NorthView
News and views for Alaska’s gay and lesbian community
A publication of Identity, Inc.
Vol. 4 Iss. 2 $3.00

So many miracles

arrive you today.
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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.

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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.
Sleepless in Seattle
How I learned to love chemo and not fear the scalpel
by F. Kenneth Freedman

I could write about walking every street in Hell while I was under chemo, morphone and methadone, and what my Mom and Dad and I learned there, but that’s been done by better writers than I. Likewise, I could mention the need to be ever more vigilant now that the local, state and national gum shoes (government types) are moving to the Right, but that’s more the purview of Equal and Dandelion and Dan does it better. (Even so, I might write about the above-mentioned issues sometime, so everybody’s been warned.)

No, what I want to write about is a phenomenon I discovered during physical therapy. But first I must digress.

For those of you who may not know, I was diagnosed with bone cancer (in my left elbow) in September, 1995, underwent chemo treatments and had surgery on my Mother’s 84th birthday, Jan. 11, 1996. My Mom and Dad took care of me during this whole process (and are still doing it as you read this). During 7 hours of surgery they moved muscles, veins and nerves, removed the bottom 7 inches of my humerus, and attached a new one (cadaver bone—thanks, whoever you were), covered the whole thing with a 7 inch steel plate (and 8 screws), put back all the muscles, nerves and veins and sewed me up. That after removing the 5 centimeter tumor that had eaten through the bone.

So now I’m in physical therapy and, thank Goddess, I’ve got my own arm (a few short medical years ago this cancer meant automatic amputation) would you see me coming to the Identity Potluck with a silver hook where my left hand used to be? That would make quite an entrance, no?

So, here I am in physical therapy with a left arm that will a) move stiffly from the shoulder, and b) allow the fingers to wiggle. Period.

The task at hand (pun intended) was to get the biceps and triceps working (or “woken up” as my P.T. likes to call it). Well, at first I cried and hollered and then got despondent. Jeez, I couldn’t even hike up my own pants without help. You ever try that? Go ahead. Get those jeans on, shirt tucked in, buttoned and zipped with one hand. Darn hard! And forget about doing the hundred other things during the day that require two hands. I was a basket case, moaning and whining about what I couldn’t do.

And then it hit me.

Patience and love. Well, self love. Trite, huh? Kind of like coming out to yourself—you know that moment when you really say to yourself that you’re Gay/Lesbian/Bi? Admit it? Take it in like a breath of cold Autumn air? The sharpness? The pain? The exhilaration? Well, there I was, poised on the threshold of kindness to self discovery.

You see, all my life I’ve pushed to Be Better, criticized myself for failings large and small and vowed to Do Better. Well, it came to me that I’d catch more flies with honey, you should pardon the expression, so I got with the pro-

gram, i.e. started being nice to myself, pushed myself within reasonable limits and complimented myself for the good work that I did do and took a moment to reflect on that process.

And it began to permeate my life—meaning that I saw how much I’d been pushing and pushing and not enjoying the moment. Was it John Lennon who said something about life being what happens while you’re making plans about what you ought to be doing?

All of a sudden (or so it seemed) I was slowing down. I was appreciating particular things about Mom and Dad—each day; noticing how I’d gotten a bit more range in moving my arm, enjoying some particular phrase I’d read in a book or a letter someone had sent me. I actually STOPPED and PAID ATTENTION. Subtle shift, but an important one for me: where before I would kind of notice and forge ahead, now I really noticed and let that feeling come into my heart. It’s a kind of walking meditation.

And that led to the process of taking time each day to care about myself consciously, knowingly, fondly and gently. Somehow that changed the world for me—from rigorous self criticism to self caring and self support. Different means, same end.

And so goes my journey.

F. Kenneth Freedman, currently holed up in an apartment in Seattle, has learned the Hell of chemo, fought the dragon, and won. For now. It’s a process.

From the NorthView Staff:
The pathalogy report on the tumor removed from Ken’s arm in early January was recently reviewed by his primary physician. After careful consideration, it was decided Ken would NOT need to endure more chemotherapy. There remains much more physical therapy to regain full use of his arm, hand and fingers but this can take place in Anchorage. Therefore, Ken will return home in March. His parents will not accompany him to Anchorage; they will return to their home in California.

Meanwhile, the intense rainfall in Seattle has flooded the basement apartment where Ken and his parents have been living. They were forced to relocate for the remainder of their Seattle stay. The new address is:

F. Kenneth Freedman
4225 11th Avenue NE
Seattle, WA 98105
Identity, Inc.

Fourth Friday Potluck & Social

Join Identity at its celebrated Fourth Friday Potluck & Social. Bring a dish, whether soup, salad, entrée, deviled eggs, hors d'oeuvres, fruit, bread, desert, chips, dip, pizza, etc. Identity provides the drinks: tea, coffee, punch. Admission is free but we cheerfully accept donations.

Friday, February 23
6:30 P.M. doors open/socialize
7:00 P.M. — dinner
7:30 P.M. — announcements & program
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
at 3201 Turnagain Street

Chris Olson and Jon Howe
present HIGH FINANCE

Women’s coffeehouse
by Barbara Soule

The Women’s Coffeehouse on Saturday, February 24, at the Sociatic Tide coffee bar at The Wave, 8pm - 10pm, will be an evening of Erotic Poetry, including the winners of the erotic poetry contest. Erotic poetry is traditionally a crowd pleaser, so plan to come by early for a seat. The $3 donation at the door will go to Identity, Inc. for the HelpLine.

We’ve asked Beyond Basic and Angela Ramirez to present the programs at the March 23 and April 26 coffeehouses, but neither have decided which date to perform. The announcements will be in the Friday 8 section of the Anchorage Daily News, The Press, the NorthView, and The Wave’s flyer.

Candy and I would like to thank Cyrano’s bookstore for helping us with the erotic poetry contest, Trina and her cohorts for letting us transfer the Women’s Coffeehouse to The Wave, Jay and Gene from OutNorth Theater who were also willing to work something out with us so the Women’s Coffeehouse didn’t have to be canceled, and Barbara Wish and Lisa Jamieson who kicked off our first coffeehouse of the new year.

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Should health insurance be a choice?

Financial news

by Chris Olson

"Why should I get health insurance? I am very healthy and never go to the doctor!" This is a very difficult question to answer. Health insurance provides a social and economic good. The reason for buying health insurance goes way beyond whether or not you are healthy.

One very personal reason to get health insurance now when you are healthy is because you **cannot get it when you have health problems.** Social insurance programs (Medicaid, Social Security, Medicare, high risk pools) are the only options available to otherwise "uninsurable" people. These programs come with grave cost to you. Social insurance requires that you liquidate your other assets before you can qualify. These programs have very strict qualifications for being able to collect benefits. High risk pools are unreasonably expensive (downright unaffordable). If you do not get insurance now while you are healthy you are risking more than just your health. You are also risking your savings.

The social and economic aspects provide much more compelling arguments for obtaining health insurance. Most people have a choice about whether or not they will have health insurance. If your employer offers health coverage you may very well have the option to decline the coverage. Few employer provided plans are 100% mandatory. They cannot, by law, be mandatory if employees pay so much as one penny toward the coverage. Self employed and unemployed people always have the choice to obtain coverage. **CHOICE IS GOOD — THIS IS AMERICA!! CHOICE WORKS AGAINST HEALTH INSURANCE.**

Insurance will not work if only a few people buy it. It will not work if only the ones who buy it are the ones who "need" it. Hundreds, if not thousands, are needed to make the insurance mechanism function. Insurance needs all of these thousands of people to be a broad representation of the public at large. Young, old, of varied races, of varied economic backgrounds, healthy and sick. The majority of our "public" is not sick. This is why insurance works.

The majority (these healthy people) pay premiums each month for their coverage as do the minority (unhealthy people). These premiums make up the pool that pays our claims. I pay a little so that my sister can have chemotherapy. It is wrong to say that my insurance is worthless because I never make claims against it. My sister's cancer can be treated for affordable costs because I make little or no claim against my insurance. My large claim some years from now will be paid because so many others are in the pool.

If only the sick bought insurance then the premium pool would deplete too fast and there wouldn't be any money to pay claims. This is why I believe insurance should not be a choice. Everyone should be required to obtain some sort of health insurance. Actual costs of coverage will go down because the pool will grow. I do think that the type and amount of insurance should be a choice. We should have the freedom to pick what sort of coverage to buy. What will this world of mandatory insurance look like? Federal mandates? Employer provided coverage that is required? State control? Taxes? Can it happen with minimal governmental control? I hope so. Can it happen with no government intervention? I think health care crisis is way out of our hands to think that it could.

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

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If the big religious questions interest you, you should know where to come on Sunday morning:

**Sunday, Feb 18**

9:00 A.M.

"Architecture and Spirituality"

10:30 A.M.

"Death with Dignity"

Physician-aid-in-dying

**Sunday, Feb. 25**

9:00 A.M.

"Can there be a just war?"

10:30 A.M.

"Be Compassionate, Not Pure: Jesus's Subversive Morality"

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**Unitarian Universalist Fellowship**

See the Anchorage Daily News Saturday religion page for topics and speakers.

3201 Turnagain Street, 248-3737
Informative message: 248-0715
A letter from their majesties

We hope all of you were able to view the Fur Rendezvous Parade and the gay and lesbian community float which was spearheaded by the reigning Imperial Crown Prince Michael and Princess Taylor. Our thanks to the many sponsors and volunteers who came out of the woodwork and on to the mylar for this presentation. Well done!!!

Vonda, Closet Queen, stepped down and Kim elevated to King with Gerry as Closet Queen. The Closet Ball showed us a variety of new talent and some instant surprises around the gender swap. Thanks to all for a very successful fund raising function for the Empire.

The ICP titleholders, through a Board of Director procedural change, are now reigning until Investitures of 1996 when an election of their successors will take place. This change was facilitated to provide the reign with more support and assistance from the ICPs. The Masquerade Ball on March 30th at The Wave will be the ICP major function of their reign with Taylor taking the reins to pull it together.

The College of Monarchs Fur Fashion and Style Show on March 15th at The Wave will include models and attire from David Green Furriers, The Fur Factory, The Look, and Alaska Fur and Leather. All monies will go to the Scholarship Fund and Providence Outreach (for prescriptions).

The Court always keeps active! Join us or volunteer whenever you can. For information on the above, you may call us at 338-3327.

We remain, in Peace, Love and Unity ...

H.M.I.M. Denali Emperor XXXIII  
The Glacier Emperor Madeleine

H.M.I.M. Aurora Empress XXIII  
The Flaming-O Empress Lana Duvall

---

PFLAG, Southcentral Alaska

by Sylvia L. Short, Secretary

Next meeting will be Monday, February 19, 1996, at 7 at the AUUF. Don't miss our program:

Excerpt from TORCH SONG TRILOGY ("coming out" to Mama) enacted by Shirley Randell-Harris and Don Naff (rescheduled due to cancellation on account of illness last time!).

What we're doing:

1. YOUTH GROUP. There are between four and ten youngsters from 13 to 17 meeting weekly on Saturdays (4pm to 6pm) at the AUUF Fellowship Hall. They want to advertise their meetings and have invited P-FLAG members to give them "coming out" pointers from the other side. They may change their meeting place to the 4A's, so keep tuned.

