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"I don't want a life that begins and ends with gay!" is a common mantra among queer folks. I hear it a lot. "I don't like labels," is another popular saying.

Personally, I like labels. They help me organize my thoughts about the world in which I live. They help me to communicate with others. When describing myself there are many labels which are accurate (male, American, liberal, homosexual), but all give only part of the picture. Without them, however, I could never know myself. When used wisely, labels are a useful tool.

As for having a life that begins and ends with gay, I don't know how this is possible. My mother, for example, is not gay and she is very much a part of my life. Regardless of how many rainbow stickers you have, chances are at least one of your parents is straight. And probably a couple of your friends, too, although you may not know it. Many would like to see a "ghettoless" society, one where queers were simply assimilated into the larger culture. Gays and lesbians have spent thousands of years assimilating into the larger culture. Whether we accept it or not the straight world is all around us, what we need is a place of our own.

Alaska, perhaps more than most, is a land of individuals. The independent spirit is alive and well here, and I was not surprised to find less sense of community among gay and lesbians than in other places I've lived. Labels are particularly despised and there is a markable reluctance to identify as gay. Everything about Alaska is big, including the closet, and the cost of individuality is often the same sense of community.

I am a proponent of personal freedom and independence, but I also understand the need for organization. Without government there would be anarchy, and as much as I dread "Big Brother", I'm forever grateful that I don't have to dispose of my own garbage. Government does not always work in my favor, either. There are times when the needs of the many outweigh the needs of the one. Not all of us pay the same amount in tax, for example, but we all benefit from the parks which wouldn't exist without them. Communities are beneficial in ways we may not always be aware of. The public bus which looks empty to you, if eliminated, would be sorely missed during rush hour traffic.

With the opening of the Gay and Lesbian Community Center Anchorage will have a tangible hub for its queer citizens. The GLCC will offer services which address the particular needs of the gay and lesbian community and although you may not be or identify as gay, or even need such services, chances are you know or love someone who does. The Gay and Lesbian Community Center will fill a void of support not met by other organizations. A strong and healthy gay community makes for a stronger and healthier community at large.

Being gay is only one good reason to support this valuable resource. Just as labels do not define the individual, the Center will not define the community. Life does not begin and end with gay. The GLCC is not the center of the universe, but it's a start. ☺

Brian A. Ridder, Editor
Identity Comes Full Circle

It has been said the everything happens in cycles and this has definitely been true for Identity. Twenty-five years ago in 1977 the first Alaska Gay Community Center opened in Anchorage. It then changed its name to the Alaska Gay and Lesbian Community Center, and then again to the Alaska Gay and Lesbian Resource Center. Following those two name changes, it once again changed to Identity, The Center for Sexual Minorities. After the closing of the center, the organization simply became Identity, Inc.

Now, in 2002, during Identity’s twenty-fifth year in operation in one form or another, the Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Anchorage (GLCCA) is opening again. To make this happen, Lisa Jamieson wrote a grant for Identity to the Gill Foundation. The Gill Foundation awarded us a $10,000 matching grant, which meant we had to raise $10,000 to receive the full amount. Last year, the community pulled together and we were able to raise the needed funds to match the grant. Mad Myrna’s held an extremely successful Slave Auction, and the Raven, the Imperial Court of All Alaska, The Last Frontier Men’s Club, and, of course, Identity, all sponsored fundraisers to provide the needed money to match the grant.

Along with attempting to match the grant, Identity created an Advisory Board to create the center and to receive input from all elements of our community. Currently, the Board consists of PFLAG, GLSEN, the Imperial Court of All Alaska, The Last Frontier Men’s Club, OPAL, the 4As, and five members at large.

After one year of searching, the Board has finally found a location to call home. The GLCCA is located at 2110 E. Northern Lights Blvd near the corner of Lake Otis. It is the building between the Don Jose’s and Burger Cache Restaurants. The 4As will be providing part-time staff people to cover four 3:00 – 9:00 PM shifts that the center will be open. Even with their assistance, we will need volunteers to cover the other shifts and to assist during the shifts when a 4A’s person is there. We want to make sure that everyone feels welcome when they come to the center.

The Center will be providing internet access, a resource library, meeting space, and social place for people to meet. It will be a place where you can come have a cup of coffee, read a book, meet some friends, or more some new people. The 4As will also be hosting weekly rap sessions and we are tentatively exploring the idea of having a Women’s Health Series. Come visit the Center, for you never know what you will find there.

The GLCCA will have its Grand Opening Celebration on February 2, 2002 starting at 2 PM and concluding at 5 PM. There will be food and the singing duo sensation, CommonbonD, will be performing. There will also be a lot of local talent performing. The blessing and ribbon cutting ceremony will begin at 2:00 PM so come out and see what the Center will be all about.

Also, that day, CommonbonD will be performing a special fundraising show for the Center. It will be held at the Loussac Library in the Wilder Marston Theater at 7:30 PM. Opening the Center is a major endeavor but it is not the only one that Identity has responsibility for. Identity will continue to sponsor PrideFest, the NorthView, the Pride Conference, the Gay and Lesbian Helpline, the Fourth Friday Potlucks, the Winter Workshop Series (The next one is Feb. 9 on relationships at the John Thomas Building. Elizabeth McNeil will be leading it), and the Living Out Loud Youth Leadership Retreat. We need volunteers, donations, and ideas to continue to provide these services. Consider becoming an Identity volunteer. It is a great way to give something to the GLBTA community in Anchorage.

To contact us, call the Center at 929-GLBT

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GALLERY HOMES REAL ESTATE
Romance

St. Valentine

The modern holiday of Valentine's Day grew out of the Roman celebration of Lupercalia, a festival of eroticism that honored Juno Februata, the goddess of febris (feverish) love. Each year, on the ides of February (February 15), love notes or "billets" would be drawn to partner men and women for feasting and sexual game playing.

Early Christians disapproved of these licentious activities, and in an attempt to curb the erotic festivities, the Christian clergy encouraged celebrants to substitute the names of saints. For the next twelve months participants were to emulate the ideals represented by the particular saint they'd picked. This prudish version of Lupercalia was unpopular and its popularity quickly waned.

These early Christians then fashioned the overtly sexual nature of Lupercalia by turning the "feast of the flesh" into a "ritual for romance." The Church chose a Saint (Valentinus) to compete with the goddess Juno.

Valentinus had been martyred on February 14, which allowed the Church to celebrate a day earlier than the annual February 15th celebration of Lupercalia. Valentinus, however, was a chaste man, unschooled in the art of love.

To make the Saint more appealing, and since few historical records of the man exist, his story was most likely embellished. According to legend, Valentinus ignored a decree from Emperor Claudius II that forbade all marriages, in order to make larger the pool of men available for military service. Caught performing illegal marriage ceremonies, Valentinus was imprisoned and sentenced to death.

While in prison, Valentinus cured a girl (the jailer's daughter) of her blindness. The girl fell in love with the man who had cured her, but she could not save him. The day before his execution, Valentinus had a final message secretly delivered to the girl.

The note was signed "From your Valentine."

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ARCTIC RAINBOW

By CJ Burgandy
http://CJBurgandy.com

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Clouds of Heaven

Standing around during the night
Watching the clouds float by
The moon was full
Family visiting and waiting
for the Angel to come
Laying down by the bed looking for the light
Her lover by her side
When the light from heaven shown on her face
The father welcomed her home with the angel
to show her the way to heaven
Peace was all over her face and body at rest
In our hearts and mind she will always be here
With her loved ones.

I wrote this when I lost my companion, my best friend,
my long time lover. So when you love someone and
are going on a trip don't say good bye, for that may
be your last words you speak to each other.

Written by Joyce C Epperson
September 4, 2001
Man Seeks Man

by Chuck Hart

Man Seeks Man for Fun, Romance, and Possibly Long Term Relationship

If you are a single, non-smoking, 35-55 year-old, employed, drug-free, child-friendly, Alaskan male I am interested.
If you like kids, walking on beaches, salt water fishing, clam digging, sledding, reading, jazz, rowing, bicycling, swimming, bowling, and cooking, I am interested.
If you like to laugh, we are kindred spirits.
If English is not your only language I am interested.
If you appreciate the beauty of a splashy sunset, snow falling, waves crashing, or a quiet beam, I am interested.
If you like to walk holding hands, I am interested.
If you like exploring tidepools, beaches, and rocky shores, look me up.
If you like watching whales, seals, otters, eagles, musk ox, moose and other wildlife, look me up.
If you like picnics at all kinds of places, look me up.

If you like getting great back and foot massage, look me up.
If you don’t mind a Cordon Bleu certified chef cooking an occasional meal, if you like trying new foods, and cuisines, if you like vegetables (not just potatoes) look me up.
If you like to drive, I am interested.
If you like the south side of Kachemak Bay in the summer, look me up.
If you like to read the newspaper with someone, I am interested.
If you like dogs, birds, and tropical fish, I am interested.
If you have other hobbies not listed so far, hobbies to teach me, I am interested.
If you like Ronald Reagan or Bill Clinton, but have several qualities listed above I will agree to disagree.
Physical attributes don’t matter much to me, I am looking for the content of your heart and soul. That is where your true beauty shines from.
Your religion doesn’t matter much to me, as long as you are happy, and as long as the practice of mine won’t offend you. I firmly believe in freedom of religion, and I support the wonderfully diverse ways we all choose to practice this precious freedom.
I believe in advancing opportunities for all gay people. This is my most treasured endeavor outside of caring for my family. If this would embarrass you or interfere in any possible relationship, I am NOT interested.
If associating with gay activists bothers you, get off the bus, we are moving on, and you may hooky-bob for free, but not ride up front with me.
I am not on the fast track to find romance, and know I will probably need to date a few men before I find Mr. Right. I will wait. I will try. I believe in romance. I believe it can happen to me.
Look me up at chuck838792hart@yahoo.com

Romance is an area where I have had only the most fleeting of successes. I still have hope for my future. My hurricane of a life has not given me the time to devote finding a man to romance. I am 45 years old, a father of three (10, 14, & 18 years old). I am raising my 14 year old daughter by myself.
Haousekeeping Compatibility

What share of the following tasks would you prefer to handle?
All or most = 1  A roughly equal share = 2  Little or none = 3
Circle those answers that are different from your current routine.
Record your responses independently, then compare.

