida Fair. Wear red!

Tuesday, March 8th-National Women's Day

Saturday March 12, Kay Gardner and Nurudafina Peli Abena in concert at the Pagoda. Sliding Scale \$10-\$15 1-904-874-2970

Sunday, March 20th- Willow Picnic Call 904-383-2883 FMI.

Sunday, March 20th, Spring Equinox Circle at the Pagoda. For more information call Pagoda, 1-904-874-2970

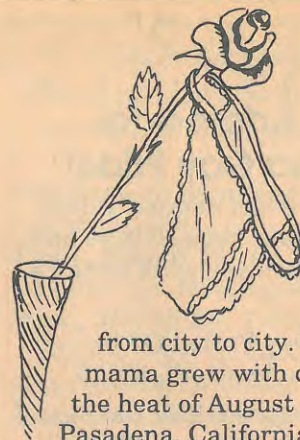
Friday, April 8th-GLPCI Fundraiser at the Unitarian Church, 7:30 pm to 12 pm. Country western dancing and lessons from 7:30 until 9:00. Sliding scale entry fee \$5-\$10.

June 3, 4 & 5 1994 - The Gay Alliance proudly presents Share The Vision Weekend. A gay day at Disney. For more information call GAYLINK, 407-857-1777

Ask Panty Rose...

In the months to follow the LCN will be running a new column, "Ask Panty Rose." It will be a lesbian advice column., and I invite you to let your hair down and tell ol' Panty what's on your mind. I am going to reveal each issue a little bit about myself and share my 76 years of wisdom. .. yes ,I have been around. Believe me, I have had my nose in more SHIT than a fly in a cow pasture. Why just last week my good friend the Queen Mum rang me and asked, "Panty, what do you do for constipation?" I told her I sit on my "throne" with a British tabloid, and read a moving story about Chuck and Di. She hung up on me, but being the eternal optimist that I am... I figured she ran out for a tabloid.

I was born in 1917 to the most interesting couple of that time. While I was doing my womb time, my daddy was killed in WWI. At the time, mama was a nanny to siamese twins joined at the lip doing the circus scene. A week after the tearful news about daddy, the circus was bought out by a rodeo show. The owner of the show was Ms. Ruth Less, and before the next tent went up... mama and Ruth started sparkin'. Their love for each other grew as the show traveled



from city to city. Of course mama grew with child and in the heat of August 1917, in Pasadena, California I was born... baby Rose.

Dear Panty,
Recently, I became a lesbian grandma. Panic has set in... is this the end of my social life? Will the word grandma scare away all those beautiful women away? HELP? Becky A. aka Grusome Granny

Dear G.G.,
Girl, wake up and smell the panties! The only thing that will scare the women away is a penis. GET REAL!!! You are ready to rock! No more freezing at night at the softball ba trying to find a 'bleacher bride.' It sunny afternoons in the park... baby on a blanket, and every woman in town coming to google. Yes Lesbians google... sit back and let it happen. Don't panic... Picnic!
Panty



**Victoria Ehmen
M.A.**

LICENSED MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPIST
INDIVIDUALS, GROUPS, FAMILIES

BY APPOINTMENT
904-253-2531

403 N. WILD OLIVE
DAYTONA BEACH, FL 32118

Pronto Press

742 N. Mills Avenue
898-8363

**THINKING
ABOUT REAL ESTATE?**

Call the Realtor who understands your perspective and can address your concerns.

**DENISE LEHEUP, REALTOR
COLDWELL BANKER**
170 W. Fairbanks Avenue
Winter Park, Florida 32789

407.628.3199 ♦ Business
407.896.5494 ♦ Residence

**Expect the Best.™
Accept no Less!**

The Bridge-The First Anniversary Special

by Jo Wiggins

My baby brother and I will definitely not attempt to steal each others' women. He was recently allowed to put up pictures of babes in bikinis (guess Mom wanted one kid to turn out ruler-straight). Joey asked me for "interesting" magazine pictures. This is my concept of interesting: a large photo of Eve in sheer black, Joey's new favorite color. A discreetly topless picture of Isabella Rosselini. A nude picture of Madeline Stowe. Yummy yummy yummy... Here's Joey's idea of interesting: Stephanie Seymour, whom Naomi Wolf and I figure to be a siliconed anorexic. Helena Christon. Claudia Schiffer. And, of course, that future wife of all heterosexual twelve-year-old boys - "Cindy Crawford! Cindy Crawford!" I happened to have that *Rolling Stone* with Cindy in the cover, which made him very happy. Later, he asked my opinion on the new decorating theme. "Um, it's all right", I said, sounding just like he does when my gynophilic friends and I discuss our crushes.

