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Identity NorthView

Identity NorthView is a monthly publication of Identity, Inc., a non-profit, Alaskan corporation concerned with issues of sexual identity. NorthView is published as a community service and the views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the directors, officers or members of Identity, Inc. The publication of an individual’s or organization’s name or photo in NorthView is not to be construed as any indication of the sexual orientation of such person’s or organization’s membership.

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Copies of NorthView are also distributed at select businesses in the Anchorage area. Financial contributions are gladly accepted to defray mailing costs.

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Submissions: We welcome articles and letters from community individuals and organizations. Ideal length is 1,000 words or less. Please submit, if at all possible, on 3.5 or 5.25 diskette (IBM OK or MAC (HIGH DENSITY ONLY). All media will be returned. All contributions must be signed, but upon request names will be withheld or pseudonyms used. NorthView reserves the right to edit as necessary and to refuse to print any article submitted.

Deadlines: All articles must be received by the 5th of the month for inclusion in that month’s NorthView.

Advertising: Rates are displayed graphically on the last page of this newspaper. Contact NorthView by mail or through the Helpline at 258-4777. Advertising can be submitted camera-ready or can be composed for you for a negotiated fee. NorthView does not accept personals, nor does it accept advertising that is sexist, racist, discriminatory or sexually explicit.

Mail: Editor, Identity NorthView, P.O. Box 200070, Anchorage, AK 99520-0070.

Phone: Anchorage Gay & Lesbian Helpline 907-258-4777. Hours: Wed-Sun, 6pm-11pm. Messages left during off hours will be returned as soon as possible.

You know the Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship as the location of Identity potlucks. What else do you know?

“I’ve heard that the fellowship is a very unchurchy church.” Quite so. You may recognize some of our song and hymn tunes, but the words are different. We have time for meditation but we rarely pray. The ministers and people from the community alternate in the pulpit. After the main speech or sermon there is usually a time for questions and discussion.

“Discussion? Does that mean people disagree publicly?” Yes, and we see that as challenging and stimulating. Our fellowship encourages people to pursue their own spiritual quest. For some this means a search for God, and for others, who don’t believe in God, the search can lead in various directions.

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Come visit us! Services are Sundays at 9:00 and 10:30 a.m.
See the Anchorage Daily News Saturday Religion Page for speakers and their topics.

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Fascism, n. (hist) the ideological outlook and its extremist manifestations in Mussolini’s Italian counterrevolutionary movement (1919-1922). The Roman Fasces were taken as a renewed symbol of law and order, but violence in putting down opposition characterized the regime. Fascism—any political or social ideology of the extreme religious attitudes and the brutal use of force for getting and keeping power [fr. Ital. fascismo fr. fascio, a political group]

This definition of Fascism from the New Webster’s Dictionary and Thesaurus is a chilling and more honest view of Dr. Prevo’s words, Michael Johnston’s actions (as the shill for the malevolent sermons) and all others who do not decry and reject the hateful parts of the Teachings from the Anchorage Baptist Temple.

I refer to the sermon reported in the Anchorage Daily News on October 22 and the denial issued afterwards. In that sermon, Prevo called for liberals to be killed (it’s better to be in jail and be fed than not kill liberals (except God’s law prevented such killings)). He later denied that his message was one of violence, saying he was misunderstood. Let’s see who misunderstood him.

First, of course, his minions. I don’t believe they misunderstood. Prevo’s message was clear. Kill liberals (including, I presume homosexuals, abortion clinic personnel and anyone else in the wide world who does not closely embrace Temple Teachings). Clear, also, was the message that God would reward those who follow the mandate. The connection between jail, being fed there, and God does not escape me: the implication is that you can kill people, go to jail and God will accept you (note the clever way in which Pervo lets us know that killing is really OK by saying that God’s law is what prevents him from doing it. Subtle, but clear. But God says not to. But those words are spoken and then disclaimed. Similar to Henry II who asked “is there no one who will rid me of that Cleric?” meaning Thomas a Beckett, the Archbishop of Canterbury. Henry II’s henchmen immediately went out and brutally slaughtered Beckett.

Second, people who follow a fairly conservative philosophy and who don’t know (or believe they don’t know) any homosexual people (included in this categorization are Lesbians, Gay men, Bisexuals, transgendered people, transsexuals and transvestites). The usual reaction when people are confronted with an idea or action that is unfamiliar is fear (tragic, but true). “I don’t know anything about it and it (homosexuality) sounds degenerate and lewd and I guess ‘they’ shouldn’t be allowed to exist in ‘my’ society.” Meaning, kill them (but I won’t own the word kill so I’ll put it in nice terms—let’s somehow get, um, rid of them). And third, the largest majority of folks who haven’t really made up their mind about Lesbians, Bisexuality, et. al., and haven’t really thought through this business of Civil Rights (not special rights as touted by Pervo/Johnston). Once one sits down and puts heart and mind to the issue of oppression, one quickly comes to the conclusion that we are all oppressed as long as one of us is oppressed. (During the Assembly hearings a year and a half ago, more than a few people were swayed to vote against Perfo/Johnston when asked, “After he’s gotten rid of the Queers, do you honestly believe that you won’t be next?” easy to hide behind the veil of “there are laws protecting African-Americans, Asians, Alaska Natives, etc., harder to look honestly at the fact that laws can be changed and that’s what Pervo is militating for—public attitude shift in order to enact laws that will help him eliminate all who oppose him.

Let’s be clear. This is not about religion, spirituality or even human enlightenment. It is about power, greed and a misguided belief that all who are not “believers” are, by their own unbelief, causing this massive “problem” that is outlined in vague but incendiary terms, i.e., the floods in the Midwest and the L.A. earthquake and the breakdown of “family values”; all due to the homosexuals—because if we didn’t have “those people” around, God wouldn’t be so angry as to cause all those disasters to happen.

Understand the message. Everyone must be killed who opposes the “inspired” words from Pervo and the Temple. Understand it clearly. Remember that in Nazi Germany no one believed that Jews were being killed in the Concentration Camps. Even when pictures were produced as proof positive that the atrocities were being committed, the United States and allies did not take action because they didn’t believe that anything such could actually happen.

Understand the events. Pervo got started in his “religious” endeavors by bashing Communists. They were the cause of the world’s ills. Then he decided that wasn’t a strong enough money-maker so he switched to Mormons. After a while, the dollars fell off and he needed a new group against whom to blame. By that time there was only one group to pick on and that’s when he figured it was legal to bash homosexuals and profitable, too.

Anytime a despot rails against an entire peoples as the purveyors of the world’s ills, the masses take up the cudgels and attack.

Lest you believe this to be untrue, read history. Lest you fail to understand the implications, heed this prediction: some person or persons in the Lesbian and Gay community will die at the hands of a prevo-fanatic and it will be called the work of one deranged person. We will continue to deny the existence of the stalker until enough of us are killed that denial won’t work any more. Then it will be too late. Prevo will be able to portray himself as the victim of this rabid liberal conspiracy and he was “only protecting his beliefs and congregation,” not to mention the world at large. Certainly a megalomaniac either one was.

Anything less than massive and immediate action is unacceptable. This is a clarion call for action. What to do?

1—come out. To everyone with whom you have a connection. Risky? Yes. The alternative is worse—remaining in the closet from which you will watch your comrades be slaughtered, whether emotionally, economically or physically.

2—educate. Start teaching yourself and your allies about Lesbian Culture, about Gay Culture. Change your language. This is not a lifestyle or a choice. Being a ski bum is a lifestyle. Being a Baptist can be a lifestyle. Being a Transcendental Meditation follower is a lifestyle, a choice. Being Lesbian and/or Gay is not a choice. It is a culture. Learn about your history, and then contribute to it by being
involved in your community. There are many organizations that need your help and can help you.

3-educate some more. Teach non-allies about our Culture. Take an attitude of information, not proselytizing. Ask them if they are aware of the genocide that is being preached and if they can take a few moments to understand that they are equally oppressed in their ignorance as you are in your everyday life.

4-look inside. Ask yourself if your fear about coming out and being involved are denial patterns that arise from the fear that your life/business/friendships, etc. will "be over" if you strongly embrace your homosexuality. Ask yourself how much internalized homophobia you have accepted and live by. Ask yourself if ANY of these fears would be there if you were heterosexual. Ask now.

Conclusion #1: a friend of mine stated that since Pervo didn’t specifically request his followers to go out and kill liberals, the message wasn’t there. This is naïve at best. Language is a most powerful tool and in the mouths of perverted fundagelicals can wield massive power.

Conclusion #2: I am aware that Pervo does this for the money and power. Meaning, his ardent desire is for me and all others who listen to his rantings to pay good attention to him so his power will increase. His desire is to create controversy so his name will be a household word and his power will increase. His desire is to taunt the media so they will write about him and shoot footage and his power will increase. And I hereby revoke any and all energy this Editorial might afford him and give it herewith to all my oppressed Brothers and Sisters.

Conclusion #3: "In Germany, they came first for the Communists, and I didn’t speak up because I wasn’t a Communist. Then they came for the Jews, and I didn’t speak up because I wasn’t a Jew. Then they came for the Trade Unionists, and I didn’t speak up because I wasn’t a Trade Unionist. Then they came for the Catholics, and I didn’t speak up because I was a Protestant. Then they came for me, and by that time, one was left to speak up." --Pastor Martin Niemöller.

F. Kenneth Freedman
Co-Editor, NorthView
Co-Chair, Identity, Inc.

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The Amazon Trail:
Pushing Buttons
by Lee Lynch

Every now and then I shift my current political button collection from a bulletin board that hangs, for lack of other wall space, in my bathroom, to an ancient fabric-covered cigar box decorated to hold such treasures. Sorting through the collection is kind of like visiting a Disneyland of my activist generation which declared its beliefs on lapels and the pockets of quilted vests, on hat bands and coverall straps.

Many of the buttons are not even political, although perhaps there are those who would quarrel with that assessment. I have, after all, worn the little lavender museum pass button as a subtle political statement on all sorts of occasions. Then there are specimens like my old DOLLY BLUE'S DRAG-A-GRAM button. Believe it or not, this was a legitimate business in homophobic rural Oregon. It’s a photo button and he, Dolly, is wearing big blonde hair, major earrings, a gold choker and a lot of feathers.

I think we sold these broken red women’s symbols with a fist protruding from the top at the New Haven Women’s Center back when Roe Vs. Wade was new and consciousness-raising was big. We all wore the red fist, were raging mad, thought of ourselves as revolutionaries. A couple of others from that era were the women’s symbol with an equal sign in the middle and FEMINIST AGAINST ANTISEMITISM. I picked up ABORTION IS A WOMAN’S RIGHT TO CHOOSE at a march in D.C. some long past year.

My EARTH DAY 1990 button is, oddly, square, and always makes me think it would be kind of cool to actually be able stand at the edge of the earth and peer over. Another environmental tag: WHEN YOU SMOKE I CHOKE, was from the days when anti-smokers, not smokers, were the activists.

PARTNERS IN FLIGHT sought to protect neo-tropical birds. CLOSE TROJAN NOW (the nuclear power plant) — that one eventually worked, didn’t it?

Then there are the censorship buttons: I READ BANNED BOOKS is from the American Society of Journalists and Authors. CENSORSHIP IS UNAMERICAN — don’t we wish that were the truth. My conservative county did not support the button VOTE YES FOR LIBRARIES, preferring privately funded libraries whose contents they could theoretically control. The most potent: FIRST THEY BURN BOOKS, THEN THEY BURN PEOPLE. Well, almost the most potent. I’m still waiting for the right occasion to wear FUCK CENSORSHIP.

How could I resist wearing a WARM FUZZY DYKE button, or DON’T TEASE OR FEED THE STRAIGHT PEOPLE (given to me by a woman who seemed to enjoy my unbridled glee when I read it). HATE FREE ZONE got me in trouble with a local bigot who felt offended. QUEER IN AMERICA was a promotional pin for Michaelangelo Signorile’s book. I’M ONE TOO compliments the assortment of pink triangles — the kind of accoutrement one does not leave home without. But my favorite of the gay buttons is a tiny white one that reads, DOES YOUR MOTHER KNOW YOU’RE OUT? I used to like to wear that to work where it was open to interpretations. I did not wear to work the ones that say LESBIAN HERSTORY ARCHIVES OR DYKE.

There they are! My SHIRLEY CHISHOLM FOR PRESIDENT—CATALYST FOR CHANGE pin, my STONEWALL 10 and the CHRISTOPHER STREET LIBERATION DAYS ’78 button, the Chicago STONEWALL 20 rainbow pin and my 1993 MARCH ON WASHINGTON gem. NO ON 8, NO ON 9, REFUSE TO SIGN THE SON OF 9, CITIZENS UNITED AGAINST DISCRIMINATION, HONOR DIVERSITY and PRAY FOR COLORADO are sad souvenirs from the 1992 anti-gay ballot measures.

Am I clinging to my rabbie-rousing youth when I speak a STOP THE OCA (Oregon’s Citizen’s Alliance) pin onto the pocket flap of my jean jacket? Although they’ve stolen every other trick the old peace and leftist movements concocted, the radical right seems to eschew such blatant advertising. I like to think that somewhere in their righteous hearts lurks a smidgen of shame. Here’s a button that poked fun at the right long ago: EFFETE SNOB’S FOR PEACE, a quote from Spiro Agnew. Remember him, the vice-president forced to resign in 1973?

What did the PRESIDIO 27 do that we wanted to FREE them? My small niece gave me SOME OF MY BEST FRIENDS ARE CATS, but where did this MACHO SLUT pin come from? I almost wore out I WILL SURVIVE printed across a labyris.

DOING STRANGE THINGS IN THE NAME OF ART showed up during the Helms assault on the National Endowment for the Arts, which is known to be rife with effete snobs.

Missing are the early 1960s BAN THE BOMB pin. And I used to have a great big old I LIKE IKE BUTTON that I sported in 1952 at the ripe age of seven. Many public school kids in New York City received polio inoculations in a pilot program to test the vaccine. I was a swaggering proud little baby-dyke with my prize: POLIO PIONEER, 1954. And the button I wear more than any other is YOUR SILENCE WILL NOT PROTECT YOU — AUDRE LORDE.

Sometimes, especially when we are afraid to speak out loud, our buttons give us voice.

Lee Lynch’s newest book of Lesbian stories, Cactus Love, will be released from Naiad Press this fall.

Lee Lynch is a columnist/author based in southern Oregon. She writes "The Amazon Trail" regularly for The Dallas Voice, Just Out, The Washington Blade, the Identity NorthView (some 16 papers, all), and is the author of ten books. Copyright © Lee Lynch, 1994.
Gay Equality and Dialog
With Middle America
by Abner Mason

Over the past 25 years since Stonewall, the movement to achieve equality for America's gays and lesbians has made inroads primarily in the more liberal segments of our society. Future successes will be determined to a large extent by how well today's gay community leadership is able to generate support for gay equality in more conservative segments of American society.

Politically, the 1990s have been a time of extraordinary highs and lows for gay leaders. Having helped to elect President Clinton, many gay leaders were stunned to find that significant advances did not automatically follow. That our progress has had mixed results is best illustrated by the contrast between the president's honorable attempt to end discrimination against gays in the military and the successful opposition effort led by Democrat Senator Sam Nunn.

This devastating defeat forces community leaders to acknowledge that the political strategy of focusing on the Democratic Party was ill conceived. Community leaders are much like the mountain climber who, having thought she had reached the top of the mountain, discovered yet another larger mountain looming ahead. Politically, the mountain ahead is conservative Americans in both parties.

Culturally, there have been similar successes and failures. At the same time domestic partnership benefits are being made available to more and more gay Americans, anti-gay ballot initiatives are succeeding in cities and states all across the country. As was the case politically, community leaders have usually framed the argument for gay equality in terms designed to persuade more liberal Americans, while largely ignoring, and sometimes offending, the more conservative segments of society. As a result, in terms of understanding the truth of our lives, conservative Americans have heard few alternative arguments to the well-funded anti-gay propaganda campaign of the radical right.

The one-sided approach through liberal America came about because, in most cases, those gays and lesbians who came out first and got politically involved first tended to be on the liberal side of politics. While they should be applauded for their courage and achievements, future progress requires more of a focus on the vast mainstream of this country, a task most community leaders have been unwilling or unable to undertake, even though the overwhelming majority of gay or lesbian Americans, most of whom have yet to be led into political activism, are part of that vast middle too.

Fortunately, gay conservatives have begun to organize. In four years, the Log Cabin Federation, the nation's largest gay and lesbian Republican organization, has grown to 40 chapters in 30 states with new chapters forming at the rate of about one per month. Log Cabin has played a role in the election of moderate Republicans who support gay equality, such as mayors Giuliani and Riordan of New York and Los Angeles and New Jersey Governor Whitman. The publication of Bruce Bawer's "A Place at the Table" and Mel White's "Stranger at the Gate" have also helped to generate a wave of debate about where the gay movement should go next and heavy sales for both indicates the intense interest in a new direction.

Gays and lesbians do not seek the overthrow of American society or creation of a "queer nation," and unlike much of the radical right, conservative gays and lesbians do not define "traditional American values" in a way that excludes respect and acceptance for one or another part of the American family. Conservative gays and lesbians are by experience and political philosophy somewhere to the right of middle, which is where most Americans are. This means that they are ideally suited to begin the dialogue that must occur between the community and conservative segments of the American public. Gays and Lesbians do not seek special rights, the overthrow of American society, or creation of a "queer nation." And, unlike much of the radical right, conservative Gays and Lesbians do not define "traditional American values" in a way that excludes respect and acceptance for one another part of the American family.

We in the community must fearlessly reach out to every American and explain to them who we really are. This message must go to (1) parents who may be fearful of what it means to have a Gay or Lesbian child, (2) people of faith struggling to reconcile equal rights with the doctrines of faith and scripture, (3) straight Americans who believe that recognition of domestic partnerships somehow devalues marriage between men and women, (4) young gays and lesbians who feel that suicide is preferable to the life they still must lead in this society, and (5) Americans who believe that equal rights for gays and lesbians means special rights and yet another category of people who will receive preferential treatment.

I propose a dialogue with the objective of building on those beliefs, values, and concerns that we share so that we can reconcile our differences when possible and learn to live in peace with those that remain. However, I do not propose a dialogue between extremists for whom the debate itself is a fundraising tool, playing to the fear and ignorance that surrounds this issue.

Although the movement for equal rights for gays and lesbians is still perceived as a liberal cause, future success will depend largely on what happens on the other side of the political and cultural aisle. It is now time for gay and lesbian leaders to embrace this reality and move courageously with the tide of history.

Comments on the above are welcome and should be directed to the Log Cabin Federation, Northwest Region, P.O. Box 7257, Beaverton, OR 97007. Names and addresses are always held in confidence.

Mr. Mason is a founding member of the Massachusetts Black Republican Council and National President of the Log Cabin Federation.

TLC House Sitting
by Carol VanDyke
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"...don we now our gay apparel..."
by Dan Carter

Shown below is a design for a new sign to adorn People Mover buses during the upcoming holiday season. Previously, EQUAL has designed and installed signs celebrating Gay Pride Week and National Coming Out Day. The signs below are a message from our community to everyone! Whether you’re celebrating Christmas, Hanukkah, Solstice, Kwanzaa, Winter Festival or any other holidays, we hope you will recognize this sign as part of your observance. We are planning an additional sign for Valentine’s Day. The production and display of ten signs for a two week period will cost approximately $1,300. If you can assist us with the costs, your donation will be greatly appreciated. Send your contribution to the address shown in the lower right corner of this page. Checks should be payable to EQUAL, Inc. and please note on your check that the funds are to be used for holiday bus signs. Thanks for all your support in the past and I hope you’re looking forward to another happy holiday season!

...AND ON EARTH, PEACE & GOODWILL TO ALL...

from your lesbian, bi and gay neighbors and their friends & families!

IMPORTANT NOTICES!

- EQUAL will have an "informal" social at the Capri Cinema (on Tudor Road) on Thursday, November 17, from 7:00PM to 9:00PM. This will not be a meeting as such, just a chance for us to get together, have a good time and get to know each other better.

The movies showing that night will be "Priscilla, Queen of the Desert" (7:50PM) and "Kika" (10:00PM)
"...soon, it will just be us!"

"We're going to be in good shape. All the liberals are aborting their babies and all the homosexuals are dying of AIDS. Pretty soon, it will just be us!"

This was one of the lines delivered by the guest minister at Anchorage Baptist Temple on October 30 - "Scare the Liberals Day." Bailey Smith, the former head of the Southern Baptist Convention, who's previous claims to fame were his pronouncements that "God doesn't hear the prayers of Jews" (strange, huh, Jew's are God's Chosen People, yet God won't talk with them?) and that Jews are going to the same hell as other sinners. Smith was "Dr." Jerry Prevo's choice to speak at one of his biggest "spectacles" of the year. (NOTE: Did any of you have the same impression as I: "Dr." Prevo brought this guy in to speak so we would actually think Prevo was a "moderate"?)

Smith's message about babies being aborted and gays dying of AIDS was bad enough but the reaction of The Far Right Reverend Prevo's flock of sheep was even worse! First, there was laughter, followed by applause and, then, they actually stood and cheered as if their favourite team had scored a goal. Although I disagree with the politics of Michael Johnston—the Anchorage Equal Rights (Wrongs) Commissioner who, in his spare time from his duties of "protecting" minorities from discrimination, heads up a political organization called Alaskans Opposed to Pro-Homosexual Policies (appropriately known as AOPP)—I found myself sympathizing with Michael. He is a fellow human-being and to be surrounded by members of your own church family as they cheer the fact people, including Michael, are dying of AIDS must have been a horrible experience. As a Christian, I have always been told you must be "Christ-like" to be a good Christian. I would love to have just one of those 2,500 people in attendance explain to me how cheering the death of someone from a disease as horrible as AIDS is being "Christ-like." The Jesus Christ I worship would not have joined with this "church lynching mob" and would never react to pain and suffering with anything other than compassion! This past week, Prevo went so far as to say liberals think Jesus was a liberal because liberals have invented a "new" Jesus and liberals don't worship the same Jesus as his church worships. I tend to agree we are worshipping two different versions of Jesus, but I think Prevo is the one who's created this new Right Wing Jesus—a Jesus with no compassion for the plight of the poor, a Jesus who judges people based on the minority group they happen to be part of and, most of all, a Jesus more concerned with Right Wing politics than love.

