

Express

Lesbian Teachers Network

reprinted from Network News

As the U.S. southeast contact for the Lesbian Teachers' Network, I would like to encourage all educators (both public & private) to join this growing group of womyn. I have recently returned from the 1992 Michigan Womyn's Festival; and while I was there, I attended three informative workshops by and for lesbian educators. The turnout was unbelievable. There were enough lesbian teachers at the workshops to comprise faculties at at least three schools (100+).

Lesbian Teacher's Network is still in its infancy, but it is growing rapidly (600+ members). We need your support. A donation on a sliding scale from \$7 - \$12 is requested to receive the quarterly newsletter. Since we don't have a 100% subscription return, if you can spare a little more than the minimum to keep us going - It's Appreciated! (Even if you do not want to be on our mailing list, consider making a donation of \$1 @ issue.) The money received by LTN is kept in an account in Solon (Iowa) and will be well spent on producing the newsletter. You can contribute to its content, as-well-as network with other lesbian teachers.

Send your full name, address, telephone number, teaching assignment (grade level and area), willingness to be contacted with workshop planning or the newsletter, and whether or not you want your name/address to be kept very confidentially OR made available to other women in the mailing list. Mail to: **L.T.N., 66 Lakeside Drive -Northeast, Solon, Iowa 52333.**

THE QUILT

by Stacey St.James

From all over the United States and some foreign countries they came. Some to view the quilt, others to add theirs. Silk and satin, leather and lace, bears and bunnies, embroidered and crocheted, air brushed and magic markered, the panels were fashioned. A memorial to special people who had fallen to this horrible disease long before their time on this earth should have been up.

To imagine the size of this quilt is hard, at least for me, when I think of fifteen acres. How big is fifteen acres? Maybe another perspective will be better. The panels are three feet by six feet, symbolic to the size of a grave, making The Quilt about 361,000 square feet or, for better understanding, about the size of 12 football fields.

There are 20,064 panels in it with the addition of more than 1000 at its appearance in Washington. It was packaged in 700 boxes weighing 70lbs. each and transported by train from San Francisco to Baltimore. There it was loaded onto eight 48-foot trucks to be transported to Washington.

The rain played havoc with the people from the NAMES Project Organization. On Friday they were unable to lay The Quilt down at all. On Saturday people stood for over three hours to watch how meticulously and reverently The Quilt was protected and laid out.

With plastic the same size as the panels the ground was covered. Then the panels were laid on the plastic. Runners to protect the viewers from the mud and damp grass were laid on all sides of the panels. An aerial shot, with no one in the entire fifteen acres and bordered by the workers dressed in all white was taken. Then some

100,000 people who had stood behind the workers swarmed The Quilt. For the next five hours people viewed The Quilt, trying to find loved ones and friends.

On a personal level The Quilt was as emotional for me as it was for many of the other 250,000 people who viewed it over the weekend. I have several panels on it of special people who have played a long and important part in my life. To view these panels and reflect was very hard for me. Because of all the love that is shown in these panels it is much harder for this writer than to visit a grave site.

Painful, tiring, symbolic, emotional, and amazing were the feelings I experienced after spending a weekend with The Quilt. I was glad that this enabled me and many others to have the closure we so desperately needed and the ability to let go, making it possible to finally get on with our own lives.

This was supposed to be the final showing of The Quilt, but in 1989 they said it would never be shown in its entirety again. The NAMES Project has learned they "... will never say never again." So if the opportunity does ever afford itself again I assure you that it is worth the sixteen hour drive and all the walking.

Notable November Dates

| | |
|----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Nov. 3 | Election Day: VOTE! |
| Nov. 9 | LCN Gen. Meeting |
| Nov. 14 | WIT Canoe Trip |
| Nov. 21 | Willow Dinner/Dance |
| Nov. 26 | Thanksgiving Dinner at the Center |

NATIONAL NEWS

Hillary Clinton became the first spouse of a major Presidential candidate to appear at a gay function - the annual dinner of the Human Rights Campaign Fund in San Francisco. Hillary joined Geraldine Ferraro in addressing the black-tie event for 650 lesbians and gays - some of San Francisco's finest.