Housekeeping Chore          Partner

A         B
Shopping
Food preparation & cooking
Bathroom cleaning
Kitchen cleaning
General house cleaning
Laundry washing & dry
Laundry ironing, mending
Dishwashing
Garbage removal
Recycle take-out
Bed making
Home decorating, arrangement
Yard work, gardening
Household repairs & improvements
Car maintenance
Provision of family income
Household bookkeeping
Financial planning (e.g. insurance & investments)
Childcare (if applicable)
Child discipline (if applicable)
Household bookkeeping
Pet care (if applicable)
Planning social engagements & outings
Vacation planning

Did any of your partner’s answers surprise you?
Discuss those items where you or your partner are looking for a change, or where your preferences don’t mesh.

Where to go from here?

Decide on the best chore sharing scheme for your household. Here are some options:
• Divide all the chores between you, take turns, or perhaps share some.
• Do some chores together to share special skills, such as car maintenance.
• Hire outside help or a professional service, if affordable.
• Plan a regular time when you can do the housework together.

Take notes or keep it informal, but be sure to reevaluate your decisions.
After a month to make sure they’re working for you.

www.buddybuddy.com

Housekeeping Compatibility Evaluation
by Partners Task Force for Gay & Lesbian Couples
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Love Lost

I close my eyes and remember our time together at the beach. She comes up out of the surf, her long hair bleached white from the tropical sun and salt water. Slender and boyish is the body of my love, a chestnut brown body with glistening drops of water falling back to earth.

My love rushed across the hot sand and drops to her knees at my side. I rise up to meet her and we share a tingling kiss filled with desire. Yet the day is so perfect we stay where we are, letting the sun warm our souls while the ocean breeze cools our bodies.

I hear a noise; open my eyes to see my brother motioning for me to go. All my bags are in the car; the apartment is as neat and clean as when we moved in. My lover is gone, leaving it to me to shut down our life together and turn my existence back into a single experience.

My soul mate—my perfect lover—who has touched me to the depths of my being and carried me to the furthest star, is no longer mine. Our unity, our romance has gone the way of all mortal things and so, was not as eternal as we had imagined.

I get my coat and follow my brother out the door.

As we approach the funeral home, I see our friends and family there waiting.

Today, I kiss my love goodbye forever.

Five Senses

If I told you I loved you, would you give me a smile?
What does it take to get your attention, to get you to look beyond the physical me?
Every time I see you, you are off in a world of your own.
Not aware of the people (me) around you.
Can’t you feel the earth tremble from the beating of my heart?
Can’t you hear the thunder of my blood pounding through my veins?
Can’t you see the glow surrounding me when your eyes turn my direction?
Can’t you taste the air saturated by my love?
Can’t you smell the essence of my fragrance as I brush past you?
Each day has become a new challenge for me as I struggle to find a way to reach you through the madness you have embraced.

Cliches

My mother was a great one for clichés. Her favorites were: a penny saved is a penny earned, and beauty is only skin deep.
Well, I never believed her about the beauty till I met Sonja. Then, I learned all about the fickleness of fate.
Sonja is the most beautiful woman I have ever seen; blonde (natural of course) hair, sea green eyes with just a touch of epicanthic fold for sultriness and the most luscious lips imaginable. A body to die for and a smooth complexion kissed gently with tan.
Sonja and I met at a potluck dinner and for me it was love at first bite. Being young and naïve, I tripped right over myself to get a spark to light up those magnetic drowning pools. By the end of the month, we were dating steady—sleeping over—and talking of moving in together. I had somehow stumbled onto the perfect woman who seemed to think I was also the perfect woman.
So, here I am six months down the road with no money left in my savings account, no meals on the table when I get home, a job on the rocks and a cold bed at night.
My endearing wonderful beautiful Sonja is no longer the woman of my dreams (unless you can count nightmares) and I am in a world of hurt because as my mother always said,
“Beauty is only skin deep.”

Harlequins

When I was married, I spent many nights up late reading romance novels—usually Harlequins.
I read and read and read. But never discovered the secret of true love. Married for 20 years and nary a thrill, nary an orgasm.
What does it take? What do I need to do, say or create to bring romance into my life?
So I decide I’ll get a job, build a career, go out into the world and be a vibrant, aggressive woman. And that is exactly when everything took on a new perspective.
I met a young woman. She excited me, made me nervous, clumsy, bashful, lusty—all the reactions those Harlequins talked about.

But, wait—I’m not like that!! Or am I? I make her a proposition; I leave my husband and come out, all in one day.
Boy, do I have a knack for drama or what!
Didn’t solve any of my problems though, because she turned me down.
And there I was—hot with desire I couldn’t express, weak in the knees from being so daring and looking at one income with nowhere to live.

Did I do it right?
I did!! I came out because love demanded it of me. I came out because my soul was so hungry for the sharing I’d not known. I came out and came out and came out until my proposition was accepted. She is still delightful and delighted in me.
Now I no longer need Harlequin romances to fill my nights—I have a novel romance of my own.
More Adam

The tree is gone
but the woods grow deeper
The bark gets thinner
Shade no longer shadow
Summer slipping under the rains
of Autumn
I could not resist the apple
and you thought Eve
was a woman
Leaves all around me now
the fall of Adam
From the second floor
you know that
you saw me naked

As Cool As

Leaving is
to wonder where the time goes
Here, after lazy April snows
Did you get my dedication
on the radio?
How are your distant raining
purple rodeos?
And your memory
is as cool as
the other side of the pillow

The Last Poem

I imagine your life to be successful
Your smile as sweet as I remember
California has been good to you
So I hear
er here still in Portland
Oregon
that the sun is shining
in Pasadena
where you are deciding
on a wedding dress
as I
turn to stone

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Romance, A Dream Come True

by Jasyn Breece

I always thought of romance as something in movies. Something to be sought for but never found, a fairy tale. Wishful thinking based on feelings deep or shallow in nature. I watched for years (Although a short time in reality I am still young so it seems like an eternity) through High school and before; people hugging and kissing saying that they where "in love." I watched them fall for each other, stay together, and break up over something trivial and petty. I never understood really. I had had a couple of girlfriends before my coming to the grips that I was gay. But I never experienced that feeling. The feeling of content that came from just being with someone.

I've never been popular really so I've spent most of my life wishing I could find someone to spend my time with. Before I came out of the closet I had quasi-crushes on a few girls that now that I look back on it had striking resemblances to boys *snicker snicker.* During my coming out process I had a crush on a Bi-curious boy (Who I am not so positive is straight, but hey, I respect his closet as just that - HIS closet!) I started working for Old Navy during my whole sexual identity crisis (drama, drama, drama, blah, blah, blah) where I met my very first GAY man: Juan! He was the coolest gay guy I had ever met. The ONLY problems I found in him was his love of drugs and his moving to fast. At the time I wasn't ready to get physical with anyone. I just needed someone to be there for me. He wanted a bit more...

Then I had a crush on Two Twin straight boys who I never talked to. After that it was B.B. (who for legal reasons I am going to leave his name out even though he is a JERK who I hope dies a very... er I mean stubs his toe REALLY HARD!) who was gay and liked me apparently but then shortly after that decided I wasn't worth his time??? I'm still kind of shady on that one. B.B. fell out of the picture when I met one of my High school buddies whose friend, Justin, showed up. I didn't really like him much at first but after awhile I grew to like him... a lot.

We spent the next 2 years dancing around each other sort of dating each other but not officially. We talked about it a couple of times but never really dated. Then the summer of 2000 my best friend, her mother and I moved to Massachusetts (That's another LONG story of its own.) which might I add was the WORST year of my life. I met a couple of guys down there but nothing really worked out. I didn't really fit in and they were strung out on drugs (common in most areas.) Cutting that year severely short, my best friend and I moved back to Anchorage and I had pretty much been single and looking until 2 months and 12 days ago (today's date being 1-16.)

My friend Christina set me up on a blind date with this guy Steven. We met November 1st hung out that day, and the next day, and the next day, and then on the forth my friend sort of slipped up and said boyfriend. And well it just sort of stuck.

I always wondered if I would find someone or experience romance. I always wondered what it felt like to care in someone's eyes and get lost. I wanted to know how it felt to share your life with someone. Before I met Steven the only time my heart really jumped was when I saw a really cute boy that I wished I had the guts to talk to. Now all it takes is for me to look over and see him looking back and to hear him say "You're so pretty!" He picks on me a lot about my pupils getting so big. He says its cause when you get excited your eyes open up because they want to take everything in. That to me is what romance is all about. You don't have to take someone out to a fancy dinner or buy them a dozen roses. You don't need to buy a ring or drive them around town in a limo. It may help... But when it all comes down to it. All you really need are simple words and dilated pupils. 😊

Jasyn Breece. 19.
Raised in Alaska and excited about my FIRST Valentines day with someone.
Steven I don't deserve you but I am very glad to have you. Hugs and Kisses! P.S. I miss you!
Pink Hearts, Lacy Things, and Chocolate
by Michael Wilson

It is February once again, the month of pink hearts, lacy things, and chocolate. The month people spend wads of money they do not have on people who do not really care, all in the hopes of sparking a little romance.

Well, romance is bunk, I tell you. It is a trick. It belongs in little smelly piles out in a grassy countryside farm pasture. It is clear to me that a sane person should wonder why any other person would spend wads of money they do not have buying pink hearts, lacy things, and chocolate for people who do not really care. People have called me the Ebenezer Scrooge of romance, but I say that Cupid is really Jacob Marley...forced to carry the chains of love in eternal penance for his sins.

How did all this silliness start anyway? Romance is a relatively new phenomenon it seems to me. For most of recorded history (even unto today!) a man and a woman did not get married because the man romanced the woman and she fell in love with him. No, it did not happen that way. For most of recorded history a man married a woman because it was arranged by their parents. The woman's parents told the man's parents "Your son can marry our daughter if you let us herd goats on your field."

And so it went for thousands of years and some people were happy in their marriages and some were not. Nothing of that sort has changed; some are still unhappy. But, there was no romance. Besides, those of us on the "other team" can't get married anyway.

