UNITY AND DIVERSITY

THE ALASKA PRIDE CONFERENCE 1995 IS ALMOST READY. YOUR HELP IS STILL NEEDED!
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Identity NorthView

Identity NorthView is a monthly publication of Identity, Inc., a non-profit (501(c)(3)), Alaskan corporation concerned with issues of sexual identity. The 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 persons or organizations unless so specified. 

Identity Board of Directors: Co-Chairs: Ruth Mathes, F. Kenneth Freedman; Treasurer: Kurt Parish; Secretary: Tom Rachal, Candy Bonham, Tori Lentfer, Shirley Randall-Harris, Dawn Rogers.


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Submissions: We welcome articles and letters from community individuals and organizations. Ideal length is 1,000 words or less. Please submit on 3.5 or 5.25 diskette (IBM compatible 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 2 weeks before the month's NorthView.

Advertising: Rates are displayed graphically on the last page of this newspaper. Contact NorthView by mail or through the Helpline at 258-4777. Advertising can be submitted camera-ready or can be composed for you for a negotiated fee.

NorthView does not accept Personals, nor does it accept advertising that is sexist, racist, discriminatory or sexually explicit.

Mail: Editor, 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.

NorthView Classifieds & Want Ads

Cedar home, 3-bedrooms, 2-baths, to share in Fairbanks. Located in Birch Forest 5 minutes from UAF. Rent negotiable. 907-479-0925. Please leave a message.

Looking for an apartment to share or room to rent in nice part of town. Prefer sharing accommodations with another female. I’m 26, non-smoker, non-drug user & am still living with my parents. Please call JoAnna at 333-2325.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

News media report that the Southern Baptists, that hate-filled “Christian” sect whose leaders flout the 9th Commandment every time they misinform themselves and their subjects about homosexuals, has formally apologized to African-Americans, 150 years late, for endorsing slavery.

Another Christian sect even more spectacularly retrograde, the Roman Catholics, took several centuries to apologize to the indigenous peoples they raped, robbed, killed, defrauded and tyrannized all over this planet.

In their treatment of homosexuals, both are still righteously pandering away, one led by a clutch of contemptibly ignorant rednecks, the other led by the most constipatedly wrong-headed pope in modern history. When are we to receive the apologies due us from these Mafiosi? Not, I think, in my lifetime. But at least some inkling of justice has infiltrated their primitive perceptions.

Not that Islam, the Hebrews, or even the Buddhists have any better record. There is a seldom-mentioned fifth Freedom: Freedom from religion. Isn’t it time that homosexuals rid themselves of the dead weight and grotesque superstitions of religion—humankind’s most lethal invention to date—and take up their future as frail (recovery initially is always frail), but free men and women?

Sincerely yours,

Martin Palmer
Guest Editorial
by Michelangelo Signorile
"Wedding Bell Blues"

As a kid I had several vivid dreams of marrying a boy named Joe who lived across the street; at our church wedding we both wore pastel green tuxedos and black velvet bow ties (this was Staten Island in 1970), and my mother wept happily as we kissed.

Later, as an early teen, I regularly fantasized about getting married to The Partridge Family’s David Cassidy, adopting two baby boys (we named one David and one Michelangelo) and moving to New Jersey.

Not since those days have I thought as much about Gay marriage as I do now. A lot of other people are thinking about it too, in ways that I’d never considered.

“There are a lot of parallels” between the ban on Gay marriage and the laws of the past that prohibited interracial marriage, says Stephanie Smith, director of the Lesbians of Color Project at the National Center for Lesbian Rights. “Basically, in both cases it’s two people trying to decide what a family is to them, and it’s outside the law.”

In February, Smith stood before 60 activists at the Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum’s summit in Los Angeles and made a case for why the African-American Lesbian and Gay community should organize around the issue of Gay marriage. She urged people to begin organizing, in preparation for a court decision in Hawaii expected later this year, legalizing same-sex marriage in that state.

The Hawaii Supreme Court ruled in 1993 that banning Gay marriage was in violation of that state’s constitutional prohibition of gender-based discrimination and sent the case back to a lower court, where the state will have to prove a “compelling interest” against Gay marriage—something legal experts predict the state won’t be able to do. By 1996, same-sex marriages may be legal in Hawaii. And that’s when Gay and Lesbian marriage switches from a legal fight to a major national political battle that some activists warn may dwarf the Gays in the military debate. Many states, fearful that Gay and Lesbian residents will go to Hawaii to marry and come back seeking legal recognition (most states automatically recognize out-of-state marriages), are expected to explicitly outlaw Gay marriage as a preemptive strike. Already, the South Dakota and Utah legislatures have, with mixed success, moved in that direction. The Republican Congress could easily step in and pass a federal law—or even a constitutional amendment—banning same-sex unions, and such a law might be broadly used to strip us of other rights. Needless to say, the Gay community must focus on this issue and organize around it—quickly.

Stephanie Smith explained all of this in her speech at the summit, but she gave it a personal twist: Her mother is black and her father is white, she told the group, and in 1953 they could not get married in their home state of Missouri because of an antimiscegenation statute similar to laws in many other states at that time. (The Supreme court didn’t rule such laws unconstitutional until 1967.) Smith made the connection to the ban on Gay marriage.

“People had never really thought of Gay marriage as a ‘people of color’ issue,” she says. But her speech seemed to change that. “Everyone began talking about talking to their ministers, their parents, their neighbors. They began seeing that this is not about class and privilege and a bunch of rich people flying off to Hawaii. It’s about defining what a family is to each of us.”

Ever since Gay marriage began to loom on the political horizon, I, like many people, have been ambivalent and even a bit uncomfortable with the issue. The Hawaii court decision, and the impending debate, have forced me to reconcile my childhood yearnings with my beliefs as an adult.

By the time I came out of the closet in college in 1980, immersing myself in the Gay community, I believed marriage for homosexuals only mirrored the “hypocritical, oppressive, heterosexual American dream.” I can’t say with all honesty whether this change was the result of my having naturally outgrown childish, silly ideas, or if the organized Gay movement’s precepts of the time had shaped my belief system, steering me away from something I might have otherwise embraced. Perhaps it was a mix of both.

In 1993, soon after I traveled to Hawaii to write an article for OUT about the topic, I found myself somewhere in the middle: If people want Gay marriage, well, it’s a great way to alter America’s Ozzie and Harriet notion of “family,” and certainly we should have the choice, but as someone who’s not even in a relationship, it’s hard to get all worked up about the issue.

Ultimately, the idea resonates with people when it affects them personally. Many Gay and Lesbian couples who have children, for example, support Gay marriage because they desperately want the rights and privileges that heterosexual married parents have, like simply being able to take their child to the emergency room and not having to carry two insurance policies. Then there are the issues of inheritance, tax breaks, and property rights.

“When we go to buy a home or a car together, we get separate applications,” says Michelle Abdill, a real estate agent who lives with her partner, Roxanne Ellis, in Medford, Oregon. They have a business partnership, and have bought two homes and three cars together. Abdill explains, “We tell them that all of our debts are consolidated, but they don’t accept that it’s joint finances—a joint life—and so we don’t have the same borrowing power or buying power as heterosexual couples.”

Many Lesbians and Gay men who have fallen in love with foreigners are also pushing for Gay marriage, hoping that it will allow their partners to become
American citizens so that they can stay together—legally. "I'm constantly afraid about being found out—it's like I'm living in another closet," says Alfredo, a Venezuelan Gay man who is living illegally in this country with his lover, a U.S. citizen. "Living this way is dangerous, but living without him is so empty."

And some couples simply want to get married for marriage's sake.

Ever since I was a young boy I thought I'd grow up, get married, have kids, and live happily ever after," says Tim Fisher, who, with his partner Scott Davenport, lives on a tree-lined block in sleepy Montclair, New Jersey, along with their two kids and their Ford station wagon. "As Gays and Lesbians we miss out on the rituals and ceremonies that support and affirm our families. Scott was in tears at our daughter Kati's baby shower. It was the first time we were recognized by friends and family."

Whatever you think of the issue of Gay marriage, it, like the military issue before it, is a speeding locomotive in our way. Even those Gay leaders who feel that, strategically, this is not the fight the Gay movement should be waging right now, say there's no way to slam on the brakes, so we had better get on the right track.

"The victory we have won in Hawaii is already on the books," says Evan Wolfson of Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, who is co-counsel for the three couples in Hawaii who filed suit. "If we dropped the case today, any other couple in Hawaii or from the mainland could go and file the exact same charge." Indeed, in every state, there are dozens of couples eager to file suit.

So if you want to get married, this your wake-up call: It's time to educate, agitate, and lobby everyone possible—politicians, the media, Gay groups, women's groups, other minority groups. And if you don't see yourself walking down the aisle but care at all about Lesbian and Gay fights, it's time to back up the more committed people who will lead the fight. Straight America needs to be carefully convinced that this is a civil rights issue, and all of us have to bring it home to our families, friends and co-workers.

Whether we win or lose this battle, if we want to maintain our dignity there's one thing we should learn from the Gays in the military debacle: Rather than wait until the last minute and hope our heterosexual friends will save us, we've got to face this challenge early, call our people to action, and give the other side a fight they won't forget.

Contributing writer Michelangelo Signorile can be reached by E-mail at angel@pipeline.com.

Thanks to Out, May 1995.
1995 ALASKA PRIDE CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 6-8, 1995

Planning is now under way for this year’s Alaskan Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual community conference. The Alaska Pride Conference (formerly the Fall Conference) will be held October 6th, 7th, and 8th in Anchorage.

The theme for this year’s conference is Unity & Diversity, exploring our differences, similarities and needs as a community.

JoAnn Loulan, nationally known author, counselor, activist and entertainer is this year’s keynote speaker. Ms. Loulan will conduct a workshop as well as speak at the luncheon on Saturday, October 7th.

Ms Loulan is a licensed Marriage, Family and Child Counselor and sex therapist in private practice in Northern California. The best-selling author of four books including "Lesbian Sex" and "Lesbian Passion" is currently working on two new books including "Gender Jail" which explores her expanding concepts of genders, sexuality and identity.

Ms Loulan speaks to sold out Gay and Lesbian audiences at conferences all over the country. She is very excited to come to Alaska. The topic of her keynote address and workshop will be announced in the near future.

Warren Blumenfeld, noted author, educator and activist will offer two slide presentations. "Recovering the Past: Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual History" is the first. The history of homosexuality and bisexuality is one of incredible pain and enormous pride, of overwhelming repression and victorious rejoicing, of stifling invisibility and dazzling illumination. Throughout the ages, homosexuality and bisexuality have been called many things: from "sin," "sickness," and "crime," to "orientation," "identity," and even "a gift from God." This is a unique and informative slide presentation resurrecting a history that has been hidden for so long. "Homophobia: How We All Pay the Price" is the second presentation. It examines homophobia as the fear, and sometimes, hatred of people who are perceived as Gay, Lesbian or Bisexual. "On many levels, however," says Mr. Blumenfeld, "heterosexuals are also hurt, and therefore, it is in everyone’s self interest to work to eliminate homophobia."

Mr. Blumenfeld is a founder and first director of the National Gay Student Center. He is co-author of Looking at Gay and Lesbian Life, editor of Homophobia: How We All Pay the Price, author of AIDS and Your Religious Community, and editor of Journal of Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Identity. He is also co-producer of the documentary film "Pink Triangles," on the topic of homophobia.

Cheryl Swartz, Director of the Gay Lesbian Bi Community Center in Denver, will be giving workshops on working with Gay youth. Ms Swartz created the Youth Program at the Gay Center in Denver; a training program and manual to help volunteers who wanted to work in the Youth Program; a Foster Parent Program to place Gay kids into Gay homes, and has written a book due out in October titled "The Journey Out," for ages 12 - 18.

Books by all three of these speakers will be available by and through Bona Dea Women’s Bookstore.

There will be a wide variety of workshops led by people from Alaska, including workshops on Political Strategies, Gay Youth (for and about...), Media, Parenting, Relationships, Writing, and more. A "networking" session is planned, where groups of people with like-interests can share information, ideas and sources.

Tentatively scheduled to be at the UAA campus, the Conference will open on Friday night with a Social Mixer, a chance to register and meet the speakers and other conference attendees. Saturday and Sunday will include the keynote address, presentations, workshops, information booths, a luncheon, and a catered Brunch.

Early registration is beginning now. The fee for the Alaska Pride Conference ranges from $40 (early registration) to $75 (more if you can, less if you can’t). A scholarships fund is also being set up.

The 1995 Alaska Pride Conference promises to be an exciting, informative experience—an opportunity for us all to celebrate the diversity within our own lives and community, and to learn about, recognize and honor the things that bind us together in unity as a community.
INDEPENDENTLY SPEAKING
"SEVENTY-TWO"
BY MARVIN LIEBMAN

Gay men are never supposed to grow old (but they should not fall to the scourge of AIDS, either). They should be forever cute and in their twenties. Forever young. But then, you’re thirty. Not bad, still looks amazingly young. Forty? Remarkably well preserved. Fifty? Distinguished looking, but getting to be almost a dirty old man. Sixty and over. Forget it!

When I was thirty, I never thought I’d be forty, and then fifty, and then sixty, and then I stopped counting. I started counting again on my sixty-seventh birthday when I, at long last, was able to fully accept myself as a Gay man. When I was able to articulate it to my family, my straight friends and conservative associates, that very instant of total self-acceptance became the definitive moment of my life. I was at last free of the shackles of my decades of self-hatred.

Why did I wait so long? Because I could never really accept the fact that I was a homosexual. All my many Gay and Lesbian friends knew. My mostly conservative friends and associates probably knew or assumed it. So, why bother talking about it? What does it matter?

It matters! Although my “coming out” dismayed many of my political associates at the time, I purposefully did it and as publicly as possible—to show my conservative friends and colleagues that a Gay man was one of them, that they should be more accepting of me and the many other Gays and Lesbians involved in the conservative movement and in the Republican Party, and that they should quit using homophobia as a political weapon and a fundraising tool. It was worth the trouble because there is a bit more tolerance of us in GOP and conservative circles, but not nearly enough.

My real life therefore really began five years ago. All the searching, all the masks and role-playing of the past were no longer needed. I immersed myself in my new community, desperate to make up for lost time and somehow to absolve myself for my long silence. I worked with the Log Cabin Club, hoping to use my conservative/GOP credentials to help Gays and Lesbians find a place in the Republican’s ever-shrinking “big tent.” I was the first Chairman of the Log Cabin Republicans which was organized to give Gays and Lesbians a presence in the nation’s capital.

I tried and failed to begin two new organizations—the Lambda Conservative Foundation and the National Coalition For Understanding. Both were aimed at enlisting straight friends to work with Lesbians and Gays in a national media campaign to show America our “real faces and lives” as against the stereotypes generally promulgated. The projects never really got off the ground because we have a multitude of faces—other than the WASP image so many of my colleagues wanted to present.

I wrote my autobiography, Coming Out Conservatively, and I spoke at bookstores, on TV and radio, and was interviewed by the press. I went to Human Rights Campaign Fund black-tie dinners, and spoke at Gay and Lesbian Task Force press conferences. I picketed with Act Up, and demonstrated noisily with Queer Nation. I started writing a monthly column which I distributed to the Gay press. Many papers printed it, while some ignored it. At first I called it Conservatively Speaking and then changed the title to Independently Speaking. The reason for the change is that I could no longer tolerate the bigotry and hatred emanating from my former bases of operation—conservatives, Republicans, and “Christians.” The latter was part of my relentless search for myself. I became a Christian (Roman Catholic) in 1978, but I reasserted my Jewishness last year at the Gay and Lesbian synagogue here in Washington. In essence, I am doing everything I can to participate and contribute to the future of Lesbians and Gay men. I am a truly conflicted man now, surrounded by so many of the children I could never have and, luckier than most fathers, they have become my close and beloved friends.

During the past five years, I learned some lessons about our community and our politics. Most important, perhaps, is that we are communities, not one but many, in almost every city and state in the nation—Oregon, Colorado, Cincinnati, Dallas, Washington, Boston, San Francisco and on and on. Our future lies in our cities and states. It is locally that we have to be seen and take action on every issue that comes up affecting us. We must be active in our neighborhoods, from the school and library boards to the State Legislature. Above all, we should take an active and open part in all aspects of mainstream community life and remain independent of political parties, giving our support only to those who openly support us and withhold it from those who do not. Our national “community,” such as it is, is based on the shared experience of all of us—the fear and pain of first discovering who we were and the joy of finally accepting it. We must reach out to each other—and to our families, friends, working associates, and neighbors—as open and proud Lesbians and Gay men.

Finally, we dare not underestimate the strength, power, and resolve of the enemy of all of us—the Christian Coalition and the dozens of its national and local clones. Pat Robertson and his legions consider each and every one of us—from flamboyant drag queen to the most straight-acting Log Cabin Republican—the children of Satan who, in the name of Jesus Christ Himself, must be erased from the face of the earth. Remember the Holocaust, which could never happen in our enlightened century. But. It happened. Believe, recognize and fight the danger, all of you, because it is out there. Waiting. All I have left to say is: I’m here! I’m queer! I’m seventy-two! Get used to it!

The Stonewall Awards
Honoring Achievement for Gay and Lesbian Community

The Awards are named for the 1969 Stonewall Rebellion in New York, the first widely recognized act of collective defiance against repression that launched the gay rights movement. When police raided the Stonewall Inn in Greenwich Village for serving liquor without a license, its gay patrons were evicted, crowds gathered outside, riot police arrived and violence erupted. Demonstrations continued for days in reaction to years of persecution, and once-scattered gay rights groups in a few U.S. cities were inspired to new levels of protest and activism. The Stonewall Rebellion signaled the possibility of saying “enough” to harassment.

4 no-strings $25,000 Stonewall Awards go to an actress, a journalist and activists for achievement in the Gay and Lesbian Community.

For the first time since they were established, Stonewall Awards have been announced honoring individuals in the performing arts and journalism, as well as human rights and AIDS activists, for their contributions to the gay and lesbian community.

The 1995 winners of the no-strings $25,000 cash awards, announced today, are:

Peggy Shaw, New York, international lesbian actress, playwright, producer and co-founder of the Split Britches company.

Jim Thomas, St. Louis, editor and publisher of the newspaper, The News-Telegram.


Franklin Whitworth, Colorado Springs, CO, executive director of Ground Zero, a political and educational gay rights organization.


▼
BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT
THE ALASKANA BOOKSTORE:
GENE SHORT
BY RUTH MATHES

The little green house is a cat's whisker away from Arctic Blvd. It exudes a soft scent of lemon polish, has oriental rugs, Queen Anne chairs, soft classical music, and a resident black cat. The owner and manager, Gene Short, saw a customer out (into the rain) and then ushered me to the rear of the shop for a quiet chat. The cat came, too. I shook out my umbrella, curled up in the chair and took out my notebook. Although I have known Gene for 20 years, I opened our interview with the standard questions.

IDENTITY: How long have you been in Alaska?
G.S.: I've lived in Anchorage 40 years. I taught Science at West High for four years, and was director of Anchorage Community College for 17 years before it was absorbed by the University of Alaska.

IDENTITY: Why a bookstore?
G.S.: At the time I retired in 1976 from A.C.C. my personal collection of Alaskan books was quite reputable. I had dreamed of owning my own bookstore, and after being open three months I was sure that this was the right slot for me. Although there are a couple of university collections of Alaskan books that are more extensive than mine, I have the best "for sale" collection anywhere, and lower prices than "outside" dealers.

IDENTITY: (The black cat, which had been eyeing my lap for several minutes, decided I was suitable for her next nap. I didn't argue with those claws.) What hours are you open, Gene?
G.S.: We operate Tuesday through Saturday, 1:00-6:00pm. Late afternoon is usually our busiest time of day.

IDENTITY: Is this sort of business really profitable?
G.S.: This is not a merchandising venture. I don't take any profit from the business to speak of. It's my passion, and it keeps me out of the bars! Booksellers are maniacs who have such an appetite for books that profit is almost always secondary in importance. Buying the next book is the great lure.

IDENTITY: Where do you find these books?
G.S.: My wife and I go to a couple of book fairs each year. They are held in major cities in the "Lower 48," and the trips are fun vacations for us both.

IDENTITY: Who is your clientele? I get a few students from time to time. They are usually looking for a title assigned by a professor who failed to find out whether or not the book was in print. Some of the customers are historians, or maybe they're into research. The fellow who left as you arrived was from a German newspaper syndicate, and had been referred here for reference material on Alaska and the Soviet Union. The remainder of our customers are from the general public who just "want books on Alaska."

IDENTITY: (The front paws of the black cat covered my legal pad at a strategic spot. I capped my pen and decided to wing it.) How big is your collection?
G.S.: There are 35,912 records in the computer, but that isn't an accurate volume count because of the duplicates. Some of those are serials (periodicals to you, dear, and magazines to your unwashed cousin). I have been acquiring a collection of material from USGS (U.S. Geological Survey). That's my latest itch.

IDENTITY: (The rain had stopped. I had a deadline to meet and a co-editor who used to have ulcers, so I decided to make my departure.) What's the name of your cat?
G.S.: My wife calls her "Silky." I call her "Blackie" occasionally. Mostly I call her "that damned cat!"