Creating Change: 5th Annual National Conference for Gay and Lesbian Organizing and Skills Building. November 13-15, 1992. Los Angeles Airport Hilton; Los Angeles, CA. Plus: Three all-day, pre-conference intensives for lesbian and gay activists and organizers. Nov. 11, 1992 - Campus Organizing Institute. Nov. 12, 1992 - People of Color Organizing Institute Diversity Training Institute. Air reservations: 1-800-635-7773. Hotel reservations: 1-800-445-8667.

Equal Marriage Rights Fund, P.O. Box 18707, 2001 M Street, N.W.; Washington, D.C. 20036 (202) 822-

6546 fax: (202) 466-3540. EMRF is a non-profit organization dedicated to the legalization of Gay and Lesbian marriage rights and acts as a national clearinghouse for Gay and Lesbian marriage rights information.

Currently, the primary focus of EMRF is to win the lawsuit filed by Craig Dean and Patrick Gill against the District of Columbia for denying the couple's marriage license application because they are Gay. No state in the Union will legally recognize same-sex marriage. It is possible for same-sex couples to have a wedding ceremony, however such a ceremony does not create or have legal benefits. Obtaining equal legal recognition, benefits, and protections for all married couples is the goal of EMRF.

Dean and Gill's lawsuit is based on three points. First, the nation's capitol is a unique jurisdiction in that its Human Rights Act prohibits "discrimination by reason of sexual orientation

for any reason in all aspects of life."

Second, the District of Columbia law is silent as to the genders of persons who wish to be married. Accordingly, EMRF is arguing that there is no legal prohibition against same-sex marriage in Washington, D.C.

Third, we also are arguing that if the court was to interpret D.C. law to prohibit same sex marriage rights it would then be a violation of the couple's constitutional rights under the due process and equal protection clauses. The law is currently on appeal.

NEA Award: Dr. Virginia Uribe has received the 1992 Award for Creative Leadership from the National Education Association, the nation's largest union. Dr. Uribe founded Los Angeles' Project 10, a pioneering education program for lesbian and gay teenagers. *Southern Voice*, 7/23/92.

The American Nurses Association passed a resolution on June 25, opposing discrimination against gays and lesbians in the military. The organization will also consider candidates' positions on discrimination based on sexual orientation when they consider endorsing candidates for public office. *Southern Voice*, 7/9/92.

In The Life is seeking contributors to keep the show on the air. Write Kate Clinton, 39 W 14 St, #402, NY, NY 10011.

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| Tuesday | 7:30pm | Bible Study (TBA) |
| Wednesday | 7:15am | Prayer Breakfast |
| | 7:30pm | Discussion Group |

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Patty Callaghan

DATELINE DAYTONA BY SUE YORK

November 1st (the first Sunday) at 2:00pm, Lambda is having a Potluck/Business Meeting. Please, come and join us. Lambda Center-Daytona, 320 Harvey Ave., Suite A, 904-255-0280.

So, "What's a Lambda Center-Daytona?" I keep getting asked that question. Is it a club? Organization? Part of the AIDS network? Another AA place? Are there dues? Who are the members?

Lambda Center is a safe place for Lesbians and Gays to socialize and carry on the vital business of the community in Gaytona Beach. We are essentially a meeting house, not unlike the Quaker-idea, where people gather and are heard.

Though we provide a common area for Gay and Lesbian Organizations to meet, the Center itself is separate from, and not responsible for these organizations. However, we do have meetings monthly where organizations can network and identify specific community needs, i.e., Student Support. We can then call on our people resources for strength.

Our monthly meetings are open and anyone who attends can vote. We have no dues, instead contributions are accepted. Our income is based on donations from meetings and the Center. We rent the Center presently at a rate of \$10 with a possible increase in 1993.

One of our goals is to assemble a

confidential phone and mailing list for the Greater Daytona Area. At present the Lesbian and Gay population is estimated at over 60,000. This represents great local clout.