With World AIDS Day coming up on December 1st, it's the perfect time to show our community's commitment to compassion. What can we do while "Dr." Prevo (sorry, I just can't get over the fact he uses an "honorary" degree as if it's something he's actually earned) continues to preach hate and divisiveness? We can show our love for those we have lost to AIDS and other catastrophic diseases by attending the special Interfaith AIDS Service (Anchorage Museum, 7:00PM, December 1). We must remember our friends who are continuing to live with AIDS. We should acknowledge our appreciation for people involved in the fight against AIDS, whether they're a scientist doing research to find a cure or a "buddy" doing weekly shopping for a friend. We could lend a shoulder to a person who's partner has been taken by this disease. Whatever you choose to do, don't let the voices of darkness such as Prevo's keep you from showing the respect and compassion you feel in your own heart. We can't allow the politics of the moment or the words of this "so-called" man of God soil the memory of our friends.

In whatever manner is appropriate for you, pray for lost friends, for friends continuing this struggle and, yes, even for the people who use this dreadful disease for their own petty, political agenda. The last item, for me, is the hardest. As a Christian, I do believe in prayer. As a political activist, I also know actions are necessary to diffuse the current situation. My grandmother used to say, "God helps those who help themselves." This seems very appropriate to our present predicament. Pray for Prevo's followers to see the harm of "Prevo's Agenda" but at the same time, take the necessary actions to end his self-proclaimed monopoly on being the "spokesperson" for all Anchorage Christians!

(UPDATE: Several months ago I wrote an article about a letter I had written to Cardinal O'Connor of New York, the Papal Nuncio in Washington, Archbishop Hurley from the Anchorage Archdiocese and to Pope John Paul II in Rome concerning the request that Al and I leave St. Patrick's Cathedral because I was wearing a pink triangle. As of November 11, I have not received a response from any of them.

I also wrote a letter to Mayor Rick Mystrom on October 18, asking him how he could justify retaining Michael Johnston as an Equal Rights Commissioner after seeing Johnston's attempts to turn one group of Alaskans against other Alaskans for purely political objectives. He has also not responded. I will update this situation next month.)

Dan Carter is a local gay activist
# ALADDIN'S

**Fine Mediterranean and American Cuisine**

`N` Old

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**4240 Old Seward Hwy, # 20**

Anchorage, Ak 99503

*Private banquet room with Moroccan style seating available*

*Wine bar with micro beers on tap*

*Catering for those special occasions*

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<tr>
<th>APPETIZERS</th>
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<tr>
<td>HEBB</td>
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<td>KIBBI</td>
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<td>FRIB baal of cracked wheat and ground lamb</td>
<td>Couscous Maghrebin</td>
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<td>MERVEZ</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPICY Algerian style beef and lamb sausage</td>
<td>The traditional dish of north Africa served with your choice</td>
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<td>DOLMA</td>
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<td>Stuffed grape vine leaves</td>
<td>of chicken or lamb</td>
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<td>FUNNEL</td>
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<td>Chickpea patties served with tahini sauce</td>
<td>Med Style Swordfish</td>
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<td>ESCARGOT</td>
<td>$9.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>A' la Bourguignonne with puff pastry</td>
<td>Baked swordfish, topped with feta and fresh spinach, served</td>
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<td>SPANAKOPITA</td>
<td>$7.95</td>
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<tr>
<td>Layers of spinach and feta cheese baked in filo dough</td>
<td>with lime hollandaise</td>
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<td>BAKED BRIE</td>
<td>$8.95</td>
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<tr>
<td>Melted brie with almonds and toasted points</td>
<td>Shrimp Provencale</td>
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<td>SOUPS</td>
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<td>LENTIL</td>
<td>Succulent sautéed large shrimp in a tomato garlic sauce with</td>
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<td>Cup $2.50 Bowl $1.50</td>
<td>pasta</td>
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<td>A hearty soup made with orto lamb and lentils</td>
<td>Seafood Basquaise</td>
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<td>SOUP DU JOUR</td>
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<td>Cup $2.50 Bowl $1.50</td>
<td>Sautéed medley of seafood served with a ragout of fresh</td>
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<td>Prepared daily, ask your server</td>
<td>vegetables</td>
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<td>DIPS</td>
<td>$17.50</td>
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<td>(Served with homemade garlic rolls)</td>
<td>Baked Halibut</td>
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<td>BABA GANNOUS</td>
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<tr>
<td>$9.95</td>
<td>Seafood Brochettes</td>
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<td>Eggplant dip brought to you from the land of the Pharaohs</td>
<td>$18.00</td>
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<td>HOUJAMOV</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tahini paste and chickpeas</td>
<td>Roasted chicken with fresh herbs and saffron sauce</td>
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<td>TSATSIKI</td>
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<td>Yogurt, cucumber and garlic</td>
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<td>Breast of chicken and green olives in a spicy tomato sauce</td>
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<td>CAESAR</td>
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<td>SALADS</td>
<td>Chicken and Jumbo Shrimp</td>
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<td>$4.50</td>
<td>Sautéed in lemon butter, capers and diced tomatoes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crisp romaine tossed with homemade caesar dressing,</td>
<td>Shawarma</td>
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<tr>
<td>CROUTONS and</td>
<td>Luscious strips of tender lamb served on a bed of rice</td>
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<td>Grilled Shrimp &amp; Top Sirloin Steak</td>
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<td>PARMESAN CHEESE</td>
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<td>TABOULI</td>
<td>Sauce poutine</td>
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<td>$4.25</td>
<td>Shish Kebab</td>
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<td>A hearty salad made with bulghur wheat and served with</td>
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<tr>
<td>sliced cucumbers</td>
<td>Skewered beef or lamb and grilled vegetables</td>
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<td>Chicken kebab</td>
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<td>GREEK</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fresh garden greens, feta cheese, kalamata olives and herb</td>
<td>Skewered chicken served on a bed of rice</td>
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<td>CASBAH</td>
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<td>Fire-roasted bell peppers and eggplant tossed with tomatoes,</td>
<td>Grillades Variés</td>
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<td>onions and olive oil</td>
<td>Kebta, merguez, shawarma and grilled chicken</td>
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<td>Fesenjan Persian Style</td>
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<td>Roast crisp duckling with pomegranate syrup and pistachio</td>
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<td>Special of the Day</td>
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<td>varies daily</td>
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<td>A different entree prepared daily</td>
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Vegetarian meals and children's favorites also available

561-2373  Fax 563-5117
Identity, Inc. and NCOD:

*** Catalogue of Great Gifts ***

Identity T-shirts: $10.00 each
100% cotton; will shrink some in first wash. Pink & Black Logo on white background.
Sizes: M, L, XL, XXL

How many: __________________ Size(s): __________________ Sub-Total: __________________

Identity Lapel Pins: $5.00 each
1" enamel and either; 2-color logo

How many: __________________ Sub-Total: __________________

NCOD T-shirts: $10.00 each
Sizes: M, L, XL, XXL

How many: __________________ Size(s): __________________ Sub-Total: __________________

NCOD Poster: $12.00 each
Full color Keith Haring logo (24" x 26")

How many: __________________ Sub-Total: __________________

NCOD Note Cube: $5.00 each
B & W Keith Haring color logo printed on all 4 sides of 300 sheet memo pad.

How many: __________________ Sub-Total: __________________

NCOD Lapel Pins: $5.00 each
1" enamel & gold, 4-color Keith Haring logo

How many: __________________ Sub-Total: __________________

NCOD Buttons: $1.00 each
B & W Keith Haring logo

How many: __________________ Sub-Total: __________________

NCOD Bumper Stickers: $1.00 each
"National Coming Out Day"

How many: __________________ Sub-Total: __________________

Shipping: P.L. add $1.50; T-shirts add $2.50

Sub-Total: __________________ Total: __________________

Name: __________________________
Address: _________________________
City: ___________________ State: _______ Zip: __________________
Phone: _________________________

Please make check payable to Identity, Inc. and mail your order to:
Identity, Inc., P.O. Box 200070, Anchorage, AK 9952
Groups & Gatherings
Circles and Clubs
News from Gay & Lesbian Organizations from around the State

Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association (4As): offers HIV testing Wednesday afternoons (2-4pm) at their offices, 730 'I' St., Suite 100. Friday at noon is a luncheon for People With HIV and AIDS. We are always looking for groups willing to donate and provide these meals. If you are interested in helping with the luncheons, volunteering with the 4As, or need information, please call the 4As at 276-1400.

Alaska Gay and Lesbian Association of Fairbanks (AGLA): a UAF Student Organization, has regular meeting open to Gays, Lesbians and allies, every other Friday. For further information about meeting time and place, contact Pete at 457-0246.

Anchorage Garden Buddies (AGB): a social group for Gay men looking for an alternative to the "bar scene." For next meeting time and place or to get on the mailing list, call Kurt at 248-0425.

Anchorage Lesbian Families' Alliance (ALFA) (formerly Lesbian Moms): usually meets every 4th Sunday at various locations (mostly at Susan & Janet's) to socialize and provide support for one another. Adults, children, Lesbians, allies and newcomers are welcome. Call Mary or Val at 276-3478 for more information.

Anchorage Women's Political Caucus: for Lesbians and non-lesbians, meets 7pm at the First United Methodist Church (Anchorage) on the first Wednesday of every month.

Berdache Society of Anchorage: a meeting and support group for transgenders and persons. The Berdache Society is active in all areas of the community. For more information call Nora Jean at 258-9909 or see the North-View Directory for the Berdache Society address.

EQUAL, Inc: Equal meets on the 1st Thursday of each month at 7:00pm at the Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. EQUAL provides education and information about political issues to our community. EQUAL is not a political action committee and does not endorse candidates.

EQUAL has a social "coffee house" get-together at the Hollywood Canteen (Capri Cinema) from 7:00-9:00pm on the 3rd Thursday of each month. For more information, call 566-0930.

Fairbanks Dance Club: the Palace Saloon in Alaskaland is still the hottest spot in town to meet. You can go dancing on Friday and Saturday nights from 11:00pm 'til the wee hours of the morning. It's a straight tourist bar at all other times. The DJ will be spinning Country, Disco, Top 40 and Oldies for your dancing pleasures.

Fairbanks Gay Youth Group: for more information call Jeff or Andy at 457-6818.

Family, the (formerly LGBSA): Meets every Saturday from 6-7pm in the Arts Building, Room 121 on the UAA campus. Social group after 7pm (bowling, dinner, etc.) Wednesdays from 11am-4pm there is an information booth in the Campus Student Center. High school people, bi-sexual men & women, transvestites and transsexuals most welcome! A Teen Group is being formed/has been formed. Watch this space and the Calendar for more information!

Feminist Sing-a-Long, women only: third Saturday of every month. 1741 Westview Cir. (maps available at the Alaska Women's Bookstore) or call Carol and Fran at 337-3543. Non-singers are more than welcome. 6:30 potluck, 7:30 singing (from the KK--Thanks!)

Gay Bar: free legal question and answer sessions on issues of interest to Lesbians and Gays. Second Monday of every month, 7:00-8:30pm at 845 'K' St. 279-5001.

Identity: founded to improve self and community awareness, understanding, and acceptance of the expression of individual sexual identities, in order to promote positive attitudes and healthful ways of living for all people within the State of Alaska. Identity builds bridges between different segments of the Lesbian and Gay communities as well as bridges between the Gay/Lesbian and non-Gay/non-Lesbian communities. Potluck Social: held on the 4th Friday of every month at the Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 3201 Turnagain St. Doors open at 6:30pm; dinner at 7pm; program at 7:30. See the Calendar for this month's guest speaker.
Emperor Court of All Alaska (ICOAA): is a social and support group that contributes to our Community by being active in many causes; we plan and present wonderful entertainment, and donate money to needy organizations for them to carry out their important goals. See Calendar for this month's planned activities, or contact Empress XXII Jasmine at 563-8650.

Interior AIDS Association (IAA): offers medical and dental program assistance, "buddies" (volunteers who help HIV & People Living With AIDS), meal delivery food supplement program, a lending library and counseling support. If you're interested in volunteering or need assistance, please call the IAA in Fairbanks at 452-4222.

Lamb of God Metropolitan Community Church (MCC): holds Sunday services at 10:45am and 7pm at 615 Hollywood Dr. There is a study group on Tuesday evenings--"The Bible and Gay and Lesbian People." Call 258-5266.

Last Frontier Men's Club: a members only club for the Leather/Bear communities of Alaska. Meetings once/month, campouts & week-end trips, too. Write T.L.F.M.C., P.O. Box 202054, Anchorage, AK 99520-2054.

Midnight Sons: Gay Men's AA Meetings, Fri & Sun. Check calendar for times and locations.

Mt. McKinley (non-ascent) Club (MMcaNAC): is a social group open to anyone Gay, Lesbian, or ally. Look for upcoming events in the Calendar, or call Dan Cook at 561-8744.

Northern Exposure Bowling League: each Sunday afternoon at 3:00pm, Park Lanes. 561-8744 (Bob).

Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays of Fairbanks (PFLAG(F)): meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 5:30pm at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Log Cabin (Noble & 5th). Contact Nancy at 479-4944 for more information.

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays of Southcentral (P-FLAG(SC)): holds meetings on the 3rd Wednesday of every month. For information call Sylvia at 562-4992 or Fred at 562-7161.


Klatch, formerly the Fairbanks Think Tank, is an informal gathering of lesbians, gay men and friends with diverse interests, tastes and views. Our goal is to encourage enlightenment and growth, both within and throughout our Community. Volunteerism creates success. Members lead trips, organize activities and offer social gatherings. We meet on the first Wednesday of each month, and enjoy events scattered throughout (check the NorthView calendar). For more information please contact Kathy at 455-6358 or Eric at 455-4051.

Shanti of Juneau offers support services to persons with HIV/AIDS and their loved ones, as well as offering comprehensive AIDS prevention and educational information. Offices: 222 Seward, Suite 200; mail: P.O. Box 22655, Juneau, AK 99802-2655. 907-463-5665, 1-800-478-AIDS (2437).

SLAA (Sex & Love Addicts Anonymous): 12-step meeting; Tues., Thurs., Sat. Check calendar for times and locations. 566-1133

Women's Coffeehouse: every 4th Saturday, 7:30-9:30pm, Alaska Women's Bookstore. Sliding scale, suggested donation $2. Call Barbara or Candy at 337-2011 for information or if you wish to perform. Check the calendar for this month's program.

Identity, Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting
October 25, 1994


Members Absent: Michael Covone.

Guests Present: Kimberly Jones, Kevin McLain and Sean Mahoy.

Fourth Friday Potluck: Kimberly and Kevin have volunteered to be liaison members representing The Family (formerly the UAA student group LGBSA); this group will present our November potluck program. Ken and Ruth were invited to speak at the Residence Halls on October 27.

Ruth announced the horse and wagon will be available for December 23 but, due to a previous commitment, not until 9pm. So, we will have dinner, practice our Christmas Carols, then take two 30-minute trips to serenade the neighborhood. Funds for this project will be sought from individuals, as our own treasury cannot afford the expense.

Shirley announced the need for a new folding table; attendance has reached the point where it cannot be sealed at one time. We agreed to look at Costco or Sam’s for a reasonably priced one.

Ruth announced the following programs: November ⇒ The Family; December ⇒ Christmas Carols; January ⇒ Joyce Murphy on Pet Care; February ⇒ Lynn Boettcher for Relay Alaska; March ⇒ Chris Olson; April ⇒ Annual Meeting.

Youth Group: Sean presented his ideas for organizing a youth group for the 16 to 20 year-olds. We have long known there was no safe location for these folks to socialize, and have often wanted to become involved in this area. The Family cannot be of help due to age requirements of UAA. Shirley and Sylvia felt AUUF would be willing to offer space at little or no cost; it was also suggested P-FLAG could be of help to parents of these young people. Sean emphasized the group (he personally knows about 30 individuals) must be kept informal and unorganized, letting the group determine its own need, or it will not succeed. We agreed to provide assistance.

Helpline: Jennifer reported the Volunteer Training went well; Cynthia Dodge did an excellent job as trainer for the six new volunteers. Michael has taken over volunteer training; Don Naff is scheduling volunteers and updating the Resource Manual.

Terry Helleck presented a short demonstration of a customized computer program we could use to gather statistics from our “Data Form” and print a variety of results; it can be developed as our needs develop. Terry estimates 40 hours of time will be needed to write and test the program; her usual rate is $65 per hour but will charge us $45 per hour. We agreed this was worthwhile to pursue; Ken agreed to meet with Terry to discuss the details. No discussion was held regarding the source of funding for this project.

Membership: Shirley announced Chris and Michelle have volunteered to help write “Thank-You” notes for our varied activities.

Ken mentioned we are now card-carrying members of The American Civil Liberties Union through 7/31/95; he presented our official membership card to Tom.

NorthView: Ken asked if anyone objects to having his/her name published in NorthView as Board Members. No one objected; they will be added to future issues.

Treasurer’s Report: Kurt said we sold about $120 in T-shirts and pens; received $659 at the NCOD Dance door; and received $503 from the Conference.

Unfortunately, UAA has cashed our $586 check as deposit for potential damage to the Wendy Williamson stage floor. Most agreed no damage was caused and this action by UAA was unfair. If we cannot get UAA to reverse its action, the Conference Committee has agreed to reimburse half the amount.

Fund Raising: Reverend Howard Bess is publishing a book entitled Pastor. I Am Gay at his own expense but has offered us the opportunity to market it to educational institutions in the nation. Ruth felt this would include thousands of libraries who would certainly want it added to their collection. Since we have no expertise in marketing such a book, it was suggested we refer the matter to Wes Veatch and Beatrice Hitchcock (AUUF Intern Minister). On another subject, Karen Carlisle prepared and sent a grant application to the Pride Foundation for $5,000 to expand our membership by increasing our mailing list. This same group provided start-up funds for the recent Fall Conference.

Next Board Meeting: Scheduled for 7:00P on November 22 at our office.▼
The Post-Stonewall Generation
by Michelangelo Signorile

[This is a continuation of the article (in series) started in the August, '94 NorthView.]

Cormac Brissett, 20, grew up in St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin. He now attends the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. My parents are Catholic and religious. My mom was a nun. She left in the late '60s because she didn’t want to wear a habit. She just had a reunion with a bunch of other nuns who left too.

She’s fairly religious, but she’s a feminist. She is a chemical-dependency counselor. So is my dad. He’s 67, she’s 55. They have completely reconciled my homosexuality with their religion. My parents went to some group—Catholics with Gay Children, or something like that. You know, like PFLAG, but for Catholics. Catholics in our family go back at least 10 generations.

I was like, you know, tolerating the church. I would always go with my folks every Sunday. Then about a month ago our deacon gave a sermon, and he was talking about how bad Catholic-bashing was. He said, “We’re bashed because of our position on abortion, we’re bashed because of our position on homosexuality.” My friend Brian was there and he just gasped and looked at me. His mom looked at me, and my mom looked at me, and my dad looked at me. I mean, they’d never mentioned homosexuality in the church before. So I told my mom on the way home, I said, “I’m not going to go to church anymore.”

The few gay friends I have are pretty similar to me. I’d like a relationship, but with most guys, they’re thinking just about sex. I mean, I think about sex. I suppose I would have sex with a guy if the opportunity presented itself in the right context. Ideally, the guys I meet that I think are really cool guys, and would be cool to interact with more emotionally and spiritually, they turn out to be straight guys. And that happens so often.

I consider myself conservative, and I have a serious problem with the gay status quo—the gay establishment. They talk about the wonders of monogamy and how they go to church. They stand there and say, “We’re not effeminate,” and all that stuff. For the sake of accessibility we sacrifice some of the most important components of the movement. If there ever was a movement, it was collective of so many different types of people—drag people, leather people, all kinds of people.

But it seems like the guys who are on Larry King Live and stuff, the gay pundits, they’re all like, “We’re just like you! We’re just like straight people, except we sleep with guys.” And I don’t think it’s that simple.

They’re not true conservatives. I’m conservative—I’m a civil libertarian. They’re saying they’re against people in drag, against people in leather, against so many things. I mean, I find ACT UP obnoxious and don’t think they do a whole lot of good for the larger community—but I do think they’ve made
Part 19
"There was money in John Day"

Lucy was right, it had been a very long summer. There were no real surprises as far as the Oakies, except for the sheer volume of people. On the whole John Day had found work for everybody—maybe not steady work, but work.

AUGUST, 1934. EASTERN OREGON REPRESENTATIVE HENLY PUCKETT AND HIS WIFE. Not that it did any good, but most people voted. Up until this visit the good people of Grant County had never had their Representative come by. They came unannounced; the clerk at the court house told him where to find Mayor Potter. “He’s at the Clinic. No, Sir. We do not have a Chief of Police, Judge or even a Dog Catcher. I didn’t even think we had a Representative. You say you’ve been in for three years?”

The Honorable Henly Puckett, had listened to his wife’s stories. She was a volunteer for the Red Cross, and had heard about the traveler’s aid station for Oakies. They had asked her why the rest of the state wasn’t doing the same thing. They came down to check it out. He gathered what information he could about John Day, and was a little overwhelmed: a new company, Blue Mountain Family Foods; everyone employed; a school; the only one in the state without any drop outs; and people were paying taxes, on time.

From what information he found the only thing this county asked for was teachers, road repair, and paint. The state refused the paint, even though not one person owed back taxes. Parry was at the Clinic so Mike could show off the town. He explained how the community put their collective heads together using their own resources: ranchers and farmers, the co-op, Grange, Cattlemen’s Association. “We are a government within a government. The population of Grant County makes all the decisions. We had too. You people in Salem don’t seem to care, and maybe that’s why all this works.”

The Pucketts listened, then asked questions. They were there to learn. The Vocational workshops there were not costing the state a penny. Shop, taught by Mr. Brewster; arts and crafts taught by the Lee’s; printing, office machines, and journalism taught by Mr. Ted Raven and Ruth the librarian.

“No, Sir, the state did not pay for any of it,” Mike said. “The night school also teaches first aid and basic nursing. Doctor White and I take turns teaching that course. Miss Etta and Mary Gates teach adult reading and basic math. We do not pay a Mayor’s salary nor do we have to pay for a police officer, and since Salem won’t send us teachers, we decided to teach our own.”

Mike and Steve invited the Pucketts to the house for dinner. They hemmed and hawed until they saw the house. Mary and Etta were called to help host and they were great cover.

**STEVE LOOKED THE PERFECT PICTURE OF A GENTLEMAN**

**RANCHER. THE STAFF IN UNIFORM, and the dinner was very formal. This one the Pucketts would not forget.**

The town Hall Meeting was more of a party this year. All of the reports went very fast: Mike and Steve donated the back half of the clinic for a city park—any improvements the town made would benefit the county; the school needed to be stripped and painted, the court house needed the same thing; that was tabled until May; they all agreed to plant extra in their vegetable gardens for the traveler’s aid station; Mike stepped down as the Mayor and Mr. Carter of the feed store and new gas station stepped up.

February 1935, 2 TRUCKS, ONE WITH BOXES OF PAINT, TURPENTINE AND BRUSHES. THE OTHER TRUCK HAD SACKS OF CEMENT AND A SMALL CEMENT MIXER. All this was delivered to the clinic, from the Pucketts.