IDENTITY: Some of our readers may be Alaskan collectors themselves. We'll send them your way.
G.S.: Be sure to mention the cat. She owns the porch! Ruth Mathes is getting ready to power-wash the house(!)
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 AA at 337-0253.
The designations of (L)ésbian, (G)ay and (A)llie indicate that the business or service is owned by (L)ésbians, (G)ays or (A)llies. 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:
(1) KT Creative, Katie, 278-0174

AIDS:
(A) Alaskan AIDS Assistance Assoc., 263-2050 (see A's page)
(A) Alcenians Living with HIV/AIDS, (Juneau), Rita, 463-5688
(A) Anchorage Neighborhood Health Center (free HIV testing), Stephanie, 257-4637
(A) Interior AIDS Assoc., 452-4222
(A) Pierce County AIDS Found, WA, 206-383-2565
(A) Shanti of Juneau, 907-463-5665, 1-800-478-AIDS (2437)
(A) S.T.O.P. AIDS Project, Koola, 278-5019

Air Service:
(1) Mt. McKinley Air Service, Keli or LeeAnn, 900-564-1765; 907-733-1765

Alternative Medicine/Health:
(1) Hope, 561-2330
(A) Gatokey, Ketki/Jalini, 561-7327
(A) The Olive Herb Shoppe, Constance, 522-4372

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

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

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

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

Automotive:
(A) Courtyard's, Lanny, 562-1227 (see ad)
(A) S&W Radiator Supply (Fairbanks), BJ, 907-452-2220

Bakery:
(G) Illusions, Brian, 561-8458 (see ad)

Bars:
(G) The Blue Moon, 277-6441
(G) Palace Saloon (Fairbanks), Alaskaland (Fri and Sat ONLY)
(G) The Raven, 276-9672
(G) O'Brady's, 344-5033, 338-1080, 563-1080 (see ad)

Bed & Breakfast:
(G) Alta's (Fairbanks), Pete, 907-457-0246 (see ad)
(G) Arctic Feather, Doug, 277-3862
(G) Aurora Winds, James/Bill, 346-2533

(B) Beach House, Mary (Homer), 907-235-5945 (see ad)
(L) The Butterfly Inn, Kay (Hawaii), 808-966-7936
(L) Cheney Lake B&B, Mary/Janetta, 337-4391
(G) The Crabtree Guest House (Fairbanks), Phil/Bobby, 907-451-6601
(L) Garden Cottage (Orlando, FL), Lisa, 407-894-5395
(G) Gingerbread House, Yves (Montreal), 514-368-8404
(A) Island Watch, Eileen (Homer), 907-235-2265 (see ad)
(L) Mermaid Inn, Nancy/Bonnie (St. Lauderdale, FL), 305-565-8437
(L) Northern Comfort, Reeds, 278-2106

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

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

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

Books:
(L) Bonn Dec: the Alaska Women's Bookstore, Joann/Mariah, 562-4716 (see ad)
(A) Alaskan, Gene, 561-1340 (see ad)
(A) Cicos Books, Sandy/Jerry, 274-2599
(A) Into the Woods Bookshop (Fairbanks), Connie, 907-479-7701

Carpet & Linoleum Installation:
(A) Big Bob's, Mark, 561-2111
(A) Don, 349-1065

Catering:
(G) Alaska Best Catering, Maurice, 338-1080, 337-1969
(G) Illusions, Brian, 561-8458 (see ad)
(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, 337-3082

Churches:
see Spiritual

Coffee Houses:
(G) Hollywood Canteen, Rand, 561-0064
(G/L) The Sociable Tide at the Wave, Trina, 274-511 or 561-WAVE (see flyer)

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

Computer Bulletin Board:
(G) The Wilde Side, 333-4839
(G) WingS, 243-7318; 243-7371 (G/L/Internet access)

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

Computer Consultants, Graphic Design, & Desktop Publishing:
(1) Angle, 337-0253 (see ad)
(G) By-Teq Alaska, Inc., Ken, 248-2422
(L) CDA Services, Waltraud, 276-6862
(A) Computer Magik, Phil, 274-3528
(G) gra./s, Lucian, 272-0328
(A) Heleneck & Assoc, Terry, 276-3869
(A) LLR Technologies, Logan, 272-7377
(G) Marks, 338-3357
(G) PC Possibilities, 248-6277

Computer Training:
(G) Seven Treasures Ent, Don, 338-9068

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

Construction:
(L) R & L Construction, Lita, 279-4606
Counseling:
(G) Ability Design Associates, Doran, 562-9575
(A) Connie, 562-1826
(A) Jann, 248-9408
(A) Marion, 562-0012
(A) Psychological Services Center, 786-1795

Dancing:
(G/L) The Wave, Trina, 274-511 or 561-WAVE (see flyer)

Deaf Support:
(A) Interpreter Referral Line, 277-3323 voice, 277-0735 tty
(A) Deaf Rehabilitation Serv., 277-3456 voice, 258-2232, tty

Dental Care:
(A) Ward Halbert, DDS, 248-0022

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

Drak Shows:
(G/L) The Wave, Trina, 274-511 or 561-WAVE (see flyer)

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

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

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

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

Entertainment:
(G) Capri Cinema, 561-0064, Movieline: 275-3799 (see ad)
(A) Mascarella Music, Diane, 277-9751
(L) Real Talent Productions, Karyn, 562-5777, 278-5083
(A) Syzygy/Music Magic, Linda, 274-2599

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

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

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

Flightseeing:
(L) Mt. McKinley Air Service, Keli or LeeAnn, 800-564-1765; 907-733-1765

Floors & Tile:
(A) Quality Floors, Bob & Ruth, 248-3980

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

Flying:
(L) McKinley Air Svc., Lee Ann & Keli, 800-564-1765

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

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

General Contracting:
(G) Mat-Su Weatherization Services, L. Hansen, 907-278-9276

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

Glacier Landings:
(L) Mt. McKinley Air Service, Keli or LeeAnn, 800-564-1765; 907-733-1765

Hair Styling:
(A) Executive Clip & Shine, 258-8304

(G) Gabriel, 272-9845
(A) 36th Ave. Hair Design, Ledjha, 561-8967

Health:
(A) Gatekey, Ketki/Jaini, 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, 967-458-8288
(G/L) Identity Helpline, 258-4777 (see ads)

House Cleaning:
(L) Connie's House Cleaning Svc., Connie, 276-3147
(A) Green Valley Cleaning, Tara, 345-4657
(G) Silver Spoon Cleaning & Catering, Brenda, 258-8828

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

Imperial Court:
(G) Imperial Court of All Alaska, Jasmine, 563-8650, Bob 272-3842

Hypnotherapy:
(A) Rainbow Counseling, Maureen, 277-0822

Income Tax Preparation:
(A) Lynn (LaPerriere) Thomas, 263-0720 (see ad)

Independent Marketer:
(A) Mark, 279-5264

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

Kites, Games, Banners, Puzzles:
(A) Northwind Kites, Pat, 279-4386
(L) Wood Nymph Landscaping, Valerie, 338-8338

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), 562-1916 (see ad)
(L) Leslie (non-sexual), 278-3346
(A) Marion, 562-0012
(L) Vicki, 277-5222

Meetings:
(G/L) The Wave, Trina, 274-511 or 561-WAVE (see flyer)

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

Newletters/Newsletters:
(L) Klondyke Kontakt (Alaska Women's Cultural Center), 337-0253
(GLA) NorthView (Identity), 258-4777
(GL) Perspective (S.E.A.G.L.A. (Juneau)), 586-4297

Nightclubs:
(G/L) The Wave, Trina, 274-511 or 561-WAVE (see flyer)
Obstetrics & Gynecology:
(A) Jane, 563-5151

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

Painting:
(I) L & D 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
(A) Doggie Hut, Arlid, 279-5861
(A) Doggie Vacations of Alaska, Constance, 344-3647

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

Political:
(A) Alaskans Concerned About Latin America (ACALA), Ruth, 333-1190
(A) Anchorage Women's Political Caucus, Rhonda, 274-9308
(G/L) Equal, Inc., 274-9226 (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:
(L) K & K Investigating, Karyn, 561-3665

Producing:
(I) Real Talent Productions, Karyn, 562-7577, 578-5683

Recreation:
(I) Alaska Women of the Wilderness, Rachel, 688-2226
(L) McKinley Air SVC, Lee Ann & Kelly, 800-564-1765
(I) Puffin Family Charters, Leslie, 278-3346 (see ad)
(G/L) Triangle Tours, Greg, 786-3787, 800-779-3701
(G/L) The Wave, Trina, 274-511 or 561-WAVE (see flyer)

Real Estate:
(G) Apollo Real Estate, Bob, 561-7481 (see ad)
(A) Bronwyn Hillman, 248-2804; 563-6156 (see ad)
(I) Dynamic Properties, Jill, 261-7663
(G) Dream Homes (Fairbanks), Jonathan, 907-451-1828 (see ad)
(I) Waltraud Barron, 274-2634

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

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

Restaurants:
(A) Cyrano's Cafe, 274-1173
(G) O'Brady's, 344-8033, 338-1080, 563-1080 (see ad)

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

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

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

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

Shoe Care:
(A) Executive Clip & Shine, 258-0384

Sightseeing:
(L) McKinley Air SVC, Lee Ann & Kelly, 800-564-1765
(L) Puffin Family Charters, Leslie, 278-3346 (see ad)

Social/Educational:
(G) Anchorage Garden Buds, 258-4777
(GLA) Q*Klatch (Fairbanks), Eric, 455-8051

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

Spiritual:
(A) Alaska Women of the Wilderness, Rachel, 688-2226
(A) Anchorage Church of Religious Science, Center for Positive Living, Rev. Nancee Sweeney, 258-0010
(A) Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Art, 248-3737 (see ad)
(A) Church of the Covenant (Matanuska Valley), Pastor Howard Bess, 746-1089
(A) Lamb of God Metropolitan Community Church, Jim, 258-5266
(A) St. James the Fisherman Episcopal Church (Kodiak), Fr. Paul, 486-5276
(A) Unity Church of Anchorage, 346-2824

Sports:
(L) Alaska Women of the Wilderness, Rachel, 688-2226
(A) Flies by Ilene (Eagle River), 907-694-6946
(L) McKinley Air SVC, Lee Ann & Kelly, 800-564-1765
(G) Roy's Bikes, Roy, 333-8211

Student Organizations:
(G/L) Alaskan Gay and Lesbian Association (AGLA, Fairbanks), Pete, 907-457-0246 (see Club Notes)
(G/L) The Family (formerly Lesbian, Gay, & Bisexual Student Association), UAA, (see Club Notes)

Support Groups:
(G) Disability Design Associates, Doran, 562-9575
(A) P-FLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Anchorage), Sylvia 562-4992, Fred 562-7161
(A) P-FLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Fairbanks), Nancey, 907-479-4944

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

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

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

Tours:
(G) Triangle Tours, Greg, 786-3707, 800-779-3701

Travel:
(G) Apollo Travel Agency, Bob, 561-0661 (see ad)
(G) Apollo Travel Agency, Chereese, 561-0661 (see ad)
(L) Apollo Travel Agency, Karyn, 561-0661 (see ad)
(L) DreamQuest Tours, Karyn, 562-5777, 278-5483
(G) Equinox Wilderness Expeditions, Karen, voice mail: 274-9087
(G) World Express Travel, Greg, 786-3701

Tutoring:
(A) James, Biology, 248-6412

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

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

Writing & Editing Assistance:
(L) Kathy, 278-3640

Anchorage Gay & Lesbian HELPLINE
258-4777
Why Do I Love Thee?

by Karen Carlisle

I love you because you look like Christmas just came when you first set eyes on me in the morning; and because you make wonderful meals that you make up on the spot. These culinary delights thrill the eye and cause me to coo in ecstasy. And yes, the sounds I make are the same ones I make when you are thrirling my body. You know the way to my heart. I feel loved by anyone who feeds me—such a rare occurrence has it been in my life.

I love you because you cause me to laugh at the most improbable times—when I am sad, or you are sad; when I’m angry...yes, even at you... and yes, during sex, especially then. (Dear readers, have you ever just left your body a tiny ways in the act, hovered above and watched the spectacle? Is it funny or not? Don’t you want to burst out laughing?) Yesterday, you woke up without Christmas on your face; you shuffled around like you were on thorazine and your eyes held the tragedy of the ages. My solicitous enquiries garnered no information. Finally, I touched you and asked: “Honey, what’s wrong?” You said, “I don’t know.” I asked a pointed question. You answered, “Maybe.” Bingo, the flood began to breach the dyke and my arms went around you and we were locked in that tender sharing that passes between those who give the tears of the heart. When your tears were spent, you smiled at me and then the tears erupted again almost coming out your nose in a laugh. I said, brilliantly, “More crying?” You said, “Maybe it’s about the world this time.” I said, “I believe you. I have tears for the world too.” And then we were laughing. So close those two—crying, laughing.

I love you because you know how to play—so few grown-ups can do it. In that play are tricks and terrible puns and hilarious non-sequitur. Recently, we got a new couch. It’s long enough for both of us to sit at either end, stretch our legs out full-length with our legs opened and the other’s alternating between them. And guess what we found out? Stretched out that way, each of us could touch the other’s honey jar. Winnie the Pooh, eat your heart out! But did we do the obvious and begin tickling each other? Nooooo, we grasped hands and begin to rock back and forth laughing our butts off, feeling like two little kids doing something very naughty.

I love you because of the way you show love to others. Your mother, your friends, me... we all share the thoughtfulness of your heart and your generosity. I feel touched by grace in that love. You would give anything you had away to make someone smile, to ease a heartache, especially that most valuable treasure, time.

I love the way you touch me. Such gentleness, like I was a treasure more precious than any you have ever known. Just the touch of your warm hand melts the hardness in me and I actually feel as if I have been touched by angels, like I have entered holy territory. (Now you dear readers who are taking your psychotherapy too seriously, don’t go thinking that I’ve turned my lover into God; I didn’t—been there, done that. Not doing it again.)

I love you because you draw your 5’2” height up to it’s fullest measure, your whiskers vibrating in outrage as you tell me when I’ve offended you, when I’ve hurt you. You are so adorable at these times; I hardly ever get defensive, and most time you’re right, of course.

I love the way you love the little animals and the birds and the raggedy children and those who are not so pretty. I know they touch the raggedy child part of you who could only depend on the love of animals and I love that little child so much it makes me cry to think of it.

I love your wondrous, myriad talents. The beauty you make in the world and your performance ability. How you can take song and use it humorously. I love your sense of irony. Irony is a talent nearly gone from the earth as far as I can tell.

And your sexy laugh, and the real sexiness that goes with it... the sexiness that keeps unfolding as our trust deepens. I love the surprises. I love how you love me. Isn’t that a song?

I love how you can totally absorb yourself in an artistic endeavor, lose yourself to the holiness of creativity. One day at a friend’s cabin on the Kenai, you sat all day weaving a basket under a tree, your face a portrait of ineffable joy (I’ve always wanted to use the word ineffable, but it never seemed appropriate before). Little sparrows drank from the basin beside you; a fledgling pine grosbeak sat on a strand of twine very near your shoulder watching you—all of them without fear, knowing themselves in the presence of joyful generation. We’d had other plans for the day, but you didn’t even know I was alive. I didn’t care; I’d never seen you look so happy. I went my way, walking, napping, writing in my journal. If I could make it so you could do that all the time, I would.

I love your intelligence, your wit, your sense of history and your place in it. It is fine to share life with someone who has lived through the same decades I have, has many of the same reference points. And yes, I even love your Anglophilia, but don’t tell my Irish relations. I’ve come to appreciate British humor through your gentle, hands-off tutelage. Lucky us that Denver PBS via cable shows all those British comedy shows. British TV is so much more intelligent than American TV. It plays to thinking adults. Imagine that!

I love your style. It’s classy and all your own. When you’re feeling good, you’ve got the breeziest, butch walk. And your body. You’ve got the cutest butt and you look hot in shorts. There! I’ve shared my adolescent self with you.

But it’s the imp in you I love the most, the absolutely wild, delighted child in you. May she long shine.

Identity, Inc. and N.C.O.D.

Catalogue of Great Gifts

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

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

A. N.C.O.D. T-shirts: $10.00 each.

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

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

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

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

E. NCOD Bumper Stickers: $1.00 each.
"National Coming Out Day."
F. "Three Faces of AIDS." Design by Stacy Belzer. T-shirts: $15.00. Sweatshirts: 100% Cotton, preshrunk. Sizes: L & XL ($25.00), XXL ($27.00), XXXL ($29.00).

G. Alaska "Blu**Bls" License-Plate T-shirt: $15.00. Sweatshirt: 100% Cotton, preshrunk. Sizes: L & XL ($25.00); XXL ($27.00); XXXL ($29.00).

Please make check payable to Identity, Inc. and mail your order to: Identity, Inc., P.O. Box 200070, Anchorage, AK 99520-0070

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T-Shirts, Sweatshirts & Note Cubes, add $4.00 Shipping:

Total enclosed:

Name:

Address:

City          State:        Zip:
Introducing Our New ED

We have a new Executive Director at the Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association. Her name is Andrea Nenzel and you simply must meet her! She brings with her the professional commitment, experience, wisdom and humor that the position demands. Please see this page next month for a letter of introduction from Andrea Nenzel herself.

Client Services

What’s Available: The client Services team at the Four A’s offers many vital services for those Alaskans living with HIV and AIDS. These services include case management, Meals-On-Wheels, resource management, early care counseling, medication assistance, support groups, mental health counseling, housing opportunities and assistance, home health care, food bank, and day care assistance. If you are already a client, or if you believe you may have HIV and have not accessed services, please contact Melba Cooke or Sarah Finne at our offices (263-2050).

What We Need: Although we are able to provide many services to our clients, we rely heavily on donations and volunteer to maintain the availability of these services. If you are interested in volunteering or making a donation to the Four A’s we are always in need of items for the Food Bank which includes practical items and items for hygiene like soap, detergent, and toothpaste, etc. Other areas where we are continually seeking assistance include dental care. Dental care isn’t covered by Medicaid so we must rely on financial donations from people in our community.

Positions Available

Part-time Women of Color Outreach Worker
* Community building with women of color.
* HIV/AIDS education with men and women.
* Work with the Prevention team.
* And more, call Michael at 263-2054

Part-time Men of Color Outreach Worker
* Work with men of color who have sex with men.
* Community building with men of color.
* Work with the Prevention team.
* And more, call Michael at 263-2054

Friends & Family Support Group
Group for friends and family members of people with HIV. Thursdays 6:30 pm call 263-2050

Four A’s Housing

Busy, busy, busy!!! That is the one word which describes the 4A’s housing best. At this time we are now serving 13 people through our housing, and helping many others with supportive services. As many of you know, the Four A’s serves as the main sponsor for a Housing Opportunities for People With AIDS grant and also received a Supportive Housing Grant. These two grants have allowed for our agency to provide much needed services which weren’t available before.

If you or someone you know is in need of housing related services or any other service listed below, please call our office to schedule an appointment to see how we can help. Call DeeJay or Harriet to schedule an intake at 263-2050.

Permanent housing
Transitional housing
Short term rent, mortgage, utility assistance
Daycare
Mental Health counseling
Prescription services
Transportation
Meal Delivery
Tutorial Services
Entitlement Assistance

Who Is Who At Four A’s

Melba Cooke - Case Manager
Michael R. Covone - Education Coordinator
DeeJay Johannessen - Housing Director
Harriet Lockhart - Housing Program Specialist
Alejandro Marqued - Driver
Andrea Nenzel - Executive Director (eff. 8/1/95)
Patricia Queen - Executive Director
Grace Reynolds - Finance Manager
Khara Taylor - Agency Program Coordinator
Miran Turner - Outreach Specialist
Wes Veatch - Human Resources Coordinator
Laurie Wolf - Development Coordinator
Vacant - On-Site Property Manager
Vacant - Women of Color Outreach Worker
Vacant - Men of Color Outreach Worker

AIDS 101 Training
7/26/95 6:30 - 8:30pm call 263-2050
Financial News
"Where Should I Invest My Money?"
by Chris Olson

You have finally decided that you can afford to tuck a little bit of cash away. Where do you put it? That is a loaded question. The best answer is: It depends. Many factors should be considered when you try to answer this question. Age, amount of money, when you need the money, and your risk or investor profile are all factors that are relevant. What follows is a questionnaire that can help determine your tolerance for risk. Your investor profile will tell you what kind of asset allocation you should have. Answer these questions and keep score to find out your investor profile.

1. Which of the following best describes your investment objectives?
   A. Protect the value of my initial investment while receiving a modest amount of current income.
      Score: 0
   B. Moderately increase the value of my initial investment with limited exposure to risk.
      Score: 1
   C. Substantially increase the value of my initial investment.
      Score: 2

2. You just inherited a large sum of money. How do you invest it?
   A. I'd invest in something very safe that offers a fixed rate of return.
      Score: 0
   B. I'd invest in something with a moderate amount of risk or volatility with the opportunity for a higher rate of return.
      Score: 1
   C. I'd invest in something that offers substantial appreciation even though it has a higher element of risk.
      Score: 2

3. Which best describes your reaction if the value of your investment suddenly declined by 15%?
   A. I'd be very concerned. I cannot accept a decline in the value of my investment.
      Score: 0
   B. Although I would be concerned about a temporary decline, I can accept market fluctuation in return for growth opportunities.
      Score: 1
   C. Temporary market fluctuations do not concern me because maximum appreciation is my primary goal.
      Score: 2

4. Which of the following investments do you feel most comfortable owning?
   A. Certificates of deposit.
      Score: 0
   B. U.S. Government or corporate bonds.
      Score: 1
   C. Stocks of newer, growing companies.
      Score: 2

5. How optimistic are you about the long-term outlook of the economy?
   A. Not very optimistic.
      Score: 0
   B. Unsure.
      Score: 1
   C. Optimistic.
      Score: 2

Your total

Your Investor profile:
0-3 Conservative Investor
4-7 Moderate Investor
8-11 Wealth Seeker

Asset allocation models are usually divided into time horizons of less than five years and more than five years. There are solid recommendations that the experts make for each of the conservative, moderate and wealth seeker investors depending on your time horizon.

The shorter the time period and the more conservative profiles require that your money be placed in safe, fixed income investments. Examples would be CD's, money market funds, and Government bonds. As your time period lengthens and if your investor profile is not so conservative then you should consider a mix of riskier investments. U.S. or global Growth stocks, equity income mutual funds, or sector mutual funds are examples of riskier investments.

A good mix is important. You should not have all of your investments in one place. This diversification will help cushion your total portfolio if one area has a bad year.

Even the most conservative of you need to develop a plan for investing that is compatible with your risk profile. Keeping your money in the freezer or in the bank is not enough to keep ahead of inflation. You need not put your hard earned money into wildly risky ventures but you should put it somewhere. Knowing your investor profile will help you determine just where that is.

Chris Olson is a fully licensed insurance and securities representative, has lived in Alaska for 14 years and welcomes new clients and referrals, especially from the Gay & Lesbian Community. λ.

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Lee Lynch, Writing for OUR Lives
By Laura Post

Lee Lynch is a writer’s writer: her characters are believable and interesting, and the milieu that she develops are detailed in such a progressive way that adaptation to film would be simple. The plots of Lynch’s fiction resonate crisply between honest ideals and the demands of real-world situations and internal drives. Lynch’s clear thinking has allowed her to write effective essays as well as short and novel-length fiction. Enviably, her grounded rhythmic sense is so solid that themes and personalities re-emerge and go forward, jumping across entire volumes of other stories which have their own continuity.

Born in 1945 into a “barely middle class” Queens family, Lee Lynch first put pen to paper at the age of 10. “I wrote my first poem in the 5th grade,” she begins. “I really got interested in poetry in the 9th grade and started publishing in the junior high school literary magazine.” She pauses. “I was in full adolescent bloom, and everything was so beautiful and painful. The way I dealt with that was to try and describe it. It was not quite a compulsion; it was a need.: After a dry laugh, she continues, “Writing made things even more intense. It was a good intense, it was almost a spiritual experience to be able to get into trees and nature, buildings and New York. What we got into through drugs, later!”

At the same time that she began to develop her own writing voice, Lynch also discovered the joy of words written by others. “I have an older brother, 15 years older than me; he went, once, to the corner drugstore and bought me a copy of the Hunchback of Notre Dame.”

During her teens, Lynch acquired the name which she uses: “My first lover told me that when I get old enough to go to college, I could be called Lee.” Having chosen to become a teacher of Physical Education, Lynch selected a college in Connecticut based upon the strength of their P.E. department. By the time she went to college, she had changed her mind and wanted to study literature: “I ended up at a great Phys. Ed. school as an English major,” Lynch comments wryly.

Though she wrote for the college literary magazine, Lynch found college disappointing. “I thought that college was a letdown after high school because I had wonderful teachers in high school and had studied at the college level to some extent.” Lynch considers, then adds, “It was also so difficult for me as a Lesbian, in college, that I’m really glad that it wasn’t so challenging academically.”

After graduating (“I got my piece of paper”), Lynch remained in the area for another 18 years, then moved to southern Oregon, where she currently resides. “I can work part-time, here, and support myself so I can write,” Lynch explains.

Lynch made a connection with editor Barbara Grier through the Lesbian publication, The Ladder, which Grier founded. When that publication folded, Lynch found that other periodicals of the era were less receptive to her writing. “I had gotten spoiled because I could write about my own life for The Ladder,” Lynch clarifies. “I’m not like Jane Rule who can write about heterosexuals. I was pretty discouraged and basically stopped writing.”

While being a groupie for the New Haven Women’s Liberation Rock Band, Lynch became involved writing book reviews to a New Haven newsletter. Sister writer Judy Grahn read Lynch’s poems — which she had been writing continuously — and suggested that Lynch might want to consider trying her hand at short stories. Sinister Wisdom published two, while Lynch worked in the social services field, as a cab driver, in retail food, and as a professional girl scout to support herself, squeezing writing in on evenings and weekends.

When a 42-page short story was rejected by Sinister Wisdom on the basis of length, Lynch was encouraged, by Adrienne Rich, to transform the piece into a novel, eventually TOOTHPICK HOUSE. “On that, my first novel, I had even less craft than I do now so it was mostly like a bigger canvas of poetry.”

Since that time, no two-year period has passed without a novel or collection of short stories or essays of Lynch’s appearing in print. “I had the opportunity, it was Go!,” she laughs. “Writing is my life. I get up in the morning. I have breakfast. I write.”

Despite early positive response to her writing, Lynch did not consider herself a professional writer until she had put out three or four books. She currently defines her success in terms of audience feedback: “I love hearing from readers, when I am out in the world, and receiving letters, at home, about how my stories have touched their lives. That’s the main reason I write,” she exclaims.

“Besides not being able to not write!”

Though Lynch cites that her most recent book, CACTUS LOVE, a collection of short stories, received praise in formal reviews, she does not rest on her laurels. “I wish I was the type of person who could see the body of what I have written as an accomplishment, but I’m pretty much focused on the fact that I don’t have a book coming out.”