The agenda is mainly social. At our monthly potluck/general membership meetings, we discuss our needs. We also address any business brought to us by members of organizations. No organization can assume that Lambda will support its program. If support is needed, then a representative from that organization must attend a Lambda meeting and make a formal request.

In December, we will establish a Steering Committee who will be responsible for business decisions. I hope this answers all those questions, and tempts a few more lesbians and gays to join us. Next meetings: Nov. 1st. Dec. 6th, and Thanksgiving day.

Sue, our Gaytona connection, lives twixt'n'between Daytona and Orlando

in what used to be the rural community of Debarry. She spoils a Cairn Terrier nicknamed "Greybeard" and when she gets a chance, a lover named Stacey, a cat named Seymore, and a dog named Max. Her hobbies include politics, LCN, social action, baking bread, reading cookbooks, the Lesbian Social Club, and going for long walks, especially on the beach. She dreams of one day living in a home with built-in bookcases and wall to ceiling french doors, of studying country cooking at a top-notch vegetarian cooking school and of hosting a weekly salon where her friends can drop by to discuss art or architecture, listen to string quartet or just gossip over tea and scones.

According to Sue, "The LCN is the best damn thing going in Orlando. Good hearted, hard working women who are committed to keeping in touch by working their collective tushes off each month to publish this rag. I am proud to work with and play with these women and encourage any who can to join us."

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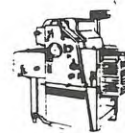
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- Breaking the Silence MCC (Cocoa) 631-4524
- Delta Youth Alliance 425-4527
- GLCS Hotline & Info Line THE-GAYS
- GLADD 236-9499
- GLPCI (Parents' Group) 420-2191
- Gay & Lesbian Center 425-4527
- Joy MCC (Orlando) 894-1081
- LCN Express Information 648-4154**
- 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

Do you have desktop publishing equipment or proficiency in PageMaker? Would you be willing to layout the *LCN Express* every other month or once every three months? (The articles come to you already entered on diskette!) Please call Becky, 282-6569.



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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 Abling, Patty Sheehan, Becky Acuna, & Rachel Gardiner.

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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.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear LCN,

In her most recent *She Speaks Out*, Patty Sheehan reminds us that Republicans and the fundamentalists have attacked single mothers and have tried to eliminate the right to choose on the abortion issue. She then warns us the "gays and lesbians won't be far behind." Patty, I hate to tell you this, but the attack on us has already begun.

A quick reading of the 1992 Republican Platform clarifies their position. After expressing their support for the homophobic Boy Scouts of America, the Republicans state that they "oppose efforts by the Democratic Party to include sexual preference as a protected minority receiving preferential status under civil rights statutes at the federal, state and local level. We oppose any legislation or law which legally recognizes same-sex marriages and allows such couples to adopt children or provide foster care." In other words, they view us as second class citizens, unworthy of basic human rights.

Contrast their attitude with those of the Democratic Party and Bill Clinton. The 1992 Democratic Party Platform specifically states that they will "fight to ensure that no Americans suffer discrimination or deprivation of rights on the basis of race, gender, language, national origin, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation, or other characteristics irrelevant to ability."

Bill Clinton's position paper on Issues of Concern to Gays and Lesbians details that he will support a federal gay civil rights bill, issue executive orders to repeal the ban on gays and lesbians in the military and foreign service, crack down on hate crimes, and make the fight against AIDS a national priority.

The choice is yours. Just remember that your choice won't count if you don't vote. As Patty said, there are no excuses for not voting; there are only regrets.

With Hope For The Future,
Andrea Cain

P.S. For info on the parties' stands on other issues, give me a call at 894-6740.

Dear LCN,

My partner, Susan Keel, and I are pleased to announce the opening of a new feminist bookstore in Gainesville. We offer books that cover feminist thought, lesbian/gay concerns, women's spirituality and heritage, recovery, fiction by and for women, and a section of nonracist, nonsexist books for children. We also carry women's music, jewelry, and... periodicals.

We feel there is a need for a bookstore like this... and the support from friends and strangers alike has been exhilarating... We hope to serve the women's community for many years to come, and appreciate your input and support.