2. QUESTION OF EQUALITY. The four fascinating tapes about the Gay/Lesbian movement in the U. S. will be shown in March. CYRANO'S, 413 D Street, has graciously allowed us to show them in their downstairs living room the first 4 Sundays in March at 4pm. The tapes each last about 50-minutes, and we'll have a discussion afterwards. Price of admission is a suggested donation of $5, and please bring a chair if you can. March 3 we'll show OUT RAGE '69; March 10, CULTURE WARS; March 17, HOLLOW LIBERTY; and March 24, GENERATION Q. Let's tell all our friends and relatives—especially the straight ones—about this very informative video series. If you have any questions, please call Joyce Bauer at 338-1790.

3. P-FLAG LIBRARY. We have purchased a number of books relating to Gay/Lesbian issues which are available for loan. Don Naff is our librarian.

4. FOUR A's POTLUCK. In March we will be hosting our annual potluck for the benefit of the staff and volunteers who do so much to ease the problems facing HIV positives. We are ripe for exciting ideas for a fun-filled evening of entertainment and making new bonds. Tentatively, it will be on our regular meeting night, March 17, which happens to be St. Patrick's Day, bringing a host of Irish ideas into play!

P-FLAG stands for Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians, Bisexuals and Gays, and our purposes are (1) to provide a support system for families and friends of lesbian, bisexual, transsexual and gay people in their effort to understand, accept and support their children, families and friends with love and pride; (2) to provide education for individuals and community at large on the nature of homosexuality, bisexuality and gender dysphoria; (3) to support the full human rights and civil rights of lesbian, bisexual, transsexual and gay people; (4) to speak out and act whenever necessary to defend and enhance those human rights and civil rights, and (5) to act to create a society that is healthy and respectful of human diversity. Cost of membership is only $15 per year; please join us!

Sylvia L. Short, Attorney at Law, lives in Anchorage.
Where in the World?

Asian Report

By Bob DeLoach

Last month we promised to report on our trip to Thailand, which was successful and was a good experience. I'm pleased to report that the Thai people are a warm and friendly group, although Bangkok, our first impression of the country, left a bit to be desired. We arrived about midnight local time and made our way in a cab to the city. The traffic, even at that hour of the morning, was a mess. The air in Los Angeles seems like crystal mountain air by comparison with what Bangkok souls have to breathe. The city is in the midst of major expansion, and over 50 high-rise cranes dotted the skyline. Construction is going on everywhere, and traveling from one point to another can be a major task.

There are some very credible things to say about Thailand. This primary Buddhist nation has some 32,000 temples in a nation of 65 million people. More than 7 million live in Bangkok. We had the pleasure of visiting some truly beautiful landmarks and had our picture snapped at the world-famous statue of the reclining Buddha. For bargain hunters there are many shopping opportunities: custom tailoring is a real specialty, as are Thailand rubies and sapphires. And for those interested in the seedier sides of night life Bangkok offers some of the most exotic clubs in Asia. Straight or gay sex shows are available in the late hours and famous Thai massages are boldly advertised in hundreds of buildings all over the city.

We left the hustle of Bangkok to journey less than a hundred miles south to the beach-side city of Pattaya. This is a miniature Bangkok of about 75,000 souls and is one on the more famous tourist areas of the country. The air is cleaner there and the traffic is lighter. For entertainment there are several major clubs featuring drag shows. Shopping is excellent, and offers items similar to Bangkok, sometimes at a lower price.

Other attractions, especially for the gay male, are available. One whole section of the city is proudly proclaimed in very large neon as “BOYS TOWN.” Here in Thailand are a dozen or more bars with names like “Boys Boys Boys,” “The Cockpit,” “A-Bomb Boys Club,” “Rebel Boy Bar” etc. etc. etc. Purely as an investigative reporter I darkened the door of several of these places and was astonished at what I saw. A theme was repeated in many of the establishments with various twists. We were ushered into a club and seated in a darkened auditorium. Disco-type music played as 50 young men appeared on a stage in skimpy clothing. Each proudly wore a number which a visitor might select, inviting him to the table for conversation. If one were interested, one could hire the services of the selected boy for a famous Thai body massage (which is so grandly advertised all over the city).

One could only guess what further negotiations might produce.

One warning: don’t drink the water. Even the natives carry their own bottles of water. The better hotels provide fresh bottles of drinking water each day. The canals of Bangkok have in the past been little more than open sewers and only lately has the King undertaken to improve the water supply and clean up their polluted condition. When I asked the hotel manager of the resort in Pattaya if the beaches were safe to swim, he politely stated that they are getting better. Where before you couldn’t see your belly button, you can now almost see your toes.

The people of this country make a visit worthwhile. English is not often spoken by the natives even in hotels and other likely places, but they are a very friendly people. One last warning: this friendliness and sexual freedom has produced a tragic 750,000 cases of AIDS in this country.

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

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Legalized Discrimination in Alaska?

by Dan Carter, cochair, EQUAL

The legislature is back and so is House Bill 226, which tries to undo a 1995 court decision granting health benefits to University of Alaska employee's domestic partners. The bill's supporters believe that only married partners should receive benefits, so last year HB-226 was introduced to amend the state human rights law. If this bill is not stopped it will allow employers (all employers, not just the university) to discriminate on the basis of marital status, despite the court ruling.

Why is this legislation important to you? Because it could affect all of us, not just the employees of the university. This bill would actually change our state's human rights law to permit discrimination. We are not alone in this battle. This legislation would allow discrimination against lesbian and gay couples but it also would prohibit unmarried heterosexual couples from applying for benefits. In other words, a married employee would receive greater compensation—including benefits—for the same amount of work. Anyone believing in equal pay for equal work knows this is wrong!

What can you do to stop this legislation? First, we're seeking calls, e-mail, Public Opinion Messages (POM) and letters to Representative Gail Phillips, Speaker of the House. These messages should urge Speaker Phillips not to schedule HB-226 onto the floor of the House. Her phone number is 465-2689, fax is 465-3472, POM's should be called in to 258-8111, email address is representative_gail_phillips@legis.state.ak.us and letters may be sent to:

Speaker Gail Phillips
Alaska House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 208
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Realizing that this publication is not usually in the position of lobbying for/against specific legislation, I would also encourage you to contact Speaker Phillips telling her you are in favor of this legislation if you want to support discriminatory legislation! It has several hurdles to jump prior to final passage.

Now is the time to act!

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Home Address:*_____________________________________
City:__________________________________, AK Zip:________
HOME PHONE:_____________________________________

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EQUAL
PO Box 244452
Anchorage, AK 99524-4452

IMPORTANT NOTICE
The Municipal Assembly will be approving Mayor Mystrom's new appointees to the Anchorage Equal Rights Commission during late February.

For more details on the meeting and persons nominated, contact Dan Carter (274-9226) or transmit email via the internet to equal907@aol.com
"Quality of Life is our Goal"

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Letters to the editor

1-13-96
Hi! My lover and I are planning our first trip to Alaska and the Yukon in July/August of this year. We’d like to find out about any events that may be happening, so we can plan our schedule. We’d also like to possibly meet local lesbian and gay community organizers. I am very involved in Pride Day organizing and the leather community. My lover is a professor of political science and is finishing a book on lesbian and gay voting patterns across the USA. Many thanks!
Brian (New York)

1-6-96
We have just returned to Alaska. Please send membership info to us. We look forward to being active members in Alaska’s gay community.
Johnathan

To NorthView,
I would like to subscribe to NorthView for one year. My money order of $25 is enclosed. Please mail it to me.
Sharon (Clearwater, Florida)

Dear Sirs,
We are in the process of opening a queer community center that will function as a coffee house and bookstore. We intend to provide seminars, educational materials and entertainment. One of the other services we’d also like to provide are as many queer newspapers as possible.

Therefore, we are looking for distribution information, shipping and resale costs, terms, and other pertinent information, such as minimum quantities and other products you may have. If you can be of service to us, that would be fantastic, but please, DO NOT SET US UP FOR DISTRIBUTION AT THIS TIME!

We intend to be open by April 1996. We will notify those who respond to this letter, when to begin shipping their newspaper. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at the above address or phone number.

Sincerely, Peter (Minneapolis, Minnesota)

1-16-96
Please send me a membership application as I am interested in being listed in your business directory. Thank you.
Capt. Bruce (Homer, Alaska)

AIDS Classes Open To Public
A letter (January 26) asserts that quarantining people with HIV/AIDS in Adak’s unused military bases would be a sensible way to stop the spread of AIDS in Alaska.

The idea that we should quarantine people with HIV/AIDS is offensive and hurtful to people with HIV/AIDS and to all their family and friends.

Historically, quarantining has been used when the populace was ignorant about the cause and spread of disease or, with more advanced medical knowledge, to isolate those having diseases which were spread via air-, water- or food-borne viruses or bacteria.

HIV is not air-, water- or food-borne and is not transmitted by animals or insects. Unlike many other contagious diseases, HIV is not transmittable through everyday contact with persons having the virus or AIDS.

HIV is transmitted in blood, semen, vaginal fluid and via breast feeding. This means if a person has not engaged in unprotected sex nor shared intravenous needles, they are highly unlikely to contract HIV infection.

The Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association holds monthly AIDS 101 classes that teach basic information regarding the virus, how to prevent its transmission and how to relate with and care for persons infected with HIV/AIDS. We invite everyone to learn more about a virus that affects us all. The next class is February 15. Call 263-2050 for more information.

Michael Covone, Education Coordinator
Andrea Nenzel, CSJP, Executive Director
Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association

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Out in Alaska is growing
by Howie Peterson

Out in Alaska, our les-bi-gay outdoor recreation group, has been growing step-by-step — since there hasn’t been enough snow yet for gliding on skis. We had one person for the first hike, three for the second and five for the third (which was followed by a stop for coffee and music!). We expect to have more people — and more snow — for the next month’s events. We’re planning a ski trip up the beautiful Glacier Creek gorge in Girdwood on February 25th and cross-country skiing on the hilly terrain at Nancy Lakes Recreation Area on March 9th. On March 17th — St. Patrick’s Day — we’ll be cross-country skiing at Prospect Heights in Anchorage and then heading to Jim & Doug’s for Irish (?) Stew. Those who have shown up for events so far have had a GREAT time hiking and socializing, and we’re hoping that more of you will join us for the next excursion!!

See the schedule of events listed in the Calendar section of this issue. For further information, call or write: Out in Alaska, HIC 2 Box 7810B, Palmer AK 99645; phone: 746-7778.

Howie Peterson enjoys living in the woods and the associated thrills of an arctic outhouse!

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A room of our own

by Marvin Liebman

There is much talk of the American gay and lesbian “community.” But just what is “it?” We have no real national leadership, and the national political organizations supposedly representing “us” are not accomplishing much, except trying to raise money and then spending it as quickly as they get it. We are in mortal danger from the religious right, and little is being done by these organizations to counter this except empty rhetoric and posturing. We have neither a central institution nor a national journal to serve as rallying points. Perhaps there is no national gay and lesbian “community”, but many “communities” across the country.

The question is in the process of being answered, and not by holding the usual and endless caucuses to arrive at some consensus definition. Its plan is to give American lesbians and gay men roots in their own communities and rooms of their own.

The National Association of Lesbian and Gay Community Centers (NALGCC) was born late last year to “encourage development of new lesbian and gay community centers” in cities across the country. Its founders recognized a crucial truth. With gay communities already thriving in cities across the nation, we are more plural than singular, and our strength is more potent locally than nationally.

The new group already has a head start. There are now 65 gay and lesbian community centers throughout the country, employing over 300 people with combined budgets exceeding $38 million. The two largest centers are in Los Angeles and New York, with Chicago, Minneapolis, San Diego, and Dallas close behind.