Despite having been allied with Naiad for most of her professional career, thus far, Lynch decided to try a new publisher for the future. “The decision came from both Naiad and myself. I’m interested in growing as a writer, and I want to work with other editors. My writing is too mid-list for them and not turning over fast enough, and they are focusing more on contemporary genre books, like mysteries [Lynch’s mystery, SUE SLATE, sold less vigorously than she had hoped].” Lynch’s next book, OFF THE RAG, an anthology of Lesbians and menopause, and which she is editing with Akia Woods, will be published by New Victoria Press. The editors at New Victoria, Lynch states, “Are challenging me in new ways.”
Though Lynch claims that her plots are character-driven, her characters, themselves, play vital roles in the moral fiber of her writing. "The only thing I’m conscious of, these days — and it makes me feel like a dinosaur — is making sure I create positive role models."

Lynch likens writing, when it is going well, to the fluidity and grace of Fred Astaire dancing. "I always thought that he was having a good time," she states. "As opposed to dancing backwards and on high heels. That’s how it feels when it’s not going well!"

Currently, Lynch’s schedule is set for 2-1/2 days on and 2-1/2 days off, plus weekends, which allows total immersion in her writing. "It’s always a joy to sit down and write, though it may be difficult to write on a specific project. I usually have so many things going on — a current undertaking is a Lesbian fairy tale — that maybe I can’t deal with working on a novel so I’ll treat myself to a short story, and there’s always my column."

Lynch believes that there is room in the world for more writers. "My advice to someone who wants to write is: Write!" she affirms. "I don’t think it matters where you do to school, though if you want to be a poet then you need a lot more education than I got and a lot less resistance to the classics." A beat passes. "I dropped out of a Masters program because of the way the professors squeaked literature dry and stomped on it; I’d rather be reading Hothead Puisan."

"I do think I would be a better writer if I were more firmly grounded in literature," she muses. "But, on the other hand, I don’t think I’d write in a way that’s as accessible to the women I want to reach."

"That’s what I hear a lot at readings: ‘My friend who is too shy to come and talk to you never read a book before I read her your stories. Now, she has read everything you have written.’ That’s so gratifying!"

"The more I write, and the more other Lesbians write, the more Lesbian writing will get published, and the harder it will be for the bad guys to shut us out. I’ve gotten involved politically in Oregon because of the anti-Gay right wing, and I believe that a lot of younger Lesbians believe that oppression was only in the past. Oppression is not just history; it’s staring us in the face, and we need to do whatever our talents lead us to do to keep our people alive and our voices alive."

Laura Post’s interviews, features, essays, fiction, poetry, research, and syndicated monthly columns have appeared in over 140 newspapers, magazines, journals, and collections in the U.S., Canada, U.K., and Australia.

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The Amazon Trail:  
I Do Believe in Fairies  
by Lee Lynch

Middle age is a very interesting time of life. Here I am just getting used to being all grown up, gleefully storing nuggets of wisdom, and suddenly I find myself staring up at strange-looking machines which might have been designed for the Star Trek sick bay.

Lumps, disintegrating bone mass, tendinitis, worn joints, the hormone wars which beset mid-life women, memory loss (not always a bad thing), sick and dying peers, failing elders — what a joy. I'll bet Peter Pan never lurked about the local medical center.

But here I am, waiting for the surgeon to poke and prod and decide which method to use to determine if I am one of this year's breast cancer statistics. Peter Pan never worried about cancer.

When I first found The Lump it was like, oh, that's what I get for being good and doing self-examinations. Of course it'll be nothing, just some glandular glitch, a hormonal blip, even a dumb little cyst. The gynecologist will act as if I'm wasting her time. Still, I'm a well-trained middle class person who works hard for my health insurance. I'll check it out.

I don't know whether I was more impressed or scared that I was able to get an appointment with the gynecologist so quickly. Then, as she examined me, the words I may never forget: yes, I feel it.

By the next day I was in x-ray with a technician who would be the first of a ridiculous number of middle aged women with war stories about Lumps of their own. (What an absurd and undignified word for such potent instruments of mortality: Lumps.) The women I spoke to had had Lumps aspirated and biopsied and sliced and removed. They had scars and empty bras and seemed generally to consider the whole business a big bore, but they also had oceans of empathy for the new kid on the block. More important for me even than their empathy is that they are living, walking, talking proof that cancer does not equal death. At least not always.

Nevertheless, sitting here in the surgeon's examining room today, waiting for The Man (there is no such animal as a woman surgeon at my rural HMO), my mind roams into all sorts of shadowy recesses. Is my will tight enough? Will I ever smell another honeyuckle bush? Poor Lover's already suffered through the loss of a partner, I can't let it happen again. What did I do to give myself cancer? Was it my father's second hand smoke? Is it the stress level of juggling a straight career with writing? Should I stop eating salt, my last remaining dietary sin?

Time seems to compress even more when mortality knocks at a hitherto sealed door. Will I have time to finish the rewrite on my novel? What about the stories clamoring to get written? At least I can stop worrying about my car's nineteenth birthday—and start worrying that it may outlast me.

Just as this relentless attack of inner terrorism gets out of hand, the Surgeon arrives. Surprisingly, I like him. Maybe 55, bushy white mustache, he's not terribly invasive for a presumably straight male and a surgeon. He explains a lot. He listens. He touches. He confirms. He recommends, reassures, guesses that we're only dealing with a cyst. He calls the nurse. He asks, when I make notes, if I am writing a book. I tell him I'm writing this column because, well, because I'm not the only one going through this.

The nurse is warm and sweet and careful. She holds my hand as he inserts the needle. We laugh and joke through the procedure. She says it will feel like a bee sting, but bee stings hurt me a lot and this is nothing — until he tries to aspirate what turns out to be unascrutable. Then I feel the pain, but it's quick. While it's not a cyst after all, he's almost certain, he says, that it's not cancer, "But we can't leave it in there."

I wanted this ordeal to end today. The first available appointment for the biopsy is almost a week away. "You don't have cancer," he tells me and the words will be my mantra, I'm sure, for a week. I do believe in fairies.

I don't cry until I get to Lover's office. She holds me. Keeps me close. Strokes my knee over and over as if to reassure both of us that I am here. But this is me. I come with a lifetime warranty: good health, an almost entirely long-lived family. I am surprised, perplexed, indignant at this stupid Lump. Surely the surgeon is right and the biopsy will only serve to confirm that. Aren't I, after all, a privileged college-educated American?

The worst of it is how terribly ordinary it all is. Calmly discussing cutting the healthy little body that has served me so well. Knowing I won't go to Portland Gay Pride Sunday with surgery hanging over my head. Knowing also that I will get this column to my various editors and do the grocery shopping on Saturday. Life, as the old saw says, goes on.

I think I'm not scared, but I keep getting tear-y-eyed. I think I'm calm, but I got lost driving over to Lover's office. I think I'm sane, but in the natural food store I find myself reading, then buying a nutritional self-help book I've been resisting for years. "You don't have cancer," he said, but he also thought it would be a cyst. Overreacting or not, I won't be satisfied until the stitches are in and the lab report is negative.

If this is what being grown up is about, give me back the care free days when all I had to worry for was falling in love too often, or getting busted at peace marches. Give me back menstrual cramps that only felt fatal and the feeling of invincibility that comes with youth. Let me be Peter Pan.

By next week at this time all I'll have to show for the worrying and the tears is a new scar on my body, one more
r nugget of wisdom. I’ll be bored with my own war story, encouraging to the next Lesbian with a Lump. This has been too close for comfort. I do believe in fairies.

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.

One never notices what has been done; one can only see what remains to be done.
Marie Curie (1867-1934), French scientist

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An Historic Day: G.L.I.B. at the U.S. Supreme Court

by D. Killian

On April 25th, the nine justices of the U.S. Supreme Court heard Hurley v. Irish-American Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Group of Boston. As expected, the Veterans argued that it is their First Amendment right to exclude lesbians and gays from their annual St. Patrick's Day parade. In contrast, John Ward, lead litigator for G.L.I.B., repeatedly showed that the parade is a public accommodation and that exclusion in this case is nothing more than discrimination. While The New York Times and Washington Post were quite negative in their coverage of proceedings, suggesting that the decision—expected before late June—will be against G.L.I.B., David O'Connor, present on the day and G.L.I.B. co-spokesperson, tells a different story: that two of the Justices vocally supported G.L.I.B. and others, while remaining silent, seemed to clearly disapprove of the Veterans' case. Regardless of the final decision however, G.L.I.B.'s day in court—and John Ward's performance—is a cause for pride in the LesBiGay community. In the account below (drawn from a detailed interview with D. Killian) David O'Connor tells us why.

It was an historic day. We were hearing the word "homosexual" [getting visibility] in the U.S. Supreme Court. It was the first time we had in the U.S. Supreme Court an openly gay lawyer, [John Ward], arguing a case.

There are a million different points that you can argue and you only have an hour. There’s nine justices and they’ve all pre-read the brief— and the brief is worth about eighty percent of the argument and the oral argument only twenty. Chester Darling, representing the Veterans, started off, said a few words. And then basically it’s a free for all. The justices can interrupt, harangue; they can ask any questions that they want to.

John [Ward] got up and barely had said three words when [Justice] Scalia went in after him. Scalia was really just vicious—definitely the most vicious out of all of them. He lived up to his reputation as a very conservative member of the court. Kennedy was quite a surprise—we were really hopeful that he might be more supportive. Justice Ginsberg is more liberal but she’s also a First Amendment expert and really an advocate for the First Amendment. But she might still go our way. The other ones, like Justice Thomas, never said anything but seemed appalled at the open bigotry and racism the Veterans were showing.

John Ward was saying that this is a civic celebration. The history of the parade dictates this, the diversity of the parade, how no one was really refused before, how it was open to everyone, meant that it was a public accommodation covered under the State’s civil rights act which includes sexual orientation.

The Veterans’ argument was pretty much as we expected. They used the First Amendment issue the whole way down the line—arguing that by our participation we were presenting a message contrary to that of the parade, a message that they didn’t want, and that they had a right under the first amendment to exclude us.

Our point was that every group [in the parade] has a banner as a means of identification, Just because ours says "Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual" does not mean that it portrays a message. It’s simply a matter of identification. The Supreme Court ruled that. They also ruled that we were being discriminated against purely for who we were not because of a "message" we were trying to portray, As John [Ward] said, if we were talking about a group of Jewish people wearing yarmulkes or a group of African-Americans being excluded, then this case would be opened and closed. There would be no doubt in anyone’s mind that this was discrimination.

Initially, when we first wanted to march in '92, we had to give a list of reasons. They were: to support our brothers and sisters in I.L.G.O. [the Irish Lesbian Gay Organization] New York; pride in our dual heritage of being Irish and gay; and educating the Irish and gay communities at large that there were some people out there proud of being both. And this was brought up repeatedly—in the Veterans' brief and by some of the Justices—that we were indeed trying to present a message. But whatever you say beforehand, from the perspective of an ordinary person—a reasonable person—standing on the sidelines of the parade, it’s clear that we’re not carrying a "message"—just a self-identification banner—like everyone else who marches in the parade.

Justice Scalia was saying though, but surely even by you having a banner, it shows that you’re proud and this in itself is a message. Justice O’Connor compared it to animal rights groups marching with Ringling Bro's and Barnum and Bailey Circus! Completely outrageous. But John came back and said that this analogy might be similar if we were going in with signs that said, 'Gay is Good,' or 'The Church’s Ruling on Gays is Bad,' but we didn’t. We just had a self-identifying banner—like everyone else.

Chester Darling [the Veterans’ lawyer] was very reluctant to say what exactly the Veterans’ message is. When pushed, he eventually said, 'Yes, Roman Catholic.' But then Justice Stevens shut back, 'Well, what about the Baptists participating?' Surely their presence and banner contradicts any Catholic "message." Pro-life groups. I.R.A. support groups. Politicians. Bars. Corporations. McGruff the crime dog! All of those groups have messages—and all of them are allowed to march. Again, though, the Veterans' thing is that these messages are not contrary to the one they are trying to present. But Justice Souter said—in sort of a wishful way (as if he were thinking, God, this is ridiculous)—isn’t being Irish [and celebrating that] not enough for you?

Another point raised against them was the credibility of their witnesses—a serious issue. In previous [State] cases, the reasons for excluding us from the parade changed five times. Basically, they lied—and the Justices realized this: that Wacko Hurley is not credible. John [Ward] pointed out that in matters of discrimination, this often is the case. No one comes out and says, 'We want to keep them out because we hate faggots.' No, they waffle. Each time they have a different reason—but the real crux is discrimination.

John [Ward] agreed that the parade has now become a private event. But this only happened in 1992—when they
stopped taking any money or help from the city of Boston—in order to exclude us. As John pointed out, this is similar to the 1960's when downtown south local communities tried to privatize swimming pools in order to discriminate, to keep them segregated. And there are laws in the states, going back to the civil rights movement, that say you can't do this—you can't privatize to further your cause of discrimination.

At least now, though, the veterans have shown their true colors. They've shown themselves for exactly who and what they are—bigots. 'If we want to discriminate against gays, if we want to discriminate against blacks, it's our right to discriminate.' They said that point blank. And they never really had admitted that before. They had said that they have a right to keep gay people out but not that they had a right to discriminate. It's torn away all the packaging. Been put in plain English.

In the end, the final decision gets down to nine people. And these nine people are conservative; it's a conservative court. But I think it's ironic that the case came up a few days after Oklahoma. As President Clinton has pointed out, Oklahoma was a creation of a lot of people preaching hate. And then here were these people, the Veterans, going to the U.S. Supreme court asking for the right to preach discrimination and hate; [asking, in effect, for the U.S. government to sanction it]. I think that hit home in a lot of ways.

I have to continue to be optimistic. I really have to. I can't believe that they would rule against us. This is not an argument about parades in general. This is an argument about this specific parade. And this parade, by its history, was always a public accommodation for everyone of goodwill in the city of Boston. And for us to lose would be unprecedented. We have won every court case [on this issue] coming into this—[I can't imagine it being reversed. It's so clear cut: It's a matter of discrimination. I have to believe that at least five of the nine justices will see it that way.

Dian lived in Ireland for more than six years and now, back in the U.S., is compiling a book about the Irish experience in America including Irish Lesbians and Gays♥

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**ACROSS**

1. Greek porch
5. Inaugural poet Angelou
9. Farm sound
12. Shirley MacLaine film. *The Children's* game
e.g.
14. Suma's helper
15. Diane Kury's film
17. Jean Rhys work, *Wide Sargasso*
18. Greek letter
19. Aquatic mammal
21. Dorothy Allison work
24. Cow's udder
26. Engaged
27. Fried Green
31. Exist
32. Israeli statesman
33. Before

**ACROSS (Cont'd)**

34. PBS film, *Portrait of a* Savvy
35. Signet: Weaver flick, *Gorillas in the*
37. Friend
38. Songs for two
39. Move on all four
42. Total
43. Message
44. Nicole Kidman film, *Cher*
50. Every one
51. Women's arts magazine, *Hot*
52. Sea eagle
55. Tiny
56. Pig parts
55. Peer

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**DOWN**

1. Streep/Barr film, *Steel*
2. Heavy load
3. Glossy gay magazine
4. Take into custody
5. Chatty bird (yer)
6. Broiler
7. Armintrout Maquin's Surety
8. Loser
9. Pastel Donnelly film, *Punching*
10. Toward shelter
11. From a distance
16. Biblical suffix
20. Demolition need
21. Sweeten
22. Q
23. One who mimics
24. Like a swamp
25. Sally's girlfriend
27. Dark greenish-blue
28. Mayerry kid
29. Formerly
30. Gels
32. Rolling masses (of smoke)
33. Uncooked
34. Mint
35. Owed
39. Before "fish" or "dad"
40. The Desert of the Heart
author, Jane
41. Competent
42. Spike Lee film, *Getta Have It*
45. In shape
46. Art
47. Raw meat
48. Stranded film, *Clear*
49. Actor Beauty
Saturn Targets Gay Car Buyers
By Bruce Horovitz

General Motors has made a marketing move never taken by a U.S. carmaker: It is targeting Gays and Lesbians in a national Gay publication.

An ad for GM's Saturn division appears in the May issue of Out magazine. The ad, which also has appeared in general market publications, has no Gay or Lesbian references. It features a female engineer who designs airbags.

Executives at Saturn downplay the significance of their ad appearing in a Gay magazine, but marketing experts say it could have major impact on the ad market. After all, if the No. 1 automaker is finally targeting Gays and Lesbians, why isn't everyone?

"For a U.S. carmaker to do something like this is a huge deal," says Daniel Baker of Quotient, a monthly newsletter about the Gay and Lesbian market. Quotient says that Gays and Lesbians account for 6% to 10% of the U.S. population and have annual incomes of $200 billion.

By advertising in a Gay lifestyle magazine, Saturn could lure many Gay consumers, says editor George Sansoucy of Next News, a magazine about marketing to Gays and Lesbians. Many readers of Gay publications look at ads as closely as at stories, he says.

But Saturn is not making a social statement with the ad, says Don Hudler, vice president of marketing. "It was a business decision."

Officials at Ford and Chrysler would not disclose whether they plan to target the Gay market. Last fall, Saab became the first foreign carmaker to advertise in a national Gay publication. Many consumer product companies recently have tested the market, including Proctor & Gamble and Philip Morris.

Thanks to USA Today.
QUEER

Queer Abby,

Once again, another Pride festival came and went. It used to be something that I looked forward to, but recently it's just the same boring speeches and bad food, don't you know. All the guys are the same and the Lesbians were showing their breasts like boys in puberty. What's the point of it? I know you don't agree with me so it's not as if I'll ever see this letter again. But thanks for at least reading it. I want to see if other guys feel the same way.

Anon.
Queer soul,

Well, that was your letter. I have some choice words for you, especially about the "breasts" complaint, but read on:

Queer Abby,

Every summer the "Pride = Power" stickers come out and I ask myself, why? Why do we need to have a pride festival? After all, straights don't have a straight pride day. So what are we accomplishing by waving rainbow flags around and literally bragging to everyone about our sex preferences? Don't you think that we've gone too far? No other minority does this kind of thing.

Marc, LA
Queer Mark (and all readers),

Have we gone too far? Frankly, I don't think we have gone far enough, at least not in our daily lives. Too often, we seem to worry that being honest about our identity is the same as bragging. No, dear. Think of coming out to someone as doing them a favor. After all, if someone's trying to fix you up with their cute cousin, you're just wasting that person's time by not just coming out. Not to mention your own time. Besides, that cousin just might have a Gay sibling!

Pride is every day, for straight and Gay, black and brown and white and plaid, bald or hairy or shaved, etc. What we're duped into thinking by opponents of pride festivals is that straight people don't have Pride celebrations. Bull shit! Turn on the TV, open a magazine, or just look at people arm-in-arm and smooching wherever you go! Now that's Pride! Let's take their cue.

It is said that every minority tends to congregate as if they are new immigrants to our country. We can't help wanting to feel part of a community, especially when it seems as if society (everyone's enemy at some time or other) will forever condemn us. There is nothing wrong with supporting Gay businesses or being actively involved in the Gay community. It only becomes a problem when one can no longer relate to our neighbors in the larger community.

As for Pride events... they are family reunions, damn it, not power parades. They are the rite of spring for a feared and despised group of social pariahs. They remind us that we are not freaks, that we are created to love, that we are an important part of the world (certainly a thinking part of it!), and that we are not alone! Pride was fun for you when you first came out because, until then, you were so incredibly alone in an apathetic world. Perhaps smugness set in later on, or cynicism, or anything else that ate away at your hope for unity. But it's still there! The annual family reunion isn't just an excuse to party; it's our Remembrance Day for the people who risked their lives so we could have:

1. Bars and community gatherings that don't get raided
2. Political contingencies that candidates actively swoon
3. Freedom to hold your sweetie's hand (work in progress)
4. All our civil rights (this is where you come in)

There it is. My cheap advice is that if you're bored with the community, you're probably bored with yourself. The flip side is that because you recognize your boredom, you now have the power to excite yourself and your community. People did it for you when you were a pup; now it's your turn. Take initiative!

As for the Lesbians baring their breasts like giddy schoolboys: listen, Mister. I'd like to see you try harnessing yourself into a device that feels like sandpaper cutting into your sides after a long day of Pride. Besides, why do you get to take off your shirt when it's hot and not me?!

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

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A Chat With Michael Willhoite
By Owen Keehnen

For over a dozen years Michael Willhoite’s caricatures have appeared in ‘The Washington Blade’. Many of his insightful line portraits have been collected in the book ‘Members of the Tribe’ and the recently released ‘Willhoite’s Hollywood’. In addition to his caricatures Michael Willhoite is also the author of ‘Daddy’s Roommate’, the controversial children’s book which headed The American Library Association’s list of most banned books two years in a row. Recently I talked to Michael about his art, Hollywood, and his in-the-works and bound to be controversial sequel ‘Daddy’s Wedding’.

Owen: Michael, congratulations on Willhoite’s Hollywood, the book looks great.

Michael: Thank you. I’m real happy with the look of it. I have to take some of the credit because I designed it. Design is one thing I’m wild about - good design to me is one of the most exciting things in the world.

Q: As a film buff do you have a theory on the connection between gay men and Hollywood?
M: I really think that gay men are the last great romantics and I think movies feed on romance and create it.

Q: Do you have a favorite of the 120 caricatures in the book?
M: Probably Joan Crawford. I also love the Liza Minnelli one. Who’s yours?

Q: I think Judy Holliday. She was such a comic genius and I thought you really captured a lot of her energy and appeal. Do you see yourself like that, as a sort of seer of souls?
M: No. I like to think I’m a celebrator and I hope I can get the essence of someone across in a drawing. Sometimes I fail - a few drawings in the book are not quite what I aimed for.

Danny Kaye for instance, great face, great entertainer, but somehow he managed to elude me. What I managed to get down on bristol board was essentially him, but his antic spirit escaped me.

Q: Have you ever had someone complain about a caricature and say ‘Oh, this isn’t me at all’?
M: No, but Doris Grumbach in ‘Members of the Tribe’ just about threatened to have my kahoonies on a stake because I had the temerity to reveal her age, which of course is a matter of public record. She wasn’t offended by the drawing but by my revealing her great secret.

Q: Have some people bought their own likenesses?
M: Ismail Merchant was bought by James Ivory and given to him as a birthday gift. Also Samuel Steward bought his caricature. There are others...

Q: There’s also much history contained in the accompanying paragraph to every caricature in the book as well as your weekly drawing in ‘The Washington Blade’, do you consider yourself a visual historian?
M: In a way. I like to think of myself as an entertainer first and if I can get some information across I’m delighted to do it.

Actually, I think I have a lot of the pedagogue in me - I like teaching.

Q: Is drawing a political act for you?
M: Yeah. Often I try to make a point. For instance, in the March 21st issue of ‘The Washington Blade’ there’s a caricature of Jesse Helms. I finally fulfilled my promise to draw him in a frilly pink dress wearing a blonde wig with ringlets singing ‘I’ve Written a Letter to Daddy’. In the caption I say it has recently come to light that he entertains his very private party guests with this rendition and it’s said to bring down the house. Of course, I ended it with ‘Oh, by the way, April Fool!’ It keeps me out of court and I hope it incensed him!

Q: Speaking of politics, how does it feel to be the author of ‘Daddy’s Roommate’ which headed the American Library Association’s most banned book list two years in a row?
M: It feels terrific and yet there’s this nagging feeling of regret because it would be better not to be banned simply because banning books is a terribly wrong thing. Of course, the fact that they’ve centered on my book more than any other as being antithetical to their agenda pleases me. It’s offending exactly the kind of people I would prefer to offend. If I ever please Pat Robertson it will be a very black day on my calendar. I would also like to say that librarians have rallied to the defense of the book. It’s been the most inspiring thing I’ve ever seen.

