

ALASKA'S GLBTA NEWSMAGAZINE  
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# ***NORTHVIEW***



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*NORTHVIEW* welcomes articles, photographs and letters from individuals and organizations. Email your submissions to [northview@identityinc.org](mailto:northview@identityinc.org). Deadline is the 1st of each month for inclusion in the next issue. We reserve the right to edit as necessary and to decline any submission. *NORTHVIEW* does not accept editorial copy or advertising that is sexist, racist, discriminatory or sexually explicit.

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## COVER VIEW

Photo from Eklutna Picnic by Dee Gould



## Read all about it!

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2110 E. Northern Lights Blvd., Suite 103, 929-GLBT

### Mad Myrna's

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### The Raven

708 E. 4th Ave.

### MCC of Anchorage

2pm Sundays



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## VIEW FROM THE TOP

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### Summertime and The Living is Easy...

The thing about Alaskan summers is that there is lots of sunshine, a whole lot of it. Most Alaskans love summer whereas I merely tolerate it as best as I can. You see, I was born and raised in Northwest Florida on the Gulf of Mexico. However, though I was from Florida, I was unfortunately sun sensitive. I didn't tan, I burned. A day at the beach often could leave me looking like a leper for several days afterwards from the blisters. This was before sunscreen was available. And then there were the summers, which usually were miserable. Practically every day in the early afternoon, there would be a short torrential downpour, lasting about thirty minutes, that would flood the parking lot and streets of my neighborhood for up to an hour. And the humidity, let me tell you that sweat lodges and saunas had nothing on upper gulf coast summertime humidity. Just going from your apartment to your car could leave you looking like a fashion disaster victim.

I guess that I should tell all of you that I am definitely not a morning person. What few girlfriends that I have had who spent a night with me can attest to that fact. I think the word "Bitch" was number one on their Top Ten Lists of "Words to Describe Nicole When Awoken Too Early In The Morning", usually prefaced by the word "Absolute". What few times I was persuaded to work a day shift, it was with the agreement that no one would talk to me before 10:30 and only after at least two Cokes, with all the caffeine and sugar. It's not that I want to be a bitch. It's just that I don't do mornings well. For example, I loved going to school, but my mom practically had to dump my pancakes with syrup on top of me to get me out of bed.

I tend to be more of a night person and in Alaska in the summertime, there is very little night. For some Alaskans, the short days of winter has them looking longingly at their firearms collections and acting like characters in an Ingmar Bergman film. However, for me, that's when I want to get the party started. In the summertime though, all I want to do on many of my days off is sleep in my room with really dark curtains covering my bedroom window and a fan blowing right on me.

Most of my friends here love Alaskan summers. They can play softball or jog after midnight if they wanted to. Farmers in the valley love summer because they can grow a 900 pound pumpkins for the Alaska State Fair. Certain other "farmers" can grow a marijuana plant this time of year that's ten feet tall, which will keep them in weed for the entire winter. For me, summer is just so surreal with all of this frigging light. Doesn't anyone else find it weird that you could go to Myrna's at eleven p.m., and it still looks like

daytime? And you can leave at one a.m., and it still is light out!!! That's probably why there are no vampire stories set in Alaska. The summers would make their undead lives about as short as a Mayflies.

Maybe it's the lack of stars in the summer that discombobulates me the most. Think about it for a minute. During this time of year, it doesn't get dark enough to see any stars in the evening sky for about eight weeks. We cannot even see that most wished upon star of them all, Venus, even though it is not really a star at all. However, we usually see it in either the morning or evening sky, depending on the time of year, as bright reflecting diamond in the sky. I have sat outside on many a dark night and looked at Venus for hours on end. As silly as it sounds, I have often thought of it as my guiding star. At least when we have dark nights, I know that she is up there and that I can look up at her whenever the sun sets, should I so desire.

So for all you little sunbunnies out there, enjoy yourself. As for me, I'll be waiting for the nighttime skies to return and the arrival of cooler weather.

*Nicole Blizzard sometimes buys sunscreen and ventures out occasionally during the summer. She also loves to hear from you dear readers. She can be reached at either [nicole-b92@msn.com](mailto:nicole-b92@msn.com) or [northview@identityinc.org](mailto:northview@identityinc.org)*



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## GLCCA is on the Move!

Community Center Gets New Downtown Digs

Last fall Identity learned that the Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Anchorage would have to find a new home in 2006 when the building where the GLCCA spent its first four years converts to medical suites.

The Community Center is funded largely through the Adopt-a-Day Program, and adoptions were declining. So we put it out to the GLBTA community in the form of a mass mailing: do you want the Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Anchorage to continue, and if so, are you willing to help meet the center's financial needs?

Many of you responded to the letter, and in a number of different ways. Some of you adopted additional days,

renewed your membership at a higher level, or simply made generous donations. A few questioned the need for the center. And still others offered suggestions for ways to increase income while controlling expenses.

One such suggestion was to look for a compatible nonprofit for possible co-location. So the Board of Identity formed a GLCCA Space Committee and gave them a nearly impossible charge: to find a suitable location with comparable space on a major street with bus service, at a rental rate no higher than we currently pay, with a landlord willing to let us enter into a one-year lease (instead of the standard 3-year commercial lease) while we work on a sustainability plan for the GLCCA. We also wanted a landlord who would allow us to proudly display our GLCCA sign that The Last Frontier Men's Club helped us purchase only a year ago.

And the amazing part of this story? The GLCCA Space Committee delivered! James Martin, Gayle Schuh and Julie Schmidt rolled up their sleeves and went to work researching commercial space, talking with other nonprofits, and comparing rental rates and locations.

Due to their efforts, Identity is pleased to announce that the Gay and Lesbian Community Center

will move to 336 East 5th Avenue in downtown Anchorage in late July. Our new landlord is the YWCA of Anchorage, who joined us for Pride on the Parkstrip in June. The Y's mission is to eliminate racism and empower women. The men and women of Identity support this mission and look forward to a long and productive relationship with our new landlord.

There's a great deal of work to be done before the move. We've accumulated a lot of "things" since we opened four years ago. It's time to spring clean, pack our belongings, and get ready for the GLCCA's next chapter. Please be patient as we migrate to the new location. Better yet, give us a hand on moving day. We could always use another strong back!