Thanks, Karey Godwin

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LCN Express Production Schedule

Call Barb, 648-4154, for more info.

Nov. 17: Production Meeting

Nov. 30: Need volunteer to pick up newsletter at Pronto Press and bring to--
7pm Folding Party at Faces!!!

Daytona News

Lambda Center/Lesbian Social Club: Every Thursday night at 8 pm, the Lesbian Social Club of Daytona meets at the Lambda Center. It is a time for us just to get together and relax and have a little fun. All women are welcome. We started meeting last spring and have found that it is important for us to touch base once a week with other like-minded-women in a comfortable place. We are experimenting with the things we like to do as a group and, so far have come up with the following schedule for November.
Nov 5: "Game" night, which can be cards or bingo or whatever; **Nov 12:** "Spiritual" night--this month Stacey is going to tell us about aroma therapy; **Nov 19:** Potluck Social/Discussion, where we brainstorm about next month's activities, read aloud and talk.

Nov 26, 2 pm, Lambda Center Daytona is hosting a Potluck Dinner at 320 Harvey Avenue, Suite A. Everyone is welcome. Bring yourself, bring a friend and enough food to share. We will coordinate some dishes if possible, but the main thing is for you to come and join us and socialize. If you think you can help out, or know ahead of time what dish you'll be bringing, or just need more info, call (904) 255-0280 between 7-9 p.m., Mon-Fri.

Local Events and Projects

LCN Halloween Campout, Oct 30 - Nov. 1 at Wekiva Falls Resort. Join the rest of the Gyrls for a great time. See article this month. Call Rosie at 855-6551 for more info.

WIT Canoe Trip-- King's Landing, outside Sanford, Nov. 14. Bring yourself, friend(s), picnic lunch, cooler, etc. Bring your own canoe or rent one there for \$7.50. Meet us there 11:00 am or meet at the I-Hop at Hwy 520 and I-95 at 9:00 am. to car pool/caravan up. *To get to King's Landing, take Hwy 46 thru Sanford; follow the signs to King's Landing, Rock Springs, and Kelly Park. King's Landing is next to Kelly Park.*

Sandy DeLegal-- Sat., Nov. 7, 7:30 pm at the Cocoa Village Playhouse. \$8 in advance; \$10 at the door; students \$5. For info call the Cocoa Village Playhouse (407) 636-5050 or Sandy or Barb at 639-9636 for tickets. *Cocoa Village Playhouse is located off Hwy 520 and Brevard Ave in historic downtown Cocoa. (Before you go over the bridge to Merritt Island on 520).*

Confidential Blood Testing CBT Centers, Inc., is registered in accordance with Florida Laws. The confidentiality of HIV test results remains exclusively with the individual and the facility. No physician involvement. Call 897-7188 for fees & appointment. CBT Centers Inc. 2501 N. Orange Ave. Suite 246 Orlando, FL

Willow presents the 3rd Annual Black and White Dinner Dance. Sat., Nov. 21. **Reservations needed!** The Villa Dora Restaurant (Highway 441, Mt. Dora) will be exclusively ours from 7pm to 12am. Formal dinner. \$20 members, \$25 non-members. Cash bar available. Tickets are available at the Cornucopia, 621 E. 5th St. Mt Dora. 904-383-2883 and at LCN Campout.

LCN General meeting Nov 9th at the Center, 7:00pm. Some topics to be discussed are Lesbian Pride Picnic, computer hardware, budget, Community service awards etc. We always attempt to make this meeting short and sweet. All lesbians welcome.

Cape Cod Week--need a vacation? We have the perfect one planned for you. Join 90 to 100 other lesbians in Cape Cod after the March on DC. (You can go from there.) Accommodations at a resort in Cape Cod. We have reserved the entire place. Includes day excursions to P-Town, Nantucket, whale watching, etc. or plan your own. **90-100 other women will be there with you!!!** For more info write to WIT, Box 500670, Malabar, FL. 32950.

