Vol. 9, Issue 12

December, 1992

#### A LOVING COMMITTED NETWORK

# Express

#### WMFE REVISES POLICY

In response to community pressure, WMFE (local public radio and TV) has agreed to make some changes in their programming and employment practices. Last month, the WMFE Board of Directors decided to amend their employment policy to include non-discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

The Board also acknowledged three important points for improving their programming policy: 1) the need for a broader base in determining community standards for programming; and 3) inclusion of gays and lesbians on their Advisory Board.

Continued, p.5

# Воусот!!

Colorado recently passed the most homophobic and horrendous legislation to be enacted in recent times. One of the prime financial supporters of this amendment and one of the strongest opponents of gay and lesbian civil rights is Wil Perkins, owner of a Chrysler Plymouth Dealership in Colorado Springs.

Thus, the amendment was basically underwritten by funds from the sale of Chrysler cars and corporate headquarters of Chrysler has not in any way assisted the fight against bigotry. Many groups are requesting that people decide how they will respond to the corporation's tacit support of anti-gay and lesbian legislation-- to buy or not to buy Chrysler products.

It is also suggested that gays and lesbians boycott the state of Colorado. Many gay men and lesbians ski, vacation, and attend the gay and lesbian rodeos there. Since Colorado has sent a clear message to the gay and lesbian community, it seems only appropriate that we send the message back that we will not participate in events that the state hosts or provide them with tourist dollars.

Editors note: We have received numerous notices and press releases in reference to these boycotts. Some of the info came from gay and lesbian groups within Colorado that are supporting this boycott.

# March on Washington

Benefit Concert

Justina & Joyce

Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>00</sup>pm

THE PHOENIX, 7124 ALOMA

A coalition of Central Florida Lesbian and Gay groups (including ICN) has formed under the banner of **DC in "93** to organize for the Narch this April. Be a part of history in the making. It all starts here, Dec. 10. Come support the March and Central Florida's participation in the nationwide campaign for Gay/Lesbian Rights.



Justina & Joyce are known for their breathtaking harmonies blending blues, folk, ballads, and chants. The March has officially adopted their song, Affirmations.

Buy tickets at The Center, The Phoenix, Out & About Books, Joy MCC, or The Powerhouse.

# The Parent Perspective

by Diane P. Kerkhoff

OK, I'm going to take a little survey here. How many of you out there reading this are parents? Raise your hands! Now put your hand down if you're already a member of GLPCI (Gay & Lesbian Parents Coalition Internat'l). The rest of you keep your hands up- I'm trying to get a count! Good grief, I'm already up to 100 and I can barely see you people hiding in the back. So what's wrong with you?

Why haven't you joined GLPCI?

another organization, or another issue, or another function, blah, blah, blah. Well, at the moment I'm not asking for your time. I'm asking for the \$10 membership fee so that we can get you on our confidential mailing list (both local and international) and keep you informed on issues and activities for gay parents and children of gay parents.

Oh sure, you don't have time for

For instance, do you know which two states specifically disallow allow adoption by homosexual couples? And have you considered that your child might benefit from getting together with other children of gay parents. About 25 adults and children had a super time at our OctoberFest party. We canoed, the kids played games and musical instruments, the adults talked, everyone ate. It was great! Anyway, send your \$10 so you'll know about this kind of good stuff:

#### GLPCI Box 561504, Orlando, FL 32856 (407) 420-2191

We were supposed to do highway cleanup one Saturday not too long ago. It was cold and rainy, so we called it off and 6 of us -- 3 boys and 3 girls (how straight looking!) - went to breakfast instead. It was nice to relax with friends and discuss important issues.

For instance, we took an impromptu poll asking, "If you were bisexual, which of the four new White House people would you prefer to sleer with?" The consensus answer was Hillary, although I have to admit that I just couldn't give any serious thought to Bill or Al.

After breakfast so as not to waste any childless time, I went over to Fiesta in the Park to walk around and look at the women -- I mean crafts. I saw some beautiful pieces of work-- a few I wouldn't mind taking home with

By the way, My Dear Friend (MDF) wants to thank all of you who stepped forward to break my heart last month. She reaped the benefits of my Achy Baky Heart syndrome, although I drove her crazy by spending one whole week on chicken instead of cakes and cookies. I also coped by working harder at the office, writing a couple of songs, and yelling at my son a few more times than absolutely necessary.

Luckily for me, I have my occassional nights at the Phoenix to take my mind off my problems. De pression is replaced by the joy of dancing, and lonliness subsides as I spend the evening in the arms of beautiful women. Sometimes I'm lucky enough to achieve a 'magic moment' when the music fills my soul and other couples fade into darkness. No cookies for MDF on those days.

# A Special Invitation

You're welcome to...