After we get moved, our next step is to catch our breath, plan a grand re-opening

celebration, and then get down to the hard work of developing a plan to bring financial sustainability to the GLCCA. But we're encouraged by the bright new space we're moving into that will meet our needs beautifully while we work on a plan for the future of the GLCCA. We're encouraged by the passion and devotion James, Julie and Gayle displayed when faced with a nearly impossible task. And we're encouraged by your responses to our request for assistance for the GLCCA.

We asked if you wanted to keep the doors of the Gay and Lesbian Community Center open and you overwhelmingly responded yes, but you also said do it wisely. That's what we plan to do, but we can't do it without you. We welcome your dollars, but we also welcome your ideas, your knowledge and skills, and your energy and enthusiasm.

And that's why we hope to see YOU at the new Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Anchorage in the near future!

Sincerely,  
Identity Board of Directors



## Summertime in Alaska

"I am a dirty girl," I say to myself, as my wife and I are headed back from four wheeling at Jim Creek. Gray dirt cakes the machines, gear, cooler and both of us. We look like chinchillas after a dust bath. The "Mrs." recently took a new job with a schedule of six weeks on/six weeks off. Unfortunately this time around it was eight on with only two off. We have tried to fit in a summer's worth of adventure in just a few days.

Thursday we spent packing and gearing up for scuba diving in Resurrection Bay. We stayed in the cabin at Kayaker's Cove and did some diving and sightseeing from my friend's Zodiac boat. He took us out to the sea lion rookery just past "Boulder City" (a popular dive site), which was very cool. Saturday we drove home, after eating at Taco Dan's in Seward...yuuuummm. I usually have to wait for the State Fair to score that delicious food! We spent the evening unpacking and rinsing scuba gear- my least favorite part of any trip. In bed by 10pm, for the first time in a long time, we slept the sleep of very tired Alaskans.

My doctor says that there is a finite amount of "gel" between one's vertebrae. A lot of mine is gone in a certain spot. He cautions me to be careful and watch my activity level and time spent on my feet. I reason that my back is going to hurt no matter what I do. I am also hoping that in 20 years, there will be advanced technology that will permit them to inject more. Consequences be damned, I refuse to take it easy. Sunday morning finds the two of us out at Jim Creek, on our ATVs.

The first time I ever went four wheeling, it was with two of my very good friends. I think of them as my Lesbian Yodas. Wise, level headed and hysterical, they have helped me over the years evolve into the kind of woman that I'd like to be. I visited them at their cabin for the first time two summers ago. They taught me how to shift a 4 wheeler and for my very first trip took me to the top of a mountain. I will probably never forget that day. I felt very alive. I also couldn't believe that I had never done this before- it was SO much fun! I admit, I had always pictured four wheeling as some brainless redneck power sport. How wrong I was! The next summer, I bought my own machine... followed this year by one for the wife.

So that is how we ended up here in the truck, riding home, sunburned and exhausted. My wife is driving, because I do not like to pull the trailer. Generally, I try to do things myself because I get very irritated when something is not done to my satisfaction (yes, I do realize how horrifying that sounds on paper!) On this occasion though, I would much rather bitch at her and tell her how to do it than do it myself. As she slows down and looks at me, I wonder if she is stopping the vehicle so that she can strangle me.

My wife and I do not always bring out the best in each other. She is the world's kindest, most laid back and easy going lesbian. I am a passive aggressive control freak with OCD tendencies. I have

zero patience and get bored easily. She has ADHD. 'Nuff said. I like to stew over domestic issues and not talk about it for a while. She has to have it out, "right now". I do not raise my voice, ever. She is quite the opposite. We drive each other crazy, yet it always seems to work out. Summer is a tough time for us, as are vacations, because I like to hit the ground running and gogogogo. She is content to lie in a hammock and nap in the shade.



As I consider our relationship, it occurs to me that we have our own kind of Yin and Yang-ness. In sports, as in our day-to-day lives, she gets to be predictable and conservative because I am always there to spice things up. I get to push the envelope and take chances because I know that she's there (with the first aid kit!) to patch me up when I fall. Without her working the reliable steady job, I couldn't be a dreamer and daredevil, following my entrepreneurial spirit. Without me to conjure up the crazy dreams and lofty goals, she would die of boredom...

I have become silent, in my contemplative state. Several minutes have passed with no driving tips or comments regarding speed, prompting suspicious looks from the Mrs., in the driver's seat. She asks what I'm thinking. Resisting all temptations, I smile and say, "Ahh, nothing". I ask what she is thinking. She replies, "I was just looking at you, thinking how beautiful you are darlin'... when your mouth is shut". That is her understated way of calling me a jackass, so I continue smiling and slip my hand under hers, which is my way of saying, "I know that I'm hard to live with- I don't know how you do it- thanks for not giving up- I will try harder next time- sorry to be such high maintenance- forgive me for being slightly crazy".

We arrive home in domestic bliss and start unpacking and hosing things down. My back is killing me and I'm limping. It's getting late, but there is still plenty of light out... "Honey", I say, coozing up to my beloved. Knowing the ways of my kind, she is immediately suspicious. She follows my glance, to the bikes hanging from the garage ceiling. "No", she says firmly. "It is late, we need showers, and I want to lay down on the couch". I contemplate pouting.... or grabbing a bike and going by myself...but in the end, I calm down and let her talk me into <gasp> sitting down and taking it easy for awhile.

Don't tell her I told you, but it actually wasn't so bad.

**identity**  
Gay & Lesbian  
Community Center  
of Anchorage  
[www.identityinc.org](http://www.identityinc.org)

## Summer of Love

Summer often seems to be wedding season. I was never much of a fan of weddings. I didn't grow up dreaming happily of long white gowns or eagerly anticipating my wedding day as the happiest day of my life. As I grew older and my friends began eagerly anticipating planning their own weddings, I told them they could plan mine ... event-planning is one of my biggest nightmares.

The first time my partner asked me to marry her, I told her absolutely not, as we'd only known each other maybe a month. I don't remember when I finally said yes, but clearly her persistence paid off. Marrying her – committing to each other, being joined in holy union, whatever language we use – was and continues to be important to me. I've had lots of time to think about weddings and commitments, after attending countless weddings and commitment ceremonies, and, as a pastor, officiating at several more. Our friends asked us if we were going to Massachusetts or Canada, to get married legally. When we can get married legally and have it make a legal difference where we live, we will. In the meantime, we knew it mattered to us to make a public promise to one another, before our community and before God.