But, now all this hokey is with us, for better or for worse. What is it for, romance? Surely it serves some kind of purpose. Natural selection would certainly eliminate romance from the realm of social behavior if it were unnecessary and superfluous. Yet it seems to be flourishing in human society today.

About the only thing I learned from high school biology was that the purpose of natural selection was to make sure an organism's genes were successfully passed on to another generation.

It seems to me, then, that romance is just another way to trick someone into the horizontal hokey pokey. Now, I like the hokey pokey as much as the next person, but really...is romance necessary for that? Any venture into a gay chat room, a gay bar, or an adult bookstore will tell you the answer to this question is "no." There are no pink hearts, lacy things, or chocolate there, but plenty of hokey pokey does go on afterward.

So why bother with romance? Face it, all gay men want is just a quickie about every ten minutes. There is no time for romance! Stopping to bother with romance only increases the time until the next trick. I don't know much about lesbians, but I do not think they need romance either. How romantic is all that flannel anyway? Besides, romance only serves to delay that moment of commitment (commitment...it's a female thing). I say, skip romance and get down to business. Life is short.

Still, Hallmark (TM) and Russel Stover (TM) are making bazillions of dollars each February selling pink hearts, lacy things, and chocolate. To whom? Well, face it...it's the breeders. Yes, as unpleasant as that sounds, it's a breeder conspiracy. They won't be happy until they've assimilated us into their errant ways. When you think about it, the males are always having to romance the female because she won't put out.

So, there you have it. As gay and lesbian people, we don't need romance. It's a breeder thing, and so I say it should be put out in the yard with the rest of the compost. Who wants to be like THEM, anyway? Romance? Who needs it? Bah humbug!

4th Friday Potluck
Fourth Friday Potluck & Coffeehouse
An Evening of Fun & Friendship

A time for entertainment (poetry, song, etc.), for event info and announcements, good conversation, and great food. Bring a dish to share.

Doors open at 6:30 PM at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (UUFF), 3210 Cameron Street.

Call the UUFF Hotline at 258-4777 if you would like to perform, help, need directions or just want more general info on this event.
Famous Lesbian and Gay Couples

It is a popular myth that same-sex relationships don’t last. Our Partners National Survey of Gay & Lesbian Couples gives us data to the contrary. This list of well known couples — some from ancient times, others more recent — suggests the reality of committed couples, and the roles that partners play in each other’s lives and, in some cases, each other’s work.

The data for our list comes primarily from books, and occasionally from reputable Web sites. We are often sent suggestions, however, do not post a couple until we have some form of published verification.

We do not include in our list, for instance, such couples as Emily Dickinson and Sue Gilbert. While they had a deep love for each other, there has not been enough evidence that they considered themselves actually partnered. (These women did dream of establishing a quiet life together in a little house somewhere, but, because of finances and social obligations, could not do so.)

Gathering information about same-sex families is sometimes very difficult. Because of the fact that homosexuality has, at various times in history, been attacked or forbidden, historians and their publishers have often refused to acknowledge that famous people had same-sex partners. Most history books for k-12 students delete any mention of homosexuality, never mind offering any reference to same-sex families.

Then there are the relatives who, embarrassed by their famous kin’s same-sex life partners or lovers, choose to hide or burn the love letters that would allow the world to see their relative’s true orientation, as is the case with Emily Dickinson.

Because of this kind of omission, many listeners of Benjamin Britten, for instance, have no idea that he was gay and that his orientation informed so much of his work. In fact, he wrote much of his music to be sung by Peter Pears, his partner of 40 years. Britten’s work continues, to this day, to influence the face of music.

“The biographical headnotes in every sophomore [literature] anthology suggest the importance Petrarch’s love for Laura, of Dante’s love for Beatrice, of Wordsworth’s love for Annette, but never are we told [in textbooks] that Oscar’s love for Bosie informs some of his prose...; that Whitman’s love for Peter Doyle influenced his prophetic theory of comradeship; that A.E. Housman’s unrequited love for A.J. Jackson contributed to the bitter but restrained sorrow of much of his poetry...; or that Edna St. Vincent Millay’s frequent references to Sappho or Lesbos are not prompted by her love for Eugene, or that Tennyson’s love for Arthur Hugh Hallam prompted him to write that most ‘universal’ of sentiments: ‘Tis better to have loved and lost/Than never to have loved at all.”


Few think twice when an historian figure is assumed to be heterosexual, though there may be no factual grounds whatsoever for this assumption.

Historically, couples themselves have often been silent about the nature of their relationship because they consider it private. And in some cases they kept silent because they knew that they could be ostracized, imprisoned or murdered — often at the insistence of various religions.

In all my readings and research I have not come across a listing of famous historical and contemporary lesbian and gay couples. I discovered the following list on a website designed as a national resource for same-sex couples:

www.buddybuddy.com

The list is re-printed here for your interest and enjoyment and I strongly encourage all of you to visit this website which contains a wealth of information and is one of the finest gay-related websites I have come across.

