THE
15Y
INC

CELEBRATION OF CHANGE
MARCH 18, 1995
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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 or organization's membership.

Identity Board of Directors: Co-Chairs: Ruth Mathies, F. Kenneth Friedman; Treasurer: Kurt Parish; Secretary: Tom Rachal. Jen Kohout, Don Naff, Shirley Randall-Harris, Sylvia Short, Nora Jean York.


Fairbanks Editor: Kathy Ferrell and Eric Walton. Cover: Jamie McLaughlin. Bulk Mail: Michelle Coen and Chris Olson.

Distribution: the NorthView is mailed automatically (non-profit, bulk mail) to members of Identity (special reduced-rate memberships are considered upon written request to the Board of Identity). Identity’s mailing list is confidential and is not sold, given or loaned to anyone; however, special mailings under the auspices of Identity are occasionally sanctioned. Copies of NorthView are also distributed at select businesses in the Anchorage area. Financial contributions are gladly accepted to defray mailing costs.

Reproducing: please feel free to copy the NorthView and give it to anyone you feel will enjoy it or benefit from it. Articles that are copyrighted must be so noted on any copies.

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 Personal ads, 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.

Cover:
The 15%, Inc. logo was designed by Susan Peck, owner of Allegro Graphics. Susan has done design and production artwork for many local arts groups including the Alaska Dance Theatre, Alaska Festival Theatre, Anchorage Symphony, OutNorth and Anchorage Concert Association. She and her partner, Sharon, and her daughter, Jasmyn, live in Spenard, Alaska, land of great gardening.

This year’s contest for a Celebration of Change logo resulted in a winning design, which has been adopted by 15%, Inc. as their official insignia. This issue of the NorthView proudly displays the new logo for its first ever showing. We are honored to be the first to use it in its official capacity!

Identity, Inc. - Fourth Friday Potluck & Social

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, February 24

Time: 6:30pm doors open/socialize; 7pm dinner; 7:30pm announcements & program

Place: Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 3201 Turnagain St.

Program: Celebration of Change XII

Members of 15%, Inc. and other people connected with Celebration of Change will talk up the 12th annual gala. Wompower and change-get your tickets early (for the PAC performance, that is).

Deadlines: All articles must be received by the 5th of the month for inclusion in that month's NorthView.
The question arose, recently, "why don't we do a (NorthView) cover for Celebration of Change? We do one for Coronation." That motivated us to do a NorthView that leaned more toward women and women's issues than we usually do (we strive for parity). Many of the women we contacted to submit material said "Isn't Identity a men's organization?" We were really shocked because we've tried so hard over the last 31 issues of this rag to keep gender parity in all phases of this organization and newspaper.

It seems many women knew Identity existed, but what it was they didn't know, and felt no special need to find out (and many women hadn't even heard of the NorthView).

Beyond that, we felt the strength of a pervading sense in the women's community that there is no special need in their lives for men. Among the reasons for that was the perception that feminist and women's issues keep getting pushed aside for so-called larger issues.

The consistent impression was that women, independently of men, have simply decided to "take care of their own stuff"—because it needs to be done and men, generally, weren't getting with the program.

For many women the attitude was "we've been there and done that. Now it's your turn, and we won't let you do it through us. We invented our healing, you do the same."

Women, regardless of whether they are Lesbian or not, have historically tended to acknowledge their own wounds and provide avenues of healing those wounds. They may use alcohol, drugs, child abuse, battering, etc. They have also been able to educate and to entertain each other whenever an opportunity presented itself. They wanted to sing, so they formed a group to support their wishes; dance! The ongoing Two-Step is about teaching each other, being with each other, continuing with each other. It seems to be about commitment.

Divesting themselves of the image of "caregiver," women are caring for themselves, and there is an exclusiveness in the energy—it's enviable. And it's not a question of more bodies or more money, or fewer commitments or jobs that don't pay as well.

So, what is it? It's there and it's tangible. It's the power of womanlove, self-empowerment, connectedness, process.

Women want everyone to know that this is the way women are. Women want it understood that there is this energy and commitment in the women's community. The question is, can others can appreciate their diversity, enjoy their accomplishments, non-judgmentally?

We may well be poised at a time in which we can begin to assist each other in a different way, so we can protect and help each other and love each other. The process of getting to that place, however, may mean that we need to go away from each other, develop ourselves, grow strong separately, and then be strong together. By staying strong as individuals we can be strong as allies. Many men are working on their own, growing, taking risks, processing. But it's far from a ground-swell movement, and that creates a disparity.

If men can do that deep-down work, invent their own process, take the risks, heal—with those accomplishments, maybe men can understand the "woman-energy" that drives more than half the people on this planet, a caring energy that has, after all, not to do with homogeneity, but rather, with diversity and non-judgment, and that offers the potential for truly supportive community, and thereby, survival.

We hear a lot that Lesbians would, for the most part, rather not deal with men. The oppression is an important part of that, and sometimes, in the face of oppression it is difficult to see that there is and will be good coming from the other half of the species. There's a very real, unappraised male energy. It is a different sort of energy, but it's there, and it is powerful. And when it is channeled through what women call "process," it will be awesome, and combined with woman-energy, unstoppable.

One person said "We need to be caring individuals before we are women." Some might disagree, and there is a lot of rhetoric about being women first and Lesbians second. There is still a great division but simultaneously, there is a great need to learn from and about each other, grow, heal and find places where combining our respective power and energy can be of real benefit.

The question is, can significant healing between the communities really happen? Can there be real sharing outside the crisis-type issues such as the Assembly hearings and the bus ad mini-emergency?

To the writers of this Editorial, getting together in situations that may not be totally comfortable (our private clubs and close friends), and working on issues (or even socializing with people not like "us"), is where we must go when we want to grow. Our reason for moving beyond our comfortable clubs and groups (which are perfectly OK and necessary), is in fact to grow, to challenge ourselves, to take a risk, to jump off the proverbial cliff—and use our faith to see us through. Growth and change, which we celebrate here, happen when we're out of our "envelope," when we're challenging ourselves to expand our horizons, when we're on shaky ground, asking question we can't answer and having feelings we can only feel, not explain. It is when we're "in the lambda" of our issues, both in action and reflection, that we're truly alive.

And what do we get if we are successful? How about true equality among ourselves?

Ruth A. Mathes, Co-Chair, Identity, Co-Editor, NorthView
F. Kenneth Freedman, Co-Chair, Identity, Co-Editor, NorthView
A Message from the 15%, Inc.

The very concept of change is based upon the premise that we are fluid, evolving, flexible beings. While it is not about the steadiness of tradition, it is also not about the complete abandonment of those things which have worked well in the past. Indeed, change is, and must continue to be, about where we've been and who we are capable of becoming.

When Celebration of Change was started some twelve years ago by two womyn who had a vision of how inclusiveness and community could be reflected in song, drama, poetry, and various thematic pieces, no one could have guessed it would have turned into such a major production. But it has and it takes a huge amount of work, time, energy, and money to put on a show of this magnitude. It is a credit to our sisters that the organization created to keep Celebration of Change alive never seems to falter in its commitment to keep the production going year after year.

Throughout the years, 15%, Inc. has been comprised of many talented and dedicated womyn. As a board, we get to learn new things about each other and about the womyn's community we all seek to reach and serve. We have discovered that working together is challenging, sometimes daunting, strangely peculiar, but always rewarding. We often lament about deadlines, whoop it up when we do things right, walk tall and with a certain panache when we're hot and we know it, and most of all, pull together every year to carry on that wonderful womyn vision.

If you haven't noticed yet, some things are being done differently this year. As a board, we produced a survey and will present the results here in this special issue of the NorthView. We have also stepped back as far as possible from the actual production of Celebration, utilizing the exceptional talents of three Directors/Producers this year. In the past, we've had only one Director, and the amount of responsibility placed on that person was enormous. With three people pulling together, we hope for less stress and a smoother production.

In the event you still haven't noticed what we're doing differently, just stop for a moment and look at the publication which you are holding in your hand.

The NorthView has been perceived by many womyn as a publication put out exclusively by and for Gay men. But, in fact, there are a large number of womyn who have never even heard of the NorthView. It is our hope that with the featuring of Celebration of Change and a predominance of women's articles this month, the image of a male dominated and controlled publication will be erased. As a board, we are pleased to be associated with the folks who put NorthView together. After all, if we do not all embrace change, none of us will flourish as queers, feminists, radicals, pron queens, gym teachers, locker room attendants, or visionaries.

One of the other ways we are trying to change as a board is to explore the possibility of having Celebration of Change put on in alternate years, with Lesbian plays or other forms of experimental theatre or dance put on in the off year. Of course we understand that such a concept breaks with tradition and flies in the face of what Celebration has always been about, but after all, this is an article about change.

Back to the survey results. We had fun canvassing the womyn's community to find out what their vision is for Celebration of Change. Here are the results as compiled and reworked by Jean Wall:

Survey
1. Womyn surveyed strongly disagreed that Celebration of Change costs too much. An evening of performance, womyn in the lobby, an art show, womyn in the lobby, a dance, womyn in the lobby, (get the picture?), is a great opportunity at a cost of only $15.00. In fact, more than 60% of the womyn surveyed indicated they would pay up to $18.00 for this event.
2. Most womyn agreed Celebration performances would improve if performers were provided with additional stage training (many thought training should be mandatory). The 15%, Inc. has offered a voluntary performance workshop series to address this; unfortunately, attendance was disappointingly low. We hope to offer portions of these workshops to our current rehearsal audiences.
3. The womyn's community had a tendency to "cancel itself out" on most topics. Many survey statements met equally with either extreme agreement or its antithesis. An ideal management and production may never be achieved to the satisfaction of more than half of us in any given year. However, it is our diversity that also allows for annual rebirth of an event which is indeed a Celebration of Change.
4. Most womyn surveyed said they would support Celebration through its annual changes. Each year a changing board, new director(s), production/technical crew, and performers, meet for a few short weeks to develop entertainment for this community event. Celebration changes each moment and it needs your support.
5. You've said you want local talent only for Celebration of Change. We feel we have great local Alaskan talent! Celebration provides an opportunity some womyn only dream of, so don't fantasize, go on and get on that stage and wow us with your womyn energy. If not this year, then dream now for '96.

Join other womyn, community supporters, friends, and family for Celebration of Change as we support womyn who create, direct, facilitate, and perform. Celebrate the Change!!

Now on to the business of paying for annual Celebration of Change performances. Again, Jean Wall came through like a trooper and provided NorthView with more crucial, yet quite interesting information!

Community and Friends Support Celebration of Change

Thru Advertisement

Celebration of Change requires an annual budget of more than $9,000.00. Ticket sales contribute 85 to 90% of the financial support for this event. To offset increases in ticket prices, an increased effort in ad support is needed. In 1993, ad sales provided 10% of the funding required for production; in 1994, ad sales grew to 12.8%. Even with that increase, we experienced a slight shortage of funds.

We invite you to place an ad in our program. Not only will it reach nearly 800 womyn, community, friends, and family, it will also make us happy and very grateful. (It will also give our Treasurer even more work to do).

Celebration ads are economical, costing only $25 to $75 for a business or personal display ad. In addition, we offer $5.00 (300 character maximum) "personal" ads--place an ad of hope, inspiration, good wishes, or love.

To place an ad, contact Ashley Goddard, 274-8006 (also see following pages for placement of ads and sizes).

The 15%, Inc. also invites everyone attending the show this year to attend the dance held afterwards. As usual, we will have Trina, the very best DJ in town, and we might even have that phenomenally funny “love serf” who had the crowd...
Sisterhood
by Joyce Veatch

Sister, daughter, mother, wife, partner or friend. The many roles we live as females comprise a long list. We resonate to universal joys. We grieve over universal tragedies. We universally hope, even aspire, to health and wholeness. These characteristics, of course, are not uniquely female but are shared with our brothers. But there is something unique about experiencing sisterhood.

The feminist movement with its literature, conversations and workshops helped me from a point of competition with my sisters to a framework of cooperation. Some elements of competition are healthy but the basic premise of “I win, you lose” makes it less desirable to me than an “I win - you win, too” approach. We can help each other.

Compassion, coming from the Latin words “to bear or suffer with” is a powerful motivating energy. Different things move us to act compassionately. I call these prompts “holy nudges” and I am usually richer when I act on them. As a friend of mine was leaving for Peace Corps service in Senegal I detained him just long enough to give him some money to help one of my Senegalese sisters. I trusted he would know which one when he met her. He indeed found her needing water so that money helped dig a well. I felt so grateful to be a sister.

Living compassionately is not always easy and often demands great courage. We dig deeply to say the words, take the stands, and make the needed impacts on systems that are often unfair, unreasonable and in need of change. Courage comes from an old French Word for Heart. It certainly follows that to feel with the heart can very likely lead us to act with courage. The power of courage enables us to stretch beyond our own known boundaries. We really understand this paraphrase “she ain’t heavy, she’s my sister!”

1995 presents us with many tasks, both local and global, to be accomplished with cooperation, compassion and courage. We must respond to the challenge issued in the late 1800’s by another sister who asked, “If not me, whom? If not now, when?”

Joyce Veatch: sister, daughter, wife, mother, GRANDMOTHER, teacher, counselor, friend

The Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center Honors Melissa Etheridge, Martina Navratilova and Local Leaders at Women’s Night XII. Annual Gala will be held March 4 at the Biltmore Hotel.

Los Angeles, February 1, 1995—Melissa Etheridge, Martina Navratilova and local Lesbian and Bi-sexual leaders will be honored by the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center at Women’s Night XII, March 4 at 7pm at the Biltmore Hotel (506 S. Grand, Los Angeles). Stand-up comic Suzanne Westenhoefer will serve as emcee of the annual all-women dinner and dance, benefitting Women’s Services at the Gay & Lesbian Center.

“Each year the community eagerly awaits Women’s Night because it is always an elegant evening to celebrate the accomplishments of women in our community,” said Lorri L. Jean, executive director of the Gay & Lesbian Center. “This year, we have an incredible line-up of honorees, presenters and entertainers who will make this night our best ever.”

Etheridge, who is enjoying both commercial and critical success with her latest release “Yes I Am,” will receive the 1995 Creative Integrity Award. Navratilova, who recently retired from tennis after a legendary career, will be awarded the 1995 Community Role Model Award.

Other Lesbians and Bi-sexual women active in community empowerment will receive the LACE Award. The honorees are Christina Gonzalez, KTTV/Fox news reporter, the Hon. Stephanie Sautner, Rev. Jeneine R. Macklin, Ruth Waters, co-founder of the Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum, Sandra Farrington-Dominique, Councilperson Jackie Goldberg’s liaison to the Gay/Lesbian community, Julie Anderson, staff member of the Gay & Lesbian Center, and Patti Ballaz, KTTV/Fox cameraperson.
Thoughts from the Bering Sea
by Karen Jettmar
February 4, 1995

It moves across the water on the wind, is carried in the wind. The stench of death. Crab being steamed alive. The smell of money, greed. Fewer crab, more boats, and no one can figure out why the Steller sea lion is faring so poorly. Local fishermen complained a sea lion tried to jump into his skiff. Thought it should be shot. What did the Aleuts do in their tiny baidarkas as they paddled through bays full of sea lions, seas full of whale? The sea lion is hungry, for god's sake; can't we let any wild thing live unmolested? In the distance the dull roar of industry at Aleska Seafoods, APL, Uniesa. Here on Front Street beach, gray-green waves beating the shore. Scoters, harlequins, red-breasted mergansers ride the swells, surf in and paddle up and over the breaking combers. Kittiwakes, glaucous wings dip and scoop with their beaks, flying in place. Fine snow skittering across an icy road, melting on my face. Out across the water, pinpoints of yellow light in the whitewash. Boats anchor on the water. Ravens spill across the sky, scattering in every direction, piroquetting, plummeting, then blasting up again to catch the wind. Whitecaps offshore. Radio out of Dillingham announcing weather report for Southwest Alaska and the Aleutians..."and from Cape Sarichef to Nikolski, gale warning with seas to 16 feet." I watch the emperor geese and Steller's eider knotted together in a rocky bight beside the road - the "new" road. The road that's been straightened so it can be paved next summer. The potted road that overlays an ancient Aleut village - eroded, eradiated, no trace left. Maybe the geese are the old ones reincarnate, gathering against the winter storm, telling stories as the swell rises and falls, breaks, sprays up to the road.

I used to say that being a lesbian is just a small part of who I am. In a community where many more facets of my life are open to view, are shined and polished and loved, I have felt identification as a feminist, vegetarian, runner, triathlete, skier, kayaker, writer, environmentalist, photographer, and lesbian, among other things. And I've been "out" for some years.

In early 1994 I went into the closet. As a public school teacher in a remote village in the Aleutian Islands, where teachers are not given protected status on the basis of sexual orientation, I have confronted my fears around losing my job, being forced to resign, or being scorned in the community. I have listened to derogatory comments by teens about faggots and gays or even adult males whom I ski with calling one another "homo" as a joke. One of self-avowed Christian teachers mentioned "homosexuality" to me when disdainfully discussing the human invasion of thousands of men which descend upon our small community for the king crab and bottom fishing industries. She described to me their drinking, drugs, and involvement in prostitution and homosexuality. I thought, "Whoa, where did the association of commercial fishing with homosexuality come from?" The irony of skiing across a page in Out in America, while being paranoid about greeting my lover at our town's airport with a hug struck me as ridiculous. I felt like a hypocrite, I am living a lie. In the deep silence of a cold winter night, sitting alone in my tiny cabin by the Bering Sea, I have realized that my community, my support network of gay and straight friends and family - are more important than my job. Without significant others in my life to share it with, even the rugged beauty and exhilarating freedom of these wave-beaten shores can feel lonely.

Karen Jettmar is an author, explorer, teacher and appeared most recently in the highly acclaimed photo-journal "Out in America," published by Out magazine.

Letter from the Emperor

To the people of the Community of Alaska:
I would like to begin by thanking you for your attendance at the Clostd Ball last month at the Blue Moon. We [the court] raised over $600 and everyone obviously had a great time. While we are passing out thank you notes, a special thanks from the Empress and Emperor to everyone who participated in the Community float for the Fur Rondy parade this year. Whether it was a donation or labor or organizational expertise, you all did a great job. To Maurice Macdonald: your generous donation, as well as securing a warehouse to work in, was a lifesaver. I tip my crown to you, sir!

Coming up in March the Court will be sponsoring some major events. At present there are applications available for the offices of Imperial Crown Prince and Princess. On March 4th there will be voting at the Blue Moon between 10:00 am and 10:00 pm. At that time you may vote for your choice of Prince and Princess. On March 11th there will be a Ball at the Elk's Club where the new Imperial Crown Prince and Princess will be crowned. The Elk's Club is located on W. 3rd Ave. The doors open at 7:00 pm, show starts at 8:00 pm. This year's theme will be Mardi Gras, and tickets are on sale for $8. This gala affair is being organized by many of the same people who produced the Christmas Ball (everyone is still talking about the great time they had at that one), and we expect this event to be equally wonderful. There will be a cash bar, door prizes and a raffle, so please come and have a great time with us.

Also in March: on the 17th, St Patrick's Day, the Imperial Court will be sponsoring a Mystery Balloon Auction at the Raven. This function is being produced by our own Peg Murphy. The money raised will be split 50-50 half to "STAR" (Standing Together Against Rape) and half to the Imperial Court's College of Monarchs Scholarship Fund. The auction works like this: you bid on a balloon, high bid wins the balloon, you pop the balloon which contains a number, you match the number with that same number on a list of prizes, you win the prize with that number! We hope to have many prizes (up to $300 in value). There is no ticket fee for this event.

Ladies and gentlemen, those of you who have been attending our parties will agree that they get better and better. I believe this is due to the fact that your support seems to be growing; attendance at these functions is increasing and people are donating time and energy to make these functions a success. So, please accept an invitation from Empress Jasmine and me to come to our parties next month and join in these celebrations or our Community. Without you, there is no community.

With much love and gratitude,
Emperor Bob (tel. pag. # 275-0046) ▼
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 Angle/Linda at the AS at 337-8253.