In trying to increase these numbers by creating more centers, the NALGCC faces one reality and one key problem. The reality is that causes and movements such as ours need a launching pad, a safe place in which to plan and strategize.

The major problem which community center organizers face is that gay men and lesbians are far from the unified entity hawked by those who speak of a national “community.”

The lack of common ground between lesbians and gay men is a problem which community centers are uniquely equipped to face. In the cities where such centers already exist, enormous progress has been made. A common space fuels interactions of all kinds, deeper and more enduring than those which flourish in rallies or campaigns. Meeting and interacting with each other — outside the closet-like environments of jobs and even religious congregations — means dispensing with the pantomime of distance.

From an old organizer, here’s a cheer for the NALGCC. I will be watching closely for the signs of its success. It will be registered not merely in the numbers of new rooms for our local communities, some erected, some restored. It will most of all be manifested in the substance of our interaction with each other, both men and women. Out of the many communities may finally come the solidarity and strength of one valid lesbian and gay American community.

For more information on the NALGCC write or telephone Benjamin Stitt at 208 West 13th Street, New York, NY 10011, or telephone 212-620-7310.

Chris Olson, Insurance Agent

Business spotlight by Ruth Mathes

I met Chris Olson at a local eatery in the middle of the day where, over a skinny latte, we discussed her vocational passion...insurance.

NV: Tell me what you do, Chris. Insurance has always been a scary subject for many people...me included.

CO: I try to help folks plan for the future, protect what they have, and acquire more.

NV: How do you accomplish that?

CO: By helping them figure out what their goals and dreams are, and guiding them towards realistic ones. Planning is all-important. Insurance is simply a protection.

NV: What sorts of investments do you like or would you recommend?

CO: The stock market can be a good or a bad investment tool, depending upon how it is applied. I like mutual funds...diversified ones. I also like real estate.

NV: Some of our readers are not in a position to buy real estate. They may want to rent, rather than own a home. What could they do to help keep the wolf from the door?

CO: Mutual funds can be available even to minimum wage folks. Payments can be automatically deducted from a bank account. I call it “paying yourself first”. Increase the amount with every raise or every permanent fund payment. $25 each month would be a start.

NV: How would someone learn to do that?

CO: Well, they could see a broker, or they could buy Money magazine and learn from that.

NV: (I could imagine how much trouble I could get in on my own with Money, so I asked about safeguards.)

CO: I encourage potential investors to begin saving until they have accumulated 3 - 6 months living expenses. Most of us have no understanding of how to handle money, and learning to save (paying yourself) is a great way to learn.

NV: What concerns do you have about your gay friends and saving money?

CO: Gays are better off standing on their own two feet financially. Money allows us to do that, to have autonomy.

NV: (Our time was nearly up...Chris was overdue back at her office. I flung a parting question over my shoulder as we headed toward the door.) Do you practice what you preach?

CO: I believe I do. I try to operate on half of what I earn and invest the other half. I believe I will be able to retire in ten years. Not a bad goal, and it is a realistic one.

NV: (I was glad I had made arrangements for Chris to make a presentation at our monthly potluck soon. I wanted to hear more about paying myself!)

Ruth Mathes is into whale watching in Kiehi, Maui.

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* Formerly LaPerriere
My queer foot

by Leslie Newman

After a typical lesbian Sunday morning, Flash says those three little words I love to hear: “Let’s eat out.” Soon we are at a restaurant, reading brunch menus. As I take a sip of water, Flash shifts her eyes to the right. Flash’s ex, Candy, and her best friend, Honey, are seated at the table right next to ours. Honey used to go out with Mitzi’s new girlfriend, Whit. In other words, my girlfriend’s ex-girlfriend’s best girlfriend is my best girlfriend’s new girlfriend’s ex-girlfriend.

As I ponder the situation, Flash whispers, “Be nice.” Flash thinks I dislike Candy. I don’t dislike Candy. I hate her. But I can’t ignore her. Our tables are so close together that the anorexic waitress pouring my coffee can barely squeeze her nonexistent butt between them.

“Hi, Candy,” I say, baring my teeth in what some would consider a smile.

“Hi.” She looks at me and squints, blunted no doubt, by the afterglow shimmering on my face. Suddenly I wish I hadn’t left the house in such a hurry: I’m wearing glasses instead of contact lenses, my hair’s a mess, and I have on one of Flash’s old shirts.

Candy looks perfect. She’s wearing grey slacks and a fuzzy pink sweater. She’s even got on clycler, who bothers with makeup on a Sunday morning? Someone who hasn’t spent the last three hours doing what Flash and I have been doing. I smile a real smile, and though it hardly seems possible, will my afterglow to brighten.

“Are you ready to order?” Our waitress is back.

“I’ll have the truckdriver’s special,” I say. “Eggs, bacon, sausage, grits, pancakes, homefries, toast, and pie.” Flash looks at me, bewildered. I hate eggs. Bacon is against my religion. I’ve just ordered more food than I usually eat in three days. I shrug. “All those morning aerobics, I mean aerobics really gave me an appetite.” I look over at Candy and wink. Before she can respond, I cross my right leg over my left, and the tip of my shoe knocks against our table. A pitcher of cream goes flying, covering Candy’s pink sweater with half-and-half.

“Oh, I’m so sorry,” I say as Candy dabs at her flat chest.

“How did you manage that?” Flash is clearly annoyed.

“Oh, don’t get upset, Flash,” Candy says, still dabbing. “She didn’t do it on purpose.” Candy reaches down to fish out of her purse the fish under her chair. “I like your shoes,” she says straightening up. “Do they come in anything smaller than a ten triple E?”

“What?” I glare at Flash, my eyes asking, Did you tell her? Flash shakes her head but I’m not sure I believe her. One thing is clear though: either Flash has told my arch enemy how mortified I am by my gigantic, flat feet, or they really are so unbelievably big, she figured it out by herself.

I never knew there was anything wrong with my feet until one summer when I noticed all the other kids’ feet left wet toe, instep, and heel imprints on the concrete around the pool. My pancake feet left their entire outline for all the world to see. I begged my parents for an operation so I could have an arch. I didn’t care if it meant breaking every bone in each foot (there are 26). I was determined.

Especially after I read that Oh! Calcutta!, Broadway’s first nude musical was holding auditions, and the only physical trait the director wouldn’t put up with was flat feet. “Do you know what a flat-footed actor sounds like walking across the stage?” he asked.

I take no comfort in knowing that Ingmar Bergman said, “Even the beautiful have ugly feet.” I’m sure no movie star’s feet resemble mine, except for Donald Duck, whose footprints in the cement outside Grauman’s Chinese Theater match my own perfectly. I know. I took a special trip to Hollywood to check.

Flash, in an attempt to be supportive, once gave me a gift certificate for a pedicure. “I have really ugly feet,” I said to the pedicurist. “Oh, relax,” she said, snipping her gum. “Everyone says that.” I removed my shoes and socks and she swallowed her Bazooka. “Boy, your feet really are ugly.”

My feet have informed every important decision I have ever made. I wouldn’t go to college in a sandal-wearing climate. I almost went back in the closet because at my first lesbian potluck, the hostess made everyone take off her shoes. I gave up karate because standing in stances makes your feet spread. I never had a child because my mother’s feet grew an entire size with each pregnancy. When Flash popped the question, I almost said no because I swore I would never marry someone whose feet were smaller than mine (my beloved wears a six-and-a-half). Flash so smoothly swept me off my Paul Bunyan-sized feet, I broke my own rule, a fact I often remind her of, whenever she doubts my devotion. Right now I am doubting hers.

“Do you wish you were still with Candy?” I whisper to Flash.

“Of course not.”

“Do you miss her feet?”

“Her feet?” Flash looks at me.

“Yes, her feet.” I hesitate and then ask a question I’ve been dying to ask for years. “Flash, are Candy’s feet prettier than mine?”

“Honey,” Flash shakes her head. “I don’t remember Candy’s feet.”
My queer foot
continued

“You don’t?” This shocks me. “You don’t remember her feet? You mean, if we broke up you wouldn’t remember what my feet look like?”

“Don’t be silly. Your feet are unforgettable. In a room full of ten-thousand feet, I could pick out yours in a heartbeat.”

I don’t know whether to laugh or cry.

Lesléa Newman is the author of twenty books and the editor of five anthologies. Her newest titles are The Femme Mystique and A Loving Testimony: Remembering Loved Ones Lost to AIDS.

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Adult children of lesbians

A recent study indicates that children raised by lesbian mothers are indistinguishable from comparable young adults in most ways. Researchers compared eight men and 17 women who were raised in lesbian families with 12 men and nine women raised by heterosexual single mothers. The average age of the 46 subjects was 23. All had originally been recruited for study as children through advertisements in lesbian and single-parent publications and contacts with lesbian and single-parent organizations. The subjects were interviewed about their family lives, emotional adjustment, and sexual orientation, and asked whether they had ever sought help for anxiety or depression. The lesbian-raised children were asked to describe their feelings about the non-traditional nature of their families. They were also asked whether they had been teased or bullied in connection with their mothers’ lesbianism or their own sexuality.

Members of both groups were equally likely to have sought help for anxiety and depression. Young adults brought up in lesbian households had a better relationship with their mothers’ partners than adults raised by heterosexual single mothers had with their mothers’ male partners. The lesbian-raised adults were all comfortable with their families and their mothers’ sexual identities, although some felt mild discomfort in talking to friends and schoolmates about these matters.

Nine of 25 in the lesbian-raised group and four of 20 in the control group admitted having experienced sexual attraction to someone of the same sex. Six of the young adults from lesbian families (five women and one man) and none of those from the heterosexual families had been involved in a homosexual relationship. But all the men and women in both groups had also had heterosexual relationships, and almost all (including 23 of 25 lesbian-raised adults) described themselves as heterosexual.

The authors acknowledge that subjects were selected in a way that might tend to exclude mothers who were not happy with their partners. They also note that most of the adults in the study had spent their earliest years living with a father. None of that, they point out, alters their study’s obvious implications that lesbianism should not be an issue in fostering, adoption, and custody disputes.

Now make noise of acknowledgment


Terri Jewell was more full of life and plans and projects than any three other women I’ve ever known. She was like a power line, thrumming with barely contained energy. When I met her some years ago at a writing workshop at the National Women’s Music Festival, she projected warmth, enthusiasm, support and empathy.

I never knew until her letter to me of January 10, 1995, that there was another side to Terri, although I should have seen it in her work. In one poem she wrote that she “...hugged death in a thick, blue blanket,/ its borders embroidered/ with shiny new bullets/ saved for that time/ I could choose passage out.” I think I didn’t want to know.

Lavender Morning from Kalamazoo, Michigan (Terri lived in Lansing) carried the following report. “Terri Jewell died on 11-28-95. Her body was found on 11-30-95. The immediate cause of death was presumed suicide. Friends found that hard to believe.” Terri, 41, was described as a Klanwatch activist who had received death threats from the KKK.

We’ve lost the author of The Black Woman’s Gumbo Ya-Ya: Quotations by Black Women and the poet who published The Succulent Heretic. One of her dreams was to write The Black Lesbian Culture Book. She planned to do books on Black comedienne and Black women philosophers.

On the other hand how does any Black lesbian keep going with the unendurable rejection of this society as constant companion? Terri Jewell, thorn in the side of heterosexist white America. Terri Jewell, a wild loving woman whose life force could not be quelled. Until November 28, 1995.