Q: And Alyson has been great too, offering free copies to libraries who will accept it. I’m sure you can probably expect a similar response to the sequel ‘Daddy’s Wedding’.
M: And then some. There’s one illustration that’s going to send several people ballistic. At the end of every wedding there’s a kiss and this is a very frank and outright kiss.

There’s nothing sensational about it, just two men kissing.

Q: Have you gotten threats or anything?
M: Oh yeah. I got a death threat over the phone. The guy said, “You fucking homosexual faggot, you deserve to be shot.” It was pretty nasty. It’s scary to think someone could have that much venom. But I’m content to do these books, so they’re just going to have to live with it.

Q: Is it flattering or restricting to be so frequently compared to the artist Al Hirschfeld?
M: I guess comparisons are unavoidable. To tell the truth I worked very hard to try and get away from appearing to imitate Hirschfeld. He’s a very strong influence. On the other hand I’ve always had a very clean and assured style and that’s always been a hallmark of Hirschfeld’s style too. I like a long sinuous line, to me it’s infinitely more beautiful than a straight line.

Q: Did you draw a lot as a boy back in Oklahoma?
M: I started scribbling on the walls of my mother’s womb and never stopped. They put paper and pen in my hands long before school. I was raised by my grandparents. They worked for an insurance company and had all these forms with blank backs. So, every time a box of forms became outdated, it landed in my room and I just proceeded to cover them up with drawings.

Q: What are you working on now?
M: Besides the weekly drawing in ‘The Blade’, ‘Daddy’s Wedding’ has really taken up my whole palette for the moment. After that I’ve made some notes on a novel and I’ve also got plans to write a travel book on Italy.
Q: That's a varied group of projects. What message do you hope your work sends to your gay and lesbian audience?
M: Come out. It's nice out here and the closet is a dark and dismal place. There's nothing to be gained by staying in there.
Q: Thanks Michael.

Cavernous dimples, soft caterpillar eyebrows, vaguely British accent -- Peter Lawford was a light, very light leading man in MGM comedies and musicals of the late forties. After the first blush of youth, roles diminished -- in the way such roles will. So he segued into television, with middling success (The Thin Man). But his greatest fame came as Jack Kennedy's brother-in-law and member of Frank Sinatra's 'Rat Pack.' He kept working but, hey, pimping for the Kennedy boys was far easier work than acting. More fun, too. Some even say that it was Lawford who tugged the fair Marilyn between JFK's sheets. When his marriage to Pat Kennedy ended, he married again, but he was gay nonetheless. His mother, the witty and outspoken Lady Lawford, certainly said so, often.

Alla Nazimova was the undisputed queen of a coterie of lesbian actresses in the days of silent film. She was also one of the first stage stars to embrace the infant medium with respectful enthusiasm; in those days, the Lords of the Theatre would rather admit to bayoneting babies than doing film work. A great original, Nazimova played more naturally into stage, but when she hit her mark before a camera, Byzantium was once again in flower. Her version of Salome, with costumes and sets by the visionary Natasha Rambova, was like a fever dream from the sweat-bespangled brow of Aubrey Beardsley. In 1925 she retired from film, but returned, visiting royalty, to play a few character roles in the forties.

Owen Keene is a nationally syndicated interviewer and a monthly columnist for Forum Magazine. His fiction has appeared in Christopher Street, Hyphen and The Evergreen Chronicles, among others. ▼

Suggested Reading List, Lesbian & Gay Titles

Sociological/Historical
Lesbian Nuns Breaking Silence by Curb. True stories of courage, struggle and change;
Our Right to Love by Vida. Lesbian Resource Book;
Positively Gay: New Approaches in Gay Life by Benson;
Gay/Lesbian Almanac by Katz. History of Lesbians and Gay People
And the Band Played On by Randy Shulits. Politics, People and AIDS epidemic.

Coming Out
Are You Still My Mother? by Back. Written by the mother of a Gay son for the families of Gays.
Coming Out to Parents by Borheke. Two-way survival guide for Gays, Lesbians and their parents.
Different Daughters by Rafkin. Book by mothers of Lesbians.
Loving Someone Gay by Clark. Breaks through the myths surrounding the Gay community.
Now That You Know by Fairchild. What every parent should know about homosexuality.
Parents Matter by Ann Muller. Parents’ relationships with Lesbian Daughters and Gay Sons.

Parenting and Children
Considering Parenthood by Pies. A workbook for Lesbians.
Whose Child Cries by Gantz. Children of Gay Parents talk about their lives.

Sexuality and Relationships
Lesbian Sex by Loulan. A book about Lesbian sex for "garden variety" Lesbians.
Lesbian Passion: Loving Ourselves and Each Other by JoAnn Loulan.
The Male Couple by McWhirter & Mattison. How relationships develop, stages of male coupling.

Legal/Medical
When Someone You Love Has AIDS by Moffatt. Book of hope for family and friends.

Religion/Spirituality
Is the Homosexual My Neighbor? by Scarzec & Mollenbatt
Christianity, Social Tolerance and Homosexuality by Boswell.
Embracing the Exile: Healing Journeys for Gay Christians by Fortunato.
The Lord Is My Shepard and He Knows I'm Gay by Perry.

Chemical Dependency/Therapy
Out From Under: Sober Dykes and Our Friends by Swallow.
Gay and Sober by Mongeon, Ziebold. Alcholism and Homosexuality (Male) ▼
PARTY anyone?

Looking for that city that really likes to party? Well, according to a recent Internet survey the 10 partiest (my word) cities are, in order: 1) New Orleans; 2) Amsterdam; 3) Rio de Janeiro; 4) Munich, Germany; 5) Pamplona, Spain; 6) Las Vegas; 7) Siena, Italy; 8) Newcastle, UK; 9) Vienna, Austria; 10) Key West, Fla. I would have to disagree with some of those choices and place cities such as Sydney, Australia near the top of the list and also insert Provencetown and Palm Springs into the fray. In all fairness this was a "straight" list and who ever said they know how to party?

Comfort class

A good seat is hard to find. Consider the several factors which determine the "sardine factor" in airline seats. Among them are: Seat pitch, which is a measure of the distance from the back of your seat to the front of the seat in front of you. This is what determines how much leg-room you have as well as how much upper space you have for reading, eating your meal and the like. This measurement is actually taken along the floor from the rear support of your seat to the rear support of the seat in front. Aircraft companies install tracks in the floor to allow the airlines to place the seats as close or as far apart as they like with the factor of locations of bulkheads, exits and doors considered.

Seat width is another factor which gives you side-to-side space both at the cushion level and at the shoulder level. This factor goes hand-in-hand with the next factor on configuration. Once a configuration is decided upon by the airline they usually install the widest seats the aircraft will allow.

Configuration is the next factor in your comfort while flying. Given the total width of the cabin and the number of aisles the rest is available for seats. The airline is the one who decides how many seat across to install. Single aisle aircraft may have a 2-3 or a 2-2 or even a 2-2 configuration, meaning how many seats are placed on each side. Double-aisle aircraft can have 3-3-3 or 2-4-2 like the A300, A310, A330 and the A340, or may have a 3-2-4, 2-3-2, or 2-2-2 like the DC10/MD11, L1011, 747, 767, or 777 aircraft. As you can see it is the airline who decides the line to strike between number of seats on-board and the comfort of their passengers. The leader in comfort on domestic flights is clearly Midwest Express followed at some distance by Kiwi and TWA. After these the rest are very close.

The best aircraft to choose is the 767 by far. Next best would be the 747 or the DC10 in a 2-3-2 configuration, and the worst would be the AD300 series in a 3-3-3, the 727 or 737 or 757 in a 3-3 (avoid these if possible on long hauls). The brand-new 777 scores pretty well with 20.5" seats and ranks just below the top 767 and 2-3-2 747's and DC10's.

Gay news flashes

Gay couples in Israel are now recognized by the government and the move has forced several companies to alter their policies on benefits for employees. Chile is moving toward decriminalizing sex between men, now punishable by prison terms. Lesbian sex is not addressed in the current penal code. Serbia has adopted new laws which make sex between males of at least 14 years of age legal. British Air has granted same-sex partners official recognition as of April of this year.

Atlantis in Mexico

From July 15-22 the Club Med resort on Sonora Bay will host the Gay crowd once again. Their all-inclusive price of $895.00 per person is a bargain when you consider it includes lodging, meals, all activities and entertainment. Activities such as sailing, diving, beach combing, water skiing, and horse-back riding are just part of the Atlantis experience. Gay and Gray (or throw out the Clairol)

Gay's Gray Partners in Travel, a tour company designed for men over 40 (who will admit it) is traveling to Africa September 15-30. Visits to Nairobi, Tarangire, Arusha, the Safari club at Mt. Kenya, and Masai Mara. The trip will be personally escorted by Dick Knudson who is conducting his eleventh safari.

Alaska, it's a woman's world.

Olivia has offered two cruises to the Great Land this year the first on June 21-28 and the next on the following week.

Skylink has an Alaskan package this year and Woodswomen is holding adventure vacations and workshops in our State. Welcome Women!

The guys did manage to get into the act with RSVP's great small ship "The Sea Spirit" visiting Alaska during June 10-24 as well as another trip on June 24-July first.

Aurora Winds Development Group of Alaska is encouraging accommodations providers to set up shop in Alaska. Tourism is Alaska's fastest growing industry and there is a shortage of Gay and Gay friendly facilities for our out-of-state visitors. Persons or firms interested should contact the group at (907) 346-2533 or FAX at (907) 346-3192.

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.
MEMBERS PRESENT: Shirley Randall-Harris, Ken Freedman, Kurt Parish, Candy Bonham, Tori Lentfer, and Tom Rachal.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ruth Mathes, Dawn Rodgers and Don Naff (resignation tendered).

GUESTS PRESENT: Bill Wilkes.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Kurt inadvertently left the May Financial Statements at home; Tom will mail out with the minutes.

ADVISORY PANEL: This subject will be fully discussed at our next retreat.

COOKBOOK PROJECT: Tom will telephone Sheldon to see if he wants to proceed.

FALL CONFERENCE: Kurt and Bill are hosting a barbecue on July 23 in an effort to raise funds for the conference. Some concern was expressed at the $30 per person cost; it excludes many from participating. Kurt stated “scholarships” may be possible. We agreed to place ads and two inserts (provided by the committee) in NorthView without cost, and we will place a $100 ad in the conference program.

GAY PRIDE PICNIC: Beth Vann and her assistants did a fantastic job organizing this annual event for us; the Board indicated its gratitude for a job well done. While we spent $372 towards this event and only collected $240 in fees from the vendors, it was agreed the benefits outweighed the loss. The television news team was not permitted to video the assembled crowd in deference to the “closeted individuals” present. Next year we should send out notices to this effect; there would be no objection to individuals volunteering to be interviewed.

HELPLINE: Seven volunteers have signed up for the July 8 training at AUUF; Cynthia Dodge and Michael Covone will do the training. Doug Carter is assisting Candy scheduling Helpline volunteers. We need to collect Resource Books and Data Forms from former volunteers who have dropped out. Meanwhile, Ken and Tom will work on updating the Resource Book which is terribly out of date. We also acknowledged a donation of $100 per month from an anonymous donor via Emperor Bob of the Imperial Court; Shirley and Tom have already sent a thank you card.

MEMBERSHIP: Shirley and Tom are now current with “thank you notes.” Our membership total continues to be in the 300 neighborhood.

N C O D: The annual dance will be held at the Elks Club on October 14. More details later.

NORTHVIEW: A philanthropic group called Digital Queers has been approached concerning our need for a replacement computer; our current one is slowly dying. This group analyzes non-profit organizations computer needs. Then, they acquire the equipment, install it and train individuals to make the best use of it. They are very interested in providing assistance for the Helpline and Northview. Meanwhile, Tori and Shirley will revise our brochure; it needs to include Lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered people - not just “Gay”.

POTLUCK DINNERS: The program for July is Bona Dea Women's Bookstore. Candy will be the emcee; Ruth and Marge will set up the room.

GRANTS: Once again (three years in a row) the Pride Foundation has turned down our request for funding; Mike Travis gave it his best effort. The Chicago Resource Center grant deadline is this Friday; there is not enough time to prepare a proposal.

A C L U: We agreed renew our membership for $20 annual dues.

RESIGNATION: Don Naff has tendered his resignation, citing personal issues which he must resolve. Several names were suggested to fill Don's position. Each person will be contacted to see if they are interested; we will select someone at our July meeting.

GAMING LICENSE: Kurt has begun investigating the procedure to acquire such a license as a means to raise funds through bingo, raffles, pull tabs, classics, etc. He will report back to us later.

CORONATION: We agreed to purchase a $100 ad in the program but reached no decision on purchasing a table (10 tickets) for the event Labor Day weekend.

ALASKA COMMUNITY SHARE: Ken asked if we wanted to continue our membership. While their administrative fee is quite high (about 15% compared to 5% for United Way), it does provide much needed income with little effort on our part. We agreed to remain a member.

RETRIEVAL: We agreed to postpone this subject until next month.

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Scheduled for 7:00P on July 25 at our office.
How Gay Young Men Deal With Coming Out
by Stephen Holden

The protagonists of each of the three short films that open today at the Quad Cinema under the title "Boys Life" are young, white, middle-class men facing the realities of being 17 or 18 and Gay. Although it may be less traumatic for young Gay men to come out to their friends and families today than it was 25 years ago, these three films suggest that acknowledgment of one’s own homosexuality in a predominantly straight society is still no picnic even in a supposedly liberated era.

In Raoul O'Connell's "Friend of Dorothy" and Robert Lee King’s "Disco Years," the main characters are students who have to tiptoe with excruciating care through environments that could turn viciously hostile with one indiscreet gesture. The protagonist of Brian Sloan's "Pool Days" is a virginal 17-year-old lifeguard who is just becoming aware of his homosexuality but has yet to act on his desires.

The endearing but technically crude "Friend of Dorothy" was written, directed and produced by Mr. O'Connell, who stars as Winston, a shy and lonely New York University student desperate to make some kind of erotic contact. Winston, whose dorm room is covered with Barbra Streisand posters, hankers after his handsome roommate, Tom (Kevin McClatchy), and tries to pick up men in a library, in a lavatory and in Washington Square Park. Winston's attempts to make sexual contact are portrayed as a wistful waif-like comedy that verges on farce when one young man he picks up turns out to be a recruiter for the Unification Church. Winston's biggest cheerleader and adviser is his best friend, Anne (Anne Zupa), who observes his quest with an amused affection. But a scene in which he is contemptuously Gay-baited by Tom's best friend, Matt (Greg Lauren), pointedly shows the social risks Winston faces.

At its best, "A Friend of Dorothy" has an easygoing documentary quality that captures the texture of college life with a knowing good humor. A scene at a collegiate pot-smoking party has an especially satiric bite. Despite its choppy editing, "A Friend of Dorothy" conveys a keen sense of what it feels like to be 18 and innocent and have a heart bursting with inchoate longings.

Tom (Matt Nolan), the protagonist of "The Disco Years," is a bit more knowing and self-assured than the rabbity Winston. In this politically edged memory play, Tom recalls his coming out in the late 1970's with a ten-
nis partner, Matt (Russell Scott Lewis), who seduces, then rejects him. Matt goes on to lead a student hate campaign against a Gay teacher. And Tom, whose mother refuses to accept her son's homosexuality, is forced to make extremely difficult choices, which the movie glosses over far too quickly for comfort. "The Disco Years," although bluntly schematic, is well acted and chillingly captures the cruelty of teen-age homophobia.

"Pool Days," which was reviewed in March as part of the New Directors/New Films series, is easily the most polished of the three. In this comedy of health-club manners, Justin (Josh Weinstein), an inexperienced 17-year-old lifeguard at an indoor pool, faces erotic choices in a job that also entails his playing sexual watchdog in the men's steam room. Mr. Weinstein's portrayal of a blushing innocent reluctantly confronting his confusion is utterly convincing. Nick Poletti and Kimberly Flynn, as sophisticates who offer to initiate Justin into Gay and straight sex, give their roles a sly comic edge that makes each of them almost likable.

"Boy's Life" plays July 28 through August 3 at the Capri.
Thanks to The New York Times.

‘Incredibly' Lesbian

ACT UP activist and documentary producer Maria Maggioni can now add writer and director to her resume with the release of her Fine Line production "The Incredibly True Adventures of Two Girls in Love," which premiered last month.

This movie tells the story of first love between high school senior and tomboy Randy Dean (Larel Hollomon), who is living with her Lesbian aunt, and schoolmate Evie Roy (Nicole Parker), who is one of the most popular girls in school.

Lesbian, Gay and bisexual youth relationships are rarely celebrated as positively in a major feature film. To thank Fine Line Pictures for distributing this positive portrayal of Lesbianism, contact:

Sarah Eaton, Fine Line Pictures, 888 7th Avenue, New York, New York 10010. 212-956-1942 (fax).

If God dislikes Gays so much, how come he picked Michaelangelo, a known homosexual, to paint the Sistine Chapel ceiling while assigning (I'm facetious) (I'm facetious) to go on TV and push orange juice?

--Mike Royko
Anchorage's Premiere Fine Arts and Alternative Cinema

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"A REVELATION!"
"A PURE FORMALITY"

This on-the-edge-of-your-seat thriller by Giuseppe Tomatore (Cinema Paradiso) is about a famed novelist (Gerard Depardieu) who is accused of murdering his wife. Roman Polanski plays the interrogator who tries to get down to the real facts in this cat and mouse game. 107 min., PGC 13 for brief shocking violence and language. July 28 - Aug. 3 only

**CRUMB**
Winner at the Sundance Film Festival, *Crumb* is directed by Terry Zwigoff's controversial and intimate portrait of the cartoonist Robert Crumb, who is best known for his drawing "Keep On Truckin", his cover art for Janis Joplin's "Cheap Thrills" album and his character Fritz the Cat. This is a remarkably frank, funny, provocative and often disturbing commentary on Crumb's work and his peculiar view of life. 119 min. Rated R for graphic sex related cartoons and language. Premieres Aug. 4

**TEAM CHAMBA**
**THE MYSTERY OF RAMPO**
Set in some indefinite year before WWII about Edogawa Rampo, a real-life character who was king of Jaapan's mystery writers. (He named himself after his hero, Edgar Allen Poe, and his name is pronounced edogah-arahn-poh). The script puts Rampo inside a real-life mystery: this one about a woman who may or may not have killed her invalid husband. The highest grossing Japanese film to date. Subtitled, Not Rated contains explicit sex scenes. 101 min. Premieres August 11.

**REBEL WITHOUT A CAUSE**
James Dean
First Time With Restored Perspecta Stereo
Commemorating the 40th anniversary with a restored WarnerColor, Dolby stereo and CinemaScope presentation of the James Dean classic directed by Nicholas Ray and costarring Natalie Wood. As an added attraction, Dean's original screen test and wardrobe tests for both Rebel Without a Cause and East of Eden are included in the program. Not rated, 120 min. One Week! Aug. 18-24

**LOVE and HUMAN REMAINS**
Acclaimed director Denys Arcand (Jesus of Montreal) continues his keen style of filmmaking with a dark comedy about people searching for love and family in the '90s. Rated R for strong sexual content; language; violence and some drug use. Premieres Aug. 25th

**AMATEUR**
Deadpan indie filmmaker Hal Hartley's (Trust, Unbelievable Truth) latest picture is his wittiest, and also his saddest. It's about an amnesiac (Martin Donovan) and an ex-nun (Isabelle Huppert) who gradually discover his past as a vicious Svengali who created a porn star (Eilina Lowensohn). Rated R for language. 105 min. Aug. 18-24

All Programs and Schedules are subject to change. Please call ahead to avoid disappointment. The Management reserves the right to restrict admission to young children. Please call ahead to check on age restrictions.
Kathy Worthington
Contributing Writer

During my four years as the editor of a Utah publication, I have exchanged subscriptions with or subscribed to a wide variety of Gay publications from across the country. I've purchased every issue of Network Q, the video magazine.

My partner, Sara, and I have had plenty of time and plenty of reasons to get used to the popular use of the word "Queer"—a word that some homosexual/Bisexual/Transgender people in the United States have taken to using as an inclusive term that means all of us.

In our travels, in our work, in all those publications on Network Q, we've heard the word "Queer" used again and again. We've been to women's festivals, the March on Washington, Stonewall 25 and the Gay Games.

You'd think by now, Sara and I would be comfortable with "Queer"—and we are, sort of. "Queer" is shorter and easier to write or say than Gay/Bisexual/Transgender. But we don't use "Queer" ourselves, not even in our publication, and we have no desire to.

We think there are many, many homosexual/Bisexual/Transgendered Americans who feel the same way.

Proponents of the word "Queer" have a point, however. This Gay/Bisexual/Transgender/Drag stuff can get pretty long, unwieldy and tiresome. "Queer" is so much shorter.


Most Lesbians get comfortable with the word "Gay" before they get comfortable with the word "Lesbian." "I'm Gay." It's easy to say, easy to hear. Many straight people can hear it and not flinch, which is not something you can say about "Queer." A huge percentage of Gays and Lesbians are quite comfortable saying they're Gay; some of us are even proud to say it, happy to say it.

Gay. I think it sounds, and feels, comfortable and free. Out and proud. Not angry and defiant like the word "queer" seems to say. For my first 40 years, "queer" was a bad, nasty, insulting word. Four years haven't managed to erase all of that.

People have compared the word "queer" to the word "nigger." So, have you heard of a Nigger Nation? Nigger TV? Network N? No, no, and no.

Gay. We've taken a word that originally meant happy and used it in place of homosexual until everyone accepts it as meaning that. Surely we can take that same happy word and make it include Bisexuals, Transgendered people and anyone else who wants to be included.

This is written by a woman, a Lesbian, ... and my partner, also a Lesbian, agrees. We're activists, feminists and Lesbians, yet we think it's fine for us and other people to say the word "Gay" and mean all of us: homosexual men and women, Bisexuals and Transgendered people. If we, womyn, two Lesbians in our 40s, think it's okay for publications, speakers, and writers to simply say "Gay" to mean all of us, then perhaps there are other women out there who agree.

This doesn't mean that we have to give up all the other terms. People can continue to use queer and two newer terms: Lesbigay and TransLesbigay. But let's use "Gay." It's short, sweet, and easy. Say it to mean the whole community. If we can take a word and make it ours, change its meaning, affect the way it's used, why not the word "Gay"?

That's my/our suggestion. For it to work, of course, other people need to agree and help get the word out.

I am a 44-year-old Salt Lake City Lesbian, mother of two daughters, 18 and 20, and a part-time postal worker. I was the founder, publisher and editor of a 4-year-old publication for Utah Gays, the Women's Community News. We did our last issue in March because Sara and I will be leaving Utah soon. A new publication, The Labrys, is taking its place. I can be reached by phone in Salt Lake at (801) 288-9294, by mail at 848 E. Bristle Pine Place, Apt. 31, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84106, or by e-mail at kathyWUT@AOL.com.

Connections and Creating Changes
by Pete Pinney

Driving home after a late night at the Palace one weekend last winter, I came across a figure of a man alongside the road with his hand held out to flag down my vehicle, even though I was still a half mile away. The reflective tape on this person’s snowmachine gear and helmet lit up in the headlights, in stark contrast to the blackness beyond the frost that surrounded everything else along the highway. The stripe on his arm swung back and forth like a lamp. I couldn’t ignore him and just drive by. That would be the worst violation of the code: always help a stranger in trouble, because next time it might be me out there at thirty below.

As I leaned over to open the door, he pulled of his helmet and tried to talk, but he could barely speak. I recognized him, a neighbor who lives up my road, which was another three miles up the highway. He couldn’t focus very well, and he concentrated mostly on bending his leg far enough to sit in the car. The rest of his body followed slowly.

“Sam, what happened to you?” Here was a heavy equipment operator/trucker type person, a big guy who I thought I had nothing in common with except that we lived out in the sticks by choice to get away from being around people we had nothing in common with, and he was physically pretty well beat up. After a few moments of warmth, he was able to talk about his accident miles back on one of the trails. Bombing along under the full moon at eighty miles an hour, he suddenly glanced back up from the fuel gauge to find himself airborne over a guyl. Then next thing he could remember was waking up about ten feet beyond the handlebars, lying next to a cracked windshield.