The designations of (L)esbian, (G)ay and (A)llied indicate that the business or service is owned by (L)esbian, (G)ay or (A)llied. 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:
(J) KT Creative, Katie, 278-9174

AIDS:
(A) Alaskan AIDS Assistance Assoc., 263-2850
(A) Alaskans Living with HIV (HIV/AIDS), (Juneau), Ritz, 463-5688
(A) Anchorage Neighborhood Health Center (free HIV testing), Stephanie, 257-4637
(A) Interior AIDS Assoc., 452-4222
(A) Pierce County AIDS Fund, (HCA), 268-382-2565
(A) Shanti of Juneau, 907-463-5665, 1-887-47AIDS (2437)
(A) S.T.O.P. AIDS Project, Koko, 278-5019

Alternative Medicine/Health:
(A) Hope, 561-2330
(A) Gateley, Ketki/Jalim, 561-7327
(A) The Ole Herb Shoppe, Constance, 522-0417

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

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

Architectural Design:
(G/A) Lipson/Brown Design, 274-8913

Astrology:
(A) Courtney's, Linny, 562-1277 (see ad)

Automotive:
(A) SAW Radiator Supply (Fairbanks), RJ, 452-2220

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

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

Bed & Breakfast:
(G) Arctic Fever, Doug, 277-3662
(G) Aurora Winds, James/Bill, 346-2532
(A) Beach House, Mary (Homer), 235-5945
(L) The Butterfly Inn, Kay (Hawaii), 808-966-7936
(L) Cheney Lake B&B, Mary/Jaxes, 337-4391

(B) 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 (Fl. Lauderdale, FL), 305-565-8437
(L) Northern Comfort, Reada, 278-2106

Bicycle Repair:
(G) Roy's Bikes, Roy, 333-4221

Boarding School Selection:
(A) Tom Croke, 277-7004

Body Work:
(L) Movement Options, Shari, 272-0816

Books:
(L) Books: the Alaska Women's Bookstore, Joann/Marjorie, 562-4716 (see ad)
(A) Alaskana, Gene, 561-1340 (see ad)
(A) Eynn's Books, Sandy/Jerry, 274-2599
(A) Into the Woods Bookshop (Fairbanks), Connie, 479-7781

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

Catering:
(G) Alaska Best Catering, Maurice, 338-1088, 337-1969
(G) Illusions, Brian, 243-8457
(G) Silver Spoon Cleaning & Catering, Brent, 258-0828

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

Child Care:
(G) Kid Zone, Andrew, 337-3882

Churches:
see Spiritual

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

College Selection:
(A) Tom Croke, 277-7004

Computer Bulletin Board:
(A) Metropolitan Community Church, 276-0380; 276-0399
(G) The Wilde Side, 333-4839

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

Computer Consultants, Graphic Design, & Desktop Publishing:
(G) Al's P.C. Connections, Alfred, 561-2767
(L) Angle, 337-0253 (see ad)
(G) By-Tel Alaska, Inc., Eken, 248-2422
(L) CDA Services, Waalstra, 276-6862
(A) Computer Magic, Phil, 274-3528
(G) gra./x, Lucian, 272-9328
(A) Helleck & Assoc., Terry, 276-3869
(A) ILR Technologies, Logan, 272-7377
(G) Mark, 338-3357
(G) PC Possibilities, 248-6277

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

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

Counseling:
(G) Ability Design Associates, Doran, 562-9575
(A) Counseling Alternatives, Connie, 562-1826
(L) Counseling Alternatives, Joanna, 562-1826
(A) Jann, 248-9408
(A) Marion, 562-8012
(A) Psychological Services Center, 786-1795
More Directory

Deaf Support:
- (A) Interpreter Referral Line, 277-3323 voice, 277-9736 tty
- (A) Deaf Rehabilitation Serv., 277-3456 voice, 258-2232, tty

Dental Care:
- (A) Ward Halbert, 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) Fright 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, 561-0064, Movieline: 275-3799 (see ad)
- (A) Mascorella Music, Diane, 277-9751
- (L) Real Talent Productions, Karyn, 562-5777, 278-5683
- (A) Syzygy/Music Magic, Linda, 274-2599

Financial, Insurance, Investments:
- (L) Chris, 561-8040/338-3962 (see ad)

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

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

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

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

Furniture:
- (A) Design Craft, Laura/David, 279-8638 (see ad)

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

General Contracting:
- (A) Mat-Su Weatherization Services, L. Hansen, 907-745-4039

Gifts:
- (L) Bona Dea: the Alaska Women's Bookstore, Joann/Marlah, 562-4716 (see ad)
- (A) Design Craft, Laura/David, 272-4438 (see ad)
- (A) Love of Alaska, Talyne, 243-0876

Hairstyling:
- (G) Gabriela, 272-9045
- (A) 36th Ave. Hair Design, Ledjna, 561-8967

Health:
- (A) Gatekey, Ketik/Jalma, 561-7327
- (L) Health Advocacy-Medical/Legal Research, Linda, 337-0253
- (A) Home Health Care, 261-3173
- (L) Movement Options, Shari, 272-0816
- (A) Nature's Own Way, Roberto/Debby, 561-0181
- (A) The Ole 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, 258-4777 (see ad)
- (G) Kodiak Gay Info, 486-2986

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

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

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

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

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, 263-0720 (see ad)

Independent Marketer:
- (A) Mark, 270-5264 (see ad)

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

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

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

Massage:
- (G) Don, 338-8826
- (G) Gabriel, 272-9045
- (A) Joyce, CMT, 562-1915 (see ad)
- (L) Leslie (non-sexual), 278-3346 (see ad)
- (A) Marlon, 562-0012
- (L) Vicki, 277-5222
- (G) Don (CMT), 338-8826 (see ad)

Mortgage Brokers:
- (A) City Mortgage, Lynn (LaPerriere) Thomas, 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) Jane, 563-5151

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

Painting:
- (L) L.A. Painting, Lisa, 277-7549

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

Pet Care:
- (A) Alaska Pet Palace, Sharon, 276-0668 (see ad)
- (A) Doggie Hut, Ard, 279-5861
- (A) Doggie Vacations of Alaska, Constance, 344-3647

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

Political:
(A) Alaskans Concerned About Latin America (ACALA), Ruth, 333-1190
(A) Anchorage Women's Political Caucus, Rhonda, 274-9308
(G/L) Equal, Inc., 566-0930 (see ad)
(G/L) Log Cabin Republicans, (503) 642-7292

Printing, Electronic Graphics:
(A) Alaska Micro Associates, Rebecca, 337-0460
(A) SOS Printing, Val, 562-1678
(A) Timeframe, 562-3822 (see ad)

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

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

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

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

Reiki/Counseling:
(A) Joyce, CMT, 562-1916 (see ad)
(I) Spirit Services, Barbara, 274-4089

Research:
(I) Credlin & Associates, 279-3982 (see ad)

Restaurants:
(A) Cyrano's Cafe, 274-1173
(G) O' Brady's, 344-8033, 338-1080, 563-1090 (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:
(I) Puffin Family Charters, Leslie, 278-3346

Social:
(G) Anchorage Garden Buddies, 248-0425
(G) GLA O'Klatch (Fairbanks), Erlc, 455-4051

Social Research Design, Student Consultation, Evaluation:
(I) 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. Nanee 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, 258-5266
(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) Files 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) The Family (formerly Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Student Association), UAA (see Club Notes)

Support Groups:
(G) Ability Design Associates, Doran, 562-9575
(A) P-FLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Anchorage), Sylvia 562-4992, Fred 562-7161 (see ad)
(A) P-FLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Fairbanks), Nancy, 479-4944

Tarot/Psychic:
(I) Spirit Services, Barbara, 274-4089

Therapeutic Facilities Out-of-State:
(A) Tom Croke, 277-7004

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

Travel:
(G) Apollo Travel Agency, Bob, 561-0661 (see ad)
(G) Apollo Travel Agency, Cheresse, 561-0661 (see ad)
(L) Apollo Travel Agency, Karyn, 561-0661 (see ad)
(I) DreamQuest Tours, Karyn, 562-5777, 278-5683
(I) Equinox Wilderness Expeditions, Karen, voice mail: 274-9087
(G) World Express Travel, Greg, 786-3701

Tutoring:
(A) James, Biology, 248-6412
(I) Pam, Math & Physics, 561-2634

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

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

Writing & Editing Assistance:
(I) Kathy, 278-2840
(I) Mei Mei, 276-7269

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!
All dressed up and no where to go???: If you missed it the first time around or it's time to see it again, don't miss this extraordinary comedy for "down under" as two drag queens and a transsexual escape the harsh city life and head out on a cross-country tour of the Australian outback. **February 17-21 only.**

*A MUST SEE. A superintelligent comedy for rude girls everywhere.* —Amy Taubin, THE VILLAGE VOICE

*An effervescent vision of sisterhood.* —Heather Nance, SAN FRANCISCO WEEKLY

*Sheer entertainment a spicy feminist brew.* —Judy Stone, SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

**BHALI on the BEACH**

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A delightful story of three generations of vibrant Asian women on a day-long sojourn to the working-class seaside resort of Blackpool. What unfolds during this adventure is a series of guilty pleasures, unsettling confrontations, and humorous epiphanies. Amy Taubin in The Village Voice says it is "A must see. A superintelligent comedy for rude girls everywhere." **One Week Only, Feb. 22-28, A special benefit for "Take Back The Night." $5.00 from each ticket will be donated to this community event which offers women, men and children a place to come together and increase awareness about violence against women.**

"One Of The Triumphs Of The Year! Nigel Hawthorne Gives A Heroic Performance."
- Kenneth Turan, LOS ANGELES TIMES

**THE MADNESS OF KING GEORGE**

Alan Rudolph (The Moderns) takes a look at Dorothy Parker and the other writers, actors and journalists who held court at Manhattan's Angonquins Hotel in the 1920s and early '30s. (The famed clique included such luminaries as Parker, Robert Benchley, Alexander Woollcott, George S. Kaufman, Charles MacArthur, Ruth Gordon and Helen Hayes.) Jennifer Jason Leigh plays Parker, with Matthew Broderick as MacArthur, Campbell Scott as Benchley and Sam Robards as New Yorker founder Harold Ross. **Scheduled to debut on March 3, please call ahead to confirm opening.**

"Despite PULP FICTION, 'Love and a 45' manages to be FRESH and RIVETING."
- F.X. Feeney, LA Weekly

Feature film debut by C.M. Talkington from his own screenplay is a dark romantic comedy-thriller. Kevin Thomas in The Los Angeles Times says "it sends up the gun-toting lovers-on-the-run genre with a gleeful, nonstop energy and a refreshing honesty. It is a low-budget, stripped-down Natural Born Killers that comments on the role of the media in making celebrities of criminals without all the hypocritical hyperbole of the Oliver Stone film." **Premieres March 3, Please call ahead to confirm.**

Schedule Revised as of 2/11/95. Programs Are Subject To Change.
CELEBRATION OF CHANGE 1995
PROGRAM AD SALES INVOICE

DATE ____________________  ADVERTISEMENT BY: ____________________

CONTACT/PHONE NO: ____________________

BILLING ADDRESS: ____________________

________________________________

____ INSIDE FRONT COVER, FULL PAGE, $75.00 (subject to prior sale)
____ BACK COVER, FULL PAGE, $75.00 (subject to prior sale)
____ INSIDE BACK COVER, FULL PAGE, $75.00 (subject to prior sale)
____ FULL PAGE, 5" X 8", $65.00
____ 1/2 PAGE, 5" X 3 7/8", $50.00
____ 1/4 PAGE, VERTICAL, 2 3/8" X 4", $25.00 (business card vertical)
____ 1/4 PAGE, HORIZONTAL, 5" X 1 7/8", $25.00 (business card horizontal)

AD DEADLINE IS MARCH 5, 1995
CLEAN CAMERA READY COPY IS REQUESTED

AD MATERIAL WITH DARK TYPE AND LIGHT BACKGROUND MAY BE ACCEPTED FOR SCAN
(i.e., some business cards may not reproduce due to dark background or type color, etc.)

________________________________

CELEBRATION OF CHANGE PERSONAL ADS 1995

Place your personal ad of hope, inspiration, love, best wishes, etc. For $5.00 we will print up to 300 characters or spaces per ad. Your ad will provide support and cheer to a favorite person(s); in addition, your $5.00 ad lends support to the continuance of Celebration of Change!

AD PLACED BY: ____________________  PHONE: ____________________

________________________________

________________________________

________________________________

________________________________

AD DEADLINE MARCH 5, 1995 - - - PLEASE ATTACH CHECK OR CASH WITH AD
Calendar

If you have any information or corrections for the Calendar please call:
Text: 333-3310, Ruth: 563-1324
Angie/Linda: 337-0253 Ken: 248-7722
Identity Helpline: 258-4777

= Fairbanks
= Juneau

Feb. 16, Thurs:
λ SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 5:30pm; call 566-1133
λ L.M.R.U. Youth Group (ages 15-21), 7:00-9:30pm, Four A's, 263-2050, 258-4777.
λ Gay, Joyous & Free AA Meeting, 7:00pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave. (non-smoking)

Feb. 17, Fri:
λ PLWA lunch, 4A's, 12noon-1:00pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, 263-2050
λ Live and Let Live AA Meeting, 7:00pm, 637 A St. (non-smoking)
λ Midnight Sons Gay Men's AA Meeting, 7:30-9:00pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave.

= Dancing in Fairbanks! 11:00pm-3:00am, Palace Saloon in Alaska'd

Feb. 18, Sat:
λ SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 12:00, call 566-1133
λ KSUA, 103.9fm, 6:00-8:00pm, "Queer Beans" (Gay issues and music, Fairbanks)
λ Roderick Teh, 8:00pm, Metropolitan Community Church, benefit for MCC, call Rev. Morgan, 258-5266

= Dancing in Fairbanks! 11:00pm-3:00am, Palace Saloon in Alaska'd

Feb. 19, Sun:
λ A.U.U.F. Services, 9:00am: Surf Shemyla, an Experience of Isolation--Holly Graves &10:30am: "How Do We Express Love?", 3201 Turnagain St., 248-3737
λ Lamb of God Metropolitan Community Church, 11:00am and 7:00pm, 258-5266, 615 Hollywood Dr.
λ Midnight Sons AA Meeting, 1:00pm, (Gay, Lesbian only), MCC Church, 615 Hollywood Dr.
λ AGLA Sunday Chat, 1:00-4:00pm, Women's Center
λ Northern Exposure Bowling League, 3:00pm, Park Lanes, 561-8744, Bob
λ Gay, Joyous & Free, AA Meeting, 7:00pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave.

Feb. 20, Mon:
λ HIV+ Men's Support Group, 5:30pm. Call Larry Holman, 272-7002 to reserve a seat & info.
λ Gay, Joyous & Free, 7:00pm, AA Meeting 1231 W. 27th Ave.
λ Women's music show on KRUA 88.1FM, 7:00-9:00pm, 786-4846 to make on-air requests

Feb. 21, Tues:
λ P-FLAG Fairbanks, 5:30pm, Nancy, 1907-479-4944
λ SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 8:00pm; call 566-1133

Feb. 22, Wed:
λ Free HIV TEST at 4A's, 2:00-4:00pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, 263-2050
λ Social at Summit Lounge, after work (Juneau)
λ Lamb of God Metropolitan Community Church, 7:00pm, service, 615 Hollywood Dr., 258-5266
λ MCPRIT Meeting, 7:00pm, Juneau, 1907-586-6623 (info)
λ "Women's Prerogative," KTOO-FM, 9:00-10:00pm, Juneau
λ Blue Moon Follies, 10:00pm. $3 Cover

Feb. 23, Thurs:
λ SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 5:30pm; call 566-1133
λ L.M.R.U. Youth Group (ages 15-21), 7:00-9:30pm, Four A's, 1057 W. Fireweed, Ste. 102, 263-2050, 258-4777
λ Gay, Joyous & Free AA Meeting, 7:00pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave. (non-smoking)

Feb. 24, Fri:
λ PLWA lunch, 4A's, 12noon-1:00pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, 263-2050
λ AGLA Discussion Group, 6:30pm, 402 Gruening (LesBiGay Professionals Faculty)
λ Live and Let Live AA Meeting, 7:00pm, 637 A St. (non-smoking)
λ Midnight Sons Gay Men's AA Meeting, 7:30-9:00pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave.

= Dancing in Fairbanks! 11:00pm-3:00am, Palace Saloon in Alaska'd
λ Fairbanks LesBiGay/Alternative Film Festival Committee, info: Christopher Hrycko, 1907-479-7348
λ Fairbanks LesBiGay/Alternative Film Festival Committee, info: Christopher Hrycko, 1907-479-7348

Feb. 25, Sat:
λ SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 12:00, call 566-1133
λ KSUA, 103.9fm, 6:00-8:00pm, "Queer Beans" (Gay issues and music, Fairbanks)
λ Women's Coffeehouse, Erotic Poetry Reading, 8:00pm-10:00pm, Bona Dea: the Alaska Women's Bookstore, Call Barbara S. 337-2011. Men Welcome!
λ Sweet Dreams Dance, 9:00pm-??, Womyn Only, Big Blue Warehouse, call 1907-474-3420

= Dancing in Fairbanks! 11:00pm-3:00am, Palace Saloon in Alaska'd

Feb. 26, Sun:
λ A.U.U.F. Services, 9:00am: "The Christian in My Closet, a True Confession" Carol Dee &10:30am: "What is the Value of the Funeral" Fred Witzleben, 3201 Turnagain St., 248-3737
λ Lamb of God Metropolitan Community Church, 11:00am and 7:00pm, 258-5266, 615 Hollywood Dr.
More Calendar

Mar. 4, Sat:
• Vote for Imperial Crown Prince & Princess, 10:00am-10:00pm, Blue Moon
• SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 12:00; call 566-1133
• KSUA, 103.9fm, 6:00-8:00pm, "Queer Beans" (Gay issues and music, Fairbanks)
• Women's Two-Step Dancing, 7:30pm lessons; 8:30pm dance, Pioneer School House
• Dancing in Fairbanks! 11:00pm-3:00am, Palace Saloon in Alaskaland

Mar. 5, Sun:
• AUUF Services, 9:00 & 10:30am, 3201 Turnagain St., 248-3737
• Lamb of God Metropolitan Community Church, 11:00am and 7:00pm, 258-5266, 615 Hollywood Dr.
• Midnight Sons AA Meeting, 1:00pm, (Gay, Lesbian only), MCC Church, 515 Hollywood Dr.
• Northern Exposure Bowling League, 3:00pm, Park Lanes, 561-8744, Bob
• Gay, Joyous & Free, AA Meeting, 7:00pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave.

Feb. 27, Mon:
• HIV+ Men's Support Group, 5:30pm. Call Larry Holman, 272-7002 to reserve a seat & info.
• Gay, Joyous & Free, 7:00pm, AA Meeting 1231 W. 27th Ave.
• Women's music show on KRUA 88.1FM, 7:00-9:00pm, 786-4846 to make on-air requests.

Feb. 28, Tues:
• SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 8:00pm; call 566-1133

Mar. 1, Wed:
• Free HIV TEST at 4As, 2:00-4:00pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, 263-2050
• Social at Summit Lounge, after work (Juneau)
• Lamb of God Metropolitan Community Church, 7:00pm, service, 615 Hollywood Dr., 258-5266
• Alaska Women's Political Caucus, 7:00pm, United Methodist Church
• "Women's Prerogative," KTOO-FM, 9:00-10:00pm, Juneau
• Blue Moon Follies, 10:00pm. $3 Cover
• "Klatch Gathering, Fairbanks, Time & Place TBA, call Eric, 1907-455-4051

Mar. 2, Thurs:
• SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 5:30pm; call 566-1133
• L.M.R.U. Youth Group (ages 15-21), 7:00-9:30pm, Four A's, 263-2050, 258-4777
• Gay, Joyous & Free AA Meeting, 7:00pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave. (non-smoking)
• Equal, Inc. meeting, 7:00pm, AUUF, 337-5861
• Equal, Inc., Interior Alaska Chapter, Fairbanks, 7:00pm, UAF Duckering, Rm 531, Mark T., 1907-557-6818

Mar. 3, Fri:
• PLWA lunch, 4A's, 12noon-1:00pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, 263-2050
• Live and Let Live AA Meeting, 7:00pm, 637 A St. (non-smoking)
• Midnight Sons Gay Men's AA Meeting, 7:30-9:00pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave.
• Dancing in Fairbanks! 11:00pm-3:00am, Palace Saloon in Alaskaland.

Mar. 6, Mon:
• HIV+ Men's Support Group, 5:30pm. Call Larry Holman, 272-7002 to reserve a seat & info.
• Gay, Joyous & Free, 7:00pm, AA Meeting 1231 W. 27th Ave.
• Women's music show on KRUA 88.1FM, 7:00-9:00pm, 786-4846 to make on-air requests
• Imperial Court of All Alaska Board Meeting, 7:30pm, John Thomas Center (3rd Ave. & Cordova)

Mar. 7, Tues:
• SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 8:00pm; call 566-1133

Mar. 8, Wed:
• Free HIV TEST at 4As, 2:00-4:00pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, 263-2050
• Social at Summit Lounge, after work (Juneau)
• Lamb of God Metropolitan Community Church, 7:00pm, service, 615 Hollywood Dr., 258-5266
• "Women's Prerogative," KTOO-FM, 9:00-10:00pm, Juneau
• Blue Moon Follies, 10:00pm. $3 Cover

Mar. 9, Thurs:
• SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 5:30pm; call 566-1133
• L.M.R.U. Youth Group (ages 15-21), 7:00-9:30pm, Four A's, 1057 W. Fireweed, Ste. 102, 263-2050, 258-4777
• Gay, Joyous & Free AA Meeting, 7:00pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave. (non-smoking)

Mar. 10, Fri:
• PLWA lunch, 4A's, 12noon-1:00pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, 263-2050
• AGlA Meeting, 6:30pm, 402 Gruening
• Live and Let Live AA Meeting, 7:00pm, 637 A St. (non-smoking)
and More Calendar

Mar. 11, Sat:
- SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 12:00; call 566-1133
- KSUA, 103.9fm, 6:00-8:00pm, "Queer Beans" (Gay issues and music, Fairbanks)
- Midori Orau Ball (Imperial Court of All Alaska), 7:00pm door opens, 8:00pm show, $8
- Dancing in Fairbanks! 11:00pm-3:00am, Palace Saloon in Alaskaland

Mar. 12, Sun:
- AUUF Services, 9:00am&10:30am, 3201 Turnagain St., 248-3737
- Lamb of God Metropolitan Community Church, 11:00am and 7:00pm, 258-5266, 615 Hollywood Dr.
- AGLA Sunday Chat, 1:00-4:00pm, Women's Center
- SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 12:00; call 566-1133
- KSUA, 103.9fm, 6:00-8:00pm, "Queer Beans" (Gay issues and music, Fairbanks)

Mar. 13, Mon:
- HIV+ Men's Support Group, 5:30pm. Call Larry Holman, 272-7002 to reserve a seat & info.
- Gay Bar, "Partnership & Marriage, Their Obligations & Benefits," Legal Q&A, 7:00-8:30pm, 279-5001
- Gay, Joyous & Free, 7:00pm, AA Meeting 1231 W. 27th Ave.
- Women's music show on KRUA 88.1FM, 7:00-9:00pm, 786-4846 to make on-air requests.

Mar. 14, Tues:
- SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 8:00pm; call 566-1133

Mar. 15, Wed:
- Free HIV TEST at 4As, 2:00-4:00pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, 263-2050
  - Social at Summit Lounge, after work (Juneau)
- Lamb of God Metropolitan Community Church, 7:00pm, service, 615 Hollywood Dr., 258-5266
- P-FLAG (Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians & Gays), 7:00pm, AUUF, Sylvia, 362-4992
  - Bowling Night, 7:00pm, Wood Center
  - "Women's Prerogative," KTOO-FM, 9:00-10:00pm, Juneau
- Blue Moon Polies, 10:00pm. $3 Cover

Mar. 16, Thurs:
- SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 5:30pm; call 566-1133

Mar. 17, Fri:
- PLWA Lunch, 4A's, 12noon-1:00pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, 263-2050
- Live and Let Live AA Meeting, 7:00pm, 637 A. St. (non-smoking)
- Midnight Sons Gay Men's AA Meeting, 7:30-9:00pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave.
  - Dancing in Fairbanks! 11:00pm-3:00am, Palace Saloon in Alaskaland.

Mar. 18, Sat:
- SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 12:00; call 566-1133
- KSUA, 103.9fm, 6:00-8:00pm, "Queer Beans" (Gay issues and music, Fairbanks)

Mar. 19, Sun:
- AUUF Services, 9:00 &10:30am, 3201 Turnagain St., 248-3737
- Lamb of God Metropolitan Community Church, 11:00am and 7:00pm, 258-5266, 615 Hollywood Dr.
- SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 12:00; call 566-1133
- KSUA, 103.9fm, 6:00-8:00pm, "Queer Beans" (Gay issues and music, Fairbanks)

Mar. 20, Mon:
- HIV+ Men's Support Group, 5:30pm. Call Larry Holman, 272-7002 to reserve a seat & info.
- Gay, Joyous & Free, 7:00pm, AA Meeting 1231 W. 27th Ave.
- Women's music show on KRUA 88.1FM, 7:00-9:00pm, 786-4846 to make on-air requests.

Mar. 21, Tues:
- P-FLAG Fairbanks, 5:30pm, Nancy, 1907-479-4944
- SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 8:00pm; call 566-1133

Mar. 22, Wed:
- Free HIV TEST at 4As, 2:00-4:00pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, 263-2050
  - Social at Summit Lounge, after work (Juneau)
- Lamb of God Metropolitan Community Church, 7:00pm, service, 615 Hollywood Dr., 258-5266
(sigh) yet more

“Women’s Prerogative,” KTOO-FM, 9:00-10:00pm, Juneau

Blue Moon Follies, 10:00pm. $3 Cover

Mar. 23, Thurs:

- SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 5:30pm; call 566-1133
- J.M.R.U. Youth Group (ages 15-21), 7:00-9:30pm, Four A’s, 1057 W. Fireweed, Ste. 102, 263-2050; 258-4777
- Gay, Joyous & Free AA Meeting, 7:00pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave. (non-smoking)

Mar. 24, Fri:

- PLWA lunch, 4A’s, 12noon-1:00pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, 263-2050
- AGLA Discussion Group, 6:30pm, “Bisexual Issues,” 402 Gruening

Identity Potluck
(A Visit With the Celebration of Change)
6:30pm: See Ad...