First Anita, Now This...

The Florida Citrus Commission has decided to go ahead with plans to advertise on Rush Limbaugh's show. If you're not familiar with him, consider yourself lucky. His radio talk show is extremely right-wing, anti-homosexual and overall generally bigoted.

Let the Commission know we don't think it's money well-spent...

**Don't buy Florida
Citrus or Juices!**

There's more fruits than
just the ones on the
'Sunshine Tree!'

Joey has been asked if he considers Katie hot. He acknowledges that she has "pretty skin" and a "really nice ass!" Good eye, my brother! However, K's particular brand of gorgeousness just does not do it for him. Little prepster Joey rattled off a list of his tastes. "I like long hair. I don't like a lot of holes (aka piercings). I like girls who look like they're fun to hang out with. A girl's gotta be smart, but she can be smart without being so hellaserious like Katie and those other people you like."

Despite Katie's "hellaseriousness" and Joey's "spaciness", they enjoy talking to each other on the phone. Sometimes Joey tells her embarrassing stories from my childhood, tempting me to pay for a call to Siberia so I can ask K's uncle about some of her childhood exploits! (When I'm a millionaire, I'll do it.) Sometimes they discuss the Deep Issues, such as how to translate some of my favorite words into Russian, and why *Animaniacs* is the best cartoon on Earth. Often enough, Katie will give the big sisterly advice that I can't. As a recovering alcoholic, she can tell Joey *exactly* why to stay away from the junk. She can tell Joey how to pick out a truly good classical music collection or access the fun and/or dirty computer bulletin boards. She's helped him with his math. (The one time she wasn't helpful was when Joey had to read a biography on Walt Disney. He put off the reading. Instead of helping him, she helped me convince him that Disney was a cross-dressing pyromaniac who was acquitted for the murder of his wife. Mom was even more pissed at this couple than usual, but hey, he read the book.)

Soon after Joey put up his little photo gallery, he asked Katie what she found attractive. Well, she really is a genius and it shows. "I like strong, intelligent, bisexual American blondes who smell great." Never mind that this description sounds remarkably like Hillary Rodham Clinton, one of her crushes. I was glowing. Then in timeless kid brother fashion, Joey had to ask, "So why are you dating my sister?" Little brat.

I found a new single that I can dedicate to K on the radio. This is a challenge, because she is worthy of a sexy, non-cliched song and because she's not a Motown fan. (I like doing that because she looks so cute when she blushes, and she blushes every time I do anything remotely romantic for her.) Anyway the song's called "P.U.N.K. Girl", by Heavenly. It's a love song to a sweet-but-unconventional girl sung by a woman - the coolest! I've found that Nirvana's "Drain You", Sinéad O'Connor's non-gender-specific "I Want Your (Hands On Me)", and Unrest's borderline-sleazy "Yes She's My Skinhead Girl" also work.

It's the first anniversary of *The Bridge!* Remember "Don't Believe the Hype"? Oh, how the time does pass. I've enjoyed doing this column and am grateful to the *Express* for giving me a space to myself. However, there's not going to be a second anniversary. I am saving my money to be with the woman I love in New York. Between David Caton, curfews, and thong bikini laws, I'm beginning to think that the Sunshine State is now the fascism state! Read *The Bridge* for further developments.

In the wise words of Juliana Hatfield: "Feed me something hot enough/Don't be afraid to treat me rough/Show me the way to the shore/Throw me out/Cause I'm so-so-so-so bored!"

Radical Right Goes to New Extremes to Attack Families of Lesbian and Gay Parents

On Monday, January 10th, two anti-gay initiatives were filed with the Washington secretary of state, setting off petition drives to get the measures on the November 1994 ballot. One of these two measures, filed by the Citizens Alliance of Washington, targets lesbian and gay parents and their families with unprecedented vigor - prohibiting gays and lesbians from becoming foster parents, adopting children, or gaining child custody in a divorce. This measure also bars "minority status based on homosexuality," prohibits schools from presenting homosexuality as positive behavior, and bans same-gender marriage.

"This is not a battle where I can sit back, there's too much at stake..."

