

# *New Beginnings*

*for family and friends*

Volume 2

March, 1988

Issue 3



**Look For 'The Flame's' In March**

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"He's now totally anti-gay and even  
snubs other deceased gays like Rock  
Hudson and playwright Noel Coward.  
Instead he's gone on a macho kick. He  
even challenged John Wayne to a fight  
in a fit of jealousy over Natalie Wood."

- Countess Sophia Sabak, a "top  
psychic," on the subject of Liberace's  
afterlife, quoted by the never-dull  
Weekly World News.

Can We Talk?

**BILL FLEMING**  
AIDS HEALTH EDUCATOR

LA CROSSE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

TELEPHONE: (608) 785-9723      1707 MAIN STREET  
LA CROSSE, WI 54601

**JAY HATHEWAY**

Jay Hatheway, coeditor and  
publisher of Among Friends, a  
publication for rural gays, has been  
named by Wisconsin Governor Tommy  
Thompson (R) to the recently  
established HIV Infection Advisory  
Council. The appointment, according  
to Among Friends, came one week  
after Rep. David Clarenbach  
(D-Madison) criticized the governor  
for not appointing any gay people to  
the advisory body.

Call Your Legislators, Free! Let your legislators know your position. Use the Leg-  
islative Hotline. 1-800-362-9696, Or in Madison 266-9960. If you don't know your

**WORKSHOP A FIRST FOR LA CROSSE**

Two local support groups sponsored  
a ground-breaking forum on Sunday,  
February 21, at the Pump House. The  
Gay/Lesbian Support Group and Parents-  
Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG)  
co-sponsored a workshop which focussed  
on the grieving process as it is exper-  
ienced by those who are gay/lesbian or  
those who love someone who is gay/  
lesbian.

Nearly 40 people participated in  
the workshop which began with a pres-  
entation by Pat Richgels of the La  
Crosse based Human Development Asso-  
ciates. Richgels explained the types of  
losses which occur when dealing with a  
sexual identity issue in oneself or a  
loved one. These losses center around  
the lost image of oneself or another as  
heterosexual and the expectations asso-  
ciated with that identity (big wedding,  
grandchildren, social acceptance, etc.).  
Richgels said that the grieving process  
resulting from those losses follows the  
familiar states of the grieving process:  
denial, anger, bargaining, depression,  
and hopefully, acceptance.

Following Richgels presentation a  
panel of six persons consisting of mem-  
bers of both support groups told their  
own "coming out" stories. The panel  
members included a gay man, a lesbian  
woman, the mother of a lesbian woman,  
the former spouse of a gay man, the  
mother of a gay man, and the mother of a  
gay man who died from AIDS last year.  
The panelists' stories ranged from  
humorous to sad, from joyful to pained.

After a short break, the group  
returned for an hour-and-a-half question  
and answer period. Questions came from  
mothers who recently learned of a son's  
gayness. (one mother drove 150 miles for  
the workshop), from lesbian and gay  
individuals struggling with coming out  
to loved ones, and from many others.

The workshop, which received good  
coverage in the La Crosse Tribune and  
WLSU-FM, far exceeded the expectations  
of those who planned it. It is hoped  
that this workshop will be a catalyst  
for the appearance of similar events in  
the future. Many thanks to those who  
presented and to those who attended.

-Dean Klinkenberg

**REGIONAL CONCERTS**

Saturday, March 5  
Sunday, March 6  
Tuesday, March 8  
Tuesday, March 8  
Wednesday, March 9  
Thursday, March 10  
Friday, March 11

Chuck Berry  
Barry Manilow  
Frank Zappa  
Echo & The Bunnymen  
Bruck Cockburn  
Bruce Cockburn  
David Lee Roth/Guns &  
Roses  
INXS  
Bruce Springsteen  
Bruce Springsteen  
Ricky Skaggs  
Lyle Lovett  
Lyle Lovett