GLCS Center Events
Park Ave. Eyeware Masterpiece Makeover [from the neck up] Nov. 13, 7 pm. Donations accepted-- to benefit GLCS. Sponsored by Park Avenue Eyeware, Steven's House of Flowers, and Scott Laurent Gallery.
Thanksgiving Dinner, Nov. 26 at GLCS. Call for more information. 425-GLCS
A Call for Artists! Applications for a December Art Show produced by GLCS are available at the Center. The show will be juried and will include all forms including mixed media and photography etc. Deadline for application is Nov. 6th. All slide/photos will be return as long as they are accompanied by SASE (.58cents). More info call 425-4527.

GLPCI: For info, 420-2191.
Nov. 7, 8am: Adopt-A-Highway Clean-up. Meet at GLCS, Childcare & refreshments provided. Nov. 13, 7:30pm: Parents Rap Group (adults only) Nov. 21, 12N: Family Skating Party. Nov. 21, 6pm: Social/support meeting.

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Say No To Hate!

Within the last few years, there has been an increase in extreme right-wing conservatism in the United States. This condition has led to numerous efforts by right-wing fundamentalists to ban books from schools, censor the arts, take equal protection under the law away from a select group of citizens and to legally oppress those with views different from their own.

One specific oppressive effort in Tampa Bay is being led by fanatic David Caton of the "American Family Association," a right-wing political group. They are trying to overturn, by referendum, an existing law that prohibits discrimination based upon sexual orientation in housing, public accommodations, employment and real estate transaction.

Because of this deliberate attempt to oppress a select group of citizens, the **Say No To Hate** is being overseen by a Steering Committee of prominent local citizens, elected officials and heads of community organization. None of the members of the campaign are paid for their efforts - everyone is a volunteer, unlike the well-funded "American Family Association," which pays a substantial sal-

ary to its director and staff.

The focus of the campaign at this time is to retain the existing anti-discrimination legislation and to demonstrate that discrimination in any form is un-American and should not be tolerated. If even one oppressive attempt is successful, many others will follow, and everyone is then in danger of being "next," especially those who value freedom of speech, as well as freedom of artistic expression.

Say No To Hate needs your help. We cannot fight the well-financed, well-coordinated efforts of the right-wing fundamentalists without your donations of money and/or time. We need to raise approximately \$100,000 to get the message out to the general public that basic human rights are in jeopardy.

Won't you please send contributions, no matter how small, to: **SAY NO TO HATE, 1222 S. Dale Mabry, Suite 652, Tampa, FL 33629 or contact us at 813/876-4130.**

Want to work on the
'93 March on Washington?
Call Barb, 648-4154

MBA News

Radio personality Clive Thon and a holiday shindig will highlight the November and December general meetings of the Metropolitan Business Association. Thomas, who had to unexpectedly postpone appearing in October, has said he looks forward to attending the Nov. 5 gathering. MBA general meetings are held at The Radisson Hotel on Lake Ivanhoe the first Thursday of every month, with a social hour beginning at 6:30 p.m. and business meeting at 7:30 p.m.

For the Dec. 3 meeting, we'll roll up the carpet and dispense with the speakers. Instead, we'll have a social featuring food and live music.

At the Oct. 1 meeting, about 45 people were on hand to welcome Debbie Simmons as the new president, as well as 3 new board members. To date, 51 people have officially joined the MBA.

Congressional candidate Chuck Kovalski, who hopes to unseat U.S. Rep. Bill McCollum in November, promised to work to reduce the deficit if elected. He also said that as business people, we should see to it that Congress faces the same regulations and accountability that we do every day.

Continued, p. 6

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She Speaks Out

by *Patty Sheehan*

Most of the crew for the shed building showed up, of course, fashionably late. As they arrived, they compared their color coordinated tool belts, work boots and hard hats. It looked sort of like the Village People, minus the Indian (or should I say Native American) and cop. They even broke into an impromptu version of "Y.M.C.A." I asked where the blueprints were, and one fluffy-type indicated that Cristi was wearing a tasteful blue paisley. I knew then we were in trouble.