We decided to have our ceremony at St. Mary's Episcopal Church. I'd always hoped we'd be able to have our ceremony at the church I had served, and after I left that church, I didn't know what we'd do. St. Mary's became a safe place for me to ease back into going to church again, plus I'd attended a couple commitment ceremonies there already. Erin trusted the priest, Michael Burke, and they made each other laugh, which was a very good thing as our wedding day got closer and closer.

We knew that celebrating our commitment in a public ceremony was important to us; I couldn't have imagined it would be so much fun. After the ceremony, friends remarked at our smiles throughout the service – we couldn't stop smiling. I didn't know it would make me so happy. It was an amazing thing for us to make these promises to each other, surrounded by the love and support of such an incredible, diverse community – gay, lesbian, straight, bisexual and transgendered; all ages, from our year-old nephews to favorite “little old ladies” from my former congregation; from my Lutheran bishop to Roman Catholic and Unitarian Universalist colleagues. The food was amazing and the dancing was a blast, but it was the love and celebration of our friends and families that made this special day so amazing.

As I write this essay, the president is again pushing for the passage of the Federal Marriage Amendment to

constitutionally ensure that we gay and lesbian folk cannot be married. I know that people will keep feeling threatened by who we are and our love for each other, even though that simply gets harder and harder for me to understand. Whatever happens legally, it's not like we're going away. Erin and I are in this for the long haul. We hope to raise a child together, to raise him or her with love and generosity, with laughter and a heart for justice throughout the world. Whether the nation decides we should be legal or not, we're sticking together. But it's hard for me to understand why people would be so dedicated to making it so difficult for our family to legally be a family.

For a first anniversary gift, Erin had an artist calligraphy our vows:

*I take you to be my partner in life,  
And these things I promise you:  
I will be faithful to you and honest with you;  
I will respect, trust, help and care for you;  
I will forgive you as we have been forgiven;  
And I will share my life with you,  
Through the best and worst of all that is to come,  
Until death parts us.*

Legal or not, we're in this together. In the meantime, having our own ceremony seems to have affected my sentiments about weddings. As we celebrated our anniversary in Girdwood, I looked out the window of the hotel and saw a newly married bride in her gown and groom in his suit, walking alone down a path, and I was overcome with good feelings toward them. In this sudden, unexpected burst of romantic feeling, I hoped their wedding day was as special as ours, and that it would encourage them for years to come. I find myself looking forward to the weddings I'll attend this summer. I hope the rest of the country can have a similar change of heart, and see what a powerful force for good strengthening our relationships can be.



### The Summer of '98

This summer, I've already caught an Irish Lord and a halibut, roasted marshmallows and hot dogs over a campfire on the beach and enjoyed a family reunion at our cabin across the bay from Homer on McDonald Spit.

My favorite summer was the one in which I came out of the closet, 1998. I learned about being gay. I felt energized and free. I was working at a lumberyard in Seward with Wednesdays and Thursdays as my days off. Those two days were almost always sunny and warm that year.

I drove my old Ford van to Anchorage almost every week to meet people and to see my new friends. I always stopped in at The Raven, which was the only gay bar in town at the time; I didn't drink, but I still had fun.

I also made friends in Seward. The Alaska Sea Life Center opened that year and I volunteered as a docent at the touch tank. I worked with the birds, in research, and with seal pups in rehabilitation during the three years I was actively involved. Several staff and other volunteers are close yet today. I built a core of friends who didn't know me as half of a married couple. I developed my own identity.

It was a gloriously sunny season. A friend in Seward introduced me to a gay tour group and I hauled their luggage in my van, meeting several interesting tourists. She also introduced me to one of my best friends, Gordon, who at the time ran a fabulous bed and breakfast carefully restored to its 1908 splendor.

The Mount McKinley Non-Ascent Club came to Seward to camp for the Fourth of July weekend. I was so excited. I camped with them. We had a great time and they even made me a member.

Rosie Dawn Rotten came with the club and marched in drag in the Fourth of July parade. I was working a shift at the Alaska Sea Life Center and just missed her promenade. I met up with her at the campfire after my shift. We all had fun telling jokes and funny stories. Then Rosie decided to do a walkabout through the campground. It had started to sprinkle so I grabbed a big pink beach umbrella and two or three of us followed her shielding her from the light rain. Someone mentioned there was a fellow Australian at the campsite next to ours and Rosie rushed over to meet him. We had fun keeping up. There was a report of "free breast exams" three campsites away. Sure enough, there was a young redneck holding a cardboard sign offering the exams. Rosie marched right up to him, reached in her gown, pulled out her left breast and said, "Examine this!" The redneck was more than a little dumbfounded but finally bit the nipple off and silently handed it back. Rosie posed for pictures

with lots of children and adults on her walkabout, and then it was back to the campfire.

A few weeks later I entered into my first gay relationship, short lived though it was. I learned a lot about myself and life in general.

I was being treated for depression and not for bipolar disorder. The antidepressants caused me to have a manic phase near the end of July, which caused chest pains and an irregular heartbeat. I was taken from Seward to an Anchorage hospital by ambulance. My clothes were put in a red biohazard bag on my gurney. When I got to the hospital I was wheeled into surgery quickly and the doctor ran a probe up into my heart to look around. "You've got a healthier heart than I do." He proclaimed and then finished up. When I got to my room, my boyfriend was waiting with a huge bouquet. That was a new concept for me, boyfriend. He was so attentive and sweet. When I went to check out the next day the red biohazard bag was nowhere to be found. It had been incinerated in keeping with hospital policy. There I was; no shirt, no shoes, no pants, nothing. The hospital gave me scrubs and I bought some flip-flops. A friend brought my van to Anchorage for me another gave me an old pair of sweats and a tee shirt. It was and is good to have friends.

I helped a friend from the Alaska Sea Life Center move to Anchorage for most of August. It gave me a reason to go to Anchorage three and four times a week. I have had so much help in my many moves over the years that I always help people move when I can. The summer of 1998 was wonderful.



*Gabriel*

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## **The Ugly Side of The Beauty Biz**

If it's one thing I have learned in all my years of being a stylist it's that Women who take time to do nice things for themselves feel better. It could be a sassy new haircut or simply a new shade of eyeshadow, a spendy mascara or at the very least a succulent new chap stick, but whatever our preference, when we choose a "vice" of personal improvement, we feel better. It is why the beauty products industry did roughly 35 billion dollars last year.