Riverside Theatre - Milwaukee  
Dane County Coliseum - Madison  
Orpheum - Minneapolis  
Madison Civic Center  
Guthrie Theatre - Minneapolis  
Wis. Union Theatre - Madison  
Dane County Coliseum - Madison

Friday, March 11  
Wednesday, March 16  
Thursday, March 17  
Saturday, March 19  
Sunday, March 20  
Sunday, March 20

Grateful Dead  
Grateful Dead

UIC Pavilion, Chicago  
Rosemont Horizon - Chicago  
Rosemont Horizon - Chicago  
Guthrie Theatre - Minneapolis  
Guthrie Theatre - Minneapolis  
Guthrie Theatre - Minneapolis

Wednesday, April 13  
Thursday, April 14

Rosemont Horizon - Chicago  
Rosemont Horizon - Chicago

TICKET INFORMATION AVAILABLE BY CALLING TREE RECORDS



**SPECIAL MOMENTS FLORAL**

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"A friend loveth at all times." Solomon



**Classifieds**



**ROOMMATE WANTED:**  
Beautiful 2 bedroom apartment above "The Mill  
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dining room, large kitchen. Gay man would prefer  
gay man roommate, non smoker, steady employment,  
Wonderful living situation in a quiet scenic setting.  
Call Gregg at (608) 582-4438 9-4 p.m. \$200.00 month

**CLASSIFIED ADS**

New Beginnings will accept classified  
ads to share with other readers.  
Celebrate a birthday or anniversary,  
send holiday wishes, announce a garage  
sale or party. Share a pen pal or ask  
for one. Rates for these ads are 20  
cents per word, \$1.00 minimum. Numbers  
such as dates, zip codes, and addresses  
are considered one word.

The deadline for ads is the 20th of  
each month. Send your check, payable to  
New Beginnings, and your typed or  
printed classified ad to New Beginnings,  
P.O. Box 25 Westby, WI 54667-0025.

MY EAGLE  
Charles Grover

I stood on a hill at sunrise.  
An eagle held tightly in my arms.  
The more he struggled the tighter I held him.  
Until I knew I must let go or crush him.

As I loosened my grip his struggling subsided.  
I held him up to the sun and the wind.  
With an eye on me, he fluttered his magnificent wings and flew  
He soared into the morning sky.  
The sound of freedom in his wild beautiful call.

For what seemed an eternity he flew.  
Then, as suddenly as he flew, he returned.  
The eagle who would not be tamed,  
Now perched in all his splendor on my shoulder.

No longer held tightly, he stayed.  
His soft, strong voice telling  
Me of the wonder of his flight.  
His words telling me he would fly  
Again, but that to me, he would  
Always return.

And again he flew.  
I watched as he soared out of sight.  
A silent tear fell as I said,  
Take my love with you.  
Carry my soul where you go.  
Know that where I am,  
There is your home.



"It's not important  
to be gay. . .  
or important to be  
white. . . or impor-  
tant to be black.  
What's important is  
to be you.

James Baldwin



**MARILYN MONROE--  
BEYOND THE LEGEND**

She was one of the most popular figures in Hollywood history and her image still stirs public fascination. She was vibrant and vulnerable, sensitive and overwhelmingly sensual--a mixture of bubbles and sweet innocence. She was Miss Marilyn Monroe! MARILYN MONROE--BEYOND THE LEGEND, airs on PBS stations on March 10th. Check local listings for times. The program provides an intimate look at the luminous star who spent her life looking for love and a safe haven. Narrated by Richard Widmark, the program features interviews with those who knew her personally and who worked with her. It focuses on this fragile spirit who captured and continues to capture the hearts of millions.

Joshua Logan, director of *Bus Stop*, calls her *the most talented movie actress of her time*. Robert Mitchum speaks of knowing her as Norma Jean Baker.