After finally finding the plans for the building, we assigned a group to framing out the floor. I must admit that working with men is very different than working with women, egalitarian thinker that I am. Men simply look you in the eye and say, "Screw you." Women usually do what is asked, but occasionally get their feelings hurt and you have to sit down and "process" it.

We turned our attention to the front wall and back wall. The only fragile item we had to work with was an aluminum vent for the rear of the building. Once it was installed, one of the dogs walked across the back wall and bent it. We yelled at the dogs

severely and banished them to a corner of the yard. In their boredom they turned to the only activity which kept them from underfoot - canine nookie! At which point the kids present started to ask THOSE kind of questions. I tell you, we must do something about this rampant heterosexual behavior!

As the walls went up, I noticed a change in some of the crew. While at the beginning they'd been reluctant and timid, as they worked and saw the results of their labor, they grew more confident. "Is that okay?" turned into "That looks great." They sawed, painted and hammered until the sides and roof were complete. They stood inside the shed in amazement. "We did this," they exclaimed in pride. They started to talk about other things they'd like to build. They were empowered by the knowledge that they could build something, anything they wanted to. They became a little stronger and a little wiser that day. And I was a lot more satisfied than I'd been on most job sites. We not only built a shed that day, but a lot of confidence and woman strength.

(This is a fictional account based

Leslie Killie & Hat Box Revue- Orlando Debut

by *Andre Provencher*

On the first weekend of December, Leslie Kille premiers at the Eola Theatre on Wall St. Plaza. Leslie is a singer-songwriter and hails from St. Pete. The evening shall mark the debut of the Hat Box Revue, as well; a newly-formed gay and lesbian cabaret.

The Revue will perform a handful of original comedy skits, reflecting the concerns of gays and lesbians. To date, a 10-minute version of GONE WITH THE WIND, with Ms. Kille accompanying the all-male cast, is being considered. Female impersonator Jackie Adrian is also under consideration.

Leslie Kille has promised several new, original compositions on Dec. 4 & 5. The Hat Box Revue promises original comedy routines. Together, the two guarantee an evening filled with music, mirth, and merriment. Call the Eola Theater at 407-422-2661 for ticket info.

on an actual experience. Some events have been embellished, some names have been changed to protect the innocent. Of course, I come across as a lot more knowledgeable than I actually am. I learned a lot too!

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A Message for Gay and Lesbian Republicans from the Log Cabin Federation

The Log Cabin Federation, a national organization of gay and lesbian Republican clubs throughout the U.S. (5,000 members in 25 chapters) voted at its national convention on August 15, 1992 to **withhold endorsement** of the Bush-Quayle ticket due to:

- * the refusal of the platform writing committee to hear testimony from Log Cabin representatives or from any organization that represented gays and lesbians;

- * the failure of officials of the Republican National Committee to acknowledge the concerns of gay and lesbian Republicans active in the party;

- * the inclusion of specifically anti-gay planks in the 1992 platform including opposition to the civil rights protection for gays and lesbians, recognition of our relationships, and the repeal of the ban on gays and lesbians

in the military;

- * the adoption of a platform that reflects a narrow religious agenda and hostility to the diversity of American society and differences of opinion within the party;

- * an extremist position on abortion in the platform without fair debate;

- * the removal of an openly gay campaign official by the religious fundamentalists who dominate the Bush campaign headquarters in Washington, DC.

The **Florida Log Cabin/Tampa Bay** is affiliated with the national LOG CABIN FEDERATION. Meetings are the 3rd Sunday of the month at Moody's, starting 7pm. Write to: Florida Log Cabin Club/Tampa Bay, P.O. Box 13651, Tampa, FL 33681.

MBA

Cont'd from p. 4

Kovaleski also said that he favored adding sexual orientation to the federal civil rights act, and would work to lift the military's ban on homosexuality.

Kim Sheppard, a candidate for the state House seat held by Bruce McEwan, echoed that stand. She called for a new code of ethics for politicians. "If you really want change, then get out of your armchairs, get on the streets, knock on doors and get the word out," said Sheppard, a former Orange County prosecutor.

And Cindy Abel, a marketing specialist, spoke about the importance of marketing plans, noting that new businesses should spend at least 15% of their projected sales on marketing.