Dorothy Hoogterp, writer, remembers, “Sometimes when she would give a reading it would be absolutely hilarious. She could bring down the house, hamboning, using her whole body, while she recited.”

“Among my people,” wrote Terri in a poem, “it is rude/to listen to another/without making noises/ of acknowledgment...”

“I am a black woman./ I am a lesbian./ Now make noise/ of acknowledgment.”

Now let’s make noise, all in our own ways, to protest Terri’s unbearable pain, to celebrate her exuberant life and to extol the extraordinary gifts she gave us.
Teacher comes out to class on All My Children

If I heard recently that one of the daytime soaps had written in a gay character, I must have decided not to bother to check it out—figuring it wouldn’t be worth sorting through the tangle of characters and story-lines to find what would probably be an obscure role.

It was only because no one made the usual channel change after lunch or turned the TV off on the Thursday before Christmas that I had the pleasure of meeting Mike Delaney, the gay high school history teacher on All My Children, ABC, noon to 1pm weekdays.

What a fortunate accident!! On this day, in a story-line that was by far the major one of the episode, Mike's history class is dealing with the Holocaust and World War II. A display of insignias worn by Holocaust victims includes one or more triangles, and the explanation of them doesn’t seem to impact much on the class. Mike tells the class that if he had lived in Nazi Germany, he would have been part of that history rather than teaching about it.

Although his intention clearly seemed to be only to give personal meaning to the lesson, his revelation quickly becomes the subject of the class and predictably causes problems he didn’t foresee or desire. The class quickly divides between a supportive majority and a hostile minority capable of making trouble. One of the poorer students seems to see a potential scapegoat for his academic failure.

Mike seems to be an established character on the show and it seems likely that they will not just drop him after writing him into such a situation. The role is well written and acted, and I certainly hope to be home enough to see how it plays out.

York Area Lambda, Jan-Feb 1996

Upcoming Lesbian Film

“Bound” to premiere at Sundance Festival

Fresh from her stint as a bisexual dancer in the box office dud “Showgirls,” Variety reported December 20 that Gina Gershon’s next outing is with Jennifer Tilly in a thriller about two women in love who take on the Mafia.

“Bound” will premiere at the 1996 Sundance Film Festival and possibly screen at Cannes before getting a national release in the summer by Gramercy Pictures.

Tilly plays the mistress of a Mafia money-launderer played by Joe Pantoliano. When she falls for an ex-con (Gershon), the two women conspire to pick up a quick $2 million by turning mobsters against one another. The movie has a number of provocative and erotic moments, and will carry an R rating.

York Area Lambda, Jan-Feb 1996
Web site on lesbian and gay marriage

The World Wide Web site of Partners Task Force for Gay & Lesbian Couples now presents a list of Legal Marriage Court Cases waged by same-sex couples. The list is in a timeline format, starting with the earliest attempt in the United States to gain legal marriage in 1971. This list makes clear that there have been many attempts—some of which have resulted in detrimental court findings—highlighting the importance of the current case in Hawaii.

Also on the Web site are tallied results of the first 400 responses from our survey of gay and lesbian attitudes toward legal marriage. 800 surveys were submitted.

Other fairly recent additions to the Web site include:

Why the Task Force does not use the word “queer.”

How the AAA Motor Club of Washington came to offer second member discounts to domestic partners.

“The First 380”—domestic partner benefit provider list.

For paper copies of the “The First 380” (a nine-page list), and a booklet on domestic partnership benefits, send $10 to the address below.

The Partners Web site is dedicated to the needs of same-sex couples, and features a wide variety of free information on more than 70 pages of text, images and sound files. Included is a “Couples Gallery” of photo portraits of committed couples.

The nine-year-old Partners Task Force develops publications and videos promoting the rights of same-sex couples to full, legal equality, including the right to marry. A video on legal marriage is in production.

The organization’s web site is located at:
http://www.eskimo.com/~demian/partners.html

Contact information: Partners Task Force for Gay & Lesbian Couples, Box 9685, Seattle, WA 98109-0685.

Voice: (206) 935-1206, E-mail: demian@eskimo.com

Send your postal address to receive a flyer on Partners and its offerings.
Gays attract stiff long-distance competition
Big differences in telephone services targeting gays

by Stephen Chrysler

The significance of the gay market has become utterly apparent to telecommunications corporations. Many long distance companies now viciously compete for the gay dollar and promise monetary support to gay organizations.

Charges of anti-gay behaviors, fraudulent donation claims, and poor service are being flung between firms. "If you have the ability to contribute to a cause that you care about by just selecting a certain long distance company, then it seems like a natural choice to me," stated David Smith, Communications Director of the Human Rights Campaign, the nation's largest gay and lesbian political group. "Just because someone is marketing to the Gay community and is providing a program doesn't really mean that they are committed to anything except getting gay customers and gay dollars," warned Jeff Vitale, owner of Overlooked Opinions and Community Spirit, the first major Gay Long-distance company.

These firms fall into two main categories, "affinity marketing" and "gay supportive." An affinity firm negotiates with a specific nonprofit organization to encourage its members and supporters to use that certain firm in return for the organization getting a percentage of what the supporters spend on long distance calls. "Gay supportive" firms, which advertise directly for long distance users, claim to disperse a percentage of the proceeds among a group of nonprofit organizations. Of such firms, Working Assets claims 1%, Pride Network claims 3%, and Community Spirit claims 3%. The nonprofit organizations receive checks but are not provided verifiable information about what each individual supporter spent. Such a system has lead to complaints and accusations that some of these firms are not distributing the money properly. There have also been complaints about some affinity programs.

"Regrettably, leaders of gay and lesbian organizations have told us that they were promised quarterly royalties by Overlooked Opinions, but that the money has not been paid," and, "we have already sent more than $250,000 to Overlooked Opinions, nearly one-third of which (approximately $80,000) was for charitable organizations. We became alarmed when we learned that the contributions have not made their way to the organizations that were supposed to receive them," reads a press release dated February 25, 1994, for Trans National Communications’ (TNC) recently formed Pride Network. The copy of the old press release was provided by Overlooked Opinions' attorney, Craig Clark of The Michigan-based E Pluribus Law Firm.

Overlooked Opinions' Jeff Vitale tells a different version of the story. Vitale claims that TNC withheld the computer data that his firm needed to allocate the money to the gay nonprofit organizations as a way to steal his customers. At that time, his gay clients were using about $10 million dollars of long distance service per year and were TNC's largest single group user.

Upon hearing of the details of the scandal, Dennis Lucarelli of GLAAD commented with dry humor, "Let's look at the bright side, here's one more major corporation targeting the Lesbian and Gay market. When the crooks go after us just like they go after everybody else, I think to myself, Boy, have we arrived."

"There is a lot of greed out in the industry and some people capitalize by giving less than 5%. I think with all the money that is out there that less than 5% is despicable," commented Gina Scialla. "The percentages could be very fair. When I say that I mean, there is a lot of money to be made in these affinity programs." She added that there were excellent and honest affinity programs available that gave nonprofit organizations 10% or more monthly in cash, while the users and supporters get onto a major carrier such as MCI, Sprint, or AT&T at a much lower rate than otherwise available to an individual.

Gina Scialla also encouraged people to join a group plan and offered this advice to those looking to join one:
1. Ask "Who is actually the reseller?" and "Who is actually carrying the calls, customer service, and billing?"
2. Find how the calls are charged. Look for a flat rate of no more then 14 to 16 cents a minute to anywhere in the continental USA at any time of the day or night. Don't except mileage based rates.
3. Look for six second incremental billing. It reduces costs and is becoming the industry standard. For example, Sprint promotes a 10-cent-a-minute rate but many people were surprised that some versions of the rate charged a 3 minute minimum. A common 18 second call to an answering machine would cost six times more than with some other "more expensive" carriers who only charge for each six seconds used.
4. Everything should be backed in writing including all specific rates and services. A verifiable AND audited commission statement to your chosen non-profit organization is mandatory. You and your non-profit should be able to easily check where every penny went.
5. "There are a lot of dishonest people offering these plans. People are in there for that quick buck. If the plan's representative can't supply you with these basic items, just hang up the phone."

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Intolerance on 700 Club?!

(NOTE: I received the following email message from Rev. Mel White, the Minister of Justice for Metropolitan Community Churches. As many of you know, Mel was a writer for Jerry Falwell and Pat Robertson. He and his partner, Gary, are a ministry team for MCC and they organize gay Christian political action within the UFMCC.)

Dan Carter is a local gay activist

OPEN LETTER FROM MEL WHITE
FAXED TODAY TO PAT ROBERTSON

January 25, 1996

Dear Pat,

There is a growing spirit of intolerance in our land. Since the 1600s, when fundamentalist Christians chased Roger Williams to Rhode Island and burned 'witches' at the stake in Salem, similar cycles of intolerance have littered the nation with broken bodies and ruined dreams. Now, it's happening again. And that's why we're writing you.

We are convinced that your relentless campaign against homosexuality is a primary cause of the growing spirit of intolerance towards lesbian, gay, and bisexual Americans. We have monitored every 700 Club broadcast since you came to visit me in the Virginia Beach City Jail in March, 1995. And though you condemn violence, we are also convinced that your false and inflammatory anti-homosexual rhetoric leads indirectly to the very violence you condemn.

On February 5, in Virginia Beach, we will present to the media and to the general public a sixty minute video tape of blatantly intolerant statements made by you and your guests on recent broadcasts of the 700 Club. Since you have not responded to our invitations to meet with you to discuss this matter privately, we are asking thoughtful Americans to look at this video tape and decide for themselves.

However, you, too, are invited to view and discuss the videos with us. You or your representative will have the opportunity to defend your case in the midst of a frank and open discussion of this question: Is Pat Robertson's anti-homosexual campaign a primary source of the intolerance being experienced by gays, lesbians, and bisexuals in America; and how should we respond to his anti-homosexual campaign?

Following our February 5 discussion, we will be sending the video tape of your anti-homosexual remarks, a transcript of the tape's contents, and an official petition of complaint to the FCC, asking commissioners to decide if you should be censured for your intolerance.

In all fifty states, the TV stations and cable systems that carry the 700 Club will receive the video, the transcript, and similar petitions of complaint from local clergy and lay leaders. Again, we will ask those managers to decide if you should be censured for your intolerance. We are also sending video and transcript copies to the national media, to editorial writers and publishers, to the President, to leaders of the Senate and the House, to the Chairs of the National Churches, the National Association of Governor's and the National Mayor's Conferences, to the US Council of Catholic Bishops, the National Council of Evangelicals and to other clergy and lay leaders across America. We are asking that each person or organization who receives the tape look at it carefully and decide for themselves: Should Pat Robertson be censured for his intolerance?

At this moment, you are threatening lawsuits against any local station that airs the P-FLAG ads that demonstrate your intolerant anti-homosexual campaign. Parents, Friends, and Families of Lesbians and Gays produced those two public service spots because they were alarmed by the growing hate crimes against their own children. They don't blame you for those hate crimes. But they do blame your anti-gay rhetoric for helping to create the hostile climate in which those hate crimes are committed.

On that P-FLAG spot you say: "Homosexuality is an abomination. Many of those people involved with Adolf Hitler were Satanists, many of them were homosexuals. The two things seem to go together."

You said those words, Pat, on the 700 Club. You didn't show pictures of the Christian churches in Germany goose-stepping with the Third Reich. You didn't talk about the innocent European gays and lesbians who died in Hitler's concentration camps. You didn't tell of the brave homosexuals who fought and died to protect your freedom during that bloody world war against the Axis Powers. You were so caught up in half-truth and hyperbole that you missed the truth completely. And on February 5, we will show that you continue to miss the truth in your relentless, irresponsible, and intolerant campaign against us.