"Mr. Mayor and the good people of Grant County," the note read. "No money, but this might help. I’m working on the teacher problem as you read this." It was signed The Honorable Henly Puckett.

Parry and Brisk turned the ranch house they bought into a little doll house. Brisk was a top contractor before the bottom fell out of construction. He had been scraping by as a trucker. The community asked him to be in charge of planning the layout of the park. He would have to keep in mind that the aid station could be there quite awhile.

The plan he presented did not have to wait. They could use the gravel from the river for paths, cement, and the parking area—sand was also plentiful. Brewster would donate the lumber at cost for the picnic tables and a large gazebo for dances. Brisk, Steve, Brewster, and Carter all went out and got donations throughout the county. They would add six new tent frames and one large one to house single men. Up until now only families had warm tent houses. Single men had to fend for themselves, huddling around open fires, sleeping under the bridge, and then standing in line for food, hoping they could get a job the next day.

$900.00 came as a gift. Mother said to invest it. Mike and Steve, for the life of them, could not think of anything more important.

The finishing touches were being done just in time for the May town hall Meeting. The county had donated a lot of time and effort toward their new park, but so had a few of the Oakies.

Brisk figured out a way to employ the six single men living in the large tent house. The school and the court house both needed to be stripped and painted. They offered the six men room and board, with a small salary—the total cost would be $400. This time they passed the hat and everyone put in $2.00. If your neighbor missed the meeting you were expected to put their share in and collect it from the family next door.

They always passed the hat for one other thing each May—the three older men who mowed the lawn at the school and the court house. The men also kept the flower beds and hedges picture perfect. These three men split what ever was collected, and in between worked small jobs, raking leaves, snow removal when no one else would. They were 3 jewels in the rough, but still jewels. Mike pointed to the photo; **3 VERY WELL BUILT 60 YEAR OLDS IN BIB OVERALLS. I think these three would have worked for nothing. They loved**
their work. But more than that, the widows came out of the woodwork when they were working. We never saw them alone at the dances, the three were competitive with their landscaping and with the ladies.

Mr. Brewster asked the co-op for a loan of $400—he wanted to expand his sawmill and lumber sales to include wallpaper and a larger selection of paint. The co-op thought it was a risky venture at this time and turned him down by a small margin. Mike pulled him to one side and told him to go for it, and Steve would be his silent partners. Mr. Brewster told them there were warehouses full of bankrupt paint stores and maybe the co-op was right. The guy’s told him to go there and buy cheap, or let them know when there was an auction and they would go with him.

THE PARK GAZEBO, PATHS AND COOKING PIT. THE SCHOOL AND COURT HOUSE ALL FRESHLY PAINTED WITH NEW FLOWER BEDS. BREWSTER’S LUMBER AND PAINT STORE.

The word was use 395 not highway 99 north—better people east of the mountains, and there was a map showing the best areas for work. THE MAP WAS IN THEIR ALBUM AND UNDERLINED; JOHN DAY, OREGON—SOME WORK; MEDICAL CLINIC; RUN BY GOOD PEOPLE; TRAVELERS Aid STATION; LAUNDRY AREA; SHOWERS AND FLUSHING TOILETS AND SOME SHELTER.

Mona Gibbons gave one to Parry and Mike. "Who put this out?" They all knew it wasn’t anyone from Grant County. There were four western states listed, and at the bottom was a Red Cross insignia.

Mike knew who was at fault. "Peggy, call Henley Puckett and keep calling until you get him." Miss Peggy loved this, she would have something to report to all Grant County.

Mike came right to the point. "Since you and Mrs. Puckett took it upon yourselves to put John Day on the map, the responsibility is on your back. We will do our part but, by God, so will you and Salem. This is what we need." He read off a list: oatmeal, cornmeal, flour, soap, powdered milk, coffee, lard and the list went on. Get this all here in a week, and you just might win another term. I hope I make myself clear, Sir." He replied, "Yes, Doctor Potter, we will do our part and hope that Grant County will vote a Puckett ticket."

It’s funny how gossip ends up. Peggy was telling her cronies that Mike pulled no punches and had laid out the state representative. By the time it got back to Mike, he had gone to Salem, gave the Representative two black eyes and had knocked him out.

Henly Puckett was a man of his word. Everything arrived 5 days later. He sent down a lot more than Mike had asked for. Mrs. Puckett did the same thing. But the boxes were labeled Doctor Potter. She sent baby powder, Vaseline, laundry soap, bluing, starch, deodorant, shampoo and a note: "Tell John Day, thank you for caring."

Mike called him, thanked him and told him he would campaign for his re-election.

Feeding 20 to 30 carloads of people every day went a lot easier than anyone could have expected. They were coming through but not staying. Government projects were in just about every state. In Oregon there were 2 dams on the Columbia river, bridges and new roads. Lodges were being built in every major state park. They were upgrading even the railroads. Workers were needed, so now they ate, showered and only stayed long enough to make enough money for gas. The winter of 1935, the station only had two families. A young couple with two children, and another family—stayed because one of the children had pneumonia. They had seen the worst, and once again they had pulled together, pooled their resources, and made it through the hard times.

The price of produce was inching up in ’35. Now in the spring of ’36 the produce took a major swing up. This wasn’t the labor force John Day was used to. No one stayed at the station more than a day. Farmers snapped them up as soon as they pulled into town.

The retailers were doing a brisk business. The very people they had helped, were now spending money as they went through.

The Lee’s had trained so many now, they were able to break away and give the business to the school. Their Boarding house was full, and the restaurant they opened in front of it was selling hamburgers, hot-dogs, flapjacks and was doing very well.

The paint store and lumber yard had never had it so good. People were adding rooms, or redecorating. Brewster couldn’t be happier.

The mercantile had a new store-front and was freshly painted. Even the barber shop had added 2 new chairs—one extra for the young barber trained and hired right out of John Day High School as part of the community vocational training. Carter’s feed store had its new gas station and repair shop.

The old bank was now the co-op business office, and for all intents and purposes it was a bank owned by the people, and a place to display all of the food products. Yes, this side business had grown and they were thinking of expanding. The Bergstrom’s automated sausage machines and stainless steel mixing vats were state-of-the-art; they had even enlarged the smoke house. The Kroggers added 5 new cheese to their line after modernizing their small plant.

The bottom-line was no one had gone into debt in that memorable spring of 1936.

Turning the page....

Cherresse AKA Dan Cook was Empress 1 of Eugene, Oregon, Empress 18 of All Alaska and very active in Gay politics over a long period of time.

[Note: if you’ve been following the saga of Steve and Mike and are missing sections of the storyline, please write or call Cherresse, who will send the missing sections at no charge.] ▼
Damron Redesigns and Releases Its 31st Classic Gay Travel Guide

San Francisco, CA — The Damron Company has once again set the industry standard for gay travel guides. Just look at the cover for its 31st edition of the Damron Address Book. The postmodern design of blue sky and clouds announces that the guide has moved firmly away from the style of a traditional book of addresses—a style Damron has perfected since its first edition in 1964.

"We remain very serious about thoroughly researching our information, but we want it to be presented in a format that is both easy and fun to read," said Damron Company president, Gina M. Gatta. "After all, people use our guides to plan vacations, and vacations are supposed to be fun! So we've added little touches throughout like choosing more vibrant colors and designs for our introductory pages or letting more of the staff's offbeat humor show up in the listings for the travel calendar at the end of the book."

Gatta added that the new look allows important information that was often overlooked in the past to leap off the page. Now readers can easily find Damron's invaluable one-page listing of phone numbers from national AIDS and cancer services, hate crime hotlines, youth services hotlines, chemical dependency hotlines, and national lesbian/gay legal organizations. They'll also enjoy expanded explanations on how to use the guide's over 8,000 listings more effectively before they leave home and when they arrive. And peppered throughout the address book are "no-nonsense travel tips that even your mother will love."

Please note the beautiful ad for Identity on page 36. You'll find The Damron Address Book as well as other Damron books for Lesbians and Gay men at the Alaska Women's Bookstore.

NorthView Classifieds & Want Ads

For Sale at face value: back issues of "Bear" and "Drummer" and like magazines.
Call 276-2359.

 DUPLEX, for rent in Airport Heights. Side-by-side, near hospitals, UAA. Two bedrooms, full bath, large kitchen. Picture windows overlook the Chugach Range. New carpet and vinyl flooring, large fenced yard. Cable TV available. No smoking or pets. Quiet. Landlord next door. Prefer Lesbians, Gays or Allies. $695 per month, plus gas & electric. 6 month lease. $350 deposit. 272-0816.

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800.462.6654
Or Order your new 1995 Damron Address Book only $13.95 + $5 shipping!
COMING SOON: Damron Accommodations Guide!
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One bedroom house for rent.
Suitable for one or two adults. $1,000 per month plus utilities (no garage, and no more than 2 vehicles). Pets are not allowed, nor clutter. 1404 W. 10th Ave. Call 276-2359 for information.
NAMES PROJECT
AIDS MEMORIAL QUILT

NOVEMBER 22- DECEMBER 4, 1994
ANCHORAGE MUSEUM OF HISTORY AND ART

AIDS MEMORIAL QUILT IS HOSTED IN ANCHORAGE BY:

* ALASKAN AIDS ASSISTANCE ASSOCIATION
* INTERFAITH COUNCIL OF ANCHORAGE
* ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL LIBRARIES
* ANCHORAGE MUSEUM OF HISTORY AND ART
* STATE AIDS/STD PROGRAM
* MUNICIPAL DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT 4A'S: 263-2050

WORLD AIDS DAY
"AIDS AND FAMILIES"
A SERVICE OF HOPE AND AFFIRMATION

DECEMBER 1, 1994
7:00PM

ANCHORAGE MUSEUM OF HISTORY AND ART

* VIEW THE NAMES PROJECT AIDS MEMORIAL QUILT

* LIGHT A MEMORIAL CANDLE

* LISTEN TO VOICES OF ANCHORAGE SPEAK ON THE IMPACT OF AIDS.

* ENJOY THE MUSIC OF LIBBY RODERICK AND "HOT AIR"
Latin Satins by Terri de la Pena
Seal Press, 1994, $10.95
Reviewed by Lee Lynch

This is one of those quietly engaging novels that, without lick by lick sex or violence on every page, keeps the reader curled on the couch for hours.

Santa Monica, California comes as alive as the protagonist Jessica Tamayo in this, Ms. de la Pena's second book. The flavor of the place is as strong as the flavor of the level-headed child-care professional and part-time musician who rides its streets on her bicycle. The rounds Jessica makes feel as familiar as my own: work, the local hangout, home, Saturday birdwatching. The intertwining of families and friends and the unveiling of a tentative love affair are done with a natural and convincing touch.

Jessica is a Lesbian who works with kids. She is an out singer, song-writer and music reviewer in her free time. The major plot revolves around an inevitable clash between the two worlds. In a domino sequence just as inevitable, Jessica must deal with coming out to her co-workers and to the mothers of the kids with whom she works—and must balance this stress with a music career just taking off.

Parallel to the plot run the overlapping relationships. Jessica and her cousin Cindi, both singers in the group the Latin Satins, have inherited from an aunt a large Victoria house in a gentrifying neighborhood—but not the funds to make improvements. Chic, lead for the group, lives with them. She is an up-front, spirited career musician whose sexuality spills all over the group with threatening consequences. Bi-sexual Rita is love-hungry, possessive, emotional and recently abandoned by her boyfriend.

Music ties the characters together even as their incestuous behavior and everyday conflicts—from shared child care to jealousy—make life rocky for them. Music is also the expression of Jessica's strong bond with her father, and the basis of her career at the day care center.

de la Pena celebrates Chicana heritage, especially in the lyrics of Jessica's songs, snatches of which we are treated to throughout the book:
I've got the pocha blues
I'm brown, I've paid my dues
I've got the pocha blues
I'm brown and so I lose.

Race consciousness is constant and integrated into her every day life. Jessica notices how many employees in a restaurant are non-white, is uncomfortable as only one of two employees of color at the day care center, notices neighborhoods, has a confrontation with a white man who thinks she is looking for work as a maid.

Jessica reviews for La LA Lesbian, which creates an interesting side-issue and also helps depict the local Lesbian community—as well as Jessica's character. Loosely modeled on the notorious Lesbian News out of Los Angeles, Jessica takes a lot of flack for publishing in a paper which supports itself with phone sex ads and often depicts scantily-clad women in its pages. Jessica has her qualms, but keeps contributing despite the opposition and perhaps because her queerness is as important to her as her ethnic heritage:
I just got voted queer of the year
For righteous politics
Yeah, I'm queer of the year
For sex and other kicks
I'm L.A.'s queer of the year

Even if this were not the work of a steadily maturing writer with themes that will appeal to her growing audience, the cover and title of the Latin Satins will sell this novel right onto the best seller lists. Where, as one of the strongest entries in this year's field of Lesbian fiction, it deserves a place of honor.

Lee Lynch is a columnist/author based in southern Oregon. She writes 'The Amazon Trail' regularly for The Dallas Voice, Just Out, The Washington Blade, the Identity North View (some 15 papers, in all) and is the author of ten books. Copyright © Lee Lynch, 1994.
Winter Reading List
by Lee Lynch

FICTION

COFFEE WILL MAKE YOU BLACK BY APRIL SINCLAIR. Hyperion, 1994, hardcover. The author's gentle probing of sexuality and orientation makes this coming out novel either youth or adult reading.

STREET FIGHTER: A LESBIAN NOVEL BY Red Jordan Arobase. Red Jordan Press, 1992, $10, 484 Lake Park Ave. #228, Oakland, CA 94610. This self-published writer (20+ books, romance to SM sex) has a raw powerful talent and uses it to reveal the poetry and anguish of working class lesbian life. Violence.

TREES CALL FOR WHAT THEY NEED BY MELISSA KWASNY. Spinster's, 1993, $9.95. A serious novel chronicling the lives of three working class rural women, including a lesbian. Lots of innocent truths about the patriarchy out of the mouths of women who love men.

BEFORE OUR EYES BY JOAN ALDEN. Firebrand, 1994, $8.95. Quiet tale of a daughter and the worlds that open for her when her mother comes out. Surely one of the best of the year.


OUT ON MAIN STREET BY SHANI MOOTOO. Press Gang, 1993, $12.95. Inspired by Mootoo's Indo-Trinidadian roots, these are stories of conflict: racial, religious, family. Some lesbian stories.

LATIN SATINS BY TERRI de la PENA. Seal, 1994, $10.95. One of those novels that, without lick by lick sex or violence, keeps the reader reading for hours with a glow of affection for the characters.

SMOKEY Q BY CELIA COHEN. Naid, 1994, $9.95. Lively addition to the lesbian sports genre with spunky characters and girl baseball.

SPARKS MIGHT FLY BY CRIS NEWPORT. New Victoria, 1994, $9.95. An inspiring novel about a musician who confuses her passions in love and art, loses both and must find her way again.


LESBIAN ADVENTURE STORIES EDITED BY MARA WILD AND MIKYAYA HEART. Tough Dove, 1994, $11.95. Fresh compelling stories from veteran writers like Jane Hutcher to newer yarn-spinners like Woody Blue.

TROUBLE AND HER FRIENDS BY MELISSA SCOTT. Tor, 1994, $22.95. For anyone interested in computers, sci fi and romance. Less violent than most in the genre.

CHINAGIRLS BY THEA VILLANUEVA. Lizzies on the Move Productions, 1991, $6.00. This tale of working class dykes in epistolary form is ethnically diverse, done in street vernacular. Villanueva's stories are now available in JESSIE'S SONG from Masquerade Books.

THIN FIRE BY NANCY LITTLE. Madwoman Press, 1993, $12.95. This dyke can write! A military first novel.

EVERY WOMAN'S DREAM BY LESLEA NEWMAN. New Victoria, 1994, $9.95. Welcome stories and humor in this year of dreary messages about us from the straight presses. What is it that makes Newman feel lesbian right down to her semi-colons.

THE AMAZON CHRONICLES BY JANE E.M. ROBINSON. Cloister Press, 1994, $15.95. Penthesilea is a tomboy dyke from 1240 B.C. Enormous research went into this big engrossing historical romance.


WE CAME ALL THE WAY FROM CUBA SO YOU COULD DRESS LIKE THIS? BY ACHY OBEJAS. Cleis, 1994, $10.95. Smart, contemporary bright slices of short stories, full of humor and brutal truths.

A SHIP IN THE HARBOR BY MARY HERON DYER. Paradigm, 1994, $8.95. Novel about a married mother who comes out in her thirties fighting Oregon's anti-gay, and-choice radicals.

NON-FICTION

DESSERT YEARS BY CYNTHIA RICH. Spinsters, 1989, $7.95. I was late discovering this lovely relaxed patchwork of the daily life of a lesbian couple living in a trailer in the desert. Now I recommend it to everyone I know, dyke or not.

JUST LUCKY I GUESS BY ELAINE MIKELS. Desert Crane Press, 1993, $12.95. A self-published autobiography of an old lesbian who has been an activist all her life. Very open and positive.


WORD GAYMES BY KATHLEEN DEBOLD. Alyson, 1993, $8.95. Finally a puzzle book for cultural outsiders! For crossword other word games and gay trivia fans—

CAMPANERAS, LATINA LESBIANS, EDITED BY JUANITA RAMOS. Routledge, 1994, $14.95. Another major collection: oral histories, essays, poems, short stories and art work by 47 women from 10 countries. Some in Spanish, some in English.

THE ME IN THE MIRROR BY CONNIE PANZARINO. Sei, 1994, $12.95. The autobiography of this dynamic lesbian disability activist.


LESBIANS AT MIDLIFE: THE CREATIVE TRANSITION, EDITED BY BARBARA SANG, JOYCE WARSHOW & ADRIANNE J. SMITH. Spinsters, 1991, $12.95. There's little out there for lesbians retiring from being young and hip. This book is a great service.

THE STRAIGHT WOMAN'S GUIDE TO LESBIANISM BY MIKYAYA HEART. Tough Dove, 1994, $5.95. We recommended this one to our questioning friend. Contains some real basic cultural information.

OUT FOR OFFICE EDITED BY KATHLEEN DEBOLD. Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, 1994, $12.95. How to get queers into elected office by those who've succeeded. Includes resources.

TWO TEENAGERS IN TWENTY WRITINGS BY GAY AND LESBIAN YOUTH, EDITED BY ANN HERON. Alyson, 1994, $17.95. Revised to include a new wave of young voices.
GROWING UP GAY/GROWING UP LESBIAN, A LITERARY ANTHOLOGY EDITED BY BENNETT L. SINGER. The New Press, 1994, $9.95. Fiction and non-fiction work of Kitty Tsui, Pat Parker, Radclyffe Hall, many more.

PUTTING OUT, EDITED BY EDISOL W. DOTSON. Cleis, 1994, $12.95. Third edition of a book that has helped me stay in print.


ANOTHER WILDERNESS: NEW OUTDOOR WRITING BY WOMEN, EDITED BY SUSAN FOX ROGERS. Seal, 1994, $14.95. For women who love the outdoors — or love reading about women adventurers.


HUMOR

HAPPILY EVER AFTER BY STACY CHANDLER. Speculators, Inc., 1993, $10.00. A wonderfully silly how-to book which will guide you and your S.O. to coveted coupledom — laughing all the way. If you ever feel down, pick this up. Chandler's better than a therapist.

STAY TOONED BY RHONDA DICKSON. Naiad, 1993, $9.95. More cartoons from the very tooned-in author of THE LESBIAN SURVIVAL MANUAL.

RUBYFRUIT MOUNTAIN BY ANDREA NATALIE. Cleis, 1993, $9.95. Another riot from the Stonewall Riots cartoonist, HEY MOM, GUESS WHAT? BY SHELLY ROBERTS AND MELISSA K. SWEENEY. Pandemig, 1993, $8.95. As my partner said, "This book is more than funny. It's important." How to come out to your folks.

MYSTERIES

A SMALL SACRIFICE BY ELLEN HART. Seal, 1994, $20.95. This year's Jane Lawless mystery and welcome!

NUN IN THE CLOSET BY JOANNA MICHAELS. New Victoria, 1994, $9.95. A solid first mystery about nuns, closets, sinister religious figures, a million dollars and passion.

KEEPING SECRETS BY PENNY MICKELBURY. Naiad, 1994, $9.95. Darned good police procedural. Black reporter, white cop, gay murders.

THE LESSONS BY MELANIE McGALLISTER. Spinners Ink, 1994, $9.95. She's got the rhythm of a cop book down and fills it with suspense.

SECOND GUESS BY ROSE BEECHAM. Naiad, 1994, $9.95. Set in intriguing Wellington, New Zealand, this rudimentary, entertaining mystery is peppeled with deflectively-portrayed suspects and investigators.

SELF HELP

ALTERNATIVES FOR WOMEN WITH ENDOMETRIOSIS, A GUIDE FOR WOMEN BY WOMEN by Ruth Carol. Third Side Press, 1994, $12.95.


Lee Lynch is a columnist/author based in southern Oregon. She writes "The Amazon Trail" regularly for The Dallas Voice. Just Out, The Washington Blade, the Identity NorthView (some 16 papers, in all) and is the author of ten books. Copyright © Lee Lynch, 1994. ▲

Essential Touch
Massage

Leslie Mannerucci Pemberton, C.M.T.
278-3346

STRESS REDUCTION * PAIN RELIEF * SPORTS MASSAGE
HOME & OFFICE VISITS * SLIDING SCALE

WORD GAYME: HOLD THE VANILLA

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Coffee Will Make You Black
by April Sinclair
Hyperion, 1994, hardcover
Reviewed by Lee Lynch

Coffee Will Make You Black was a delightful surprise. I found it on a new-books shelf at the county library and borrowed it because I liked the title and because it is so rare to find titles here by black women. Not being in the habit of reading jacket blurbs, I actually thought it was a book of essays by some new young literary star and would be the usual depressed late twentieth century heterosquint complaint. But it wasn’t!

Young Stevie Stevenson, the main character in this first novel, wants to play basketball. She wants to write for the school paper. She isn’t really interested in boys or clothes and definitely wants no part of fighting with the other kids in her Chicago Southside neighborhood.

Still, Stevie wants to be liked, or even better, to be popular. So she tries to do what the other girls are doing without compromising herself too much. She drops basketball, but she declines to go out for cheer-leading. She pursues boys, but she won’t give up her friendship with the white woman to whom she finds herself drawn.

She’s different. Life’s harder to understand than it is for her best friend Carla, or for Terri, her old friend who travels in an exclusive/excluding circle. What is it that makes it so difficult for her to follow the crowd?

Stevie’s family, friends and classmates bring warmth and love to a harsh urban world where some are likelier than others to simply survive, much less prosper. The details of her life: a drinking father, an upwardly mobile mother, sexually unscrupulous boys—could be in any young person’s background. The events of the time—the era of Dr. Martin Luther King and Malcolm X—could be any events, any time. This story is the story of a million young kids approaching adulthood, but unique because Sinclair draws the reader in, makes her feel at home and gets her involved.