Sunday Services -

10:30am 7:15 pm

Arrive early and stay for refreshments afterward.

7:15am

#### During the week.....

Monday 8:00 A.A. Cardwell Hall Tuesday 7:30pm Bible Study (TBA)

Wednesday **Prayer Breakfast** Discussion Group 7:30pm

A different topic every week, from sex to politics.

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

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# Taking the Bible Literally

by Sue York

(AP) "The Roman Catholic Church moved Monday to bring doctrine into line with modern life, unveiling a new catechism that casts a more tolerant eye on homosexuals..." This new catechism is a 676-page book that will be the basis of shorter catechisms often memorized by Roman Catholic children.

And what is this "modern" line? "Homosexual acts are contrary to natural law, but homosexuals are to be treated with respect and compassion and not discriminated against." While there are those who will claim this is a great step forward--at least it will be more difficult to use church funds to fight us--it still falls far short of being something to cheer about.

Hundreds of thousands of young Catholic homosexuals will still be forced to learn that who they are is "unnatural." This is not only sad, but can be tragic. And, I wonder, how in the heck Catholic people are supposed to treat homosexuals with respect when they are told that gays' family lifestyle is wrong?

This confusing mish-mash of ideas is yet another version of the "Hate the sin, Love the sinner" commandment-one of the fundamentalists' favorite chants.



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Patty Callaghan

And what is all this based on? Not Jesus' teaching but a few verses in Leviticus, that wonderful book that also says, "when a leader sins unintentionally and does what is forbidden in any of the commands of the Lord his God, his is guilty. When he is made aware of the sin he committed, he must bring as his offering a male goat with out defect. He is to lay his hand on the goat's head and slaughter it at the place where the burnt offering is slaughtered before the Lord." (4:22-23)

There is no alternative to this atonement; it must be a goat-and male. Leviticus is full of this sort of thing, one verse after another with strict rules about how to live and what to do when you err--but who does these things today? Certainly not any Christians, I know. Yet, they will go on and

on about homosexuals as if that is the only valid thing in Leviticus. Ridiculous.

And, then, swinging to the New Testament, there is Paul in all his letters to everyone, telling them how to live...such as telling wives to "submit to your husbands as to the Lord." (Ephesians 5;22)--a verse which helped keep women in bondage to men for centuries. This is not a man who should be taken literally, and isn't in most cases concerning relationships, including divorce and remarriage. Yet, as with Leviticus, they will throw Paul in our faces again and again.

Both of these references, Paul and Leveticus, just don't hold up today and continue to do a great deal of harm. So, I say to the Catholics and the fundamentalists, keep trying folks, you haven't got it right yet.

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# STATE AND NATIONAL NEWS

excerpted from other publications

#### **MIAMI**

4th Lesbian Bizarre: Crafts-Music-Food-Fun-Sun. Wimmin ONLY. Mar. 19-22, 1993, For more info for artists, musicians and general info call 305-696-8826. Deadline for applications Jan. 15, 1993.

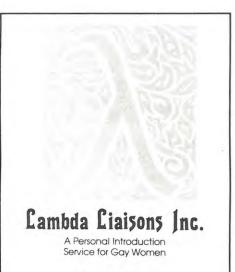
#### St. Pete Area

New Women's Bed and Breakfast \*Open Now\* on the Gulf Coast of Florida. If you would enjoy a quiet, homey place to stay, look into this establishment. It is located on a wonderful shaded street next to a bus route that takes you right to the beach.

The community newsletter publishes a regular calendar of women's events which include concerts, visits from authors, dances, card playing groups, and a varying selection of workshops.

The proprietor is an excellent cook in the standard traditions and is also familiar with vegetarian, vegan, and medically restricted diets. The comfortable room for one or two comes with a private bath, TV and access to kitchen, a private sun deck, and a feminist library.

Feathers Bed and Breakfast, 813-321-1766, St. Petersburg, Fl.



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#### Iowa

You don't need to be married, or even heterosexual, to qualify for family membership in the Greater Des Moines YMCA. "Household is the key word," fitness coordinator Susan Skinner told the San Francisco Chronicle. "A family used to be Mom, Dad, and two kids. It's not that easy any more."

#### VERMONT

"This spring, after six years, Vermont gay rights activists succeeded in winning a state-wide ban on discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation... Thanks to a controversial last minute amendment, S-131 also includes automatic coverage of domestic partners..." Off Our Backs, Oct.92

#### CORP. AMERICA

Viacom, which owns MTV and other entertainment networks, announced it will follow MCA's lead and

\$3 Cover

#### It's About Time

by Sue York

One of the fun things in the Lesbian community lately is the open celebration of couples who have made commitments to each other. Stacey and I attended one such shindig last month when Barb and Maddo celebrated their 10th anniversary with a beautiful ceremony in their backyard, complete with white tents, dancing, and commemorative ceramic toasting cups by Rachel and Rita.