Editor

Famous Historical Couples

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name 1</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Mazo de la Roche (author)</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>Caroline Clement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>Edith Hamilton (classicist)</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>Doris Fielding Reid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>Romaine Brooks (painter)</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>Natalie Barney (heiress)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>Lady Eleanor Butler</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>Sarah Ponsonby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>Known as the “Ladies of Llangollen” in the General Evening Post, 1790.</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>Mary Woolley (author, Mt. Holyoke College president)</td>
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<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>Jeanette Marks</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>J.C. Leyendecker (illustrator for the Sat Evening Post, Collier’s, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>Wooley was the only female member of the 1932 Geneva Arms Conference.</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>Charles Beach (artists model; the “Arrow Collar Man”)</td>
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<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>Mary “Molly” Dewson (known as “Americas first female political boss”)</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>Polly Porter</td>
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<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>Octave Thanet</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>Mary Renault (author)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>Jane Crawford</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>Julie Mullard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>Mary Renault (author)</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>William Haines (20s-30s movie actor, interior decorator)</td>
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<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>Referred to by their friend Joan Crawford as “The happiest married couple in Hollywood.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Famous Historical Couples</td>
<td>Years Together</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Axel Axgil (gay activist)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eglí Axgil (gay activist)</td>
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<tr>
<td>World's first “Registered Partnership” couple.</td>
<td>46</td>
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<tr>
<td>J. Edgar Hoover (FBI chief, transvestite)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clyde Tolson (FBI special agent)</td>
<td>44</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edward Perry Warren (art connoisseur)</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Marshall (archaeologist)</td>
<td>44</td>
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<tr>
<td>Warren strove to create an informal “brotherhood of men” in his home devoted to the Hellenic ideal. His Greek antique collections form the core collections at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts and the New York Metropolitan Museum of Art. Warren commissioned Rodin’s “The Kiss.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sir John Gielgud (actor)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martin Hensler</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benjamin Britten (composer)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peter Pears (singer)</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marguerite Yourcenar [born Marguerite de Crayencour] (author)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grace Frick (academic)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yourcenar wrote “Alexis,” “Memories of Hadrian,” “The Abyss,” and an influential essay on Yukio Mishima. She became the first and only woman to be admitted to the Académie Française in 1980.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rosa Bonheur (painter)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Natalie Micas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Willa Cather (author)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edith Lewis</td>
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<tr>
<td>H.D. [Hilda Doolittle] (poet)</td>
<td>40+</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bryher (writer)</td>
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<td>Gertrude Stein (poet, author)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alice B. Toklas (author)</td>
<td>39</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edward Carpenter (reformer, author, England’s first gay activist)</td>
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<tr>
<td>George Merrill</td>
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<tr>
<td>Janet Flanner (journalist)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Natalia Danesi Murray (writer, editor, radio commentator)</td>
<td>38</td>
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<tr>
<td>[Flanner’s 2nd relationship]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Raymond Burr (actor, philanthropist)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Benevides (Burr’s business partner, philanthropist)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paul Cadmus (painter)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jon Andersson (singer, actor)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Famous Historical Couples</td>
<td>Years Together</td>
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<tr>
<td>W.H. Auden (poet)</td>
<td>34</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chester Kallman (poet)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lou Harrison (composer)</td>
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<tr>
<td>William Colvig (instrument designer)</td>
<td>33</td>
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<tr>
<td>[1967-2000 ended with William’s death]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christopher Isherwood (author)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Don Bachardy (painter)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charlotte Witton (1st woman mayor of a major Canadian city, Ottawa)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Margaret Grier</td>
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<tr>
<td>Witton is credited with creating the slogan: “Whatever women do must do twice as well as men to be thought of half so good … luckily, it’s not difficult.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ned Rorem (composer, author)</td>
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<tr>
<td>James Holmes (organist)</td>
<td>32</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maria Louise Pool (author)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caroline M. Branson</td>
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<tr>
<td>While Branson is listed as “literary companion” in Pool’s obituary, the two are buried together with a double headstone, in the Rockland, Massachusetts Mt. Pleasant Cemetery.</td>
<td>32</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leonardo da Vinci (artist, inventor)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Giacomo Caprilli (Leonardo’s apprentice)</td>
<td>30 approx.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Samuel Barber (composer)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gian Carlo Menotti (composer)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anna Cogswell Wood</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Irene Leach</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dame Ivy Compton-Burnett</td>
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<tr>
<td>Margaret Jourdain</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sarah Orne Jewett (novelist, feminist)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annie Adams Fields (philanthropist, biographer)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Radclyffe Hall (author)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lady Una Troubridge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Noël Coward (playwright, songwriter)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graham Payn (actor)</td>
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<tr>
<td>[Coward’s last relationship]</td>
<td>29</td>
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<tr>
<td>W. Somerset Maugham (author)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gerald Haxton</td>
<td>29 approx.</td>
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<tr>
<td>[met with Maugham was 40]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Francis Poulenc (composer)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pierre Bernac (baritone)</td>
<td>28 approx.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jean Cocteau (author, poet, filmmaker)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jean “Jeanne” Marais (actor)</td>
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<tr>
<td>[met in 1937; Cocteau died 1963]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Famous Historical Couples</td>
<td>Years Together</td>
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<tr>
<td>James Whale (director in theater &amp; film)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frankenstein, Invisible Man, Show Boat)</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Lewis (producer, studio exec.)</td>
<td>26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Katharine Lee Bates (poet, author, Wellesley College professor)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Katharine Coman (Wellesley College Dean)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bates wrote the poem “America the Beautiful”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kathyrn Hulme (author The Nun’s Story)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marie-Louise Habets (ex-nun)</td>
<td>21 or more</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allen Ginsberg (poet)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peter Orlovsky (poet, gardener)</td>
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<tr>
<td>James Buchanan (U.S. Representative, Senator, Secretary of State under Polk, minister to Russia &amp; Great Britain, 15th President)</td>
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<tr>
<td>William Rufus Devane King (U.S. Senator, minister to France, Vice-President under Franklin Pierce)</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sylvia Beach (bookstore owner, publisher)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adrienne Monnier (writer, publisher)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charlotte Cushman (actor, arts patron)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emma Stebbins (sculptor)</td>
<td>20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maud Hunt Squire [aka Miss Furr]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ethel Mars [aka Miss Skeene]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cris Williamson (singer, songwriter)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tret Fure (music producer, engineer)</td>
<td>[Relationship ended in 2000]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Janet Flanner (journalist)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Solita Solano (drama critic, editor)</td>
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<tr>
<td>[Flanner’s 1st relationship]</td>
<td>19+</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alexander the Great (world conqueror)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hephaestion (Al’s primary cavalry commander and right-hand man)</td>
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<tr>
<td>W. Somerset Maugham (writer)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alan Searle</td>
<td>19</td>
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<tr>
<td>[met when Maugham was 72]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joe Orton (playwright)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kenneth Halliwell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Al Parker (b. Andrew Okum; director, producer, porn star)</td>
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<td>Richard Cole (producer, actor)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cary Grant (screen actor)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Randolph Scott (screen actor)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edward II (king)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Famous Historical Couples</td>
<td>Years Together</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tennessee Williams (playwright)</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frankie Merlo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amy Lowell (poet)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ada Russell</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Bussee (Helped found Exodus International, an anti-gay group that falsely claims orientation conversion)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gary Cooper (not the screen actor)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Melissa Etheridge (singer)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Julie Cypher (film &amp; video director)</td>
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<tr>
<td>[Relationship ended in 2000]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lige Clarke (author, activist)</td>
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<td>Jack Nichols (author, activist)</td>
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<td>[Relationship ended with Clarke’s death in 1975)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barney Frank (U.S. House of Representatives)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Herb Moses (poet)</td>
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<tr>
<td>[Relationship ended in 1998]</td>
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<td>Armistead Maupin (author)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Terry Anderson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Billy Strayhorn (composer; “Take the ‘A’ Train,” etc.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aaron Bridgers (pianist)</td>
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<tr>
<td>[Billy’s 1st relationship]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gianni Versace (fashion designer)</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Antonio D’Amico</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>James Charles Stuart - VI of Scotland &amp; I of England (author “Basilicon Doron,” King, commissioned 1611 version of the Bible)</td>
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<td>George Villiers (Earl of Buckingham)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Walt Whitman (poet)</td>
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<td>Peter Doyle (streetcar conductor)</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Famous Historical Couples</th>
<th>Years Together</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Noël Coward (playwright, songwriter)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jack Wilson (business manager)</td>
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<tr>
<td>[Coward’s 1st major relationship]</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oscar Wilde (author, playwright)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lord Alfred Douglas</td>
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<tr>
<td>Angelina Weld Grimké (author, abolitionist)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mamie Burrill</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sura Teasdale (poet)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Margaret Conklin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Publius Aelius Hadrian (Emperor)</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antinous</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jean Cocteau (author, poet, filmmaker)</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raymond Radiguet (actor)</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[met in 1917; Radiguet died 1923]</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japer Johns (artist)</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Rauschenberg (artist)</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[Relationship ended in 1961]</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T.E. Lawrence (archaeologist, spy, author)</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dahoum (personal assistant)</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sergei Diaghilev (impresario)</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vaslav Nijinsky (dancer)</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rock Hudson (actor)</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marc Christian</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Billy Strayhorn (composer; “Take the ‘A’ Train,” etc.)</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[Billy’s 2nd relationship ended with his death in 1967]</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Akhenaten - formerly Amenhotep IV (Pharaoh; 10th king, 18th dynasty)</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smenkhkare (co-ruler)</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liberate (Walter Valentina) (piano entertainer, philanthropist)</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scott Thorson</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ellen DeGeneres (comedic TV entertainer)</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anne Heche (actress)</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[Relationship ended in 2000]</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Famous Historical Couples</th>
<th>Years Together</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Paul Verlaine (poet)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arthur Rimbaud (poet)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eleanor Roosevelt (philanthropist, presidential first lady)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lorena Hickok (reporter)</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Katherine Bradley (author)</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edith Cooper (author)</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They were aunt and niece — living their whole lives together — and wrote books under the shared pen name of “Michael Field.”</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margaret Anderson (co-founder of The Little Review)</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jane Heap (co-founder of The Little Review)</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margaret Anderson (co-founder of The Little Review)</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geolette Leblanc (soprano, author)</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[Relationship followed Anderson &amp; Heap’s]</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margaret Anderson (co-founder of The Little Review)</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dorothy (Enrico) Caruso (author)</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[Relationship followed Leblanc’s &amp; Enrico’s deaths]</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jane Heap (co-founder of The Little Review)</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elspeth Champcommunal (clothing designer)</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[Relationship followed Heap &amp; Anderson’s]</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William III (King of England)</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Bentinck</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sergius (saint)</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bacchus (saint)</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Famous Lesbian and Gay Couples

Famous Historical Couples

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years Together</th>
<th>Couples</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Francis Beaumont (dramatist) John Fletcher</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John Maynard Keynes (economist) Duncan Grant (painter) Frederico García Lorca (author, poet, playwright) Phillip Cummings</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Anne Cormac Bonny (pirate) Mary Read, alias “Mark” Read (pirate) These two women where hot-headed, bisexuals who also happened to be thieves, arsonists, and cut-throat murderers. Historical knowledge about them is based largely upon “A General History of the Robberies and Murders of the Most Notorious Pirates,” by Captain Charles Johnson (probably a pseudonym for Daniel Defoe). It was published in 1724 after Anne and Mary were brought to trial for piracy on the high seas in 1720. Unknown</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lucius Morris Beebe (author; philanthropist; named one of the ten best-dressed men in America for several years) Charles Clegg (literary collaborator) Beebe and Clegg traveled for many years in Beebe’s elaborate private railroad car. Among the more than 30 books Beebe wrote were many on railroads. Unknown</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cheng I (pirate) Chang Pao (pirate, colonel) Pirating in the South Seas, Cheng I kidnapped Chang Pao, 15. They became lovers, then Cheng adopted Chang. After Cheng’s death, and a failed campaign to become emperor, Chang became a colonel in the Chinese army. Unknown</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gilgamesh (Babylonian king) Enkidu Tales of heroic deeds by this couple are recounted in the world’s earliest known epic poem, “Gilgamesh” (2,000-2,700 years BC). In one version of the tale, Gilgamesh is so distraught when Enkidu dies that he travels to the underworld in an attempt to retrieve him. Unknown</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Famous Contemporary Couples

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Relationship Started In</th>
<th>Couples</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
On March 22, 1998, 18-year-old Abdul Sami and another young man, a 22-year-old named Bismillah, were buried alive, but beside a mud wall that was bulldozed upon them inside a stadium in the Afghan city of Herat.

The gruesome public execution was the young men's sentence, under Taliban law, of having been found guilty of engaging in sodomy. They were hardly the first to receive that kind of punishment for same-sex sexual transgressions: Just a month earlier three men found guilty of the same infraction had a stone wall collapsed on them in public just outside the city of Kandahar (purported to have had a large homosexual community before the Taliban seized power in 1996). Amazingly, all three survived and were taken to the hospital with fractures to most of the bones in their bodies; they were later given their freedom. (According to the Taliban's interpretation of Islamic law, if you survive such a punishment, you're free to go.)

After the Herat executions, the official Taliban Radio Voice of Shari'a, clearly intent on sending a message to would-be sexual deviants throughout the land, proudly announced the heinous accomplishment: "Shari'a-prescribed punishment has been administered to two sodomites [in] Herat Province. The cases of the accused were investigated by the public prosecution office of Herat Province, where the accused confessed to their crimes without duress or torture."

The Taliban's treatment of homosexuality is pretty frightening stuff. But even scarier is that many of the countries being approached to join the U.S. in the fight against the Taliban don't treat homosexuals, and other citizens deemed second-class, in a drastically different way. Islamic fundamentalists and their fascistic beliefs have a grip, in varying degrees, on the leadership of many Muslim countries.

The Taliban offer what is perhaps the most extreme manifestation of discrimination against women. As has been reported in the media, women in. Afghanistan are beaten to death, according to Amnesty International, for walking in public with a man who is not a relative. Women are also beaten and executed for walking alone at night, or having their ankles or wrists exposed.

The Taliban's brand of cruelty, garnering world attention in the wake of the World Trade Center destruction and the killing of more than 6000 people, is perhaps enough to make some American gay activists and feminists hawkish, ready to blow the Taliban and Osama bin Laden to kingdom come.

"We have to go out and eliminate the threat or at least significantly diminish it," says Washington, D.C., gay activist John Aravosis, who spearheaded the campaign against the antigay radio talk show host Dr. Laura. "We have to destroy the people who launched this attack [on New York and Washington]. That means military action."

The many gays and feminists involved in the antiwar protests notwithstanding, Aravosis believes that gays and lesbians may be even more red, white, and blue than others right now.

"The gay businesses had the most flags up by far," he notes of shops in Washington, D.C., the day after the Pentagon attack. "I think we're just like everybody else, but to some degree I feel there's even a little more patriotism. Gay people are forced to understand the freedoms that we do or don't have as Americans. It requires you to think about the rights you're fighting for."

The Taliban's treatment of homosexuality isn't the main reason Aravosis believes military action is necessary, it is the attack on the World Trade Center, he says, that warrants a response, but the Taliban's death penalty for homosexuality has made him increasingly comfortable with his position.