- Live and Let Live AA Meeting, 7:00pm, 637 A St. (non-smoking)
- Midnight Sons Gay Men’s AA Meeting, 7:30-9:00pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave.
- Dancing in Fairbanks! 9:00pm-3:00am, Palace Saloon in Anchorage

Mar. 25, Sat:

- SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 12:00; call 566-1133
- KSUA, 103.9fm, 6:00-8:00pm, “Queer Beans” (Gay issues and music, Fairbanks)
- The Family (formerly LGBSA), meeting 6:00-7:00pm, UAA Arts Bldg, Rm 121; social after 7:00
- Women’s Coffee House, 8:00pm, Bona Dea the Alaska Women’s Bookstore; call Barbara 337-2011
- Dancing in Fairbanks! 11:00pm-3:00am, Palace Saloon in Anchorage

Mar. 26, Sun:

- AUUFS Services, 9:00am&10:30am, 3201 Turnagain St., 248-3737
- Lamb of God Metropolitan Community Church, 11:00am and 7:00pm, 258-5266, 615 Hollywood Dr.
- Midnight Sons AA Meeting, 1:00pm, (Gay, Lesbian only), MCC Church, 615 Hollywood Dr.
- AGLA Sunday Chat, 1:00-4:00pm, Women’s Center
- Northern Exposure Bowling League, 3:00pm, Park Lanes, 561-8744, Bob
- Anchorage Lesbian Families’ Alliance (ALFA) (formerly Lesbian Moms), 4:00-6:00pm, Mary and Val Jean’s, 276-3478
- Gay, Joyous & Free, AA Meeting, 7:00pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave.

Mar. 27, Mon:

- HIV+ Men’s Support Group, 5:30pm. Call Larry Holman, 272-7002 to reserve a seat & info.
- Gay, Joyous & Free, 7:00pm, AA Meeting 1231 W. 27th Ave.
- Women’s music show on KRUA 88.1FM, 7:00-9:00pm, 786-4846 to make on-air requests.

Mar. 28, Tues:

- Identity Board Meeting, 7:00pm, AUUF, Room A
- SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 8:00pm; call 566-1133

Mar. 29, Wed:

- Free HIV TEST at 4As, 2:00-4:00pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, 263-2050
- Social at Summit Lounge, after work (Juneau)
- MCPRTF Meeting, 7:00pm, Juneau, 1907-586-6623 (info)
- Lamb of God Metropolitan Community Church, 7:00pm, service, 615 Hollywood Dr., 258-5266
- “Women’s Prerogative,” KTOO-FM, 9:00-10:00pm, Juneau
- Blue Moon Follies, 10:00pm. $3 Cover

Mar. 30, Thurs:

- SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 5:30pm; call 566-1133
- J.M.R.U. Youth Group (ages 15-21), 7:00-9:30pm, Four A’s, 1057 W. Fireweed, Ste. 102, 263-2050; 258-4777
- Gay, Joyous & Free AA Meeting, 7:00pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave. (non-smoking)

Mar. 31, Fri:

- PLWA lunch, 4A’s, 12noon-1:00pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, 263-2050
- Live and Let Live AA Meeting, 7:00pm, 637 A St. (non-smoking)
- Midnight Sons Gay Men’s AA Meeting, 7:30-9:00pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave.
- AGLA Dance, 9:00-3:00am, Musher’s Hall
- Dancing in Fairbanks! 11:00pm-3:00am, Palace Saloon in Anchorage

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The Path to a Friend’s House is Never Long

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Realtor®
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Sandra Miller
Realtor®
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For Your Real Estate Service
Boo, Phone Home
by Linda K Imle

Before I left Texas ten years ago on the journey of my lifetime I had another trip in mind. My oldest daughter was stationed at Ft. Mead, Maryland, working for the US Army as a Morse Code intercept at the National Security Agency, and I decided to see her before I headed North. That was the easy part.

On the way to the East Coast, I stopped by Stillwater, Oklahoma to visit my parents. That was the hard part. I had not openly come out to them at the time, but I felt sure that my mother always knew I was different from other little girls. Why else would she want to "trade" me to my Aunt Jane? My cousin, Marietta, was more the "darling little girl" my Mother seemed always to have wanted...dresses...clean...pretty shoes. My idea of "dressed up" was a clean T-shirt and jeans.

I was more bold about many things during that visit. I did not let my Mother tell me what to do, when to do it or how to do it. (Sounds simple unless you know my mother.)

Predictably, I did not stay very long...a day and a half. Mother (I haven't been able to call her Mom since I was 8) and I were thrown together in the evening and the conversation was mostly about why I had divorced my husband of 17 years, or that my hair was too short (she should see it now!), or that I needed to hurry up and find another man to marry before the neighbors started to talk. As you might guess, that didn't go over very well, and I left for the East Coast the next morning...early.

The visit with my daughter was great; we did so many fun things in Washington, DC. On my way back to Texas, I once again made a family stop in Stillwater. My grandma Daisy, age 95, had just suffered a mild stroke, and I wanted to see her before heading North. It would likely be my last visit with her...I wanted to say "good-bye."

Let me tell you about Grandma Daisy...she was a survivor. A Cherokee Indian raised on the reservation, she married a man and gave him four children. He gave her abandonment. One day he left for work and never returned. Grandma Daisy was Catholic. She talked to her priest, and after 9 years was granted an annulment. She remarried a wonderful man whom I loved dearly, and both grandparents were my mentors. When he died in 1964, Grandma Daisy came to live in Stillwater.

Baby-sitting gave her something to do during the long hot days in Stillwater, and I visited her often. I knew I was safe from my mother's disapproval when I was with her. She took my side in any and all matters, and gave me a pet name--"Linda-Boo." Mother always did what Grandma Daisy demanded (but usually found a means of the getting even).

Seeing Grandma Daisy was important to me before I came to Alaska, but the visit with my mother was not a good one. I was hurt and angry because of her attitude regarding personal family issues, and finally flipped out. After a heated shouting match she told me to get out. I did as I was told.

That was ten years ago...we didn't talk for years. I tried a few times in the beginning, but the hang-ups hurt. I sent a few letters, but got no response from her. Dad wrote occasionally, and then he, too, stopped writing. Time passed, and I worked on my personal growth, and self-esteem. I found help from a great many people, acceptance by our community, and love and caring with Angie, my partner.

About three years ago I decided to cement the fact of my Lesbianism with everyone in my family. So, I did what many others do...I wrote to them and crossed my fingers, and waited. All three kids knew, and accepted me. My father hoped (still hopes) that I would be healthy and happy. Nothing from Mother. Then New Year's Day arrived this year, and Grandma Daisy told me to phone home.

At least I think it was Grandma Daisy. I sure got a mental message from somewhere. So I phoned. What a strange conversation it was. Mother answered, and didn't remember who I was. "Linda, your daughter" sank in, and she called Dad to the extension. We "talked." Nothing earth-shaking was said but we made an effort to stay neutral, even if it was superficial. Mother asked if my hair was longer. I did my best to respect her position and we exchanged civil words for about 20 minutes. It was a "first."

The call ended with her telling me to "take care." Dad said it was good to hear from me and "let's do it again." I think the next time Grandma Daisy says, "Boo, phone home," I'll do it...just to let them know that I am still here.

Linda Imle is an out Lesbian, for whom photography is more than a pastime, it is a passion.

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WORD GAYME: SIGNS OF THE TIMES

ACROSS

1. Acorns Shepheard and Elliott
5. Baseball bat wood
8. Honor Bound author Steffan
9. Kate Millett's The Loney-Bin
12. 1 of 96, e.g.
13. Fed. Express rival
14. Assistant
15. Stir up
16. Brazil or history
17. Gay symbols
20. "I'll do ___"
21. London weather
22. Jennifer Levin novel, ___ of Light
25. Computer memory type (abbr.)
27. Greasy
31. Gay symbols

ACROSS (Cont'd)
35. "The French Sappho," De Nolles
36. Macke othout
37. Mac West film, Diamond
38. Gun lobby
41. Rowboat tool
43. Gay symbols
45. Gay
49. 50. Kate Beaufield and Carol
50. Ashton, professionally
51. Kinks' bit
52. Fish eggs
53. Likely
54. Was acquainted with
55. Queens
57. Beats Uke 109

DOWN
1. Judy Garland flick, A
d to Borne
2. Michael Crawford solo
3. Skirt type
4. Exhausted
5. "... and pretty maids all
in ___"
6. Hard
7. Hi
8. Famous psychiatrist, Karl
9. Great work
10. Time zone (shoe)
11. Revolution post
12. Simpsons brat
13. Eager
14. Healthy place
15. German article
16. Paper, Stanza, Rock
author Decker
17. War casualty
18. Sulk
19. Cabin accessory
20. OpiumTM designer
21. Orson Welles' Citizen
22. Tiny particles
24. Approach
29. Sun up
30. Accept formally
32. German poet, Rainer
34. Virtuosos
36. Movie critic, Rex
38. Chooses
39. Kiddy tattoo
41. Meadow
42. Cutting tools
43. To and...
Out Law
"Women, Literature, and the Future"
by Sylvia L. Short

We of the feminine gender have been usually given a bum rap during most of history, but there are a few exceptions. One was pointed out to me by an author for whom I have great respect, and indeed in regard to another author for whom I also have great respect. In the latter case, I speak of Shakespeare, and on more than one occasion I have quoted the memorable lines "The quality of mercy is not strained— it droppeth as the gentle rain from Heaven upon the place beneath—it is twice blessed, it blesseth him who gives and him who receives—it is mightiest in the mightiest; it becomes the throned monarch better than his crown."

The other author is Isaac Asimov, and this is what he says about Shakespeare and femininity in his book The Solar System and Back:

"What with one thing and another, I have been doing a great deal of reading of Shakespeare lately, and I've noticed a great many things, including the following: Shakespeare's romantic heroines are usually much superior to his heroes in intelligence, character, and moral strength.

"Juliet takes strenuous and dangerous action where Romeo merely throws himself on the ground and weeps (Romeo and Juliet); Portia plays a difficult and active role where Bassanio can only stand on the sidelines and wring his hands (Merchant of Venice); Benedick is a quick-witted fellow, but he isn't a match for Beatrice (Much Ado About Nothing). Nor is Berowne a match for Rosaline (Love's Labor Lost) or Orlando a match for Rosalind (As You Like It). In some cases, it isn't even close. Julia is infinitely superior in every way to Proteus (Two Gentlemen of Verona) and Helena to Bertram (All's Well That Ends Well)."

"Yet, despite all this, I never hear of anyone objecting to Shakespeare on the grounds that he presents women inaccurately. I have never heard anyone say 'Shakespeare is all right but he doesn't understand women.' On the contrary, I hear nothing but praise for his heroines.

"Shakespeare—who, by common consent, has caught the human race at its truest and most naked under the probing and impersonal light of his genius—tells us women are, if anything, the superior of men in all the counts. How is it, then, that so many of us nevertheless remain certain that women are inferior to men? I say 'us' without qualification because women, by large, accept their own inferiority."

Asimov then goes on to say that it is his belief that future societies will be more rational in their treatment of 51 percent of the human race than our present society is.

He traces the beginnings of the inferiority given women to the physiological differences making the Stone Age man the food-provider and his woman the sex-provider and child nurturer. Later, in the so-called Golden Age of the Athenians, woman was still relegated to inferiority, since the cultured Athenian idealized male homosexuality as the highest form of love since it was the only way in which a human being (male, that is) could love an equal.

Biblically, the story of Adam and Eve, he says, "has done more for woman's misery than any other book in history." Even the Ten Commandments include women as a chattel: "thou shall not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, not his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbor's."

In Victorian times, the plight of women, particularly in the upper classes, became intense. Since servants did most of the work, women were bored, tied up in ridiculous styles which hampered their movements, and taught that sex was dirty and evil so their husbands could seek their pleasures elsewhere.

Later, when some enlightened women (self-enchanted, that is, because they were not admitted to secondary schools) fought for and finally, in 1920, achieved the right to vote, what happened? NOTHING! Seems that women were no more stupid than men, and no wiser either!

Even today, where women are given the written and lip-service rights that should place them next to men, where are they? On a plane certainly far above that of their female forebears, but just as certainly not on an even keel with their men.

So why does Asimov believe that they are in the ascendency? For one thing the world overpopulation crisis is leading to the empowerment of women in third world countries where population growth is at its highest. In the developed countries, sex has been divorced from babies, and women have a new freedom to enter into all pursuits.

But the most telling of his arguments, at least to me, is his description of the changes in conventions. No longer is it necessary for the female to wear a skirt, to have long hair, to be the only one of the sexes to wear ornament. Today, pants, long hair, earrings—they are equally a part of the human being, no matter what gender. And this blurs the artificial distinctions between the sexes—marks such as used to distinguish the slave from the master like the Manchu pigtail or the yellow star or pink triangle to the Nazi. Without the distinctions, equality!

Asimov concludes "I think the Greeks were right in a way, and that it is much better to love an equal." To that I add: that goes for a man and a woman, a man and a man, and a woman and a woman. Viva!

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

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Anchorage Gay & Lesbian HELPLINE

258-4777

A Community Service of EQUITY, Inc. P.O. Box 996675, Anchorage, AK 99529
Letters to the Editor

Feb 7, 1995
Hello NorthView!

Kudos to your entire staff! What a fantastic job you do to keep Alaska's gay community informed on "our news" and what's going on for and/or about us--locally, state-wide, and sometimes even nationally. With you and the "KK," Anchorage is extremely well covered.

What a great community we live in here in Anchorage and how fortunate we are in so many ways. No, we're not Seattle nor San Francisco, but for being a "small town," I think both our men and women mesh well with each other on various issues and enjoy each other's company in many of our own social circles. Having come from an area where the gay men and women were very separated, this actuality of togetherness here in Anchorage--where most of us really like each other and interact and with each other--is a genuine blessing. Two of my long-time, dearest family/friends here are Dan and Al, whom I usually call "honorary lesbians." But, in fact, is I who am honored to be in their lives and so often in their company.

And how Anchorage has grown since I arrived here 17-1/2 years ago! More activities in which to get involved, more places for "us" to hang out and feel a part, and more organized groups to be a member of should you so choose. May we all continue to work together, play together and indeed keep the "community" spirit alive--in the truest sense of the word.

Do keep up the good work, North View! You are so welcome in my "home" (no matter where that home may be) and so needed in our community!

Carolyn, A Local Women's Group Newsletter Editor

Jan 16, 1995

Dear Ken,

Happy New Year to you and your staff of volunteers. Enclosed is my money for an ad in Identity... it is one of my most productive ads. Thank you lots!

Sincerely, Eileen (Island Watch B&B, Homer)

Dear Ken and Ruth,

First, thanks for your deep commitment to our community and the labor of love that goes into each month's issue of the NorthView. You do a first class job!

Earlier today, as part of the Fur Rendezvous Parade, I watched the Gay and Lesbian community float pass by the reviewing stands in front of the Sheraton Hotel. I was curious how it would be presented. Over huge speakers came the words, "This next float is brought to you by the Gay and Lesbian Community who are proud to be part of the larger community." I was very proud of each of the people who had the courage to be partial representatives of the many thousands of Gay men and Lesbians in our City.

For those new to Anchorage, the Gay and Lesbian float holds the distinction of being the first ever self-propelled float to be entered. It also traditionally wins a first place prize. This year is not an exception. The float came in first place in the non-commercial category. Congratulations to everyone who contributed time, money and effort. Good job!

The theme this year was lights and flowers. On the back of the float was a model of the Performing Arts Center, and on the front, in the "Town Square" were brave souls dressed as flowers. As the float passed the reviewing stand with the echo of "Gay and Lesbian community" still in the air, I was pleasantly surprised that the military brass unanimously applauded our float. The systematic intolerance associated with the military was witnessed on this past week's television special on Margarette Cameronerey, the highest ranking woman to come out as a Lesbian. Just the officers' applause was a hopeful sign that individual attitudes are changing if only minutely. Just a few years ago, even applause by the military establishment would have been unthinkable.

Once again, thanks to all of you who supported the float. You each get a first place medal in my book. I can't think of a more appropriate message than that we are here and glad to be part of the larger community.

Doug Frank

NorthView Classifieds & Want Ads

G


R

oommate(s) wanted. Looking for someone to share a place starting May 1st. Willing to look for something together or move into your place. Prefer non-smoker, quiet. Call Lucian, 272-0328.
The Amazon Trail: Without Her
by Lee Lynch

Only for two weeks, we’re not talking major breakup. As a matter of fact, we’ll celebrate Valentine’s Day when she gets back and a sixth anniversary this year.

Just two weeks. Not even two weeks in a major metropolitan is fraught with danger and temptation. Two weeks with her mom to birdwatch. But, see, that’s why it’s a matter of survival. Even if she calls nightly, this half of the couple is susceptible to the loneliness without her. And there’s no sadder phrase than "without her."

I’m not saying I won’t enjoy basking in it. Briefly. There are certain advantages to living alone, setting one’s own schedule, not having to accommodate anyone else’s needs. Aren’t there?

Already I’ve got my menu planned. If I don’t have enticing tidbits to anticipate I’m likely not to bother feeding myself without her. Boca Burgers and tortillas and maybe I’ll make myself a big of pot of baked beans (we have different food allergies at the moment). How about some ice cream with cookie chips? Maybe I could even get to the point of looking forward to my solitary meals.

Meals are the least of it. I’ll finally have time to put up the new bird houses. Then, when Lover returns, we can watch all the little blue bird couples move in together. I’ll bet some of them have six years too. And maybe I’ll visit people we never get to see when we’re home together enjoying each other’s companionship, too content to go out.

I’ll write more instead of cozying up to the woodstove with her, maybe do a short story to surprise her when she comes back. I’ll fix that squeaky drawer so I don’t wake her on the rare occasion when I get up first. I’ll read! I’ll catch up on all the review books languishing on the to-be-read shelves, but she won’t be around to listen to my complaints and raves. I’ll work more hours at my job to buy her an extravagant Valentine’s day gift.

I’ll have a Sonic the Hedgehog pinball marathon with the hand-held game she gave me for the holidays. I’ll run over to the coast, though I can’t imagine walking on the beach without her to show me the rare agates and jaspers she spots.

The truth is, I probably won’t do any of it. I’ll be lucky if I get my usual stuff done without Lover here. I’m even writing this column early to make sure it gets written at all. Without her, how would I know if it’s any good?

The real scenario goes something like this. Remember hearing about those rains in California? Roads closed, people evacuating, killer creeks? Well, we’re just north of California and the rain isn’t respecting any borders. Lover leaves in a few days. I expect I’ll keep doing what I’ve been doing all week—playing in the mud, black boots up to my knees, rain-suit from head to boot, trying to divert rivers of runoff water from our gravel road, and building a little dam (no dykes allowed in Oregon) to keep our well house from flooding. With two more major storms predicted, I’ll barely notice that Lover’s gone.

Then, it’s the time of year when I sequester myself in my office all weekend to pore over columns of numbers, bundle up hundreds of receipts and trundle it all through the wet streets to share with the accountant. Lover’s lucky to miss tax season.

The worst of it is, it’s not just gloomy outside. If disaster does strike—doesn’t it always when Lover is away?—and I’m stuck at home with the roads and electricity out, trying to heat up canned beans on the woodstove and mopping up the melted ice cream from the freezer, where’s the fun in it without her? I actually love the rain, the raging waters, the whipping winds, the brute power of nature humbling her tormentor, man-kind. Still, rain or shine, I miss my mate, my keel through life, my shelter from the storms.

It’s the little things that make it rough. Like the things that go bump in the night when Lover’s not here for me to reassure—or to reassure me. Like taking a break from a long day of work and knowing her hugs left with her. Like silently discharging the endless weekend chores because no one’s around to grumble to. Like being reminded constantly that Lover may be female, but she’s the one with the strong arms. Like listening to the evening news on Public Radio when Lover’s not around to share the horror.

The good news is that, in the vast scheme of things, even News’s a lisp, and winter storms always go away. The sun comes out. Lover returns safe and sound. And suddenly I’m bobbing and grinning at the window, then running to her, stumbling all over myself to carry in her luggage, tell her everything and soak up all the hugs I can get.

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, 1995.

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Gay Bar

A monthly question & answer session on legal issues of interest to Lesbians and Gay men, such as relationships, contracts, wills, custody & visitation.

Second Monday of every month, 7:00-8:30pm.
Open to the public. No charge.

March 13... partnership and marriage, benefits and obligations

Mendel & Huntington
845 7th Street
279-5001
Sister and Brother: Lesbians and Gay Men Write About Their Lives Together

Edited by Joan Nestle and John Preston
(HarperSanFrancisco)
by Jameson Currier

Sister and Brother, a powerful collection of 30 essays about relationships between Gay men and Lesbians, is an important historical document of Gay life in 20th century America. Martin Palmer writes about his 1950’s friendship with a Lesbian student during his medical school days at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore. Katherine V. Forrest evokes the Detroit bar scene of the 1960’s. Paul Monette provides glimpses into theatrical life in the ’30s and ’40s (and manages to slip in a delicious anecdote about Garbo along the way). And Merrill Mushroom describes South Florida’s Gay beach life in the 1950s.

But Sister and Brother is more than a simple account of enduring friendships between Gay men and Lesbians. To their credit, the editors and writers include several tales of fractures between the communities. Jewelle Gomez writes in her essay, “Men huddled together in front of televised football or wrapping themselves in the pursuit of the perfect dance floor are each a different side of the same attempt to exclude women from male life.” From a male perspective, Michael Lowenthal describes his failed attempt at living in a house with his lover and two Lesbians in Northampton, Massachusetts. There, the housemates worried that the separatist community of this Lesbian Mecca saw them as advocates of a new alliance between men and women. Lowenthal notes, “We understand that the tensions between Lesbians and Gay men were essentially the same as those between all women and men, with one twist: because we as Gay men share an experience of oppression, Lesbians expect more from us than from straight men.”

This engaging anthology takes a look at a number of possible (and sometimes improbable) forms that relations between Gay men and Lesbians can take. James Merrett comically describes marrying his Latino lover’s Lesbian sister to help her obtain a green card. Philip Gamboa writes about considering fathering a child with a Lesbian couple. Joyce Zonana accounts her uneasiness in a Jewish culture that pays more attention to her younger brother than to her — and relates both siblings’ subsequent journeys into homosexuality.

One of the most captivating essays is Wickie Stamp’s account of her friendship with a former Jewel Box Revue drag queen who helps Stamp discover the “old time dyke” within herself. The two most provocative essays in this collection, however, suffer from a disjointed execution of their themes: Nisa Donnelly’s “The Faggot As Animus” and Robert F. Reid-Pbarr’s “Living as a Lesbian.”