It is exciting to me to see womyn formally exchanging vows in full view of friends (and neighbors-- who peeped over the fence). This says to all of us, "Yes! We are here and we are proud; we take risks and we commit!"

Thanks for a great evening and congrats to Barb and Maddo.

will extend health benefits to samesex domestic partners beginning next year. Viacom has 5000 employees.

425-9277



102 N. Orange Ave.

#### **Book Review**

by Dee

Second Choice by Jackie Calhoun Naiad Press, 1991.

This is a daily life saga. The reader shares the familiar real-life situations of lesbian lives-in-progress. Jackie Calhoun, author of *Lifestyles*, chronicles the day-by -day situations and emotional stresses so well known to our community.

We enter the scene as Amy, business proprietor, wife and mother, has fallen in love with Deb. She has left her family to live with her lover. Then Deb meets Jane...and Amy starts sweating.

We watch as her children confront a mother who has suddenly before their very eyes turned into a monster. And so the tale unfolds. Calhoun has produced well-managed realism (no gripping adventure) apart from some choppy scene changes. A story with which lesbians can relate.

#### LCN BOOKS AT THE GLCS CENTER

by Becky Acuna

LCN has permanently loaned the books we receive from publishers to the Center. (We can get them back if any of you or our daughters ever want to establish a women's library here in Orlando.) Until then, you can borrow the books listed below for the mere purchase price of a Center library card, about a buck or so. (This is a partial list, with more to come in future issues of the Express.) You're also welcome to donate books-- call me at 282-6569. Happy reading!!!

#### FICTION

- ▼ A Certain Discontent by Cleve Boutell. Young woman becomes lesbian; learns from older lesbians.
- ▼ A Flight of Angels by Sarah Aldridge. A McCarthy era drama.
- ▼ Delia Ironfoot by Jeane Harris. Delia guides Beth thru Utah mountains in search of a missing woman.
- ▼ Grassy Flats by Penny Hayes. A depression era story set in Idaho.
- ▼ Love, Zena Beth by Beth Salvatore. Young writer+lesbian star=earth moves.
- ▼ Morton River Valley by Lee Lynch. Set in New England, a story with both love and a social conscience.

- ▼ Paperback Romance by Karin Kallamaker. Love found and confounded between novelist, dyke literary agent and male orchestra conductor-- or are they?
   ▼ Passion Bay by Jennifer Fulton.
- New Zealander + US lawyer in South Pacific. Romance, mystery and storms. ▼ Riverfinger Women by Elana
- Riverfinger Women by Elana Dykewomon Nachman. Young and lesbian in the anti-war 60's. A classic.

Continued, p.14

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#### LCN Books at the Center Continued from p. 13

- ▼ Sticks and Stones by Jackie Calhoun. Teachers face child custody battle; exposure/expulsion at school.
- ▼ Uncertain Companions by Robbi Sommers. Het goes lesbian; husband goes bonkers.
- **▼** Under the Southern Cross by Claire McNab. Romance in Australia

#### PSYCHOLOGY / SELF HELP

**▼** Equal Partnering: A Feminine Perspective by Barbara Jo Brothers Looks at shifts in traditional male/ female roles; uses empowerment models for balanced, equal partnership.

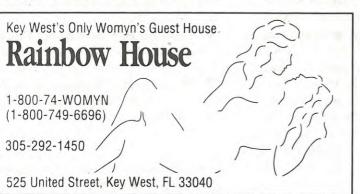
Waiting by Ellen Judith Reich. Personal exploration of pregnancy and miscarriage.

**▼** Women and Aging: Celebrating Ourselves by Ruth Taylor Thone. A guide to help women break thru the negative stereotypes of old age.

**▼** Women's Conflicts about Eating and Sexuality: The Relationship between Food and Sex by Rosalyn and Lillie Weiss. "Reveals the interplay between food and sexuality.

the beginnings of the women's movement, the sexual revolution, and the subsequent acceleration of eating disorders..." Also provides step-by-ste program to help examine, question, and change behaviors.

▼ Women Girls and Psychotherapy: Reframing Resistance, Carol Gilligan, Ann Rogers, Deborah Tolman (Eds.) "This practical book demonstrates how to identify adolescent girls' resistance so that you can help them recognize their strengths and hear their own voices as they grow into young women."





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Mcoholics Anonymous/Brevard County

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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

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 LCN Express Information
 648-4154

Metropolitan Business Assoc. 299-1439
Orlando PRIDE 236-9480

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PLAG (Parents & Friends of Lesbians/Gays) 236-9177
Rape Crisis Center 648-3028

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 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
ENTAUR 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 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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#### PALLAS ATHENA CELEBRATES ANNIVERSARY

by Stacey St. James

Pallas Athena, a newsletter by and for women veterans, is celebrating its first anniversary. I first became aware of this publication in April of 1991 at the National Lesbian Conference in Atlanta. I picked up a flyer and a copy of their first newsletter and became even more interested.