If you knew that a factory was pouring toxic pollution into your beloved Chesapeake Bay, you would send a TV crew to investigate and report immediately. We are convinced that a toxic stream of anti-homosexual intolerance is flowing out of your CBN/700 Club studios in Virginia Beach, helping to pollute the nation's moral environment. Again, we appeal to you. Hear our case. Reason with us. Help us stem that flow.

You are sincere, Pat, but you are sincerely wrong about homosexuality. Your intolerant words and actions are harming God's gay and lesbian children. Again, I must quote Jesus's warning: "Whoever shall offend one of these little ones that believe in me, it is better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and he were cast into the sea."

Sincerely, Mel White
Single life and chicken enchiladas

by Jen Kohout

When we ordered, the waitress winced and said they were out of Coronas. Normally, the announcement wouldn’t have fazed me much. No weak Mexican beer available, I would have stuck with water to wash down the stale chips I had kept promising myself I’d stop eating after the next one. But as I sat there contemplating the mysteries of singlehood, I decided a beer was a desirable addition to the table. If nothing else, I could play with the label when things got heavy. I ordered a Dos Equis. The only other item on the menu I recognized. Familiarity being a good thing at times.

“So, how would you define ‘dating?’” Katie shot back when the waitress left. I’d been grilling her about her love life while we’d waited for the waitress to notice us sitting in the corner of the dimly lit place. I looked up from my menu and wondered if I could stall by asking whether she’d ever tried the chimichanga. I wasn’t sure if it was the thought of eating a deep fried mass of tortilla-covered cow flesh or her question which made me feel slightly nauseus. I decided it was probably the latter. I’d polished off a hot dog and fries last weekend, so grease and red meat couldn’t possibly be the source of my abdominal distress.

It was more likely that the sinking feeling in my gut reflected the fact that I hadn’t thought about “dating” for half a decade, and I wasn’t particularly happy to be doing it now. I wanted to be thinking about buying a house and having a kid, not facing the prospect of starting over. I put down the menu and reached for another chip. “Well, I suppose the idea is to get to know someone as a friend, then see what happens.” It wasn’t particularly eloquent but then I wasn’t feeling much like a fountain of wisdom on the subject. Katie observed that the line between friends and something more seemed so gray. That she found it hard to spend time with single lesbians sometimes because it wasn’t always clear what the expectations were.

Reaching back in my past, I recalled what it was like to experience some of that stomach churning confusion. Seems like it had been kind of fun wondering whether the person sitting opposite me was experiencing the same hormonal rush I was. Of course, that was back when long-term, partnership was as tangible a goal in my life as singing opera at the Met — I could’ve cared less. For some reason, it seems to matter more to me now. Something about hitting thirty makes me think I should have a stable, secure, and generally, predictable home life at this point in my journey. So now instead of relying on whether my date’s smile sends shivers down my spine, I suddenly have to determine whether she will make a good parent to my imaginary children. All before the entree arrives.

Which isn’t necessarily what Katie was getting at but she commiserated with my concerns nonetheless. The beer arrived, and I immediately shoved a lime wedge down the neck of mine, licking the juice and pop off the rim before I took a swig. Fact is, I really enjoyed being in a relationship. In five years, I’d only experienced brief periods of envy at the freedom of my single friends. Sure, it’s hard to beat the light-headed, frenetic sensation of falling in love. But I genuinely liked waking up next to the same woman every morning, enjoyed sharing my life with someone who’s known me for years. Someone who knew and accepted the quirks that comprise me on a good day. Like my tendency upon being asked a soulful question to pause for an extended period while I ostensibly examine some eating utensil in great detail. I was doing it again. Katie sat patiently, picking at her chicken burrito and waiting for me to resurface from the depths.

“I suppose there are positive aspects of being single,” I observed, trying to get back on the subject. “I have more time for personal reflection. I can make major life decisions without having to make major compromises. I can blast the same song on my new Indigo Girls CD over and over again.” Not very convincing but I was trying. As for this grey area between friends and lovers and partners, I say that I don’t still cast around for clear lines, it’s just that I seem to be evolving towards a greater acceptance of the fact that there may not be any. And I can hide under my bed trying desperately to shield my heart from the uncertainty of it all. Or, I can dive in.

So I drained my beer and grinned at my single friend. Wondering what she meant when she smiled back at me. Jen Kohout, still in transition, is currently in Ann Arbor, MI.

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Anchorage Gay & Lesbian HelpLine
258-4777
A community service of Identity, Inc.
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Belly to Belly

by Karen Carlisle

“I can’t eat those. They look like chicken vulvas,” Dear Love sputtered. Well, so much for Graham Kerr’s new low-fat cookbook featured in the latest Vegetarian Times. The featured item was called “Latin American Pasta Shells Marinara.” This translates to a filling of mushed beans and no cheese. That tells you something.

On the plate with it is something called “Green Risotto” that looks like it came out of the back of a baby. Besides looking like chicken andes and baddle poop, these dishes have ingredients in them called fennel root, arborio rice, fresh cardamom, etc. Lots of fennel root and arborio rice at the local grocer in Bushville. Not to mention how long it would take to mush, crush and blend the twenty seven ingredients in each dish. I bet Graham Kerr never walked into his house with ice-stiffened fingers and snot frozen around the airhole of his polypropene face mask and just sat and shivered for twenty minutes inside his house — twenty minutes before his fingers were warm enough to peel off the snowpants, flannel pants and long johns, his fur hat, down coat, plush anorak, flannel shirt, turtleneck; his two pairs of wool socks and two pairs of gloves before he could kiss his dear love and start dinner. I bet he never had to fly home from work in a 6-seat Cherokee with the -40 degree wind whistling through the cracks in the plane.

In the same Vegetarian Times there is an article called, “Fitness That Fits You: Exercise Finally Gets Real!” Dear readers, it didn’t get real enough. Everyone is wearing designer exercise outfits, and every different workout begins with a brisk walk. Have you ever tried to walk briskly on a six-inch pad of ice wearing studded Sorrels and all the previously mentioned clothes? Do you know how long it takes to get all those clothes on and off? Getting them off, especially if you’re sweaty and having a claustrophobic attack brings you to the edge of cardiac arrest.

One expert suggests meditating five minutes daily to visualize meeting your exercise goals if you think you don’t have the time. Let’s just compare time here. From the fitness guru who lives in California, Arizona or Florida: out of bed, pee and brush teeth, 5 minutes; pull on shorts, tank top and running shoes, 2 minutes; stretch out, 5 minutes; run, 20 minutes; strip down, towel off and pull on yoga tutu, 5 minutes; yoga 30 minutes; total time — 1 hour and 7 minutes.

From Dear Love and Karen in the frozen North: out of bed, turn on the electricity to the car heaters, plug in the electric kettle, pee, brush teeth, feed piteous cats, prepare coffee, drink it, 20 minutes; pull off bed socks, flannel jamjies, pull on panties, long johns, turtlenecks, flannel shirts, plush anoraks, snow pants, down coats, two pairs of socks, Sorrels with chains, two pairs of gloves, polypropene face mask and head lamp, 30 minutes; too late and physically impossible to stretch out, 0 minutes; walk gingerly and very cautiously for 30 minutes never getting aerobic. Run? Get serious. Strip down in reverse, throw on bed clothes stripped off earlier, put down yoga mat, drink a cup of scalding tea, turn on yoga video and yoga, 40 minutes. Total time: 2 hours. Throw in eating, showering, dressing and sitting in the car for 20 minutes to keep it idling while it thaws out, and you’ve got Dear Love and I rising at 5 AM to get fit before work.

Now how is meditating for 5 minutes going to alter that reality? Okay, so we could use inside running and walking devices. Tried that. The Nordic Track scared the hell out of my $35,000 knees and my arthritic hip. Dear Love liked it and worked out on it sporadically, that is until it became a coat rack for all our extra winter woolies and a platform to hold the duffel bags, backpacks and sleeping bags in their various stages of use either on the way to or on the way back from village trips.

So we traded the Nordic Track for a walking track and a VCR from a catalogue. You can’t really know what size something is by its written dimensions unless you make a mock-up. This walking track was just long enough to fit the stride of a ten-year-old or that of a short dear love such as I have. I couldn’t take a whole step on it.

I did a low impact aerobic workout with Cindy on cable at 6:30 AM until we cut off the cable to save money for The House in Missouri. Dear Love did it with me once. Dear Love is not a morning person, and I am not a night person. While she is busy paying bills at 11 PM, I am asleep sitting up on the couch, head jolling, mouth hanging open. I’m sure it’s extremely attractive, although Dear Love has never said so.

Two or three times a week I do yoga and sometimes Dear Love does it with me, but she’s traveling more than I and on call often, so getting a regular schedule is impossible. On weekends, we do Hula for Health. Great fun and quite a workout, but not often enough.

Today I played hooky from work before I got sick because I was exhausted, and was able to do an uninterrupted hour of yoga. How wonderful. How rare.

The upshot of all these sad stories about how hard it is to eat low-fat and keep fit is that Dear Love and I are sporting a couple of serious, bear-fat packing winter bellies. And something must be done about it. It is unseemly. It is unattractive. It is not sexy. Maybe we must move to Hawaii and wear shorts and eat sunflower sprout salads every day, but when I’ve spent a day flying to and from Koliganek and walked around the village doing a door-to-door survey with the wind seeping into the marrow of my bones, I want to tear whale blubber with my canine teeth.

Actually we’re doing well eating low-fat given our environmental needs and the limitations of our bush grocers; and we want to share some fat substitutions with you. Non-fat yogurt is our secret weapon in the war against fat. We
Belly to Belly

continued

use it to mash potatoes, in place of milk and butter, in
scones, on bakers, of course, and tacos instead of sour
cream; in salad dressings, and our piece de resistance, we
substitute it for most of the mayonnaise in anything calling
for it. Beats the hell out of any low-fat, or non-fat, mayon-
naise which all taste worse than crushed worms (and I know,
but that’s another story).

And guess what: Hershey’s Chocolate Syrup has NO
FAT, and Dreyer’s makes some delicious no-fat vanilla ice
cream. Dear readers, to die for. My latest find? Jello non-
fat, sugar-free CHOCOLATE pudding and you could sub-
stitute soy milk. It tastes divine. Now, if I could just put
only one serving in my mouth, I might make some inroads
into the belly problem. (Have you ever seen a cup of salad in
a bowl? It looks like a mouse serving!)

In the meantime, we’re listening to Louise and doing
belly affirmations. “My belly is the perfect size. I am
completely satisfied with a 1/2 a pink grapefruit for breakfast.”

This has three years to work. That’s when we move to
Missouri. If you think I’m getting into the big round bat-
tub surrounded by mirrors to frolic with Dear Love and be
forced to see all parts of myself from all angles NAKED,
think again. Maybe we could light candles, and look like
Renoir nudes, or maybe we’d better hang black curtains.

© Karen Carlisle
Belly-down in Bushville

A gay in the life. by John Sieruta
©1994

Music Teacher Under Fire

In Byron Center, Michigan, a high school music and band instructor, Gerry Crane, has become the center of controversy.
It began when some students asked Crane about the wedding band he had started to wear. He informed his students that
he recently married his male partner in a commitment ceremony. As word spread of Crane’s marriage, some parents
became incensed, and they brought their homophobic fears to the local school board. The ensuing conflict has persecuted
a teacher that is well-liked, responsible and caring.