Every day we see a barrage of new technology and products. All guaranteeing one thing...and one thing only...You will look and feel better if you buy this item. What could possibly be wrong here you ask? We have certainly fought for our right to have free choice and we deserve to be able to pamper ourselves guilt free, to keep what we have left in "normal wear and tear" condition.

The least I can expect is to have the right to start out, shampooing myself into herbal ecstasy. Who would have known that the very products we choose as our pillar of strength, could in turn be inadvertently contributing to the breast cancer epidemic?

I was troubled to find that less than 1 in 10 cases of breast cancer are from genetic predisposition. And with an estimated 211,240 women diagnosed with breast cancer last year, the odds are higher than ever. Sure, there are unavoidable contributors far beyond our control, exposure to ionizing radiation, environmental exposure to pesticides and the genetic manipulation of the food industry, but my eyeliner? My mandarin scented body wash? My fruit fusion conditioner?

Unbeknownst to the general public, there are very few regulations in the beauty industry. Of the more than 10,500 ingredients used in beauty products today only 11% have actually been tested for safety, and 1/3 of all health and beauty aids contain one or more ingredients that are classified as possible human carcinogens.

In addition, the FDA issued a final written response to a cosmetic safety petition in June of 2004. They revealed their inability to protect the public health under the current laws.

Notably, FDA affirmed its inability to enforce a requirement that a warning label be posted on products that have not been substantiated for safety. They also noted that they couldn't even require a recall of harmful products-recalls are a voluntary company action.

So what is a girl to do you ask? Well, it is time for us to bring the beauty industry into the 21st Century. Cosmetics companies are innovative enough to make products that don't harm us. It's time we collectively

supported those companies that have taken the initiative to get informed and make the necessary changes.

I want to encourage you to check out [safecosmetics.org](http://safecosmetics.org). They have an easy to use cross directory itemizing the most popular beauty items, with best to worst classifications, and breakdowns of what makes harmful products harmful and how to pick better ones. So far, over 300 companies have signed the Compact for safe cosmetics, which is a pledge to make safer products.

It's true, most of our exposure is still provided free of charge courtesy of lax government policy, non-existent FDA regulations and loopholes in testing and labeling laws, but the act of prevention still lies within the control of our consumer purchasing habits. We are the economy!

For more detailed information on what is currently being done to change the laws and the 10-point plan that is being implemented in this fight, visit [breastcancerfund.org](http://breastcancerfund.org).

*Jen Bersch is a holistic spa therapist at Avante Medical Center, and a hairdresser.*

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## GALE SMOKE: QUEER BOOKS

Although I didn't recognize the name of Romaine Patterson right away after perused the jacket of her book entitled *The Whole World Was Watching: Living in the Light of Matthew Shepard* (Advocate Books, 2005) I figured it out quickly. Romaine was one of the Matt Shepard's best friends – the woman in the leather jacket – and the person who conceived of Angel Action in confronting Fred Phelps while the right-wing, religious bigot was protesting one of the trials associated with the murder of her friend. And let me say, I'm so glad I purchased her memoir, because it was a great read.

Romaine was the youngest of eight children, born in Wyoming, and no one would have guessed that she would attain some national prominence, including Romaine. Her family was traditional and her dad wanted lots of sons, having to settle for five with three daughters. Being the youngest – by seven years – it wasn't until Romaine was in her mid-teens that she learned that the three of her brothers who shared a house in Denver were all gay – and that one of them, Michael, had AIDS. She spent the next summer with them and, in the course of fun summer, realized that she was a lesbian. (Four of eight children being gay – is it genetic?)

That next year in high school – despite living in Wyoming – she came out as a lesbian and had her first girlfriend. That invited all kinds of harassment, but Romaine coped. She was also dealing with Michael's illness, as well as her father's – who had been ill for years. But she got involved with her high school speech team and won some awards.

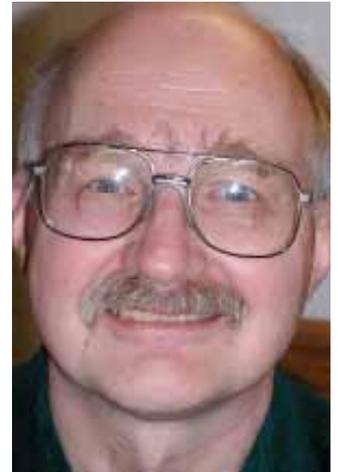
In the fall of 1996, she enrolled at Casper College and was soon part of the Fabulous Seven – a group of lesbians. After a number of months, the Seven became Eight, adding a young gay man to their group – Matt Shepard. Romaine took delight in Matt from the beginning and felt protective, given Matt's size and frequent depression.

When both Matt and Romaine moved to Denver the following year – each dropping out of college – Romaine found a job at a Deli, but Matt seemed to be a loose ends and rather aimless. He had some problems with drug abuse and although she never used the word 'bipolar' it would seem an apt description of Matt's mental condition. She rescued Matt on more than one occasion and was a little stunned when he told her he'd be moving to Laramie and attending the University of Wyoming in the fall of 1998.

She talked with Matt on the phone days before his murder, and he seemed happy about how his life was going. When she learned what had happened, both she and the Deli's customers – many of them had known Matt – supported each other. She spoke at a vigil for Matt in Denver the day he died, and when she attended his funeral in Laramie she was surprised that Matt's mother, Judy, had her sit next to her. (She'd only met her once before, but Matt had talked about Romaine.) That's also when she first saw what Fred Phelps protests were like.

Being that she was identified as one of Matt Shepard's friends, a

media blitz followed and she took Judy Shepard's instruction: "Tell the truth about Matt." She found the media pushy – especially the cable and networks folks – feeling they just wanted her to breakdown. When Russell Henderson's trial was to begin in April, and she heard that Phelps would be there, protesting, she came up with the idea of Angel Action to counter him. Recruiting 'angels' on the phone and taking the advise of an engineer, the Angel costumes were created and who could possibly forget the confrontation we all saw on television.



Since then, Romaine had a stint with GLAAD (growing cynical about national LGBT organizations), attended the opening of the Laramie Project (the only group, she felt, who actually 'got' what Matt Shepard's death was about) and had a number of relationships. She now co-hosts a radio program on sexual matters in New York City, realizing that the most important lesson she learned from knowing and remembering Matt was that one individual can make a difference.