I found that it was being published in a very small, country town in Virginia and this small town just happened to be my hometown. I immediately put a letter in the mail asking them who they were, where they were, did I know them and had I missed someone back home?

I got a letter back from Barbara Sweatt, Editor, telling me that the idea for the newsletter was conceived when she read an article in the Lesbian Connection from a woman who had been discharged for the military and what a difficult time she was having adjusting to civilian life. Barbara thought it would be nice if there was a way for ALL women veterans to share experiences with other women who "have been there." Barbara said she "missed the variety of people from a broad background that provided her with a very unique perspective on many issues while she was in the military."

Pallas Athena was designed to be a group newspaper with the subscribers contributing articles, clippings, cartoons, poetry, etc. However, for right now, most of the article work is done by her in addition to doing the interviews, compiling and typing the news, printing, duplicating, folding and mailing. All of this, in addition to a job and a home life which she shares with her

lover, Gwen, a dog and numerous cats.

I had the opportunity to meet Barbara and Gwen in May and spend a few days with them. Barbara, who spent six years in the Army in combat support units including one in Germany and later in computers, is very knowledgeable on what is going on in the military, issues that face the woman vet, what is happening in Congress and the Pentagon and how this all relates to us.

Barbara also publishes an issue of her paper for non-gay veterans and her subscription form is designed in a very tactful way for differentiating between the two. Because of the focus of this newsletter. I have been a subscriber and contributor to Pallas Athena since its inception.

If you would like to subscribe or want more information you can write

**Barbara Sweatt** c/o Pallas Athena P.O. Box 1171 New Market, Virginia 22844.

#### 

On November 3, 1992, the first black woman sheriff ever elected to office in the United States was elected in Fulton County Georgia.

Jannette Rankin was elected to the US Congress on November 3, 1916. She was born on June 11, 1880. She was active in social reform and women's liberation throughout her life. She is remembered as the first woman elected to Congress.

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#### LCN Express **Production Schedule**

Call Barb, 648-4154, for more info.

Dec. 15: Production Meeting Dec. 15-19: Type articles (You may be able to help do this on your own computer!)

Dec. 28: 7:00pm Folding Party

at Faces!!!

#### **Gay & Lesbian Community Center News**

A Call for Artists! Applications for the April (formerly Dec.) Art show are available at the Center. The show is titled An Art Show for Human Rights and Dignity. All slide/photos will be returned if they are accompanied by SASE (58¢). More info call 425-4527.

A New Years Celebration is in the works: call GLCS.

Jewish social/support group has been formed at the Center; contact Ahuva at 578-8062 for info.

Gav Skate: December 14th

GLCS board meetings: Dec. 7 and 21 at 7pm. As always, they are open to all. Check it out!

Be Out in '93 -- Come One, Come ALL, Come Out at the Central Florida Fair! GLCS is planning to sponsor a booth at the fair in '93. For eleven days, the public will be given the opportunity to see and talk with members of our community -- to realize that we are individuals, not just a vague statistic on the evening news. LCN (as well as MBA, Joy MCC, Dignity Orlando and others) are contributing financially to help make this a reality. (Sponsorships of \$25 are still needed -contact John Rose 425-GLCS). We'll give you more information next month on how you can get in on getting out.

## **Local Events and Projects**



Justina & Joyce Concert: Thurs, Dec. 10th, 8pm at the Phoenix on Aloma Ave. Proceeds to go to the local DC in '93 coalition. \$3-7. Tickets available at the Phoenix, the Center, Out & About Books, or the Powerhouse.

DC in '93 coalition meeting: Fri, Dec 18, 7pm at the Center. This is an historic event for Orlando. It marks one of the first coalitions by almost all local Lesbian/Gay groups working on a common agenda! Open to everyone! Call Becky for info 282-6569.

CODA (Codependence Anonymous) meetings: every Tues., 7:30pm at the Center, Call Lara for info.407/333-0101.

4th Annual Christmas of Sharing: Holiday party to benefit local AIDS organizations (Hope & Help, Centaur, and Serenity House). Delicious hors d'ouvres, an open bar and dynamic entertainment. Fri, Dec. 11, 7pm -12am, at the First Unitarian Church, 1815 E Robinson, Admission: perishable food items/toiletries which will be donated to local AIDS pantry. If you wish to help out or donate a door prize, call Michael or Jeffrey at 407-578-1157.

MBA Holiday meeting/party: Dec. 3, 6:30pm. A festive time is promised. Call MBA contact for further info.