The author gently probes sexuality and orientation in a way that makes this book appropriate for both questioning youth and their friends and families. This is how we grow up, poorly prepared by the adults in our lives, assaulted by everyday events in our neighborhoods. Sometimes the chasm between the right and wrong taught at home and the pressures of friends on the streets not only clash, but seem too far apart for a child to make good decisions. The ideals of religion or other ethical structures often strip us of the common sense that can be our only self-protection.

This sort of childhood confusion is portrayed by April Sinclair with good humor and a grown-up tongue-in-cheek acceptance. The author seems to stand beside us as we watch Stevie trip willy-nilly over hurdles and land feet up. Stevie, whose own common sense leads her to depend on her grandmother more than her status-conscious mother, begins to grow up before our eyes.

Coffee Will Make You Black is written with a deceptive simplicity that will leave you with a warm feeling and many reminders of your own successful navigation of those excruciating adolescent years. It will also connect the reader with the world of the black adolescent in the ghetto, a world not as alien to those of us growing up in other circumstances as all the media hype about drive-by shootings and drugs might make us think. A world, too, that is woefully under represented on many county library shelves.

Kids are kids, white, black, gay, straight, poor or privileged. Stevie’s story is for all of us.

Lee Lynch’s newest book of Lesbian stories, Cactus Love, will be released from Naïad Press this fall.

Lee Lynch is a columnist/author based in southern Oregon. She writes “The Amazon Trail” regularly for The Dallas Voice, Just Out, The Washington Blade, the Identity NorthView (some 16 papers, in all), and is the author of ten books.


Coffee with Equal
(and we don’t mean the pink package!)

EQUAL (Equality Under Alaskan Law) has organized a new opportunity to meet and chat over a steaming cuppa (or icee, if you prefer) at the Capri’s “Hollywood Canteen.” Mark your calendars for the 3rd Thursday of each month from 7 to 9 in the evening. What a super winter warm-up opportunity. This is a smoke-free, alcohol-free way to meet politically active folks in the Lez/Bi/Gay community and find out what’s happening. Might even plan to see a good movie while you’re there!!
THE EYE

NOT CONFUSED?

Everybody remembered, EYE presumes, to wish MR at the AWB happy birthday, non? • Eye shamelessly got dolled up and went to the now famous Halloween Party at Illusions. It was the first time in history that an AGB event welcomed women—could this be a trend? Couldn’t help but drool over all the sumptuous food offerings, not to mention several of the party-goers. To wit: there were MF&R cleverly disguised as Dill (she had little green plants sprouting from everywhere on her costume), and the other was covered in play money (Dough). Think about it. Then, as they were leaving, gloves were missing. A search was launched, similar to when EYE loses a contact lens, yes?• And finally when all else failed, MF resorted to squeezing RM’s jacket, which she was wearing by that point, and sure enough the gloves were in the sleeve. RM claimed not to have felt them there but EYE wasn’t yet convinced there was ulterior motive. • One couldn’t miss VC. He had a judge’s robe and a full, white periwig. Wonder where he got that idea? • EYE noticed a dapper looking fellow show up, all mustached, only to discover it was that baby-dyke SRH. • Got to admit that SG was easy on the EYES. All done up as an ice/mountain climber, with just the right amount of clothing not on. • And then there was KP. EYE must admit to not recognizing herself upon entering. Done up as a combination of Vampire and Mac West (the words, dear, the words), she cut a beautiful picture, great drag and hostessing for your nerves. Yum, yum. • If you didn’t notice (how could you not?), RA was there in a full-face Native mask, all done in Black & White makeup! It was stunning. • MP wasn’t wearing the sweatshirt that had University of Adak on it. He explained that the back side would have said, “A Literary Alchulist.” Give it some thought. He claimed to be the oldest living Gay Communist, but, my dear, Harry Hay has that distinction. • Ravishing. EYE thought RI was ravishing, all done up as Mary Moon Flower, Child of Mars—and that long red hair!! • First time in drag, hon? Seems TG showed up without and then somehow acquired breasts. • Now that she’s left the state, the truth can be told. Seems, a while back, that AM (the one’s now left with partner NC), KC and SB were needing to go somewhere. There wasn’t enough room in the cab of the pick-up (now you know we’re talking Dykes, here), so AM rode in the back. And barked like a dog the whole way, moving back and forth across the truck bed. Said she’d always wanted to do that. EYE eyes are green with envy. • Attention Zodiac watchers. JM was there (presumably with VC), and noted there weren’t many Leos there. EYE innocently inquired as to why that might be, and JM said, “we don’t eat our own.” Had to be there. • Heard the one about Ollie North? There’s a rumor being bruited about that he was invited to all the A-Gay parties before Iran-Contra catapulted him, tragically, into the national spotlight. Rumor was that he went to most if not all of them. Ollie North and Michael Johnston. What a team! Sounds like a burlesque group with extremely bad taste, no delivery and a dose of prevarication. • It may be a hard act to follow but stay tuned; it gets better. Heard the one about The Right Reverend Dr. Jerry Pervo and his house? Seems he has the whole thing completely fenced in. That’s not unusual, though, is it? All preachers have their houses fenced in, don’t they? To protect themselves from the Tony Knowles liberals, the homosexuals and the UAA students, no doubt. But wait, it gets better. Seems he wanted the whole road closed off. Yes, put up a big gate at Baxter and Northern Lights. Perhaps to have a guard house and guards to monitor and patrol? One needs that security in this day and age when there are insane preachers running madly about advocating shooting liberals. But not to fear. The other residents of the street voted him down, so his house will remain an impregnable fortress but the street will remain open. Whew... • Oh, one last note. You’ve all heard of Baily Smith, the Baptist minister from Atlanta who won fame and notoriety with the statement “God doesn’t hear the prayers of Jews”? Well, he’s at it again with those pithy comments about Murcan life, an area where his expertise is undoubtedly perfect. The latest is his pronouncement that “We’re going to be in good shape, because all the liberals are aborting their babies and all the homosexuals are dying of AIDS [sic]. Pretty soon it’ll be just us.” EYE can’t bring herself to dignify this drivel with her razor-sharp wit and philosophical insight. • Wait, there’s more. Seems one of BG’s neighbors got one of the 5,000 or so flyers sent out by Pervo & Johnston—you know, the one about (not) killing liberals and abortions and homosexuals and such. Now get this straight [sic]. The neighbor is a fundagetical, according to BG. But he came over to BG’s place, knowing all about BG and friends, and said, “I think I want to change my religion after getting that flyer.” EYE hopes Pervo & Johnston keep up the good work. The backlash may be starting, thank God! • And now, on some lighter notes: What long time community member, unable to perform his theme-song “Cremation of Dan McGee” at Coronation ’94 has just returned from Florida where he actually did perform said “Cremation” before an appreciative audience at Walt Disney World? • Couldn’t help but notice AK of TR&AK prominently featured in the Sunday newspaper (big photo, big smile). • And this last note: on page 88 of Life Magazine (November) there is a Gay Wedding pictured. “Richard Friend and Steve Mauldin created their own tradition, exchanging rings and vowing to spend their lives together at a June 24 commitment ceremony in Philadelphia.”
Where in the World?  
by Bob DeLoach

Out and About

"Men's Night Out- Italy" departs from San Francisco, Miami, Chicago, DC, and NYC on May 1 and May 8th. The nightlife tour is to private Gay clubs in Milan and Rome and offers 4 and 5 star hotels during the week of intense fun. The double occupancy fare of $2,095.00 includes air, hotel, and the services of Bart Hust who resides in Milan with his boyfriend where he works as a model and guide.

The second Spring package is called "French Chateau Holiday For Women." It's for Lesbian couples and singles and will depart on June 4th for the Loire Valley of France. It's a one week stay in the breathtaking, 150 year old Chateau De La Vrille, includes gourmet meals and lots of fun activities. The last night is spent in the beautiful 5-Star Royal Hotel Monceau in Paris. The tour is $1850.00 dbl occupancy.

Hong Kong

Not a Gay tour, but exciting anyway. Northwest Airlines is offering 3, 4, and 6 night tours from Anchorage to Hong Kong including hotel for $599.00, $699.00, and $899.00. Price includes transfers, half day city tour, hotel taxes and service charges. 2,000 bonus miles are also included. Period is Nov. 1 - Dec. 15th and 3 weekly flights are offered. How about doing your Christmas shopping in one of the world's largest shopping areas—Hong Kong?

Whistler's Gay Ski Week '95

Whistler, British Columbia, Canada is the number one North American Ski Resort again! On February 5, 1995 more than 2,000 Gay men and women from across North America and beyond will meet in Whistler for skiing, dining, dancing, and more. Complete packages ranging from moderate hotels to deluxe condos are available starting at $628.00 per week.

Olivia, Unique Vacations for Women

Board the SS Seabreeze April 9th for a week of cruising from Miami to Nassau, Blue Lagoon, San Juan, St. John (one of my very favorites), St. Thomas, and return to Miami. Of course, meals are included and there's much shipboard and on-shore excitement. Prices start at $795.00 per person.

It's Alaska in June! June 21-28 will find the "Royal Odyssey" sailing the waters of the Great State of Alaska. September 17-24, it's the Italian Riviera with stops in Nice, Corsica, Palermo, Capri, Rome, Florence, Portofino and back to Nice. Your home for the week will be the "Regent Spirit" and prices range from $1895.00-2,695.00 per person.

Mariah Wilderness Adventures

'95 promises to be a big year. From Jan. 7-15 travel with Costa Rica country tour starting at just $1,225.00. This tour will be repeated July 1-9.

April 10-15 is sea Kayak tour of Baja Mexico, a first all Gay trip to Baja. Price is $795.00 plus air.

April 22 is a one day North Fork American River tour with class IV waters being navigated (not for the faint of heart), price is $115.00. This trip will be followed May 12 by another 1 day, 1 night, class III-IV Near Yosemite adventure for 24 men and 7 women. Price on this one $155.00.

Teto Tours '95

"The Congenial Snowman" is the title of their Skiing in Jackson Hole/snowmobiling in Yellowstone tour from Jan. 7-14 at $1,450.00. "Mayan Mysteries" is from Jan 21-29 in the Yucatan Mexico from $1,195.00. "Anchors Aweigh" (Sailing the British Virgin) will be from Feb. 9-17 at $1,095.00 (men only). "Fruits in Kiwiland" (where else but New Zealand?) starts Feb. 15-March 1 and concludes with Mar 1-6 in Sydney for Mardi Gras: $5,520.00. "Hawaiian Lei" (Whales and males of Maui) (men only) runs from Feb. 18-26 at $1,095.00. "Wilderness Express" (Safari in Tanzania) is March 6-21, 1995 and runs $4,995.00. "Lush Life" (Costa Rica) Mar. 31-April 9, $1,550.00. "French Toast I," barging in Alsace/Lorraine, France is April 18-28 and runs $2,495.00. "Queen's Liberation" (Amsterdam will take place April 28- May 6 with the price TBA.

RSVP & American Airlines

RSVP tours offers air add-ons from Seattle for $495.00-595.00 to meet their '95 Seaspirt sailings. The first will be Dec. 19th for their "Holiday" (Xmas) and "New Year's" Dec. 26-Jan 2 cruises will be followed by "Exotic Caribbean" Jan. 6-14, Jan 28-Feb. 3; "Deep Caribbean" on Jan 14-21, Jan 21-28; "Grand Caribbean" on Feb. 4-11, Feb. 11-18, Feb. 18-25, Feb. 25- Mar 4 and finally "Tropical Caribbean" Mar 5-12, Mar 15-19, Mar 19-26 and Mar 26-Apr 2.

April 12-23 is 11 days 10 nights with the Panama Canal and Costa Rica of tap. April 23-30, April 30-May 7, and May 7-14 will be the Costa Rica Adventure. And finally June-September Alaska and the Pacific Northwest will be the cruising grounds for the great little ship. This 50 cabin & mini-suite ship offers the very best of both worlds for cruising and touring and calls at very unique places. Prices start from $895.00 per person for the holiday cruises to $1,695.00 per person for the 15 day Pacific Northwest, British Columbia, Alaska combo.

Mardi Gras Australia

Thus far Apollo has booked 14 persons to the great down under country of Australia during the Mardi Gras period. This will be a once-in-a-lifetime trip and prices start at less than $1,500.00 for air from L.A., hotels and tickets to all of the Gay events. Why not consider treating yourself to an extra special Christmas present this year?

There are lots of other trips and events for this coming year for the Gay community, but I will have to save some of them for next month.

Bob DeLoach, president of Apollo Travel, BG Tax and Accounting, The Electric Doctor, Apollo Real Estate, Lock Doc, is an insurance broker and still finds time to write novels for adults, take part in Community Theatre, write this column, and be active in the Community.

Deadlines: All articles must be received by the 5th of the month for inclusion in that month's NorthView.
Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association

As you know, Thanksgiving is right around the corner, so close you can almost hear the animal rights protesters lining up in front of the turkey farms (sorry, bad joke). Everyone is busy making plans for the holiday and the Four A’s is no exception.

We would like to provide food/gift baskets for our clients who are in need of a little assistance this Thanksgiving. However, our current attempts to acquire donations from the many food industries of Anchorage are coming up dry. For the Christmas holiday we are planning to hold a gift basket decorating contest to entice local businesses to lend a hand. But for Thanksgiving we thought it would be wonderful if volunteers could help us provide some of our families with a bountiful harvest.

What we need are volunteers who are willing to arrange and donate their own creatively constructed gift baskets. You could create one on your own, or you might team up with other volunteers, co-workers, or family members (Hey! The more the merrier!). The baskets don’t need to be overly elaborate, and your love and energy would mean a great deal.

The baskets will be collected here at our new offices (1057 W. Fireweed, Suite 102 (across from McKay’s)), and will be delivered the week of Thanksgiving. We hope to provide approximately 50 clients with meals for the holiday. If you or a group would like to lend a much needed hand and put together a basket, please give me a call here at the office (263-2050).

GIVE MUCH THANKS: We have several clients who have children or other family members for whom we also provide assistance. If you would be willing to put together a larger basket for such families, or if you are interested in organizing more than one basket, please let us know.

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Letters to the Editor

We at ABT think for ourselves
I have attended Anchorage Baptist Temple since 1972. I worked for Anchorage Christian School for five years and I consider Jerry and Carol Prevo friends as well as pastor and wife. During this time, I have seen Dr. Prevo unjustly attacked many times by a certain faction of Anchorage. During the past 12 years, I have traveled from Anchorage to Hawaii, Florida and Arizona, being gone for sometimes several months.

During the time away from ABT, I have sought a church to attend where the word of God was preached with truth according to the Scriptures, as it is by Dr. Prevo; and in that time and many churches, I have not found but one preacher with the guts to stand in the pulpit and preach according to God’s word.

All the rest of the preachers preach what they think is popular and what won’t offend anyone. God’s word needs to be preached as Dr. Prevo does, with authority, caring accuracy, concern and love. Dr. Prevo cares about his country, his state, his church and school, and his people. He is outspoken, but so was Jesus. So many people think that God is only a God of love, but He is also a God of wrath. Especially when His people don’t follow His teachings.

People of Anchorage, don’t be so quick to judge. Listen to a man’s words. Don’t take things out of context. We who attend ABT do think for ourselves, regardless of what some people in Anchorage think. Dr. Prevo is there to guide us or pick us up when we fall but he is not there as a dictator as some are trying to make him out.

Carol H. Merrill

Prevo message more than words
I am writing in response to Cathy Black’s Nov. 1 letter, “Preacher has the right message,” I agree with her that “words taken out of context and linked together... can be quite scary”. It’s frightening how Dr. Jerry Prevo uses carefully selected passages from the Bible to support his paranoid, bigoted views. Sprinkling his political rhetoric with mentions of “God” and “the Supreme Being,” doesn’t make his agenda a “Christian” one.

I also agree with Ms. Black on the importance of “teaching respect for God and our fellow man,” but, I believe the old adage, “actions speak louder than words.” Dr. Prevo says that kids need to be taught “respect for fellow human beings,” then features an anti-Semite as a guest speaker at his church, actively encourages discrimination against one segment of our society and speaks (to the laughter and applause of his congregation) about killing another. He says we need to teach children “to respect authority,” then asserts that “the laws of the land” would not prevent him from committing murder.

Do I think Dr. Prevo is telling people to spray-paint swastikas on the Temple Beth Sholom, go out for a couple of beers and a little “gay-bashing” or “blow away” someone they have arbitrarily labeled “a liberal”? Certainly not. Do I believe the rhetorical effect of his total “right message” is encouragement of those kinds of behavior? You bet!

Children learn by example. Considering Dr. Prevo’s agenda, I shudder to think about what lessons of intolerance, paranoia and hate may be woven into the curriculum at his “private Christian school.”

Joyce Brawner
Anchorage Daily News, November 11, 1994

Dear Ken,

I read with great interest the article in the September issue of the NorthView regarding the Helms amendment to the ESEA (SB1513). I have to agree with most of the things that the author, Jeff Walters, says in his text. I agree that we must act to protect the availability of positive counseling for Gay students. I agree that abstinence should be taught as a well as safer sex practices. I agree that our teachers should not be muzzled. But there is one thing about which I do not agree with Mr. Walters.

In his article, Mr. Walters mentions that the Senate also passes an amendment to ESEA authored by Senator Kennedy. He states that this amendment “...prohibits the use of ESEA funds only for materials or programs that promote or encourage sexual activity, whether heterosexual or homosexual.” He then refers to this amendment as the “less damaging Kennedy language.” In truth, Senator Kennedy’s amendment may be even more harmful than Senator Helms’. Correctly stated, Senator Kennedy’s amendment would cut ALL Federal funding to schools that have programs that distribute material which is deemed to promote sexual activity. Senator Helms only targets ESEA funds. In addition, while I find it horrifying that the Senate would want to deny 10% (+/-) of students adequate access to information about safer sex, I find it even more repugnant that some Senators feel the best way to even the playing field is to deny all students access to that information. Senator Helms is no friend of the Gay community and we all know that. I feel that we are all adult enough to know that we will never see a Gay-friendly bill from him. But that is no reason to take such drastic measures as the Kennedy amendment proposes. It’s like throwing the baby out with the bath water!

It’s time that we as a Gay community start to look more carefully at the people we call friends, and the things that are being done to help (supposedly) our community. Personally don’t want people thinking that all condom distribution and all safer sex classes in high school were stopped because the Gay community and its supporters in the Senate disagreed with Jesse Helms. If the Kennedy language is kept, we will see very plainly how damaging it is. AIDS will become more prevalent among heterosexual youth that simply have not been exposed to the information that would have saved them.

Herman C. Coon, Jr.

TAKING A STAND!
TOGETHER WE CAN STOP THE SPREAD OF HATRED AND VIOLENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY.
Jade Room Reunion

By Dan Cook

The Jade Room Reunion was one of those magical nights which comes along once in a great while, leaving everyone with a warm, wonderful feeling at the close of the evening.

Chuck & Shirley Scago were the honored guests of a large Gay family in Alaska that remembered the "good old days." The hugs and kisses were genuine and the show came from the heart. Two original songs, written and sung by Russ, "The Jade Room Song," and "Mama Cherressa" brought smiles, laughs and tears of joy. I was more than happy to be the MC and to share the stage with Eric, Sonny and my old sidekick Mame.

The evening brought back many fond memories of the little bar on 7th Avenue and "I" Street where two "Miss Jade Rooms" were created: Miss Peggy and Miss Mame. This evening could not have happened without the generous help of Mel. Thanks a lot, guy!

By the way, we passed the hat around for the Monarch’s Scholarship Fund and raised $120.00 which was generously matched by Mr. Don Chinn. Now that made the evening even more memorable.
To Live Together or Not to Live Together
by Karen Carlisle

I suppose you can tell by the title that Dear Love and I are not in instantaneous accord about this subject. It's great when both people want to live together or both people don't want to live together. I should have known that no such easy decision would come my way.

I've twice moved in with people when I was ambivalent about it because they wanted to. Yes, when codependency was in full flower, I did things like that. Nor was I honest about not wanting to either time. You know why. I was afraid they would leave. Maybe if I'd told them the truth, they might not even have not wanted to move in with me. And maybe they wouldn't have left. Ha! Well, eventually they left anyway. Or I left.

What is the truth? I'm not sure I can touch it, so here's a list of the reasons I could think of to do it, and the other list: Why I don't Want to Live With My Lover.

Reasons to live together:
1. It's convenient; it's damned inconvenient to keep schlepping our stuff back and forth and then keeping going home to get ready for work. It's cold; it's dark; it feels immature for goddess's sake. After all, I am 51 years old.
2. We'd at least see each other every night when our schedules were horrendous even if one of us was comatose.
3. MAYBE it would be cheaper. MAYBE.
4. Maybe we could get a place where there is decent water and we could do our laundry at home instead of spending all day Sunday at the Laundromat (now that's the biggest incentive).
5. It's the Lesbian rendition of marriage, and it proves commitment (where does that word come from? Doesn't it mean getting sent to a mental institution?).

Reasons not to live together:
1. I'll become an overfunctioner and wind up doing all the housework, shopping, cooking and laundry.
2. I'll become a controlling bitch and start trying to change the things about my lover that I'm able to accept as long as I can go home.
3. I will roll over and do the things she wants to do in the way she wants to do them most of the time and get a huge resentment.
4. What if we have incompatible tidiness quotients?
5. I'm not sure I would be able to say "I want to sleep alone tonight." Now, I say, "I need to spend time with my kittens" which is true, but is also a euphemism for "I need to be alone."
6. We will merge and I will lose me.
7. We will get our money mixed up; a thing I never want to do again.
8. If we live together, we'll get tired of each other faster.
9. We'll become complacent about our relationship.
10. I won't be able to write because her movements will fill my consciousness.
11. She'll stop wanting me sexually; I'll stop wanting her.

12. We'll spend money differently, so it would probably cost us more.

As you can see, these lists have gotten very serious, not funny at all. As you can also see, I have not mentioned Dear Love. Which means that the lists are generic, don't necessarily apply to her at all. But should they?

Maybe the truth is I can keep the issue at bay by having a generic list; maybe the truth is it's too F'ing scary to put Dear Love into the equation. Maybe I'd have to drop into another, deeper level of intimacy to do it and I'm still too afraid to do that.

There is more honesty between Dear Love and I than I've ever experienced in a lover relationship. Maybe we could just lay on the table our particular fears about living with each other and work on ways to alleviate potential problems. Maybe. How mature.


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Deadlines: All articles must be received by the 5th of the month for inclusion in that month's North View.
How to Talk About ENDA--
The Employment Non-Discrimination Act of 1994
(S.2238/H.R.4636)

The Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) prohibits job discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. Federal civil rights laws do not currently protect Lesbian and Gay Americans from discrimination.