"I would not shed a tear if that government should be destroyed or overthrown," he says.

On an emotional level, it's hard to disagree with Aravosis. Taking action, however, is far from cut-and-dried. Aside from the arguments of antiwar activists that torpedoes and ground troops will result in the killing of many civilians, including many of the women, homosexuals, and others being persecuted by the Taliban, the emerging coalition against terrorism is putting the U.S. in bed with several other dictatorial regimes that also subvert the rights of women, gays, lesbians, and transgendered people.

"I think we have to look at all the potential consequences to the coalition that the U.S. is trying to build, and the way it's building it," warns Surina Khan, executive director of the International Lesbian and Gay Human Rights Commission (ILGHR). Born in Pakistan and raised in an Islamic family, Khan is more than familiar with the policies of some of the hard-line Islamic countries the U.S. has bolstered and whose abuses the U.S. has excused. While much of the Muslim world has condemned the terror attacks, views Islamic terrorists and regimes like the Taliban as having twisted the tenets of Islam, and may be more moderate toward women, on the issue of homosexuality Islam is fairly uniform across the board, as is much of Christianity. "Homophobia runs through mainstream, conservative, and fundamentalist elements of Islam," says Khan. "It's a common thread that runs through every Muslim nation."

George W. Bush has set the terms of the impending battle: the good people of the world against the "evil folks," making it appear as if every nation in the coalition against terrorism, including the U.S., is a bastion of human rights, while Afghanistan's Taliban and any other country that doesn't join the coalition are the planet's only torturers, murderers, and...
... continued from previous page

supporters of terrorism. This administration, which hasn't exactly defined itself in its first 10 months as one concerned about social issues in the U.S., let alone abroad, is even suddenly talking about the Taliban's treatment of women, just as the rabidly conservative New York Post, no friend to the gay rights movement, ran a few paragraphs in the aftermath of the attacks about the horrendously antigay policies of the Taliban.

The fact is, some of the countries the U.S. is now cozily up to have oppressive laws and policies frighteningly similar to the Taliban's. In Pakistan, the U.S.'s newest ally in the so-called war on terror, homosexual acts between men or women are crimes punishable by death.

Though the law is rarely enforced, it is used as a threat to intimidate people and as a blackmail tool by the police. In Kuwait, Bahrain, and Qatar, laws against homosexual acts are enforced with prison sentences of three to 10 years. In the United Arab Emirates and Yemen, both male homosexuality and lesbianism are crimes punishable by death.

Women in Saudi Arabia are not allowed to drive, must get written permission from a male relative if they want to leave the country, and cannot walk outside without being accompanied by a male relative. Male homosexuality in Saudi Arabia is punishable by death. In 1996, a man was reportedly beheaded as a punishment for homosexuality. Last year, nine transvestites were subjected to 2600 lashes each in public for performing "deviant" sexual acts, violating a UN convention Saudi Arabia signed that prohibits torture, and were sentenced to several years in prison as well. (Police had caught the men on surveillance cameras dressing in women's clothes.) In Egypt, women run the risk of losing their citizenship if they marry a non-Egyptian. And 52 men accused of "practicing debauchery with men" have been on trial in Cairo over the past several months in a spectacle that has received international attention. The two main defendants have been charged with "forming a group that aims to exploit the Islamic religion to propagate extremist ideas." The men had been arrested inside and outside a riverboat disco, the Queen Boat, that was raided last May. "This disco had a policy of admitting single people, most places only admit couples," says Scott Long, ILGHRC's program director. "The police targeted men who they thought were effeminate or men who were alone.

The arrests are part of what appears to be a crackdown by the Hosni Mubarak government that some believe is an attempt to distract Egyptians from the serious problems plaguing the country, while also pandering to Islamic fundamentalists by suppressing an increasingly visible gay community. A month before the disco raid, in April, reports emerged of men having been entrapped by police on the Internet as well: Posing as potential sexual partners, police met with men who were seeking sex online and then interrogated them, a tactic similar to the crackdowns on supposed pedophiles in the U.S. A month earlier, an Egyptian computer engineer was sentenced to three years in jail, and an accountant to 15 months, for engaging in the scandalous act of advertising for sex on the Internet. Some of the Cairo 52 have reportedly been tortured and abused in jail, coerced to confess by use of electric shock treatment, and are being tried in State Emergency Security Court, a special court system that was created specifically to deal with terrorists and criminals who pose threats to national security. A 15-year-old boy who was swept up in the raid at the Queen Boat has already been tried, found guilty, and sentenced to the maximum penalty of three years in prison. The court ruled that he was guilty after a medical examination had showed he'd engaged in "debauchery." The trial of the Cairo 52 resumes this month. There are fears among activists that Mubarak's government, wanting to appease angry Islamic fundamentalists while it side hits with the U.S. against the Taliban and Bin Laden, has cracked down even further on suspected homosexuals and that the fate of the Cairo 52 will be worse than previously thought.

"The war on terrorism is seen in parts of the Middle East as an attack on Islam," Khan explains, "The government of Egypt, trying to appease the religious right's opposition to Egypt's participation in such a war," is ready to step up discrimination against homosexuals. Long adds that reports are surfacing of additional arrests. "I just got a note from Aswan saying a number of men were arrested in their flat," he says.

In August, Congressman Barney Frank and 34 other members of Congress sent a letter of protest to the Mubarak government, as have UN officials. But while activists say the state department under the Clinton administration was more vocally proactive on antigay human rights abuses around the world, prior to September 11 there was no pressure on Egypt by the Bush administration, and it's doubtful there will be any now.

It's understandable that the U.S. needs Egypt as an ally in isolating the Taliban, it's not in the U.S.'s best interest if Egypt experiences internal strife that might destabilize its government at this critical time. But the U.S. most certainly can, and must, speak up about Egypt's and other countries' human rights abuses at the same time that it forms a coalition against terror. What, after all, is the U.S. fighting for when it claims to be preserving freedom and democracy?

"Egypt is already an ally, it's more than an ally, it's basically a client state of the U.S.." notes Long, referring to the fact that Egypt is the second largest recipient of U.S. foreign aid (Israel being the first). "We fund the Egyptian government, and that's why Egypt is joining the coalition. If we're going to use that relationship to engage with them on terrorism, we should not be afraid to use it to engage with them on human rights. These are 52 human beings. They range from young students to engineers to doctors to lawyers to construction workers, and they're facing persecution. They should not be further victims of September 11.

Editors note: A nominal fee has been paid on behalf of Identity, Inc. and Northview by Michael A. Haase for the reprinting of this article. This article may not be reprinted or redistributed without the consent of the author. Comments on the article may be sent to him @ mike@signorile.com or visit www.signorile.com
SEX in Anchorage

The Biology of Love

Recently, on a weekend night at Mad Myrnas, I entered full-bore into the break-up zone. Person after person stopped to tell me of their relationship woes. That night I heard about five different breakups. The tears fell. Hearts around the room were broken. Life in gay Anchorage continued unabated, the relationship gods continuing their merry and mirth at the expense of queer boys and girls everywhere.

What is it about queer relationships? Why are we so susceptible to the pitfalls that can be found in romance? How many one-month love stories can one community endure? Better yet, why do so many queer relationships end because one or both partners end up cheating?

Some people argue that queers are like everyone else in society. We suffer the same relationship woes as everyone. We are no more or no less susceptible to cheating, breakups, and relationship misery than anyone else. I think that is simply not true. Maybe lesbian and bi women have a bit more staying power in their relationships than do gay and bisexual men, but I would bet my last strawberry-flavored condom that queer men lead the demographics in relationship breakups.

I have heard all my gay life that if straight men were dating each other (rather than straight women) then they too would suffer from as much cheating and breakups as do gay men. Cheating and sexual promiscuity are male problems, not gay problems. Some men (okay, maybe the majority of men) can keep their hearts faithful to one person, but they can't keep their dicks in their pants for any reason or for anyone. (And before the pious start wailing, please note that I was very good and said that some men, not all men, had a problem with sexual fidelity.)

That is probably true. In my limited experience with sex (okay, maybe not so limited— but, I digress), men tend to often separate sex and emotion, while my female friends have told me that with a majority of women, sex is mostly an emotional act. For many men, sex is a physical act, something that physically feels good, while conversely, with many women, sex is an emotional bonding, something that emotionally feels good. So, men cheat to get their rocks off, and women cheat for their heart's sake. While this may be a bit simplistic, it is a paradigm that makes sense to many queers.

Therefore, many men often feel bewildered when their partner makes a big deal about a quickie sexual encounter (that was safe, consensual, and legal) with the hotbie Pizza Hut delivery boy. They attach about as much significance to this sexual act as they do to their morning jerk-off in the shower. After all, they argue, what is the big deal. It was just an act of physical release, nothing more. There was no feeling, no emotion, no attachment. Why, they ask, can't queer men accept that sex and love are not two sides of the same coin? They are more like a quarter and $200 dollars. One (sex) just gets you a cup of coffee. The other (love) gets you a bottle of Dom. There is no comparison.

"But, I don't trust him," say the wounded men whose lover's cheat. While I do understand, I often wonder if a quick sexual groove already confessed is a really a trust—or for that matter a relationship—breaker. Maybe those who expect physical monogamy from a man (a queer man, especially) are expecting too much.

Why can't more queer men adopt the idea of emotional monogamy? Become upset and break off the relationship if your partner develops feelings for someone else and keeps it from you. But don't become a jilted lover over meaningless sex. Why does sex have to have meaning anyway? Can't sex—some of the time, at least—be just for chuckles?

Of course, this idea makes most of my female friends (straight and queer) cringe. They, like most of my jilted male friends and other queer men, cannot, and do not want to separate sex and love. In their opinion, one cannot have one without the other (or should not want to anyway). Is the biology of love for men and women really so different? Some might say it is not, but I don't see women cruising the back room at Spenard Bookstore or lesbian bath houses in major cities.

Many say that these ideas promote rote stereotypes, but really isn't asking a man or woman to attach special significance and meaning to an act which they feel is neither meaningful or significant the height of social conformity? And, by the same token, isn't asking a man or a woman who does not want to have sex without love to adopt a relationship model where their partner does just that a bit callous?