Aids Walk: Dec. 5th, sponsored by Centaur. Call for info. GLPCI Events: Dec 11, 7:30pm

- Parents Rap Group (adults only) at GLCS. Dec 12, 10:00am - Swap-a-Kid Mall Tour. RSVP required. For info, call 420-2191.

Midwinter Solstice, the longest night and the shortest day in each year has long been celebrated in midwinter festivals. Blessed be. (See Herstory article p.

Day without Art: Dec. 2nd is the annual day commemorating the many artists lost to AIDS and reminding us there is still no cure. National galleries and museums will be joined by local galleries (such as The Scott Laurent and Art Orlando) in draping their art with cloth for the entire day.

#### **Dateline Daytona**

Anniversary Bash: Dec. 6th (the first Sunday in December) at 4pm. Lambda Center Daytona will be celebrating its First Anniversary. There will be food, fun, and a business meeting. The meeting is open to all, and we hope to see and hear from our Gay/ Lesbian/Bi community. We are very pleased that the Center made it through its first year and wish to thank everyone who gave so much of their time.

## COUNTRY WESTERN DANCE LESSONS



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#### PUBLICATIONS AND CATALOGS

#### esto no tiene nombre

esto no tiene nombre is a non-profit organization publishing a magazine for latina lesbians. They are seeking subscribers as well as contributors of material for publication. Subscriptions are \$15.00 for individuals, \$18.00 for institutions and individuals outside the US. Write to esto no tiene nombre, at 4700 N.W. 7th Street #463, Miami, FL 33126 or call 305-541-6067.

#### The Healing Woman

Margot Silk Forrest is a healing woman. Her soft, gentle style, bright mind and articulate ways belie the years of silent screams and pain she did not understand. As a victim of sexual abuse from infancy to age 12 by both her father (a well known lawyer) and grandfather, Margot knows the pain first hand.

Margot has developed The Healing Woman newsletter as a tool for information and support to women who are recovering from the trauma of childhood sexual abuse. Margot doesn't fit the profile of a victim. She is a successful career woman who has been an editor and feature writer in major newspapers. Most recently, she was a project manager and award

winning corporate writer for Hewlett-Packard. Margot quit her high paying job and followed her heart: to reach out to other victims of childhood sexual abuse.

The newsletter provides a point of contact to help other women in their recovery. "Women have to say-- here is who I am. This is what happened to me. It was not my fault. The damage was tremendous. And I will be all right." This gives them back their voices, silenced in their own terror and brings childhood sexual abuse out of the closet.

There is a monthly interview with a recovered woman. "My goal ...is to reach out and show survivors they are not alone. Healing is possible-you can recover from this. Child abuse breaks your heart and breaks your soul, but it's not a life sentence. The Healing Woman newsletter it not about suffering, it's about healing."

The newsletter is available in bookstores (\$3.00/issue) or by subscription (\$25.00/yr). A low income subscription is also available. Call 415/728-0339 or write Box 3038, Moss Beach, CA 94038.

#### **Brigit Books-Women Unlimited**

Free catalog:43434 4th St. North, St. Pete, FL 33704, 813/522-5775. Brigit

#### WMFE

Continued from p.1

The activism of Central Florid gay/lesbian groups and individuals brought about these important first steps. Floridata spearheaded the campaign and LCN pitched in, too. (Thanks Barb!)

In keeping with their recent decision, WMFE sent LCN notice of the job vacancies listed below. Contact them at 407/273-2300 for more info.

Job & Application Deadline
Director- TV Programming Dec. 18
Reading Service Manager Dec. 13
Auction Manager Dec. 3

Books is a small but warm, intimate womanist bookstore in St. Pete. It is chock full of books, calendars, jewelry, CD's and whatevers.

#### **Alyson Publications**

Alyson Women's Book Catalog, 40 Plympton St Boston Mass. 02118 1-800-825-9766. Alyson Publications habeen publishing books for the lesbian and gay community since 1981. Since then, they have published over 200 titles, including books for kids and teens.

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Licensed Mental Health Counselor

The New England Building 157 E. New England Ave. Suite 450 Winter Park, FL 32789

Season's Greetings from a changing world! First the Berlin wall came down. Then the fall of communism. Then George Bush lost the election. Could I actually be conscious? What else is destined to happen this year? Could it be possible that the Gay and Lesbian community will work together toward a common goal of human rights and personal freedom? And you

The issue has once again come up in various ways. And the same wounds have been opened. Gay men ask why lesbians are not involved in certain events. The lesbians ask why Gay mendon't take them seriously or value their issues.

thought this was going to be a fluffy

Christmas column!

Then the same old shooting match ensues, where the lesbians are accused of being separatists and the Gay men are accused of being sexist. It doesn't get us very far, and I'm getting too old to get all worked up over it. Now I guess I would prefer the warmth of personal interaction and caring to the heat of a passionate argument.