Americans are fired, refused work, demoted, harassed in the workplace and face other kinds of employment discrimination because of their sexual orientation. A few examples include:

- a Detroit postal service employee who was harassed and severely beaten at work but whose discrimination claim was rejected by a federal appeals court because no Federal law prohibits anti-Gay discrimination;
- a Georgia woman who was fired from her job as an award-winning cook because her company had a written policy against employing Gay people;
- a married, heterosexual Kansas man who was refused a teaching job because a school employee suggested that he might be Gay.

Most Americans don’t know that federal civil rights laws do not protect Lesbian and Gay people.

Seventy percent of Americans surveyed in a national poll did not know that Gay people are not covered under federal civil rights laws. When they learn the facts, 77 percent agree that Gay and Lesbian people deserve equal rights in employment. Despite differing opinions about Gay people, Americans believe that anti-Gay job discrimination is wrong.

The civil rights movement has made equal job rights for Lesbian and Gay Americans a top priority.

Coretta Scott King, wife of the late civil rights leader Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., spoke at the introduction of the bill to emphasize that equal job rights for Gay Americans is a priority for the civil rights movement. The bill is being championed by the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights—the nation’s leading civil rights coalition with 185 organizations representing minorities, women, persons with disabilities, older Americans, and major religious groups.

A bipartisan majority in Congress agrees that job discrimination against Lesbian and Gay people is wrong—and forbids it in their own employment practices.

71 U.S. Senators and 234 Representatives—including bipartisan majorities in both houses of Congress—say they do not discriminate in their offices on the basis of sexual orientation.

A Federal Law Will Protect Rights in Areas with Anti-Gay Policies and Thwart the Radical Right

The Radical Right is waging campaigns nationwide to block or repeal equal rights for Gays and Lesbians. A federal bill would discourage further Radical Right discrimination campaigns and would make equal job rights the law of the land no matter where an employee lives.

WHAT IT DOES:
The Employment Non-Discrimination Act of 1994 (ENDA) extends federal employment discrimination protections currently provided to all Americans based on race, religion, gender, national origin, age and disability to sexual orientation. Thus, ENDA extends fair employment practices—no special rights—for Lesbians, Gay men, bisexuals and heterosexuals. ENDA was introduced by Senator Edward Kennedy and Representatives Barney Frank and Gerry Studds with an unprecedented number of original co-sponsors from both political parties.

ENDA prohibits employers, employment agencies, and labor unions from using an individual’s sexual orientation as the basis for employment decisions, such as hiring, firing, promotion, or compensation.

Under ENDA, covered entities cannot subject an individual to different standards of treatment based on that individual’s sexual orientation (real or perceived) or discriminate against an individual based on the sexual orientation of those with whom the individual associates.

ENDA exempts small businesses, as do existing civil rights statutes, and does not apply to employers with fewer than fifteen employees.

ENDA exempts religious organizations including educational institutions substantially controlled or supported by religious organizations.

ENDA prohibits preferential treatment, including quotas, based on sexual orientation.

ENDA does not require an employer to provide benefits for the same-sex partner of an employee.

ENDA does not apply to the uniformed members of the armed forces and thus does not affect current law on Lesbians and Gay men in the military.

ENDA provides for the same remedies (injunctive relief and damages) as are permitted under Title VII and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

ENDA applies to Congress, with the same remedies as provided by the Civil Rights Act of 1991 and the ADA.

The “disparate impact” claim available under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII) is not available under ENDA. Therefore, an employer is not required to justify a neutral practice that may have a statistically disparate impact based on sexual orientation.

ENDA is not retroactive.

This information was taken from The Federal Advocacy Network, a Program of The Human Rights Campaign Fund.
Out Law
by Sylvia L. Short

The election is all the news, the election and the diametric change in American politics it measures. Whatever one's political affiliation, the future forebodes a difference in our way of life, and some of us may benefit while others may regret the loss of the past. Your columnist happens to be a liberal, proudly but fearfully. My fears are not so much directed at possible harm to me as the harm threatened to those facets of American life which illustrate our constitutional heritage— that all persons are created free and equal with equal rights and responsibilities.

Of course all elections have good and bad results, depending on the viewpoint. I celebrate the defeat of Ollie North; the demise of the Idaho anti-gay initiative; the success of the death with dignity proposition in Oregon. There are other spots that help, but to the liberal, this election is a setback. However, the pendulum swings, and just as Communism and Nazism took a long time to be but ultimately were displaced, the rightism that has taken hold of our country too will have to prove its worth or face ultimate defeat. And somewhere in there, I suppose, is a balance!

Public opinion and politics, however, are not the same thing. Strangely, sometimes the people elected do not represent the ideas and/or ideals of the American public. For instance, in 1993 and 1994, the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force did a comprehensive study of polls, opinion surveys; articles and summary analyses with some interesting results:

1. First, lesbians and gays face a U.S. public that mainly sees them, or their "lifestyle," as unacceptable or immoral, by a range of 50% to 77% depending on polling questions.

2. At the same time approximately 75% of the same public believes that gays and lesbians should have equal rights in terms of employment opportunities.

3. The public seems confused about legality vs. morality; something like "Homosexuality is wrong, but it should be legal."

4. Opinion is split nationally about whether protective legislation for lesbians and gays is necessary or desirable.

5. The factors which influence opinion show that women, younger adults, people with higher levels of education and those who know they have gay friends or family members all tend to oppose discrimination more strongly and to support protective legislation.

6. The most critical reasons for supporting anti-gay legislation are cited as messages about "special rights," "government intrusion," and the lack of gay disadvantage.

7. Conversely, messages about discrimination are most often cited as reasons for opposing anti-gay measures.

While the voting records of Congressional Republicans do not, in general, indicate sympathy for gaylesbian causes, we should never underestimate the power of public opinion, nor should we relax in our efforts to make that opinion, within our own spheres, as favorable and supportive as possible.

Here are a few highlights in actions taken around the country which illustrate inroads into public opinion:

San Diego, California: An organization calling itself "Normal People," led by a former mayor convicted of fraud, sought to be a part of the Gay Pride march, and denial of its request was sustained by Judge S. Charles Wickersham saying that "parade is a form of free speech" and the inclusion of 'Normal People' in the parade "would violate the free speech rights of the promoters of the parade" as its message is not in harmony with the message that the promoters of the parade wish to make." The judge, who bears the surname of a famous Alaskan judge, was an appointee of then-California Governor Ronald Reagan and had also prosecuted the former mayor for fraud.

Cincinnati, Ohio: Strong language was used by Federal District Judge Arthur Spiegel in his opinion finding unconstitutional the Cincinnati anti-gay ballot initiative, Issue 3. Among the statements of the judge: Issue 3 "fenced out" lesbian, gay and bisexual citizens from access to normal channels of government; Issue 3 "does not 'demonstrate [a] devotion to democracy'... but rather makes a mockery of it"; "Issue 3 is unconstitutional under even the most deferential... standards of review" and had no rational basis because its structure and objective "bespeaks [a] bare...desire to harm a politically unpopular group," and gives effect to private prejudice.

Virginia: The Virginia Court of Appeals has reversed the trial court's ruling that a finding that a parent is a lesbian is ipso facto a finding of unfitness for child custody. The child remains in the custody of its maternal grandmother until the Virginia Supreme Court issues its ruling on the appeal of this decision.

Oregon: The Oregon Court of Appeals has affirmed the lower court's judgment that a sperm donor who waived parental rights in two agreements has no standing to assert paternity, holding Oregon's donor insemination statute permitting him to terminate his rights in this manner is constitutional.

New York: The U.S. Supreme Court has declined to review the holding of the New York Court of Appeals (its highest court) that landlords must recognize gay and lesbian life partners, among others, as family members entitled to remain in their rent-stabilized or rent-controlled apartments when their partner or family members dies or leaves the apartment.

Sylvia L. Short, Attorney at Law, lives in Anchorage

Sylvia L. Short
Attorney and Counsellor at Law

725 West 47th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99503
Telephone (907) 562-4962
Queer Abby,

When are we going to get a cure for AIDS?

R.J., Seattle

Queer R.J.,

When we all move to France. If you remember "And the Band Played On," you'll recall the race to isolate HIV and the dirty little tricks American researcher Dr. Robert Gallo pulled to get his name in lights. Throughout the world, it seems as if everyone wants to be the savior who finds the cure for AIDS. Such competition creates absolutely no space for joint research. Nobody wants to give up any important findings because doing so would sacrifice the glory that The Cure promises. Even if all the researchers in the world indeed had a collective answer, we would never know it until the thirst for mastery abates and research is shared. Meanwhile, people die by the hundreds of thousands and are infected by the millions.

The converse answer focuses on what incredible inroads we have made regarding research and treatment. No other epidemic (or pandemic in some populations) has ever been so thoroughly researched in such short time. Within the past several years, people with AIDS no longer are going home to die after diagnosis; instead, treatment options abound that prolong the quality and length of life. Still, it is infuriating to see the relative inaction among certain researchers and leaders, knowing we can move much faster than we have been.

More difficult than getting researchers to collaborate, not to mention getting government funding, is treating AIDS itself. Officially in the U.S., AIDS is a diagnosis of seropositivity (being HIV positive) plus at least one of over two dozen opportunistic infections (OIs), or it can be a positive serostatus plus a T-cell count below 200 (normal is 800-2000). So just what would we be curing, assuming everyone cooperated in the first place? How could we devise a magic pill that could treat the myriad OIs and other symptoms of HIV? With all the infections that we know of so far, it is virtually impossible to create one treatment that would effectively treat it, plus restore the body to its pre-OI-ravaged state.

Even if we came up with a cure for the most prevalent OIs, say PCP (pneumonia) or KS (cancer), there are so many different strains of the virus around that tracking, let alone treating, the dozens and dozens and dozens of combinations is close to impossible. One hope we do have is prevention; not just protected sex, but available treatments that inhibit the development or progression of certain OIs such as PCP.

You see, these many strains of HIV affect each person differently. Even between two people with the same strain, for example, the virus mutates in each individual, so the two people could reinfest each other with different forms of HIV, forcing the body now to not only fight the HIV it already has, but also a new, mutated virus. (Reinfection happens when a person with HIV is reexposed and infected with another strain of HIV. So it's not just HIV negative people who need to protect themselves, it's everyone, especially people with HIV because their bodies already may be severely immune-compromised.)

As for moving to France. I am facetiously referring to the inaction of the U.S. Government and lamenting the fact that certain treatments are not yet available to Americans. But France will be nice, anyway...they're not as uptight about sex, n'est ce pas?

Queer Abby,

I'm bisexual, much to the dismay of many of my friends. Sometimes I feel completely alone because they'll say I'm just afraid of coming out of the closet, but I really love both women and men. Each one is different, but I don't think I should have to choose Liberalism because it looks more unified and politically correct. To be really honest, sometimes I feel more connected to my best friend, who is straight, than to any of my other wimmin friends. Like she and I can talk about things like how we feel, and I'm not afraid of her getting biphobic and lecturing me when I talk about whoever I'm seeing. Plus, she's funnier and more easygoing. She taught her boyfriend how to check her for lumps.

How can I get my other friends to be more understanding?

V, Vancouver

Bi V,

I am happy to hear you have such a wonderful best friend and that sexual identity is not an issue. About your other friends: as our community grows, its members will become less afraid or unaccepting of people who aren't in any expected norm, plus get past some internalized phobias. Be patient with these friends, but also be resolute; talk about the woman you love, even if he doesn't have a vagina. You may hear sighs, groans, even curses, but soon you will find out who makes love political instead of celebratory.

Don't bow down to your other friends' fears and biases. People who hate others for what they are usually hate that very thing about themselves.

Queer Abby's waiting to hear from you at P.O. Box 41-380, Los Angeles, CA 90041. Go ahead, tell her to her.

---

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QUESTIONS WELCOME.
**BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT**

**By Ruth Mathes**

**Frank** is located in a mall on Boniface Parkway just south of the Glenn Highway. I connected for a rapid-fire interview squeezed in between a “shooting” session and an evening modeling program. *(Frank shares space with the Simply Pilar School of Modeling).*

**Identity:** What’s your local history, Frank? How long have you been in Anchortown?

**Frank:** I worked in the photo lab on Elmendorf A.F.B. in ’89 and opened my own business in ’90. I’ve been in this spot since October of ’92.

**Identity:** Did you take all these pictures of models on the walls?

**Frank:** I am the official photographer for the modeling studio, and that has allowed me to develop a wider artistic scope. It shows up in my “meat and potatoes” jobs. I am glad for the opportunity to work closely with Pilar.

**Identity:** Is your clientele strictly from Anchorage?

**Frank:** No, I am getting folks in from neighboring communities and towns such as Kenai and Soldotna. The extra visibility from photographing models has been very helpful for my business. I was also invited to accompany Pilar and some of the models to a show in New York. Our folks really did a super job, and the studio will be going every year. Such trips give me a chance to show my work and observe the work of others. It’s a great growth experience.

**Identity:** What other things have you got going for your business?

**Frank:** I have published my second calendar using equal numbers of men and women from the local community. This one is different in flavor from last year’s version. Each year will be better than the last.

**Identity:** What is your favorite type of job?

**Frank:** Location photography is the most fun. Fashion photography tends to be the most creative for me. I really get inspired by the clothes the models wear and by the mood they help me to develop.

**Identity:** What is your passion?

**Frank:** I truly believe that we need to support our own businesses. I heartily approve of the “directory” in your publication. I hope that “straight” folks who read it will internalize the realism that gay/lesbian business and gay-friendly business is alive and well in Anchorage. Actually, the gay/lesbian market is booming in the lower ’48, especially in retail sales in the larger population areas. I also believe that folks in our own “community” should be willing to pay for services instead of expecting free or reduced pricing. If I pay full price for something, I would far rather give the money to a gay/lesbian business than to a homophobic conglomerate. I gladly drive across town to buy gas from Courtney’s. I wish everyone did the same.

**Identity:** Are you active politically in the gay/lesbian community?

**Frank:** I recently accepted the position of “fund raiser” for EQUAL. I am excited about working with the gay/lesbian community in a totally different capacity. I think this will be fun for me and profitable for them. I am OUT in all my business dealings, and do not have a problem with being political.

Ruth Mathes is co-Editor of the *NorthView*, is happily retired from the Anchorage School District and is busily redecorating her kitchen.

---

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**Anchorage Gay & Lesbian HELPLINE**

258-4777

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Dorothy: I think so, but it mutated in me because I’m a Lesbian and I happened to be born into the particular time. It didn’t have the same impact on the generations before me and it didn’t have the same impact on my sisters or the other women in my family, but I see it have the same impact on some of the younger queer generation. It’s as though being queer gives you this certain perspective that when you meld it with that working class outrage is really powerful. Now it also leads half of us to drink and drugs and self-destruction.

Owen: You’ve said your goal in fiction is to enlighten. What do you want people to recognize about poor people, queers, and southern women?

Dorothy: That we’re human. I think we become infinitely complicated caricatures. We are either caricatures of contempt or that “oh you are so strong” thing, and that’s contemptible too. We’re always seen through that filter of other people’s fear and expectations. Some days I read through the book and see that it doesn’t matter what other people think because I’m still figuring it out for myself.

Owen: As a founding member of The Lesbian Sex Mafia, self-proclaimed sexual outlaw, dildo user, butch/femme embracer, and leather fetishist, what do you feel is important in being outspoken regarding Lesbian sex?

Dorothy: The fact that the world doesn’t know it exists. It is absolutely true that one of the things I had to deal with my family about was that they thought I was a Lesbian because I didn’t like sex! This is what my younger sisters told me about their notions of what a Lesbian was. It startled me how much general society agrees. All the Lesbian sex magazines and stuff put out in the past couple years still hasn’t basically changed that. Above ground culture defines sex as heceto fucking and when you don’t engage in that male/female in/out act they don’t see it as sex, they see it as a denial of sex. They still have these incredibly arcane notions of who Lesbians are. I’m convinced middle America thinks we are either Sandra Bernhard fucking Madonna or we are the schoolteacher who doesn’t have sex at all, but lives quietly with the librarian and their cats. There are these two images with no middle ground. I’m just interested in making plain that we’re as sexual and complicated as anyone else. They think we don’t have erogenous drives, they should come over her when I’m premenstrual.

Owen: Do you see a difference between erotica and pornography or is it marketing?

Dorothy: There’s no difference. It’s a matter of class and in the past decade of politics. Ironically, I think Lesbian sex has been historically considered upper class, at least in the traditional mind. The only Lesbians they knew were Emily Dickinson, and she wasn’t doing it, or Gertrude and Alice, and no one could imagine them doing it, or Natalie Barney and I don’t know if they thought she did it but they were sure that
during the war in French if she did. It was all those runaway upper class girls living on Daddy’s payoff money to stay out of the states. So, the idea of Lesbianism as something your female garage mechanic did with the woman behind the counter at Walgreens is just not in the public imagination.

Owen: Were you surprised by your National Book Award nomination for *Bastard Out of Caroline*?

Dorothy: Oh God yes. Out of nowhere. I was devastated totally, really unsurprised.

Owen: Did you have fun at the banquet?

Dorothy: I had a great time. I took my agent and we dressed up. I made my dress. We went in velvet and rhinestones and got drunk on champagne and had a perfectly wonderful time. My girlfriend, who couldn’t get a ticket to get inside, was in the bar outside waiting so we celebrated afterwards. We went back to the hotel Dutton paid for and ran up a room service bill that would daunt even me. We were ordering oysters and barbecued wings at 4 a.m. It was wonderful.

Owen: But at the same time you were canceled from giving a National Book Week speech in Oklahoma supposedly because you were a Lesbian. How do you deal with the irony of that?

Dorothy: Actually I wasn’t surprised by that. It was something I was much more used to than the National Book Award nomination.

Owen: Has the trauma of incest lessened from fictionally venting it in *Bastard Out of Caroline*?

Dorothy: By the time I wrote it I’d already got it in a different place. I couldn’t have written a book if I hadn’t already worked through a lot of the healing. I know I couldn’t because I know what my book *Trash* is like and I see the difference between it and *Bastard*.

Owen: Most of *Trash*, your short story collection, you said was written in rage, and most of *Bastard* from grief. What is the emotional core of your second novel, *Cavedweller*, due from Dutton in 1995?

Dorothy: Understanding. The core of *Cavedweller* is the relationship between two sisters who hate each other. The other theme is this young woman who, through the course of the novel, develops a sexual consciousness. So it’s a book of coming to understanding.

Owen: Is there lots of pressure after getting so many honors for your first novel?

Dorothy: (extended laughter).

Owen: No explanation necessary. What do you think is the basic ingredient of good fiction?

Dorothy: Real characters, and then language. I’m a sucker for really beautiful language. I need people I can believe in, then to take me over the top I need people who will take your breath away.

Owen: Do you have a first memory of wanting to be a writer?

Dorothy: Yeah around puberty, but it went away pretty fast. I didn’t know anybody who was a writer and I didn’t know how to be one. I didn’t believe anyone like me could be something like that, mostly because we were so poor.

Owen: If it weren’t for writing what do you think you would have done?

Dorothy: I planned on being a history teacher, that’s what I would have done if the world worked the way I thought it did.

Then puberty came along, and then the women’s movement came along. As a writer I’m a storyteller and that’s exactly how I see history, as a series of fascinating stories.

Owen: Coming from your painful past, what are you and your partner, Alix, trying to instill in your young son Wolf Michael?

Dorothy: It’s overwhelming. What we talk about is we really want him to feel secure and loved since both of us missed some of that. I get some from my mother, and what little I got saved me, so I’m making damn sure he feels a really strong and supportive family behind him. Also we’re trying to connect him. My sister has come to visit, we’re trying to develop a relationship between him and his daddy donor. We want him to feel he has a place in the world that’s solid and real.

Owen: He sounds lucky. It’s been great talking to you,

Dorothy: Thanks darling.

15% NEWS 15%NEWS 15%NEWS

The 15% is looking for Directors for *Celebration Of Change* in the areas of music and drama, as well as an Executive Director. Women who want to share their vision are invited to contact any board member.

The annual *New Year’s Dance* at the Sheraton has a great package deal attached. Your weekend doesn’t have to end with the last dance. Ask for the $79 “Hang Over With Us” night at the Sheraton (babe not included).

*Celebration Of Change* happens March 18, 1995. Mark your calendars now, and contact a Board Member to advertise in the program. The logo contest is still open. The winning entry receives two tickets to *Celebration* and the dance, or the undying gratitude of 15%, whichever means more to you.

Deadline is mid-February.

photo: Roz, Valerie, Jean, Robin, Monalessa, Ruth.
(Steph, Matt and Char suffer from an invisibility complex)
The Directory

This directory is our "yellow pages" and reference guide. Want to be listed? Know someone who you think wants to be listed? It's free! Write Identity or call Ken at 248-7722 or Angie/Linda at the AA at 337-8253.

The designations of (Lesb)ian, (Gay) and (All)ly indicate that the business or service is owned by (Lesbians, Gays or Al)lies. All peoples (regardless of sexual orientation) are encouraged and welcome to call for further information. NOTE: in some instances you might encounter employees who are unaware of this Directory and its significance. Don't be offended: it's an opportunity to enlighten them.

All listings are in Anchorage unless otherwise indicated.