In Michigan, it is unlawful to fire a tenured teacher, and Crane’s tenure may be the only thing that is allowing him to
keep his job, for now. The school board wants it known that they do not “condone homosexuality”, and have placed a gag
on its teachers regarding the subject in general. They have issued statements filled with homophobic bigotry: “The board
firmly believes that homosexuality violates the dominant moral standard of the district’s community. Individuals who
espouse homosexuality do not constitute proper role models as teachers...” Crane will be kept under close scrutiny by the
board members and others in the small-minded Byron Center community.

The Byron Center High School students have rallied around Crane, showing great support for him and his teaching
abilities. One female student, the drum major, was expelled at the beginning of the furore, apparently due to the fact
that she was distributing literature in support of Gerry Crane. Crane’s church has come out in full support of Crane and his
partner, citing Crane as a “loved and valued member of our congregation.”

*The Grand Rapids Press/Detroit News
Triangle Foundation
From January 1996 GLAAD Dispatch - Bulletin
The albums of Potter’s Lane (Remembering)

Part 33, “The War Years Start”

Everyone in the country stopped what they were doing on that fateful Sunday in 1941, their cars glued to the radio the following day. For the rest of their lives they would remember the words of F.D.R.’s famous speech: “Yesterday, December 7th, 1941 is a date which will live in infamy.” Those words became a rallying call to arms. The patriotic cry “one nation, under God” was loud and clear. Our country would have to pull together and there was no time for pettiness. Now everyone would have to work for the common good of all. All single men from age 18 to 40 were to report to their local induction center. They could join or be drafted, and that meant Robert, Bob, David, Brisk, and Neal. Nick, who was 6 months shy of his 40th, was still required to sign up. Joe was 41. Parry didn’t want Brisk to join, only to sign up for the draft (which he did). Robert and Neal wanted to join the Navy, and Bob and David wanted to join the Marines.

Victoria, Cha Cha and Vince were in California that Christmas, but everyone else, including Nick, Joe and Neal, were at the ranch. Robert and Neal had to report for boot camp on January 3rd. Robert was going to officers’ training and Neal was going to San Diego.

The county clerk was sending all the men to Camp Pendleton at that time. Robert found a letter from the State Department on his desk stating that, due to his legal background, he was to stay in John Day and help the county get through the next couple of months. He was then to report to officers’ training. He was angry, but he would be grateful in the future.

Mike and Parry both received letters from the State Department. They were to give physicals to every man under 40 and were given forms to fill out for the armed services.

Mike and Parry were not that surprised to find all able-bodied men eager to join. Even Steve wanted to; he was over 40, but he could still picture himself flying and shooting down planes in a dog-fight. He and Mr. Holt would have to take care of the herd now. But as things go, another “bomb” hit John Day. Mike got a phone call from Victoria the same day Robert got a letter from the State Department. The government was rounding up all Japanese-Americans and shipping them to camps. The formal letter said if there were any Japanese living in Grant county he was to report their names and the state troopers would take it from there.

Mike and Steve asked the Lees to come over after they closed their restaurant. They also invited the two big mouths, Mona and Peggy. The others were the Holts: Bob, David, Robert, Parry, Brisk, Lucy and Carl.

Robert, Parry and Steve were the only ones that knew what Mike was going to propose; an idea that could backfire and put everyone in the group in serious trouble. No one could understand why our government could ask all Japanese-Americans to sell everything and report to key cities. The Lees, fourth generation, were numb. Why would their beloved country arrest them for something they didn’t do?

Mike offered them the Party house until he and the rest of the group could figure out what to do. It sounded better than being arrested and sent to some camp or prison. They also had to sell their place or risk having the government confiscate all their property. Mike and Steve offered to buy the place: when all this was over they could have it back. The women took all this news very hard. These women had been friends for years and for the first time ever Mona and Peggy would never reveal their secret.

Turning the PAGE...

Continued in the March Issue

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

[Note: if you’ve been following the saga of Steve and Mike and are missing sections of the storyline, please write or call Cherresse, who will send the missing sections at no charge.]
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Set in the years after the First World War, based on the true story of what was, for the time, an extraordinary relationship between the androgynous young painter Dora Carrington (Emma Thompson) and a homosexual, the celebrated Bloomsbury writer and critic Lytton Strachey (Jonathan Pryce). It is the story of people who tried, in their own way, at a time when society did not encourage such experiments, to acknowledge openly what most of us are aware of but still reluctant to discuss - that a great many differences exist between love and desire. Director Christopher Hampton won the Cannes Jury Prize and Pryce took the Best Actor Award at Cannes. Rated R for strong language and sexuality, 127 min. Now Showing thru Feb. 29

A wise, rich romantic comedy about four young men who are going through mid-life crisis at the age of twenty-two and the three women in their lives who have an entirely firmer grip on reality. With Josh Hamilton, Chris Eigeman, Carlos Jacott, Eric Stoltz, Olivia d’Abo and Parker Posey. Rated R for strong language and sexuality, 98 min. Premieres Fri. Feb. 16th

PROTECT...LOVE...HONOR...AVENGER
THINGS TO DO IN DENVER
WHEN YOU'RE DEAD

Chronicled 48 hours in the life of "reformed" mobster Jimmy the Saint (Andy Garcia), who pulls together his old gang to do one last job for his ex-boss. But what begins as a quick and easy job goes maddeningly awry, and the gang must make the quick decision to get out of Denver - an especially tough dilemma for Jimmy, who's just met Degney (Gabrielle Anwar), the one woman in town can make his sainthood heart go "thump." Also starring Christopher Walken, Christopher Lloyd, Treat Williams and Jack Warden. Rated R for strong graphic violence, language and images of sex on film. 117 min. Premieres March 1

In Victorian England, penniless naturalist William Adamson (British stage actor Mark Rylance) finds an unlikely patron: Reverend Harald Alabaster (Jeremy Kemp). Taken in by the reverend's family, he marries the ethereal heiress (Patsy Kensit). Encouraged in his research by another relation (Kristin Scott Thomas) he makes a startling discovery of corruption seething beneath the gorgeous surface of the Alabaster clan and finds himself plunged into the realm of perversion. Not rated, mature themes including sexuality. 117 min. Premieres March 15
Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association
1057 W. Fireweed, Suite 102 - Anchorage, AK 99503 - 263-2050 - fax: 263-2051 - Statewide AIDS Helpline - (800) 478-AIDS

R.S.V.P. Alaska
A fund raiser benefiting the Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association

March 16, 1996
Call the Four A’s now to sign-up or for more information! 263-2048

R.S.V.P Alaska is our largest & most exciting event of the year!
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Throw a Party!
On Saturday, March 16, the evening of R.S.V.P Alaska, caring people in Alaska will host gatherings of friends in their homes or businesses. Each guest is asked to make a gift to the Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association.

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Have a party to make a difference. R.S.V.P Alaska parties can be an intimate gathering or as big as you want. Let your imagination run wild!
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If you want more information about HIV/AIDS or need support for yourself or a friend, call the AIDS Helpline. We can help.
Statewide AIDS Helpline 1-800-478-AIDS

Events for February and March
- RSVP Alaska March 16. Plan to host a dinner, call Laurie 263-2050
- HIV Prevention Planning Group Meeting at Providence Hospital Feb. 21, 22 call 561 4406 for more information
- HIV Prevention Conference at Providence Hospital Feb. 23, 24 call 561-4406 for more information.
- “AIDS 101 Training” Feb. 15 & Mar. 19 for anyone interested in HIV/AIDS. 5:30pm - 7:30pm at 4A’s
- “Four A’s Food Drive” First Sat. of every Month at Sears mall by Carrs. 10am-4pm
- “Friends and Family Group” Every Thurs. For anyone affected by HIV/AIDS, 7:00pm at 4A’s
- “Friday Lunch” for everyone every Fri. Noon-1pm at 4A’s
- “Free HIV Testing” Every Wed. 2pm-4pm at 4A’s

You can
Register at the Four A’s.
DO IT TODAY!
Deadline for host registration is February 20.
Welcome to a new Fairbanks column...allow me to introduce myself. My name is Jonathan and I am a realtor working in Fairbanks. I've lived here for about 4 years plus another 3 years seasonally while making the transition from Seattle (where my family lives).

You've often seen my handsome mug on my business card ad in the Fairbanks section, but you've not heard from me personally. Like many, I've considered myself too busy to write, but have felt the importance of supporting our only state-wide community publication both by advertising and by subscription.

After two consecutive conspicuous absences of the Fairbanks section, I felt the need to do my part for the community and commit to a few months of writing (thanks for kickstarting me to get me going, Ruth). This is very new to me as I've never before written for a publication. Fairbanks readers with items of interest for this column can e-mail me:

<jwolman@polar.net>

I would like to publicly thank the previous regular (and I hope future) contributors to this section including Pete Pinney and Eric Walton. They both gave of themselves from the heart and I greatly enjoyed reading their work. Thanks, also, to all the people and sponsors that make Identity's NorthView possible. In the past I would have felt somewhat isolated without NorthView's highlights of the thriving and diverse state-wide family community we have.

As far as local events in which to participate, I held the misconception that the pickings were pretty slim. The only community bar in this town is open just twice a week 11PM to 3AM. For someone who is made ill by second-hand smoke and has difficulty with loud music and latenight hours, their weren't too many other options for me, or so I thought. I was wrong.

It came to my attention that several other gatherings are available for someone wishing to 'seek out and explore new worlds'. I could go to Equal, P-FLAG, AGLA, Q-Klatch, or other local meetings. In fact, I made myself get up and out to my first AGLA meeting up at UAF last week. (Everyone is welcome there and the room was packed for the annual elections.)

The new AGLA officers are: President, Lori-Kim and Christopher Hrycko (does this mean a co-dependency presidency?); VP, Shelly Woźniak; and the newly combined positions of Secretary/Treasurer Michael Schmahl. Congratulations!

The main agenda item of the meeting was the dance AGLA is sponsoring on January 27. I won't list all the details here since it will already have occurred by the time this goes to print. Many ideas were passed back and forth for a theme and the winner was...a Tacky Dance! (With a 6-5 vote.) All 18+ community and friends are welcome. Hooray for AGLA and Michelle for making this type of event possible (she's not making money from this). A businessperson from our community made available her place of business for a smoke-free (Hooray again!) dance during more palatable hours. Of course this is not a regular bar and this type of event which is user-friendly to all doesn't take place often, but it's a start. Personally, I look forward to the day the Fairbanks' family has its own G/L owned club.

My vision of such a club includes a structure that would accommodate the following: a physically divided bar to accommodate both areas for 'over 21 alcohol sales' and an underage section serving 'virgin' drinks; a mixed (age) dance floor; a coffee house (open most of the week); and a meeting room for free use by all of our 'family' community groups. I'm talking a clean healthy community area which has something for everyone. I believe there are many in our community who would start participating and getting involved that do not at this time.

I believe we are facing the same situation that my Synagogue faced several years ago. We have a small thriving community, but with 'our own' physical structure, the turnout and participation by our gay community would double or triple.

Build it and they will come! Anyone interested?
Jonathan Wolman, a Fairbanks businessman and community activist.
The Directory

AA...
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 Angie/Linda at the KK at 337-0253.