Marilyn's legendary charm sparkles in numerous clips that chronicle her meteoric rise to fame, including scenes from *Love Happy*, *The Asphalt Jungle*, *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes*, *How to Marry a Millionaire*, *The Seven Year Itch*, *Some Like It Hot* and *The Misfits*.

**Coming events**

June 26 — 2nd Annual Picnic In The Park

LENTEN ORGAN RECITALS CONTINUE

The 1988 Lenten Organ Recitals to benefit the La Crosse Symphony Orchestra began on February 21. These recitals are co-sponsored by the La Crosse Symphony Society and the La Crosse Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, whose members are the artists for the series. Each concert takes place at 3:00 p.m. A free-will offering is taken, with the proceeds going to the Symphony Society, a support group of the La Crosse Symphony.

- Remaining recitals are:
- MARY LARSON & DEAN WHITEWAY      Sunday, March 6  
St. Paul's Lutheran Church
  - JUDY HUNNICUTT                              Sunday, March 13  
First Congregational Church
  - LAWRENCE W. LAWYER                      Sunday, March 20  
Cathedral of Saint Joseph the Workman

The Mill Road Cafe presents:  
**IN CONCERT**

MARCH

5 = KITTY BARBER      \$5.00      8:30 PM  
"Hot" Rock & Roll Feminist from Milwaukee! Rock, blues, ballads reflect her feminist politics and her wild sense of humor. Electric guitar & synthe sizes

12 = GREENWOOD TREE      \$5.00      8:30 PM  
True Irish Music featuring:  
Bill Cagley ~ Mandolin, guitar & banjo  
Stu Jants ~ Hammered dulcimer, flute, pennywhistle  
Becka Schaefer ~ Fiddle, bodran (drum)  
*Call early for reservations & celebrate with us!*

19 = BOB FRANKE      \$5.00      8:30 PM  
The "songwriters songwriter" - His songs are nationally recognized and sung by Claudia Schmidt, Sally Rogers, Garnet Rogers, Utah Phillips, etc. etc. - Steel guitar, 6 string country blues & slide.  
Reservations recommended

26 = STEVIE BECK      \$5.00      8:30 PM  
"Queen of the Autoharp"!! a Prairie Home Companion regular for 9 years - Taught Garrison to play autoharp. If you enjoy this instrument don't miss this special performance!

219 East Mill Road ~ Galesville WI.  
608 ~ 582-4438

Come to the "Garden of Eden" for a week-end of great entertainment, Superb food, comfy accomodations and now a new Antique Store in town. Lots to do any time of the year.  
25 mins. No of La Crosse      20 mins. East of Winona

Michael and the Beanstalk, not to be confused with that other famous beanstalk story, has its beginnings in the deep dark woods of medieval New Jersey. In this story, there lived a long-suffering widow and her lazy, good-for-nothing son, named Michael. Michael was a grade school drop-out and a Young Republican and generally made life miserable for his poor, hard-working mother.

Well, things hit an all-time low one day when the money ran out.

"I know," Michael said, "I'll get a job."

"But no one will have you," his mother replied.

The woman lacked tact, but she was also quite right. Michael had previously tried his hand at hairstyling, making beer, and sweeping out the stables. All of which he failed miserably because: 1) he couldn't tell the difference between dye and setting lotion; 2) he drank more than he produced; and 3) he forgot that one must never smoke in a stable.

With Michael unable to hold a job, there was nothing left for the little family to do, except sell their only possession of value, Beatrice, the milk-cow. So the next day, Michael found himself on the road into town. He hadn't gone far when he met a funny little man with a beer belly who claimed to be a merchant from a land called Boeing.

Well, after the merchant heard Michael's story, he shook the boy's hand, gave Michael a cigar and proposed a deal. "My boy, how would you like to be the proud owner of one of these magic lug nuts, which I now hold in my hand?"

But Michael was not that easily persuaded. "You must think I'm pretty gullible, don't you?"

Well, as a matter of fact, the merchant did, but being a good capitalist, he was not about to admit it and risk killing the deal.