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**Call the GLCCA at 929-4528 and  
leave a message for Phyllis  
to find out the Details!**

**Eklutna Picnic**

Memorial Day of 2006 brought out many families and friends of the GLBT community. Eklutna was the setting once again and it was a perfect early summer day in Alaska. The Imperial Court provided food, volleyball games were non-stop and new and old friends met to celebrate our Pride. The announcer was excellent and took us through the traditional main events; the egg toss, the balloon toss and the high heel race.

The Time Out Lounge sponsored a rainbow colored RV with ribs, chicken and salads, offered free of charge to picnic participants. Members of Identity were present selling memberships, Adopt-A-Day and great Pride t-shirts. This year the lightweight T-shirts sport a colorful thunderbird on turquoise for \$20. Metropolitan Community Church sold delicious desserts and a creative DykeGame was available for \$20 to help finance our athletes in the Gay Games. Hand-made rainbow jewelry was available for a reduced price for the Pride Picnic.

It seemed strange not seeing Misty Dawn behind the counter selling hamburgers this year. I thought of her often that day and am confident she was there in spirit. Thank you to all the participants and picnic-goers for making the 2006 Pride Picnic at Eklutna a terrific success.



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## PHYLLIS RHODES

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### An Opal Farewell

The Organization for Professional Alaskan Lesbians, (OPAL), after serving the Anchorage and Alaska women's community for twenty-five years is no more.

OPAL's birth was attended by a handful of Anchorage women who, at that time, because of their employment situations, needed a safe and secure organization to meet other lesbians. In her "hay day" OPAL watched over wine-tastings, Sheep Mountain ski parties, hot tub parties, sponsored (among others) Kate Clinton and JoAnn Loulan for Alaska visits, bike rides from the hillside to Kincaid Park, skating parties and picnics with our kids, dances for Halloween (so we could come in disguise), dances for New Years and in March, the "St. Opal" dance. She watched over game parties, potluck dinners, and brunches.

OPAL's care passed from the original women to new generations of community-

involved women that when it was apparent the time was right, changed the name to Organization of Proud Alaskan Lesbians. It was no longer important to us to be so closeted., Wonderful progress was being made as we were accepted for who we were in our work environment and socially.

OPAL passed with a smile on her face and peace in her heart.

Perhaps there will be another group of Alaskan lesbians who will give birth to a new organization that meets the needs of the 21<sup>st</sup> century women of our community.

OPAL would wish them a safe and exciting journey!



Do you recognize anyone from an early OPAL board meeting?



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What I Did Over My Summer Vacation

Ahh, the lazy days of summer. For those fourteen and under, summer is a time to rejoice, to revel in a newfound lack of responsibility, to celebrate the loosening of all things structured. Summer means plenty of time for socially gluttonous rituals like sleep away camp and lifeguard swim, plus the luxury of waking, whenever, to greet a long line of endlessly sunny days with the knowledge that the biggest threats to seasonal bliss will come in the relatively benign forms of mosquito bites and passing boredom.

But what about the rest of us? What of the working adults for whom the words “summer” and “vacation” no longer run together like the days they once described? Are we, as adults, doomed to annual bouts of seasonal exhaustion, weed whacking after work and lugging sprinklers around in the dead of night? How do those of us who are parents tackle the added stress of becoming our children’s full time entertainment coordinators? Does anyone, besides myself, romanticize a time in our not-so-distant past when four o’clock sunsets proved a compelling argument for early bedtime? Short of embarking on a hip-shattering plummet down the neighbor’s Slip and Slide, is there any way to revive some long overdue fun in the sun from these grown-up dog days of summer?

I say: Absolutely. Whether that means indulging in a glistening pitcher of homemade sangria or a summertime fling for the single set, a goofy game of midnight tennis or a standing afternoon date with a hammock and a trashy tabloid, summer’s little extravagances are by no means sole property of the young. I say this, mind you, while crunching away at a snack pack of Cheez-Its, in bed, feeling no shame. Why? Because for one: I’ve decided that membership to the lesbian fit club can hold off until tomorrow, maybe the day after, and two: Because It’s Summer.

This, incidentally, is the season’s newest catchphrase. Destined for a place in history alongside pop culture favorites such as: “Where’s the beef?” “Eat my shorts” and “Git-R-Done!” [Diva translation: “Nobody puts Baby in a corner” “I’m ready for my close-up, Mr. DeMille” and “Work it, Girl!”], mark my words, “Because It’s Summer” will soon join the ranks of Paris Hilton’s “That’s Hot” in worldwide quotation annals. This is the justification we’ve all been waiting for, our golden ticket to youthful exuberance. Why did you think paying eighty dollars for the final season of Queer as Folk was a good idea? Because It’s Summer. Why does drinking beer with lunch make you feel more European instead of more like a lush? Because It’s Summer. How could anyone partake in the fashion

industry’s absurd revival of the 1980’s, complete with t-shirt dresses, legwarmers, jelly bracelets, et al? Because It’s Summer. What do you say to that fifth slice of pizza, the drunken karaoke rendition of “I Will Survive”, sex in the cab of your girlfriend’s pick-up, [Diva translation: in the Men’s Lounge at Nordstrom]? Hell Yes. Why? (All together now, with feeling), Because It’s Summer.



So, this summer, in lieu of taking an actual vacation, throw caution to the wind and indulge in a few passing fancies. Fancy pussies. Prissy fairies. Whichever you choose, take pride in your decision. After all, we’re going to need something to look back on this winter, when the sun goes down at four o’clock, and bedtime starts at six.

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## LAURA CARPENTER

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### Summertime in Alaska

When I arrived at home Monday night, there were three wet women in my garage. Perfect. Except, they were soaking and cold and my girlfriend was handing them big towels and fleece jackets. Cheney Lake, not the most dangerous water in Alaska, became a swimming hole as three tipsy ladies tipped their canoe. Mermaids they were not. Luckily the rescue team was nearby in the boat my girlfriend built, and neighbors poked their heads out of their condos to see if anyone needed anything, even though it was past 10 p.m. Heather called out, "Save the wheeley thing!" (it was her mother's boat.) and then "Are you okay?"

Amber Jay reached for lifejackets, which they had been sitting on because flotation devices make such comfy seats. Little Heather, our local Coast Guard representative, pulled the canoe ashore. Once the danger of death and drowning passed, swimming and splashing had its elements of fun.

Summertime in Alaska is telling your girlfriend to wipe her mouth so she doesn't get DEET on your lipgloss; it's taking walks at midnight and biking to work in the rain. It is also grabbing the empty beer bottles and a favorite hat when your vessel capsizes in a lake that a month ago was frozen.