The most poignant moments of Sister and Brother deal with relationships touched by AIDS. In one of these essays, James Johnstone and Karen X. Tulchinsky explain how their friendship, pulled apart by political differences, was mended through the death of a mutual friend. “It took Shawna’s death for us to see how fragile our lives were,” Tulchinsky writes. “How precious friends could be, and how little time there really was for any of us.”

The only imbalance in this anthology is that most of the writers are, well professional writers, and as such the range of community seems limited. Nonetheless, the personal sentiments are well articulated and, in most cases, the writing is stylishly and perceptively original.

Thanks to 10 Percent Jan/Feb 1995.

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EQUAL
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Meets on Thursday, March 2 (7:00pm) at the Metropolitan Community Church, 615 Hollywood Drive (Govt. Hill).

Congratulations to the LesBiGay community--and specifically the Imperial Court of All Alaska--for another award winning entry in the 1995 Anchorage Fur Rendezvous Parade.

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QUESTIONS WELCOME.
Some Thoughts on Community
by Beth Vann

So, I was invited to write a column here. And the suggested topic was "community" (in 500 words or less). I thought, "Great. I talk about that a lot, so I can do that easy." Um, well, not so easy. I've now written 3 or 4 monologues about community, from all the angles I could think of. None of them are...what?...right?...true? clear? positive? loving? complete? And my friends have listened to me and given me their sense of community. I'm still baffled about it. Now I think I'll just share my stream of thought and see what happens.

Roger's synonyms are society, commonality, semblance, affinity, kinship. And Webster calls community a group of people living together as a smaller social unit within a larger one, having interest...in common; likeness; friendly association.

As a woman, I know how very special the community of women is. There is nothing like being in the company of women; if you've felt it, you know. We even have a body part which exists purely for pleasure. We have community together because our likeness is that we're women.

And as Lesbians, our like-ness is that we love women, we relate primarily with women, we are homophiles. That doesn't mean we're all alike and it doesn't mean we all like each other. We have our cultural things we like to joke about—Birkenstocks and U-Hauls on the first date and potlucks and sacred space. But even those things aren't shared by all of us. Our commonality is that we love women. That's it. Does that constitute affinity and kinship and friendly association? For some, yes, for some, no.

There are lots of Lesbians who never go to events and don't hang out with other Lesbians much. Does that mean they're on the fringes of the community? Do we need to start a Lesbian Welcome Wagon so we can invite them? And to what, exactly, would we be inviting them?

Okay, so now I'm not sure about the Lesbian community and what it is. What does that do to my concept of the "Gay community"?

Lesbians love women; Gay men love men. (I'm not even going to try to add the bisexual and transgender communities into this equation. I'm not that evolved, yet.) So, what's our commonality? Our mutual oppression by the larger society? In some ways, maybe we have more in common with our heterosexual counterparts—Lesbians and straight men, Gay men and straight women.

If we are a Gay community, does the community part happen in reaction to outside threats? Things like that ugly ordinance controversy last year or Gay marriages or health insurance and income tax benefits for same-sex partners.

Creating community when there are differences between people takes work and requires mutual respect of a sort. To give that kind of energy, we have to have an incentive. Some of us have a natural and genuine interest in people— and that's our incentive for seeking community with each other. For lots of us, the incentive comes from the outside threats. (The misery loves company concept, or something.) And for some, those threats aren't enough of an incentive to get involved with the community.

A Day in the Life...
by Jen Kohout

At one point in the play "Independence," Toast Theater's recent production, three sisters are bragging about their sexual exploits. The Lesbian sister takes the cake when she blurts out "talk about meaningless sex, I once had sex with a man so I could get to know his sister." It was a humorous and well-delivered line and the predominantly straight audience rolled with laughter. I marveled afterwards at how nice it was to see a Gay character not tormented by her sexuality, simply interacting with her dysfunctional relatives—now, that's realism.

Sara Felder's wonderful one-Lesbian-show, "June Bride," had the same uplifting effect on me. Her struggles to honor her own sexuality and her relationship were my own. I realized as I walked out of the OutNorth production that I am affected by the vacuum that surrounds the Lesbian and Gay experience in this country.

In a fairly (left of) mainstream kind of girl. By that I mean that I worry about the kinds of things I imagine most straight liberals worry about, welfare moms, endangered species, and automatic weapons. I usually operate on the premise that I'm not very different from my straight friends who also ponder the meaning of life, the pursuit of peace, and whether the roof needs to be shingled. Occasionally, however, I am reminded that because I am Lesbian, my experience is different.

Fact is, transference only works to a point. I can watch mainstream flicks until the cows come home and when the boy meets girl, sweeps girl off her feet, invites girl home to check out his beer bottle collection, I can relate to those charged feelings (although, just for the record, I have never invited anyone home to check out my beer bottle collection). I cannot, however, know how it feels to walk down the street holding her hand or to kiss her in public when she flashes me that beautiful smile.

Instead, I know how it feels to pitch a softball over the backstop because I was infuriated with my catcher. And I know what it feels like to wait impatiently for my teammates to stop ribbing me after the game and go home so I can casually wander up to the object of my affection to invite her over for a wheat-free, lacto-ovo, vegetarian meal. And I know how my stomach feels when she grins at me and asks if she should bring her toothbrush. I don't anticipate seeing interactions like this on the screen at the University Theater (and if the Republicans have their way, I may not be seeing them at local plays either) but I am aware of the loss.

When I first came out, I craved learning about the Gay experience. Anything I could get my hands on to read, watch, hear—it was a lifeline for me. Six years later, I'm more comfortable with my sexuality and more sure of what the Gay experience means to me. Yet, I still revel in seeing my life portrayed in public. It shakes up the weight of my complacency and challenges the insidious voices in the back of my head that still tell me I am less. I believe the word is validation. I only wish we all had more opportunities.

Jen Kohout says if you're looking for something to do this weekend, contact your congressional delegation and tell them you support funding for the National Endowment for the Arts. A
Morning, Love
by Karen Carlisle

Morning. I push the snooze button on the alarm and
drop deeply into the divine, enveloping kiss you
cover my mouth with. I turn into the oncoming wave
of your warm, salty body and sail fearlessly into you, slipping
my skin.

I know we can only do this for about 8 1/2 minutes, but I
don’t care. 8 1/2 minutes of bliss is 8 1/2 minutes more than
we’ve had in a few days while I’ve slugged through bronchial
nights coughing and shivering. Last night, I made the mistake
of bringing you the local phone number of the Alaskanet when I
came over at 9:00 pm with desire on my mind. We got onto the
Internet for the first time.

Surf’s up, Dear Love. We were both awed immediately. I
lost interest quickly like I do in a mall when I have too many
choices, but you found something that really interested you. At
11:30 pm, I said “I’m going to bed, darling.” (OK, so I didn’t
really say darling.) You murmured unintelligibly and kept
staring at the screen watching the lines of print roll away at the
top as if they were revolving around the earth and disappearing
over the horizon.

At 12:00 am, we were in bed together, and our bodies rolled
toward each other like magnets touching at every soft curving
place. And the heat rose, Dear Love, the heat rose, didn’t it?
The flesh was willing, but the mind said 7:00 am is coming
quickly and us old girls need our rest or we get cranky and
have circles under our eyes.

I’m always the one who says, “No, I have to study at
5:00 am,” or “no, it’s too late.” I hate that about myself, and
rarely, we succumb to a late-night rush of hormones. I always
sleep wonderfully and when we were diving into each other
damn near every night, I thought we’d both die of exhaustion,
though Dear Love won’t admit this.

I was glad when that first flood of lust was sated. Truth to
tell, I don’t want to run by physical urges, though I sure
want to be interrupted by them on a regular, random basis. So
here we are and except for a few good smooches, and leaning
hard into each other, we have not been sexual except once in
three weeks what with Dear Love being gone for a week and a
half and I being sick for a week following that.

As you might guess, the sexual tension is building up,
and we’re going through another one of those “I’m falling in love
with you all over again” phases. Isn’t it wonderful, they keep
recurring?

Being in love means some different things when we’re 51
and 57 than it did when we were twenty something. Or even
thirtysomething or fortysomething. Next week I go in for a
complete physical exam including mammogram, pap smear,
dental check-up, teeth cleaning, and eye exam. You have to do
this stuff more often when you’re over 50. And when you get
closer to sixty, there’s some more stuff the medics suggest you
do. Next week Dear Love is having one of those vile check-ups
for colon cancer, nothing very symptomatic except recurring
stomach pain.

Today, one of her co-workers who’d already had his colon
illuminated got the results which sent him packing to Seattle
for biopsies. I asked Dear Love did she feel scared. She
moved into the lee of my bigger body and said, “I don’t want to
wear a shit bag.”

I said, “Sweetheart, neither do I, and you’re living in the
future. Come back to today.” But her fear was not appeased.
I know what she needed. “I will still love you every bit as much
if you do. I will kiss your belly all around it and I will be very
careful and very gentle. I will nuzzle your soft, friendly
furriness just as I do now, and I will lick your wet, velvety dark
places even more. I will help you clean it, and anyway, honey,
by the time one of us dies, we’re both likely to have several
appliances hanging from our bodies.”

Dear Love laughed, but then her face broke up into
vulnerability and her eyes were wet with tears. Loving in the
aging years means you know that you are taking an amazing
journey together. Loving in the later years means you know
there are going to be some trials by fire and you’re going to
walk through it holding hands. And if you’re Lesbian or Gay,
then you’d better get your durable powers of attorney made,
and your designated beneficiary changed on all insurance policies,
pensions, annuities. And you get your living wills made up and
you tell each other what you want to happen after you die, and
how you want your child to be told.

And once you’ve said all those things, and done all those
things, then you’re free to ask your lover if she’s scared and to
reassure her as you hold her in your arms. Have I said how
much I like it that Dear Love is so small because I really can
hold her totally immersed in my arms or on my lap? To think
that once I was terrified of small women because I was afraid
I would crush them. Dear Love can take every bit of power I
thrust at her and then some.

And this is how mercurial our emotions are, how free-
flowing that we can segue from a deeply tender and serious
comforting about life and death possibilities right back into
desire. Personally, I think a rush of desire is a real appropriate
response to intimations of one’s own mortality or that of one’s
lover. Dear Love and I have a private code phrase for the rising
of desire, but it’s not going to be private any longer because
I’m about to tell you what it is, but the people in Bushville still
won’t know, and you, Dear Readers, are not real to Dear Love
anymore. At least you weren’t until we came to Tension Town
for Halloween Dance and you girls were very bold and came
righ up and leered at her. It was then that she realized that
there was a very real Lesbian and Gay community who had
been sharing the secrets of her most private moments, but too
late, she gave permission. And anyway, secretly, I think she’s
honored to be immortalized in a series of essays that might
some day make a book.

I bet you thought I was going to forget. After dinner out, I
took Dear Love home to prepare a workshop, and I was coming
home to write this article. When I asked her what I should
write about this time, she smiled sensually and said, “This
morning. I thought about you off and on all day, and every time
I felt a stirring in my loins.”

Isn’t she adorable? PS: Last week, I special ordered her a
dozen sterling roses to be delivered to her work at Valentine’s
Day. I’ve been grinning to myself all week thinking about it.
Tonight at the grocery store, I bought a box of kid’s valentines
with kittens all over them. I’m going to blitz her house and
work with them.

Do you think she’ll know I love her?
Karen Carlisle, Bursting in Bushville.
Well, here we go again! EQUAL will be displaying ten (10) signs on People Mover buses during the two weeks set aside to celebrate Gay Pride Week in Anchorage. These signs were displayed last year just prior to the departure of the Fink Administration. After a rather stormy relationship regarding the display of gay/lesbian related signs over the previous two years, signs similar to the sample shown below were displayed last year without any delay from municipal officials.

Public awareness and community education are two methods to help promote equality for all Alaskans. This past year, signs were installed on buses three times—Gay Pride, Coming Out Day, and Holiday Greetings. The Transit Department received many complaints (orchestrated by ??) the first time signs were installed but only received one during our last display. The words gay, lesbian, transgender, bisexual, etc. need to be public! Until people are comfortable with the words, they will never be comfortable with us!

**Very Important Notice**

New members of the Equal Rights Commission will be appointed before the end of February.

Officers will be elected at the March/April meeting. Give Dan a call (274-9226) if you need more info.
S&M on the Equal Rights Commission?

- Congressman Arney, Barney "Fag" and the "Newt Reich"
- KTUU Airs "Serving in Silence: The Grethe Cammermeyer Story"

Could it be the secret is finally out? Could the Anchorage Equal Rights Commission have a devotee of S&M who is finally "coming out of the closet"? Actually, in this case maybe it should be a second coming out of the closet? For those of you who watched "Serving in Silence" (see below) and also watched the 1995 Anchorage Fur Rendezvous Grand Parade, you may already know I am referring to Commissioner Michael Johnston, the resident ex-gay on the ERC who supports the concept of equality—"as long as he can choose who is equal" (Michael, is it true you end the pledge of allegiance with "liberty and justice for almost all"?)

It seems Commissioner Johnston and his aversion-therapy ministry couldn't resist airing his "you-know-you-are-miserable-being-gay-and-you're-going-to-die-30-years-early" television ads during the Cammermeyer movie and then had a float entered in the Rondy Parade featuring the same theme: bondage. Yep, that's right, in the TV ad, Michael is in handcuffs and being locked away in a jail cell. The float featured men in chains. Michael, you really need to do something about these repressed desires of yours, eh?

Could you believe Congressman Dick Arney (Republican-Texas) explaining how he "accidentally" mispronounced Democratic Congressman from Massachusetts Barney Frank's name? Now, I know a member of the "Newt Reich" would never lie (but then again I didn't think they could even make a mistake), but does Congressman Arney really think the American public is so stupid they would believe he was trying to say Barney Frank and Barney "Fag" just happened to come out? I mean, after all, Congressman Arney, there are only three openly gay members of Congress (Barney Frank being one of them) so you want us to believe the fact you referred to an openly gay member of congress with a derogatory term for being gay was just a mistake. Sure, Congressman Arney, I'll buy that explanation as long as you admit you didn't leave your ability to "sling bull" in Texas when you were elected to Congress. Another part of this story I found interesting on the local scene was the convenient omission of this item from our so-called liberal media—the Anchorage Daily News. Seems like they are always in a no-win situation. The far-right always blasts the Daily News as the mouthpiece for every liberal cause and some of us liberals (yes, there are some left) think of their reporting as middle-of-the road mush.

Speaking of the far-right, I understand KTUU-Channel 2 (NBC) was receiving complaint calls and faxes about how terrible it was for them to air a sinful show like "Serving in Silence: The Margarethe Cammermeyer Story," before the show had actually aired. (Just a word of explanation to our local right-wing reverends: your flock will have much more credibility if you tell them to wait until AFTER a show has aired before they complain to the station about how objectionable it was). KTUU also reported they had several dozen complaint calls concerning the airing of Michael Johnston's anti-gay ads (see above).

On Friday, February 3, a "family reunion" was held at the Egan Center in downtown Anchorage. Live music, booze, food, dancing, champagne and lots of people—including lots of "us"—celebrating the election of Alaska's new Governor and Lieutenant Governor, Tony Knowles and Fran Ulmer. For those new to Alaska, Tony and Fran have been longtime supporters of equal rights. Tony was one of the honorary co-chairs of Alaskans for Civil Rights a couple of years back when the sexual orientation issue was front stage in Anchorage. As one person joked, the newly elected Governor and Lt. Governor dancing together was an Alaskan first (well, at least first time any of our Governors and Lt. Governors have danced together publicly, eh?).

Dan Carter is a local gay activist
Say it! Lesbians Help Gays
by Christopher Fabbro

A

in't that the truth? Only a couple years into the AIDS nightmare and Gay womyn jumped in to help. As the epidemic progressed, activists became louder as more people died. By the time the 1987 March on Washington exploded, ACT UP jumped forth, boasting a fabulously disproportionate number of womyn members—considering it would still be a few years before the first case of womon-to-womon transmission was to be reported.

Something became very clear at the 1987 March: the gender barrier that had survived even Stonewall was finally—clearly—being forgiven in the name of love. Stay with me on this one, I know it sounds a bit sappy, but what else would have compelled the Lesbian community to rush to Gay men's aid. There was nothing in it for them except the satisfaction of having eloquently served their community.

Well, boys, it's payback time. Breast cancer kills Lesbians disproportionately, and reproductive rights—and all the issues related: insemination, adoption, abortion—are not permanently guaranteed. Like it or not, it is our civic duty to be informed about community issues. Of course, how can a Gay man get the facts on breast cancer when he may very well still be in the dark about HIV?

Read:
Ask yourself, regardless of your gender, when you're flipping through Advocate or Out or any of the regional Gay press, do you skip over the occasional articles about AIDS or breast cancer or reproductive rights unless you have a direct stake in the issue? Perhaps. With just a couple minutes per article, you could become the best-informed queer on the block! Try it out—you'll be surprised at how much more interesting and interested you become.

We need to keep the gender barrier broken if we expect to unify the factions of our community. It is a continual process that requires perpetual generosity with regard to listening, openness, and understanding. It's just like the safer sex issue—it's not a one-time or temporary thing. We need to ask questions about each other's lives and be ready to show interest as quickly as we do compassion.

Chris Fabbro is a certified HIV pre- and post-test counselor and a coordinator of the Lifeguard Project, the largest HIV-relapse prevention program in the country.

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So, if you think Design/Craft isn't for you, think again.

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BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT
FRIGID NORTH COMPANY
BY RUTH MATHES

If you have thumbed through even one issue of the KK or the NorthView, you've seen it...that little bracket-bordered business card advertising "TLC Housesitting" with the name and number of Carol Van Dyke. I called her for an interview, and she insisted she wasn't a business. I said that I perceived her as a business, so she relented. I'm really good at verbal arm-twisting!

Identity: When did you start TLC Housesitting?
CVD: This venture began in April of 1991, and I've been busy ever since. Kinda hard getting started, but I passed out my cards at work, and my friends told their friends. Word of mouth always works best.

Identity: What prompted you to begin such a venture?
CVD: I was actively seeking a place to hang my hat following a split relationship, and this seemed the most economical way to solve that problem in a speedy fashion.

Identity: Does it have its drawbacks?
CVD: The biggest problem I have is "living" out of my car. Essentially, I don't occupy a permanent residence, although I maintain a message phone and can receive both personal and business calls. But the things one tends to accumulate that occupy space like furniture and paintings and dishes and appliances...those I do not have, and I find myself missing that.

Identity: There must be a big plus or two to offset that, right?
CVD: Right! Pets, for starters. I have made some big-time friends of certain dogs and cats in Anchortown. I have a soft spot in my heart for critters, and these have been some of the very best four-legged friends I have ever had! Sure has made it difficult to leave a place, especially if I have been there a long time.

Identity: Do you get many long-term (ahem) engagements? (I'm always a bit hesitant about using that word!)
CVD: Oh, yes, quite a few actually. At present I am housesitting for a five-month period (also not a good word!), and really prefer to move around less. I've been able to "nest" this winter, and it has been delicious. Makes me think seriously about getting my own place again soon.

Identity: You mean right away?
CVD: Well, not that soon. I will probably do this another year or so, at least. This current location may be available next year again, and that's very tempting, financially. However, I'm beginning to start to get ready to think about it.

Identity: That's a relief, cause I'm interested in using your services over Memorial Day. Could you use a new black cocker spaniel friend named "Lady"? (What else?)
CVD: Sorry...you'll have to get in line. I'm already spoken for (did I say that?) for that weekend. Maybe some other time. (Now that sounds familiar!)

Identity: Sure thing, Carol. I'll keep your number handy...I've always found your name fascinating...!

Ruth Mathes is co-Editor of the NorthView, is happily retired from the Anchorage School District and is still, still redecorating her kitchen. λ.
Conspicuous by Their Absence
by Pete Pinney

I thought it was my paranoia setting in, but now I am not so sure. Usually when Fairbanks has a queer headline in the daily paper, the flurry of letters to the editor creates a backlog of angry, pious and hateful verbiage that takes a week to publish. Our paper is dedicated to letting everyone have his or her say. But when the headline reported the university's discrimination against unmarried couples (emphasis on same sex in large print), there was not one letter on the subject for over a week. Then a positive letter showed up congratulating the court for taking such a stand.

As if the news had not been made clear, the paper ran an editorial extolling the woes of such a decision, even though it was the only true conclusion the courts could come to. Still no reaction from the Ridiculous Right. No response. Inquiring minds want to know what is up.

True, the news fell on the same week of the anniversary of Roe v. Wade. The letters from the above mentioned group were all that was showing up in pages of letters to the editor, all vindicating violent action in the name of a crusade. That much is expected, and I would be surprised to see anything else. But not even one letter about the court case?

Of course, it is easier to oppress women than other minorities. Look around the world and notice that the fastest growing number of AIDS cases are in women, mostly in places where they are economically held back or educationally disadvantaged. (Where are women not held back from power or intentionally kept out of management of their own affairs?) Look at how Dr. Foster has to defend his stand on the legal way he has conducted himself, now that the Pro-Life Movement can escape the violence issue with a new scapegoat. Look at how poor women are the main target of relatively insignificant welfare reform. Women are the overwhelming target of physical and emotional abuse at all age levels in all categories, even outside the Judeo-Christian thing.

Fundamentalists have now taken up an organized letter campaign to squelch a woman's control over her body as their new focus of certain action. With marching orders from Ralph Reed, executive director of the Christian Coalition, the ridiculous right is to help pass the "Contract for America" in the hopes that social services will be granted over to the church rather than to the states (this according to his memo sent out over the Internet) and that America will return to church-controlled morals and values. Discipline amongst the sheep is strong, too. Letters here went on and on.

Of course, Fairbanks tends to be a little off, even when it comes to social engineering. Our local neon church billboard sign read, "Better straight than smart." Many of us who drove past had to turn around and go back by to see if we had read it correctly. The guise was to ridicule the fact the two university employees would sue the university for an act of discrimina-
P-FLAG Fairbanks
by Steve Kailing

The most important news is....

Our regular monthly meeting was held January 17, 1995 in the Unitarian Universalist Church building. Much of the discussion was directed toward an ad that appeared in the Fairbanks Daily Newsminer on January 11th. It reproduced part of my report to NorthView Identity regarding the P-FLAG and AGLA presentations that were given to all school guidance counselors in November, 1994. The ad, which was placed by "Concerned Citizens of Fairbanks: (a heretofore completely unknown group), used my closing sentence out of context so it appeared as though P-FLAG, AGLA and Gay-friendly individuals could be planning some kind of a recruitment campaign in the public schools. It encouraged readers to write to the Fairbanks North Star Borough School Board and voice "concerns."

Meeting attendees were strongly encouraged to write the School Board in support of the presentations that were given by P-FLAG and others. Your correspondent wrote a letter clarifying and amplifying the training. We received a favorable reply from the Board. Last year the School Board approved a new policy related to sexual harassment in district schools; Gays, of course, are subject to some of the most severe sexual harassment that goes on in our schools.