"You have five lug nuts in your hand," Michael continued, "so if you want this cow, you better give me all five."

The merchant smiled a knowing smile and slapped Michael on the back. "I see you're a sharp lad, so I'll tell you what I'll do. I'm going to give you two lug nuts for the cow, with an option to buy the rest when you get a little working capital."

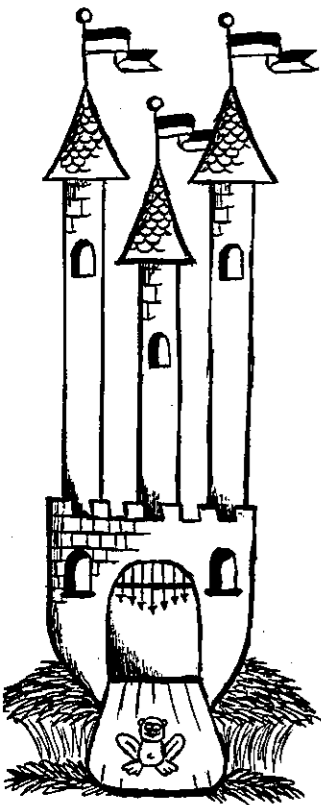
Michael couldn't believe his good fortune and quickly agreed. Michael and the merchant shook hands over the deal and Michael hurried home.

Sadly, the reception Michael received when he got home was not at all what he had expected. "What do you mean, you traded Beatrice for four lousy bolts!" his mother shouted.

"Lug nuts mother, and they're magic." Michael ducked, avoiding a sudden shower of crockery.



## Fairy Tales



March 26th, 1988

Memories  
- presents -  
*"Flames of Paradise"*

*We Are Going To Heat Up  
the Month of March!*

*An Extra-Ordinary Evening with the "Girls".....  
featuring*

*Miss Gay La Crosse,  
Miss Renne Kira  
& Friends*

*First Show Starts 11:00 p.m.*

*Start the Flame's early, so by showtime it's a roaring fire.*

*All proceeds from this show will benefit the La Crosse A.I.D.S. Programs.*

**MEMORIES**

314 South 4th - La Crosse, WI

*A Kira/Del-A-Cunte' Production*

New Beginnings would like to wish those that contribute to "Flames of Paradise" the best of luck with your show. We're sure that with your hard work and dedication, your show will be a Great Success. With that thought, this poem is dedicated to those who contributed to "Flames of Paradise"

**Woman Out Of Taxi**

*Any woman  
When she's grown  
And goes to parties  
All Alone*

*Within a cab  
She grows compact,  
A separate keen  
Dynamic fact*

*She draws her cloak  
About her hips,  
Twist her bracelet,  
Bites her lips.*

*Finds a Taxi  
Exert a spell  
That segregate her  
like a shell*

*Unentertained,  
untouched, unspent,  
Safe in her own  
integument.*

*From head to toe  
Grows tense and narrow  
Simple and dangerous  
As an arrow.*

*Wherein detached  
From life she's whirled  
Through this exciting  
clamorous world*

*Out of the Taxi  
She will come.  
From an emotional  
Vacuum*

*Aimed at a door  
That may, by chance  
Swing inward, brightly  
On romance.*

*Out of the darkness  
Into the light  
As highly charged  
As Dynamite.*



## Rockefeller Fund gives \$25,000 to Lambda

Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, the nation's oldest and largest legal organization dedicated to the civil rights of lesbians and gay men and a leader in the nationwide fight against AIDS-related discrimination, announced today that the Rockefeller Family Fund has awarded the organization a \$25,000 grant in support of its AIDS Project.

"The importance of this grant cannot be overstated," said Thomas B. Stoddard, Lambda's Executive Director. "This is the first time that a prominent national foundation has given money to a gay organization for any purpose."