I missed most of the excitement. Work gets in the way of so many things—my fledging writing career, the dunking of women in my backyard. It's tough, let me tell you. By the time I pedaled to the scene, pants were on the floor of the garage in a puddle, and someone was wringing out her panties. We gave the ladies a little space to wrap themselves in towels and try on Chris' clothing. But the level of alcohol didn't help all the zippers get zipped and any neighbors who heard our laughter and peeked out the window saw a flash of Amber Jay. Not that nudity in the garage is anything you'll find me complaining about. Shorts were swapped again, and more clothes wrung.

After they drove off, my girlfriend and I went back on the lake. I wore one of the fleeces not taken and let her row. We scooped up a drenched cigarette pack and a lost treasure chest. (Well, the top half of a chest and the only treasure was some worms. Yum.)

I heard stories about the crazy girls peeing in the bushes and stopping on the shores three times before Amber Jay realized she lost her ankle somewhere in the whole adventure.

I guess summertime in Alaska is just that for me. Excitement, laughter, adventure, followed by a calm moment with my ladyfriend. She showed me the grebe nest, and we watched the sun set. The next night we went out on the boat with a mug of hot cocoa. From the road (Beaver Place), someone called out, "Fish on!" Not that we would dare digest the creatures surviving in those waters, but, yes, fish on, enjoying the adventures and surprises summertime in Alaska has to offer.

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The GLCCA is a safe place to meet, hang out, hold or attend group meetings, or use the resource library and computers.

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**Anchorage, AK**  
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**Hours of Operation**  
**Monday - Friday 3pm - 9pm**  
**Saturday - Sunday Noon - 6pm**  
[glcca@identityinc.org](mailto:glcca@identityinc.org)

**Adopt-A-Day!**  
**Adopt-A-Day!**  
**Adopt-A-Day!**

**Thank you,  
May Adopt-a-Day Sponsors!**

Less than all days are adopted each month, but the rent at the GLCCA goes on. If you would like to adopt some special day but can't come up with \$50.00 at one time, give Phyllis a call for some suggestions on adopting your special day or days. 929-4528

- May 1 Happy Anniversry to Pam & Phyllis
- May 2 Bert Mead
- May 5 Shotgun Susie
- May 6 Happy Birthday to Cheryl Lewis
- May 8 12th Anniversary of Commitment: Carol Rose and Tess
- May 10 Kathryn DuBois
- May 10 Tess & Carol Rose celebrate 1st of 3rd children in their lives
- May 12 Evelyn Doggett
- May 14 The Last Frontier Men's Club
- May 15 Marion Richter for Marion and Don's anniversary
- May 17 Happy Anniversary to Amy Young & Jean Craciun
- May 18 Michelle Wozniak for Cady Lister's birthday
- May 18 Colleen Morris for Shannon & Jill's anniversary
- May 19 Jim Bruce
- May 20 Bar Stars for Emily & Dana
- May 23 Jen Kohout & Karen Konopacki
- May 25 Phyllis for Liz Bradfield
- May 26 Phyllis for Kirt & Roger
- May 27 Phyllis for daughter Anne
- May 28 Susan Halvor & Erin Pikey—Happy Anniversary!
- May 29 Amy & Jean for Anthony Craciun-Young's Birthday!
- May 31 DeAnn Cain for Georgia Holton

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**Alaska GLBT News**

Alaska GLBT News is a weekly e-mail broadcasting system providing information about Gay & Lesbian activities throughout Alaska.

We distribute messages concerning upcoming events, news, your business, rental opportunities, personal items for sale or sought, special announcements, etc.

For more information about receiving notices and/or sending your message, please contact

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## Identity Programs

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Winter & Spring | Living Out Loud Youth Program   |
| June            | PrideFest (6/17-25/06)  |
| October         | Pride Conference (10/22/05)   |
| Daily           | Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Anchorage (GLCCA). Ste. 103, 2110 East Northern Lights Boulevard, Anchorage. 907-929-4528 |
| Nightly         | Helpline for GLBT information and referrals (6 PM to 11 PM). 907-258-4777 or 888-901-9876                                     |
| Monthly         | <i>NORTHVIEW</i> newsmagazine   |

## Fairbanks Events

- |     |  |
|-----|--|
| Tue | PFLAG, 5:30 PM, third Tuesday, 604 Barnette Street, Room101, 907-45P-FLAG.   |
| Fri | Free anonymous HIV testing, 3:30 - 5:30 PM, Interior AIDS Association, 710 Third Ave.<br>"Outlooks," 5:30 - 7 PM, KSUA-FM 91.5<br>Socializing and dancing, 9 PM - 3:30 AM, Club G (mix crowd), 150 Farmer's Loop<br>Arctic Bears, first Friday, 907-479-8680 |
| Sat | Socializing and dancing, 9 PM - 3:30 AM, Club G (mix crowd), 150 Farmer's Loop   |
| Sun | Homophonic Radio, 3-5 PM, KSUA-FM 91.5   |

## Juneau Events

- |     |  |
|-----|--|
| Wed | Social gathering after work, Summit Lounge<br>"Women's Prerogative," 9 - 10 PM, KTOO-FM  |
| Fri | Juneau Pride Chorus, 5:30 - 7:30 PM, Resurrection Lutheran Church, 907-789-6167 (Marsha) |
| Sat | PFLAG, 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM, first Saturday, Mendenhall Library Conference Room           |

## Anchorage Events

- |      |  |
|------|--|
| Tues | PFLAG, 7 PM, third Thursday (except November & December), Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 2311 Pembroke St., 566-1813<br><br>SLAA (Sex & Love Addicts Anonymous), 8 PM, 566-1133<br><br>Line dance lessons/dancing, 7-9 PM, Mad Myrna's  |
| Wed  | IMRU2, 5:30 - 7 PM, first and third Wednesdays, GLCCA, 566-IMRU, leave message for more information (currently on summer break until September)<br><br>Karaoke Night" hosted by "K" Entertainment, 8:30 PM, Mad Myrna's  |
| Thu  | SLAA (Sex & Love Addicts Anonymous), 5:30 PM, Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 566-1133<br><br>Friends and Family Support Group, 6:30 PM, 263-2050<br><br>"Karaoke Night" hosted by "K" Entertainment, 10 PM; Mad Myrna's  |
| Fri  | Lunch, everyone invited (HIV+, volunteers, and friends), Noon - 1 PM, Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association (4A's), Ste. 102, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln., 263-2050.<br><br>"Friday Night Divas Show," 9 PM, Mad Myrna's  |
| Sat  | SLAA (Sex & Love Addicts Anonymous), Noon, Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 566-1133   |
| Sun  | Buddhist Morning Service, 11 AM, White Lotus Center for Shin Buddhism, 4105 Turnagain Blvd., Suite G2, 334-9984<br><br>Center for Spiritual Practices & Education Worship Service, 11 AM, 8050 Old Seward Highway, 522-0940 (Rev. Guy Johnson)<br><br>Metropolitan Community Church Service, 2 PM, Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 2311 Pembroke St.<br><br>Northern Exposure Bowling League, 4 PM, Park Lanes, 4350 Ames Ave., 561-8744<br><br>Sunday Dinner, 5 - 8 PM, Mad Myrna's, 276-9762 (Jim) |