“I couldn’t have been out for more than a minute,” he groaned. “The engine was still running.” He’d been walking out for at least two to three hours. I checked the thermometer on his porch after his wife had him safely inside. Minus forty-two degrees.

I called the next day to check on what the doctor had said. From that day on, this guy who previously had no reason to talk to queers suddenly felt like he couldn’t do enough to repay one. Since I am prone to overanalyze, I figured there was a lesson in this.

Straight people often fail to recognize a lot of what the Gay community has done to help them, intentionally or otherwise. I don’t mean how Gay issues help raise money for Prevo and his ilk. Aside from moving in and raising property values through renovation and decoration, Gays have had other positive economic impact, even in crises. Viatical settlements that help people living with AIDS are also a smart vehicle for any person who faces any terminal illness.

Lesbians and Gays often discount the positive impact they have on others as well. Because of the long history of being stigmatized for being different, we internalize homophobia and expect people to not like us. While I was chatting with a straight couple, talking about school issues, they challenged my belief on multi-culturalism, as if maybe the issue was something that I didn’t have a clear sense of. I announced that as a Gay man, I thought I knew more than what might be apparent at the surface. Then I realized that I had hesitated at first, worried about the reaction those words would receive. I was angry at myself and the whole dynamic that created that feeling. But the comment was well received, and I was validated on my point. One more point for our side.

Sharing information, offering the personal and human side of what it is to be a human being does a lot to foster relationship and acceptance. While the first incident was extreme and a rare opportunity, it was just as valid as the simple act of coming out with confidence. Sharing those experiences gives others insight into who they are and how others relate to such things. And those types of connections become valuable exchanges to creating a stronger sense of self and a better sense of community.

These types of conversations are the stuff of what conferences such as the one planned for October in Anchorage are made of. They are the point of contact where people like ourselves can find validation in who we are and what we do in our communities. They are a place to trade stories, recognize achievements, review a common history, plot a course for future improvement for ourselves and others, see what we do right (and wrong), how things happen for others in relative situations, and to provide exposure to spaces much different than our own.

Because of a random act of kindness, I now feel I will be looked after a little more closely by a neighbor. By believing in myself, I gained the respect of a stranger. In feeling like I belong to a supportive community, I learn more about my potential. That is what I hope to gain in October. I hope to see many of the people I have become friends with there.

Pete Pinney found new Gay friends in his recent travels to Siberia, but more on that later.

Anchorage Gay & Lesbian HELP LINE

258-4777

A Community Service of IDENTI TY, INC., P.O. Box 200670, Anchorage, AK 99520
Seventh Annual Alaska Women's Music Festival
by Tracy Moore

Despite the challenge of a new venue, the 7th Annual Alaska Women's Music Festival was another success. Located at Moose Mountain Ski Lodge on Murphy Dome Road, this year’s festival held up through two days of clouds and intermittent sunshine.

Once again, under the direction of Louise Barnes, a hearty group of Fairbanks volunteers pulled together a fun mix of crafts, food, and musical talent that entertained an enthusiastic crowd of more than 250 women.

Performer’s from Fairbanks, the surrounding area, and Anchorage presented a mixture of Native dance, Celtic music, women’s music and plain old rock ‘n roll. The weekend’s star performer, Roxanna Ward, from Laguna Beach (Calif), presented an extremely funny mixture of comedy and piano bar that left the crowd wanting more.

Festival goers ended the weekend dancing to the impromptu jamming of Roxanna with the Anchorage band, Side FX.

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Q*Klatch Book Reviews
by C.T.

*Oranges Are Not The Only Fruit* by Jeanette Winterson. *Atlantic Monthly Press, 1985*

These two books are the first two novels by Jeanette Winterson. Each is a wonderfully amusing tale written in a raconteur style, and each outlines a unique period in history. This is where the similarities end.

"Oranges Are Not The Only Fruit" is a somewhat autobiographical ‘coming out’ story set in 1960’s England. It is similar to Rita Mae Brown’s famed American classic “Rubyfruit Jungle” in that the universal aspects of discovery, self-recognition, parental and societal drama are present, but unlike Brown, Winterson mingles fable with reality to create an enchanting tale.


"The Passion" is historical fiction/fantasy set in the 19th century Napoleonic era. The two central characters are an innocent farm boy from France who becomes Napoleon’s personal taster and chef; and the estranged webbed-footed daughter of a Venice gondolier, who becomes a military prostitute serving Napoleon’s army. Their lives become entwined on the Russian front and on their defection and winter trek back to Venice, they become permanently emotionally bound.

Each of these short novels leads the reader on a fairly direct route through a simple but entertaining story only to end them in an unusual and thought-provoking way. One needs to read these stories carefully and thoughtfully but expect to be entertained.

Q*K Book Group meets monthly to discuss selected works and other topics relating to our community. Call 457-7389 (Fairbanks) for more details. These selections may be purchased at Into The Woods Bookstore in Fairbanks.

Deadlines: All articles must be received by the 5th of the month for inclusion in that month's *NorthView*.
PFLAG Fairbanks
by Jeff

The June meeting of PFLAG was the first on without
the presence of Steve and Nancy Kalling. As co-
founders and primary movers and shakers of this
organization, they contributed a great deal to the com-
community (both Gay and at-large). They will be sorely
missed, but we hold they are enjoying their retirement
and their travels.

Mary Jo, the new President, was also out of town dur-
ing the June 20th meeting, so Jeff agreed to facilitate and
also become secretary by default. The following topics
were discussed.

1. The Pride March: AGLA (at UAF) organized this
years pride march, and final plans were made for this
June 26th event. PFLAG helped coordinate the activities
and was involved in providing food for the picnic after
the march. Eric agreed to bring the PFLAG banner to the
march. Laura had contacted the media, and AGLA made
signs. A table for organizations and information was also
planned for the picnic.

2. GLB History Month: this is coming up soon...in
October! We began making plans for a display at the
Borough Library and discussed items that could be used.
There will also be a display at UAF. Other ideas include
lectures on campus, a banner across one of the city
streets, PSA's, letters to the editor, a film festival, and
interviews and opinion pieces in the newspaper.

3. The Christian Coalition is coming to Fairbanks!
This organization has already organized chapters in An-
chorage and Juneau, and a new chapter is now forming in
Fairbanks. They were planning an organizational meet-
ing for June 20th.

4. Pride Conference '95 in Anchorage: people are
encouraged to participate in the organizational audio
conferences.

5. How Can We Get More Parents Involved in
PFLAG: several ideas were discussed, and we agreed that
this would be a good topic for a full meeting in the future.

We miss the Kalling's but PFLAG in Fairbanks con-
tinues to be active and involved.

...some things... arrive on their own mysterious
hour, on their own terms and not yours, to be seized
or relinquished forever.

Gail Godwin, b. 1937, American writer

Methodist Leader Comes
Out As Lesbian
by David E. Anderson
Religion News Service

In what she described as a "political act," the Rev.
Jeanne Audrey Powers, one of the United Methodist
Church's most prominent ecumenical leaders, an-
nounced she is a Lesbian. Powers is the associate general
secretary of the 8.6-million-member denomination's Gen-
eral Commission on Christian Unity and Intercultural
Concerns. A longtime advocate of women's rights, she is
the highest-ranking church official to acknowledge that
she is Gay.

Current church rules bar the ordination of "self-
confessed practicing homosexuals" and declare homo-
sexuality "incompatible with Christian teaching." Under
those rules, charges could be brought against Powers to
force her out of her church positions. But Powers said
she would not resign.

"I have been a Lesbian all my life," Powers said.
"I've never known my identity as otherwise." She char-
acterized her action as "an act of resistance to false
teachings that have contributed to heresy and homophobia
within the church itself." In a statement issued last week
Powers said, "I do not intend to withdraw from the minis-
try or surrender my ordination papers. Neither will I
indicate whether I am 'practicing.' I believe that no one
has the right to know intimate details of any other per-
son's loving sexual practices."

Thanks to the Anchorage Daily News, Saturday, July 15,
1995.
Let's Put “Equal” Back into the Equal Rights Commission
by Dan Carter, cochair, EQUAL

Next month the Anchorage Equal Rights Commission will meet for its quarterly meeting. As I have reported before, they have the feeling no one in our community is concerned about actions of the 9-member Commission or individual commissioners. I hope as many of you as possible can attend this meeting in order to dispel this idea we are no longer interested.

Some of you may not be aware of what has taken place over the past several years with this commission. Mayor Tom Fink appointed numerous commissioners during his tenure as Mayor of Anchorage. Some of them stand out more than others. Michael Johnston, probably the most visible Fink appointee, is well known for his stands against gay/lesbian/bi rights and for his advocacy for conservative far right political candidates and causes. During the Fink Administration it became evident with the attempted appointment of Deborah Luper that one of the Mayor’s criteria for appointment to this commission was opposition to gay/lesbian rights. After all, Ms. Luper’s only “claim to fame” at the time was a picture of her in Newsweek Magazine holding a sign at the Republican Convention which read “Family Rights Forever...Gay Rights Never!” The Assembly, with “help” from EQUAL and our friends, wisely decided not to confirm Ms. Luper’s appointment.

The current ERC bylaws require the commission to censure any commissioner who “takes a stand or issues verbal or written statements...considered detrimental to the goals, objectives, aims, or philosophies of the Anchorage Equal Rights Commission.” We have only one simple request of the ERC...ENFORCE YOUR OWN BYLAWS!

I have written to more than 100 statewide and local Equal Rights Commissions over the past month and hope to present many of the letters I have received to the Commission and the Mayor. Most of the ones I have talked with so far find it incredulous that an ERC member is allowed to so openly foment discrimination. One had a great question...“What yokel would appoint someone like that to the Equal Rights Commission?”

If you’re not one of the 1,050 members of EQUAL, please sign up today.

Name(s):______________________________
Mail Address:________________________
Home Address*:______________________
City:__________________________, AK Zip:________
HOME PHONE:______________________

PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFO, IF YOU KNOW IT:
YOUR VOTER PRECINCT NUMBER:__________
YOUR VOTER DISTRICT NUMBER:__________
* If you receive your mail at a post office or any location other than your actual residence, please put your home address or the nearest intersection to your home so we can determine which information will be sent to you. Thanks!

EQUAL
PO Box 244452
Anchorage, AK 99524-4452
By Bob De Loach

The Mt. McKinley (non-ascent) Club Outing in Seward over the 4 day celebration was a riotous success. The group managed by early positioning and sheer mass to possess an island in a literal sea of motorhomes, giving us the choice spot near the porta-potties and a great view of the bay and all of the activities. The perpetual campfire burned bright with an ample supply of trucked-in firewood which, lasted the weekend. The weather was so cooperative that the only drops felt were the ones put into your eyes after a full night of partying.

Following the installation of the American and the club flags on Friday, there was a moment of concern when it was discovered that the American flag was gone. A rival camp across the narrow street had spirited it away in the wee hours after the official camp greeter and guard Cherresse took a few well deserved Wa Wa winks. It turned out well when the standard was retrieved in the morning and plotting for revenge was begun.

The fishing trips were all successful with the limit of fresh halibut returned from each trip to be roasted over the fire and enjoyed by all. It usually took both hands stretched out to measure the width of the ones that got away—just as they reached the surface.

One of the highlights of the outing was the exploring trip enjoyed by six of the campers. It started with a boat trip to the old army dock near the entrance to the bay and continued with a 2.5 mile hike up the mountain to the old World War Two fort and cannon battery at the top.

Yours truly is proud to say he made the trip and it was worth it. The fort is still in great shape after 50 years and has room after room of concrete rooms with steel doors, two 20-feet-accross concrete pits where the guns were, which we all decided would make a grand 50-man hot-tub. The ammo rooms are like cells and the observation room has sliding steel plates (with storm windows) and two neat cots attached to the wall. We all agreed that the place would make the neatest steam bath/fantasy place complete with dark rooms for days. We made up for the fact that we didn’t have flashlights by trying to burn pine cones and the Forest Service map to explore the great underground complex. At one point Maurice’s cell phone rang and in response to “What are you doing?” proceeded to tell the person on the other end “I’m trying to get some damn pine cones to light.”

One of the true highlights of the outing was when Greg, who had parted until 7:00am on the 4th along with several others, showed up at the annual Seward greased-pole contest and after one look at the pole declared to all here “I’m gonna climb that!” And climb it he did. Not alone but with combined efforts of some of the cutest guys you’d ever want to look at and after just over an hour and a half of effort they were victorious in reaching the top and liberating the cash placed there by the City. He was awarded not only his share of the cash but also appeared on Channel 2 news at ten. The task of cleaning him up was auctioned off to a group of high bidder members. There were mostly successful with the exception of his hair which may not be totally clean for some time.

To the group including Rand, Maurice, Peter, Chris, and Greg who planned and carried out the daring 6:00am raid on the neighbor camp and stole about 20 of their camp chairs and neatly piled them up on our island, I salute you. When the group awoke in the morning, they not only discovered their chairs gone, but also their picnic tables were in the middle of the road. I understand that the tables did not make it further because midway into the raid with Maurice on one end of the said table, his cell phone again rang. After a quiet “Hello,” and in response to “What are you doing?” he is reported to have said, “I’m stealing a picnic table, can I call you back!?”

The McKinley gang and guest chorus of “Ohhoooso” and “Ahaaas” in response to the great fireworks display put on by the City of Seward was a little less organized than it has been in previous years. But when you consider that after 3 full days and 4 fuller nights of fun and frivolity they were just slightly under the weather the effort was grand. We signed up several new members and enjoyed the company of old friends at this outing in the All America City of Seward, Alaska.

Bob De Loach writes the “Where In the World” travel column for the NorthView and there’s a lot more information there about him.
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QUESTIONS WELCOME.
THE EYE
NOT TO BE CONFUSED WITH
THE DIAPHRAGM

Only-in-Alaska-Department (overheard at the Capri, before the movie started, natch): "I spent my entire therapy session feeling guilty about going to a movie during the summer when the sun was still up." A companion said she had a wedding to attend "Outside" and feared going, adding, "...must be the opposite of S.A.D. when you hyperventilate at the thought of going 'Outside' in the summer." ▼ Day before Solstice and EveryDyke in Anchorage was out cruisin’ the cruisers. Yes, Olivia was in town, glory, glory. And EYE couldn’t keep EYE’s EYEes off the party fare. Yum, yum. Seems there was this great party at Bona Dea Women’s Bookstore. The crowd of the cruise was rubbing elbows delightfully with the local cruisers who all were nibbling chocolate cake, licking their, um, fingers and rolling their, ah, eyes, well, OK, EYEes. Many a dyke was heard to say it was the best cruise ever, and they hadn’t even got on the boat yet (for the uninformed, the cruise folks flew into AnchorTown and departed by boat farther south of here (after all the partying)). ▼ Seems that’s not all. EYE heard all about the bussing (on a bus, for Goddess’ sake) to Denali (the mountain, dears). Got DriverDykes to drive (not hard to find it seems), and EYE knows that Ms Mountain stayed out the whole time, whereas for other lesser folks, she hides demurely behind clouds. Dyke Day in Denali! Yessss!!! ▼ And then there were two. Couldn’t help but overhear a juicy conversation at the Potluck, vis, one potluckee to another: "Is that your boyfriend headed this way?" Another: "Yes, sort of." One: "Sort of? Does that mean it’s open season?" Another: "Well, um, let me put it this way: don’t get into the competition unless you can stand the heat—or words to that effect. Several others at the table noted the claws coming out and drew back in mock fear. Guess ∩MH&?$ will have to tell EYE when the coast is clear. ▼ That sort of leads EYE to the next topic, ∩S-RH. Still horny, as EYE hears it. That last date wasn’t all it was cracked up to be, hmmm? ▼ On the flip side: ∩RM&MF celebrated their 11th Anniversary two days after Solstice. Congrats! ▼

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.

'81

The Department of Defense revamps its policy on Gay and Lesbian service personnel. The new policy strictly and unequivocally bars all Gays and Lesbians from joining the armed forces and requires potential recruits to be questioned about their sexual orientation before signing up.

President Ronald Reagan appoints Arizona jurist Sandra Day O’Connor to the Supreme Court. She is the Court’s first female justice. Meanwhile, California governor Jerry Brown appoints openly Lesbian attorney Mary Morgan to a superior court judgeship, making her the nation’s first openly Lesbian judge.

A female lover files a palimony suit against tennis star Billie Jean King, who says she is heterosexual but acknowledges having had a relationship with the woman.

Californian Timothy Curran sues the Boy Scouts of America for outing him because of his homosexuality.

Thirteen years later the case is still in the courts.

In Florida Board of Bar Examiners re N. R. S., the Florida supreme court rules that private, consensual sexual conduct of bar applicants is not relevant to fitness to practice law.

'82

Wisconsin enacts the nation’s first statewide ban on antiGay discrimination.

In In re Adult Anonymous II, a New York State appeals court panel allows a Gay man to adopt his adult lover.

The man had sought to adopt the lover, who was mildly disabled, so they could be legally identified as a family and avoid eviction from their apartment under New York City rent-control laws.

A Los Angeles man files a palimony lawsuit against Liberace. The pianist denies that the man was his lover, and the suit is eventually settled out of court.

Federal appeals courts send mixed signals over sexual orientation and immigration law. In Hill v. U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, a court rules that a 19th-century policy denying visas to Gays and Lesbians (including them in the broad category of psychopaths”) violates free-association rights. But in In re Longstaff, another court upholds the policy. Congress rewrites the policy in 1990.

Unity & Diversity
Alaska Pride Conference 1995
1995 Les/Bi/Gay Conference

October 6, 7, & 8, 1995
Planning is underway. Join us!
Call Kurt at 272-3990 or Jen at 272-7193 for details.
StarGazer
Commentary
by Barbara J. Soule

It's not easy to maintain a spiritual life when you work forty hours a week and have to deal with the cooking, laundry and home upkeep. If you are in a relationship, it requires additional effort and maintenance. Then, if you'd like to be active in the community and socialize, there are only so many hours in the week. I'll add keeping abreast of the political developments pertinent to Gays and Lesbians and keeping one's blood pressure from going off the charts as well.

Then, you may have to deal with your family of origin like I did this past month. My Mother came for a visit. It was the first time she's ever spent time in my home when I've been living with a same sex partner. Things did not always go well. Apparently, Mother thinks Rush Limbaugh knows what he's talking about. I couldn't let that one go by. Other times, I bit my tongue, took a lot of deep breaths and prayed.

The big family picnic with my daughters, their families (a reunion of my fundamentalist minister brother-in-law's family, including his seventy-something parents) was cordial. Everybody was huggy and kissy and glad to see everyone else. Everyone said, "We really ought to do this more often." No one used the words Gay or Lesbian and the event was a grand success. Mother left saying how much she enjoyed visiting, amid tears of good-bye, and "I love you, Sweetie!" I'm glad my mother loves me, but I am still heartbroken.

So, what's the point? The point is that living life in the real world can be tough. It takes a lot of time and effort. Where do you find time to meditate, pray and keep focused on a dream for a better world? I could say, "Oh, it's easy." Well, it isn't and I've been doing it for over thirty years. Sometimes, I'm lucky if I can take twenty minutes to regroup with a few lines of reflective reading with a Hazelden pocket meditation book like "One Day at a Time." Bona Dea Women's Bookstore usually has a medley of them in stock. Those books are a lovely way to start the day with a spiritual focus. Stick one in your briefcase and take it out on your lunch hour if mornings aren't your thing. Reading one of the daily meditations is a quiet way to end a hectic day.

In the summer time, with so much daylight, it seems like I just get home and it's already eleven o'clock. The long summer light is saving grace. Summer solstice, June twenty-first, is the day when the most light is available to humanity. It is one of the "cross quarter" days of the Wiccan calendar that includes the fall equinox, winter solstice, and spring equinox. These dates are part of the circular movement of the seasons of the Earth. The theory is that what we do and when we do it has a corresponding energy in the cycles of the planet. Buddhists, Hindu, Wiccans and other earth-oriented spiritual practices believe additional energy is available to us by the movement of the planets of our solar system. Reading the energy is called Astrology. All of heavens and earth work together for our positive development.

I've been in my "ivory tower" too long. While I've been working on harmonizing with love, peace and light, dark forces have gained momentum. The closed-minded are still shut and have recruited reinforcements. Some fear for our immortal souls and must think harassment will change us. The person who left the note "I know you are all fags" on my car is now putting "Jesus tracts" under my windshield wiper.

The people that I know overflow with love, light and good will. I was pleased to see the diversity of our community at the Gay Pride picnic. Thank you to the Drag Queens who came out. It was the Drag Queens who rebelled and fought at Stonewall—a milestone in Gay history. Thank you to all the other men, women and young people who performed and participated. There are so many good people right here in the Gay community.

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

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.

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VIRAL DIARY:
THE MONOLOGUES OF
LOVE N' HIV
"ANGEL ON YOUR SHOULDER"
BY CHRISTOPHER FABBRO

A special note to NorthView readers...can you handle just one more tale of transformation about the California AIDS Ride?! For you who know fellow rider Vicki, is she chattering on like I am? It's just that it was so...oy! Well, read on:

Last year, on the sixth day of California AIDS Ride, in the rain and cold, my knee gave out. I was lost. I was hungry. And that was when my resistance dissipated—when I truly began to mourn my best friend's death two years before. Sure, I had intellectualized it and done everything to try to accept it, and I was certain that I had properly mourned him. Ha! Is that why sometimes I would come home and see a message blinking on my machine, thinking it was him. Or sometimes, how I would sit at work and wonder if, when the whistle blew, what he’d want for dinner. Or whenever I saw a black Cabriolet, I’d speed up to it, ready to see him.

"Greg! You’ve gotta get me out of this!" I screamed at miserable day on the ride. My knee had been progressively paining until, that day, I could hardly walk. But I was resolute (bullheaded, actually) about giving it my best, as if only amputation or at least a permanent limp was the only acceptable proof of my effort.

I was on an overpass of highway 101, right at the Pacific shore. I did not know where the fuck I was. A week of sleepless nights and undernourishment vexed me. Was there nothing in the world that could help out? Couldn’t the rain at least stop until I got back to the right road?! What was the point of it all? It appeared that there really was no point. It just wasn’t worth it anymore. For just a moment, it was such solace to think of flying off the bridge in time for a semi to...

But something happened after I made that shout to Greg. Something put my foot back on the pedal. Not me. My knee...it seemed as if it would never be fully functional again, yet I pedaled anyway. Something made me roll onto the highway below until—eventually—I got back onto the correct route. Sure, trucks kept sideswiping the riders and we were caked with mud, but I was back on track! It was all happening so fast...I glanced over the ocean and swerved almost off the road when I saw nothing but blue sky and sunlight on the waves. The squall line was directly above me, moving away, leaving the faintest rainbow...I had to take off my muddy glasses to see it. But I kept pedaling. I took a breath. Wait a second...I pedaled! It wasn’t killing me.

It wasn’t even dully throbbing...the joint was working, as if nothing had ever happened! But how...?

I bit my lip. Greg. Had he heard me? Or was it all just fabulous coincidence? I headed into the final stretch of the day and, as my knee continued to not hurt, as the sun warmed my back and dried me off, it became apparent that Greg had come to say goodbye. Because I had never met him halfway. Because I had never bothered to ask him to come. Suddenly, it rained again. Sort of. But it was just me.

I started to cry harder than I ever had since fourth grade, when I fell in love (as best a little kid can) with my then-best friend, Andrew. I gave him a pair of clunky metal roller skates—it was all I could afford—because I cared about him so much and wanted to be with him forever. His other friends teased him so much that he never talked to me after that except to copy homework. It was over. And now I had to say goodbye to Greg, as well.

I pulled into the rest stop—wobbled, really—and drifted to the shore until, twenty minutes later, I felt I had cried myself all out. Only then could I join the other riders as we came into the final stretch of our adventure of a lifetime. I remember staggering over to James, whom I had befriended that week. He smiled at me. That was all it took. I collapsed into him and sobbed for another spell. God, it felt so good! It was safe. It was all right. Nobody would laugh at me.