It is tough, this union between love and sex, and maybe some of us are biologically different. However, if we really try to understand one another and respect one another, maybe those who are committed to making a relationship work will not fall prey to the pitfalls of the love vs. sex debate. After all, it is Valentine's Day, and love is in the air. Those wanting only sex will have to wait.

Pete Gregson is the Education and Prevention Coordinator at the Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association. You can reach him at prevention@alaskanaids.org.
While I don’t usually get scholarly “Queer Studies” kinds of books for pleasure reading this one caught my eye. I picked it up, because of the very Queers as Folk-ish cover art, and flipped it open at random and found myself fascinated.

“In my more fanciful millennial visions, I like to imagine turning on the TV on a Wednesday evening and hunkering down for a night of viewing which includes a sitcom chronicling the chaotic household of a lesbian single mother bravely raising her kids, surrounded by assorted ex-lovers, friendly gay uncles, confused but engaged grandparents, and wacky heterosexual neighbors....”

All The Rage: The Story of Gay Visibility in America.
By Suzanna Danuta Walters

It was those “wacky heterosexual neighbors” that hooked me, and while her tone is often a bit more scholarly, Ms. Walters has done a great job of examining the recent upswing in Gay visibility.

A good book should make one think and this one made me think about, and rethink, a number of things. One issue that I had never considered before, the fact that Homophobia is almost always portrayed in the media as a simple and benign ignorance on the part of innocent Hetero’s.

Walters brings up example after example of this phenomenon where, Easily cured or ignored. I can certainly testify that it is neither, as can many of you.

Another point that I hadn’t thought about was the almost complete lack of both love life, and a network of Gay friends, that afflict Gay people portrayed in the straight media. I mean really! How realistic is it that Jack and Will have no other Gay friends other than each other? And what about Boyfriends, or at the least -given Will’s looks and the rest of Jack’s ur-queen behavior- the occasional trick? Admittedly not what is usually considered family programming, but can you imagine an episode where Grace has to confront Will because she is tired of running into a parade of strangers each morning? (At the end of this theoretical episode Grace could even get lucky and Will could turn the tables on her!)

The only fault I can find in this book is that while Walters devotes a Chapter to Ellen, she spends only a few rather disdainful paragraphs on Queer as Folk. Although I suspect the author only had access to a few episodes of the U.S. series, quite probably near the end of her work on this project. I would look forward to a future edition with an expanded examination of the first television series told from an entirely Gay and Lesbian point of reference.

I will gladly recommend this book to anyone, and hope to see it in our new Community Center’s Library.

Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Anchorage
The Home of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered Individuals and our Allies
2110 East Northern Lights Blvd., Suite A
929-GLBT (4528)
GLCCAnch@yahoo.com

To be staffed daily starting in February. Volunteers Still Needed.

In-kind and monetary donations greatly appreciated.
Call for info or stop by and visit!

18
Question: "What would be the best way for a gay couple to jointly own property?"

Answer: In Alaska, there are two different ways to own the title to a piece of property. A couple can own the title in a piece of property as tenants in common or as tenants by the entirety. There was yet a third way to hold title that was called joint tenants. But Alaska has abolished joint tenants with regard to real property. Tenants in common are presumed to take equal, undivided interests in property, although this presumption may be rebutted. Tenants by the entirety is available only to people who are legally married. Thus, the only option for two people in a domestic partnership scenario in Alaska to own property is via the tenants in common method. However, it's very important to know that with tenants in common there is no survivorship right. In other words, if you and your partner own the property together, you own it as tenants in common. That means that if one of the dies, the other partner is not entitled to any survivorship right in the other 50 percent of the property. And, if your partner dies without a will, or without a revocable living trust, his or her 50 percent share will pass via interstate succession. That means that if your partner dies without a will or without a revocable living trust, their 50 percent ownership in that property will pass either to their parents or to their children. If he or she has children, the property will pass to the children. If he or she does not have children, the property will pass to the parents. If the parents are no longer living and your partner has no children, the property will pass to his or her siblings. And, then you will own property as a 50 percent owner with that person or persons. Therefore, it is really important for everyone out there who owns property with their partner to make arrangements for what will happen to each partner's percentage interest if one or the other dies. The main option that most people choose is to give their partner each other's 50 percent interest via a will.

Now, wills are very good and each and every one of us should have one. But, there is a much better way to transfer property to your partner upon your death. The most effective way to transfer property to your partner upon your death is via a revocable living trust. Many people do not know what a revocable living trust is. A living, or inter vivos, trust is a legal document you can execute naming yourself as the trustee of your own properties or estate. Some of your property, or all of your property, is transferred to the trust while you are alive. As the trustee, you can dissolve the trust or take any assets from the trust at any time, retaining complete control of your property.

The keyword here in a revocable living trust is that it is revocable. Therefore, at any time you can change your mind about the person you choose to give your interest to and pick someone else. One of the most important things to remember with a revocable living trust is that you are in charge of your property and other finances, and you can decide what happens to property while you're alive.

The trust should provide for a co-trustee — a surviving partner or trusted friend — who would only act upon your death or disability. While alive, you have the right to the income generated by the trust and use of the trust property, such as real estate and personal property. Upon your death, the trust's assets could be distributed to a surviving partner, continued on next page...
family and charities, or the assets could remain in the trust for the lifetime of the surviving partner, then pass to family, friends or charities. Below are key benefits to remember when making a decision whether to set up a revocable living trust.

√ Allows faster distribution of assets to beneficiaries. In Alaska anyone who owns real property (house or land) or who has an estate valued more than $15,000 has to go through probate. Probate is a long drawn out process. It ties up assets, and cost you more taxes, and you often have to pay legal fees.

√ Provides maximum privacy. (A will is a public document.)

√ Usually, more difficult to contest; wills are much easier to contest.

√ Lets you keep control and according to a pre-arranged plan allows you to pass control to others in the event of physical or mental incapacity and after your death.

√ Helps avoid the necessity of a conservatorship / guardianship upon your physical or mental incapacity.

√ Minimizes emotional stress on your family.

√ Avoids problems of joint ownership.

√ Inexpensive, easy to set up and maintain.

√ Can be changed or canceled at any time.

√ Protects minor children from court-imposed guardianships.

√ Can protect dependents with specific needs.

Here are a couple of links on the Internet where one can go to download kits for drafting your own revocable living trust. I always encourage people to avoid as many legal fees as possible. However, I strongly urge anyone who uses a kit from a computer program or from the Internet to draft whatever legal document needed to at least have an attorney review the document to make sure that it fully complies with state law and to make sure that it gives you what you're actually looking for. A lot of the kits on the Internet and that are available in bookstores are drafted in very general terms and don't necessarily meet state law specific requirements.

A couple of the sites that I found are: www.uslegalforms.com and www.livingtrusts.net. There are vast resources available on the Internet to help people avoid attorneys fees as much as possible and to help people get a head start. If you're in a domestic partnership relationship and you share real property with someone, it's imperative that at a minimum you draft a will. And, it is strongly urged that you draft a revocable living trust. The will is a good document, but it will not pass the property through probate and will not avoid taxes. A revocable living trust, however, passes your interest while you're alive. It avoids probate. It avoids taxes, and it makes for much smoother transactions during a time of grief and sadness.

Thanks and tune in next issue, Lanae.

Send questions to: lanae@alaskanattorney.com

For more info: www.alaskanattorney.com

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Classic Cooking with Al Kaneta

Smothered Chicken Drummettes

1 1/2 pounds chicken drummettes (the meaty portion of the wing)
1/4 cup Worcestershire sauce
1 cup orange juice
1 tablespoon Italian seasoning mix
1/2 teaspoon cayenne pepper
1 teaspoon black pepper
1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon curry powder
1 tablespoon olive oil
1 clove garlic, minced
1 cup mushrooms, sliced
1 medium onion, sliced
1 small yellow bell pepper, cored and sliced
1 small green bell pepper, cored and sliced

Place the chicken in an airtight container, such as a heavy-duty plastic bag. Add Worcestershire sauce and orange juice. In a small bowl, mix together Italian seasoning mix, cayenne pepper, black pepper, salt and curry powder. Add to the chicken mixture and stir well. Cover the chicken in container. Refrigerate 1 to 2 hours. In a large, non-stick saucepan, heat oil. Add garlic and mushrooms and saute 5 minutes. Add drummettes and saute over high heat until browned on both sides, about 2 minutes per side. Add onion slices and peppers. Adjust heat to medium; cover and simmer 20 minutes, turning chicken over once.
The Strength of a Team
by Jim Mohr

C.G. Jung wrote, "I do not forget that my voice is but one voice, my experience a mere drop in the sea, my knowledge no greater that the visual field in a microscope, my mind's eye a mirror that reflects a small corner of the world."

There is a lot of truth in this statement and it is this truth that makes it a necessity for people to join together as a team to create change, to implement new ideas, and to strive towards success. As individuals, we can achieve a tremendous amount, yet there are times when individual effort is not sufficient. There comes a time when individuals realize that a group of individuals united with a common purpose can effect more change than one person alone. For this reason, I am asking anyone who is interested to consider running for a position on the Identity Board of Directors.

There are five open seats on the Board and we are looking for individuals who want to bring their voice, their experiences, and their knowledge to the Board. It is only through maintaining a representative sample of our community, that Identity can meet the needs of the GLBTA community in Anchorage and we want your voice to join us.

The nomination form is on the next page. Please look it over and give some serious consideration to running for the Board. We meet once a month and everyone normally takes on the responsibility of one committee. Our projects include the Gay and Lesbian Helpline, Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Anchorage, Northview, 4th Friday Potlucks, PrideFest, Pride Conference, the Living Out Loud Youth Conference, and more. You can contact Jim Mohr at Jmohr1@aol.com or at 229-8256 for more information.

The elections will be held during our annual membership meeting in April. The meeting will be held at the same time as our Fourth Friday potluck which is April 26, 2002. It will start at 6:30 at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 3210 Turnagain Street.
IDENTITY BOARD NOMINATION FORM

Name ____________________________ Phone ____________________________
Mailing Address ____________________________
Zip Code ____________________________ Email ____________________________

Please fill out the following questions. The first four questions will be placed in the NorthView so people who are going to vote get to know you. You may use a separate sheet of paper to answer the questions.