### AIDS Update

A recent survey of AIDS patients in New York City shows that not all of them are dying of the disease. Many patients who tested positive for the virus over five years ago are still alive today. While it is still too early to detect if this is or is not a 100-percent fatal disease, the early indications show that not everyone afflicted with AIDS is certain of dying.

## STOUGHTON, WISCONSIN

The newspaper of Stoughton High School has been criticized for publishing an advertisement for a gay and lesbian support group for high school students, UPI reported.

One member of the local school board sought to have the paper's funding cut because it ran the ad, and at least one businessman threatened to withdraw his ads from the paper if the gay ad continued to run.

But David Wallner, an alderman in nearby Madison who teaches the journalism class that produces the paper, asserted that censorship would severely damage the paper.

At a public hearing, none of the 23 speakers supported cutting the paper's funds because of the ad. School board chairman Theodore Olson said he would seek input from other board members before deciding whether to pursue the matter further.

"Love demands faith and faith firmness."

"I don't care if they darn your socks. What are we supposed to do now for food? Just answer me that."

"But they're magic," Michael whined plaintively before further attempts at persuasion were silenced by a well-aimed frying pan.

"We can't feed ourselves on four damn bolts," Michael's mother muttered as she tossed the lug nuts out the window. And she sent Michael to bed without any supper, a mild punishment considering there wasn't any food in the house anyway.

The next morning, Michael awakened, nearly suffocating from something rough and leathery covering his face. He was certain that his mother had decided that sending him to bed without any supper was insufficient punishment. But when he opened his eyes, it was not his mother's hands pinching his nose shut. It was the large green leaf of a giant potted plant. Brushing the leaf aside, Michael looked around. Between the plant and a "Welcome to K-Mart" sign, a shiny new elevator gleamed in the morning sun.

Naturally, Michael was quite surprised by all of this, and since the elevator was going up anyway, he decided to see what fate held in store for him.

The magic elevator took the boy above the clouds to a magnificent castle, clearly the home of a king, a corporate executive, or a professional basketball player. Michael, hoping for some kind of generous hand out, wasted no time in knocking on the castle door. "Knock, knock, knock."

At last, the door swung open and Michael was greeted by a very tall, smiling woman who listened politely as Michael explained his dire circumstances.

Being somewhat of a bleeding heart (liberal Democrat), the woman invited Michael inside and took him to the kitchen, where she proceeded to fill him with all kinds of goodies. This would have continued indefinitely, but for the sound of the woman's returning husband, a mean, nasty giant.

"Fee-Fi-Fo-Feet, I smell the blood of a welfare cheat," the giant thundered. (Not strictly true. Michael

and his mother did cut a few corners, but nothing more.) "Be he white or be he black, I'll have his bones for a midnight snack."

Luckily for Michael, the giant's wife was quick to reassure her husband. "No dear, you're smelling things again; it must be your sinuses." The giant's sinuses had been acting up lately, so he grudgingly accepted his wife's explanation and sat down to supper.

From a crack in the oven, Michael watched the giant eat. It was not a pretty sight, but at last the meal was finished, and the giant had his wife bring him a bag of gold. Michael watched the giant count his money, coin by golden coin, until he fell sound asleep. (The giant, not Michael. Golden coins were the one thing that always held Michael's attention.) So while the giant slept, Michael slipped from the oven, grabbed the bag of gold and ran home.

Michael's mother was quite excited by Michael's good fortune, although a little less so when all she got out of the deal was a new ironing board and a washing rock. Unfortunately, Michael fared little better. His love for booze and for betting on his favorite football team, (he was a Packer fan), quickly depleted the bag of gold. But Michael was an optimistic fellow who didn't let his losses get him down. He simply decided to pay the nasty giant another visit.....

But you'll have to wait until next time to see what happened....Will the stupid giant get ripped off again? Will the giant's wife see the light and throw Michael out on his ear? Or will Michael end up as a pot pie? And what of Michael's mother? Will she be stuck with a lazy good-for-nothing son indefinitely? You'll have all the answers in the April issue of NEW BEGINNINGS.