Not like when Andrew told me to drop dead and I sobbed in front of everyone in class. It was safe now. Forever. I said goodbye. Thank you, Greg. I love you. And goodbye. When I finished saying it, I began to fear that I would never see him again. After all, I told him that I pretty much wouldn’t be needing him. But at least he had come for that moment to relay a kind of "see you in the next life" sentiment.

James held me for a while longer and we spent the rest of the afternoon together. He leaned into me a lot that day, like my dog used to on long road trips. It was reassuring. So did I call up the spirit of the damn dog, too, I mused. Nevertheless, it was a gift to have that peace. James was my guardian angel. He had been there throughout the week for the little victories like conquering the hardest hills of the day as well as the rejection of having my affection spurned by some nameless, handsome rider. He was there. Always. And it made my week. Well, my life, really.

One year later, on the ride again (go know...!), one of the crew pulled me aside early in the week and said, "I remember you from the rest stop that day last year. You talked about your friend Greg, and how you never knew that he had been there for you that day, ever though he was. Did you ever stop to think that maybe he’s still here, right now, looking over your shoulder?"

I smirked and said something polite. After all, she was a little stoned (I could smell), so I thanked her but felt that, after a year, I had calmed down a bit. Greg was a nice little
Inspiration to talk about in tête-a-tête, but really, it was all just
incredible coincidence. It would have stopped raining,
anyway, and I would have found my way back to the right
road, anyway.

When I turned away to go back to my tent, I bumped into a
young woman who was still in her cycling clothes, struggling
with her duffel bag. She was soaked. It had been raining that
day and only now was she getting into camp. At ten at night.
I smiled at her because she looked a little lost and asked if I
could help her with anything.

She glanced at me for only a moment before she started
crying. I put my arms around her, just like James had around
me. It felt the same. Exactly. Suddenly I knew that I, too,
was a guardian angel.

Her name was Grace. She was lost, cold, hungry, unable
to find her tent and, worst of all, all her belongings had been
soaked in a downpour at sunset. Hallstorm, actually. I
helped her with absolutely everything until she was tucked
into bed. She told me about why she was riding. "I'm not a
cyclist, but I knew that this ride was something I had to do."

"Yeah, me too. A lot of us feel that way, I guess."

"Well, I'm really doing this for my friend. He's really sick
right now. He's my best friend, and..." Her voice trailed
off. I held her again, thinking of Greg. Would this fucking
disease ever lighten up? She continued, "He wanted to do
this with me, but he can't. I mean, I don't know how long..."
She fell silent.

We embraced a while longer. Throughout the week, I
would bump into her only at her lowest points, when she lost
her luggage, when her bike broke down, when she would be
among the last into camp. And I got to be her guardian
angel. It was a treat! And what a coincidence that I would
come across her whenever she needed support.

As all two thousand of us rolled into Los Angeles at the
end of the week, Grace was the official last rider, and I, the
guardian at her side. I asked, "Is your friend going to make it
to the ceremony? Do you think he's here?" She frowned and
choked up. I didn't realize that he was that bad off. We
hugged some more. When closing ceremonies finished, we
exchanged numbers and promised to talk to each other that
week. I told all my friends at dinner that night about the
crazy coincidences with Grace, plus how it was just like the
year before with James. We toasted the spirit of guardian
angels and celebrated until we were exhausted.

The next morning, there was a message on my answering
machine. It was Grace. Her voice was quivering in awe.
"Chris. Hello, my guardian angel! You won't believe it.
You just won't. I was telling my friend all about the ride, and
how great you were. He asked who you were, and I told him
your name. His mouth dropped open—I mean, his jaw
completely hit the floor. And so did mine. Chris, my friend
who I did the ride for is James! Your guardian angel!"

I replayed the message several times, biting my tongue.
All I could think of was that stoned woman telling me about
how Greg was there with us, and how I hadn't believed her.

Until that moment.
Chris Fabbro is a Los Angeles-based columnist and HIV
educator, currently eating his words. ©1995 C.P. Fabbro.
Son’s Death From AIDS Sparks Gay Awareness In Mormon community
by Vern Anderson
The Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY—Brad Schow felt trapped. And he was exhausted.

“I feel so weary. I’m tired of always worrying about morals, God, salvation, myself, girls, guys, Gays, family, school, etc. . . .

“I need a vacation from myself.”

Schow wrote those words in 1978 at age 20, some months before telling his parents that no matter how hard he had hoped and prayed to be otherwise, he was Gay.

Eight turbulent years later, he died of AIDS complications in his hometown of Pocatello, Idaho, his parents in an agony of regret at his side. That was in 1986, and Brad was the contagion’s first reported casualty in the Gem State.

Today, there are many similar stories, even in the bedrock Mormon culture of Utah and southern Idaho that produced Wayne and Sandra Schow, Brad’s parents. But they remain whispered stories within a patriarchal church that condemns homosexuality and preaches that “families are forever.”

In the years since his death, Brad’s parents have tried to change that.

At Sandra’s urging, Wayne Schow and his brother, Ron Schow, both professors at Idaho State University, joined co-editor Marybeth Raynes in producing the 1991 book, “Peculiar People: Mormons in Same-Sex Orientation.”

The volume gained a wide audience, especially among hundreds of deeply conflicted Mormon Gays and the parents who had raised them to serve missions and marry in the faith’s temples “for time and eternity.”

Ron Schow was instrumental in forming Family Fellowship, a service organization with several chapters in Utah and Idaho that seeks to strengthen Mormon families with homosexual members.

“It was just a matter of someone daring to say, ‘Hey, why don’t we do something about this?’” said Mildred Watts, who co-chairs the group with her husband, Gary, a Provo radiologist.

“I think we are viewed with some suspicion by some church authorities,” he said, but the organization’s sole aim is to promote love and understanding. “Really, Brad is the genesis of the whole thing.”

In 1993, Wayne and Sandra Schow were interviewed for “Straight from the Heart,” a short documentary about homosexuals and their families that was nominated for an Academy Award.

“I wish I had had the past 12 years to live over,” Wayne Schow told the filmmaker. “If (Brad) were still with us I would be doing what I could to make his way smoother.”

But as it happened, Brad’s “coming out” declaration to his parents was the biggest shock of his father’s life, triggering years of public denial and inner turmoil.

The separate struggles of father and son are detailed in a new book by Wayne Schow, “Remembering Brad: On the Loss of a Son to AIDS,” a deeply personal account that draws on Brad’s voluminous journals and the father’s letters to his son.

“Brad’s journals are pretty compelling,” Wayne Schow said. “I’m happy to say that in some sense they are the heart of the book and my writing is something of a gloss on his directly representing his dilemma.”

Who We Are

We bring our teachings with us.

Fool ourselves into believing that we matter to each other.

We kill, maim, exploit, and call it caring.

Not sure of who we are, so we hurt, mutilate, crush; so that we may rise above the death that haunts us.

Bringing our terror with us, we mouth obscenities to our Gods, as though our rage could reach them, teach them that we are in control.

And not knowing in which direction to stumble, we lash out blindly; clutching our wretched asses, raising passionless voices that protest an empty existence, a wasted life.

Who are we but nameless travelers - worn, ragged, desperately fictitious and tired.

We are our teachings, our terror, our fear.

We are categorically insane and generational madness flows through our patriarchal insipidness.

We are men. Afraid of the shadows that weep for us, beckon to us, die for us, because of us.

We bring our crutches with us, and you cannot lean on us, for we are the men who batter.

Monalesia Earle
Our Pocketbooks, Ourselves
by Lesléa Newman

I must be dreaming. I could swear Flash just said, "Want to go to the mall?" I'm sure I heard wrong, like in sixth grade when I thought my teacher was talking about the Great Mall of China. "What did you say?"

"I said, 'Want to go to the mall? That new place, Mall of Your Dreams is opening. But if you don't want to go."

"Hey, you don't have to ask me twice." I grab my pocketbook before Flash grabs hold of her senses. Soon we're zipping down the highway. I find an Oldies station on the radio. Just as I sit back, Flash starts jerking about in her seat, thrashing from side to side. "What are you doing?" I ask. "The waves? The twist?"

"I'm just getting a tissue." Flash slides her hand under her seat belt and into her pocket, and thrusts her hips up like she's about to have wild sex with the steering wheel.

"Here." I reach for my pocketbook as the car swerves, narrowly missing a Volvo, and Flash's fingers emerge from her pocket, clinging to a Kleenex.

Amazing as it may seem, Flash would rather endanger our lives than carry a pocketbook. I don't care how butch a woman is; I don't understand how she can go through life without a purse. I remember my first pocketbook the way most girls remember their first kiss. It was a gold lamé shoulder bag decorated with fake leather leopardprint patches. My mother, who for years had heard me whine, "I want a pocketbook just like you," took me literally and bought me a bag identical to her own. ("What's not to like?" she said. "It was a two for one sale.") My grandmother offered to buy me a pocketbook just like hers, but her handbag was made of straw, decorated with huge magenta flowers, and had the words, "Miami Beach" spelled out in seashells along the strap. Not only that, but emptied out and upside down, it doubled as a hat.

Over the years my pocketbook collection has grown to include handbags, shoulder bags, silk bags, suede bags, purses, pouches, and clutches. I have bags decorated with pearls, rhinestones, sequins, fringe, mesh, beads, and macrame. I have a back pack, a fanny pack, a purse that attaches to my belt and something called a wallet-on-a-string. Today I carry my favorite everyday bag: a big black tote that Flash calls "Montana."

Flash parks the car. I grab Montana and Flash gathers her things: her wallet's in the glove compartment, her comb's in the visor, her credit cards are on the dash. "Can you hold these?" Flash asks. I stuff Flash's stuff in with my stuff which includes my change purse, checkbook, address book, notebook, pens, scotch tape and stamps. And that's only one of five compartments.

Behind door number two we have lipstick, chapstick, mascara, blush, a hairbrush, hairspray and mousse. Compartment number three holds a toothbrush, dental floss, gum, gumdrops, Certo, sugar packs, a Swiss army knife and a snake bite kit. The fourth compartment holds my wallet which is a pocketbook in itself (don't get me started). Each compartment has its share of paper clips, bobby pins, pen caps, ticket stubs, rubber bands, earrings and matches. Except for the fifth compartment, which is completely empty, just in case.

We enter the mall and Flash is immediately famished. We find a restaurant called Planet Lesbos. Our hostess, who wears nothing under her mesh T-shirt but two nipple rings, asks, "Table for two?" I hold up three fingers and point to Montana. Flash shakes her head. "What do you have in there anyway?" "Don't ask." I dump our bread basket into compartment number five.

After we eat, we shop. First stop, Sappho's Shoes. I dig a shoe horn out of my bag. Next we browse through Read It and Weep Sister, a bookstore filled with romance novels. I hand Flash her reading glasses. On our way to Dyke's Discount Drugs, Flash thinks she sees Raven across the way but she's not sure. I hand her a pair of binoculars. "What don't you have in there?" Flash asks. "A diaphragm," I answer taking the binoculars back. We march on. "Let me stop in here," I say, drooling in front of Jodie's Closet, a very exclusive used clothing store.

"I'll wait out here," Flash says. I grab my wallet and hand Flash Montana. Twenty minutes later, I emerge with a red mini-skirt. Flash's face is the same color as my purchase.

"Are you having a hot flash, Flash?"

"No," she says. "I am dying of shame." Two jocks from her softball team are laughing at the sight of their second basewoman carrying a pocketbook.

"Children can be so cruel," I say loudly. "Let's go home.

"Give me my keys," Flash says. I fumble through my bag. "Are you sure you gave them to me?" I ask. "If you would only carry your own bag..." I fume, still searching. Finally I find them. "Here," I say. "And take your wallet, your checkbook and your credit cards, too.

"Fine." Flash walks off in a huff. I follow a few steps behind, until she stops in front of a store called Butch Bags. "Wait out here," she calls. Ten minutes later Flash emerges and shows off her purchase. "See," she says, "it's made of genuine imitation leather and it has seven pockets. Not only that, it can keep me warm in inclement weather. The Butch Bag. Also known as The Jacket. And best of all, it was 30 percent off.

"Oh, Flash, I am so proud of you," I take her arm and leave the Mall of My Dreams with the butcher of my dreams. And what more could a girl possibly want.

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.
Groups & Gatherings

Circles and Clubs

News from Gay & Lesbian Organizations from around the State

Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association (4As)
Anchorage: Offers HIV testing Wednesday afternoons (2:00-4:00pm) 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 meetings 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) Anchorage: 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 272-3990.

Anchorage Lesbian Families' Alliance (ALFA)
Anchorage (ALFA is on vacation until September): In Winter ALFA 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 7:00pm at the First United Methodist Church (Anchorage) on the first Wednesday of every month.

EQUAL, Inc. Anchorage: Equal meets on the 1st Thursday of each month at 7:00pm at the Metropolitan Community Church at 615 Hollywood Dr. (Government Hill). EQUAL provides education and information about political issues to our community. EQUAL is not a political action committee and does not endorse candidates. EQUAL has a social "coffee house" get together at the Hollywood Canteen (Capri Cinema) from 7:00-9:00pm on the 3rd Thursday of each month. For more information, call 274-9226.

EQUAL, Inc. Fairbanks: purpose is to keep the community informed about political and legal events which have an effect on the LesBiGay community, to educate about community issues, to organize letter writing campaigns and other forms of political action, and to promote equal rights for all Alaskan citizens, regardless of actual or perceived sexual orientation. To be on the phone tree, call Andy at 907-0457-3876. For more information about EQUAL contact Laura Burleson at 907-479-7348 or e-mail FSLEB@aurora.alaska.edu.

Fairbanks Dance Club: The Palace Saloon in Fairbanks 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--Anchorage: Meets every Saturday from 6:00-7:00pm in the Arts Building, Room 121 on the UAA campus. Social group after 7pm (bowling, dinner, etc.) Wednesdays from 11:00am-4:00pm there is an information booth in the Campus Student Center. High school people, bi-sexual men & women, transvestites and transsexuals most welcome! For Summer schedule, call Kimberly at 786-4959.

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

Gay Bar, Anchorage: 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, Anchorage: Founded to improve self and community awareness, understanding, and acceptance of the expression of individual sexual identities, in order to promote positive attitudes and healthful ways of living for all people within the state of Alaska. Identity builds bridges between different segments of the Lesbian and Gay communities as well as bridges between the Gay/Lesbian and non-Gay/non-Lesbian communities.

Potluck Social: Held on the 4th Friday of every month at the Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 3201 Turnagain St. Doors open at 6:30pm; dinner at 7:00pm, program at 7:30pm. See the Calendar for this month's guest speaker.

Empireal Court of All Alaska (ICOAA), Anchorage: 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.

IMRU, Anchorage: Is an MCC Outreach group for young people, ages 15-21. IMRU meets every Thursday from 7:00-9:30pm at the MCC at 615 Hollywood Drive.
The last Thursday of the month is a special program. 258-5266 for information.

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

**Lamb of God Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) Anchorage**: holds Sunday services at 11:00am and 7:00pm, and Wednesday at 7:00pm at 615 Hollywood Dr. Church is open Sunday through Wednesday 9:00am-4:00pm. Call 258-5266.

**Last Frontier Men’s Club, Anchorage**: a members-only club for the Lesbian/Bear communities of Alaska. Meetings 3rd Thurs. of each month, 6:00pm at the Raven; campouts & weekend trips, too. Write T.L.F.M.C., P.O. Box 202054, Anchorage, AK 99520-2054.

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

**Mt. McKinley (non-ascent) Club (MMcn(a)C) Anchorage**: 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, Anchorage (on vacation until the Fall)**: Winter schedule: each Sunday afternoon at 3:00pm, Park Lanes. 561-8744 (Bob).

**Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) of Fairbanks**: 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 (PFLAG) of Southeast Alaska**: holds meetings on the 3rd Wednesday of every month. For information call Sylvia at 562-4992 or Fred at 562-7161.

**Q*Klatch, Fairbanks**: meets the first Wednesday of each month and is an informal gathering of GLBs. The group offers a place to discuss current events, ideas, hopes and needs, and it extends hospitality to newcomers. Generally, the theme of each gathering is determined by the volunteer host(s), from “Show ‘n Tell” to “My Personal Agenda” to “Open Forum.” Q*Klatch offers a casual environment in which to meet and share with others. For more information please contact Kathy at 1-907-455-6358 or Eric at 1-907-455-4051.

**Q*K Outdoors, Fairbanks**: an offshoot of Q*Klatch and a member of IGLOO (International Gay * Lesbian Outdoor Organization), is an informal, all-volunteer group of GLBs interested in enjoying the Great OUTdoors. Last summer, we canoed down the Tanana River to Nenana, camped out at Tangle Lakes (just south of the Alaska Range), went halibut fishing in Valdez, did some day hikes and played at picnics. For more information, contact Eric at 907-455-4051 or e-mail to <fsebw@aurora.alaska.edu> or Kathy at 907-455-6358 or <hlaltkdf@northstar.k12.ak.us>.

**Mhantti 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).

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

**Southeast Alaska Gay & Lesbian Alliance (SEAGLA)**: organization for Gay Men and Lesbians of Southeast Alaska. Publishes monthly newsletter Perspective. P.O. Box 21542, Juneau, AK 99802-1452. Phone: 586-4297

**Support Group (Soldotna)**: a group for people with HIV or AIDS or families or friends. Call Jan at 1-907-252-2589.

**Women’s Coffeehouse, Anchorage**: every 4th Saturday, 8:00pm, Alaska Women’s Bookstore. Sliding scale, suggested donation $2. Call Barbara or Candy at 337-2011 for information or if you wish to perform. Check the calendar for this month’s program. Closed for the summer—June, July, August. Open again in September.

**Women’s Two-Step Dance, Anchorage (on vacation until the Fall)**: Winter schedule: first Saturday of every month. Pioneer School House, 3rd & Eagle, S3. Lessons at 7:30pm, dancing at 8:30pm. Come learn, meet new women, and enjoy. λ.
The Road To Freedom
by Kathy Massey

If you saw the February issue of “Vanity Fair” magazine, you saw the feature story called “Killing Trail,” about the string of hate-related murders in Texas. If you watched “Primetime Live” on Wednesday, January 25, you saw the hate crimes segment based on this article. If you saw the opening scene of this broadcast, you saw footage of a mob holding signs reading “Queers, Perverts, Faggots.” This was the footage from the Dallas ABC affiliate’s Sunday night newscast, Sunday, October 9, 1994. This was the Freedom Trip.

The “Freedom Trip” was a project planned by the Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance; a bus ride through six or seven towns in East Texas in recognition of National Coming Out Day. I was invited to attend and to make a short talk at each town. I was not expecting high attendance — I felt most of the Gay and Lesbian residents in these small towns would be afraid to be seen on the courthouse square with a “busload of Gays from Dallas.” The most I hoped for was being greeted by local supportive families and friends of people on the bus.

Some of the local papers were interested, and publicized information for local Gay youth and their families about our existence and where to find us when they needed us. Sadly, only one pastor from the numerous churches agreed to be our host, but we could not use his name and he couldn’t attend because of his worship service schedule. Other ministers refused any participation, and one was quoted in the local paper as saying “hosting the Gays would be like hosting the Ku Klux Klan.”

So I should not have been surprised by the element of our society that waited for us in Gilmer, Texas. The openly blatant hate spewing onto the courthouse square that beautiful Sunday morning was like a scene from a horror movie. A hundred or more people left their churches, led by one of the pastors, and crowded the square like a Texas rattlesnake coiled and ready to attack. They carried signs: “Women and Men Do It God’s Way,” “Queers Burn In Hell,” “No Faggots In Our Town.” Men, women, young and old — “God-fearing, Bible-carrying” Christians waited...

At first we were amused as they descended on the bus to prevent us from leaving. But as we passed by them, they pushed, shoved and shouted. They snatched the small American flags from our hands and stomped them into the dirt. The two or three local police smirked as they restrained them from touching us. They were inches from our noses, shouting in our faces. You could feel their breath on your face. I could feel my heart racing and my face grow hot as they shoved and shouted in each speaker’s face...drowning out any words we spoke.

An ABC reporter and her cameraman convinced the mob they were not with the bus. The mob then “permitted” them to record the event. I know without a doubt that the afternoon would have been more tragic had the press not been present.

I worked my way to the courthouse steps to do my talk. A member of the Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance asked me if I was afraid to speak. No, I was not afraid. In fact, later I realized that I was angry. Furiously angry. The mob began screaming at me and several of the students from the bus shouted, “She’s not Gay, she’s a parent!” This seemed to amuse the mob, and they actually allowed me to get to the other presenters.

Thank goodness I had written my short talk down. Had I not had my notes, I would not have had the presence of mind to speak the words that began to come out of my mouth. I began by talking about teen suicide, and how concerned I was about my Gay son during that period of his life.

“Young son should’er killed himself if he was a faggot,” I heard one particularly offensive, red-bearded unkempt man say.

Another howled, “you got hair like Hillary and I’s bet you’s act like her, too.” As the ABC reporter made her way through the crowd to get her microphone nearer to me, the mob continued in a loud and angry chant, “Jesus, Jesus, Jesus.”

And as a Hispanic teacher (a member of the Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance board) took the steps to deliver his message in Spanish, the mob became enraged with racism as they bellowed, “We don’t want any Mex’cons in our town either.”

When we finished our brief agenda, we walked single file to the bus as the mob followed us making obscene remarks. One man begged the police to “let me hit a faggot. I’d be happy to pay the fine.”

And after we boarded the bus, after we took our seats, after we took a head count, I heard the sobs. Tears of fear. Tears of relief. THEN I was afraid. I prayed a prayer of thanks for our safety and a prayer of thanks that my Gay son was not on the bus. I realized at that moment just what could have happened on the courthouse square that beautiful Sunday afternoon in Gilmer, Texas.

They continued their obscene frenzy as we pulled away...

This Freedom Trip was actually my second trip to East Texas during the past year. In January of 1994, PFLAG chapters across the state gathered with many Gay communities to show support for law enforcement officials in Smith County, TX, where a young Gay man was randomly picked, tortured and murdered. The murderer relished the details of this grisly crime on national television — on the “Primetime Live” segment. Since April of 1993 there have been eight brutal murders in Texas. They were all Gay men. They were all killed by teenagers. We wanted the local law enforcement officials to know that as parents, we want an end to this killing — immediately.

And now, House Majority Leader, Texas’ own Dick Armey, refers to his fellow Congressman Barney Frank...
as Barney “Fag.” A “slip of the tongue?” Armey’s own son Scott, now a County Commissioner for Denton County, referred to Gay and Lesbian students as perverts during a 1990 political meeting during his college days. Scott Armey is currently leading the battle to place prayer back into the schools.

Yes, hate, discrimination and prejudice is rampant in the South... but not only in the South. It is nationwide. I write about the South because I’ve personally experienced the South. If there was a perfect, safe place I would hope MY Gay son would be there. But there is no safe place.

We must WORK for safe places. To achieve this goal of equality for our loved ones we must advocate. I never considered myself to be a person of prejudice until I began working with Gay issues and now I realized that I, too, had prejudices. Now that I have “walked in their shoes,” I am more empathetic. I know what it feels like to be disliked and discriminated against. The only difference is I can turn it off... and wait until tomorrow to address the prejudice. But my Gay son must face these issues every day of his life. This is why I am an advocate. Advocacy need not always be difficult – it can be simple yet effective. It’s not always necessary to challenge to prove your point. A heartfelt letter, phone call, or simple fax can be powerful.

Let your pride and support be known. It’s easier to be on the offense rather than the defense. Reach out to other people, remembering that time is of the essence.

Kathy Massey is the President of FFLAG, Denton (Texas).

Thanks to the May 1995 Community, a monthly newspaper published by the Capital District Gay and Lesbian Community Council, Inc., P. O. Box 121, Albany, NY 12201.

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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.