Come get involved! MBA board meetings are now the 3rd Wednesday of each month, 7 pm at GLCS, 750 W. Colonial Drive.

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The Parent Perspective

by Diane P. Kerkhoff

DENVER - I'm in Denver for the GLPCI (Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition International) board of directors quarterly meeting and the March on Washington National Steering Committee Meeting. Our GLPCI meetings have gone well, and I'm happily satiated with feelings of family, love, and acceptance.

Our hosts in Denver were absolutely wonderful in providing us with food, transportation, and housing. I spent time with old friends, got to know recent friends better, and made some great new friends. I even got to spend one evening in a women's (lots of women!) Country-Western bar. Catch me when you have a free half hour for a dissertation on the state of Country-Western dancing in Denver.

The March on Washington meetings were absolutely fascinating. The fifteen of us GLPCI people looked like we were fundamentalist protesters or something with our mainstream clothes and conservative haircuts. As we looked around at the diversity of gender-bending, I had to keep telling my friend Vickie to stop staring. She said, "I can't help it. I'm from the Midwest." What I wondered was: Did my group get conservative because we are parents, or is it that we conservative types are the ones likely to have children?

Anyway, everything was fascinating - not just the people. Every decision is made by modified consensus - that means everything has to be almost unanimous. Considering the fact that they're trying to be all inclusive on every issue and group, I didn't see how they got anything accomplished. But they did - it was wonderful and I was amazed!

I attended the financial workshop and the fundraising workshop. The most memorable fact I learned: it will take a minimum of \$80,000 to rent porta-potties for the March. That's a reason to pitch in if I ever heard one...

Back in Orlando, My Dear Friend (MDF) asked me to accompany her to a straight bar one Saturday night recently. (She had a good gay reason for going there. This is certainly not something we do regularly.) Anyway, MDF says, "You know what's worse than hanging out with straight people?

Morton River Valley

by Lee Lynch

Reviewed by Dee

Paris Collins, 41, teacher of English to adults, nomad, lesbian, arrives in Morton River pursuing her quest for the self-sufficient, independent, free but productive life. Her contribution is helping aliens learn to speak English so that they can move from isolation into blending with the flow of American life. She has a healthy desire to be of practical help to people when possible but also seeks "Romance."

Lee Lynch whips up a batch of issues: coming out to loved ones, politics, ecology, unemployment, commitment, and throws in Christmas at the Queen of Hearts diner. All done with proficiency for a thoroughly enjoyable tale.

Hanging out with drunk straight people ... trying to dance." I agree - back to the Phoenix for us.

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or call Sandy or Barb @ 639-9636 for tickets

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STATE NEWS AND WOMEN'S EVENTS

From the Miami Area

Wanted: Wild Wimmin to perform, be a vendress, give a workshop, or just plain be here and have fun at the **4th Annual Lesbian Bizarre** in Miami, FL, March 19-22. SASE: Something Special 7762 NW 14 Court Miami, FL 33147-5771. (305) 696-8826.

Tampa / St. Pete

Fall Events at Brigit Books-- Kay Hagan Codependency and the Myth of Recovery. Friday, November 20th, 7:30 pm FREE. Kay Hagan, feminist author, will be here for a free lecture. From a feminist perspective, the characteristics of codependency in women are profoundly similar to those of internalized oppression.

This evening's talk and discussion will describe how placing our personal journey in a political context can dramatically enhance the healing process, moving us into self-directed creative action. She will answer questions and sign her books *Prayers to the Moon*, *Internal Affairs*, and *Women Respond to the Men's Movement*.

For more info contact: Brigit Books 3434-4th Street North, St. Petersburg, FL 33704 (813) 522-5775.

Crescendo, The Tampa Bay Womyn's Chorus, Inc., presents its Annual Fall Concert *Portraits Of Passion, An Evening of Inspiration and Indulgence*. It will be held at the Jaeb Theater, Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center, Friday and Sat-

urday, November 6th and 7th at 8:15 pm. Tickets on sale at Ticketmaster.

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