**PLEASE HELP KEEP THIS SECTION CURRENT!  
SEND NEW AND UPDATED LISTINGS TO  
NORTHVIEW@IDENTITYINC.ORG**

## OVERVIEW: RESOURCES

**PLEASE HELP KEEP  
THIS SECTION CURRENT!**

**SEND NEW/UPDATED LISTINGS TO  
NORTHVIEW@IDENTITYINC.ORG**

### ORGANIZATIONS

**Adam and Steve**, a social group for young gay, bi, and questioning men. Weekly activities and fun community events. Also offers the monthly M-group, a fun workshop on sex and dating. Run by a Core Group (meets every first and third Tuesday at Four A's at 7 PM) who plan all activities. Come meet new young queer men in a safe and supportive environment. 907-263-2050. [www.anchoragecore.org](http://www.anchoragecore.org)

**Alaska AIDS Assistance Association (Four A's)**, provides support to individuals living with HIV/AIDS and their families in 91% of the state (all areas except for Fairbanks), and works to eliminate HIV transmission and stigma through prevention and awareness efforts. 1057 W Fireweed, Suite 102, Anchorage, AK (907) 263-2050, statewide helpline: 1-800-478-AIDS, [www.alaskan aids.org](http://www.alaskan aids.org)

**Alaska Civil Liberties Union**, a membership-based non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to preserving and defending the guarantees of individual liberty found in the Alaska Constitution and the U.S. Bill of Rights through litigation, education and legislative advocacy. We are the Alaska state affiliate of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU). P.O. Box 201844, Anchorage, AK 99520-1844. Phone: (907) 276-2258, Fax: (907) 258-0288, Email: [akclu@akclu.org](mailto:akclu@akclu.org).

**Alaskans for Civil Rights (ACR)**, a locally organized and operated statewide political organization dedicated to obtaining full civil rights for lesbians, gay, bisexual, transgender, polyamorous, and intersexual people in all aspects of personal and public life. [AKCR@yahoo.com](mailto:AKCR@yahoo.com)

The **Alaska Native Aurora Society** is a social group for Alaska Native/American Indian gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning men, and those who love them. We have weekly gatherings, activities, Alaska Native cultural events and social events every month. We strive to create a healthy gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning Native community in

Anchorage. Membership is not limited to those who reside in Alaska's urban centers, but we welcome those who live in remote rural communities and those who live outside of the state. Our events and activities are drug free, safe and supportive so everyone feels welcomed. You can subscribe to our Yahoo group at [ANMensgroup-subscribe@yahoo.com](mailto:ANMensgroup-subscribe@yahoo.com)

**Alcoholics Anonymous: Gay, Joyous, & Free.** AA group for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered individuals, and their allies. Open non-smoking meeting Mondays 7 PM to 8 PM at the Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Anchorage (GLCCA).

**Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship.** GLBT-friendly liberal religious church, where people of all beliefs are welcome. 3201 Turnagain St., Anchorage. 907-248-0715.

**Anchorage Women's Political Caucus.** Open to all women. 7pm, first Wednesday. Elmer's Restaurant: New Seward and Fireweed.

**Arctic Bears.** First Friday. Fairbanks. 907-479-8680.

**Aquarian Foundation** services. 8 PM Wednesdays, 11 AM Sundays. 8500 LaViento Drive, Anchorage. 907-349-9955.

**Breast and Cervical Health Check**, a cancer screening service offered by the Alaska Department of Health & Social Services, Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program. 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. Call the YWCA of Anchorage for eligibility guidelines, enrollment, and group presentation opportunities: 907-644-9620 (Anchorage), 1-800-410-6266 (statewide).

**Celebration of Change**, a performance of women artists for women. [celebrationofchange@email.com](mailto:celebrationofchange@email.com)

**Committee for Equality.** Box 34202, Juneau, AK 99803. [bsara@gci.net](mailto:bsara@gci.net)

**Fairbanks Gay Youth Group.** 907-457-3524 (leave message for more information).

**The Family (a UAA Student Club)**, hosts discussion groups, potlucks, and various other social, political, and awareness activities. You DO NOT have to be a UAA student to attend. Many that do attend UAA are non-traditional

students. [www.uaa.alaska.edu/clubcouncil/thefamily](http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/clubcouncil/thefamily)

**Gay & Lesbian Community Center of Anchorage (GLCCA).** The Home of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered Individuals and Our Allies. The GLCCA is a safe space to meet, hang out, hold or attend a meeting, or use the resource library or computers. Staffed by trained volunteers 7 days a week. 3 - 9 PM Mondays through Fridays, 12 - 6 PM Saturdays and Sundays. 2110 E. Northern Lights Blvd., Ste 103 (between the Burger Cache & Don Jose's). 907-929-GLBT. [glcca@identityinc.org](mailto:glcca@identityinc.org)

**Gay & Lesbian HelpLine**, an information and referral line sponsored by Identity, Inc. The HelpLine is staffed by volunteers and provides information and referrals to businesses, professionals, and service providers supportive of the goals and objectives of Identity, Inc. 6 - 11 PM daily. If you need information or would like to be a part of this service, please call 907-258-4777 (Anchorage), 888-901-9876 (statewide).

**The Gay Club (a UAF student organization).** c/o Student Activities Box 4, Wood Center, University of Alaska, Fairbanks 99775. 907-474-6507. [fbagla@uaf.edu](mailto:fbagla@uaf.edu), [www.uaf.edu/agla](http://www.uaf.edu/agla)

**GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network).** Membership is confidential. We welcome educators and non-educator allies who are interested in the problems of GLBT youth in our public schools. Anchorage 907-562-7161 (Fred) [fhillman@alaska.net](mailto:fhillman@alaska.net); Fairbanks Lisa Slayton or Jeff Walters c/o GLSEN, PO Box 85315, Fairbanks, AK 99708. 907-457-2787.