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* Formerly LaFerriere
Caveat Homo:

advice for queer
on the law
and other mysterious topics
by Sue A. Sponte

Dear Sue: I'm a Lesbian, currently married, but contemplating divorce. My husband knows that I was in a relationship with a woman before we married. I'm afraid that if I try to divorce him I will lose my kids. What advice can you give me? - Mom of three

Dear Mom: First of all, if you are going to get divorced, do it in Alaska. The law in this state says that custody decisions should be made based on how people care for their children, not whom they date. What a good idea. This contrasts sharply with many other states, where gay parents are assumed to be "unfit." Our case law on this subject is explicitly non-homophobic. (See the June issue of North View re SNE v. RLB.) On the other hand, contested custody cases involve lawyers and judges and often custody investigators, many of whom are as homophobic as the general public. They may, for example, think that it is fine for you to be queer, as long as you never have a love relationship, or never express affection in front of your children. I personally find this a frightening view, but I've heard it expressed. It seems to me that you are better off being who you really are than treating your identity or your relationships as a dirty secret. Think about how you want your children to feel about themselves and their relationships, then model away.

My next bit of advice is to find support. Talk to other queer parents. This is not something you want to go through alone. There are lots of great resources for queer parents, locally and nationally. In Anchorage, there is a group for gay parents, (ALFA), where you can network, get support, and let your kids spend time with lots of other G&L families. The folks at ALFA generally have access to other resources, and some of them have experience with the very thing you are going through. Your kids will also get to hang out with kids of all ages who have families with two moms, or two dads, or one Gay and one straight parent. Usually ALFA meets at someone's house for an afternoon potluck. They also sponsor activities such as camping, bowling, swimming and kids music recitals. Frighteningly wholesome.

There's Gay Bar, where you can get referrals to queer-friendly lawyers, and access to the latest national info on queer law. The Helpline has folks who can listen, and make referrals to other groups and individuals. (See the directory for contact phone numbers for local organizations and queer-friendly lawyers). There are a plethora of national organizations and periodicals for Gay parents and their children. (see below)

Finally, inform yourself. Divorce is really scary and distressing under any circumstances. DON'T DON'T DON'T move out of the house without your kids, or make any other major life decisions until you have consulted a lawyer. Get counseling. Virtually no one can go through a divorce without the need to vent, whimper, and say "what if this, and what if that" a zillion times. You have the added excitement of coming out to your kids (if you haven't already) and dealing with fear and homophobia. Contrary to popular mythology, the courts look favorably upon people who see counselors, take parenting classes, and generally are willing to face and deal with their problems, as opposed to pretending that they have no problems, and already know everything there is to know about parenting, divorce and other life transitions. MOST important, don't get legal advice from your plumber or the person you are divorcing. (You'd be amazed at how many people do this.) Hang in there. Hope this helps. - SS

NATIONAL RESOURCES FOR G/L/B/T PARENTS:
Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition International (GLPPI) P.O. Box 50360, Washington, D.C. 20091
Lavender Families Resource Network (formerly Lesbian Mothers National Defense Fund), P.O. Box 21567, Seattle, WA 98111 (206) 325-2643
Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, 666 Broadway, NY NY 10012
National Center for Lesbian Rights 1663 Mission Street, 5th floor, San Francisco, CA 94103

Ms. Sponte implores all readers to send questions, topic suggestions, constructive criticism and/or whiny tirades to Sue A. Sponte, c/o North View, P.O. Box 200070, Anchorage, AK 99520-0070.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Sue A. Sponte is a pseudonym for a local paralegal, and her friends. In other words, she's a real person, or persons, with another name. Or a real name, with another Lesbian, or... oh I'm just so confused. What you really need to know is that although this column may contain useful tidbits, you should not treat ANY advice you find in periodicals as a substitute for talking to a real live attorney about your life and problems.

A gay in the life.

by John Seruta

©1994

Where's Eric? He went home.

What? In his condor? No kids. Do you guys realize how dangerous that is? He was totally hammered! He could really hurt someone! Or himself!

He's not stupid enough to get his motorcycle license?

No. Just his telephone.
DAVID G. CUMMINGS. Former Alaska resident David G. Cummings, 38, of Winthrop, MA, died June 30, 1995, of complications from AIDS-related lymphoma.

Mr. Cummings was born August 4, 1956, in Aberdeen, WA.

After graduating from high school in Washington state, he moved to Anchorage in 1974.

He was employed in various capacities at the University of Alaska Anchorage while pursuing a bachelor’s degree in accounting. At one point, he served as acting director of the university’s campus at Bethel. Later he worked for the university’s campus at Bethel. Later he worked for the university’s Institute of Social and Economic Research.

Mr. Cummings performed in a number of local theater productions. He also volunteered his time to several theater groups.

Mr. Cummings and a friend came up with an idea for a party to be held during the televised Oscar awards. The Dave and Tony Oscar party became a yearly tradition and featured guests in elaborate costumes, with many arriving at Mr. Cummings’ home in limousines. Party-goers watched the Oscars on television and voted for their favorite nominees. According to David’s sister, Marilyn Sutherland, invitations to the party were highly coveted, and more than 100 people attended the annual event.

He devoted his life to working for nonprofit organizations. In addition to his work for the University of Alaska, he also was employed by Arbor Health Care in Lemont, FL, Associated DayCare Services in Boston and the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities.

His family said, “A man of convictions, he is best remembered for his love of the theater and friends.”

Mr. Cummings is survived by his mother, Jeanne Cummings of Monestani, WA; sister, Marilyn (Reynolds) Sutherland of Seward; brother, Jim Cummings of Silverdale, WA; niece, Diane (Reynolds) Brown and great-nephew, Eli Brown of Santa Monica, CA; his life-mate, Bob Watson of Winthrop, MA and their two beagles, Muffler and Clutch.

Thanks to the Anchorage Daily News, 7/6/95.

RAFAEL RODRIGUEZ. Anchorage resident Rafael Rodriguez, 45, died June 18, 1995, at Providence Extended Care Center from complications from AIDS.

Mr. Rodriguez was born July 10, 1949, in Bronx, NY, to Rafael Rodriguez Sr. and Margarita Vega Rodriguez.

He traveled extensively throughout the United States and had been an Anchorage resident since 1988.

His family said: “He was an active community volunteer where he found the serenity which he shared with many others. He was known for his warmth and friendliness, his gentleness was a special gift to his friends. He was always willing to use his exceptional electronic and automotive skills in helping others. He will be deeply missed and long remembered by those whose lives he touched.”

Mr. Rodriguez is survived by his father, Rafael of the Dominican Republic; brother, Richard; half-sister, Leslie Garber of Tamarack, FL; cousin, Theresa Richardo of Miami; several nephews and nieces and a host of friends.

Memorial donations may be sent to the Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association, 1057 West Fireweed Lane, Anchorage 99501, where he had been an active volunteer since 1990.

Arrangements were handled by Evergreen Memorial Chapels.

Thanks to the Anchorage Daily News, 7/1/95.

JORGE MARCOS SALAZAR. Anchorage resident Jorge Marcos Salazar, 36, died June 28, 1995, at home from complications from AIDS.

Mr. Salazar was born September 20, 1958, in Tlatenango, Zacatecas, Mexico. He came to Anchorage in 1976. He became a certified nursing assistant. He worked primarily in long-term care at Providence Extended Care, when it was known as Glenmore and Nakoya Health Care Center.

He also worked at the Mary Conrad Center from 1988 to 1995 as a physical therapy rehabilitation aids for the past five years.

Mr. Salazar loved music, stained glass, the arts, movies, the outdoors and spending time with his children.

His family said: “Marcos was uniquely gifted in helping people with disabilities to find hope, to feel whole, and to master the challenges of their lives. He knew, too, that this included everyone he met. His devotion to honesty, fairness, and compassion made him a trustworthy confidante and friend. Through the struggles of his life,
and the support of his family and friends, he grew in faith and love, and generously shared his goodness with others. He was especially proud of his daughters and their many accomplishments."

He is survived by his daughters, Melissa and Anna, and their mother Patricia Hernandez, all of Anchorage; his life partner and partner’s son, Ken Helander and Nate, both of Anchorage; parents, Jesus and Juana of Mexico; sisters, Josefina of Napa, CA, Agrippina and Graciela, of Taltenango, Felipa of Lafayette, IN, Maria of Denison, TX, Elva of Lafayette, Domitila of Toluquilla, Jalisco, Mexico; brothers, Juan Antonio of Everett, WA, and Santiago of Lafayette, and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family requests memorial donations be sent to Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association, 1057 West Fireweed Lane, Anchorage 99501, or Bean’s Cafe, P.O. Box 100940, Anchorage 99510.

Arrangements were handled by Evergreen Memorial Chapels.

Thanks to the Anchorage Daily News, 7/2/95.

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Life itself is the proper binge.
Julia Child, b. 1912, American chef

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Great Gay And Lesbian Places To Live
The Official Guide

This is the first, and to date, the only guide to identify cities and towns across the United States which are not only "Gay friendly", but are "Gay supportive" as well. One Hundred thirty three cities and towns are profiled from a Gay/Lesbian/bisexual perspective. While there are several Gay travel guides on the market, this extraordinary guide is entirely different in that it details from every pertinent aspect the best places for Gays, Lesbians, and bisexuals to live nationwide. Its two hundred forty pages are jam packed with solid information, and at least one city or town from every state is included.

For each city and town, there's up-to-the-minute Gay Rights and Sodomy Law information, Domestic Partnership information, Companies that prohibit discrimination based on sexual preference information, and best neighborhoods to live in information. Gay or Gay Friendly coffeehouses, bars, restaurants, bookstores, community centers, businesses, recreational activities, contact numbers, support groups, social organizations, AIDS organizations, BBS's, political organizations, publications, and churches are all covered.

The, "What The Locals Say", section was created from actually talking to Gays and Lesbians in each city or town to see what they think of their community. Answers to questions like: What's the political atmosphere toward the Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual community? Do Gay bashings occur in your town? Do you feel comfortable and safe living in your town? If you were new to town, how would you go about meeting people? What kind of activities are there in your town for family? This section is a particular favorite as it gives "local flavor" to the overall description of the community.

In addition to desiring to live in freedom and without fear, Gays look for all the same characteristics in ideal places to live that everyone else does so information about the population size, growth rate, and make-up; per capita income; climate; job growth; unemployment rate; educational opportunities; hospital and health care; average cost of home (renting or owning); and crime is also included. The, "Things To Do" section lists all the recreational activities, sites to see, parks to visit, etc.

Finally, Gays, Lesbians, and Bisexuals can have at their finger tips a much needed resource which profiles the most Gay positive cities and towns in the U.S. A copy of GREAT GAY AND LESBIAN PLACES TO LIVE is all that is needed to find an ideal relocation community. There actually are many communities all over this country where people with alternative life styles can live and work in freedom without fear.

There are no ads in the guide.

The information is completely unbiased.

Since the authors were beholden to no one, the Guide gives both the positives and the negatives for each community. For example, Northampton, Mass., is said to be the Lesbian capitol of the world, and it is the perfect living environment for Lesbians (Gays live there too), but it does have one drawback. Jobs are scarce; in fact, so scarce that potential new comers are advised to either be self supporting or open a business needed by the community. New York City is recognized as the Gay Mecca of the world; yet, just its size (seven million people), and also the size and diversity of the Gay community can be confusing and overwhelming leaving a new comer feeling isolated. There are ways, though, to be welcomed and acclimated quickly in New York City and GREAT GAY AND LESBIAN PLACES TO LIVE guides a new-comer easily through the maze.
The Albums of Potter's Lane
(Remembering)
by Dan Cook

Part 27
"The Women of Potter's Lane"

The sign read "Mama's Pastries." She was wearing a very white lacy apron.

Mama's shop was a real hit, not only with the walk-in trade but she also had contracts with two hotels and three restaurants in Boise. She hired two of her friends (both widows) to help. "Not bad at all," Steve said looking at the snapshot, remembering those years of 1938 to 1939.

Mama Lane found out she was a lot stronger than she thought she was and was out to prove it to herself. Where she found the strength after losing a daughter and her husband in such a short time no one knew. She said Papa was helping her just like he always had, and for some reason no one doubted her. Then there was Mother Potter. She was investing in everything including this casino in Cuba. There was a vast difference between these two, but whatever they touched and were doing they were very good at it.

Steve and Mike gave up years ago passing judgment on any one in the family. At least gambling was legal and if mother wanted a casino in Cuba, so be it. God only knows she was strong enough.

Victoria wanted a piece of the casino and Mother Potter was glad to have her and asked Mike and Steve if they wanted to come in. Mike, the conservative, declined which was a real disappointment to Steve.

Steve and Mike had not traveled anywhere that winter. What they needed to do was break away and check out the Island and meet the three men, Nick, Joe and Neil, that Victoria had hired.

Robert came back from the Island a changed man. He was infatuated with a man named Neil. Everything Robert talked about had something to do with Neil. David and Bob were teasing him about falling in love. "Robert's in love with a sailor," they said, chiding him and laughing like hell. Of course all this made Mike and Steve very curious. "The Sisters' docked at Mother's pier and behind it, Nick and Joe's fishing boat.

This was the first time Mike and Steve had seen Victoria's yacht. Leave it to Victoria: it was black, white, chrome and as elegant as the lady that owned her.

Nick and Joe were real knockouts. When they met Neil, Mike had to tell Steve to close his mouth. Black wavy hair, blue-green eyes, long black eyelashes, 17 inch neck with a 32 inch waist, a strong chin with a pair of dimples that framed the whitest teeth. His huge shoulders and arms were that of a fisherman and all this was on a 6 foot 2 body. He topped it all off by wearing the tightest white pants. Even Mike wondered how he ever got them on. Photo taken the summer of 1939.

The three addressed Mike and Steve as Sir, but only for the first day. Mike put them all at ease. "It's Mike and Steve, not Sir." It was like lifting heavy blocks from their shoulders. From then on the conversation was light, airy and not so formal.

Victoria's ferry boat was a beehive of activity, set where the old pier and boathouse used to be. The three contractors had their own floating offices and workshops. A picture of the landscaper and everything he did were also in the album. He had transformed the whole lagoon area into a park by stripping the brush 100 feet or more from the beach. He left some tall Douglas Fir—the ones he cleared, now floating next to the ferry boat, he planned on taking to Bellingham and trading for seasoned lumber.

Lilac, rhododendron, fens and ornamental dogwood set in rows, all their roots wrapped in burlap. Boxes of bulbs, and seeds, and every flat rock he and his men could find were stacked on the beach ready to be used for paths or steps. His small bulldozer had really opened up everything including the pond behind the house. He had holding tanks for the fish and used a large pipe to bypass the waterfall and pond. He stripped the peat and logs out and replaced them with fine pea gravel and sand. The sides of the pond were cement and still in there molds. The powerhouse and waterwheel were a week away from completion. The foundation of the new house with it's septic tanks was now complete. The large cement mixer with its mounds of gravel and sacks of cement and sand were now ready for walks, ponds and sea walls. This was not the beautiful lagoon they first saw a year ago but a construction site with huge stacks of lumber and barrels of oil, gas, and nails stacked up like can goods in a pantry. In 12 months they would have it all completed and it didn't take much too of an imagination to see the little lagoon would be a fabulous estate.

Mike and Steve knew the architect and the builder. They were the same two men who designed and built the ranch. The architect came up with a plan to convert the ferry boat into a party boat, permanently anchored, with a pier that could be used for the Sisters or other yachts.

This Clubhouse would have a dance floor on the first level with hardwood floors, the second level would be opened up with a staircase and balcony with a full bar, pool tables, and a kitchen. The third level where the Captain's bridge was located would be turned into a sundeck, with shuffleboard and changing rooms. Mike and Steve thought all of it was great and gave the go-ahead.

Cha Cha was due in less than a week. She was bringing The Pink Lady for the Canadian Cup Regatta. The studios were sending their stars to promote some big Movies. The Commodore was beside himself. Clark Gable and Olivia de Havilland were promoting "Gone With the Wind." Judy Garland was flying in to promote a
fantasy film about "The Wizard of Oz." The Studios expected Cha Cha to help sell the product in Seattle and Canada. Stars were as much a product as the films. The Commodore and the Studios were both very generous and Victoria beamed every time she mentioned Cha Cha's name. It was "her Cha Cha this" and "her Cha Cha that." Mike asked what happened to Vince?

Vince loved Cha Cha and Victoria—but as sisters, at least that’s what he told her. Victoria had some reservations about all this. She wanted Mike to ask Vince if he was really happy for the two girls.

They heard the Pink Lady tooting her horn just before they spotted her slipping into the lagoon. Cha Cha was on the bridge throwing kisses, and Vince was beside her toasting their family with champagne. As soon as they boarded the Lady, Cha Cha and Victoria retired to Cha Cha's stateroom. Monty swirled in. "I guess the madams are in heat."

This was the perfect time to ask Vince what he really thought about Victoria. Vince said it was a good time because they had never seen Cha Cha so happy and so in love. Mike said the same thing about Victoria. But importantly, Vince was happy, too.

Suddenly they heard Monty let out this huge scream and heard the tray of sandwiches hit the deck. This brought the guys to their feet. Vince was yelling "What's wrong with that queen now?" Mike and Steve shrugged their shoulders and let Vince retreat to the galley. After a few minutes of silence they both got up to see what happened. They found Vince and Monty in a trance watching Neil through a porthole working on the Sisters.

That was the first time we had ever seen these two speechless. "I heard Cha Cha said Victoria had hired three handsome men for the Sisters, now I believe it," Vince said. "So, that’s Robert’s Neil."

The girls only stayed the night. The following morning they headed for Seattle. Cha Cha had a lot of things to take care of and left Vince and the guys with The Sisters. They would meet them in Vancouver in three days.

They took their time over the next two days sailing The Sisters from one island to the next. As they sailed into English Bay the custom officer and harbor pilot greeted them and guided the Sisters into Burrard Inlet. The Pink Lady was already there and had a place of honor next to the Commodore’s flag ship. They anchored the Sisters next to The Pink Lady but saw nothing of Cha Cha or Victoria.

The Captain said the women were flying up with the stars and were due in around 3:00pm. Since it was early, the guys went shopping. When they returned they thought a race was about to start because both sides of the inlet were lined with boats of every size and description.

Nick pointed his finger to a Pan American Flying boat circling Vancouver and heading towards the inlet. Vince said, "this should be good if that’s Cha Cha."

The plane passed over the yachts tipping it's wings. "Greetings from Hollywood" it seemed to say. This large four-engine plane was one of the largest in the world at the time and the loudest. When it landed it was as graceful as a swan. "Well, she's done it again." Vince yelled.

The Commodore and the Prime Minister met the plane with a Canadian navy launch. Horns, bells and cannons all went off at the same time as the launch pulled away from the plane and headed down the line of yachts.

For the next three days Cha Cha would be on call 24 hours a day. The Canadian Ambassador came aboard the Lady and gave Mike a note from his Mother she had given him in New York.

Turning the page…

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

[Note: if you've been following the saga of Steve and Mike and are missing sections of the storyline, please write or call Cheressie, who will send the missing sections at no charge.] ▼

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Letter from the Emperor

To the Good People of All Alaska,

It is with great pleasure that I announce this year's candidates for Emperor and Empress.

Seeking the Emperor's Crown is Madeline Holdorf. Madeline was the first female Empress of Alaska and with a little luck she will be the first female Emperor.

For the title of Empress, the candidates are Jannyka and Laura Duvali. Either would be a fine choice and this promises to be a good race.

Keep your ears tuned for their campaign parties—they should all be fun.

Voting this year will be around August 18—exact time and place to be announced. If you don't hear about it by then, call me on my pager for details.

Coronation plans are progressing well. In case you didn't know, Coronation will be at the Egan Center on Sunday, September 3, 1995. Doors open at 5:00 pm.

Between now and Coronation the Court will have three more functions: 1.- "Roast the Emperor and Empress" at the Raven Bar, July 29; 2.- "Carnival at the Blue Moon" August 13; and 3.- "Turnabout Turnaround Ball" August 26 at the Wave (see the Emperor in Drag!)

It sure has been a full year. Help us send it out in style.

All my love,
Emperor Bob
(pager# 275-0046)

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Music Reviews

Cleo Laine with The Duke Ellington Orchestra
"Solitude"
By Kurt Parish

If you are a person who likes the timelessness of jazz, especially with a woman's style and perspective, you will absolutely enjoy Ms. Laine's new album featuring the legendary Duke Ellington Orchestra. The pairing of Cleo's voice with the talented and very experienced musician that make up the Ellington Band creates a perfectly balanced jazz ensemble.

The opening piece "Don't Get Around Here Much More" easily sets the pace for a mostly upbeat, but at times pleasantly smooth, trail of timeless music. The alto sax highlights this first serenade and does not let the listener down till the last note sails out of Cleo Laine's elegant voice. Equally uplifting is "We're Rockin' in Rhythm" which is my personal favorite as it captures Cleo's vocal range in a jazzy, and fun-spirited melody.

Halfway through the compact disc, the lyric that has become one of her "signature" tunes can be heard. It's easy to understand why this one has become so hot. "Crepole Love Call" sounds exactly as the title suggests. Her voice is every bit as soothing and sultry as a dove's cry for her mate, making you desire to have the song never end. It is songs like this that make jazz continue to be as popular as it has always been.

The affair concludes with yet another intensely jazzy number that leaves you still tapping your feet to the rhythm even as the last note resonates through the air. I kept finding myself trying to listen and understand the words but losing track because the music and the sound of her voice are what makes these songs and this CD so pleasing. When I was able to concentrate on the words I found them to be just as much fun as the music itself.

I strongly suggest Cleo Laine's newest release as it captures the heart and soul of jazz...the perfect kind of music to wrap up a romantic evening with your favorite person, an exquisite dinner, and a glass of your favorite wine. Your body naturally unwind as your mind is carried off by Cleo's voice and The Duke Ellington Orchestra's music. It is easy to see why she is called the "Queen of Jazz".

Alan Parsons
"The Very Best - Live"

Having been a fan of Alan Parsons' music since I first discovered the escape that listening to music can bring, I knew this collection was going to be a good one. I'm happy to say I've not been disappointed, and I can continue to proudly display my collection of seven cassettes which represents little more than half the albums Alan Parsons Project has released since forming in 1976.

"Project" was dropped from their full name in 1992, but two other original band members, besides Parsons himself, have stayed on.

The unknowing listener may recognize the catchy phrases of several classic pieces on this new release, but may not recall it was the Alan Parsons Project that gave the music and lyrics life and a future. This being the first compact disc produced "Live," I was really impressed with the sound quality. Not being a huge fan of "live" recordings I kept forgetting that was what I was listening to. The recollection came to me, however, between songs when the crowd, understandably, expressed their adoration. The songs themselves sound as if they were created in the studio.

Included in this collection of masterpieces are the all-time favorites "Eye in the Sky," "Prime Time" and "Don't Answer Me." They are all memory-inducing songs with very popular lyrics that most people can easily find themselves singing along with. Also included are a few more condite tunes including "Time," "Old and Wise" and "Limelight" all of which carry the same quality and sound that makes hearing anything with Alan Parsons' handiwork a pleasure to listen to— but I'm not sure of their popularity. "Luciferama" goes one step further by standing on its own with no catchy lyrics to accompany it. The music itself is able to transcend everything in this collection of songs. Many of today's musicians rely solely or mostly on the lyrics of the songs to sell their records, but Parsons and his crew are able to take it one step further by having good quality music that borders on orchestrated level at times. I can easily imagine hearing these cuts with no words and still enjoying the alliance formed by all the musicians and instruments involved.

Three brand new songs that capture Mr. Parsons' history as a producer, engineer, and musician are introduced on the CD, all of which are delightful listening and help update Parsons' music to the 90's. Vastly enjoyable is
"You're the Voice," the final track, that is both lively and inspiring in the way that chronicles the sound of the Alan Parsons Project's past and carries it into the present. I'll be listening for this one on the radio.

If you are an Alan Parsons fan or have a taste for quality music I would suggest adding this new "Live" release to your collection.

Kurt Parish is an Identity Board Member, a budding activist, outdoor enthusiast, and proud Alaskan.

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THE INTERNET:
the Good, the Bad & the Ugly
(very original title, eh?)