The designations of (L)lesbian, (G)ay and (A)lly indicate that the business or service is owned by (L)esbians, (G)ays or (A)lies. All people (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:
(L) KT Creative, Katie, 278-9174

AIDS:
(A) Alaskan AIDS Assistance Assc., 263-2050 (see 4A’s page)
(A) Alaskans Living with HIV (ALHIV), Jena, Rita, 463-5688
(A) Anchorage Neighborhood Health Center (free HIV testing), Stephanie, 257-4657
(A) Interior AIDS Assc., 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 Services:
(L) Mt. McKinley Air Service, Keli or LeeAnn, 800-564-1765; 907-733-1765

Alternative Medicine/Health:
(A) Hope, 561-2330
(A) Gatekey, Ketki Jaimini, 561-7327
(A) The Cutting Edge (Seward, AK), Connie, 907-224-8996.

Amusements:
(G) Hollywood Canteen, Rand, 562-0737

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

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

Arts & Crafts:
(A) Daymoon (Seward, AK), Jan, 907-224-7009.

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

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

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

Bars:
(L/G) The Blue Moon, 277-0441
(L/G) O’Brady’s, 344-8033, 338-1001, 563-1080 (see ad)
(L/G) Palace Saloon (Fairbanks), AlaskaLand (Fri & Sat ONLY)
(G/L) The Raven, 276-9672

Bed & Breakfast:
(G) Alta’s (Fairbanks), Pete, 907-457-0246 (see ad)
(G) Arctic Feather, Doug, 277-2862
(G) Aurora Winds, James/Bill, 346-2533
(A) Beach House, Mary (Homer), 907-225-5945 (see ad)
(L) Blue Herring B&B (Missouri), Lucile, 417-993-4302
(L) Butterfly Inn, Kay (Hawaii), 808-966-7936
(L) Cheney Lake B&B, Mary/Janetta, 337-4391
(G) Crabtree Guest House (Fairbanks), Phil/Bobby, 907-451-6501
(L) Garden Cottage (Orlando, FL), Lisa, 407-894-5395
(G) Gingerbread House, Yves (Montreal), 514-597-2804
(A) Island Watch, Eileen, 907-225-2265 (see ad)
(L) Mermaid Inn, Nancy/Bonnie (Pt. Lauderdale, FL), 305-565-8437
(G) Normandy South (Miami Beach, FL), Hank/Brucie,

365-674-1197
(L) Northern Comfort, Reeda, 278-2106
(G/A) Sauerdough Lodging (Seward, AK), Gordon, 907-224-8946.

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

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

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

Books:
(A) Alaskana, Gene, 561-1340 (see ad)
(A) Cyrano’s Books, Sandy/Jerry, 274-2599
(A) Into The Woods Bookshop (Fairbanks), Connie, 907-479-7701

Carpet & Linoleum Installation:
(A) Big Bob’s, Mark, 561-2121
(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 (Minneapolis), 800-54 PRIDE (547-7433).
Also Los Angeles, CA, Coconut Grove, FL & New York City.

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

Churches:
see Spiritual

Coffee Houses:
(G) Hollywood Canteen, Rand, 562-0737
(L/G) The Socialite Tides at The Wave, Trina, 274-7511 or 561-WAVE

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

Computer Bulletin Board:
(L) The Wilde Side, 333-4039
(G) Wings! 243-7818; 243-7371 (G/L / Internet access)

Computer Supplies:
(G) Frigid North, Tom, 561-4653 (see ad)

Computer Consultants, Graphic Design,
& Desktop Publishing:
(L) Angie, 337-0253 (see ad)
(G) By-Teq Alaska, Inc., Ken, 248-2422
(L) CDA Services, Waite, 276-6862
(A) Computer Magik, Phil, 274-3528
(G) n/a, Lucian, 561-8586
(L) Helleck & Assoc., Terry, 276-3869
(G) Mark, 338-3357
(G) PC Possibilities, 248-6277

Computer Training:
(G) Seven Treasures Ent., Don, 338-9068
(A) Find It! Business Services (Macintosh), Larry, 279-4862

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

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

Counseling:
(G) Ability Design Associates, Doran, 562-9575
(A) Connie, 562-1826
(A) Jann, 248-9408
(L) Katia, 562-2684
(A) Marion, 562-0012
(A) Psychological Services Center, 786-1795
(L) Tess, Alternative Counseling, 562-8281

Dancing:
(G/L) The Wave, Trina, 274-7511 or 561-WAVE
The Directory

Deaf Support...

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 Hubert, DDS, 248-0022

Drug Shows:
(G/L) The Blue Moon, Misty Dawn, 277-0441
(G/L) The Wave, Trina, 274-7511 or 561-WAVE

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

Entertainment:
(G) Capri Cinema, 561-0064 (see ad)
(A) Mascarella Music, Diane, 277-9751
(L) Real Talent Productions, Karyn, 562-5777, 278-5683
(A) Syzygy/Music Magic, Linda, 274-2599

Financial, Insurance, Investments:
(L) Chris, 561-8040/338-3962 (see ad)
(G) Jon, Bank of America, 263-2373

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, 248-3900

Florists:
(G) Every Bloomin' Thing, Jerry, Malcom, 274-3158
(A) Growing Concern Florist, Darin, 279-8688

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

Furniture:
(A) Design Craft, Laura/David, 279-0638 (see ad)
(A) Courtney's, Linny, 562-1227 (see ad)

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

Gifts:
(A) Design Craft, Laura/David, 272-4438 (see ad)
(A) Love of Alaska, Talyne, 243-0876
(A) The Cutting Edge (Seward, AK), Connie, 907-224-8996.

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

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

Health:
(A) Gatekey, Ketki/Iaimini, 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, 907-458-8288
(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) Randy, 345-4607
(G) Silver Spoon Cleaning & Catering, Brent, 258-0828

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

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

Imperial Court:
(G) Imperial Court of All Alaska, Madeline, 338-3327

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

Landscaping:
(L) Wood Nymph Landscaping, Valerie, 274-8006

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:
(L) Beth (MT), Debbie (CMT), 566-0842
(G) Don, 338-8826
(G) Gabriel, 272-9045
(G) Howie, LMT (Palmer), 746-7778
(A) Joyce, (CMT), 562-1916 (see ad)
(L) Leslie (non-sexual), 278-8346
(A) Marion, 562-0012
(L) Vicki, 277-5222

Media:
(L) NLGIA (National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association),
Kim, Alaska chapter coordinator and board member, 277-2704

Meetings:
(G/L) The Wave, Trina, 274-7511 or 561-WAVE

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

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

Native Arts/Culture:
(A) Moon Dancer Arts, Rosemary (Wasilla), 373-5535

Newsletters/Newspapers:
(L) Klondyke Kontakt (Alaska Women's Cultural Center), 277-9763
(GLA) NorthView (Identity), 258-4777
(GL) Perspective (S.E.A.G.I.A. (Juneau), 586-4297

Nightclubs:
(G/L) The Blue Moon, 277-0441
(G/L) The Raven, 276-9672
(G/L) The Wave, Trina, 274-7511 or 561-WAVE

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

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

Painting...

Painting:
(L) L & L 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

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
(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 Instruction:
(L) Carolyn Lancaster, M.Ed., School Survival Skills, 274-5059
(A) Kathleen L. McDonough, School Survival Skills, 274-5059

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

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

Recreation:
(L) Alaska Women of the Wilderness, Rachel, 688-2226
(L) McKinley Air Svc., Lee Ann & Keli, 800-564-1765
(G/L/B) Out in Alaska, Howie, Palmer, 746-7778
(L) Pfaffin Family Charters, Leslie, 278-3346 (see ad)
(G) Triangle Tours, Greg, 786-3707, 800-779-3701
(G/L) The Wave, Trina, 274-7511 or 561-WAVE

Real Estate:
(G) Apollo Real Estate, Bob, 561-0661 (see ad)
(A) Bronwyn Hillman, 248-2804; 563-5186
(L) Century 21 (Missouri), Lucille, 417-745-6798(o); 417-993-4302(h)
(A) Coldwell Banker, Elaine, 562-2378
(L) Dynamic Properties, Jill, 261-7663
(G) Dream Homes (Fairbanks), Jonathan, 907-451-1828 (see ad)
(L) Waltraud Barron, 274-2634

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

Research:
(L) Cracius & Associates, 279-3982

Restaurants:
(A) Cyranos 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)

Sightseeing:
(L) McKinley Air Svc., Lee Ann & Keli, 800-564-1765
(L) Pfaffin Family Charters, Leslie, 278-3346 (see ad)

Social/Educational:
(G) Anchorage Garden Buddies, 258-4777
(G/L) Q*Katch (Fairbanks), Eric, 455-4051

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

Spiritual:
(A) Alaska Women of the Wilderness, Rachel, 688-2226
(A) Anchorage Church of Religious Science, Center for Positive Living, Rev. Nancee Swensen, 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 Ilenie (Eagle River), 907-694-6946
(L) McKinley Air Svc., Lee Ann & Keli, 800-564-1765
(G) Roy's Bikes, Roy, 333-8221

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 and Bisexual Student Association), UAA, (see Club Notes)

Support Groups:
(G) Ability Design Associates, Doran, 562-9575
(G) Gay Teens (Youth Group), Liz 688-3906
(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), Mary Jo, 907-459-8985
(A) P-FLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Juneau), 907-463-4203

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

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

Theatre:
(G) Breakeven Productions, Linda 277-5630
(A) Out North Theatre, Gene/Jay, 279-8099

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

Travel:
(G) Apollo Travel Agency, Bob, 561-066 (see ad)
(G) Apollo Travel Agency, Cherriese, 561-0661 (see ad)
(L) Apollo Travel Agency, Karyn, 561-0661 (see ad)
(L) DreamQuest Tours, Karyn, 562-5777, 278-5683
(L) Equinox Wilderness Expeditions, Karen, voice mail: 274-9087
(G) World Express Travel, Greg, 786-3701

Tutoring:
(A) James, Biology, 248-6104
(L) Carolyn Lancaster, M.Ed., School Survival Skills, 274-5059
(A) Kathleen L. McDonough, School Survival Skills, 274-5059

Veterinarian:
(A) Ginny, 345-1515
(L) Vicki, 345-1515
(A) Dr. Jean Bartig (Fairbanks) 452-6055

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

Writing Editing Assistance:
(A) Kathleen L. McDonough, School Survival Skills, 274-5059
(L) Kathy, 278-2840
Groups & Gatherings, Circles and Clubs

News from gay and lesbian organizations 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 Christopher at 907-479-7348.

Anchorage Garden Buddies (AGB) Anchorage is a social group for Gay men looking for an alternative to the “bar scene.” For information about meeting time and place or to get on the mailing list, call Kurt at 242-0659.

Anchorage Lesbian Families’ Alliance (ALFA) Anchorage ALFA meets every 3rd Sunday at various locations (mostly at Regan’s) to socialize and provide support for one another. Adults, children, Lesbians, allies and newcomers are welcome. Call Regan at 243-3757 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 provides education and information about political issues to our community. EQUAL is not a political action committee and does not endorse candidates. For more information, call 274-9220.

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 907-457-3876. 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 Aklakaland 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 457-3876.

Family—Anchorage meets every Saturday from 6:00-7:00pm in the Arts Building, Room 121 on the UAA campus. Social group after 7:00pm (bowling, dinner, etc.) High school people, bisexual men & women, transvestites and transsexuals most welcome! Call Graham at 562-8463.

Feminist Sing-a-Long (women only), Anchorage third Saturday of every month, 1741 Westview Circle; call Carol and Fran at 333-0871. 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 1st St. 279-5001.