Another item on the meeting agenda was the book "Uncommon Heroes." Mary volunteered to buy a copy of this excellent book on contemporary Gay and Lesbian role models and donate it to the Noel Wien Library. We are grateful for the copy donated to P-FLAG Fairbanks by Steve Herbits, Executive Vice President of Joseph E. Seagram and Sons, and one of the over one hundred openly Gay heroes featured in this book.

Your correspondent handed out copies of "Crossroads" publication put out by the American Society of Friends (the Quakers). This newsletter contains some of the best, most supportive literature on Gays and religion we have ever seen. It is aimed at Gay youth but is applicable for everyone.

Steve Kailing, Fairbanks Chapter correspondent λ.

Congratulations to
the LesBiGay Community
Float Committee for winning
First Place in the Fur
Rondy Parade non-
commercial division!

Our Own Sweet Rondy Start!
by Sylvia Short

There are a lot of happy, satisfied people today!!! It was the dessert-fest for the benefit of the Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association (Four A's), and the lucky gang who came to the Rave for the festivities was not disappointed.

I had the privilege (believe me!) of being a judge. That means it was my job to taste 36 (count 'em!) delicacies in 11 categories, each of which was not only a gastronomical but a visual delight. From the beautiful frosting church celebrating the marriage of the male couple to the basket of peanut brittle, everything was delicious.

First, we were treated to a three course meal with noodles from Peter and a marvelous sauce done by Rita from a recipe supplied by Pepe, courtesy of the 10# of ground sirloin donated by John and Bruce, complete with mixed green salad by Ron and assorted salad dressings, macaroni salad by Jackie and French bread.

After we gorged on that the five judges were assembled and given their instructions (they wanted us to leave enough to auction off!). We were set loose on a riot of sweets and goodies, and every single entry was gourment! That is, except for the church, which was to look at, not touch!

Finally, we had to make up our minds, and it wasn't easy. The winners were: Cookies-Mike and James; Cupcakes-Howard; Pastries-Robert and Ruth; Pie-Linda; Jello-Judy; Best-tasting-Tony; Cheesecake-Deejay; Family dessert-Corbett; Best decorated-Ron; Best overall-Ron.

Comments by the onlookers: "Wonderful community celebration," "good to see the community get together for something like this," "great support for the Four A's," "feast of taste and senses," "why don't we do this more often" and so on.

I couldn't stay until the complete end, but the auction of the culinary masterpieces was well under way, and I got home with three separate works of art, to Gene's delight. It was a gala occasion and the cause justly benefited. What could be sweeter!

Sylvia Short, Attorney with sweet tooth λ.
An Open Letter to Jim Wilson by Gilbert Wilson

Dear Jim:
We've been together over seven years now and I wish with all my heart that I could be with you now in your final days. Your cancer has spread and you are no longer able to walk or even talk and your moment with God shall be coming soon. I had asked God last year, when you first got sick, to bring your memory back and give me at least a year with you to say good-bye. God brought your memory back and gave me that year. It was a year to the day before you became sick again and had to go into the hospital for an infection and fever and three weeks later you were out again but only for a short time before your cancer began to spread and affect your walking. You had told me you wanted to die at home and that you wanted me to take care of you. But when you became sick again I asked you if you would consider moving in with your sister. After all, your parents are not very young and they live so far away. I thought it would be better for the whole family if we moved in with your sister and I could take care of you there.

I rented out our home and we both stayed with your sister for awhile. Then in December, if you remember, I told you I needed a break. Your need for care was much more then I could give alone and the family wouldn't let me home health care people come in to help. I know I left you in good hands and I know your sister, mother and father all love you very much. But when I got to my folk's house for Christmas your mother was accusing me of stealing your stuff and running off. Because I was gone they took control of everything and the day after Christmas your sister obtained guardianship over you.

I know you had wanted me to be your guardian and you tried several times to have the paper work done and ready. But I kept refusing to let you give me guardianship over you. When you tried before to give me a Durable Power of Attorney your parents got so upset as it was that I destroyed the document.

I sent off all of your bank accounts and credit cards back to your sister even before she had guardianship of you. I had hoped it would ease their belief that I was stealing but it seemed only tojustify their belief that you needed protection from me.

I know you wanted me to pay off all of your bills and get things financially straightened out for you but then we never expected your sister to get in the way of things. It is funny how things work out. I had told you that if your parents wouldn't respect your wishes and they tried to take everything I would walk away from it all. And you told me then that "I guess they can have my bills." Well my friend, they now have all your bills.

But, I have the memories of the past seven years and the last year is the most special one of all. You got to do all the things you had wanted to do, including salmon fishing, halibut fishing, seeing your friends in Kodiak and driving cross country in the motor home to my cousin's ten acres in Idaho. It was a year of going to the movies and going out to dinner, but most of all it was a year to say good-bye, to hold each other, cry together and get to know each other just a little more.

I know now it is time for you to be with God, and you've gotten to know him a little better this year too, and time for me to say good-bye.

Good-bye Jim, I love you for ever.
Gilbert Wilson ▼

Voters Who Changed the Face of Congress Support Ending Discrimination Against Gay Americans by Dallas Chase

The Human Rights Campaign Fund has released a poll conducted November 8 and 9 of 800 people who voted which finds a consensus of voter sentiment in favor of Gay civil rights. It is the first post-election poll to measure voter attitudes towards Lesbian and Gay Americans. A majority of Republican, Democrat and Independent voters support ending discrimination against Lesbians and Gay men and support increased efforts against HIV/AIDS. The poll was conducted by Mellman, Lazarus, Lake, Inc. and has a plus or minus 3.5% margin for error. The results include:

- 70% of all surveyed say Gays should have "equal rights in hiring and firing." The breakdown by party was 77% Demo, 71% Independent, and 64% GOP in favor.
- 57% support the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, a federal bill to protect sexual orientation from discrimination in the workplace.
- 78% approved increased efforts for AIDS research, prevention and care.
- 40% were worried more about a "religious right agenda" than a "Gay agenda."
- 21% were more worried about a "Gay agenda" than a "religious right agenda."
- 54% opposed efforts to keep homosexuals from teaching.
- 54% opposed efforts to censor material about homosexuality from schools and public libraries.

"Voters support the value of hard work, and believe no one who wants to do their job and pay taxes should be singled out for discrimination," said Tim McFeely, Executive Director of HRCF. "These findings show a broad support for equality for Lesbian and Gay Americans in the midst of a Republican sweep. Voters of all political stripes value fairness and inclusion, and key blocs of swing voters are especially supportive of Gay people. In voter booths (Oregon and Idaho defeated statewide anti-Gay initiatives) and opinion polls, voters have sent a clear message that their vision of change includes equal rights for Lesbian and Gay Americans." A study released just prior to the election by the Times Mirror Center for the People and the Press reported that the most important swing voters in the electorate, representing 20% of registered voters, are highly tolerant of homosexuality. Among the general population, Times Mirror said, "we found at least one important change in public tolerance in the last four years—a sharp decline in homophobia."

AND so it came to pass that the tail of one SRH got long enough to braid, and you'll never guess who did it. Of course you won't; this is a rebus. It was RSA. Just a teeny-weeny braid. OK, OK, it's a process! OK! ▼ Category: time-to-turn-in-your-card, dear. The first such incident was at one of those gatherings where queers gather to, well, socialize and have dinner and listen to a speaker—all those things so feared by the rabid right. It was indeed there that BW (most recently enamored of KP—does EYE see an item here?) found himself on the wrong end of a, gasp, table cloth. Try as he might, it wouldn't fold "properly." Turn in your fag card, dear. Or promise you'll take up TF-101 at the U. ▼ Incident #2 happened on the other side of town at the independent service and gas station up Tudor. EYE heard that while one FKF was filling up with independent and LesBigGay-friendly gas, one DW drove up in a very shiny looking, new appearing pick-up truck. Now y'all know what EYE must have thought, because pick-ups have classically been the domain of dykes. Then, EYE is told, FKF took a closer look and saw all sort and manner of niceties and accouterments inside, with a plush interior. Well, gEYEes and gEYEns, DW protested that it was truly butch, whereupon FKF allegedly said he remembered when "bad" came to mean "good" and now it was happening again, "butch" means "nellie." Turn in your card, DW. It's nellie! ▼ If any of you missed the potluck, you might be more diligent in the future. GI gives great pet. (EYE swears, she made it up, and didn't hear it from JM-L or RSA, either.) ▼ There's another bit concerning one JM-L and that, EYE was told, occurred at Thai Town (not to be confused with House, Cuisine or Kitchen!) Seems there were several dining with JM-L, FKF and TC to be somewhat exact. Also seems JM-L doesn't use chopsticks (it's all right, folks, neither do the Thai, except for noodles), but they only gave him one chopstick anyway. Which gave rise to the sound of one chopstick eating... Never mind. ▼ Couldn't help but cheer for LK up there on stage and all, seen with the International Women's Chorus as the warm up for Ladysmith Black Mambazo (EYE hopes this isn't an outing?) ▼ Now, here's one for the record books. Seems there are some mailpersons who take an interest and care around the folks to whom they deliver mail (not to mention correct grammar). EYE heard of one in particular, can't mention names but you know who you are, who actually checks up on deliverees (some in need of food, medical care, etc.) and checks up on property sometimes (as in noticing things amiss and reporting it). After lawyer jokes, and blonde jokes, mail carrier jokes probably proliferate, but here's a chance to thank a carrier who looks after his charges. EYE is proud. ▼ And this just in. TR&AK admitted to heading off into the Alaska Wilderness for a jaunt—are you ready?—on a snow machine. This may not sound so strange to some of youse guys, but EYE discovered that TR's never been on one of those machines before and here they are trudging off mile 126 north of Talkeetna of all places, and THEN getting on one of those things for the trek across the winter tundra. Three miles to be exact. To the boss's cabin, no less! Give him a butch card and put the nellie one on temporary leave! ▼ EYE has to tell about Yukon Rose. She was just so darling in her little black boots and pink harness. She greeted FKFs at the door, EYE is told, and was just a gutton for hugs and all. Was told by MR&JC that she gets too cold outside without the boots. For those who don't know YR, get a clue. Ask any dyke. ▼ This just in: in a fax directed to Out North Theatre, the following message appears: "Out North, I have been receiving your papers and cards for quite some time. I don't know where you got my name, but I want if OOF your list. I have no interest in your liberal left wing lesbian trash. Sincerely, CH, Palmer." EYE wonders why CH kept reading all that trash all that time. maybe CH had to keep reading it for a while to be sure it was trash. ▼ Hot off the press (well, it was last Saturday): the Lesbian and Gay Community Float won first place in non-commercial division in the Fur Rondy Parade. Great going everyone! EYE hears the military even applauded our float. Will cease never wonder.
Dream

I reached out my left hand and touched
your dear face. You leaned your
head into my hand and
closed your eyes. We
embraced softly sighing,
held each other softly
moaning faces turning
lips moving toward one
of the gentlest softest
kisses kisses that drew
us into one another. We
sat back and looked deeply
into each other's eyes smiled
touched embraced kissed fingers hands lips
kissed a crystal drop of rain on a branch in
the wind, and in one huge wave I was
beached held and then you moved over me
and I under you and we kissed and called to
one another in a language both of us knew
and had never spoken before and would
only speak to each other.

She Comes Through You

I.

O thou
compassionate, passionate mother spirit
that forgives all things I rest
my heaving heart
against thy comforting earth.
I bring to thee my torment
lay it in thy warm hands again.

How does a wildly unmothered soul
keep from wandering
amilessly
through the arms of every woman crying,
Art thou the one?
Art thou?

Still me quiet me wrap me
in the cradle of thy love.
Bind my spirit snuggly
in thy cradle board
that I may not fragment into the coldness
of nothing touched.

II.

Like a clematis shriveled white
by exile in a cellar
I leaned
into the sun of your hand
and was delivered
of my brilliant aloneness
for a moment
that outshone the solitude
I chose.

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Financial News
by Chris Olson
"Mutual Fund Investments"

The best way to describe investing in mutual funds is to also discuss investing in stocks and bonds. When you buy stock you generally purchase shares in round lots quantities (100 shares). If you wanted to buy shares in IBM, for example, at $67.00/share, you would have to come up with $6,700 for one round lot.

A bond usually sells for $5,000 or its face value. Sometimes a bond is discounted, in which case you would pay less than the face value. If it is selling at a premium then you would pay more than the face value. Federal, state, and local governments sell bonds as do corporations in order to finance capital improvements, expansions, and other projects. The public decides through general elections if they want to issue bonds to raise money.

When you buy a bond you receive interest payments twice a year—this is your yield on the bond. A 10% yield on a $5,000 bond would pay you $500 every six months. If you are the entity issuing the bond you have to be able to pay the yield to your investors. Did you notice that your mortgage payment went up this year? Every time we vote in a bond package we agree to increase our taxes to pay the interest payments on those bonds. Interest on U.S. government bonds are paid from the federal taxes that we all pay each year.

When you buy mutual funds you buy shares in the investment company or in the fund itself. Most funds allow a minimum of only $25 to start investing. There are typically thousands of investors pooling their money into any given fund. The fund manager uses your money to buy stocks and bonds that correspond with the investment objectives of the fund. There are strict guidelines about how the manager can do this. They cannot, for example, buy too much of any one company. They have to diversify their holdings so as to insulate the individual investors (you) from a disaster in any one company. Dividends and interest are usually rolled back into your account for the purchase of more shares.

There are three primary advantages to owning mutual fund shares: a) Guaranteed marketability. The fund, by law, must redeem your shares when you want to sell them. You can only sell your individually owned stocks and bonds if you can find a buyer. Who could find a buyer for their Martech shares a few months back? b) Professional management. By owning fund shares you hire an investment expert to manage the fund. That person or persons research various corporations and governments and decide which purchases are best for your fund. They try to sell losers before they become losers and buy winners low enough to enjoy a profit when they gain in value; c) Diversification. By pooling millions or billions of dollars of investors' money the fund can spread their holdings over multiple stock companies and bond holdings. If Martech were owned by the fund you would have only lost a small portion of your fund's value when Martech went under. Such a fund owns hundreds of different companies and can easily handle fluctuations in the value of one company like Martech. If you had individually owned Martech stock you would have lost all of your original investment.

Mutual funds are considered securities. They are regulated by law and must meet certain disclosure requirements before selling to the public. As an example, a prospectus must accompany or precede a solicitation or a sale for a mutual fund. There are inherent risks associated with buying mutual fund shares. These risks must be disclosed to an investor before money is accepted by the fund. Depending on many variables in your life and what other sorts of financial goals you have, mutual funds may be a perfect alternative or new option for your investment needs.

Chris Olson is a fully licensed insurance and securities representative, has lived in Alaska for 13 years and welcomes new clients and referrals, especially from the Gay & Lesbian Community.
AZT/3TC Surprise
Notes from the Underground

The combination of AZT/3TC produces the most profound sustained reduction of virus levels ever seen in people with HIV, according to data released at a conference in Glasgow. The combo produced dramatic responses in other surrogate markers too, including CD4 cell counts. The information came from two European studies, one in people who had never taken nucleoside analogues, and one in people who had been on AZT.

3TC is a new nucleoside analogue chemically unrelated to AZT, ddi, ddc or d4T that has activity against HIV and hepatitis B. It seems to be far and away the least toxic of these drugs, although at higher doses (around 1000 mg a day) neutropenia has been reported. Other side effects such as headache, rash, and fever happen rarely and may not actually be caused by the drug. But because of the rapid development of resistance to 3TC by itself, hopes were slim that it would be of much use in PWAs. The results from these two studies surprised everyone.

The AZT Naive Study

The six month study was in 129 people with CD4 cell counts between 100-400 with an average of 271. At the end of 6 months, 108 people opted to stay on open label follow-up through week 48. There were two arms: AZT (200 mg 3x/day) versus AZT (same dose) plus 3TC (300 mg 2x/day).

Results: People on the combo got a 1.5 log reduction (more than 97%) of viral load by week 4. This stayed 90% below the level that people had when they began the study (baseline) through week 48. People on AZT got a 0.7 log reduction, that returned to baseline by six months.

People on the combo got an average increase of 85 CD4 cells by week 8, which remained at +80 CD4 cells at six months. By the end of 48 weeks CD4 cells were still 49 above baseline. People on AZT had an average increase of 38 CD4 cells by week 8, which fell to 7 cells below baseline by the end of six months. However, people on the AZT arm who switched to combo therapy at the end of six months got a 40 CD4 cell rise, and a reduction in viral load.

Previous AZT Use Study

The data wasn't as complete for this six month study, which was in 223 people with CD4 cell counts between 100-400 (the average was 250). There were three arms: AZT (200 mg 3x/day) vs the same dose of AZT plus one of two doses of 3TC (300 mg 2x/day or 150 mg 2x/day). People had an average of about 2 years prior AZT use.

Results: The was no major difference between the two combo arms. Together they showed a 47 cell increase by week 8, and by week 24, people still had an average of 33 cells above baseline. Those who continued on AZT alone fell 21 cells below baseline. Combo patients also got a 75-86% reduction in p24 levels, sustained for the duration of the study. People on AZT only got a 24% reduction.

What does it all mean?

While there is no data on clinical endpoints (symptoms or opportunistic infection), these are frankly the best viral load responses ever seen (at least for the AZT Naive Study). The fact that the response is sustained for a year in most patients is important since, according to results from viral load studies, people are less likely to progress as long as their viral load is suppressed. Even better, there was no difference in toxicity on any arm in either study. If

anything, according to the researchers, people on the combination experienced less side effects.

There is a 3TC compassionate use program for anyone with less than 300 CD4 cells who has tried other antivirals. You can even take other drugs at the same time, as long as you let Glaxo (the makers) know. To enroll, your doc should call (1800) 248-9757.

Thanks to People with AIDS Working for Health, Inc., the PWA Health Group Newsletter, New York, September/October, 1994

Gay & Lesbian Freedom Riders—Destination: Ovett, Mississippi

Robin Tyler, a prominent Lesbian activist who originally called for and emceed the 1st March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights, and subsequently produced the Main Stage for the 2nd and 3rd Marches, and Rev. Troy Perry, founder of Metropolitan Community Churches, the largest organization of Gays and Lesbians in the world, returned last week from a meeting with Wanda & Brenda Henson at Camp Sister Spirit near Ovett, Mississippi.

On January 17, 1995, consensus was reached regarding Memorial Day Weekend. (Friday, May 26-Monday, May 30). That weekend a thousand Gays and Lesbians from all across America will ride to the aid of a Lesbian family and their besieged property outside Ovett. Camp Sister Spirit has been exposed to an ongoing, radical right inspired campaign of violence, harassment, intimidation and death threats.

If you would like to join this historic weekend, go to Camp Sister Spirit, and help clear the land, and aid in building, you can call or write UFMCC, 3500 Santa Monica Blvd., #304, Los Angeles, CA 90029, ATTN: Project: Camp Sister Spirit, or call Frank Zerilli at (213) 464-5100, ext. 212.

The minimum donation will be $135.00 per person. Of this, $110 will be used to cover the cost of food, sanitation, equipment, etc. Campers must plan to bring their own tents and utensils. If you plan to come in a R.V., R.V.'s will cost an additional $40.00.

$25.00 from each fee will be used to help Camp Sister Spirit pay for expenses for a Federal Lawsuit to be filed under the anti-Klan act for the harassment they have received. Any money left over will go to the Camp Sister Spirit Folk School (an educational and cultural retreat center that makes available an opportunity for learning non-oppressive lifestyles).

Although participants will be helping work the land for the four days, they will also have the opportunity to participate in workshops, sing-a-longs, worship services...in other words, four days of helping others, but also, four days of celebration and joy!

"I think it's vitally important for Lesbians and Gay males and our friends to come to Ovett, Mississippi to help our sisters who are under siege," said Rev. Troy Perry, "and to serve notice to the darker forces in this country that these sisters have the right to purchase and establish their camp and folk school anywhere in America.

The maximum number is 1000 participants. If you wish to register immediately, send $135.00 made out to UFMCC: Project Camp Sister Spirit and mail it to the Los Angeles address above. Detailed brochures regarding what to bring will be sent out. If you cannot attend, but wish to send a donation, please send it to the same address.
Gay Radio: Santa Fe's Answer to Rush Limbaugh

Santa Fe, NM, January 21, 1995—"Out, Loud, and Proud" Santa Fe's first Gay talk radio show, on KVSF AM 1260, came alive in October as the local event for the annual Gay holiday National Coming Out Day. The Santa Fe Lesbian, Gay, Bi Pride Committee, the local non-profit that creates the annual Gay Pride festival and other community building events, produces the professional weekly show to respond to the likes of Rush Limbaugh.

"In this city of acceptance there was Rush Limbaugh many hours a week, humorously bashing people commonly known as liberals and Democrats. That tone does great damage to this wonderfully diverse community. So, we decided to respond by showcasing the phenomenal Gay community here," said Lynn Sheppard, President of the Gay Pride Committee and Co-host of Out, Loud, and Proud. "It's a positive response to those who would rather create scapegoats than problem solve together.

Three months after "Out, Loud, and Proud" first went on the air in Santa Fe, Santa Feans took part in a KVSF poll and Santa Fe became the first town in the nation to send Rush Limbaugh's show packing.

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.

"It sounds as if you have no beliefs." Ah, but we do. A belief in the dignity of all human beings, regardless of sex, race, sexual orientation or economic level. A willingness to help each other. A commitment to compassion and social justice.

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.

3201 Tumagain St., four blocks south of Northern Lights Blvd.
Phone: 248-3737; Informative Recorded Message: 248-0715
Lesbians, HIV and Safer Sex...What Does It Mean to Us? 
by Ana Rodriguez

Safe Sex, Safer sex....What does safer sex mean for Lesbians? Are we at risk for HIV and other infections? If so, do we need to apply it to our lives? If we need to apply it to our lives, what do we use? What do we do to be safe with each other? As an HIV + Lesbian do I even need to worry about safer sex? Do I need to worry about my partner? These are a few of the questions that many Lesbians have asked themselves at one time or another regarding sex and HIV infection. Unfortunately, when these questions arise the are brushed aside with statements such as: "Oh, you're a Lesbian, you don't need to worry about it." Or, "Woman to woman transmission doesn't exist." Is it because Lesbians don't have sex? The Center For Disease Control (CDC) does not categorize women who have sex with women as a risk behavior. How low risk is going down on a woman during her period? Just because we are Lesbians doesn't exclude us from exchanging bodily fluids with each other, exposing ourselves to millions of microorganisms that can affect our health tremendously. The fact is that there are Lesbians who have been infected with HIV while having sex with an HIV+ woman. It just isn't "official" for there is not a category for woman to woman contact in government documents. It's definitely not a topic we can ignore, brush aside, or think doesn't affect us. It is a subject we need to explore and more than that, demand to have more research conducted on Lesbians, HIV transmission, and safer sex.

Sex is a very essential part of our everyday lives. HIV has been known to be transmitted through specific intimate sexual behaviors. Sex among Lesbians is not talked about...we don't talk about our behaviors, and when we combine sexual behaviors, exchange of bodily fluids, HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases we may need to start talking about how to protect ourselves.