The Citizens Alliance of Washington is forcing parents and children apart, and going to new extremes in pursuit of its anti-gay political agenda, say gay and lesbian parents. "The Radical Right has tried before to deny lesbians and gays from becoming foster parents and adopting children who need good homes," says Tim Fisher, Executive Director of the Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition International.* "But this is their first attempt to enact legislation which prohibits lesbians and gays from retaining custody of their own children in a divorce.

"They would deny us the right to raise our own children. How is that a 'Special Right?'" continues Fisher, referring to the Right's claim that gays want "special rights."

"The best interests of children" are clearly irrelevant in the Religious Right's anti-gay crusade. Buried in the fine print, *where it has been missed by most news stories*, the

initiative states that upon dissolution of a marriage where one of the parents is gay or lesbian, the other parent will receive custody. Where both parents are gay, custody will be awarded to the nearest non-gay relative. If no such person exists, children will be taken from their parents and put in foster care or put up for adoption.

Children of lesbian and gay parents around the country are reacting to the news from Washington state with disbelief.

"If I was ever taken away from my dad," says Kate Ranson-Walsh, a 13-year-old whose parents split up five years ago, "I don't know what I would do. It's not fair. He didn't do anything to me or anyone else. And he's the best dad in the world."

If this initiative passes, thousands of families in Washington state would be placed in jeopardy.

"Parents here are scared," says Gloria Stancich of the South Puget Sound Lesbian and Gay Parents Support Group in Tacoma, Washington, "particularly those dealing with custody issues. Washington state is a state that's been very fair to its gay and lesbian citizens, but we cannot afford to be complacent." "Listening to the news on the radio, I was nauseated," says Pat Justis of Olympia, Washington, mother of a toddler and active in Out on a L.I.M.B. (Lesbians in Maternity and Beyond). "I was expecting it, but I am still shell-shocked."

"The Radical Right perpetuates the myths that lesbians and gays are unfit to be parents - unfit to be near children," says Tim Fisher. "The truth is there are over three dozen reputable, scientific studies showing that our kids are no different from

kids raised in non-gay households - except ours are a little more tolerant of human differences."

"The Right needs a scapegoat to coalesce its power base - and we're it," explains psychologist April Martin, author of *The Lesbian and Gay Parenting Handbook*. "We're the basis upon which they get people to fork over their money."

"I'm writing a letter about this initiative and mailing it to every straight person in my address book."

As the Radical Right increasingly targets lesbians and gays in general, and moms and dads in particular, parents have increased their activism. "Having a child puts a fire in your belly," says Pat Justis. "This is not a battle where I can sit back, there's too much at stake for my son. I'm writing a letter about this initiative and mailing it to every straight person in my address book."

Public opinion polls show that "coming out" is the most effective and persuasive tactic for lesbians and gays. "The more out we are," agrees Stancich, "the more they know us as human beings - as normal everyday people and parents."

* *Currently in the United States, only Florida and New Hampshire outlaw adoption by gays and lesbians; New Hampshire also prohibits foster parenting. In Florida, two counties (Sarasota and Monroe) have declared the gay adoption ban "unconstitutional."*

The Parent Perspective

By Diane P. Kerkhoff

The personal is the political is personal - Part II. Next week (as I write this) GLCS is putting on the Spectrum Awards. I read the list of nominees and I congratulate and thank every one of them for the work they have done. I also noticed that it's pretty much the same list of out-front people that you always see. This gave me some thoughts and ideas that I have been wrestling with for several weeks. Hold that thought, I'll be back to it in a minute.

My son is in the fifth grade at a private Baptist school. Last month all the fifth grade parents were invited to meet in small groups with the principal of the upper school. I went to the meeting and chatted with the other parents and the principal and a guidance counselor about the expectations of sixth grade, when all of the sudden it hit me - I have to give the "I am a lesbian" speech again. I've given that speech every August since my son started school, but I was really caught off guard realizing that I had to give the speech on the spur of the moment in February.

When the meeting was over, I asked the principal if I could speak to him privately. I offered to make an appointment but he said now was fine. Then I gave my speech which consists of a few lines of "I am a lesbian" and a few lines of I don't want my son discriminated against.

The principal responded in the same way the staff and teachers there have always responded - that they are there for the children, that the parent's situation makes no difference, and that there is no specific lesson teaching that homosexuality is a sin (even though that is the belief of their church and school.)