Like many of you, I have discovered the joys of the INTERNET over the past year. As with most areas of American life, there are good and bad aspects of the Internet and other local or nationwide computer services.

INTERNET-THE GOOD: Although I am far from a computer expert--or geek, whichever term applies--I have found my way through the maze of Prodigy, Compuserve and America On-Line (AOL). Each of these services provide basic items which could be fun or beneficial to most of us. Prodigy has an easier access to a greater number of Internet Newsgroups and the World Wide Web than, say, AOL and I have not used Compuserve enough to really comment on its Internet services but it has the others beat as far as providing worldwide "chat" rooms. The first time I "talked" live online with a gay man in Saudi Arabia, I knew I would like Compuserve. However, the limited number of categories available for discussion rooms (Compuserve has one "room" set aside for Gay Lifestyles and another set aside for Lesbian Lifestyles) soon made me realize AOL had both of the other systems beat when it came to specific topic "rooms". On AOL, you can create your own topic and up to 23 people may enter the discussion at one time. If you prefer a private discussion after you have met someone in a room, you may tell the other person the name of your "private room" and both of you or as many people as you invite, may continue a private conversation. The costs on all of these systems is fairly constant--about $10.00 month and then a set fee based on how many hours you are on each month (about $3/hour). If you only send electronic mail (email) to others, it can be a very inexpensive way to communicate. If you spend hours in chat rooms, it can become very costly.

For our community, networking opportunities are limitless! I have used AOL for numerous projects, ranging from locating other members of MCC to finding names of Equal Rights Commissioners around the nation who support gay rights (I know, that's a revolutionary concept considering our local Commission, eh?).

INTERNET-THE BAD: The biggest problem with national systems such as AOL, Prodigy and Compuserve are limited access lines available in Alaska. This problem is much greater on AOL than either of the other systems. Another problem, particularly for AOL, is a 2400 baud rate download capability. If you want 14,400 or 28,600 you much
dial Seattle and pay long distance charges or dial an 800 number and pay an additional surcharge. I wrote a letter to AOL asking for their comments on future improvements for Alaska to be included in this article but they did not respond to my request. I have on many occasions thought I would cancel my AOL account but it is, by far, the most productive service for my needs.

INTERNET-THE UGLY: Most of us have read the accounts in the newspaper concerning attempts by the US Congress to place tighter restrictions on Internet activities. Although I am unabashedly liberal, I have discovered a side of the Internet which may require tighter controls. There are some people who may find it impossible to provide "self policing" to their activities. I abhor the idea of government censorship but in some areas the Internet and national and possibly local systems are allowing an element of our population to engage in what would be considered illegal activities in any other realm.

After the bombing of the federal building in Oklahoma City, I went into several areas of the Internet dealing with government conspiracies, militia and similar right-wing patriot groups. Information available--everything from how to build a bomb to every imaginable degree of paranoid fear of fellow Americans--was frightening!

Of more concern to our community is the rampant availability of "kiddie porn". Not a concern because all of the pedophile activities were man/boy but because of the continuing misperception that all gay men want to have sex with children. On Prodigy, there is ready access to an area called "alt.sex.pedophilia." In the Prodigy online photo gallery, there is one section devoted to "erotic children" (alt.binaries.erotic.children). These areas contain photos of children, stories involving sexual activities between adults and children and many other items most of us would find offensive. Of greater concern are the discussion "rooms", particularly on AOL, with names such as "Preteen Pics", "Hairless Chicken M4m", "NAMBLA", "Mommie 4 LiI Girl", etc. Again, I don't want to leave the impression that all of the pedophilia associated with the Internet is man/boy, but some of it is and it only adds to the ridiculous charges made by the Far Right Extremists.

If you're already online, I'll see you there--alaskadan@aol.com.

Dan Carter is a local gay activist
Fat, Fabulous or Both?
Simple commentary on being a big fat hairy dyke babe in Albany with Pride, June '95--Pride month.
By Simone Irizarry

G F seeks slim athletic type;  GWF seeks femme no fats/drugs/smoke/bi's; GBF seeks petite/slim Lesbian femmes only need apply.
Ouch! Major ouch! What does this crap say about us? Why are these ads so hauntingly similar to those trashy lesbian ads in sleazy mags? I am surprised we don't start requesting a certain amount of cleavage, maybe shaved legs only, and anything else that may be considered desirable to the peroxide dependent culturally challenged and intellectually impaired debutantes writing that dribble. Well, I feel better.

Now seriously, what do these ads have to say about us as a community? Besides the fact that some of us are intolerant and probably retain an awful lot of internalized homophobia, it says we don't like ourselves very much.

These ads are reflective of the current attitudes sold to us by Madison Avenue and imprinted on us by well meaning (I hope) relatives and friends. There are issues regarding extreme obesity beyond health. I am not addressing health issues as much as focusing on the acceptance factor.

Frankly there is little acceptance in thin white Albany for large people in our community. This is evident at the bars, in the social groups that are kept closed to the big babies. It's really sad when the only large women to be found at Power Company are the mondo "fag hags." (For lack of a better term) who are invariably straight.

Personally, I like to see couples that are as diverse as our community. I enjoy seeing these women who are comfortable being large women having a hot time and not holding up the walls. There's something to be said about the sway of hips on a well endowed woman who beckons you to lose yourself in her vastness. That is what I call hot! Sexy! You know - the feeling that says, "Yes! Oh Goddess Yes!"

So, is the preoccupation with being thin a white American thing -- sort of like shaving one's legs? I was in gorgeous Montego Bay in Ocho Rios, Jamaica a couple of years ago. As many resorts do, the Jamaica Grande had a beauty contest. Wows! I thought what a hoot! Me. Big fat hairy dyke babe in a line up of raw meat. Cool. Nobody knows me here. I'm leaving tomorrow night. How bad can it be? Me and twenty half-dressed babes on a hot Caribbean island; my dream come true!

So I enter.

You know -- do the cha-cha dance in a tropical fruit on the head costume, answer some silly questions, strike my best poses in -- yes, a bathing suit -- all oiled up with my plump hairy thighs glistening and my bodacious rump on display!

Do I win? Hell yes! Second Prize! I have to tell you though -- the winner -- she had on a thong and she had breast implants! Honest! Mine on the other hand ... well let's not go there!

I am a lucky woman. My world is filled with wonderful people who appreciate me for who I am and who I aspire to be. Not everyone is as fortunate as I am. Some of us may know or actually have friends who don't get invited to certain places or events because they are "overweight". Over whose weight?

What's next -- will discriminating based on nipple or tongue size be next? Every time we find something physical to pick apart we lose a friend, an ally and possibly a love.

Unfortunately size discrimination also costs us money. Employers often leave out larger sized workers in presentations and hiring efforts. They use lovely little terms like "corporate image", "this is more of a front line position", "you aren't quite what we had in mind in terms of style... you understand... don't you dear?"

Hell no... "dear". Do you mean Corporate America wants anorexic splinter thin dried out implant wearing bleached teeth sporting fehmboots? Hmmm? Makes you wonder why in our own community we are emulating Corporate America's ways. Qualities. Diversity is not only a cultural issue it is also a size, ability, age, gender and class issue.

Where is our pride? This is June -- Pride Month '95! Walk with pride! Why let the baggage of some insensitive and ignorant people make you feel bad about yourself? Feel great about yourself! Get naked in your house! (But, take it from me, don't fry bacon in the nude.)

Seriously, think about self acceptance as being key to being comfortable and flourishing in a sometimes hostile environment. Enjoy your curves and folds and revel in the feel of your skin. I knew I was a Lesbian the morning I hugged my first lover -- we were breast to breast and wrapped in the envelope only two large women can create and I felt as though there was no end to this downy softness -- I could fall forever into this valley of warmth and never hit rock. Ahhh, life is good!

Thanks to the May 1995 Community, a monthly newsmagazine published by the Capital District Gay and Lesbian Community Council, Inc., P. O. Box 131, Albany, N.Y. 12201.

Angie Slingluff
337-0253
COMPUTER SERVICES
Your Job Done Your Way

Layout, Simple Accounting, Mailing Lists, Thesis, Projects, Charts, Graphs, Overheads, Slides, You name it!
July 21, 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 Juneau.
λ RSVP deadline for Pride Conference BBQ, Kurt or Bill, 272-3990.

July 22, Sat:
λ SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 12:00noon, 566-1133.
◊ KSUA, 103.9 FM, 6:00-8:00pm, “Queer Beans” (Gay issues and music), Fairbanks. Requests: 1-907-474-5782.
λ Feminist Sing-a-Long, 6:30pm, potluck; 7:30pm singing, 1741 Westview Cir., Carol or Fran, 337-3543.
λ The Family (UAA), call for Time & Place, Kimberly, 786-4959.
◊ Dancing in Fairbanks!, 11:00pm-3:00am, Palace Saloon in Juneau.

July 23, Sun:
λ DykeHyke—call 337-0253 for information.
λ AUUF Services, no 9:00am service. 10:30am (“Is God What We Don’t Know,” Ray Harris), 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 Pride Conference BBQ Fundraiser, 2:00-8:00pm. Door prizes and silent auction. Kurt/Bill, 272-3990.
λ Northern Exposure Bowling League, next lane change in September.
λ Anchorage Lesbian Families’ Alliance (ALFA), on vacation 'til September, Mary and Val Jean’s, 276-3478.
λ Gay, Joyous & Free, AA Meeting, 7:00pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave.

July 24, Mon:
λ Gay, Joyous & Free AA Meeting, 7:00pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave.

July 25, Tues:
λ Identity Board Meeting, 7:00pm, AUUF, Room A. Fken, 248-7722.
λ SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 8:00pm; call 566-1133.
◊ Bids due for the RSVP 8-day-7-night cruise aboard “Sea Spirit,” Daniel, 1-907-789-5001.

July 26, Wed:
λ Free HIV TEST at 4As, 2:00-4:00pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, 263-2050.
◊ Social at Summit Lounge, after work (Juneau).
λ Lamb of God Metropolitan Community Church, 7:00pm, service, 615 Hollywood Dr., 258-5266.
λ Pride Conference Planning Meeting, 7:00pm, Place TBA, Kurt 272-2990 or Susan 248-9887.
◊ “Women’s Prerogative,” KTOO-FM (Juneau), 9:00-10:00pm.
λ Blue Moon Follies, 10:00pm, $3 Cover.
λ La Cage aux Wave (drag show), 10:00pm, $3 Cover, 561-9283.

July 27, Thurs:
λ SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 5:30pm, call 566-1133.
◊ Gay, Lesbian, Bi-Sexual Youth Meeting (26 & under), 5:30pm (Juneau), 1-907-463-5688.
λ L.M.R.U. Youth Group—Metropolitan Community Church Outreach (ages 15-21), 7:00-9:30pm, MCC, 615 Hollywood Dr., #5, 258-5266.
λ Gay, Joyous & Free AA Meeting, 7:00pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave. (Non-smoking).
λ Country Dancing at the Wave, 8:00pm, taught by Bear. 561-9283.

July 28, Fri:
λ PLWA lunch, 4A’s, 12noon-1:00pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, 263-2050.

λ Identity Potluck, “Bona Dea the Women’s Bookstore—Videos.” 6:30pm, AUUF
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!, 9:00pm-3:00am, Palace Saloon in Juneau.

July 29, Sat:
λ SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 12:00; call 566-1133.
◊ KSUA, 103.9 FM, 6:00-8:00pm, “Queer Beans” (Gay issues and music), Fairbanks. Requests: 1-907-474-5782.
Women's Coffee House, on hiatus 'til the Fall.

Dancing in Fairbanks!, 11:00pm-3:00am, Palace Saloon in Alaskaland.

July 30, Sun:
- DykeHyke: information, Linda/Angie, 337-0253.
- AUUF Services, no 9:00am service. 10:30am, guest speaker Rev. Jeffrey Selth, 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.
- Northern Exposure Bowling League, no gutter balls 'til September!
- Anchorage Lesbian Families' Alliance (ALFA), on vacation 'til September, Mary and Val Jean's, 276-3478.
- Gay, Joyous & Free, AA Meeting, 7:00pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave.

July 31, Mon:
- Gay, Joyous & Free, 7:00pm, AA Meeting 1231 W. 27th Ave.

August 1, Tues:
- PFLAG Juneau Meeting, noon, Mendenhall Mall/Valley Library, 1-907-463-4205.
- SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 8:00pm, 566-1133.

August 2, Wed:
- Free HIV TEST at 4As, 2:00-4:00pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, 263-2050.
- Social at Summit Lounge (Juneau), after work.
- MCRTF (Minority Community Relations Task Force) Meeting (Juneau), 7:00pm, 1-907-386-6623.
- Lamb of God Metropolitan Community Church, 7:00pm, service, 615 Hollywood Dr., 258-5266.
- "Women's Prerogative," KTOO FM Juneau, 9:00-10:00pm.
- Blue Moon Follies, 10:00pm. $3 Cover.
- La Cage aux Wave (drag show), 10:00pm, $3 Cover, 561-9283.

August 3, Thurs:
- SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 5:30pm, 566-1133.
- Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay Youth Meeting (26 & under), 5:30pm (Juneau), 1-907-463-5688.
- Activities Committee Meeting (SEAGLA, Juneau), 5:30pm, France & Woody's. 1-907-364-2526.
- Equal Meeting, 7:00pm, MCC, Dan 274-9226.
- I.M.R.U. Youth Group--Metropolitan Community Church, Outreach (ages 15-21), 7:00-9:30pm, MCC, 615 Hollywood Dr., #5, 258-5266.
- Gay, Joyous & Free AA Meeting, 7:00pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave. (non-smoking).
- Country Dancing at the Wave, 8:00pm, taught by Bear, 561-9283.

August 4, Fri:
- PLWA lunch, 4As, 12noon-1:00pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, 263-2050.
- Garage Sale--One World, One People Women's Choir, 1902 Logan, donations accepted, Hosanna, 272-3872.

August 5, Sat:
- Garage Sale--One World, One People Women's Choir, 1902 Logan, donations accepted, Hosanna, 272-3872.
- Croquet & Badminton Games and Camp-out (Homer), Women only. Amy 1-907-235-6954.
- SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 12:00, call 566-1133.
- The Family (UAA), call Kimberly for time & location, 786-4959.
- Women's 2-Step, resumes in the Fall.
- KUSA, 103.9 FM, 6:00-8:00pm, "Queer Beans" (Gay issues and music), Fairbanks. Requests: 1-907-474-5782.
- Dancing in Fairbanks!, 11:00pm-3:00am, Palace Saloon in Alaskaland.

NorthView Deadline

August 6, Sun:
- Garage Sale--One World, One People Women's Choir, 1902 Logan, donations accepted, Hosanna, 272-3872.
- AUUF Services, 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.
- Northern Exposure Bowling League, reset in September.
- Gay, Joyous & Free, AA Meeting, 7:00pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave.

August 7, Mon:
- Gay, Joyous & Free, 7:00pm, AA Meeting 1231 W. 27th Ave.

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

August 9, Wed:
- Free HIV TEST at 4As, 2:00-4:00pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, 263-2050.
- Social at Summit Lounge (Juneau), after work.
- Lamb of God Metropolitan Community Church, 7:00pm, service, 615 Hollywood Dr., 258-5266.
- Alaska Women's Political Caucus, 7:00pm, First United Methodist Church.
- "Women's Prerogative," KTOO FM, 9:00-10:00pm.
- Blue Moon Follies, 10:00pm. $3 Cover.
- La Cage aux Wave (drag show), 10:00pm, $3 Cover, 561-9283.

August 10, Thurs:
- SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 5:30pm, 566-1133.
August 11, 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! 9:00pm-3:00am, Palace Saloon in Fairbanks.

August 12, Sat:
- Daniel Burns and Edwin Balvalerie Holm Union service, 11:30am, MCC, 615 Hollywood Drive, #5 (Government Hill). Reception following ceremony. Everyone welcome. 248-9373.
- SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 12:00, 566-1133.
- KSUA, 103.9 FM, 6:00-8:00pm, “Queer Beans” (Gay issues and music). Requests: 1-907-474-5782.
- Dancing in Fairbanks! 11:00pm-3:00am, Palace Saloon in Fairbanks.

August 13, Sun:
- AUUF Services, 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, 615 Hollywood Dr.
- Northern Exposure Bowling League, split ‘til September.
- Anchorage Lesbian Families’ Alliance (ALFA), on vacation ‘til September, Mary and Val Jean’s, 276-3478.
- Gay, Joyous & Free, AA Meeting, 7:00pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave.

August 14, Mon:
- Gay, Joyous & Free, 7:00pm, AA Meeting 1231 W. 27th Ave.
- Gay Bar, 7:00-8:30pm, Legal Q&A, bring questions & concerns, Allison or Lisa, 279-5001.

August 15, Tues:
- PFLAG - Fairbanks Monthly Meeting, 5:30pm, Nancy, 1-907-479-4944.
- SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 8:00pm, 566-1133.

August 16, Wed:
- Free HIV TEST at 4As, 2:00-4:00pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, 263-2050.
- Social at Summit Lounge (Juneau), after work.
- PFLAG Southcentral, 7:00pm, AUUF, Fred 562-7161 or Sylvia 562-4992.
- Lamb of God Metropolitan Community Church, 7:00pm, service, 615 Hollywood Dr., 258-5266.
- Women’s Prerogative, KTOO-FM (Juneau), 9:00-10:00pm.
- Blue Moon Follies, 10:00pm, $3 Cover.
- La Casita aux Vale (drag show), 10:00pm, $3 Cover, 561-9283.

August 17, Thurs:
- SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 5:30pm, 566-1133.
- Gay, Lesbian, Bi-Sexual Youth Meeting (26 & under), 5:30pm (Juneau), 1-907-463-5688.
- Last Frontier Men’s Club, 6:00pm, the Raven.
- Anchorage Equal Rights Commission, 6:00pm, Mayor’s Conference Room, 6th & G, Dan 274-9226.
- J.M.R.U. Youth Group—Metropolitan Community Church Outreach (ages 15-21), 7:00-9:30pm, MCC, 615 Hollywood Dr., #5, 258-5266.
- Gay, Joyous & Free AA Meeting, 7:00pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave. (non-smoking).

August 18, 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 Fairbanks.

August 19, Sat:
- PFLAG Juneau Meeting, 12:00noon. Mendenhall Mall Library.
- SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 12:00, 566-1133.
- KSUA, 103.9 FM, 6:00-8:00pm, “Queer Beans” (Gay issues and music). Requests: 1-907-474-5782.
- Feminist Sing-a-Long, 6:30pm, potluck! 7:30pm singing, 1741 Westview Cir., Carol or Fran, 337-3543.
- The Family (UAA), call for time & place, Kimberly, 786-4959.

August 20, Sun:
- AUUF Services, 10:30am, 3201 Turnagain St., 248-3737.
- Northern Exposure Bowling League, next lane change in September.
- Anchorage Lesbian Families’ Alliance (ALFA), on vacation ‘til September, Mary and Val Jean’s, 276-3478.
- Gay, Joyous & Free, AA Meeting, 7:00pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave.
August 21, Mon:
λ Gay, Jovous & Free, 7:00pm, AA Meeting 1231 W. 27th Ave.

August 22, Tues:
◊ PFLAG Fairbanks Monthly Meeting, for time & place call 1-907-459-8629.
λ Identity Board Meeting, 7:00pm, AUUF, Room A. Fken, 248-7722.
λ SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 8:00pm, 566-1133.

August 23, Wed:
λ Free HIV TEST at 4As, 2:00-4:00pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, 1263-2050.
◊ Social at Summit Lounge (Juneau), after work.
λ Lamb of God Metropolitan Community Church, 7:00pm, service, 615 Hollywood Dr., 258-5266.
◊ "Women’s Prerogative," KTOO-FM (Juneau), 9:00-10:00pm.
λ Blue Moon Follies, 10:00pm, $3 Cover.
λ La Cage aux Wave (drag show), 10:00pm, $3 Cover, 561-9283.

August 24, Thurs:
λ SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 5:30pm, 566-1133.
◊ Gay, Lesbian, Bi-Sexual Youth Meeting (26 & under), 5:30pm (Juneau), 1-907-463-5688.
λ I.M.R.U. Youth Group -Metropolitan Community Church Outreach (ages 15-21), 7:00-9:30pm, MCC, 615 Hollywood Dr., #5, 258-5266.
λ Gay, Jovous & Free AA Meeting, 7:00pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave. (non-smoking).
λ Country Dancing at the Wave, 8:00pm, taught by Bear, 561-9283.

August 25, Fri:
λ PLWA lunch, 4A’s, 12noon-1:00pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, 263-2050.
λ Identity Potluck, "Anchorage Police Department: Gay Bashing in Anchorage," 6:30pm, AUUF.
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! 9:00pm-3:00am, Palace Saloon in Juneau.

August 26, Sat:
λ SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 12:00noon, 566-1133.
◊ KSUA, 103.9 FM, 6:00-8:00pm, "Queer Beans" (Gay issues and music), Fairbanks. Requests: 1-907-474-5782.
λ Women’s Coffeehouse, on hiatus 'til the Fall.
◊ Dancing in Fairbanks! 11:00pm-3:00am, Palace Saloon in Juneau.

August 27, Sun:
λ AUUF Services, 10:30am, 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 Northern Exposure Bowling League, no gutter balls 'til September!
λ Anchorage Lesbian Families’ Alliance (ALFA), on vacation 'til September, Mary and Val Jean's, 276-3478.
λ Gay, Jovous & Free, AA Meeting, 7:00pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave.

August 28, Mon:
λ Gay, Jovous & Free, 7:00pm, AA Meeting 1231 W. 27th Ave.

August 29, Tues:
λ SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 8:00pm, 566-1133.

August 30, Wed:
λ Free HIV TEST at 4As, 2:00-4:00pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, 263-2050.
◊ Social at Summit Lounge (Juneau), after work.
λ MCRFT (Minority Community Relations Task Force) Meeting (Juneau), 7:00pm, 1-907-586-6623.
λ "Women’s Prerogative," KTOO FM Juneau, 9:00-10:00pm.
λ Blue Moon Follies, 10:00pm, $3 Cover.
λ La Cage aux Wave (drag show), 10:00pm, $3 Cover, 561-9283.

August 31, Thurs:
λ SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 5:30pm, 566-1133.
◊ Gay, Lesbian, Bi-Sexual Youth Meeting (26 & under), 5:30pm (Juneau), 1-907-463-5688.
λ I.M.R.U. Youth Group-Metropolitan Community Church Outreach (ages 15-21), 7:00-9:30pm, MCC, 615 Hollywood Dr., #5, 258-5266.
λ Gay, Jovous & Free AA Meeting, 7:00pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave. (non-smoking).
λ Country Dancing at the Wave, 8:00pm, taught by Bear, 561-9283.

Oh don't mind the rubber glove. It's just an idea I picked up from the White House.

THE ANCHORAGE TIMES,
Fridaay, June 30, 1995
O'Brady's is proud to feature
Full Sail Nut Brown Ale on tap
this month. Full Sail is one of
Oregon's premier micro-breweries.

For the tasti-
est, juiciest
burgers in
town, there
can only be
one place...
O'Brady's
Burgers &
Brew.

So walk, run,
or roll to
O'Brady's,
snap up a free
burger and
support iden-
tity while
you're at it!

Offer good at either location. Good
for one free burger with the purchase
of another of equal or greater value.
O'Brady's will donate $4.00 to
Identity, Inc. for every coupon
received.

Limit one coupon per person per visit please. Offer
not valid with other offers, discounts or promotions.
Contributions are sent to Identity, Inc. on an irregular
schedule based on redemption traffic. Maximum
value $5.75. Expires 8/15/95, N.Y.

Chugach Square
6901 E. Tudor Rd.
338-1080

Dimond Center
800 E. Dimond
344-8033
Classified ad (up to 5 lines): $15.00
Business Card: $25.00
Quarter Page: $40.00
Half Page: $65.00
Full Page: $100.00
Full Inside Back Page: $150.00
Insert (1 page): $50.00
Insert (2+ pages): +$25.00/page

3 months: 10% discount
6 months: 15% discount
12 months: 20% discount