Behaviors such as fist penetration, finger penetration, and oral sex, all include potential contact with bodily fluids (vaginal secretions, blood, and possible menstrual blood) which can pose a risk of HIV reinfection (if HIV+), HIV infection and infection with other sexually transmitted diseases. Women living with HIV are more susceptible to infections of the reproductive system, as well as reinfection of HIV (reinfection is dangerous because it can transmit a different strain of the virus which can weaken the immune system even more). Women who believe that they pose no risk to their partners should be aware that infections of the bladder or urinary tract sometimes occur after taking specific antibiotics. Some of these infections, while not sexual in origin, can be passed from partner to partner sexually. Even more so, if the immune system has been compromised, the body cannot fight infections effectively. For example, if a woman is receiving unprotected finger penetration, and her partner has dirty fingers an infection can occur. A woman's reproductive system (the vagina, uterus, fallopian tubes, ovaries, and the cervix) is very sensitive to bacteria and other germs. Lesbians who have sex with men may also be putting themselves at risk for HIV infection if their male partner is infected and safer sex precautions are ignored. It's crucial to remember that it is not who you are or what group you identify with, but your intimate, sexual behavior that may put you and your partners at risk. How can we prevent the transmission infections to each other while having great sex? Safer sex through modifying our behaviors can be the answer.

What is safer sex? Safer sex is a frame of mind that when applied to each person allows us to take care of ourselves. It is difficult to paint a black and white picture about safer sex for Lesbians, since there are many ways in which we can come in contact with potentially infectious fluids. It is not as easy as "put on a condom." Much of safer sex involves getting educated as to which behaviors pose the most risk. Because safer sex is not an exact science, it requires each person to adopt these behaviors according to each person's comfort and creativity. Deciding to adopt safer sex behaviors, one must go through an inventory of one's own sexual practices. Ask yourself these questions: Do I practice any behaviors that expose me to blood, vaginal secretions, semen or breast milk? (the following are an example of some sexual behaviors practiced by Lesbians: Oral sex (anal and vaginal), finger and fist penetration, sharing toys and S/M practices involving blood) Am I willing to reduce my risks of coming into contact with these fluids? Safer sex is not a dictate or a certain set of rules. You get to make the decisions about safer sex for you. The second part is to communicate with your partner(s) about it before engaging in the sexual act. Be clear about what you are willing to do or not to do regarding safer sex practices. The third is to be consistent about safer sex practices with your partner(s). Safer sex doesn't have to be cut and dry. Making it a part of intimacy, love and erotica can be very exciting.

Safer sex is for everyone whether you are a single woman, or in a committed relationship. What to use in order to avoid contact with bodily fluids? The following excerpt gives you some information in what's available and options you may want to adopt.

We can shape our own sexual health, let's not wait for others to dictate for us.

It is sad that the information is not as accessible as it is for others. HIV is a terrible disease, but ignorance, bigotry, discrimination, and hate are even worse. The discrimination among ourselves exists. Unless we stop talking openly about our sex, and HIV as a community, dispel the myths and fears in our community, discrimination is staying here and so will HIV. Lesbians need to get angry at the fact that we are being ignored as a population living with HIV and that there is little information about this subject for us.

Resources are available but scarce. There are several agencies that provide free or low cost health services for Lesbians. The Audre Lorde Lesbian Health Clinic at the Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center offers a wide variety of healthcare for Lesbians. For more information call (213) 993-7570. Throughout Los Angeles County AIDS Service Center provides services for people affected by HIV. ASC's Education and Training department holds free community forums and updates on HIV infection. Call (818) 796-5633 for more information. On February 27, 1995, at 7 p.m., AIDS Project Los Angeles along with AIDS Service Center, and The Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center will be presenting a forum on Lesbians and HIV, free of charge. Scheduled to host is Lea DeLaria among other presenters. To RSVP or for more information call (213) 993-1664.

Ana Rodriguez is a Lesbian from El Salvador working in HIV/AIDS for several years. She has been instrumental in mobilizing and maintaining women's HIV education in greater Los Angeles.
Blake Edwards to Drop Homophobic Lyrics from Upcoming Broadway Production of Victor/Victoria
Song To Be Revised or Dropped in Response to GLAAD Protest

New York, NY—December 14, 1994—Producers of the upcoming Broadway production of Victor/Victoria have informed the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) that a homophobic song entitled "You'd Be Surprised" will "either be re-worked, so that it reflects the sensibilities of the movie, or it will not be in the show." (The 1982 movie version of Victor/Victoria, one of few mainstream releases to deal with both homosexuality and cross-dressing, was praised by many Lesbian and Gay activists for its pro-Gay message.) GLAAD wrote a letter to the producers of Victor/Victoria to complain about the lyrics after receiving complaints from actors who'd been asked to sing the song during auditions for the show. The song, written by lyricist Leslie Bricusse, contains such lines as "If you knew who's tough, but who's a real powder puff, you'd stand with your back to the wall," and "Till the laws are revised...convicts are compromised...Boy Scouts and choir boys are terrorized..."

"This musical may be set in a time when attitudes towards all minority groups were not as evolved as they are today," said GLAAD spokesperson Donald Suggs, "however, this song does not simply acknowledge the homophobia of the era, it celebrates it, in the most offensive terms possible. We're glad to see these lyrics dropped."

Founded in 1985, GLAAD works for fair, accurate, and inclusive representations of Lesbians, Gay men, and bisexuals.
The Post-Stonewall Generation
by Michelangelo Signorile

[This is the conclusion of the article started in the August, '94 NorthView.]

Felicia Park-Rogers, 23, went to college in Minnesota and now lives in San Francisco. "My parents separated when I was three. My father then came out as Gay, and mother came out as bi. They were both 28 then. They had moved to San Francisco to be radicals. My dad became an advocate for housing the homeless. My mom became part of the women's movement. My parents are still good friends. When I was 12 I moved in with my dad, in the Castro.

"I came out in college, as bi. I’m bi, but actually there aren’t enough words to describe what I really am. I sexually identify as a Lesbian, but I still find men attractive, and not totally outside my realm, even though I’m in a long-term relationship with a woman.

"I went to school in Minnesota. [When] I came back home and told all of my friends, everything changed for me. Even though I grew up in the Gay community in San Francisco, I grew up as a straight person inside the Gay community. Coming back, it was a whole new world. I only knew 40-year-old people. I didn’t know where to find 20-year-olds.

"My parents were supportive, but I didn’t come out to my dad for a long time, because I was scared. There’s a lot of pressure, being the child of Gay parents, to be straight. Our society is saying that the biggest crime a Gay person can do is have a child and bring more evil into the world. And Gay people are always trying to prove that Gay parents don’t make their children Gay, that they’ll be ‘normal’ and happy and heterosexual. I internalized a lot of that. I didn’t want to be Lesbian or bi—I wanted to be straight. It was very difficult, because I didn’t know how to describe that feeling, and usually when I told people that my parents were Gay and Lesbian, they were like, ‘Great, you have it set.’ They think that I’m not supposed to have any problems coming out to my parents, and they feel I don’t know what it’s like for them, because their parents don’t understand it.

"I think a lot of my straight friends find it all so curious, it’s so unusual that they don’t know where to begin. I was always out about my parents all through school. People were always making bad jokes. I went to middle school in the Castro, which is surrounded by the Fillmore and the Mission [districts], and people are bused in from all over the city. The homophobia was rampant, because the guys were threatened every time they walked out the door. I would just say, “Look, my dad is Gay, so I don’t want to hear that stuff.” And it was miraculous how it shut people up—at least to my face.

"A lot more people are coming out now, simply because they’re so much more visible today. I mean, my mother never even heard the term Lesbian until she was in college. Today it would be very difficult to grow up and be 20 years old and not even hear the terms Lesbian or Gay. Just hearing it, you think, Well, what is it, and what am I? Even so, there are still so many forces keeping young people from coming out. I mean, even me, someone who grew up in a Gay environment, found it hard.

"The movement has big problems. I think so much of it has been watered-down. That’s how I felt about the March. There was no representation of bisexual people, and transgendered people were completely left out. I felt the only transgendered people I saw were performers. There were no voices, no speeches. The whole military thing—all that stuff drove me nuts. To make that our main focus and to make those people our spokespeople was just wrong.

"I think there’s a big spectrum among Gay youth, but I think there are more on the end that calls for inclusion of everything and everyone, rather than on the conservative end. I don’t think that our generation is headed toward assimilation. Just coming out so young goes against any kind of assimilation at all.

Thanks to Our Magazine, July/August, 1994.
Michelangelo Signorile is the author of Queer in America. ▼
Notes on Music
Reviewed by Kurt Parish

"The Long Black Veil"
by The Chieftains

The Chieftains, celebrating their 31st anniversary this season, are more than likely the most famous exponents of traditional Irish music in the world. It's no wonder such known guest performers as Sting, The Rolling Stones, Sinead O'Connor and their Irish cousin Tom Jones, have helped to create an evocative, moody set of mostly traditional Irish tunes.

The first track, "Mo Ghile Mear - Our Hero" with The Chieftains and Sting, sets the pace for the rest of the CD which is sure to garner them yet another Grammy award, having been honored with three others in the last two years.

The ghostly title cut, "The Long Black Veil," featuring Mick Jagger gives a Celtic flair to an otherwise American country song. Even if you've tuned out Sinead O'Connor lately because of her overwhelming need to be public in all her personal endeavors and ideas deserves a notice for her enchanting vocals on "The Foggy Dew," with Galician pipes played by Carlos Nunez.

A feeling to fast forward through a track or two arises but with a hearty mixture of respect for tradition and contemporary vocals, the listening just gets better as the album progresses.

The beautiful instrumental, "Fenny Hill" leaves you feeling at ease and filled with peace and harmony. On the other hand the final track, "The Rocky Road to Dublin" with the Rolling Stones leaves the listener with a desire to get up and dance.

Kurt Parish will run the Mt. Marathon race for the second time this summer and when not in training for that, is the Treasurer of Identity.

"Bedtime Stories"
By Madonna

How many times in the last three or four years have you heard that Madonna has reached her peak, has exhausted all her resources, or has scraped the bottom of the bucket concerning her musical and lyrical talents? Yet here she is with album number ten. Since becoming an overnight sensation in 1982 with her first release of "Lucky Star," our Boy-Toy has come a very long way. With "Bedtime Stories," a beautifully created Rhythm & Blues album with lots of her own funky style, Madonna has created a detailed look at her emotional struggles and recoveries.

"Oops, I didn't know I couldn't talk about it," she sings with a bit of mockery in "Human Nature," addressing society's seemingly repressed views of her blatant sexuality. We allowed her to take her naughtiness to a new level but then she crossed over at some point between the "Erotica" album and her tellingly explicit "Sex" book. Just where is this invisible line that people like Mapplethorpe, Liebowitz, Warhol, and Madonna seem to cross without realizing it (or acknowledging it)? Once that line is crossed people seem to start viciously condemning. The freedom of speech amendment was created as the very First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States. Our forefathers were very wise to have included it.

Madonna goes on to sing, "Did I have a point of view? I'm not sorry. I'm not your bitch, don't hang your shit on me."

Meanwhile, the lyric, "Express yourself, don't repress yourself" is whispered in the background throughout the song.

For those looking for her earlier genre of music, there's some of that also. "Don't Stop" resembles her 1985 "Into the Groove," and the title track "Bedtime Story" sounds a little like "Rescue Me" or "Justify My Love," but with a nineties flair.

The first release off this album, "Secret" tells us that she may be ready for a new love, that she wasn't able to "Until I learned to love myself, I was never ever lovin anybody else."

By far the best single off this album and currently reigning on the charts is "Take a Bow," which she wrote, produced and sings with Babyface. She seems to be trying to let go of a lover who has hurt her but at the same time trying to understand him/her. Then it becomes clear that she is talking about herself when she sings "There's no one here... You're the only star, and you don't know who you are..."

This latest release from the matriarch of gay men shows Madonna continues to deserve our ongoing adulation. And besides, she hasn't changed her name into a symbol.

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Last Word
by Torie Osborn
Under the media big top

When Minneapolis Star Tribune staff photographer Rita Reed heard about the founding of the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association (NLGJIA) four years ago, she joined up. She came out on the job and soon thereafter shot a major 45-photo feature for the paper on lesbian and gay youth that catalyzed much organizing and consciousness-raising in the Twin Cities.

Reed’s photos are mesmerizing. One heart-rending shot shows a lesbian teen sprawled forlornly, face down, on her small bed in a tiny room, obviously wracked with inexpressible pain, a poster from the movie Dying Young on the wall above her head. Another captures a triumphant moment: two young gay men in outfits, leaning against each other in the backseat of a convertible car glowing with laughter. It’s prom night—a special one just for lesbian and gay teens, organized by one of the youths.

Gay-positive reporting in the mainstream media is vital in countering the radical right’s lies about who we are and in filling in the blanks of ignorance with full-color pictures of our lives. Openly lesbian and gay journalists such as Reed are crucial frontline revolutionaries in our struggle.

This year’s third annual NLGJIA conference, held in September in Minneapolis, differed from the previous two (held last year in New York and the year before in San Francisco). It was not about high-profile pizzazz, like the New York conference with its speakers Dan Rather and Tom Brokaw. Nor was it about internecine feuding, like the San Francisco conference where Randy Shilts called columnist Michelangelo Signorile a “lavrander fascist” for favoring selective outing. Signorile responded by verbally attacking Shilts, New Republic editor Andrew Sullivan, and other “moderate faggots.”

Instead, this year’s conference was about fostering the empowerment and visibility of gay and lesbian journalists working primarily in mainstream print and broadcast media in places such as Toledo, Ohio; Lincoln, Neb.; Houston; Charlotte, N.C.; Duluth, Minn.; and Norfolk, Va. Yes, Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders and Rep. Barney Frank lent an air of prestige to the conference with their lunchtime addresses, and Advocate staff writer Chris Bull received Annual Honors for his work, but the top priority for NLGJIA this year was to give us 1,000-plus members the tools to make real changes in the workplace. Well-promoted at the conference, for example, was "14 Steps to Fairness." The association’s blueprint for improving climate and compensation to reflect the needs of gay and lesbian journalists.

Most of all, the conference reiterated the absolute importance of coming out. Over and over again, in formal sessions and informal conversations, journalists testified to the personal freedom and professional advantages of being out on the job. Most eloquent on the subject was Dateline NBC producer Joe DeCola. "It scared the bejesus out of me to come out four years ago," he said. "But after I lost one job due to homophobia, I didn’t get mad, I got even: I began to organize." Within a year, thanks to help from NLGJIA, NBC began to turn around. “Last week at work there were four screens simultaneously running the daily soaps,” DeCola said, chuckling. “I said, ‘Why are you heterosexuals so obsessed with sex?’ and the place cracked up. That’s the true sign of equality in the workplace, I think, when you can all laugh together!”

A San Francisco Associated Press reporter in her early 20s who has never been closeted professionally talked movingly about being assigned Randy Shilts’s obituary and recognizing the pioneering path he paved before her. “Randy couldn’t even get a job as an openly gay reporter when he moved to San Francisco 20 years ago,” she said, “and now here I am covering everything under the sun, from fiery anti-gay preachers to gay aeroics groups.”

If controversy was present this year, it made itself felt over the issue of the many on-air television anchors and reporters who aren’t out. A panel of top executives from the three networks and CNN (including NBC News president Andrew Lack) indicated full support for TV reporters who might choose to come out. On the sidelines gossip buzzed about those big names who remain in the closet despite positive examples like CNBC reporter Steve Gandel.

As Los Angeles Times editor Alan Acosta commented, “The real courage here is shown by [people such as] the lesbian at the Anchorage Daily News who came out before top management was touted tolerance. If she came out, why can’t the fancy $200,000-a-year TV report?” To quote Nike’s ad: “Just do it!”

Thanks to The Advocate, November 1994.

Cleaning your house while your kids are still growing is like shoveling the walk before it stops snowing.
Phyllis Diller, b. 1917, American entertainer

Call Pat Robertson for Free!
by Tal

Have you got an opinion to express to Pat and his mindless minions? Here’s how to do it for free: 1-800-289-1777 gets you the offices of the “Christian” Broadcasting Network. Call early or late in the day and you won’t reach any of the mindless minions, just an equally mindless machine. Would you prefer to pray with them, like perhaps for their true enlightenment? 1-800-759-0700 is the prayer line. Several words of caution here. Remember they will start shoveling that "reparative therapy" hoax on you if you identify yourself as gay. Then they’ll ask for your hard-earned money so they can spread the hoax to others. Last but not least is the toll free number for what I can only characterize as fiction sheets. An Orwellian voice-mail machine will take your order for these free ‘fact sheets’ anytime of the day or night at 1-800-716-3228. Ask for the fiction on the homosexual agenda, it is absolutely must reading! However, once you give your address they’ll be on the junk mail list with bigots and gullible people for ages! But, what the hey, they’re paying for the call and postage!

Thanks to Perspective, February, 1995 issue, SEAGLA (Southeast Alaska Gay & Lesbian Alliance).
Tough Times
by Jaffe Cohen

Rock-hard masculinity is all the rage. Thick, rough, pierced, and tattooed — gay men seem to be repenting for misspent youths playing with Barbie dolls by sculpting themselves into shapes that, in an earlier generation, might have crossed the street to avoid. I might have crossed the street to avoid. In my Greenwich Village neighborhood, the men have become so developed that our local supermarket is the only store in the world where the meat section walks up and down the aisles.

I’m trying to get it all into perspective. Twenty years ago, when I first miniced out of the closet, my heroes weren’t weightlifters like Bob and Rod, but gentlemen aesthetes like Michael York in Cabaret. Only recently has the image to which we aspire become so hard bodies, chromed, and leathered. Nowadays, if you don’t look like the front end of a Buick, you may as well stay home.

We’re doing things to our bodies that used to be the sole province of longshoremen and tough-talking marines. Take tattooing. What are we trying to prove? Will that green and purple dragon look so great in 30 years when your teeth are in a cup beside your bed? And if you’re going to get tattooed, why not at least write something useful on yourself like “I’m allergic to penicillin,” or the phone numbers of a few good Chinese restaurants.

At the very least, know the meaning of your tattoo. The other day in the gym locker room, I found my nose pressed up against a beeswax inscribed with an ancient symbol from a long-forgotten language. When I asked the handy gentleman what symbol meant, he informed me that he had no idea. He just liked the way it looked. I found this the height of irresponsibility. For all he knows he might have carved the name of Beelzebub into his flesh. Buildings may burst into flames when he walks by. And all this so he could be in style! I should also mention that this same gentleman—how can I put this delicately—had carefully shaved his public hair into what looked like the shape of his home state of Montana. It’s fascinating what we’re doing to ourselves down under. Taking a shower at the gym I find myself staring at genitals more than ever, and I’m not even a size queen—I’m checking out hairless And-gasp—jewelry.

This brings me to the subject of body piercing—another butch rite of passage seemingly designed to symbolize how much pain we can endure. If any part of our body sticks out, we’re expected to run some metal through it. It’s only a matter of time before guys start showing up at dance clubs with spears through their heads. God only knows how these guys pass through airport metal detectors.

If you’re going to hang aluminum off every possible appendage, once again, be sensible and have a few key rings installed. Put a phillips screwdriver up your nose! Hang a Swiss army knife of your eyebrow! Anything.

Personally, I can’t see body jewelry without being reminded of Chatty Cathy dolls who also had rings sticking out of their torsos. In my imagination, I’ve yanked on many a nipple ring and heard a taped message: “Hi, my name is Larry, I’m into leather. You can pour hot wax on me.”

That brings me to the subject of how gay men are currently treating each other in bed. Even sex has become rougher. Though I remember a time when sexual contact ideally expressed affection, now we’re expected to reenact Desert Storm in the privacy of our homes. Sex, robbed of romance,
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, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102. 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.

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 Holly-wood 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 wel-come! Information--Kimberly at 786-4959.

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"--Thanksgiving)

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 ex-pression 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.

Imperial Court of All Alaska (ICOA): 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.

MRU: is a group for young people, ages 15-21. MRU meets every Thursday from 7:00-9:30pm at the Four A's, 1057 W. Fireweed, Suite 102. The last Thursday of the month is a special program. 258-4777 for information.

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 service. 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 11:00am and 7:00pm, and Wednesday at 7:00pm at 615 Hol-lywood Dr. Church is open Sunday through Wed-sday 9:00am-4:00pm. Call 258-5266.

Last Frontier Men's Club: a members-only club for the Leather/Bear communities of Alaska. Meetings 3rd Thurs. of each month, 6:00pm at the Raven, camps & 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 (MMcnaC): 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 meet-ings 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).

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


Support Group (Soldotna): a group for people with HIV or AIDS or families or friends. Call Jan at 262-2589.

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 per-form. Check the calendar for this month's program.

Women's Two-Step Dance: first Saturday of every month. Pioneer School House, 3rd & Eagle, $3. Lessons at 7:30pm, dancing at 8:30. Come learn, meet new women, and enjoy. λ
Independently Speaking
by Marvin Liebman

About fourteen months ago, I began writing a monthly column for Gay publications around the country. I called the column Conservatively Speaking. Why this title? I believed that my major credential in the Gay community was my autobiography Coming Out Conservative, and the fact that I was a mover and shaker in the American anti-Communist/conservative community for many years before I came out at the age of sixty-seven. There were many Gay men who could write a column, but there were not many Gay conservative men around, over seventy, who wanted to share their thoughts in the Gay press. I certainly had that spot covered—with no competition.

Most of the publications printed my columns either regularly or sporadically. However, most of the publications never used Conservatively Speaking as the column header, but simply published what I had to say under my own name. I realized that the word “conservative” repels most Lesbians and Gay men, as do such words as “Christian” and “Republican.” Rightly or wrongly, these terms had become code words symbolizing bigotry, fear, and loathing of Gay men and Lesbians.

But, I am conservative, Republican and Christian. God knows, I’m Gay, too. Isn’t it possible to be all four, or have I become a living oxymoron? The answer eluded me for some time, but is now obvious: No, it is not possible, at least for me, not in today’s world.

In my coming out letter to my friend, William F. Buckley, Jr., which was published in his National Review in July 1990, I aired a premonition that had been haunting me for a long time: “I feel that our cause might sink back into the ooze in which so much of it rested in pre-National Review days,” I wrote to Buckley. “In that dark age, the American Right was heavy, perhaps dominantly, made up of bigots, anti-Semites, anti-Catholics, the KKK, red-necks, Know Nothings, a sorry lot of public hucksters and religious medicine men. Now, times are changing. There is no longer the anti-Communist cement to hold the edifice together. The great enterprise... is in danger of sinking back into an aggregate of bigotties.”

Alas, my prediction has been realized. The words “conservative,” “Christian,” and “Republican,” are being held hostage by the same forces that controlled the American Right before Buckley and his band of true believers (of which I was proud to be part) made American conservatism more mainstream and respectable. Of course, even now, there are still those among the Republican ranks, like Senator Arlen Specter, who attempt to hold the fort against the barbarians. But, they are vastly outnumbered by the descendants of those from a half-century ago who would drag the country back into the swamps of intolerance and division. Can the valiant defenders prevail? I don’t believe they can, not in the foreseeable future.