AA:
(G) Midnight Sons, see Calendar

Advertising:
(I) KT Creative, Katie, 278-9174 (see ad)

AIDS:
(A) Alaskan AIDS Assistance Assoc., 263-2050
(A) Alaskans Living with HIV (ALHIV), Juneau, 463-5688
(A) Interior AIDS Assoc., 452-4222
(A) Pierce County AIDS Found. (WA), 206-383-2565
(A) Shanti of Juneau, 907-463-5685, 1-800-478-AIDS (2437)
(A) S.T.O.P. AIDS Project, Kona, 278-5819

Alternative Medicine/Health:
(A) Hope, 561-2330
(A) Gutecky, Keshia/Jaimini, 561-7327
(A) The Oke Herb Shoppe, Constanse, 522-4372

Amusements:
(G) Hollywood Canteen, Rand, 561-8064 (see ad)

Apparel:
(A) The Look, Karl, 278-5665

Architectural Design:
(G/A) Lipson/Brown Design, 274-0913

Astrology:
(A) Rainbow Counseling, Maureen, 277-8582

Automotive:
(A) Courtney's, Linny, 562-1227 (see ad)

Bakery:
(G) Illusions, Brian, 243-8457 (see ad)

Bars:
(G) The Blue Moon, 277-8441
(G) Palace Saloon (Fairbanks), Alaskaland (Fri and Sat ONLY)
(G) The Raven, 276-9672
(G) O'Brady's, 344-8033, 338-1080, 563-1080 (see ad)

Bed & Breakfast:
(G) Alta's (Fairbanks), Pete, 457-8246 (see ad)
(G) Arctic Feather, Doug, 277-3862
(G) Aurora Winds, James/Bill, 346-2533
(A) Beach House, Mary ( Homer), 235-5945
(L) The Butterfly Inn, Kay (Hawaii), 808-966-7936
(L) Cherry Lake B&B, Mary/Janetta, 337-4391
(G) The Crabtree Guest House (Fairbanks), Phil/Bobby, 451-6501
(L) Garden Cottage (Orlando, FL), Lisa, 407-894-5395
(G) Gingerbread House, Yves (Montreal), 514-597-2804
(A) Island Watch, Eileen ( Homer), 235-2265 (see ad)
(L) Mermaid Inn, Nancy/Bonnie (St. Lauderdale, FL), 305-565-8437
(L) Northern Comfort, Reeda, 278-2106

Bicycle Repair:
(G) Roy's Bikes, Roy, 333-8221

Boarding School Selection:
(A) Tom Croke, 800-727-3684

Feldenkrais:
(L) Movement Options, Shari, 272-0816

Books:
(L) Alaska Women's Bookstore, Joann/Marish, 562-4716
(A) Alaskans, Gene, 561-1348 (see ad)
(A) Cytra's Books, Sandy/Jerry, 247-2599

Carpet & Linoleum Installation:
(A) Big Bob's, Mark, 561-2121
(A) Don, 349-1065

Catering:
(G) Alaska's Best Catering, Maurice, 338-1080, 337-1969
(G) Illusions, Brian, 243-8457 (see ad)
(G) Silver Spoon Cleaning & Catering, Brent, 258-0828

Chemical Dependency:
(L/B) Pride Institute (Minneapolis), 800-54 PRIDE (547-7433). Also Los Angeles, CA, Coconut Grove, FL and New York City.

Child Care:
(G) Kid Zone, Andrew, 337-3082

Churches:
see Spiritual

Coffee Houses:
(G) Hollywood Canteen, Rand, 561-0064 (see ad)

College Selection:
(A) Tom Croke, 800-727-3684

Computer Bulletin Board:
(A) Metropolitan Community Church, 276-0380; 276-0399
(A) Myths of Reality (Berdache), 333-3425; 338-2869
(G) The Wilde Side, 333-4039

Computer Supplies:
(A) Frigid North, Tom, 561-4533 (see ad)

Computer Consultants, Graphic Design, & Desktop Publishing:
(G) Ali's P.C. Connections, Alfred, 561-2767
(L) Angie, 337-0253 (see ad)
(G) By-Teq Alaska Inc., Ken, 248-2422
(L) CDA Services, Waltraud, 276-6862
(A) Computer Magik, Phil, 274-3528
(A) Helleck & Associates, Terry, 276-3869
(A) LIF Technologies, Logan, 272-7377
(G) Lucian, 272-0328
(G) Mark, 338-3357
(G) PC Possibilities, 248-6277

Costume Design:
(G) Every Bloomin' Thing, Jerry, Malcom, 274-3158

Counseling:
(G) Ability Design Associates, Doran, 258-2561
(A) Counseling Alternatives, Connie, 562-1826
(L) Counseling Alternatives, Janna, 562-1826
(A) Jann, 248-9408
(G) Ken, 243-7722 (see ad)
(A) Marion, 562-0012
(A) Psychological Services Center, 786-1795

Deaf Support:
(A) Interpreter Referral Line, 277-3323 voice, 277-0735 tty
(A) Deaf Rehabilitation Serv., 277-3456 voice, 258-2232, tty
Dental Care:
(A) Ward Huibert, DDS, 248-0022

Dog Boarding:
(A) Doggie Vacations, 344-3647

Drug Dependency:
(G/L/B) Pride Institute (Minnesota), 800-54 PRIDE (547-7433). Also Los Angeles, CA, Coconut Grove, FL and New York City.

Electrical:
(G) The Electric Doctor, Bob, 561-2225

Electronics:
(A) Frigid North, Tom, 561-4633 (see ad)

Electrolysis:
(A) Anchorage Skin Care Clinic, Barbara, 277-4247
(A) Gentle Touch, 561-6608 (see ad)

Entertainment:
(G) Capri Cinema, 561-0864, Movieline: 275-3799 (see ad)
(A) Maccarella Music, Diane, 277-9781
(I) Real Talent Productions, Karyn, 562-5777, 278-5683
(A) Syzygy/Music Magic, Linda, 274-2599

Financial, Insurance, Investments:
(I) Chris, 561-8840/338-3962 (see ad)

Feldenkrais:
(I) Movement Options, Shari, 272-0816

Fishing:
(I) Puffin Family Charters, Leslie, 278-3346

Floors & Tile:
(A) Quality Floors, Bob & Ruth, 248-3900

Florist:
(G) Every Bloomin’ Thing, Jerry, Malcom, 274-3158

Furniture:
(A) Design Craft, Laura/David, 279-0638 (see insert)

Gas:
(A) Courtney’s, Linny, 562-1227 (see ad)

Gender:
(B) Berdacho Society, Nora Jean, 258-9909

General Contracting:
(I) R & L Construction, Lita, 279-4606

Gifts:
(I) Alaska Women’s Bookstore, Joann/Marla, 562-4716
(A) Design Craft, Laura/David, 272-4438 (see insert)
(A) Love of Alaska, Talyne, 243-0876

Hair Styling:
(G) Gabrielle, 272-9045
(A) 36th Ave. Hair Design, Ledjha, 561-8967

Health:
(A) Gagekey, Ketki/Jalminni, 561-7327
(I) Health Advocacy-Medical/Legal Research, Linda, 337-0253
(A) Home Health Care, 261-3173
(I) Movement Options, Shari, 272-0816
(A) Nature’s Own Way, Roberts/Debbby, 561-0181
(A) The Old Herb Shoppe, Constance, 522-4372
(G/L/B) Pride Institute (Minnesota), 800-54 PRIDE (547-7433). Also Los Angeles, CA, Coconut Grove, FL and New York City
(A) Skin care, Shari, 345-7451

Health, naturopathic:
(A) Hope, 561-2330

Helpline:
(G/L) Fairbanks Lesbian/Gay Line, 458-8288
(G/L) Identity Helpline, 255-4777 (see ad)
(G) Kodiak Gay Info, 486-2986

Homeless?
(A) Brother Francis Shelter, Lynne, 277-1731

House Cleaning:
(I) Connie’s House Cleaning Svc., Connie, 276-3147
(A) Green Valley Cleaning, Tara, 345-4657
(A) Silver Spoon Cleaning & Catering, Brent, 258-0828

House Sitting:
(I) Carol, 271-4620 (see ad, TLC)

Housewares:
(A) Design Craft, Laura/David, 272-4438 (see insert)

Imperial Court:
(G) Imperial Court of All Alaska, Jasmine, 563-8650, Bob 272-3042

Hypnotherapy:
(A) Rainbow Counseling, Maureen, 277-0582

Income Tax Preparation:
(A) Lynn (LaPerriere) Thomas, 263-9720 (see ad)

Jewelry:
(A) Peggy’s Jewelry & Repair, Peggy, 562-1095

Kites, Games, Banners, Puzzles:
(A) Northwind Kites, Pat, 279-4386
(I) Wood Nymph Landscaping, Valerie, 338-0338

Legal:
(I) Mendel & Huntington, Allison, 279-5001 (see ad)
(A) Mendel & Huntington, Kara, 279-5001 (see ad)
(A) Short, Sylvia, 562-4992 (see ad)

Massage:
(G) Don, 338-8826
(G) Gabriel, 272-9045
(A) Joyce, (CMT), 562-1916
(I) Leslie (non-sexual), 278-3346 (see ad)
(A) Marion, 562-0012
(I) Vicki, 277-5222
(G) Don (CMT), 338-8826

Mortgage Brokers:
(A) City Mortgage, Lynn LaPerriere, 277-0700 (see ad)

Music/Instruments:
(A) Oldtime Music Company, Marge, 561-6862 (see ad)

Native Arts/Culture:
(A) Moon Dancer Arts, Rosemary (Wasilla), 373-5353

Obstetrics & Gynecology:
(A) June, 563-5151

Odd Jobs:
(I) Deb, 275-3018
(A) Service with a Smile (non-sexual), Liz, 274-5290

Painting:
(I) L & L Painting, Lita, 277-7549

Personal Services (non-sexual):
(A) Service with a Smile, Liz, 274-5290

Pet Care:
(A) Doggie Hut, Arlid, 279-5861
(A) Doggie Vacations of Alaska, Constance, 344-3647

Photography:
(G) Fotos by Frank, Frank, 337-3399 (see ad)

Picture Framing:
(I) Studio Designs, Lita, 279-4606
Directory again

Political:
(A) Alaskans Concerned About Latin America (CALA), Ruth, 333-1190
(A) Anchorage Women's Political Caucus, Rhonda, 274-9308
(G/L) Equal, Inc., 566-8930 (see ad)
(G/L) Log Cabin Republicans, (503) 642-7292

Printing, Electronic Graphics:
(A) Alaska Micro Associates, Rebecca, 337-0409
(A) SOS Printing, Val, 562-1678
(A) Timeframe, 562-3822 (see ad)

Private Investigators:
(L) K & K Investigating, Karyn, 561-3665

Producing:
(L) Real Talent Productions, Karyn, 562-5777, 578-5683

Recreation:
(L) Puffin Family Charters, Leslie, 278-3346
(L) Alaska Women of the Wilderness, Rachel, 688-2226

Real Estate:
(G) Apollo Real Estate, Bob, 561-7481 (see ad)
(A) Brownway Hillman, 248-2804, 563-5156 (see ad)
(L) Dynamic Properties, Jill, 261-7663
(G) Ownit Properties (Fairbanks), Jonathan, 452-2100 (see ad)
(L) Waltraud Barron, 274-2634 (see ad)

Reiki/Counseling:
(G) Ken, 248-7722 (see ad)
(A) Joyce, CMT, 562-1916 (see ad)
(L) Spirit Services, Barbara, 274-4089

Research:
(L) Cranium & Associates, 279-3982 (see ad)

Restaurants:
(A) Cyranos's Cafe, 274-1173
(G) O'Brady's, 344-8833, 338-1080, 563-1080 (see ad)

Retirement Plans:
(A) Lynn (LaPerriere) Thomas, 263-0720 (see ad)

Rooming Houses:
(A) Regina's, 276-4904

Security Alarm Systems:
(G) Mark, 278-2029

Self-Healing:
(A) Joyce, CMT, 562-1916 (see ad)

Sightseeing:
(L) Puffin Family Charters, Leslie, 278-3346

Snowplowing:
(L) Jade Services, Julie, 688-1126

Social:
(G) Anchorage Garden Buddies, 248-0425
(G/L) Q*Kitch (Fairbanks), Eric, 455-4051

Social Research Design, Student Consultation, Evaluation:
(L) Susan E. Johnson, PhD, 272-4113

Spiritual:
(A) Alaska Women of the Wilderness, Rachel, 688-2226
(A) Anchorage Church of Religious Science, Center for Positive Living, Rev. Nancee Sweeney, 258-0010
(A) Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Art, 248-3737 (see ad)
(A) Church of the Covenant (Matanuska Valley), Pastor Howard Bess, 746-1089
(A) Lamb of God Metropolitan Community Church, Jim, 258-5264 (see insert)
(A) St. James the Fisherman Episcopal Church (Kodiak), Fr. Paul, 486-5276

(A) Unity Church of Anchorage, 346-2824

Sports:
(I) Alaska Women of the Wilderness, Rachel, 688-2226
(A) Flies by Ilene (Eagle River), 694-6946
(G) Roy's Bikes, Roy, 333-8221

Student Organizations:
(G/L) Alaskan Gay and Lesbian Association (AGLA, Fairbanks), Pete, 457-0246 (see Club Notes)
(G/L) Lesbian, Gay and Bi Student Association, UAA, soon to be "the Family" (see Club Notes)

Support Groups:
(G) Ability Design Associates, Dorian, 258-2561
(A) P-FLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Anchorage), Sylvia 562-4902, Fred 562-7161
(G) A-FLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Fairbanks), Nancy, 479-4944

Tarot/Psychics:
(L) Spirit Services, Barbara, 274-4089

Therapeutic Facilities Out-of-State:
(A) Tom Croke, 800-727-3684

Theatre:
(A) Out North Theatre, Gene/Jay, 279-8099

Travel:
(G) Apollo Travel Agency, Bob, 561-0661 (see ad)
(G) Apollo Travel Agency, Cherriese, 561-0661 (see ad)
(L) Apollo Travel Agency, Karyn, 561-0661 (see ad)
(L) DreamQuest Tours, Karyn, 562-5777, 278-5683
(G) World Express Travel, Greg, 786-3701

Tutoring:
(A) Janes, Biology, 248-6412
(L) Patty, Math & Physics, 561-2634

Veternarian:
(A) Dr. Jean Battig (Fairbanks) 452-6055

Woodworking:
(L) North Star Signs, Rusty, 333-7900

Writing & Editing Assistance:
(L) Kathy, 278-2840
(L) Mi Mi, 276-7269

Yardwork, Hauling, Snowplowing:
(L) Jade Services, Julie, 688-1126

Look at Your Mailing Label!
The new NorthView mailing labels now give you the renewal date for your identity membership. Please refer to the line above your name. Your membership expiration is expressed as year/month, i.e., 199410. If your renewal is due in the near future, please help paperwork- and postage-wise—send it early.

We are struggling to continue our activities, which include the North-View, the monthly Pot-lucks and the Helpline, not to mention the Lesbian & Gay Pride Picnic and National Coming Out Day! Please send your membership now (more if you can, less if you can't) and support your Identity! Thanks! Thanks!
Truths About Bisexuality
by Sarah Murray

Until recently, Bisexuality was not recognized as a legitimate sexual orientation in the United States, neither within the Gay and Lesbian communities nor in mainstream society. This reflects a general American tendency to polarize identities into two mutually exclusive categories, as we also do with race and gender and political ideologies.

Bisexuals have been portrayed by mainstream society as promiscuous “swingers” who can’t control their sexual desires, a stereotype that shares much with mainstream stereotypes of homosexuals. With the advent of AIDS, Bisexual men became a focus of fear as they were perceived by many to be spreading the HIV virus from the Gay male community to the heterosexual community.

Bisexuals have been portrayed by many Lesbians and Gay men as people who “can’t make up their minds” and are afraid to fully claim a homosexual identity. These stereotypes derive from the experiences of some Gays and Lesbians who claim a Bisexual identity as a transitional step to fully admitting to themselves, and to others, their homosexual orientation. These stereotypes also come from experiences some have had with Bisexual lovers who leave the homosexual relationship because they can’t or don’t want to accept the loss of privileges and social stature that accompanies living openly in a homosexual relationship. More deeply, they emerge from our strong cultural conviction described above that all identities are polar and absolute, and no identities which blend elements of two seemingly opposite identities are legitimate.

Little psychological or sexological research has been done that focuses specifically on Bisexuality. However, sexological research beginning with the famous Kinsey surveys published in the late 1940’s and 1950’s, and continuing with biological and medical research by others, consistently indicates that Bisexuality is a distinct sexual orientation. Like homosexuality and heterosexuality, Bisexual sexual orientation appears to be partially caused by the hormonal environment of the fetus, emerges during normal childhood and adolescent development, and cannot be changed.

Some of the most important research has been done by Dr. John Money, head of the gender identity and sexual orientation research clinic at Johns Hopkins University and one of the world’s foremost researchers on human sexuality and gender development. In a public statement in support of a Maryland sexual minorities civil rights bill, Dr. Money said that trying to change the behavior of either homosexuals or Bisexuals “is ineffectual, for it is not possible to force a change from homosexuality to bisexuality, any more than it is possible to force a heterosexual person into becoming a homosexual.

He compares sexual orientation to handedness. Just as some people are right-handed, some left-handed, and some ambidextrous, some are heterosexual, some homosexual and some bisexual. Bisexuals can no more choose who they fall in love with or are attracted to than can homosexuals or heterosexuals. However, they can choose which identity to publicly embrace.

While many Gays and Lesbians have had bad experiences with people identified as Bisexuals, this does not justify the conclusion that there are no true Bisexuals. Instead, such experiences are a painful demonstration of the distorting effects discrimination based on sexual orientation can have on self-identity and intimate relationships. If homophobia were not so common, it is not to be justified by discrimination, homosexuals would more readily accept their orientation and would not cling to heterosexual or bisexual identities. Bisexuals would not feel compelled to choose either heterosexual “normality” over homosexual “deviance,” or to declare an exclusive homosexual identity. We should look to a future where such distortions are lessened because our society refuses to allow discrimination and social stigma based on sexual orientation, and citizens are assured full civil rights regardless of their sexual orientation or the gender of their intimate partners.


A gay in the life, by John Sieruta ©1993

I'm never dating again! I mean it! I don't care if I live the rest of my life alone.

But I won't be left alone! From now on I'm gonna put all that energy into the greatest friends a guy ever had and some guy.

Sorry Bob, this time it's for real.

Um, excuse me... can I play with a girl?
Stargazer Commentary
by Barbara J. Soule

Thank you to all who attended “Trusting Your Psychic Self” at the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual conference at UAA, October 1. The following information is only a brief explanation of some of the terms used in the workshop. Due to the limited time, participants got the “cram” course in mediation. Some of the participants were not familiar with the terms and references used.

CHAKRA: Chakras are energy points in the physical body. Traditionally, the first chakra is at the base of the coccyx bone. In the Hindu culture, this is the home of transformational fire, the Kundalini. The second, the sex or creativity chakra is, usually, about four inches below the navel. The third, the solar plexus or power, chakra is an inch higher. On men, this chakra may be in the pancreas or spleen area. The fourth is the heart chakra and is on the breast bone between the breasts. The throat, the fifth, is at or above the “v” at the end of the neck between the collar bones. The “third eye,” the sixth is about an inch higher than the bridge of the nose. The seventh, called the crown chakra, is on top of the head and an inch or so forward of center.

The positions listed are the usual place of the energy points. They may not conform to this pattern with every person. There are other traditions listing these energy points as being elsewhere on the body and in different patterns. One culture describes the energy points as being in a star pattern. Each person is different. There are minor energy points, if large and wide open, which may feel like a major energy center. For instance, an energy point in the palm of the hand may be wide open after surgery or injury to the arm, underarm or breast. The palms become major energy points when a healer channels energy regularly through the hands.

You may be able to find these energy places in your own body. With your eyes closed or in a pitch dark room, rub the palms of the hands together in a circular motion. Put one hand an inch or so above the top of your head, and move around, slowly. You will feel the energy change. This change or different feeling is very slight, just a little difference in the other areas. This place may be warmer and you may feel the change inside your head not in the hand. Rub palms together, again, and with the palm of the hand in the air about an inch or so above your forehead, check for the position of the third eye. Repeat in the other areas described above.

Remember, men’s third, solar plexus chakra may be on the left side rather than below the navel. Women may have this chakra higher or lower as well. Areas mentioned are an approximation of location. This is very brief information about the chakras. I own several, thick, white hair in the chakra system.

VIBRATION FREQUENCY: Frequency is a common term. We change a frequency any time we change the radio or television station. We change frequencies in our sleep going into R.E.M. or dream state. The “stuffed” or unresolved emotions and trauma that have hurt a person lower the vibration rate in a human body. Illness lowers this rate, too. The more alive and vital a person and the clearer emotionally, the higher the vibration frequency. People change their own frequency when they meditate going from a beta to theta and then, into an alpha state. The more a person meditates, the more likely their vibration rate stays changed or can be altered quickly.

GROUNDING: Everything comes back to the Earth. The Earth not only provides a place to live and the resources to sustain us, but provides a starting point from which to move into the higher spiritual realms. One can “ground” by gardening, marking in clay, or walking barefoot in the dirt. My favorite is walking in the cool dirt mounds after a field or garden is plowed or rototilled. You can “ground” by visualizing connecting lines from the feet and tailbone anchoring deep in the center of the earth. A grounded person comes from the greatest place of internal strength.

CLAIRVOYANT PSYCHIC: Clairvoyant means “to see” as does the word, psychic. A clairvoyant receives mental pictures, either “stills” or in motion. A psychic has the ability to look at energy. Everything is energy.

The Sylvan Institute, where I studied to develop my psychic abilities, has a theory about the human brain. Research has showed that human beings only use seven to ten percent of their brain capacity. The Institute believes a psychic is able to use the brain like a giant computer. Input all the sensory data the brain is capable of receiving, then project or carry the information out to a possible or a logical conclusion.

HANDS-ON HEALER: In the Sanskrit text, Buddha healed by touch. “Laying on of hands” is a biblical term; one of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Jesus healed by touch. These gifts fall in dispute over the ages, because only the true believers were supposed to have the gifts. During the 1970s, the charismatic movement surfaced in Catholic and Protestant communities and revived interests in the “gifts.” Herbalists, yogis, witches, mothers and fathers report healing or being healed by touch.

Basically, a person transfers electro/magnetic energy or their own energy to another person. If the person who transfers the energy is not ill, they pass on healthy energy to the person who is out of balance. Some people take the hurt ill away. This means, they transfer that energy to their own body and have the illness or injury. Scientifically, we have the sensitive technology to “read” a person’s energy and document transference of energy while it happens. How or why it occurs is not known at this time.

TRANSMEDIA CHANNEL: Some people raise their vibration rate to a higher spiritual level. The person who raises the vibration rate and channels energy and information from a higher source is called a transmedium channeler.

What actually happens is not clear. Some contend that they “connect” with a Higher Spiritual Being. Other people think...
they are joined with their Higher Spiritual Self or the
Universal Mind.

The theory of Universal Mind is that any mind, if it can find
the right channel, can access what is already known by anyone
who has ever lived. Connecting with the Higher Spiritual Self
is based on the premise that each lifetime is a refining of only
a facet of the whole being. If you have a human body, it is not
possible to display the entire radiant spectrum of the true
spirit. Ultimately the spirit is light: pure frequency and
energy, with no mass.

I am always approachable if you are interested, have any
questions or have experienced any unusual phenomenon.
These subjects are part of a rich, joyful spiritual life for me.

Those of you who attended the “Trusting Your Psychic
Self” workshop or any one who is interested in doing more
meditation, there will be an afternoon of Thanksgiving, Prayer
and Meditation, Sunday, December 11. The astrological cycle
that began prior to Harmonic convergence ends on December
twelfth.

For more information on workshops being offered or
registration call my office at 274-4089.

Barbara Soule is a Reiki Master, a clairvoyant psychic, a Lesbian
artist, performer and writer.