Here's the thing: Doing my speech is not an easy thing for me. It's not my nature to be a public

person. I've always been a behind-the-scenes person, a no-name member of the committee, a worker-bee type (for instance, I've been writing this column for 3 years and I bet I've had fewer than 10 people in that whole time mention it to me. The best thanks I ever got, by the way, was the recognition in Jo Wiggins' column - a pat on the back when I needed it more than usual.) Doing

The critical work exists outside the gay and lesbian community. We must be visible to be effective.

my speech is scary - but I do it. I tell myself that I have to do it. I accept no excuses.

Then in 1992-93 I took on some highly visible leadership roles (March on Washington, GLPCI conference, local GLPCI president,

'Other Mothers' demonstration, appearances in all the local media) and spent some time out-front and out-loud.

Now back to the ideas I've been wrestling with. I've come to the conclusion that even though the committee work was important and the leader work was important, the most important work that I do for the gay and lesbian community is the missionary work that I do every day. Yes, missionary. I am a missionary to my son's school. I have a mission to make sure every adult there knows a lesbian. I'm not in their face about it. I'm simply there every day being a parent just like they are, talking to teachers and staff, volunteering to help with school projects, working on the fundraisers, cheering at the basketball games. My hope is that every adult associated with that school pauses and pictures me and my son every time the "sin of homosexuality" is brought up. The critical work exists outside the gay and lesbian community. We must be visible to be effective.

Karen Williams and the Flirtations Headline GLPCI Benefit Concert in NYC

Put a big pink triangle on your calendar for Thursday, June 23rd, 1994. That's the night of "The Real Family Values Show," featuring comic Karen Williams and the musical sensations, the Flirtations - a benefit concert for the Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition International (GLPCI), a worldwide advocacy and support network for lesbian and gay parents, their families and prospective parents, and COLAGE, Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere.

Tickets are on sale now. The venue, Town Hall, at 123 West 43rd Street in New York City, is wheelchair accessible and the performances will be sign language interpreted. If you're planning to be

in New York, buy your tickets early. One month before the March on Washington, most concerts were already sold-out! General Admission tickets are \$28. Or you can become a "Benefactor" with the purchase of a \$100 ticket; you'll receive preferred seating and an invitation to meet the performers after the show.

To order tickets, send a check or money order (made payable to GLPCI) to: GLPCI, P.O. Box 43206, Montclair, NJ 07043, or call GLPCI's information line at (202) 583-8029 for more details. For more information on GLPCI's 15th Annual Conference, "Family Values," to be held June 24th and 25th in New York City, call (212) 874-4687.

Lesbian Opportunities

Amazon Autumn is accepting grant applications for projects that enrich the lives of lesbians. There are two funding cycles per year with the deadlines of April 15 and October 15. For an application form, write: PO Box 2104; Union NJ. 07083.

The Lesbian Writers' Fund of Astraea National Lesbian Foundation is seeking fictional works and poetry for five cash awards of \$11,000 each to be awarded in June. Astraea was founded by a multi-racial, multi-cultural group of feminist activists in 1977 and lengthened its name in 1990 in recognition of the specific needs of lesbians. For guidelines and application forms, write to them at: 666 Broadway, Suite 520; New York, NY 10012 or call (212) 529- 8021. Deadline for submission is March 8.

Hummingbird Press is seeking contributions for an anthology to address how women incorporate spirituality into every day living. The anthology will be called *The Sage Within: The Spiritual Lives of Everyday Women*. For more information send SASE to them at: PO Box 8116; Santa Rosa, CA 95407.

Wild Impatience Publishing seeks manuscripts of interest to young lesbian/gay readers. Send manuscript with SASE to them at: PO Box 295, Lloyd FL. 32337.

Emily Williams from St. Pete is looking for stories of women's first menstruation for an upcoming book. Submissions of your story will automatically imply consent for publication. You may submit your story anonymously or if you sign your name, it will be published with your story. Contact her at 445 16th Ave.NE, St. Petersburg, FL. 33704.

by Rita Boo

I want to write about taking risks. Not the kind of risk like rock climbing or parachuting or even roller blading. But a risk that could change a life forever. A risk that takes you to your dreams.

Recently my partner and I looked at our dream right in the face and we liked what we saw. A potential to be self-sufficient at our art. It would take a risk. A risk that could include leaving and moving to a place where we are strangers. Away from the close safety of friends and the comfort and security of regular jobs that pay our bills and provide us with occasional outbreaks of frivolity.