So, I would like to send a gift of understanding to both sexes this

Maybe it's not age. Maybe it's wisdom.

Christmas. I am by no means an expert on communication in a boy-girl sort of way, but maybe these tips will help.

To My Lesbian Friends - Everyone is an individual. All men are not alike. Men have equally been victims of sexism and homophobia. Part of the reason that society condemns gay male behavior and is slightly more tolerant of lesbians is because of the belief that men should choose a partner he can dominate. By choosing another man, he is shaking up the hierarchy.

In keeping with this patriarchal viewpoint, a woman in a lesbian relationship is reaching up the hierarchal ladder by choosing a partner she theoretically can dominate. It is far more understandable for someone in the patriarchal system to reach "above" their status than "below" it.

We all suffer from the effects of the screwed - up patriarchal system. It is our common ground to work to provide equal rights for all people, and work against the stereotypes that keep us closeted.

To My Gay Male Friends - Everyone is an individual. All women are not alike. Women, having been victims of sexism and homophobia as a

double-whammy, may be cautious to trust some men. This is not your fault, it's helpful just to be aware of this possibility.

This is why "women-only" space is so important. The purpose of womenonly space is not to exclude men as much as it is to provide a safe place for women to explore their own needs. So much emphasis is placed in society on the woman as a care-giver, teacher, or helper, that often a woman may have very little energy left for herself, unless she breaks for a bit of free time with other women who understand her concerns. Women-only space is respected in every culture but our own

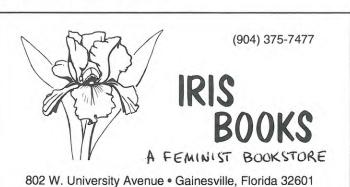
that by expecting a woman to teach a man about his sexism and educate him, she is taking on the role of his teacher, and is again in a subservient role. It is a man's responsibility to deal with his own sexism, educate himself, and empower himself.

It is important to remember, too,

It is our common ground to work to provide equal rights for all people, and work against the stereo-types that keep us closeted.

Peace on the Earth. Goodwill to All.





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# An Evening with Sandy DeLegal

by Lucy Ford

I first met Sandy DeLegal as a school teacher, not an entertainer. I can't recall the first time I heard her sing. I think it might have been sitting around a campfire or maybe at Chris and Laurel's wedding. At that time, I thought she was a good school teacher who happened to also have a lovely voice. Well, it seems I had things a little backwards!

Sandy performed at the Cocoa Village Playhouse on Nov. 7. Her performance included everything from children's music to womyn's music. Sandy has a wonderful sense of humor which she incorporates very naturally into her performance.

What I found to be a special delight was the inclusion of her family and lover into her show. It became very obvious Saturday night where Sandy gets her talent from when her mother joined her in a couple of "raunchy" and jazzy numbers.

My prediction is that we will be seeing a lot more of Sandy in the future. If you missed Saturday's show, catch her at her next performance or if you don't want to wait, order Sandy's first recording release: \$12 tape, \$14 for CD (includes shipping charges). Send check to Sandy DeLegal, Box 500670, Malabar, FL 32950.

#### Lorraine Winkler LCSW

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#### GAY RIGHTS LEGISLATION - PENDING

This is an update on selected legislation currently pending on Capitol Hill which is of interest to the lesbian/gay community and which National Gay & Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) supports.

S 574 -- Civil Rights Amendments Act of 1991. Legislation to amend the 1964 and 1968 Civil Rights Acts to provide civil rights protection on the basis of sexual orientation. Chief sponsor: Alan Cranston (D-CA)

S 2522 -- Hate Crimes Sentencing Enhancement Act of 1992. Bill to direct the US Sentencing Commission to create guidelines for federal criminal cases which provide sentencing enhancements for hate crimes, including antilesbian/gay violence. Chief sponsor: Paul Simon (D-IL)

S 3084 -- Military Freedom Act. Bill to prohibit discrimination by the armed forces on the basis of sexual orientation. Chief sponsor: Howard Metzenbaum (D-OH)

SRES 236-- Sense of the Senate to rescind DOD Directive 1332.14 Sec H1. Resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the President should rescind by Executive Order Department of Defense Directive 1332.14 section H.1, which bans gays, lesbians, and bisexual Americans from military service. Chief sponsor: Brock Adams (D-WA)

HR 5517 -- 1993 District of Columbia Appropriations. Legislation which provides federal funding for DC's city government. Contained provision on DC's Health Benefit's Expansion Act, the "Domestic partnership" Bill, which had been passed by DC's city council. Trent Lott (R-MI) introduced amendment to prohibit DC from using funds in bill to extend employment, health, or governmental benefits to homosexual or unmarried heterosexual couples on the same basis that such benefits are extended to legally married couples. Brock Adams moved to table Lott's amendment.