Where does this leave me?

I can not associate myself with Rush Limbaugh and other new “conservative” leaders, nor with Pat Robertson and his “Christian” brigades, nor with Jesse Helms and his new “Republican” majority. The only identity of which I am absolutely certain is that I am a homosexual in a country which has little patience with us Gay folk.

Millions of American Gay men and Lesbians—perhaps a great majority of our would-be community—are in the closet, terrified of coming out and standing openly with their sisters and brothers against the forces that would see us obliterated. Make no mistake: The ultimate goal of our enemy is to make us disappear, either back to a closet that will make today’s seem wide open by comparison—or dead. Hysterical? I don’t think so.

Where does that leave me? Us? I can no longer accept such labels as conservative, Christian, or Republican, which draw much of their coherence from hostility towards people like me. No Gay or Lesbian American should any longer accept any of these labels, which have become mere code-words for attacks on our collective dignity. We can accept no labels any longer. We must give our allegiance and support only to those individuals and groups who publicly stand with us against bigotry and fear of Gay Americans.

Forget the hand-wringing over Congress and the federal government. We must focus on our own neighborhoods, our cities, and our states. This is where we will find allies, men and women who have seen our faces, who know who we are. Here we develop the coalitions and power bases who make elected officials—local, state, and national—sit up and take notice. Here, too, we must find and nurture new Gay leaders to replace the figureheads of our national Gay groups who have accomplished little and at great cost.

No longer can we give our votes, our contributions, and our efforts for the pursuit of vague promises. We mustn’t sell the soul of our community for “tolerance.” Although we desperately need allies from America’s mainstream, we must be satisfied with only their full and open support for our cause against our enemies. Indeed, as we have done so often in the past, we will give them our unbridled aid for their steadfast support.

In the past—and sometimes to the consternation of my African-American friends—I have compared the Gay rights movement to the Black civil rights movement of the sixties. I still believe that they are comparable, and we have much to learn from the history of this great quest, both from its setbacks and its victories. Now, however, I believe it even more urgent to draw a comparison between our community and the Jews and homosexuals of Europe in the 30’s and 40’s. Then, as now, the majority cried out that those who predicted death and misery were crazy, that such things as mass extermination could not happen, that hysteria was dangerous. Until the very last, until they choked on the lethal gas in the extermination “showers,” they did not accept the fact that the Nazi state despised them to the point of eradicating them from the face of the Earth.

The Jews and homosexuals of Europe were victims. We are not. We must never be grateful for mere crumbs off the table at which we have no place. Neither must we let ourselves be shamed from claiming our identity as Gays, content instead to seek shelter under tents whose stakes are planted in the backs of our brothers and sisters.

I can no longer call myself a “conservative,” nor a “Christian,” nor “Republican.” I am a Gay American, and I will retain my independence from any other label. You may, from time to time, still come upon my thoughts in the Gay press. Henceforth, however, my column will be called Independently Speaking. ▼
Gay TV Shows to Look Out For

The Barry Z Show (from New York)—Broadway, off-Broadway and cabaret are Barry's beat, as he gabbles with guests from Mickey Rooney and Eartha Kitt to Charles Busch and Quentin Crisp about the stages of their lives.

Dish (from Los Angeles)—Steven J. McCarthy, a.k.a. Madame Dish, and his precious pooch, Punkin, demonstrate that "cookin'" is not the only thing that goes on in the kitchen. Trading delicious dishes and delicious dish with guests such as David Drake, the Del Rubio Triplets, and local heroine The Lovely Carol.

Dyke TV (from New York)—Lesbian arts, sports, health, herstory, love signs, "Dyke Dish," editorials by Ann Northrop, and the most engaging segment, "I was a Lesbian Child," in which women provide the voice-overs for photos from their formative years, to discover early indications of things to come.

Inside/Outside The Beltway (from Washington, D.C.)—Bitchy, kitschy, and sometimes quite serious, this ongoing gay soap (entering its third season) has more suds than any of its network counterparts. A capital drama that makes for capital entertainment.

In The Life (from New York)—Executive producer John Scagliotti has fiddles with the format of his monthly news and entertainment magazine on public television for two years, and finally settled on one that strives to combine the best elements of The Ed Sullivan Show and 60 Minutes. He may have exceeded his expectations: Commentator Chrisanne Eastwood, whose humorous observations close each program, was recently described by CNN as looking "suspiciously like Andy Rooney in drag."

Latinos En Acción (from New York)—One-on-one table talk a la Larry King between Gotham City's Latino politicians and tenacious interviewer Carlos Cordero. Amart, sharp, and service-oriented, with something for everyone.

Lavender Lounge (from San Francisco)—A variety show, and what variety! From drag band Pussy Tourette to drag king Elvis Herselvis, form Aquarelions (a gay accordion bank) to the Saliva Sisters (identical leather drag clowns), the dizzy denizens of this all-night dance party pump up the jam and jam on the pumps.

Lovie TV (from New York)—"I try to boldly go where no queen has gone before," says Lovie, a wigged-out wonder from Down Under who now resides in "Girl-battan." More often than not, she achieves her stated goal, whether she's causing a commotion by walking a mechanical poodle down Eight Avenue in Chelsea, or making a fast exit from an appliance store after "getting a bit of a reaction."

Network Q (from Albuquerque)—Host David Surber guides viewers through this two-hour monthly mail-order video magazine that includes celebrity profiles (filmmaker Gus Van Sant, Married... With Children's Amanda Bearse) and travelogues (Boston, New Orleans, Seattle), as well as in-depth stories on subjects such as gay cops and lesbian families.

One in 10 People (from Fairfax, Virginia)—"Your show of support" spotlights gay achievers and achievements, with profiles of Lily Tomlin and columnist Deb Price and features on service organizations such as PETS DC, a group that helps people with AIDS care for their pets, and the Mautner Project, devoted to lesbians with cancer.

Party Talk (from New York)—Drag star (and OUT columnist) Linda Simpson and "homo hunk" Brad Lamm get most of the attention as the co-hosts of this look at what's hot and happening, but movie reviewer Cathay Chen is the real standout, a consummate consumer who assigns Q (for queers) ratings to upcoming flicks in a Movie Minute that frequently—and thankfully—stretches to several. Thumbs up.

Stonewall Place After Dark (from New York)—In tux and tails, the always effervescent John Burke is the gay Jay of latenight talk shows, complete with smokin' house band led by Barry Levitt. But don't be fooled by Burke's formal wear—he's anything but, when it comes to gossiping with his guests: chummy and chatty, funny and catty.

Tricks (from Los Angeles)—"Twice the studs of Studs," boasts this gay dating game, but the real attraction is exhaustingly upbeat host David Van Chaney. Then again, maybe it's the go-go boys.

Thanks to Out, September, 1994.

No, the ladies would not care to wait for their husbands...we are our husbands.
Identity, Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting
January 25, 1995

MEMBERS PRESENT: Shirley Randall-Harris, Kurt Parish, Ken Freedman, Jenifer Kohout and Tom Rachal.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sylvia Short, Ruth Mathes, Don Naff and Nora Jean York.

GUESTS PRESENT: Herman Coen and Ken (last name unrecorded).

NorthView: Ken announced Nora Jean has asked us to remove the information concerning the Berdache Society; no reason for this request was stated. Ken asked our opinion on giving the advertisers a free subscription; it has come up often. We agreed to do so only if it was an annual rate for. Our cost averages $1,100 (printing, postage and royalties) per issue.

PUR RENDEZVOUS FLOAT: Herman appeared on behalf of the Gay & Lesbian Community Float Committee, and quickly announced this was not a function of the Imperial Court as in past years. The theme this year is Anchorage, City of Lights and Flowers. The Committee created a design containing an Anchorage Center for the Performing Arts mockup with six people dressed as flowers. They have many needs: warehouse space to store the float; people to build it; people to decorate it; people to walk beside it during the parade; and cash to pay for the expenses. We agreed to donate $100 towards the cost. The parade is scheduled for February 11.

HELPLINE: Ken announced we are receiving $100 per month from an anonymous donor (through the Imperial Court); this is greatly appreciated as our average cost is $400 per month. Herman Coen agreed to assist with updating the Resource Manual; Kurt will help telephone the volunteers when last minute verbal updates are required.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Kurt presented the December financial reports. For approximately $500 a local accountant will prepare our income tax return and required schedules by the March 15th deadline.

MEMBERSHIP: Ken announced our membership totals 252 at the moment. Shirley stated her intention to host a "writing thank-you cards" dinner at her house in February. Seems she (along with Chris and Michelle) have fallen behind with the task.

FOURTH FRIDAY POTLUCK: Shirley announced Fred Hillman would like to have about 30 AUFF members representing the "Welcoming Committee" at our March potluck. They will not be the program for that month (Chris Olson is already scheduled).

CELEBRATION OF CHANGE: We agreed to purchase a $75 advertisement in the program, as it will provide much needed exposure in the women's community. This annual event will be held on March 18.

FUND RAISING: Ken stated Mike Travis has agreed to help write grants for us.

ANNUAL MEETING: This meeting will be held at the Fourth Friday Potluck on April 25. It would appear we have five positions to fill this year: Nora Jean, Sylvia, Ruth, Kurt and Tom. We then "brainstormed" names of people who might be interested, with special attention being made to women candidates. We must include the "Notice of Annual Meeting" in the March NorthView.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Scheduled for 7:00pm on February 28 at our office.

HISTORY
Twenty-five Years of Courtroom Trauma
Thanks to the Advocate, August 23, 1994

In the coming months each issue of the NorthView will review a couple of years of legal developments in the world of sex and sexual diversity as compiled by the Advocate. As you will probably notice, it is most often we who lead and the law that follows.

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In Roe v. Wade the Supreme Court rules that constitutional privacy rights include a woman's right to a first-trimester abortion. Gay rights supporters express hope that the Court will use the broad definition of privacy it embraced in Roe to overturn existing sodomy laws.

The Supreme Court dramatically restricts the availability of sexually explicit material with rulings in Miller v. California and Paris Adult Theater I v. Slotin. In decisions written by Chief Justice Warren Burger, the Court drops its national standard for defining obscenity, which had been in use since the '50s, in favor of one that allows communities to define obscenity according to local standards. For the first time, works not considered obscene in one locality may be considered obscene in other localities.

Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund is formed as a nonprofit gay rights legal group in New York City. The group is initially denied permission to incorporate and is consequently forced to obtain a court order to do so.

In In re Kimball the New York State Court of Appeals orders the administration of an openly gay attorney to the bar. It's said to be the first time any state bar had ever admitted an openly gay person.

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A bill that would prohibit antiGay discrimination across the country is introduced in the House of Representatives but gets little response from lawmakers. Twenty years later its main sponsors, New York Democrats Bella Abzug and Edward Koch, are long out of office, and the House has yet to act on their bill.

Federal appeals courts deal with a rash of cases involving sexuality and public education. In Acosta v. Board of Education of Montgomery County, the dismissal of a teacher for advocating gay rights is overturned. In Gay Students Organization of the University of New Hampshire v. Bonner, an attempt to stop a gay student group from having parties is blocked. But in In re Grossman, the dismissal of a tenured elementary school teacher who changed his sex is upheld.

In Singer v. Hara a Washington State appeals court rules that the state's approval of the ERA doesn't authorize same-sex marriage.
Frequent update

The major airlines have been re-shuffling their award levels for their best customers. There have been changes nearly across the board. Gone are the good old days when I could get a round trip flight on the now absorbed Western Airlines (a personal favorite of mine), then upgrade that ticket to First Class and get 1.5 times the mileage on that ticket toward the next one. What follows is a short summary of some of the major airlines and what it takes to fly for free in their not-so-friendly skies.

The following listing names the Airline, then names the partners in the miles program, and finally the miles required for a coach round-trip ticket.

**Alaska:** BA, Era, NW, Horizon, Quantas, SAS, TWA, Reeve. 20,000.

**America West:** Aeromexico, Air France, Continental, NW, Suntrip. 25,000 domestic.

**Continental:** Quantas, Air Canada, America West, Frontier. 25,000.

**Delta:** Aeromexico, Air New Zealand, Swissair, Sabena, Sing. 25,000 domestic (After May 1, 1995).

**Northwest:** Alaska, Aloha, America West, Horizon, KLM, US Air. 25,000.

**TWA:** Air India, Alaska, Chilean, Philippine, TWA Express. 20,000 Domestic.

**United:** Aeromar, Air Canada, Air France, Aloha, Ansett, NA. 25,000 Domestic.

**US Air:** Air France, Air New Zealand, BA, KLM, NW, QA. Swissair. 25,000 Domestic.

Additional partners may exist, but these are the best known.

In addition to other airline partners, each of the above is also partnered with various car rental companies, as well as major hotel chains, or cruise lines. Some are tied in with credit cards which offer miles for dollars spent on the card.

Indeed it is possible for the smart traveler to fly for free on an airline on which s/he’s never previously flown. It’s possible to double (or even more) the miles you get on a carrier with a combination of mileage options.

**GAY DISNEY!**

From Friday June 2, 1995 to Monday June 5, 1995 it’s “Exclusively Gay & Lesbian Disney World Party Weekend” at Disney World in Orlando. The party includes RT air from major US cities to Orlando (surcharges for cities west of the Rockies), transfers, nightly entertainment, escorted tour, T-shirt, Sunday night farewell party, 3 nights, deluxe hotel with continental breakfast daily, daily hospitality suite, Friday night stage show, Saturday Gay day at Disney World, tickets for Sea World or Universal Studios, AIDS benefit comedy show tickets, and Gay Life exp. tickets. Admission to all attractions included in the itinerary. Prices start at $799.00 quad occupancy.

**Something a little closer**

At this time of year our sister city to the south, Seattle, offers a lot to the visitor from Alaska. As of this writing, it is possible to fly round trip to Seattle for just over $200.00 per person. Couple this with some great hotel and rent-a-car bargains like a room at the Hilton with breakfast for one or two persons for just $69.00—through April 16th. Shopping, visiting friends, business, or cruising all take on and affordable new look. Travel does not have to take a long time and a lot of money to get to a different place and enjoy the warmer weather if you look for the bargains available at this time of year. Even around town and nearby there are special getaway prices offered from hotels which have not yet begun to feel the slowing which summer and the tourists bring.

**HIV+ Wellness Vacations**

Destination Discovery is a California tour operator who is designing trips exclusively for HIV+ men. Two yoga therapists who founded the company describe their concept as helping people develop better skills and strategies to manage the added stress of life with HIV. Their trips help their clients to relax and manage stress. Maui and other Hawaiian islands have been chosen because the gentleness of their environments make it easier to start on the journey toward inner peace. HIV+ participants must have health insurance or be willing to sign a disclaimer waiving all liability to the company. A doctor’s approval is also required.

**Northwest Gay Airlines?**

We are pleased to report that Northwest Airlines is not only a member of IGTA (International Gay Travel Association) but has placed the logo for IGTA on their new consumer materials. This may be a first in the industry for a major airlines. WAY TO OUT Northwest!!

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.

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Travel Service
Your Community Travel Agent

Robert DeLoach, President
Voice/TTY: 561-0650
Fax: 561-5802
1207 West 47th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

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Creative minds have always been known to survive any kind of bad training.
Anna Freud (1895-1982), Austrian psychoanalyst
The Albums of Potter's Lane
(remembering)
By Dan Cook
Part 22
"Thankful"

Our country was slowly pulling together.
The hardest hit were those who had left the
Heartland. Their struggle mentally and physically
had taken its toll. In their soul they wanted to go
"home," yet there was another part of them, the part that
loved their family and didn't want another dust bowl to force
them to hunger—ever again. That part said stay put.
The three western states had almost tripled in population.
The good news was that just about everyone was working now.
The depression had at least one "good quality"—it proved our
country's faith in its people and the people's faith in its
government. F.D.R. was the common man's hero. He had
promised and he delivered. He "stood tall" for a man in a
wheelchair.

And the nation was thankful: Mama had cash in her purse,
and Papa had meat on the table. This was something the vast
majority had not enjoyed for a long time.

OCT. 1937: TRAVELERS AID STATION BEING TAKEN
DOWN AND THE NEW COMMUNITY PARK FINALLY
FINISHED.

That same month Mary, Etta, Steve and Mike put together a
group anniversary party for all their Gay family. "And why
not," Mike said. "We were all celebrating some long
relationships. It was our 18th year, Mary and Etta's 28th,
Charles and Ronald's 24th, Parry and Brisk's 11th, Cha Cha
and Vincen's 18th. Fingers and Snap had been together 31
years and counting. We all had a lot to be thankful for."

This was a family reunion in every sense of the word. They
were brothers and sisters, in blood but by one thing that
bonds any family together, love and respect for one another.

CHA CHA'S NEW PLANE, CUSTOM BUILT BY
DOUGLAS AIRCRAFT, SITTING IN THE FIELD NEXT TO
THE BARN. OCT. 1937. ALSO, A PICTURE OF THE
PLANE PASSING OVER THE LARGE RED FLAGS JUST
BEFORE LANDING. She passed over the ranch tipping the
wings back and forth in a gesture of "hello" just before setting
the new plane down for a perfect landing. "By God, she
learned how to land a plane," Steve yelled.

Cha Cha had stopped in Portland and picked up Fingers and
Snap. The new eight passenger plane even had a powder room.
The cockpit area was all in pink, white and chrome. She was
now using it in her business and it was as nice as any
commercial airline. The other two passengers were a nasty
pink poodle and Miss Monty. "To be honest I can't tell you
which one was more prissy," said Cha Cha, upon landing. The
community that came out to see Miss Cha Cha land were just
as fascinated with the plane, as they were with the poodle and
Monty. Vince told him to butcher it up, but it was pretty hard to
do. His uniform was white and hot pink. What's a girl going to
do?

All of them sitting on the circular staircase.
Robert in the middle holding a large cake.

One, two, three—they all blew out the candles and wished
each other a happy anniversary including Mr. and Mrs. Holt
who were enjoying their 30th. The Holts, Dove and Rose were
all family and there wasn't anything to hide any more—the last
11 years had proven that if nothing else. Mike and Steve could
trust their loyalty. This was a party for everyone so everybody
pitched in including Bob and David. Mike and Steve let
everyone know their family included the staff and from now on
they were to be treated as equals.

Prohibition was defiantly over, replaced with soft music,
mostly love songs, such as "The Way You Look Tonight;",
"When I'm With You;" "Harbour Lights;" "That Old Feeling;"
and "Love Walks In" were just a few, but they were all sung by
Canaries (not birds)—the ladies and their big bands behind
them—the radio played one after the other, slow dances and
romantic songs, and for this party, lots of booze.

Cha Cha had thrown many anniversary parties and one thing
she always asked was what was their secret for a long marriage,
and what were they most thankful for. It usually got a quick
response and ended with a quick kiss.

Cha Cha started with the Holts. Mr. Holt said a fine wife
and son and he was grateful for his job. Mrs. Holt had drunk
enough of the old sparkly and wasn't going to hold anything
back. They both had always wanted the best for their son.
They had always wanted him to get married and have children
so there would be grandchildren. Now she and the Mister
could see and feel the warmth and love each couple had for
each other. But just as important was the respect they gave to
those inside and outside their own circle. The one thing she
was afraid of was that one day Robert would be alone without
family. Now they knew that would not be the case. She wanted
all of them to know how proud she was of each, and she and
her husband did feel blessed more now than they had ever felt
before.

By now everyone was in tears and all standing in line to give
her a big hug. There was something unique since each couple
had their own story of why and what had kept them together.
But one thing they all agreed on was it was love. They all
hoped Robert would find that right person, and they assured the
Holts he would. "There's the right person for everyone," it was
said, "and there are a few who can be just as happy being
single. Everyone is different and no one should be cast in some
one else's mold. That would make for a very dull world."

David and Bob were Robert's buddies, sexually yes, but they
had a bond and a friendship that had grown out of words like
loyalty, caring, bonding and friendship. They were not muzy
and they were not touchy-feely like the rest of the family, and
for that reason it was hard for the rest of the couples to
understand. They knew if the right one came along Robert
would not want to be the odd man out. Mike said, "I guess we
were just a little old fashioned. We couldn't imagine anyone
lyzing next to the one we loved, and frankly I don't think anyone
would have liked to find out.

Fingers told a few very adult jokes, because things were
getting a little too serious and it was time to pop some corks.
They all decided this would be a great thing to do every other
year in October, a celebration of life.

Cha Cha invited all the couples to her place for the next
reunion in two years, but more important, she and the captain
were having the yacht overhauled in Seattle this coming spring.
She wanted all the Gay couples to plan a nice cruise in May, and all agreed.

Monty had one disappointment after the other. His idea that any man could be had, had no merit on the ranch. He had followed Bisk to the hot springs and was told the best part of him was still running down his father's leg, and was chased off. "WELL HOW RUDE!!" Then he tried to convince David and Bob to show him the barn. Vince heard about that one and hit the ceiling. "You try anything like that again and your voice well be higher than it is right now." Each day he was trying something. Monty swept the plane each day cruising the half dozen local men as he did his chores. Well he must have got lucky because his whole attitude changed and he was one happy queen.

Nonetheless, Cha Cha was a little concerned about the makeshift runway and had the guys check for potholes. It had to be hardpack. With all that done she taxied down to the end of Steve's field and was revving the motors and once again the knock was full of spectators. Then she let it go; that plane had so much power she only used half of the runway. They did one circle tipping the wings, and they were off to Portland.

The Town Hall meeting in November had two surprises: one was the Blue Mountain Family Foods suddenly had competition. Two other companies with basically the same products had entered the market. The Co-Op and all involved would have to scale down. The good news was the Co-op had more money in it then before the depression; the price for produce was up—now that was something to be thankful for. The wholesalers needed produce now that there were two hundred thousand more people living in the west coast states. They all agreed to go back to what they did best ... farming. The other surprise was the road leading back to the ranch was never named so Lucy got the others on the road to name it. They got the town and county to agree as well. PHOTO OF TWO SIGNS. POTTERS LANE AND DEAD END. Now wasn't that something to be thankful for as well!

Turning the page....

Cherese AKA Dan Cook was Empress I 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 Cherese, who will send the missing sections at no charge.] ▼

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Reflecting on the Royals or, what is all this “Imperial Court” stuff?
by Ruth Mathes

It has come to my attention (ahem) ... would everyone listen for just a moment? Thank you! (ahem) It has come to my attention that most Lesbians haven’t a clue what Gay men refer to as the "court system" is all about. Since this system is so much a part of every Gay community, I’d like to give you a brief sketch. That way, the next time you hear someone mention "coronation," you won’t have to say, "what’s that?"

It all started about 25 years ago in San Francisco (where else?), when two basic Gay groups joined together to put on a beauty pageant. The two groups represented the "tenderloin" district (Bay area) and "nab hill" (read wealthy). One individual who is largely credited with this event is Henry VonDeCoff, a Gay man of Russian heritage, who was locally known as "the baroness." The first elected "empress" was a Gay man known as Empress José.

Gay men from other states who attended this gala were so impressed with the unity and solidarity it created that they went back to their respective states and organized similar events. The first cities (all western ones) to hold pageants were Portland, Seattle, and Vancouver. The pageants became Coronations and the Imperial Court became a charitable organization, contributing thousands of dollars every year to Gay and non-Gay groups and institutions every year, probably millions since its inception.