Looking at the reality of a dream is like stretching your arms after they have been bound. The circulation in your hands begin to return and you know it's going to hurt and be hard for awhile, but eventually it will turn out to be the best feeling

Risks

you have ever had. That's what we're looking at.

The hardest part is telling family and friends that you are going to take that risk. That you have made up your mind and you are leaping into the light, not knowing what the landing will be like but you know in your heart that you'll enjoy the flight.

As artists, my partner and I have had a long life of others telling us we'll fail. That we could never survive as artists. That we will always need that REAL job. Others have always provided us with the road out, the "reasonable approach"- staying in dead end jobs that provide us only with a paycheck. It is the hours later, the weekends and the late nights that give us the expression and the joy that we live for. We often joke about what it must be like not to have anything to do with our time off, since that doesn't exist for us.

Join Us for a New Beginning

Sunday Services -
8:30am
10:30am
7:15 pm

Arrive early and stay for refreshments afterward.

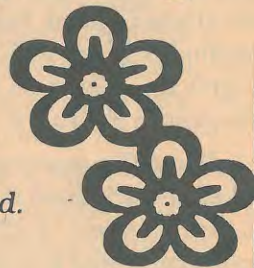
During the week.....

Monday	8:00pm	O.A. Meeting
Wednesday	7:30pm	Discussion or Services
Friday	7:30pm	AIDS Support Group
	8:00pm	AA Meeting

*Check the Bulletin Board. Family groups, Pot Luck Dinners, Volleyball, TLC Meetings and other activities fill the week.
You're always welcome.*

Joy Metropolitan Community Church
2351 S. Ferncreek • Orlando • 894-1081

'A place for a loving God, an open door, a sharing family.'



Risks. I want to tell our well meaning friends and family members that anyone who is successful at reaching their dreams has had to take that risk. Whether it's leaving a secure job to return to college for a degree in law, medicine, or engineering; or whether its leaving an area and creating art full time, living and selling in a town that is a budding haven for artists, musicians and dreamers. I think about my home town, nestled in the Bristol Mountains of upstate New York. In those hills are potters, glass blowers, architects, wood workers, writers, musicians etc, etc, etc. Is it that they have found a magical place, where they can survive and thrive? Or is it that they have risked the leap, that they have waved off the disbelievers and finally being honest to themselves, found that comfort and security could be the by product of a happy life, not the sole product of hard work and a life of

struggle and compromise.

Our mothers call our art a *hobby*. (Even after college degrees and a lifetime of creating.) My siblings, nieces and nephews think of me as a legend, only because I dared to leave my home town and all that was familiar and safe. I and my partner call ourselves artists, and what ever else we do is extraneous. Our breath is art, our blood is art and our love is art. Why then, is it so difficult for others to believe that we can survive as artists. If we were bent towards medicine, or law, or engineering we would have the support and good will of friends and family. We would have been, from an early age, encouraged to seek a life in those fields. Risks then would be worth while. How could we fail in those professions?

So, we have reached the turning point. We've lived in the eye of the hurricane for years, looking at the wildness around us, knowing that we belonged in the storm, not in the calm. We have the faith in ourselves to succeed, and we know that until we do, those who mean the most to us won't believe we can. We also have faith that if it doesn't happen in one place, it will happen in another.

It's a risk, and yes, it's a dream. But until we are willing to believe that dreams do come true, they won't; and until we stop listening to all the reasons why we shouldn't, we won't. But if we don't, we will spend a life wondering why we didn't. I don't like the prospect of terminal regret.

"Regret for the things we did, can be tempered by time; it is regret for the things we did not do that is inconsolable." sydney j. harris.

Willow Presents the group



at their 4th annual Picnic

BARBECUE DINNER, BOATING, AND GAMES PROVIDED

TICKETS \$15.00

When: March 20th 1994

Where- Coca-Cola Park Leesburg, Fl.

Call (904) 357-3648 or (407) 865-5972

Office Hours - By Appointment Only
Evenings & Saturdays Available

Lorraine Winkler LCSW

Board Certified Psychotherapist

Individual, Couples, Family
Insurance Eligible

407-646-8102

Colonial Office Center
1310 W. Colonial Dr, Suite 12
Orlando, FL 32804

Creating Lifetime Memories



SELECTIVE LIMOUSINE, INC.

PO Box 520553
Longwood, Fl. 32752 0553

Marlies Bredel

(407) 830 0211
Pager 740 1324



MAC'S SOUND MACHINE
DJ Service

Weddings • Private Parties • Any Occasions

Cathy

291-3791