**Identity, Inc.**, a nonprofit Alaska corporation concerned with issues of sexual and gender identity. Identity envisions a world where all are free to express and be proud of their sexual and gender identities. The mission is to build the infrastructure for a strong GLBTA community in Alaska. Programs include the Gay and Lesbian HelpLine, NorthVIEW, PrideFest, Living Out Loud Youth Conference/Seminars, and the Gay & Lesbian Community Center of Anchorage. P.O. Box 200070, Anchorage, AK 99520-0070. 907-929-GLBT. [www.identityinc.org](http://www.identityinc.org)

**Imperial Court of All Alaska (ICOAA)**, sponsors the Memorial Day weekend Eklutna picnic, the Fur Rondy parade float for the GLBT community, PrideFest Festival on the Parkstrip, Labor Day weekend Coronation, and numerous other events. PO Box 104032, Anchorage, AK 99510-4032. [www.icoaa.com](http://www.icoaa.com)

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## OVERVIEW: RESOURCES

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**IMRU2**, the social group for GLBT youth, ages 13 to 18. We eat, chat, watch videos, plan events, and do lots of laughing. Join us and tell your friends. 5:30 PM, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at GLCCA. 907-566-IMRU(4678) to leave message.

**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, lending library, and counseling support. 907-452-4222 (for assistance or volunteering information).

**The Last Frontier Men's Club**, a social club for the Levi/leather/bear community. Brief business meeting & potluck social at 6 PM second Sundays at Mad Myrna's, 530 E. 5th Avenue. "Dinner Night Out" and several campouts are open to all throughout the summer. Check the website for information and list of community events. TLFMC, P.O. Box 202054, Anchorage, AK 99502-2054. 907-338-3862. info@tlfmc.com www.tlfmc.com

**Metropolitan Community Church of Anchorage (MCC)**, a predominately gay/lesbian/bi/transgendered Christian church where ALL are welcome to worship a loving and compassionate God. 2 PM Sundays. Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 2311 Pembroke St. (East of 24th Ave. & Boniface Pkwy.). See website for location map and calendar of current events. 907-258-5266. mccanchorage@yahoo.com www.geocities.com/mccanchorage

**OLOC (Old Lesbians Organizing for Change) & Travel 50**  
Two groups for women over 50. 907-868-2662. rosebethlevno@hotmail.com

**OPAL**, a social organization open to all Lesbians. OPAL sponsors different events throughout the year and occasional potlucks. 907-345-3818 (Anne) opal@gci.net

**Out North**. Cutting edge art, theatre, film, educational programs, and more. See online calendar. 3800 DeBarr Rd., Anchorage, AK 99508. 907-279-3800. volunteer@outnorth.org www.outnorth.org

**PFLAG of Anchorage (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians & Gays)**. Meetings: 7 PM third Thursdays except November & December. Immanuel Presbyterian Church: 2311 Pembroke St. 907-566-1813 (voicemail). **Straight spouses** seeking support call 907-566-1813 (voicemail).

**PFLAG of Fairbanks**, promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered persons and their families and friends through support, education and advocacy. 907-45-PFLAG (for meetings and events).

**PFLAG of Sitka (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians & Gays)** Meetings: 7 PM second and fourth Sundays. Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Hall: 408 Marine, Sitka. P.O. Box 6515, Sitka, AK. 907-747-3674. sitkapflag@yahoo.com

**PrideFest Steering Committee** of Identity plans and presents the annual Anchorage Gay Pride Week events in June. Meetings start in Sept. The committee invites and welcomes corporate and individual sponsors, parade entries, entertainers, volunteers, and more. 907-929-GLBTprideonthepark@yahoo.com

**Sex & Love Addicts Anonymous (SLAA)**: a 12-Step program. Meetings on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. 907-566-1133 (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. 222 Seward, Ste 200. P.O. Box 22655, Juneau, AK 99802-2655. 907-463-5665, 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. 907-586-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. 1 - 4 PM Mondays and Wednesdays. 907-278-5019 (Anchorage).

**Support Group (Soldotna)**, a group of people with HIV, AIDS, families and friends. 907-262-2589 (Jan).

**Women's Ultimate Frisbee**. 10:30 AM Sundays. West end of Delaney Parkstrip. 907-278-5179 (Jen or Karen). Jenkout@gci.net

### E-MAIL LISTS

**Alaska Gay Discussion**, providing an opportunity to discuss gay issues relevant to Alaska and a calendar of events. Participation available via website and/or e-mail. For more info contact Michael Haase at michaelh2001@gci.net or michaelh2001@palm.net. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/alaskagaydiscussion>

**Alaska GLBT News**, a weekly 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: [alaskaglbnews@yahoo.com](mailto:alaskaglbnews@yahoo.com)

**AnchoragePride**, a mailing list for information concerning Anchorage & Southcentral Alaska's GLBT community. <http://groups.yahoo.com/subscribe/anchoragepride>

**FairbanksPride**, a mailing list for information concerning Fairbanks & Interior Alaska's GLBT community. <http://groups.yahoo.com/subscribe/fairbankspride>

**Grrlz List**, a mailing list for the Women's Community. Event announcements, inquiries, issue discussion, and relevant topics of concern for women. Delivered every Thursday. [GrrlzList@gci.net](mailto:GrrlzList@gci.net)

**National and Political GLBT News**. Landmark case decisions and other newsworthy announcements from national organizations. To join, send an e-mail to: [bsara@gci.net](mailto:bsara@gci.net)

### PUBLICATIONS

**Alaska Women Speak**, a publication by/for Alaskan women. 907-689-7922.

**The Anchorage Press**, an alternative weekly paper that is not focused on the GLBT community but is friendly. There is a large personals section. 907-561-7737.

**The Perspective**, a newsletter published for the Southeast Alaskan. SEAGLA, P.O. Box 21542, Juneau, AK 99802-1452. 907-586-GAYS.

**The Pink Ink**, a newsletter published in Fairbanks for the Fairbanks GLBT community. Interior Newsletter, c/o PFLAG Fairbanks, P.O. Box 82290, Fairbanks, AK 99708. 907-45P-FLAG.