To obtain a copy of any Senate bill, send a self-addressed label along with your request to:

Senate Document Room

B-04 Hart Senate Bldg. Washington, DC 20510



#### METROPOLITAN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

The December general meeting of the Metropolitan Business Association will consist of a special holiday party on Thursday December 3, from 6:30 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. Entertainment, secured by Sam Singhaus of Big Bang dance club, will showcase the Creamettes, an allgirl band with a special flair for music from the 50's and 60's, and Acacia, a soft - progressive style band.

Clive Thomas, a talk show host on WWNZ-740 AM/ 104 FM, was the speaker at the November 5 meeting, providing informative as well as entertaining insight on topics of interest to the gay community. He drew attention to recent political campaign developments, such as candidates who were convinced by right - wing fundamentalist groups to alter their positions on controversial issues in order to gain their supposedly critical support, only to not gather enough votes to proceed beyond the primaries. Mr. Thomas also drew parallels between current trends in the United States regarding attacks on the right to privacy and a directive generated in the early years of the Nazi regime calling for a prosecution of homosexuals.

Rick Stanley gave a sampling of his cabaret - style act, *The Tour*, in which he vividly and humorously portrayed, through a whimsical blend of song and monologue, his eventful visits to countries throughout the world.

Upcoming general meetings will feature MBA members sharing their professional expertise and experience. Financial planning will be the topic on January 7.

For additional information regarding the MBA or upcoming events, contact Ms. Debbie Simmons, Gunter Printing, at 834-7790.



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### HERSTORY

by Barb Fallon

Once again in my reading of late, I've come across something I find particularly interesting for the season. The Midwinter Solstice and its root in women's ritual is really pretty cool!

I suppose I had vaguely heard or overheard references to it during womyn's festivals and gatherings, but a clearer understanding had eluded me. I know that for some womyn in the community this is old news, but for those like myself, it's new and enlightening. The following is an attempt to explain it and how some of our current holiday traditions are based on it.

The midwinter solstice, or turning point in nature, is when the night is the longest and the day at its shortest duration. One belief long ago was that people feared that the sun would lose its battle with the night and would be unable to regain its warmth.

Ancient festivals usually "centered around the idea of rebirth, to assist the newborn sun to grow in strength when

it emerged from the dark womb of night." It is not hard to see why some religions, such as Christianity, chose December for the birth of their hero or savior. This is a direct adaptation by the church in the fourth century from pagan ritual.

Festive decorations such as Holly were picked for many reason not to mention that it bears fruit at this time of year. Holly was named after underground Crone-goddess Holle or Hel from whose womb the sun rose. The Goddess' blood is represented in the red berries. The green leaves, undaunted by the harsh season, claim on-going life and the promise of immortality. Thus the red and green colors scheme of Christmas.



Winter solstices' theme is rebirth and drawing attention to the giver of life rather than the one who is born, as in Christian religion. I find both attractive ideas to celebrate. Yet even earlier than any religion or cult, Winter solstice is based on Mother nature's cycle of life. So, as the darkness of her season grows, it feels like a time to reflect in hibernation; then, with the birth of her growing sunlight, a time to venture out again.

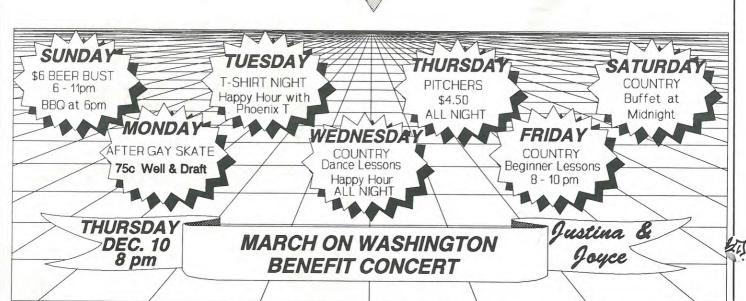
There is no doubt that most of the rituals I enjoy, such as mistletoe, singing carols, and Xmas trees are all based in pagan/womyn's rites from along time ago. With that understanding, I thank the Goddess for all the blessings she left behind for me to find. Happy Winter Solstice and Blessed be to all!

(Quote taken from Women's Rituals, by Barbara Walker. Other information: The Womyn's Encyclopedia of Myths and Secrets also by Barbara Walker, and a pamphlet called "Catholic Roots" author unknown.)