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**Financial News**

by Chris Olson

"The Hall of Shame"

We Gay & Lesbian & Bi folk sometimes are too busy
and tied up with more important and earth shattering
projects to pay attention to how we spend our
money. In the course of taking care of our personal business
we are asked to pay for many goods and services. Some are
worth every penny. Some are stupid purchases that you know
are stupid. Some are just little ‘mistakes’ we make in
judgments about what is and isn’t important.

The shameful purchases are either the ones that you never
knew were rip-offs or the ones that you just couldn’t say “no”
to. Cut this article out and save it. The next time you are
asked to pay money for any of the following 25 things you can
pull this out and quote me. You may disagree with me on
some of these things. That’s OK. Even if you save money by
not doing even one of these shameful acts I’ll feel like my
message was heard.

1. Putting your own savings plan at the bottom of your bill
   pile
2. Buying a new car every 5 years or less.
3. Anything that is “new and improved”
4. Credit life insurance
5. Investing on the advice of someone you have never met
6. Fancy restaurants/eating out more than you eat in
7. Buying something on sale that you really don’t need
8. Credit cards with annual fees
9. Optional cable television services
10. Investing in something you don’t understand
11. Life Insurance for children
12. Spending vested pension benefits when you change jobs
13. High interest credit cards
14. Credit card loans
15. Buying property you have never seen
16. Gold cards
17. Lavishing expensive gifts on yourself or your lover/s
18. TV shopping
19. Lending money to friends
20. Holding onto investments for sentimental reasons
21. Sunroofs installed into an old house
22. Designer-label clothing
23. Low-interest savings accounts
24. No-interest checking accounts
25. Buying anything to keep up with the Jones’s

Chris Olson is a fully licensed insurance and securities repre-sentative,
has lived in Alaska for 13 years and welcomes new clients and referrals,
especially from the Gay & Lesbian Community.

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"Many people deny that bisexuality exists. I happen to
feel that women have a natural capacity for bisexuality."

—Writer Camille Paglia

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**Anchorage Gay & Lesbian HELPLINE**

258-4777

A Community Service of SENDITY, INC. P.O. Box 220073, Anchorage, AK 99520
Would Anyone Care To Dance?
By Herman Coen, Jr.

Author's note:
Over the last year, I have tried to come to grips with the fact that when I am angry about something, my mouth is the first thing I open. I have begun to look more closely at the issues, which are rarely as well defined as they may seem at the time. With all of this introspection, I feel that I can now address issues with a bit less abrasiveness. With that said, there is an issue that seems to have gotten worse over the last year, not better, and I feel a need to re-address this issue.

Ever since Stonewall (and perhaps before), Gay and Lesbian (and more recently Bisexual and Transgendered) people have been proclaiming the right to be equal members of society. They have formed groups and organizations, and have made them their own. One of the earliest of these was the Gay Liberation Front, and since then we have seen The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, Queer Nation, Radical Faeries, The 1993 March on Washington for Lesbian Gay and Bi Equal Rights and Liberation, to name a few. All of these organizations have something in common—you know from their name that it is a Gay-friendly (at the very least) organization.

Just over a year ago, I wrote a letter to this paper highly criticizing some members of EQUAL, Inc. for having decided to drop the words "The Alaska Gay and Lesbian Task Force" from its name. I thought then (as I do now) that it is important to have organizations in the community that incorporate at the very least the words Gay and Lesbian, and properly should also include Bisexual and Transgendered. It is important that youth and adults just coming out of the closet be able to find supportive community organizations. We as responsible members of the community should be strong enough to withstand the rhetoric of zealots like Jerry Prevo and make the transition from the closet a little less difficult for those coming after us. To be fair, the members who voted to change the name said their decision was based on getting the 501(c)(3) tax exempt status which would not allow political activity. How curious to find them listed in this paper's directory under "Political." It should also be noted that the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force is a 501(c)(3) organization.

While browsing through the North View, I noticed that the Lesbian/Gay/Bi Student Association at the University is changing or has changed its name to "the Family." I would like to think that the people involved will not be too offended if I asked "Why?" There has been (to my knowledge or any one I have spoken to) no uproar that there is a Gay organization on campus, and after EQUAL, Inc changed its name the LGBSA was one of only two groups in town with Lesbian and Gay in its official name. I believe that would increase interest from recently out people in that group. I have heard that perhaps the reason that LGBSA changed its name was for inclusivity. I am a man, and have been a member of the national Organization for Women for the last six years, and I would be highly offended to see them even consider changing their name to make men feel more included.

I mentioned above that including the LGBSA there were two organizations in town that included Gay and Lesbian in their names. The other organization is the Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG). This is a wonderful group of people who have decided that those members of their family or those who are friends of theirs who are who happen also to be Gay or Lesbian are no less of a friend or no less valuable a member of their family than they were prior to coming out. I have to thank these wonderful people for all of the love and encouragement that they have given to so many who had no one else who cared. I would also like to thank them for not being afraid to be the beacon in the dark, now that they are the only group in town that openly acknowledges affiliation with Gays and Lesbians just by its name.

I would encourage anyone who finds this issue to be unimportant or "petty" to travel—go to places where battles are being fought, and you will see how important a visible community can be. I have just returned from a year in Honolulu, where within two years it is very likely that WE as Gays, Lesbians, Bisexuals, and Transgendered persons will be allowed to freely marry the person of our choice. I have for ten of those months been the district coordinator of the marriage Project for my Legislative district. It is only because they have a strong, visible community that they have been able to get as far as they have. One day we will also have the opportunity to lead, and I hope we can find the strength to follow their example.

Herman Coen is back from Hawaii and looking forward to politics.

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EQUAL

EQUAL MONTHLY ACTIVITIES REPORT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:  ADDRESS:
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Frank Mabry
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Linda Kellen (Sect'y)
Amy Young (Co-chair)
Richard Martin (Treas)
Dan Carter (Co-chair)
Doug Frank

PHONE:
337-5861 Treasurer/general info
274-9228 Registrar/election info
277-3862 General info

Meetings are held the 1st Thursday of the month. The next general meeting will be held 7:00pm Thursday, December 1, at the Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 3201 Turnagain.

ACTIVITIES:
COFFEE HOUSE: Thursday, November 17th - 7:00 to 9:00pm at the Hollywood Canteen next to Capri Cinema on Tudor. Come discuss the political climate and (hopefully) celebrate the election of our new governor.

KAKM PUBLIC TELEVISION ON-AIR
FUNDRAISER - "We're here, we're queer, we support public television..." Equal will be answering the phones for the KAKM Membership Drive on December 4th from 7:30 PM to 10:30 PM. Wear your pink triangles! Call 277-3862 for more information.

DISCUSSION:
FUTURE ACTIVITIES:
- GIFT BASKETS (Linda) - Please bring canned goods and presents to the next meeting so we can put together gift baskets for "People Living with AIDS."
- SNOW SCULPTURE (Linda) - We are checking into forming a team to enter the Fur Rendezvous Snow Sculpture contest. If you are interested, come to the next meeting. We especially need folks with good ideas and at least one person with artistic vision! (Some of us will just be there to follow instructions!)

TREASURER'S REPORT (Richard) - We have approximately $80.00 in the bank. Yikes!

ELECTION CANDIDATE SURVEY (Dan) - Equal members met at Dan and Al's house to do the mail-out of the results of the candidate surveys. Only a fifth of them were filled out.

PHONE BANK (Amy) - Equal members met at Cracium and Associates on November 7th, the

night before the election, and called the phone numbers from the Equal list reminding people to vote.

Our more "mobile" members have changed phone numbers and others have not given us a phone number. If your phone number or address have changed, please call Dan Carter at 274-9226 so he can change it.

NEW EQUAL GROUP
We now have a satellite Equal group in Fairbanks. They have had their first meeting. It will be necessary for Equal to change the by-laws to allow for a statewide organization.

BUS SIGNS
Dan designed several holiday bus signs, and we chose one at the meeting. Letters were sent out to gay-friendly businesses to raise funds. As of the meeting, we had not received any money.

FUNDRAISING LETTERS - It was decided not to send out a request-for-funds letter to the mailing list at this time, due to all of the candidate requests for money. Equal will be working to have an actual fund-raiser soon.

GAY BINGO - Equal is still in this process with MCC. Look for Gay Bingo to happen in the New Year.

**REGISTER TO VOTE** Or become an official registrar. If you are interested, please call Dan or Al at 274-9226.

EQUAL
EQUAL Under Alaskan Law

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, December 1, 7:00pm - Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

EQUAL hopes to sponsor up to 10 bus signs for the upcoming holiday season to express holiday greetings to the entire Anchorage community. We would gladly accept contributions to help with this effort. See the Dandelion page for more information about this project.

EQUAL will staff the phones during KAKM's Auction on Sunday, December 4, from 7:30-10:30PM. If you would like to help, call 274-9226.

1994-1995 Board of Directors
Amy Young & Dan Carter - Co-chairs
Linda Kellen -- Secretary
Richard Martin -- Treasurer
Doug Frank, Mercedes Kellis, Frank Mabry, Amy Menard & Rev. Jim Morgan, Jr.

P.O. Box 244452  Anchorage, AK 99524-4452
John C. Veker

Former longtime Anchorage resident John C. Veker, 36, died peacefully of complications from AIDS on Oct. 13 in Seattle while surrounded by loved ones.

A private memorial Mass was held Oct. 15 in Seattle. A local Mass was also held. Mr. Veker was born July 2, 1958, in Milwaukee. He was nine years old when his family moved to Anchorage in 1968. He attended Nunaka Valley Elementary school and Clark Junior High. He graduated from Bartlett High School in the 1970's.

Mr. Veker was a car salesman at Alaska Sales and Service before moving to Seattle. His hobbies were gourmet cooking, reading and traveling. He also enjoyed animals, including cats, dogs and pigs, and raised rabbits during his childhood.

He is survived by his mother, Sophie; father, Gayle; and brother Erik, all of Anchorage; his partner Glenn Dixo of Seattle; paternal grandparents, Impe and Charles of Michigan; and many relatives in Wisconsin, Illinois and Michigan.

Because he was an avid gardener with a particular fondness for growing flowers, he requested that his ashes be used in his loved ones' gardens.

Memorial donations may be sent to the Catholic AIDS Ministry, c/o Rev. David Jaeger, 910 Marion St., Seattle 98104; or to the Children's Hospital Brigade, 1002 E. Seneca, Seattle 98122.

Arrangements were handled by Bleitz Funeral Home in Seattle.

Anchorage Daily News, Friday, October 21, 1994

Bruce C. Sanders

Anchorage hairstylist Bruce Clark Sanders, 33, died Oct. 23 at Alaska Regional Hospital of complications due to AIDS.

A funeral was held at 3 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 29th at Evergreen Memorial Chapel, downtown. The Rev. David Miller of the Anchorage Friends Church officiated. A gathering of family and friends was held following the service.

Mr. Sanders was born Oct. 17, 1961 in Nome, and attended West High School.

He went to beauty school and had worked for John Anthony's, Regis, and Hollywood's Best hair salons in Anchorage, and at La Mex's downtown location. He also had worked in Jacksonville, Fla., and Seattle.

Mr. Sanders danced with Dance Spectrum, Alaska Dance Co. and enjoyed aerobatics, traveling, cooking and practical jokes.

His family said: "He was a very special person whose feelings ran very deep. He had a sense of humor that will be missed by all who knew him. He was dearly loved by his family."

Mr. Sanders is survived by his mother, Elsie of Anchorage; five brothers, Frank Wittle of Las Vegas, Nev., Donald and Wallace Black and Craig and Jeffrey Sanders of Anchorage; sister, Terri Sanders of Anchorage; sisters-in-law, Jean Wittle of Las Vegas, Juli Black and Joann Palmer of Anchorage, and Carol Black of Pennsylvania; brother-in-law, Thomas Aldridge of Anchorage; and numerous nieces and nephews, including Rene Linderman.

Mr. Sanders' ashes will be scattered over the mountains of Oahu, Hawaii, with a small portion dusted over his Grandma Black's grave.

Anchorage Daily News, Friday, October 28, 1994

Monte Skretteberg

Former Girdwood resident Monte Skretteberg, 44, died Oct. 12 at his home in Everett, Wash., from complications due to AIDS.

A celebration of life was held at his home in Everett. In accordance with his wishes, his ashes will be scattered over the family farm over the gravesites of his two favorite horses.

Mr. Skretteberg was born Aug. 28, 1950, in Carson, N.D., and was raised on the family farm along the Heart River near Carson. He graduated from Carson High School in 1968 and from Morehead State University in Morehead, Minn., in 1972. He worked as a cost accountant for various construction companies throughout the western United States, including nine years at remote sites in the Arctic, and in the Prudhoe Bay area.

His family said: "Monte took his charm, wit, talents and strong work ethic with him wherever he went. He was blessed with the ability to make friends quickly and opened his home and his heart to all who stopped by for a visit. His optimism and enthusiasm for life, laughter and love were contagious. He never put off fun until tomorrow. He possessed all the attributes of a wonderful friend combined with spontaneity and good energy. He was a gregarious and fun-loving storyteller with a passion for hot tubs and campfires burning long into the night."

Mr. Skretteberg is survived by his longtime partner, Kurt Avel of Everett; parents, Morville and Evelyn, and three brothers, Gary, Loron and Rod, all of Carson; and many relatives and friends.

Memorial donations may be sent to the Northwest AIDS Foundation, 127 Broadway East, Suite 200, Seattle 98102-9924.

Arrangements were handled by Bleitz Funeral Home in Seattle.

Anchorage Daily News, Thursday, October 20, 1994

Pedro Zamoras

Friday, 11/11. Pedro Zamoras died this morning. For those who recognize the name, it is not a surprise—a loss, certainly, but not a shock. For those who don't know him, he was the HIV spokesperson for the young generation from MTV's "The Real World." He was 22. And cute as a button.

"The Real World" is a show that documents the lives of several housemates over several months. New York, Los Angeles, and San Francisco have been the respective locations over the past three years (next season, it's London). Pedro was a Gay HIV-positive roommate in a home of terminal straights. The show documented his life as person with AIDS, a Cuban-American, and a Gay man. The sight of him strutting
through North Beach or Golden Gate park with his boyfriend put homosexuality into every cable-accessed living room in North America and beyond. The message he brought was one that all of us, Gay or HIV-affected, struggle to relay, except he touched countless ten's of thousands of people with his story. Viewers, mostly Generation X-ers, often for the first time, finally had an emotional stake in the struggle with HIV. He was the first "friend" that many young Americans have lost in the war.

His presence in the household brought the message that our community is not to be feared or pitied, but celebrated with every moment—whether mundane, tragic, or ecstatic. His existence has done more for the HIV and Gay communities than we can ever gauge. He was our face. I wish that I could relay something to masterfully wrap this all up but their is no end. Just transitions. Thank you, Pedro.▼

for robin

afloat to similar ends,
we pilot our solitary craft
one toward the other
in a jammed marketplace.
touch almost bow to bow
gunwhales caressing their entire lengths
and steer farther beyond
into a deepening twilight.

michael stephen queen
all rights reserved

Catch the Spirit of Seattle:
The 1995 Gay Softball World Series is Coming

Catch the Spirit of Seattle will be hosting the 1995 Gay Softball World Series. The Catch the Spirit Committee is comprised of members from the Emerald City Softball Association (ECSA) and prominent individuals throughout the Seattle community.

The members of Catch the Spirit are excited about hosting this event and promise to make it the most memorable Gay World Series to date.

In order to qualify to host a World Series, a softball association must be a member of The North American Gay Amateur Athletic Alliance (NAGAAA). NAGAAA is a non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion of amateur athletics for all people, with a unique and unparalleled commitment to participation from members of the gay and lesbian community.

The ECSA is comprised of three divisions. The Women's Softball Division is organized into teams which are exclusively women, and the Men's Softball Division is organized into teams with are solely men. The Open Division is composed of teams containing both men and women players.

Catch the Spirit's and the ESCA's origin can be traced back to 1979. In 1979, a group of gay men interested in bringing informal softball games to the Seattle area formed the Seattle Gay Athletic Association. From this small group emerged a thriving league that is now recognized as one of the strongest softball organizations in the country. ▼

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Nov 21, Mon:
- Gay, Joyous and Free, 7pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave.
- Women's music show on KRUA 88.1 FM, 7-9pm; call 786-4846 to make on-air requests

Nov 22, Tues:
- Names Project, AIDS Memorial Quilt: Panels on display at Anchorage Museum through Dec. 4.
- SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 8pm; call 566-1133
- Identity Board Meeting: 7pm, AUUF, 248-7722
- Cards, Fairbanks. Bobby & Phil's, 7:30pm, 451-6501

Nov 23, Wed:
- Free HIV TEST at 4As, 2-4pm. 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, 263-2050
- Blue Moon Follies, 10:00pm. $3 cover.
- "In The Life," KTOO, 11pm, Juneau

Nov 24, Thurs:
- SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 5:30pm; call 566-1133
- Gay, Joyous & Free AA Meeting, 7pm, 1231 W. 27th (non-smoking)

Nov 25, Fri:
- PLWA Lunch, 4As, 12-1pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, 263-2050
- Coffee and Cigarettes (Fairbanks), 7pm, Eric, 455-4051; Kathy, 455-6358
- Live and Let Live AA Meeting, 7pm, 637 A St. (non-smoking)
- Midnight Sons Gay Men's AA Meeting, 7:30-9pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave.

Identity Potluck
(nonsmoking)

6:30pm: See Ad...

- Dancing in Fairbanks! 9pm-3am, Palace Saloon in Alaskaland

Nov 26, Sat:
- SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 12:00; call 566-1133
- Women's Coffee House, 8pm, Alaska Women's Bookstore, film: "The Unashamed Stories of Lesbian Love"
- AGLA Dance, Dog Mushers' Hall (Palace is closed)

Nov 27, Sun:
- AUUF Services, 9:30am, and 10:30am, 3201 Turnagain St., 248-3777
- Metropolitan Community Church, 10:45am & 7pm. Call Bob for info: 561-8744
Nov. 27, Sun (cont’d):
- Midnight Sons AA Meeting, 1pm (Gay, Lesbian only), MCC Church, 615 Hollywood Dr.
- Northern Exposure Bowling League, 3pm, Park Lanes, 561-8744 (Bob) for info.
- Gay, Joyous & Free, AA Meeting, 7pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave.

Nov. 28, Mon:
- SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 5:30; call 566-1133.
- HIV+ Men’s Support Group, 5:30pm. Call Larry Holman, 272-7002 to reserve a seat & info.
- Gay, Joyous & Free AA Meeting, 7pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave.
- Women’s music show on KRUA 88.1FM, 7-9pm, 786-4846 to make on-air requests

Nov. 29, Tues:
- Cards, Fairbanks. Bobby & Phil’s, 7:30pm, 451-6501
- Anchorage Garden Buddies, 7:30pm, Kurt, 248-0425
- SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 8pm; call 566-1133

Nov. 30, Wed:
- Free HIV TEST at 4As. 2-4pm. 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, 263-2050
- MCPRTF meeting (Juneau), 7pm, call 586-6623 for info.
- Blue Moon Follies, 10:00pm, $3 Cover
- World AIDS Day Panel Dedication, 6-7pm, Noel Wein Library, special music

Dec. 1, Thurs:
- SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 5:30; call 566-1133
- IAA Annual Candlelight March, 5:45pm, Library Parking lot
- Annual Interfaith Service, 6:30pm, Fairbanks Lutheran Church
- Gay, Joyous & Free AA Meeting, 7pm, 1231 W. 27th (non-smoking)
- Equal meeting, 7pm, AUUF, call 337-5861
- World AIDS Day, 7pm service at Anchorage Museum of History and Art, featuring Libby Roderick and HOT Air.

Dec. 2, Fri:
- PLWA lunch, 4As, 12-1pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, 263-2050
- Live and Let Live AA Meeting, 7pm, 637 A St. (non-smoking)
- Midnight Sons Gay Men’s AA Meeting, 7:30-9pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave.
- AGLA (Fairbanks), 5pm, 402 in Greuning, call Laura 474-6666, x3567
- Dancing in Fairbanks! 11pm-3am, Palace Saloon in Alaskaland

Dec. 3, Sat:
- SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 12:00; call 566-1133
- Celebration of Change Workshop, noon-4pm, Red Cross Bldg, “Team Building,” Jean Cracium
- Women’s Video Night (Juneau), 7pm, Carol & Sudie’s, 586-2410
- Women’s Two-Step: Pioneer School House, 7:30pm
- Open House at France & Woody’s (Juneau)

Dec. 4, Sun:
- AUUF Services, 10:30am, 3201 Turnagain St., 248-3737
- Metropolitan Community Church, 10:45am, 7pm, 258-5266, 615 Hollywood Dr.
- AGLA Sunday Chat, Women’s Center
- Northern Exposure Bowling League: 3pm, Park Lanes, 561-8744 (Bob) for info.
- Midnight Sons AA Meeting, 1pm, (Gay, Lesbian only) MCC Church, 615 Hollywood Dr.
- Gay, Joyous & Free, AA Meeting, 7pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave.

Dec. 5, Mon:
- HIV+ Men’s Support Group, 5:30pm. Call Larry Holman, 272-7002 to reserve a seat & info.
- Gay, Joyous and Free, 7pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave.
- Women’s music show on KRUA 88.1FM, 7-9pm, 786-4846 to make on-air requests
- ICOAA (Imperial Court Of All Alaska), 7:30pm, John Thomas Center.
- DEADLINE FOR NORTHVIEW

Dec. 6, Tues:
- Cards, Fairbanks. Bobby & Phil’s, 7:30pm, 451-6501
- SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 8pm; call 566-1133
Dec. 7, Wed:
- Alaska Women’s Political Caucus, 7pm, First United Methodist Church
- Free HIV TEST at 4As, 2-4pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, 263-2050
- Q*Klatch Gathering, Time & Place TBA, call Eric, 455-4051
- Blue Moon Follies, 10:00pm, $3 Cover

Dec. 8, Thurs:
- SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 5:30; call 566-1133
- Gay, Joyous & Free AA Meeting, 7pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave. (non-smoking)

Dec. 9, Fri:
- PLWA lunch, 4As, 12-1pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, 263-2050
- Live and Let Live AA Meeting, 7pm, 637 A. St. (non-smoking)
- Midnight Sons Gay Men’s AA Meeting, 7:30-9pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave.
- Dancing in Fairbanks! 11pm-3am, Palace Saloon in Alaska Land

Dec. 10, Sat:
- SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 12:00; call 566-1133
- AGLA (As, Gay and Lesbian Assn., Fairbanks)

Dec. 11, Sun:
- AUUF Services, 10:30am, 3201 Turnagain St., 248-3737
- Metropolitan Community Church, 10:45am and 7pm, 258-5266, 615 Hollywood Dr.
- December Brunch at Carol & Sudie’s (Juneau), 586-2410 for info.
- Midnight Sons AA Meeting, 1pm, (Gay, Lesbian only), MCC Church, 615 Hollywood Dr.
- Spirit Services, 2-6pm, Barbara Soule, 274-4089
- Gay, Joyous & Free, AA Meeting, 7pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave.