1. Please provide a brief biographical sketch.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

2. Please state your reasons for wanting to serve on the Identity Board.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

3. What would you like to see Identity accomplish during your term?

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

4. Other volunteer service and experience you may have.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

5. Personal time available for board responsibilities.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Please return this form to Identity, Inc, PO Box 200070, Anchorage, AK 99520
Alaskans for Civil Rights (ACR)
A locally organized and operated statewide political organization dedicated to obtaining full civil rights for lesbians, gay, bisexual, transgender, polyamous, and intersexual people in all aspects of personal and public life. (907)566-ACR AlaskansforCivilRights@yahoo.com.

Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association (Four A's)
Mission is to be a key collaborator within the state of Alaska in the provision of supportive services to persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families and in the elimination of HIV infection and its stigma. They have many services that cater specifically to women. 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste 102 263-2050. Statewide: 1-800-478-AIDS.

Alaska Gay/Lesbian Association (UAF student organization) - c/o Student Activities Box 4/ Wood Center/ University of Alaska, Fairbanks 99775. (907) 474-1136 fbagla@uaf.edu, Web site http://www.uaf.edu/agla.

Alcoholics Anonymous; Gay, Joyous, & Free
AA group for gay, lesbian, bisexual, & transgendered individuals and their allies. Open non-smoking meeting Mondays only 7pm - 8pm at the Alano Club - 3103 Spenard (the Old Wave building).

Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
3201 Turnagain St. GLBT-friendly liberal religious church, where people of all beliefs are welcome. Information line: 248-0715. See Anchorage Daily News Saturday religion page for Sunday forum and service speakers and topics.

Anchorage Young Gay Men’s Association (YGMA)
A social group for men in their twenties and thirties, activities will include monthly receptions, chat groups, social events, outdoor activities, and community events that spur conversation and awareness on issues relating to the GLBT community. www.geocities.com/anchorageyhma. To be put on their email list, email anchorageyhma@yahoo.com or call 275-5900.

Arctic Bears - First Friday of every month. Fairbanks 479-8680

Anchorage Women’s Political Caucus
Open to all women, meets 7pm at Elmer’s Restaurant, New Seward and Fireweed, on the first Wednesday of each month.

Aquarian Foundation
Services Wednesday 8pm and Sunday 11am, 8500 LaViento Drive, Anchorage. 349-995

Breakeven Productions:
Has been bringing up lesbian performers from around the country since 1987. For more information about upcoming events or Breakeven productions, call 277-5630 or akpups@alaska.net.

Breast and Cervical Health Check - is a cancer screening service offered by the Alaska Department of Health & Social Services, Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program. Funding for this program is provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Free breast and cervical cancer screening is available to women ages 18 - 64, who have no insurance or whose insurance does not cover these services. Anchorage 269-8069, statewide toll-free number is 1-800-410-6266.

Celebration of Change
A performance of women artists for women. If you would like to perform or volunteer, please call 566-3783 or celebrationofchange@email.com for more information.

Committee for Equality
Box 34202, Juneau, AK 99803 or e-mail bsara@gci.net.

Statewide AIDS Helpline
1-800-478-AIDS
- HIV Testing -
Wednesdays 2:30 PM - 4:30 PM
4A’s offices 1057 W. Fireweed, Suite 102
also
1st Friday of the month at The Raven,
7:30-9:30 PM
3rd Friday of the month at Mad Myrna’s,
10:00 PM - 12 AM
Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association
907-263-2050
clubs, groups, organizations

Fairbanks Gay Youth Group
Leave message on voice mail for more info: 457-3524.

The Family (UAA Student Club)
The Family hosts discussion groups, potlucks, and various other social, political, and awareness activities. You DO NOT have to be a UAA student to attend and many that do attend UAA are non-traditional students. 360-0340 or 830-4497.

Frontrunners/Walkers
Meets May thru Oct. at Westchester Lagoon. All levels of runners/walkers/bladers and dogs welcome! Tucs. at 6:30pm and Sat. at 10am. Call Peter: 337-3682, Email: anchoragefronrunners@hotmail.com or http://www.fronrunners.org/clubs/anchorage.

Gay & Lesbian Community Center of Anchorage
An Advisory Board is working diligently to open a GLBTA Community Center here in Anchorage. There are spots on this board for 1 representative from every GLBTA group or organization in the Anchorage area. If you would like to represent a group you are a member of, if you would like to volunteer at the GLCCA, host a fundraiser, or donate money and/or items for the GLCCA, please contact Diana at 338-5909 or email glccanch@yahoo.com.

Gay and Lesbian HelpLine
Sponsored by Identity, Inc., this information and referral line is answered daily from 6:00pm to 11:00pm The HelpLine is staffed by volunteers and provides information and referrals to businesses, professionals and service providers that are supportive of the goals and objectives of Identity, Inc. If you would like to be a part of this service or if you need information, please call 258-4777 or toll free (in Alaska, outside Anchorage) 1-888-901-9876.

GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network)
Anchorage: Membership is confidential. We welcome educators and non-educator allies who are interested in the problems of GLBT youth in our public schools. For meeting times or more information call Fred, 562-7161 or fhillman@alaska.net. Fairbanks: for more information contact Lisa Slayton or Jeff Walters c/o GLSEN Fairbanks P.O. Box 85315 Fairbanks, AK 99708 (907) 457-2787.

Identity, Inc.
Founded to improve self and community awareness, understanding, and acceptance of the expression of individual sexual identities, in order to promote positive attitudes and healthy ways of living for all people within the State of Alaska. Identity sponsors a statewide Helpline, the NorthView, Pride on the Parkstrip, NCOD and other events. Potluck social is held on the 4th Friday of each month at the AUUF, 3201 Turnagain. Doors open at 6:30pm, dinner at 7pm, and program at 7:30pm. Call 258-4777 for more information, or visit the Identity web page at www.alaska.net/identity.

Imperial Court of All Alaska (ICOAA)
The ICOAA is a non-profit organization formed in 1972. They do extensive fund-raising for several diverse groups in and around Alaska. The ICOAA sponsors the Eklutna picnic Memorial Day weekend, the Fur Rondy parade float for the GLBT community, Pride on the Parkstrip, Coronation Labor Day weekend and numerous other events. Contact Information: PO Box 104032 Anchorage, AK 99510-4032 - http://www.icoaa.org - email: Eldon - emperor29@icooa.org or Joani - empress29@icooa.org - or call: 622-2218

IMRU2
Anchorage gay youth group for ages 12-18. 566-4678 (IMRU). Wednesdays 5:30-7:00 pm at 845 K street on the Park Strip (Mendel & Associates Office).
Interior AIDS Association (IAA) Fairbanks
Offers medical and dental program assistance, “buddies” (volunteers who help HIV & People Living With AIDS), meal delivery food supplement program, a lending library and counseling support. If you are interested in volunteering or need assistance, please call the IAA at 452-4222

Lamb of God Metropolitan Community Church(MCC)
A predominately gay/lesbian/bi/trans Christian Church. Sunday services at 2:00pm at Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 2311 Pembroke (just east of 24th Ave. & Boniface Pkwy) 258-5266 or email LOGMCC@ alo.com.

The Last Frontier Men’s Club
Social club for the Levi/leather/bear community. Meets the 2nd Sunday of each month for a brief business meeting & potluck social at 5pm in the upstairs area of Mad Myrna’s (530 E. 5th Avenue) and at 9pm on the 1st Friday of each month for our First Friday Fetish Night social at The Raven. In addition, we hold monthly movie and dinner nights along with several campouts throughout the summer which are open to the entire community. Check website for an updated list of events at www.tffmc.com/calendar.htm. P.O. Box 202054 Anchorage, Alaska 99520-2054, (907) 337-6593. web: www.tffmc.com e-mail: info@tffmc.com.

Mt McKinley (Non-Ascent) Club
A social group open to anyone gay, lesbian, or ally.

Northern Exposure Bowling League
Bowl every Sunday afternoon at 4:00pm, Park Lanes, Anchorage. Please call to confirm time and venue. 561-8744 milt@alaska.net.

OLOC (Old Lesbians Organizing for Change) & Travel 50: Two groups for women over 50. rosebethlevno@hotmail.com or 868-2662.

OPAL - A social organization open to all Lesbians. OPAL sponsors different events throughout the year and occasional potlucks. Anne at 345-3818 or opal@gei.net.

Out North Contemporary Art House
Cutting edge art, theatre, film, educational programs and more. 1325 Primrose, Anchorage AK 99508, Call voice: 279-8099 Box office: 279-8200, fax: 279-8100, or write email@outnorth.org Online Calendar www.outnorth.org.

PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians & Gays) of Anchorage - holds its monthly meeting at 7:00pm on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship AUUF, 3201 Turnagain Street. Call 566-1813 for a recorded message.

PrideFest Planning Committee.
This committee plans the annual Gay Pride festivities. Meetings start in November. Members are hoping for representation from as many local groups as possible. We are planning on attracting more corporate funding, having a parade, a larger vendor display, bringing up more entertainment, and planning more Pride Week activities. For more information call Jim at 332-0362 or email prideonthepark@yahoo.com.

RAW (Radical Arts for Women)
A non-profit group which support and promotes women in the arts. Grant funding available for artistic endeavors. 566-3783. RAW@adaminet.net

Sex & Love Addicts Anonymous (SLAA)
12-step program meeting, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Call 566-1133 for meeting times and places.

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

Southeast Alaska Gay & Lesbian Alliance (SEAGLA)
A non-profit volunteer organization that provides a support network for lesbian and gay people in Southeast Alaska. Publishes monthly newsletter Perspective P.O. Box 21542, Juneau, AK 99802-1452. Phone 586-GAYS.

S.T.O.P. AIDS PROJECT
Center for Drug Problems Provides education and outreach specific to injection drug users and their sexual partners regarding HIV/AIDS prevention. Free anonymous HIV testing is provided on a walk-in basis, Mondays and Wednesdays from 1-4pm. Anchorage. 278-5019.

Support Group, Soldotna
A group of people with HIV or AIDS or families or friends. Call Jan at 262-2589.