7124 Aloma Avenue Orlando Winter Park (407) 678-9220



HOURS: Monday - Friday 4pm - 2am Saturday - Sunday 3pm - 2am



#### **LCN Report**

Some very important discussions and decisions took place at the November LCN general meeting. First, we voted to support the March on Washington and to donate \$450 toward local organizing efforts. We also decided to purchase a computer from a lesbianowned company which took no profitmaking it a fantastic deal (\$1,500). And, after a presentation by Center Board members, we discussed LCN participation in the Center.

Important issues are yet to be resolved. LCN's annual Auction-do we have the volunteers to do it this year??? (Hint, hint) And research for a concert for Pride was initiated. Any ideas?

#### THE 1993 MARCH ON WASHINGTON



#### Calendar of Events

(partial listing)

Wed, April 21: Historical Exhibit opens (runs thru April 28)

**Thurs, April 22:** Lobbying, Student Conference, Chorus Festival, Masquerade Ball, Candidate Training

Fri, April 23: BiNet Meeting, Lobbying, Student Conference, Chorus Festival, MOW Banquet, Drag Show Extravaganza, Gay & Lesbian Parent Banquet, Sat, April 24: Wedding/Commitment Ceremony, Student Conference, Drag Show Extravaganza, Texas 2-Step Party, Bi Nat'l Gathering, Harvey Milk Memorial Unveiling, Motorcycle Run, Interfaith Service, Theatre Reception, Nat'l Minority AIDS Council Reception,

Bands Concert, PWA Day of Healing Sun, April 25: Lesbian Physicians Conference opens (thru April 28), Opening Stage, THE MARCH

Prisoner Proxy Project, Lesbian/Gay

Mon, April 26: Direct Action/ Civil Disobedience

#### March on Washington Platform

In 1987 when 650,000 people marched on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights, it was an historic first. Not only for the history books, but for our "family album" as well. We started to build a nationwide movement.

This time, when a million people march in 1993, we will be speaking as an organized constituency that just helped to elect a sympathetic administration. The '93 March on Washington will be a truly important event for Gay and Lesbian America.

Following are the platform planks adopted for the March.

▼ passage of civil rights legislation

and repeal of laws which criminalize sex between consenting adults;

▼ increased funding for AIDS education, research and patient care as well as universal access to a non-sexist health care system;

legislation to prevent discrimination in the building of families;

▼ full inclusion in the educational system, including curriculum;

the right to control our own bodies and an end to sexist discrimination;

▼ an end to racial and ethnic discrimination; and

▼ an end to discrimination and violence based on sexual identity, race, religion, disability, age, class, or AIDS/ HIV infection.

# DG 10 23 Be One in a Million

The local coalition, **DC in '93** has researched the following travel options to help you get to the March on Washington. Though April seems a long way away— DC accommodations will soon be hard to find as Lesbians and Gays from around the country take over the city! The same goes for train seats and buses. And whether you plan to go or not, please join in and contribute. Help make it happen.

**Plane:** We offer the services of two lesbians at Multi-Travel to book flights according to your needs and airline rate specials. Call Kelly or Sharon at 407-896-9719.

**Train:** Coach (non-smoking), club & dining cars for pre-March partying! Departs Thurs and Fri, 8:13pm; arrives DC at 2:50pm Fri or Sat. Returns from DC 8:25 any eve to arrive in Orlando 1:23pm the next day. Call Kelly or Sharon of Multi-Travel at 407-869-9719. \*\$179: 3-stop special. \*\*\$225: current coach rate.

**Bus:** Spacious (seats 43), bathroom, TV/VCR. Leave Thurs or Fri, 6:30pm; arrive the following a.m. Depart Sun after the March; arrive Orlando Mon a.m. Make reservations **now** to hold your seat. \$45 deposit. Call Barb at 648-4154.

**Community Housing:** Call Barb Reyes at the National March on Washington Office: 202-628-0493.

Hotel: DC in '95 has reserved rooms at the Hotel Harrington, 2 blocks from the Mall and other event sites. 2 double beds; sleep as many as you want! Book the room for \$92 (\$50 dep @ night) or 1 bedspace at \$23 (\$15 dep @ night). Call Barb, 648-4154.

**\$310** (Approx.)

\$179\* \$225\*\*

\$70 -\$110

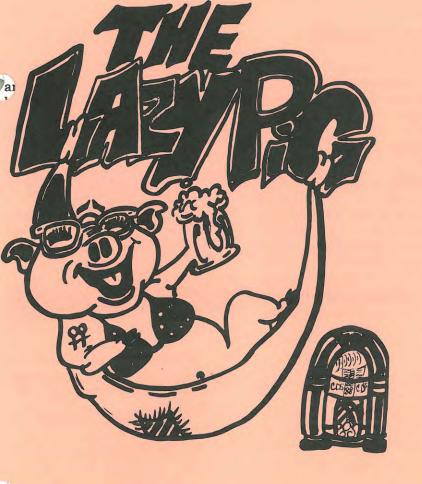
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