Anchorage joined the Imperial Court system (by then they had an official name) the third year, and is one of the oldest and most respected in the country. There are now more than 60 courts nationwide, and more are being added each year. The area of greatest growth is on the east coast and in Canada.

Now! Don’t you feel enlightened? You might even want to attend a local coronation (always held Labor Day weekend) and see an incredible drag show featuring outside as well as local talent. It truly is an extravagana you won’t forget. Thanks to Dan Cook (Cherese) for the info. The Gay men in our community welcome you to their next coronation!

Ruth Mathes co-edits the NorthView and co-chairs Identity, Inc. △

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MEMBERSHIP / PLEDGE FORM

Identity, Inc.  P.O. Box 200070  Anchorage, Alaska 99520

☐ Yes! I want to be a part of Identity, Inc! I understand that my membership will expire one year from this date. My membership entitles me to Northview, Identity's monthly newsletter and other periodic mailings. I have the option to NOT receive the newsletter and mailings if I check here. ☐

Here is my contribution of: ☐ $25 ☐ AND ☐ $25 ☐ $50

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To Do Or Dye
by Lesléa Newman

I swore I would never do it. What's more, I told my mother I would never do it. So of course, this year I did it.

I colored my hair.

When my grey streak started coming in on one side, I tried to convince myself I looked dashingly intellectual like Susan Sontag, or totally cool like Bonnie Raitt. Who I really looked like was Cruella DeVille. And I didn't like it one bit.

I guess I have some politically incorrect feelings about getting old (or is the correct term older?). I do not relish the thought of taking back words like "crone" or "hag", as some of my over-fifty friends now refer to themselves with pride. One such friend who swears she was born to have grey hair and who can't stop raving about post-menopausal sex, tells me that I can't even imagine what a gorgeous older woman I am going to be. She's absolutely right; I can't. I don't know how I feel about this aging business. All I know is that when I sat in the beauty parlor, as some of us from the fifties still call it, draped in green plastic with my hair slicked back from my face with black goop, I looked exactly like my mother. Who, I'm sure would have given anything to be sitting in the next chair over, shaking a red fingernail at me, saying, "I told you so."

I have no idea how old my mother was when she started dying her hair (or "touching it up" as she put it). She has always had brown hair, as did her own mother, who died completely grey-free at the ripe old age of ninety-nine. "You shouldn't dye your hair. Grey hair is natural," I told my mother, in my adolescent superiority. "Wrinkles are natural, too. They give your face character."

"Just you wait," my mother answered, plastering another layer of Noxema onto her cheeks.

So, I lived with my grey hairs for a while. I tried to love them. I really did. I wrote poems to them. I said affirmations about them. Still, whenever I found one in my hairbrush, freshly yanked out of my skull, I cheered, "Good riddance" and buried it in the trash.

What convinced me to take to the bottle? That ultimate event: my 20th high school reunion. And thank God I did. There was only one woman there with salt and pepper hair and I felt...different. What do I mean? A little bit blue, I guess.

I, on the other hand, made it a point to look fabulous. In addition to my new hair, I got a blood red manicure and squeezed myself into a black velvet mini-dress held up with rhinestone spaghetti straps, complimented by three inch heels. Since I went to high school in New York where Heather Has Two Mommies nearly caused a war, I figured I was out to the entire class of '73. So, since I was out of the closet, I wanted to drag my most dashing attire out as well. Who says a dyke doesn't know how to look fabulous?

Flash wasn't sure she should let me take this on all by myself. "Want me to come along?" she asked, but I declined the offer. "I love you," I told Flash. "Why would I want to torture you? Unless you really want to spend several hours in a room full of straight people you have nothing in common with." This time Flash declined. And so I went with Jeremy (Jerry) Fleish, another gay alum, who has been my close friend for 25 years (now my age is really showing). Since we both live in Massachusetts, he in Boston, myself in Northampton, all our classmates assumed we were married. "Yes, we're married," I said. "But not to each other," Jeremy added. "And not the way you think," I augmented. "But we're very, very, happy," Jeremy concluded with a flourish.

"Hello, Petunias," Edward (Eddie) Appelbaum was delighted to see us, especially after I crowned him homecoming Queen with a cup and saucer (there was a serious lack of tiaras in the room). Edward had all the dirt: "She's had more work done than Michael Jackson," he said, pointing to a woman in a skin-tight maroon jumpsuit. "How do you like Andrea Herschberg as a redhead?" He pointed again. "I bet her snatch doesn't match." When I called Edward the day after the reunion he said, "Everyone couldn't believe how fabulous you looked." A backhanded compliment, but I took it, nevertheless.

A week after my reunion, some of Flash's friends came over for dinner. "Your hair is such a beautiful shade of brown," one of them said. "Do you color it?"

"No," I said, avoiding Flash's eyes, though I did help her pick up the can of soda she dropped at my reply. After our guests departed, I tried to defend myself. "I don't color my hair," I explained. "I touch it up." Flash's dark eyes flashed. "I only did it once," I pleaded for understanding. "If she'd have said, 'Did you color your hair' I would have said yes. But she said 'Do you color your hair?' which means, 'Is it a habit?' and I don't know if I'm going to do it again." Flash wasn't buying so I changed tactics. "She was rude," I burst out, indignant. "Everyone knows you never ask a lady about her age, her weight or her hair."

Flash just shook her perfectly shaped head, which by the way is covered with thick, black curly hair threaded through with glorious bits of silver. Flash has no intention of coloring her hair, but then again, Flash is twelve years older than I am and has already gone through her mid-life crisis (Lucky Flash; now she gets to go through mine). Flash is not dye-ing to hold onto her youth the way I am. She is indeed older and wiser. As I someday hope to be.

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.
Stargazer Commentary
by Barbara J. Soule

Rev. Howard Bess is over ten years too late for me. I had the privilege, a couple of years ago, to be present at Rev. Bess's last sermon when he retired from the American Baptist Church on LaToche. He is a very fine humanitarian person. The article in the Anchorage Daily News mentioned that other ministers "ducked their heads" and wouldn't make eye contact in Howard Bess's presence. I think that somewhere in their subconscious they know that they are wrong about not including their gay brothers or sisters. I am very glad that Rev. Bess has spoken out and is an ally of the Gay community. It occurred to me a long time ago, the Christian religion of my parents and the religion I practiced for a long time myself, didn't continue to assure me that I was a lovable and worthy person in the eyes of God as a homosexual.

A recent US News magazine had a graph depicting the percentages of the population belonging to the different religious affiliations. "Other than Christian" was less than point eight percent of the total. As a feminist and a lesbian, my search for an alternative spiritual direction began in 1981 with a book, "When God Was A Woman" by artist Merlin Stone. In 1982, when the combination of my drug and alcohol addiction brought me to my knees, I found myself in an AA meeting totally demoralized and ashamed. The road to recovery branched off into a search for a Higher Power. As neophyte on a path of alternative spirituality, I found a group of local lesbian and bisexual women observing full moon rituals and exploring God as a "Goddess."

The Anchorage Daily News, January 30, 1995, Sunday "Arts" page featured an art show dedicated posthumously to Ken Gray and mentioned his interest in ritual presentations. In 1984, in one of Ken Gray's sculpture classes, he asked each student to present a personal ritual. My ritual crossed one of our cultural taboos. Christianity symbolically asks a person to "drink the blood of Jesus" with a sip of wine. I, literally drank my own blood. What I experienced, in a class at UAA in front of about sixty other people, was a spiritual experience so profound and conscious changing that I was unable to talk for a few hours. What actually occurred was such a radical shift of consciousness that took over two years to piece together the bridge, the logical progression, and be able to explain from where I had been to where I went. My life took a radical turn setting me out on a journey not only to live in state of grace, but to discover a spirituality richer than I had dreamed possible.

So what's this got to do with the rest of the Gay community?

Everywhere I go, both women and men tell me, "Oh, I light candles, burn a little incense and do this thing that just feels right to me on the full or new moon or on the solstices. It's part of my spirituality. I do this alone." The truth is that it is hard to walk this path of spirituality alone even though it is a path that precludes Christianity. It has been hard for me and I've looked for, prayed for and asked for help every step of the way. It still has not been easy in spite of and including profound experiences along the way.

The fact of the matter is that the purpose of ritual is to alter consciousness and result in a spiritual transformation. During a ritual, any person could have as profound an experience as I have. It can be indescribable ecstasy, as well as confusing and disorienting. I've even had calls from family members or friends because someone had an unexpected visionary experience and thought that they were going crazy. It can happen if a person has no prior frame of reference, no understanding person with whom to share the experience or call upon for advise.

I care because I walk to a different drum. I do not want to walk this path alone. I believe that there is no good spiritual reason why any of us have to do this alone and isolated. I know that the pain of being different seems to make "doing it alone" an easier way. Such isolation is another hurt that is not necessary. I am willing to share what I know. You may know things that are helpful for me. If you are interested in my articles and want to see more, let Ken Friedman know. You don't have to be a believer. Mystical experiences even happen to Christians. At this point, I'm not willing to exclude anyone.

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

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Uniting Gay and Lesbian Fiction--A Talk with Nisa Donnelly by Owen Keehnen

In 1990 Lesbian writer Nisa Donnelly burst upon the scene with her sensational debut novel The Bar Stories, winner of the Lambda Literary Award that year. Four years later St. Martin's Press has released her second novel, The Love Songs of Phoenix Bay, and it is well worth the wait.

This deeply moving and rewarding novel centers around the chaotic life of Phoenix Bay, a thirty-something Lesbian who, her life in a shambles, moves in with her friend Rennie Johnson, a Gay writer with AIDS. Also included in this household is Rennie's sister Cecelie, an archeologist who has fled from a war in Peru and lost her daughter to illness. Soon Cecelie and Phoenix become lovers, and along with Rennie they create a true home. Through trauma, fear, and hardship the three not only endure but grow. The Love Songs of Phoenix Bay is a simultaneously heartbreaking and heartwarming tale, perceptive, honest, and inspirational. There is an enormous amount of wisdom within these pages. It is a celebration of friendship and family amongst a group of wonderfully drawn Lesbian and Gay characters. This novel has bridged the gap between Gay and Lesbian literature expertly, smoothly and naturally. Ms. Donnelly has created a genuinely powerful work, one of the most beautiful novels to come out in some time.

Recently I had the opportunity to congratulate Nisa on her success and we talked a bit about the book and her writing.

Owen: In my opinion, The Love Songs of Phoenix Bay is one of the best Lesbian and best Gay novels of the year. Was your intention partially to erode those barriers?

Nisa: Oh, absolutely. In 1989 I worked on the first OutWrite conference and I'll admit that before that I thought Gay literature was pretty much confined to pornography and trash. But I found a lot of really terrific writers working on the conference and they thought Lesbian literature was for the most part reduced to political diatribe. We got to knowing each other and reading each other's literature and found out we were dealing with the same kinds of issues. When I started looking at Gay men's literature I was amazed that no one had talked about the relationships between Lesbians and Gay men, yet I've known from the get-go this was tremendously important and I wanted to make a fictionalized statement of that.

Owen: Rennie's illness is so fully explored, what was your method of research? Was it reading interviews, personal experience?

Nisa: All of the above. In the acknowledgments I list some of the men who helped me. A lot of those guys were readers and looked at different versions, some wrote to me, I talked with some on the telephone. They were all extremely helpful when I'd ask tough questions about what it's like to be a writer with AIDS. What's it like to have that kind of time restraint? I got answers that ranged from Alan Barnette who had just learned because he didn't think there would be time enough to write to Paul Monette who said it's like having Big Ben in the back of his head.

Owen: Your characters are really exquisite. You take the reader deep inside their psyches. What's your secret?

Nisa: I was a newspaper journalist for a long time and that teaches us how to look at people differently. I was a feature writer. You learn to look at people in a new way and hear how they talk. Other than that I let the characters pretty much lead me and develop their own way.

Owen: Sometimes that sends us down rather long dead end streets.

Nisa: In America most of us grow up in these really screwed dysfunctional families. As adults we have the option of creating families that are good to us, help us, and do all the things families are supposed to do. I don't have any siblings but when I was in college I found a surrogate sibling. Over the years I've added others to this family circle. What we're doing is saying this screwed up way of the nuclear family that Americans love so much doesn't work for us especially for many Gays and Lesbians who are turned out by their biological families or are grossly misunderstood by them.

Owen: Another common theme in both The Bar Stories and The Love Songs of Phoenix Bay is home. How do you define that?

Nisa: A safe place where you don't have to be constantly on your guard against saying or doing the wrong thing. It's a place you can surround yourself with the things and people you love. It's a place where you can reaffirm who you are and grow with the things around you. I like to keep a lot of plants around me, and I like to live with my friends. I'm not really great at lover relationships. I tend to be a much better date than I am a marriage partner.

Owen: There's much to be said for that.

Nisa: It's true. We'll go out but don't go bringing the moving van. This is where we live and where you don't. I've worked really hard to make a place where it's peaceful and safe and we don't have to worry. We don't
live with bars on the windows and I won't live with emotional bars either. I lived like that for too many years.

Owen: The new book is so emotionally frank. Was there one part that was more difficult for you to write than the others?

Nisa: The part where Phoenix goes home for her mother's funeral was probably the most personally difficult. I know so many people who live in that Southern Illinois world, farther south than Kentucky. I have the feeling I escaped, yet I know a whole bunch of people who didn't. Writing brought a lot of that back into focus.

Owen: What do you see as your greatest writing strength?

Nisa: The realistic characters. It's what I've always worked the hardest for. I have to be honest to them. Over my desk I used to have a John Steinbeck quote which I'll paraphrase. 'The entire focus of my creative work is that we might understand each other better.' That's what I want and what I believe. I don't want to write about all the ugly things. I figure we can get enough of that by going outside every day.

Owen: How do you write?

Nisa: My characters tend to talk to the most at 3:30-4:00 in the morning so I've learned to keep notebooks and pencils by my bed to write. I keep notebooks with me all the time when I'm working on characters or stories.

Owen: Both your novels also contain fairly graphic sex scenes. Is the representation of Lesbian sex a political or an artistic decision for you?

Nisa: Both. I got really tired of Lesbians turning their sex lives into a genre called erotica. I didn't see anybody else doing that. John Updike puts sex scenes in his novels and no one thinks anything about it. Gay men certainly do it, yet Lesbians want it cordoned off in a special little section of a certain shelf called Lesbian erotica, like cookbooks or something. I would like to see more Lesbians work sex into their novels however they choose to do it. If they choose not to, that's certainly their business, but I'm afraid many have chosen not to do it over the years because it was considered politically incorrect.

Owen: What are you working on now?

Nisa: Jersey. It's a novel and the name of an apartment building and it's about the lives of five or six characters that live there. I'm hoping to get it done in a year or a year and a half.

Owen: Who are your favorite Gay and Lesbian writers?

Nisa: Jennifer Levin, Dorothy Allison, she's my buddy, Jewelle Gomez, Joan Nestle, Judy Grahn. I would have no career if it weren't for Judy Grahn. Alan Barrette I think would have been an immensely important writer if he had lived. Bo Huston, Paul Monette, Stephen MacCauley. There's so many terrific Gay and Lesbian writers.

Owen: Do you have a career theme?

Nisa: Lesbian triumphs over adversity.

Owen: One of your characters comments that "Loving what I do has been my beacon." Is writing your first love?

Nisa: Absolutely. My first sentence according to my mother was "I sit and write." Mother loves to tell people that. It's the only thing I ever wanted to do. ∞
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S.F. Bans Discrimination Against "Transgenders"

In a move that many city officials said was long overdue, San Francisco outlawed discrimination yesterday against transvestites, transsexuals and cross-dressers.

The Board of Supervisors unanimously passed an ordinance barring discrimination based on "gender identity" in employment, housing, health care, social services, public accommodations, the granting of city contracts and more.

The new term will now join race, religion, color, ancestry, age, sex, sexual orientation, physical and place of birth in the police and administrative codes that prohibit sexual discrimination.

"This legislation...adds to the classification of persons protected by our Human Rights Commission...and gives them the respect they are entitled to," said Supervisor Terence Hallinan, who sponsored the measure. "We have a chance to make history. We are creating a civil right...and it will affect attitudes all over America...This is a proud day to be a San Francisco." With about a dozen transgender people leading the way, the chamber erupted with applause when the measure passed.

The new law, similar to those in Santa Cruz, Seattle and Minnesota, was especially liberating for Doris Robinson, who once quit a clerical job, frustrated after weeks of snickers, whispers and stares.

"It was like being forced out," said Robinson, who because she was born male but identifies herself as female could not even use the rest rooms at work. "It became a real emotional and mental thing. I tried the Human Rights Commission, but there was nothing they could do. They didn't even take me seriously."

Now, the commission is required to investigate all such complaints, attempt to mediate disputes when possible and refer unfair practices to the city attorney for legal remedy when necessary.

"Now we can branch out to the housing we need," sighed Robinson. "We won't be perpetually isolated in the Tenderloin."

Over the past five years, the city received more than 40 complaints from its estimated 6,000 transgender residents. With the new law, officials expect more than 50 complaints a year.

The largest complaints is in employment - people who were in transition while on the job," said commission investigator Larry Brinkin. "When males start coming to work dressed as a female, they are either fired or harassed so severely they quit.

There have also been complaints from people who were asked to leave restaurants, stores and malls - or were rudely ignored while there.

"At night, (we are) automatically considered to be prostitutes, and that's not right," said Shelley Salieri, a City Hall activist and 20-year transgender female who helped write the law. "We are doctors, lawyers, police officers and zoo keepers. This will end a long history of discrimination."

In addition, there have been charges against city departments, particularly the police, whose officers have been accused of treating transgenders with disdain and sometimes with violence.

"We've had transgenders turned away from substance abuse centers and homeless shelters," said Brinkin. "They have a difficult time getting medical care and are treated like freaks when they show up. And there was nothing we could do without this law behind us."

No doubt, the most difficult thing now will be regulating rest rooms under the law mandating "reasonable accommodations."

By Clarence Johnson, San Francisco Chronicle Staff Writer 12/13/94.

Angie Slingluff
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NAMES Project Plans Display of Entire AIDS Memorial Quilt in Washington, D.C.
Display Set For Columbus Day Weekend, October 11-13, 1996

Plans are underway to display the entire NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt together again in Washington, D.C. The display, scheduled for Columbus Day weekend in 1996, will be the fifth showing of the entire Quilt in Washington, D.C. since The NAMES Project began in 1987.

Anthony Turney, executive director, announced, "we are embarking on a two year journey that will end in Washington, D.C. in October 1996 when we will gather up all of the Quilt panels -50,000 we expect by them - to display on the Mall."

Seven years since its inaugural appearance in Washington, D.C. the Quilt has increased 14 times in size, from 1920 three-by-six-foot panels in 1987, to its current size of more than 28,000 memorials. The NAMES Project estimates that by the time of the display in 1996, the Quilt will include as many as 50,000 panels and cover the entire Mall from the Capitol to the Lincoln Memorial.

Turney continued, "Several weeks before critical U.S. elections, when the spotlight is on the President and elected members of Congress, we will display the entire AIDS Memorial Quilt in Washington-to ensure that AIDS and its awful cost is remembered as part and parcel of the American, and international agenda."

The display will mark the first showing of the entire Quilt since 1992, when many felt the Quilt could no longer be displayed in its entirety due to its enormous size. "A display of this size is always a bittersweet proposition," said Turney.

"The fact that the 1996 Quilt display will be 25 times larger than it was in 1987 is a horrific tragedy, because each one of those panels represents a life that shouldn't have been lost."
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Obituaries

Pioneer in Gay Research Dies at 47. New York—John Eastburn Boswell, a Yale University historian who upended medieval scholarship by finding not only that homosexuality was tolerated in the Middle Ages but that same-sex unions were celebrated liturgically, died in the Yale infirmary. He was 47 years old.

The cause was complications from AIDS, said a friend, Jerry Hart.

"I regard him as one of the major innovative figures in Gay and Lesbian scholarship," said Martin Duberman, founder and executive director of the Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies at the City University of New York. "John was very brave and pioneering. And very brilliant."

He was also controversial. Some scholars and theologians disputed his findings, which gained wide notice in 1980 with the publication of "Christianity, Social Tolerance, and Homosexuality: Gay People in Western Europe From the Beginning of the Christian Era to the Fourteenth Century." It won the American Book Award for history in 1981.

One major aim of his work, Mr. Boswell wrote, was "to rebut the common idea that religious belief-Christian or other--has been the cause of intolerance in regard to Gay people."

Among his findings was that there had been, from about 1050 to 1150, "an efflorescence of Gay subculture, with a highly developed literature, its own argot and artistic conventions, its own love life, its elaborate responses to critics."

Same-sex unions in history

Last June, Mr. Boswell again captured attention--and provoked much debate--with "Same-Sex Unions in Premodern Europe," based on the study of more than 60 manuscripts from the eighth to the 16th century.

By the 12th century, Boswell wrote, the ceremony of same-sex union had become a "full office," which involved burning candles, placing the parties' hands on the Gospel, binding their hands or covering their heads with the priest's stole, saying the Lord's Prayer, receiving communion, kissing and sometimes circling the altar.

As to whether the ceremony celebrated a "relationship between two men or two women that was (or became) sexual," Boswell wrote, "Probably, sometimes, but this is obviously a difficult question to answer about the past, since participants cannot be interrogated."

He was far more confident in declaring that the ceremony was "unmistakably a voluntary, emotional union of two persons," one that was "closely related" to heterosexual marriage, "no matter how much some readers may be discomforted by this."

Skepticism among the mainstream

James Brundage, a professor of history and law at the University of Kansas, said in an interview at the time that "the mainstream reaction was that he raised some interesting questions, but hadn't proved his case."

Mr. Boswell's other major work was "The Kindness of Strangers: The Abandonment of Children in Western Europe From Late Antiquity to the Renaissance," published in 1989.

Mr. Boswell, who lived in New Haven, Conn., was born in Boston. He attended the College of William and Mary and Harvard University, from which he received his Master's degree and Doctorate. Among the 17 languages he read or spoke, Mr. Boswell counted Church Slavonic, Old Icelandic and some classical Armenian, Syrian and Persian.

By David W. Dunlap, New York Times

Rex A. Miller

Kodiak resident, Rex A. Miller, 43, died Jan 27, 1995, at home in Kodiak.

Mr. Miller was born Sept. 5, 1951, in Anchorage.

He grew up in Bethel and then moved to Anchorage, where he graduated from Dimond High School in 1969.

He worked on the North Slope with a seismic crew for a time, then moved back to Bethel and worked as a Bethel City police officer.

Mr. Miller moved to Kodiak in the mid-1970s, and worked on fishing and crab boats.

He is survived by his lifetime companion, Jamie Morris; his sisters, Vivian cole and Marla Gregory; his grandfather, John Samuelson Sr.; his best friend Walt Monegan; niece, Mandy Gregory; nephews, Robert and David Cole; and many other relatives and friends.

From the Anchorage Daily News, 2/4/95

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