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# MEDICINE CHEST

BY DON RUBIN

Each of these containers holds a familiar product from your bathroom shelf. See how many you can identify. Here's a clue: No. 20 is Selsun Blue.

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) \_\_\_\_\_
- 6) \_\_\_\_\_
- 7) \_\_\_\_\_
- 8) \_\_\_\_\_
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- 16) \_\_\_\_\_
- 17) \_\_\_\_\_
- 18) \_\_\_\_\_
- 19) \_\_\_\_\_
- 20) \_\_\_\_\_
- 21) \_\_\_\_\_
- 22) \_\_\_\_\_

First ten answered correctly and mailed to New Beginnings will each receive 2 tickets for the Picnic in the Park June 26, 1988.

"The heart whose hidden store is most, has freest gift for all mankind."

Thomas Lynch

**COMING OUT OF THE CLOSET WITH RENN'E**

Hello, Boys and Girls!!!

The month of February is over, I hope Cupid was good to all of you. Now it's time to get down to the matter at hand. The show... We are going to heat up the month of March with the "Flames of Paradise". The Show Date is March 26, 1988, (Saturday Night). The first set will start at 11 p.m. This is not going to be an ordinary "drag show", we have a lot planned for the evening. There will be drawings throughout the evening for door prizes, and a whole lot more!!! I'm not going to tell you everythin, so you will have to come and check it out. Come early for our warm-up party! We are expecting a full house, so come early for a good seat and a good time. Don't forget!!!!!! One more thing, all profits from the show, will benefit the La Crosse A.I.D.S. Programs. I promise a good time for all. Be good and be safe.

Love Ya!!  
Renn'e

P.S. Just a note, The picnic is going to be June 26th, So mark your calendars!!!!!!

CONGRATULATIONS DR. M.M. from Alan and John

- BECAUSE OF AIDS: gaybashing in Great Britain has increased 30% in 1987.
- BECAUSE OF AIDS: harassment at work and firing of gays has increased.
- BECAUSE OF AIDS: governments are withholding financial support from medical clinics and other gay groups.
- BECAUSE OF AIDS: adoption and parenting by gay and lesbian individuals and couples is being increasingly challenged.
- BECAUSE OF AIDS: gay and lesbian groups and individuals should be assessing frivolity today versus life and death and freedom tomorrow.

-R. Holz

**Forget The Past**

Turn your back  
On yesterday  
For it has swiftly  
fled away.  
Turn your back  
On tired old sorrows  
And grasp the hope  
Of bright tomorrows.  
Forget cruel things  
Which People say  
When anger holds them  
in its sway.  
Forget promises  
Which have been broken  
And let faith remain  
Your future token.  
Forget the past  
For it is dead.  
Stand tall and face  
Bravely ahead.

**SWEDES BAN ANTI-GAY BIAS AND RECOGNIZE GAY SPOUSES**

The Swedish Parliament has passed two historic laws concerning lesbians and gay men, banning discrimination in commercial areas and regulating homosexual pair relations. Commercial establishments that refuse to provide services to homosexuals can be punished through fines or a prison sentence. The second law gives a homosexual couple the same rights as a heterosexual couple living together in a marriage-like relationship. The Swedish Parliament also earmarked the equivalent of \$80,000 U.S. dollars a year for lesbian and gay organizations.

**HETEROSEXUAL AIDS CASES**

Officials at the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta announced on Jan. 11 that the number of AIDS cases in the United States had passed 50,000 and that about 400 new cases are currently being reported each week, UPI reported.

Although about two thirds of those with AIDS contracted the virus through homosexual activity, the total number of heterosexual contact cases grew 136% in 1986, compared with 82% for homosexual contact.

Scientists predict the rate of new heterosexual cases will continue to grow faster than the rate of new homosexual cases.

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Dawn Wieking, Producer**

**Sunday, March 27th**

**8:00 P.M.**

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