Dec. 12, Mon:
- HIV+ Men’s Support Group, 5:30pm. Call Larry Holman, 272-7002 to reserve a seat & info.
- Gay Bar, legal Q and A, 7-8:30pm, call 279-5001
- Gay, Joyous & Free, 7pm, AA Meeting 1231 W. 27th Ave.

Dec. 13, Tues:
- P-FLAG Fairbanks, 5:30, 479-4944
- SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 8pm; call 566-1133
- Cards, Fairbanks, Bobby & Phil’s, 7:30pm, 451-6501

Dec. 14, Wed:
- Free HIV TEST at 4As, 2-4pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, 263-2050
- Gay Men’s Discussion Group, 7:30pm, 451-6501
- Blue Moon Follies, 10:00pm, $3 Cover
- P-FLAG, 7pm, AUUF, Fred 562-7161; Sylvia 562-4992

Dec. 15, Thurs:
- SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 5:30; call 566-1133
- Gay, Joyous & Free AA Meeting, 7pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave. (non-smoking)

Dec. 16, Fri:
- PLWA lunch, 4As, 12-1pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, 263-2050
- AGLA meeting, 6pm, Rm 402 Greening, Laura, 474-6666 x3567
- Q*Klatch Writes (Fairbanks), 7pm: Eric, 455-4051; Kathy, 455-6358
- Live and Let Live AA Meeting, 7pm, 637 A. St. (non-smoking)
- Midnight Sons Gay Men’s AA Meeting, 7:30-9pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave.
- Dancing in Fairbanks! 11pm-3am, Palace Saloon in Alaska Land

Dec. 17, Sat:
- Celebration of Change, noon-4pm, Red Cross Bldg, “Comedy” Alice Welling, 274-8006
- AGLA Yule Party, TBA (Fairbanks)

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Off My Rocker
by Lesléa Newman

I am standing in the tchotchke aisle of J.C. Penney's trying to convince Flash that a teapot shaped like a typewriter is a household necessity, when a high-pitched shriek pierces our eardrums. "Poor kid." Flash mumbles. "Poor mother," I mumble back. The shrieks grow louder. All of a sudden a thigh-high child tears into our aisle and wraps its little arms around Flash. I have to give the kid credit: Flash's leg is the first thing I clench when I'm scared out of my wits, too.

Flash and I look down at her new appendage. Flash tries to move but the little male tot has attached himself to her pant leg like Velcro. Flash strokes his shiny black hair. "Let me pick you up."

"Up." The little boy-toy raises his arms and gazes at Flash as if she is his own personal messiah. Flash picks up the little tyke who instantly nestles his head into the soft space where her neck meets her shoulder. I almost tap him and say, "Excuse me, tateleh, that space is reserved," but I restrain myself. For not only is the little boychik in heaven, but so is Flash. She's rocking back and forth like all women when a wee one is placed in their arms. All women except yours truly, that is. I don't rock. I freeze.

The first time this happened, I was with Sal and Val and their new baby, Gal. "Don't you want to hold her?" they asked, handing me a bundle of blankets with a baby inside. "What do I do?" I asked. "Just relax," Sal and Val chorused, seeing that my entire body had stiffened like the Tin Man in The Wizard of Oz before he gets that lube job from Dorothy. Gal sensed danger and started screaming. I handed her back to her co-mothers, a little relieved and a little sorry that my suspicions had been confirmed: I have all the maternal instincts of an oil can.

Flash, however, was born to rock. I watch her and the joy-boy for a while and then ask, "What now my love?" Flash hears my question as a suggestion and starts singing to her charge with all the passion of a young Frank Sinatra. Flash's rocking turns into a fox trot as she dances the Boy Wonder up and down the aisles of J.C. Penney's.

"Flash," I tap her shoulder. "We can't keep him." I am stern, as if the child is a puppy and Flash is the child. "We better bring him to customer service." Now I am referring to him like a bedspread that's shrunk in the wash.

"C'mon, J.C.," Flash says. I assume my lapsed Catholic has named the little darling after the store we found him in, not the Jewish Carpenter. We turn up the next aisle and there's Dad, darting among the glass swan barometers, his shiny black hair flying. He spots us and falls upon Flash. "Thank you," he calls, scurrying away. J.C., who is now draped over his father's back like a sack of potatoes, waves at Flash. She waves back, and then he is gone.

That night Flash and I talk baby talk. Do we want one or not? I've never wanted a child. Though thirty-something years of Jewish training has me convinced that my non-desire to breed means there is something wrong with me.

I bring the issue up in therapy. "Funny you should mention that," my therapist says. "I'm taking a maternity leave."

"You're pregnant?" I glare at her stomach, which is still as flat as I've always wanted mine to be. "Don't you think you're taking this mirroring thing a little too far?" She nods, her body already rocking slightly, and asks me how I feel about her being pregnant. I feel like an idiot for paying her a dollar a minute to talk about her pregnancy. What about mine? My therapist suggests I make a list of all the reasons I think I want a baby:

1. So I'll have someone to take care of me in my old age.
2. So I can dress it up in cute little outfits from J.C. Penney's.
3. To replace P.C. who is now watching over us from Pussy Cat Heaven.
4. So I'll have something new to write about.
5. Because she's having one.

"Why is it so hard for you to accept that you don't want a baby?" my therapist asks.

"Why do you want a baby?" I try to divert her with a question about herself.

"Why do you want to know why I want a baby?" As usual, she answers my question with a question.

"Why do you want to know why I want to know why you want a baby?" She doesn't answer. I glare at her. She sits perfectly still, waiting for me to say something. Then she starts to rock.

"Will you quit doing that?" I yell.

"Doing what?"

"Rocking! You rock, Flash rocks, everyone rocks but me."

"Our time is just about up."

Back home I tell Flash about the session. "I'll be right back," she says. Left alone, I decide to watch a movie on TV, but my only choices are Rosemary's Baby and Mommy Dearest. Does this mean my kid will grow up to be a devil-child who writes a memoir called MommyQueerest? As I ponder this, Flash returns, banishing me to the bedroom for an hour. When I emerge, I see my darling has assembled a genuine imitation Bentwood rocker. Tentatively I sit. Immediately Cous Cous the Cat jumps into my lap. I lean back. My feet touch the floor. My toes push off. Problem solved: I rock to my heart's content.

Lesléa Newman is the author of seventeen books, the newest ones being a young adult novel, Fat Chance, and a short story collection, Every Woman's Dream. She is currently working on a book of columns called Out of the Closet and Nothing to Wear. 3.
Facing Political Realities
by Pete Pinney

A former supervisor of mine used to assess hostile crowds waiting for a late tour bus or missing luggage by telling me, "There are no problems, only opportunities." Along comes the mid-term election of 1992. At the risk of being politically incorrect, I see the outcome of November 8th as another one of those opportunities.

When three million plus Lesbians and Gays voted for Bill Clinton, they did so with the promise that things would change for the better. In terms of real accomplishment, that promise has not been realized. Analysts can blame factors outside of anyone's control, but the reality is that the Gay community has not gained anything from this administration that can be substantially measured and quantified in terms of daily living. No political promise will bring us to our community's landscape without a corresponding change in our own sense of control and power.

For those who feel that this election was a defeat against who they are or what they can accomplish, I suggest you look again. The biggest message from the voters who actually went to the polls was that they wanted people to be more responsible and more accountable for their actions. Why should we invest a sense of control in a politician whose whole job is to make deals and say things in order to be re-elected? To look at this election and not understand a lesson would be a missed opportunity. Looking at ourselves in this perspective should help us realize our true strengths lie within ourselves, not in politics as currently played.

Twenty-five years ago, there were few politicians rallying behind the push for our civil rights. The sense of outrage came from within. We took matters into our own hands and forged a movement. There was no waiting for permission to act. When the community saw that politicians would be non-responsive to AIDS, ACT UP took up the campaign to create change. Those in power did not give up power voluntarily. Outside pressure brings about change. We have that ability.

Labels tend to create stereotypes that may or may not prove to be accurate. While Governor Weld in Massachusetts is a pro-choice Republican who believes in Gay and civil liberties and Barry Goldwater has defended our right to serve in the military, the Republican party has suffered the rages of intolerant fundamentalists. But the radical right didn't start from a position of power. They organized and strategized and forged their way into a bloc with common interests and goals. They looked within themselves and saw the potential for creating changes.

We have a sense that by ourselves we are somehow weak. That is simply not accurate. What we should assess is how to channel the influence we do have into a visible and tangible display of American culture. We are everywhere; we do run things; we are responsible and accountable. We have what it takes to create change by using our own resources. Prevo didn't suddenly fall into a multi-million dollar empire. He cultivated the power of money. If he wants to buy political access, so be it. He has no power other than what we allow him. A case comes to mind where we let that happen.

What rationale is there in supporting a closeted Gay legislative candidate supported by Prevo when there was a straight candidate who was actively courting the Gay vote and supported civil rights? And the community voted for the homophobe only because he was Gay? That is just as bad as the legislator just north of Anchorage giving up his pro-choice stance because he saw the advantage of courting the radical right's money. The world of politics is crazy and I don't put much more stock into it than I would a soap opera. That is not our promised land. We can be responsible for our own gains.

Avenues of opportunity come with assessing internal strengths and abilities. Financial analysts can work with any group of wage earners to buy housing or business ventures to create a source of income. Those of us with grant writing skills can assist anyone in the community in making certain projects come into being. We have been forced to look at the straight world with a critical eye, and that has given us the ability to look at ourselves and act on what we want for ourselves. My suggestion is not to look at this recent election as some sort of harbinger of horrible things to come. This is a good time to be people like us. Never before have we been poised to do so many great things with a collective voice. Don't think that an election can stop that from happening. Let it help redouble our efforts to be successful on our own terms, for which we are responsible.

Pete Pinney is often amused by the paradox of principle and pragmatism.

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"It's a good thing that I was born a woman, or I'd have been a drag queen."

--Singer Dolly Parton
Motive denied?
To the editor:
There is something disturbing about the headlines on Friday, Oct. 7, "No motive for killing, trooper says," yet in the text of the article it states that Hillyer first told the troopers he killed the three men because he thought they were homosexual. I don't know whether any of the victims were homosexual or not. It does not matter. What I don't understand is how the trooper saying the victims were not gay change Hillyer's initial motive for killing them?
According to the troopers and the News-Miner, Michael Hillyer perceived the men to be homosexual so he killed them. What the troopers said about the victim's sexual orientation does not change the fact that Hillyer may have killed them based on his perception of their sexuality. There is no denying that this murder was brutal and senseless. Murder in and of itself is horrible. But when someone murders someone who is gay or perceived to be gay it is a hate crime and should be recognized and denounced as such rather than having that motive denied.

Jeanie Williamson - Fairbanks
Reprinted from the Oct. 12, 1994 Fairbanks Daily News-Miner

Deprived of Words
To the editor: Let's start with an older dictionary listing of the word "gay": 1. joyful, lively, merry, happy, lighthearted; 2. Bright, as in color, light, brightness; 3. the gay life, bright life; 4. wanton, licentious. Homosexuals and Lesbians ought to pay particular attention to the fourth application: wanton means lewd, immoral, unchaste, words that describe homosexual and Lesbian behavior much better that No. 1's meaning of "gay." Why don't they call themselves "wantons" rather than "Gays?"

I recall we used to call them "queers," fitting, since they do deviate from the expected or normal. It's easy to see why they didn't choose to be called queers—they are sexual deviates. Then we referred to them as "fairies," a crime against those tiny diaphanous-winged creatures of our childhood imagination who exchanged a nickel for the tooth we left under our pillow.

Then we used the term "pansy," a word taken from the French pensee, meaning "thought," from the feminine past participle of penser, to think. But that term for homosexuals is further insult to a most beautiful flower ushering in spring, as well as to a wonderful word like "thought."

In Spanish these sex deviates are called "mariposas." We can't imagine a greater insult to the prettiest member of the family of winged insects entomologists term lepidoptera—butterfly.

In short, we have been deprived of the use of one of our loveliest words, descriptive of a state of happiness. If immorality, lewdness and unchastity are classified as states of happiness, then perhaps our dictionaries should be overhauled and a brand new language invented!

My dear departed husband's given name was Gaylord. Friends always called him "Gay." Need I explain where that loving nickname went, when "Gay liberation" burst out with flying banners on the streets of San Francisco?

Julie A. Alfrey
Fairbanks, August 19, 1994
From the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner
A Rose by any Other Name...
by Eric Walton

At the beginning of the summer, my friends Greg and Sasha had some extra pansies and gave them to me for my garden. In the past I've only had petunias (for their scent), dandelions (by default), fireweed (in abundance) and chives (left by a former homesteader). This season, I certainly enjoyed the presents of these pretty little plants.

In August, Ms. Alfrey's letter to the editor (please read "Deprived of words") was printed—most likely in response to the *Fairbanks News-_MINOR*'s coverage of the Gay Pride March that occurred here this past June 25. I had to read her letter three times to make sure it was indeed sincere. (Some of the 88 + letters printed were spoofs). Though on occasion I may be "wanton" most of the time I'm "joyful."

The summer quickly came to an end, along with most of the plants. Late September morning temperatures were in the teens and twenties, going up to 32° by the afternoon. On October 1st, the sky was clear and the day started at 10 degrees. I checked the remaining flowers: the dandelions were closed; the pansies drooped over, their petals dotted with tiny ice crystals. The sun came up and heated us to +45. The dandelions didn't make it, but the "most beautiful flower ushering in the spring" also came close to greeting our first snowfall (10/8/94). My pansies left the garden on October 7th—the first day the temps didn't go above freezing. I was impressed by their fortitude. Why didn't the petals freeze at 10 degrees? (I sure would have!)

October had arrived—"The Social Season" (*NorthView* 10/94, p. 33) begins. Time to explore the spectrum and play juxtaposition. After a small bit of thoughtful reflection, I knew what I was to be for Halloween '94.

It's unfortunate that Ms. Alfrey and her husband didn't know any queers personally. Perhaps if they had, "Gay" might have affectionately referred to Julie as "My pretty, petite pansy" or "My tiny diaphanous darling" or how about "My wanton, licentious witch."

I suppose the point of this sequence of events is that it continues to be our responsibility to play that wonderfully fun Gay Game—"Come out, come out wherever you can!"

"Just another Pansy Posing .... I mean Pondering"

Eric B. Walton, Fairbanks Editor of the *NorthView*, is still nagging others for Q*K KID SHOTS (preferably with a tale) for inclusion into "We Are Your Children — A Photo Assembly of Family and Friends" (ref.: *NorthView* 5/94). By the by—his water runs manually, the lights are on (at least for this month), and he's trying to learn how to drive on the G*D* information super-highway! λ

Picking Flowers
by Travis M. Brazille

Have you ever wondered what to do to brighten up a lovers day? Candy? Candlelit dinner? Cancun vacation? These all are good guesses, but the most simple way is to give them an aromatic bouquet of flowers.

Picture this if you will: the day is a glorious, sunnyshiny day, but your lover isn't yet awake. You plan a surprise. You dress quietly so as not to disturb him/her. You sneak out into the brisk morning air. Goose bumps start popping up on your chilled skin and teeth chatter while your body adjusts to the coolness. Dewdrops send forth tiny rainbows as they glisten on plants. Birds welcome the morning with songs of joy. A deer can be heard bounding through the long grass into the woods. The smell of humid soil wafts from some farmer's tilled field as you trudge a well-rutted road. Joy can be tasted all around you. Finally you reach the meadow where all sorts of flowers reside from asters to yarrow. Now the task of picking flowers begins.

The first step is to decide what flowers would strike his/her fancy. True, there are so many choices you have to make, but here are some ways to narrow them. When I know what my lover will be wearing that day I pick flowers that match his clothes. When I know he is sick, I pick bright purple, red and yellow flowers like fireweed, red columbine, and monkey flowers. When I'm sprucing up our home, I pick ones that are both bright and light.

I make sure the flower stems are long enough by nimbly plucking them close to the ground. While picking them I can feel their life force spill over my hands. Their blood can be milky white or clear along with feeling warm or cool. On occasion my hands have gotten so gummy that it has taken
using soap twice to get off all the stickiness. Plant sap smells either sweet or bitter. I would NOT advise tasting it.

Next you need to get the beauties home before they wilt. I have two ways of doing this. One is to carry a container filled up with water in which to put the flowers. The other way is to keep the flowers cool by alternating hands so my sweaty heat won’t make them perish.

The last thing you do is arrange the flowers neatly (not jumbled) in a vase, soda bottle, or glassware. I find using a different vessel each time gives a sense of propriety.

I wish to close by saying to everyone out there don’t forget that giving flowers is only one of the infinite ways we can express feelings for our lover or friend. Lastly, remember flowers are always showing us excellent examples of different walks of life.

Travis M. Brazille is a student at UAF. He enjoys writing poetry and occasionally prose, reading a wide range of literature and being with friends.

Prime Time

Prime Timers International is a social organization created especially for mature gay and bisexual men and their friends. The club stretches from Australia, to Canada, the United States and Sweden. There are more than 35 local chapters in the world and more are being formed almost monthly.

By joining this organization you can become part of a dynamic group of men who care about the quality of life of the older Gay man. As our slogan says, “it’s our world, too.”

You have two different ways in which you can join and participate in Prime Timers:

1. If there is a chapter near you, we’ll help you contact them. They have regular meetings and special interest functions in which you can participate and meet new friends. Your privacy is studiously protected.

2. If you do not live near a chapter, you can join as an international member and you will receive many of the same advantages. You will receive a quarterly news update and membership roster; and you will be given information about social activities sponsored by other clubs, publications, etc. for older Gays.

As an international member, you will have friends “just around the corner or around the world.” Membership fees are only $20 (U.S.) per year or $30 for a household of two. As a member, you will have the information and ability to communicate and participate in activities with other men who share your interests and values, including a penpal club. You will be welcome at all chapter, regional and international functions. The club reserves an entire hotel at Mardi Gras each year.

These are only a few of the advantages of being a Prime Timer. For more information about starting a chapter, joining an existing one or becoming an international member, write to Prime Timers International, P.O. Box 436, Machaca, TX 78652 or call (512) 282-2861 and ask for Woody Baldwin.

Identity, Inc. - Fourth Friday Potluck & Social

The Family (formerly LGBSA at UAA) takes a new direction!

Join Identity at its celebrated Fourth Friday Potluck-Social, Bring a dish, whether soup, salad, main dish, deviled eggs, hors d'oeuvres, fruit salad, bread, desert, chips, dip, pizza, etc.

Identity provides the drinks (tea, coffee, punch).

Admission is free. Donations are unabashedly appreciated.

Date: Friday, November 25.
Time: 6:30pm doors open/socialize; 7pm dinner; 7:30pm announcements & program
Place: Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. 3201 Turnagain St.
Program: Lesbian and Gay youth talk about connections, on campus, through P-FLAG, through a new youth group, through Identity, and with the community at large.

Lavendar Life Magazine Announces Writing Contest

Lavendar Life, a monthly nationwide Lesbian magazine has announced a writing contest to celebrate the beginning of their fourth year in January 1995. Every woman is invited to enter and prizes will be awarded.

All original short stories and poetry received between September 1, 1994 and December 31, 1994 will automatically be entered into the contest. Winners will be announced in their January 15, 1995 Anniversary Issue. All entrants who are published will receive a complimentary issue, mailed with their privacy in mind. All writers will retain all rights to their short stories and/or poetry.

A sample of the Prizes that will be awarded are as follows: Short Stories First Prize is $100, Second Prize is $50, Third Prize is $25 - Poetry First Prize is $50, Poetry Second Prize is $25. Other Prizes will be awarded, as well as subscriptions to Lavendar Life.

For more information or to send your entry write to: Lavendar Life, P. O. Box 898, Binghamton, NY 13902-0898. Attention: Pamela K. Fite.
November Attractions

Spanking The Monkey...the relationship between a young medical student and his mother takes a perverse turn in this audacious first feature by David O. Russell. Winner of the Audience Award at this year's Sundance Film Festival. Ray Abelli has just completed his freshman year at MIT when he learns he will have to forgo his prestigious internship at the surgeon general's office to spend the summer taking care of his injured mother. While the film presents a provocative and disturbing story of familial dysfunction and sexuality, it's leavened with a bracing sense of wit that provides much comic relief. A dynamic and very original film about one young man's coming of age. Rated R. Premieres November 18.

ED WOOD...Tim Burton, the director of Batman and Edward Scissorhands brings to the screen the story of the late cross-dressing filmmaker, Ed Wood Jr., the progenitor of what critics have called some of the oddest and most poorly-made films ever produced. Johnny Depp stars as Wood, with Martin Landau, Sarah Jessica Parker and Patricia Arquette in supporting roles. November 18-22 only.

PRINCESS CARABOO...This comedy mystery is based on a true story about a beautiful young woman who turns up in London speaking a strange language - she is later thought to be a South Seas Island Princess - and who finds entry into 19th century English society. An all-star cast includes Phoebe Cates, Kevin Kline, Stephen Rea, John Lithgow, Jonathon Price, Jim Broadbent and Wendy Hughes. This one is sure to please fans of this summer's hit WIDOWS' PEAK. Rated PG. Premieres November 23.

YOU SO CRAZY...Uncut, unrated and unbelievably funny, comedian Martin Lawrence gives an expose performance that's full of sexually explicit language. Adults Only. Midnight Shows only November 23-26.

What Happened Was...This film follows a mismatched couple through a painfully nervous and awkward first date at her apartment. Winner of the Grand Jury Prize at the Sundance Film Festival. Not Rated. Debuts November 25.

MI VIDA LOCA (My Crazy Life)...Allison Anders (Gas, Food, Lodging)directs this story set in LA's Echo Park, a drama about a group of young Latina women and their strange lives caused by the fact that most of the men in their orbit are either dead, disabled or imprisoned, and are characterized by love, hate, violence, jealousy and revenge. Rated R for strong language, drug content and sexuality. Premieres December 2 for one week only.

A Simple Twist of Fate...Steve Martin, Gabriel Byrne, Catherine O'Hara and Stephen Baldwin star in this drama about an adoptive father who fights his small daughter's biological father for custody. Rated PG13. Premieres Dec.2
Join us this November

And Give the Turkey a Break!

For the tastiest, juiciest burgers in town,

(No fresh you may have to slap them)

there can only be one place...

By clipping the coupon below, you get a really hot chance to support Identity!

(Oh yes, you get a freebie too.)

Bring this coupon to either O'Brady's and get a Free Burger

with the purchase of another of equal or greater value and O'Brady's will donate $4 to Identity, Inc.

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EXPIRES 11-30-1994. N.Y.

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