Gay Teens, Anchorage sponsored by P-FLAG Southcentral; discussion group for 13-19 youths, meets 4:00-6:00pm Saturday at Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 3201 Turnagain Street. Call Liz at 688-3906.

Identity, Inc. Anchorage focused on improving 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 is held on the 4th Friday of every month at the Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 3201 Turnagain Street. Doors open at 6:30pm; dinner at 7:00pm; program at 7:30pm. See the Calendar for this month’s program.

Imperial 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 Emperor Madeline XXIII at 338-3327. Or write P.O. Box 104023, Anchorage 99510-4023.

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. 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 Drive. 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 Leather/Bear communities of Alaska. Meetings 3rd Thursday 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, Friday & Sunday. Check calendar for times and locations.

Mt. McKinley (non-ascent) Club, 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 each Sunday afternoon at 4:00pm, Park Lanes. 561-8744 (Bob). Out in Alaska is a group of Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals from the Mat-Su Valley and beyond who enjoy outdoor activities and meeting other outdoorsy folks. Activities are lead by member volunteers. For information or to receive a newsletter, call Howie at 907-746-7778 or write to Out in Alaska, HIC 2 Box 78108, Palmer, AK 99645.

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians & 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 & Gays (PFLAG) of Juneau meets the 3rd Saturday of every month at 12 noon at Mendenhall Mall Library. Phone 907-463-4203.
Club notes
continued
Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG)
of Southcentral holds meetings on the 3rd Monday 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 907-455-6058 or
Eric at 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, 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 info, call Eric at 455-
4051 or e-mail to <fsbw@aurora.alaska.edu> or Kathy at 455-
6358 or <klatch@northstar.k12.ak.us>.

Shanti of Juneau
offers support services to persons with HIV/AIDS and their
loved ones, as well as offering comprehensive AIDS prevention
and educational information. Offices: 222 Seward, Suite 200,
mail: P.O. Box 22685, Juneau, AK 99802-2685. 907-463-
5665, 1-800-478-AIDS (2437).

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

Southeast Alaska Gay & Lesbian Alliance (SEGALA)
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 907-262-2599.

Women's Coffeehouse, Anchorage
every 4th Saturday, 9-8pm. 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 pro-
gram.

e-Mail

Burleson, Laura: Gay Rights activist, Chair of Equal of Fairbanks,
and in the Alaska Gay and Lesbian Association:
<dsle@cbr@aurora.alaska.edu>
Blumenfeld, Warren: Author/educator/ Pride Conference pre-
senter: <blumenfeld@edu.umass.edu>
Capri Cinema, Rand Thornley: <geehb911@prodigy.com>
Carlisle, Karen: Writer, feminist, teacher, activist: <stnkr@aur-
a.ralea.edu>
Carter, Dan: Gay activist, Dandelion, Equal:
<alaskan@al.com>
Crabtree, Phil, Crabtree B&B, Fairbanks, AK,
<sfpn@aurora.alaska.edu>
Craicun, Jean: market research, Pride Conference:
<jcraicun@craicun.alaska.net>
Digital Queers, Technical philanthropic organization:
<GDQ@al.com>
Chrysler, Stephen: writes/NorthView contributor:
<chrysler@al.com>
Ferrell, Kathy: Fairbanks co-editor for Northview, Q*K
OUTDoors co-coordinator, <hla@northstarak.us> and
<sfs@aurora.alaska.edu>
Freedman, F. Kenneth: Gay/Lesbian activist, co-editor
NorthView: <kennkas@comcast.com>
Gingrich, Neal: Speaker of the House, <georgia6@hr.house.gov>
Into The Woods Bookshop: Connie, Fairbanks, AK,
<woods@polarnet.com>
Keltner, Tam: Digital Queers: <dqnw@al.com>
LGNY, new NY LesBiGay newspaper,
<https://www.flly.net/~lgny>
McMullen, John: Chapter Co-Chair/Project Manager for Digital
Queers Northwestern: <jmcMullen@aol.com>
Pinney, Peter: UAF instructor and owner of Alta’s B & B;
<brffp@aurora.alaska.edu>
Severson, Kim: Entertainment editor Anchorage Daily News,
board of Nat'l Lesb & Gay Journalists Asn:
<ksveverson@pop.adn.com>
Singorile, Michelangelo: writer The Advocate:
<angel@pipeline.com>
Thornley, Randi: Capri Cinema: <f Filmaglry@al.com>
Walton, Eric: NorthView Fairbanks co-Editor, Q*Klatch, Q*K
Outdoors, PFLAG, EQUAL etc.: <fsbw@aurora.alaska.edu>
Wave, The Lesbian/Gay bar & coffee house: <wave@alaska.net>
Wockner, Razi: San Diego-based journalist, LesBiGay info
(Internet): <rwocner@actcom.com>

Want to be listed? Write to Identity and include information
similar to what you see above.
Calendar

February

Feb 15, Thu:
A  The Last Frontier Men’s Club, 6pm, Raven.

Feb 17, Sat:
A  The Family (UAA), 6pm, Arts Building, Rm 121, Graham 562-8463.
A  Feminist Sing-A-Long, 6:30pm Potluck, 7:30pm singing, 1741 Westview Circle, Carol or Fran, 333-0871.
A  Beyond Basic Live, 8pm, Java Joint (Fire House Cafe), Spenard & Benson.

Feb 19, Mon:
A  P-FLAG Southcentral Monthly Meeting, 7pm, AUUF, Fred 562-7161 or Sylvia 562-4992.

Feb 20, Tue:
F  P-FLAG Fairbanks Monthly Meeting, 5:30pm, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Log Cabin, Mary Jo 907-459-8985.
A  Mt. McKinley (non-ascent) Club, 7:30pm, 1207 Wcst 47th Ave., Bob 561-8744.

Feb 23, Fri:
A  Identity Potluck/Social: gather at 6pm, 7pm dinner, 7:30pm program: Connie Wolfe, “Help Mother Nature and Get A Boost From Uncle Sam.”

Feb 24, Sat:
A  The Family (UAA), 6pm, Arts Building, Rm 121, Graham 562-8463.
A  Women’s Coffeeshouse, Erotic Poetry Reading, 8pm - 10pm, $3 donation, The Wave’s Sociatic Tide, Barbara or Candy 337-2011.

Feb 25, Sun:
V  Glacier Creek Gorge Ski / Hike (Girdwood), Out In Alaska, 1:30pm, Howie, 746-7778.
A  Anchorage Lesbian Families Alliance (ALFA), 4pm - 6pm, Potluck, Regan 243-3757.

Feb 27, Tue:
A  Identity Board Meeting, 7pm, AUUF Room A, Tom 333-7504.
A  Women’s Co-op meeting, 7pm, 813 D Street, 2nd Floor.

Feb 28, Wed:
J  Minority Community Relations Task Force Meeting, 7pm, info 586-6623.

March

Mar 6, Wed:
A  Alaska Women’s Political Caucus, 7pm, First United Methodist Church.

Mar 9, Sat:
V  Nancy Lakes Recreation Area Ski / Hike, Out In Alaska, 1:30pm, Howie, 746-7778.

Mar 11, Mon:
A  Gay Bar, (legal issues pertinent to Gays & Lesbians), 7pm, 845 K Street, Alison 279-5001.

Mar 15, Fri:

Mar 16, Sat:
A  R.S V P Alaska, hosted-dinner to benefit 4As, Lori Wolfe, 263-2050.
A  The Family (UAA), 6pm, Arts Building Room 121, Boardwalk Pizza at 7pm.

Mar 17, Sun:
V  Prospect Heights Ski / Hike, Out In Alaska, 1:30pm, Howie, 746-7778.
A  Anchorage Lesbian Families’ Alliance, 4pm potluck, Regan 243-3757.

Mar 19, Tue:
A  AIDS 101, introduction to HIV/AIDS awareness, 5:30pm to 7:30pm, Michael, 263-2050.

Mar 21, Thu:
A  Take Back The Night, 6:30pm, call 566-1171.

Mar 23, Sat:
A  Celebrating Women & Creativity: Celebration Unplugged, Back To Our Roots, see The 15% (R.A.W.) listing for info and contact numbers.

Mar 29, Fri:
A  Identity Potluck/Social: gather at 6pm, 7pm dinner, 7:30pm program: Chris Olson and Jon Howe present “HIGH FINANCE”.
A  ICOAA Masquerade Ball, 8pm - 10pm, The Wave, Taylor 563-8650.
On-Going Calendar Items

SUNDAYS
A Metropolitan Community Church Services, 11am & 7pm, 615 Hollywood Dr.
A Midnight Sons AA Meeting, 1pm, (Gay, Lesbian only), MCC Church, 615 Hollywood Dr.
A Northern Exposure Bowling League, 4pm, Park Lanes, Dan or Bob 561-8744.
A Gay, Joyous & Free, 7pm, AA Meeting, 1231 W. 27th Ave.
A Country Dancing at The Wave, 8pm, taught by Patty 561-9283.

MONDAYS
A Gay, Joyous & Free, 7pm, AA Meeting, 1231 W. 27th Ave.

TUESDAYS
A Country Dancing at The Wave, 7pm, taught by Behr 561-9283.
A Righteous Babes Radio Show, 7pm, KRUA-FM 88.1.
A SLAA (Sex & Love Addicts Anonymous), 8pm, Church of Religious Science, 7th & A, 566-1133.

WEDNESDAYS
A Free HIV TEST at 4A's, 2pm - 4pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, Lori 263-2050.
J Social at Summit Lounge, after work.
J “Women’s Prerogative,” KTOO-FM, Wednesdays, 9pm-10pm.
A La Cage aux Wave (drag show), 10pm, The Wave, $3 cover.
A Blue Moon Follies, 10pm, Blue Moon, $3 cover.

THURSDAYS
J Gay, Lesbian, Bi-Sexual Youth Meeting (26 & under), 5:30pm, 907-463-5688.
A SLAA (Sex & Love Addicts Anonymous), 5:30pm, Unitarian Church, 566-1133.
A Friends and Family Support Group, 6:30pm, call 4As, 263-2050.
A Alaska Pride Chorus Rehearsal, 6pm to 7:30pm, AUUF, call Greg 245-2122 or Mary 243-0789.
A Gay, Joyous & Free, 7pm, AA Meeting, 1231 W. 27th Ave.
A Country Dancing at the Wave, 7pm, taught by Patty, 561-9483.

FRIDAYS
A PLWA Lunch, 4A’s, 12noon-1pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, Lori 263-2050.
A Free HIV Testing, 4A’s, 2pm to 4pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, 263-2050.
A Live and Let Live, AA Meeting, 7pm, 637 A St. (non-smoking), (1st Friday, tradition/step study).
A Midnight Sons, Gay Men’s AA Meeting, 7:30pm-9pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave.
F Dancing in Fairbanks!, 11pm-3am, Palace Saloon, Alaskaland.

SATURDAYS
A SLAA (Sex & Love Addicts Anonymous), 12 noon, Unitarian Church, 566-1133.
A The Family (UAA), 6pm (excluding school holidays). UAA Arts Bldg. Rm 121, Graham 562-8463 or Kimberly 563-1421.
F KSUA, 103.9 FM, 5pm-7pm, “Queer Beans” (Gay issues and music).
A Gay Teens, Anchorage, 6pm-8pm, Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 3201 Turnagain St., Liz 688-3906.
F Dancing in Fairbanks!, 11pm-3am, Palace Saloon, Alaskaland.

Legend
A Anchorage
F Fairbanks
J Juneau
V Mat-Su Valley

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