Two-Stepping
All ages & genders welcome. Smoke and alcohol free two-stepping held once a month from 7:30pm to 11:00pm at the Pioneer Schoolhouse at 3rd & Eagle. Contact Katie for more info at 278-9174.
clubs, groups, organizations

Women’s Music Fest
Happens the weekend of July 4th. Contact Gay Wolfenberger. (907) 566-3783

Women’s Ultimate Frisbee
Gathers Sunday mornings 10:30 am on the west end of the parkstrip. Interested frisbeeheaders should contact Jen or Karen at 278-5179 for more info, or e-mail Jenkolt@aol.c om.

publications

Alaska Women Speak - A publication by Alaskan women on topics for Alaskan women. They can be reached at 696-0924.

The Anchorage Press - This is an alternative weekly paper that is not focused on the GLBT community but is friendly. They have a large personals section and can be contacted at 561-7737.

The Klondyke Kontakt (The KK)
This is an every-other-monthly newsletter by and for the lesbian community in Anchorage and dykes in the Bush. For more information e-mail at kk@gci.net.

The Perspective
A newsletter published for the Southeast Alaskan. News, events, and all can be found in this publication. For more information contact SEAGLA at P.O. Box 21542, Juneau, Alaska 99802-1452 or phone 586-GAYS.

The Pink Ink - A newsletter published in Fairbanks for the Fairbanks GLBT community. For more information contact Interior Newsletter c/o IAA, P.O. Box 71248, Fairbanks, AK 99707 (907)452-4222 or e-mail pinkink@alaska.com.

The NorthView - The monthly newsletter that Identity Inc. publishes and distributes to its membership. Contains local articles, and editorials. Writers, editors, graphic artists, cartoonists, people with opinions (who can write them down) folders and mailers are all needed to make this publication happen each month. Articles and ads can be sent to P.O. Box 200070, Anchorage, Alaska 99520 for more information call (907)258-4777 in Anchorage or 1-888-901-9876 within Alaska. thenorthview@hotmail.com

e-mail lists

FairbanksPride
http://www.egroups.com/subscribe/fairbankspride
A mailing list for information concerning Fairbanks & Interior Alaska’s GLBT community, emphasizing in announcements, politics, information, etc.

AnchoragePride
http://www.egroups.com/subscribe/anchoragepride
A mailing list for information concerning Anchorage & Southcentral Alaska’s GLBT community, Primarily event announcements.

Alaska Gay Discussion
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/alaskagaydiscussion
This is an opportunity to discuss gay issues relevant to Alaska, and provides a calendar of events. Participation available via website and/or e-mail. For more info contact Michael Haase at haase_m@msn.com

Alaska GLBT News
alaskaglbtnews@yahoo.com. A state-wide e-mail notification service distributing news and information about upcoming events of interest to the Alaska GLBT community. To receive these notices or to submit an item for distribution, contact alaskaglbtnews@yahoo.com.

National and political GLBT news
Landmark case decisions and other newsworthy announcements from national organizations. To be placed on this list send an e-mail to bsara@gci.net.

Girlz List
This is a list for the lesbians/bi women’s community, it has information on upcoming events, activities, socials, and other interesting items geared solely for the girls. You can get on this list by e-mailing akтрangster@hotmail.com

northVIEW

Needs You!
If you are considering volunteering with your community, please keep us in mind. The following positions are needed here at the NorthView:
Advertising Manager
Reporters
Photographers
Distribution
If interested, please contact:
thenorthview@hotmail.com

26
ongoing events

FRIDAYS
(A) Identity Fourth Friday Potluck, 6:30 pm, AUUF.
(A) First Friday Fetish at the Raven, 9:00 pm (A)
Over 40 Social Group, 2nd & 4th Fri. 7-9 pm 868-2662/338-2967
(F) Free anonymous HIV testing, 3:30 - 5:30 pm, IAA offices.
(F) Outlooks, KSUA-FM 91.5, 5:30 pm - 7 pm.
(F) Socializing and Dancing at Club G, mixed crowd.
(F) 9 pm - 3:30 am, 150 Farmer’s Loop.
(F) Arctic Bears meet first Friday, call 479-8680
(J) Juneau Pride Chorus, 5:30 - 7:30 pm, Resurrection Lutheran Church, Marsha at 789-6167 for info.

SATURDAYS
(A) Identity Workshop Series
2nd Saturday of the month, December through May. More info: 907-258-4777
(A) SLAA (Sex & Love Addicts Anonymous),
12 noon, Unitarian Church, 566-1133.
(A) Frontrunners/Walkers: Meets at Westchester Lagoon May through October, 6:30 pm 337-3683
or anchoragefronrunners@hotmail.com
(J) GLSEN, 5 pm, FEA on S. Cushman, every 3rd Tuesday

WEDNESDAYS
(A) Free HIV test at 4 A's, 2-4 pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste.102 Lori 263-2050
(J) Social at Summit Lounge, after work.
(J) "Women’s Prerogative," KTOO-FM, Wednesdays, 9-10 pm.
(J) Dames on the Dial, KSUA-FM 91.5, 10 pm - Midnight.
(A) GLSEN, second Wednesday, 7 pm,
John Thomas Building 3rd & Cordova
(A) IMRU2: every other Wednesday, 5:30 - 7 pm
845 K Street, for more info leave message:
907-566-IMRU

THURSDAYS
(A) SLAA (Sex & Love Addicts Anonymous),
5:30 pm, Unitarian Church, 566-1133.
(A) Friends and Family Support Group, 6:30 pm,
call 4As, 263-2050.
(A) Gay, Joyous & Free, 7 pm, AA Meeting, AUUF,
3201 Turnagin.

SUNDAYS
(A) Metropolitan Community Church Services, 2pm
Sunday at Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 2311 Pembroke
(A) White Lotus Center for Shin Buddhism, 11 am
Sunday 1047 L Street, 258-1851
(F) PFLAG, third Sunday, 4-5:30 pm, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Hall, 4448 Pike’s Landing Road
(A) Parents Support Group (Metropolitan Community Church), second Sunday, 2 - 4 PM at Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 2311 Pembroke,
(907) 727-0808
Northern Exposure bowling league, Park Lanes,
4:00 pm 561-8744 for more information

FRIDAYS
(A) Lunch. 4As, noon-1 pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, Lori 263-2050. Everyone invited--HIV+, volunteers and friends.
(A) Midnight Suns Gay AA Meeting, 7:30 pm - 9 pm,
3020 Minnesota (Z-Plaza) & Benson.

TUESDAYS
(A) Righteous Babes Radio Show, 7 pm, KRUA-FM 88.1
(A) SLAA (Sex & Love Addicts Anonymous) 8 pm,
566-1133.
(A) PFLAG, 3rd Tuesday, 7-9 pm, AUUF
(A) Frontrunners/Walkers: Meets at Westchester Lagoon May through October, 6:30 pm 337-3683
or anchoragefronrunners@hotmail.com
(F) GLSEN, 5 pm, FEA on S. Cushman, every 3rd Tuesday
Calendar

February 2, Saturday
GLCCA Grand Opening
Come celebrate the opening of the Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Anchorage.
2:00 PM to 5:00 PM
2110 E. Northern Lights Blvd.
(907) 929-GLBT

Evening with the Bear Tones & Friends
Join us at Mad Myrna’s for an evening of food, fun, and music.
7:00 PM Mad Myrna’s
Admission is free!

CommonBonD
Come see CommonBonD, the acclaimed acoustic partnership of female singer-songwriters Mary Beth de Pompa and Ashley Miller.
Loussac Library’s Wilda Marston Theatre
7:30 PM
$15.00 adults $11.00 students $15.00 at the door

February 3, Sunday
MCC Service
2:00 PM
Immanuel Presbyterian Church
2311 Pembroke
(every Sunday)
info: www.geocities.com/logmcc

Northern Exposure: The Gay Bowling League
Park Lanes at 4:00 PM
Steve Sacchetti, ssach@alaska.net
(every Sunday)

White Lotus Center for Shin Buddhism
Services at 11:00 AM
1047 L Street
(907) 258-1851
(every Sunday)

February 5, Tuesday
The Last Frontier Women’s Club
1st Tuesday of each month
The Raven 7:00 PM

February 6, Wednesday
IMRU2 Youth Group
Group for GLBT youth, ages 13-18
5:30 - 7:00 PM
845 K Street. (907) 566-IMRU
(every Wednesday)

February 6, Wednesday
Karaoke
8:30 PM
Mad Myrna’s (every Wednesday and Thursday)

HIV Testing
2:30 - 4:30 PM
4A’s offices, 1057 Fireweed, Suite 102
(907) 263-2050
(every Wednesday)

February 7, Thursday
Karaoke
8:30 PM
Mad Myrna’s
(every Wednesday and Thursday)

Country Dancing
Mad Myrna’s
7:00 - 8:00 PM
(every Thursday)

February 8, Friday
Friday Night Divas
9:00 PM
Mad Myrna’s (weekly)

February 9, Sunday
TLFMC
Club meeting and potluck
2nd Sunday of each month
Mad Myrna’s 6:00 PM

February 16, Saturday
Woman’s Sing-A-Long
1351 Early View Drive, 6:00 PM
wgparsensak@hotmail.com
(third Saturday of each month)

February 22, Friday
Identity’s 4th Friday Potluck
Fourth Friday Potluck and Coffeehouse
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (AUUF)
3210 Turnagain Street
(907) 258-4777

February 26, Tuesday
Identity, Inc. Board Meeting
Gay and Lesbian Community Center
2110 East Northern Lights, Suite A
(907) 929-GLBT
"Quality of Life is our Goal"

725 Northway Drive
Anchorage, AK 99508
(800) 262-8055  279-8055  (Fax) 279-8054

Karen Marcey
Registered Pharmacist

Danita Fischbach
Registered Pharmacist

+ Home Infusion Services
+ Oral Prescription Drugs
+ Insurance Billing
+ Free Delivery
+ One-on-one counseling in a confidential environment

A quiet, confidential, knowledgeable environment to get prescription medications and information. Information available on HIV/AIDS medications, clinical trials, parallel tract drug protocols, indigent-patient assistance programs and insurance billing.

QUESTIONS WELCOME.