

Among friends



News Magazine

for Gays and Lesbians of the Upper Midwest

Vol 2, no 6: November, 1987

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March On
Washington

Mail...
in a plain
brown
wrapper!

Thanksgiving
and
Perspective

Sarah Orne
Jewett



Among Friends
News Magazine
for Gays and Lesbians of the
Midwest

Volume 2, number 6
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March on Washington Draws More Than Quarter Million

Gays, lesbians, their families, friends, and supporters gathered in record numbers in Washington DC to peacefully demonstrate against discrimination and to call for more money for AIDS research and treatment. Estimates of the number of people ranged from 200,000 to 500,000 - an impressive display of gay and lesbian determination to protect their rights.

"We are here today to show America and the world that the gay movement is larger, stronger, and more diverse than ever," said Buffy Dunker, an 82-year-old grandmother who announced 10 years ago that she was a lesbian. "We are sending a message to our leaders in Washington that gays are a united force to be reckoned with, and we will be persistent and unrelenting in our pressure."

In an act of civil disobedience, hundreds of demonstrators were arrested as they staged a peaceful protest on the US Supreme Court steps. Among those arrested were Loren Laureano, co-chair of the National Association for People with AIDS, and Michael Hardwick, the gay man whose appeal to overturn Georgia's sodomy law

was defeated last year by the Supreme Court.

The Rev Jesse Jackson, who had announced his candidacy for the US Presidency the day before, spoke to the rally, pledging his support for gay rights and calling for increased funding for AIDS research and patient care.

He said, "We gather today to say that we insist on equal protection under the law for every American, for workers' rights, women's rights, for the rights of religious freedom, the rights of individual privacy, for the rights of sexual preference. We come together for the rights of all American people."

Perhaps the most moving event during the week was the piecing together of the NAMES project quilt and the reading of names of those who have died from AIDS. The quilt was assembled in large segments which were spread over a four block area of the Capitol Mall. Each of the nearly 2,000 patches of the quilt was a 3'x6' piece of fabric with the name of an AIDS victim, sewn by friends and family.

A mass marriage of same-sex couples both celebrated gay and

lesbian relationships and protested the inequality of social systems which fail to legally recognize them. The demands of March participants included the extension the same rights and rewards offered to heterosexual couples - medical and insurance benefits, child custody, adoption, foster care, and joint tax filing.

Dan Bradley, a White House aide of the Carter administration, who suffers from AIDS, summed up the feeling which was echoed throughout the March. He said that he took greatest satisfaction in the fact that "after a lifetime of struggle and fear, I had the courage in 1982 to say, loud and clear: 'I am gay and I'm proud.'"



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Mass Arrests at the US Supreme Court

WASHINGTON DC- In the largest mass arrest since the Vietnam War, approximately 600 gays, lesbians, and their supporters were arrested in a non-violent civil disobedience action at the US Supreme Court on October 13. Intended as part of the March on Washington week of activities, the civil disobedience was in protest of the Court's recent decision to uphold a Georgia sodomy statute, and a statement of support for equal justice for gays and lesbians nationwide.

**"Your gloves don't
match your shoes!"**

Bail was set at \$100.00, and about half of those arrested were released after payment, which would be forfeited if they do not return for a court date. Some of those arrested opted for a three day jail term in lieu of a fine, while about a dozen pleaded not guilty and will stand trial in December.

In general, the protest was peaceful. However, some pushing and shoving between the police and the protestors was evident.

Claiming police abuse and harassment, some of the protestors are considering a class action suit against the police units involved.

At one point during the arrests, the police donned rubber gloves, prompting protestors to shout in response, "Your gloves don't match your shoes!" and other colorful expressions of anger and frustration.

The mass civil disobedience was one of numerous pre-planned events held during the March week, and organizers considered it a successful demonstration of gay and lesbian resolve to draw attention to the injustices of the US legal system.



"Wisconsin Light" Newspaper Goes to Press

MILWAUKEE, WI - The demise of OUT! newspaper has left a gap which the editors of "Wisconsin Light" want to fill with their new publication, a free monthly newspaper that while Milwaukee-based, should be available at distribution points statewide. Look for the first copies to appear in December.

Anti-Gay Violence Statistics Bill Update

WASHINGTON, DC - As a result of lobbying by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, the American Psychological Association, the American Civil Liberties Union and other organizations, the House Subcommittee on Criminal Justice voted 5 to 2 in favor of the **Hate Crimes Statistic Act** (HR 3193), a bill sponsored by Rep John Conyers (D-MI) that would mandate the federal collection of statistics on crimes based on race, religion, ethnicity, and sexual orientation. An amendment to *remove* the "sexual orientation" provision, offered by Rep George Gekas (R-PA), failed in a 4 to 3 vote, with Democrats present voting against the amendment and Republicans voting for it.

The bill may receive a vote in the full Judiciary Committee as early as next week. A voice vote on an amendment to remove the "sexual orientation" clause is expected to be close. At last count, the Hate Crime Statistics Act has been endorsed by 42 religious, political, civil rights, professional and law enforcement groups.



All photographs courtesy of Jeff Kirsch

NGLTF Condemns Helms Amendment Barring Federal Funds For AIDS Education That Promotes Gay Sex

WASHINGTON, DC - The US Senate, on October 14, 1987, passed an amendment banning the use of federal funds for materials and projects in AIDS education that might "promote or encourage, directly or indirectly, homosexual activity." The amendment was introduced by Senator Jesse Helms (R-NC) to the \$126 billion Labor, Health and Human Services and Education bill, which allocates close to \$1 billion dollars for AIDS research and education efforts in fiscal 1988.

Helms' amendment was passed overwhelmingly by a 94 - 2 vote, with negative votes cast only by Sen Lowell Weicker (R-CT) and Sen Daniel Moynihan (D-NY). All other Senate supporters of the federal gay/lesbian civil rights bill voted in favor of the Helms amendment, including Senators Edward Kennedy (D-MA), Daniel Inouye (D-HI), John Kerry (D-MA), Alan Cranston (D-CA), and Brock Adams (D-WA).

"This amendment's passage, and especially its support by some of our friends in the Senate, is intolerable," said Jeffrey Levi, NGLTF Executive Director. "Three days after a march for lesbian and gay rights which drew over 500,000 lesbian and gay Americans, the Senate has passed a bill that is rooted in homophobia."

The bill passed after virulent floor debate led by Senator Helms. Helms said he introduced the bill because he was disgusted by a comic book depicting safer sex practices published by the Gay Men's Health Crisis. While he conceded that no federal funds had been used in producing the comic book, Helms noted that GMHC conducts educational efforts under a statement of purpose which explicitly affirms gay identity and gay sexuality.

Said Helms, "I will not consume the Senate's time by reading the

details of this revolting project. But, Mr President, you know those little bags they have on airlines when it gets bumpy, if I were to read the sickening details to you... you would need one... we have got to call a spade a spade and a perverted human being a perverted human being, not in anger, but in realism." Helms blamed the spread of AIDS on homosexual intercourse, saying that "every AIDS case can be traced back to a homosexual act."

"...we have got to call a spade a spade and a perverted human being a perverted human being ..."

Senator Jesse Helms

NGLTF plans to register its condemnation with our friends by meeting with several Senators and staffers. In addition, the Task Force is actively contacting state and local groups in the states of all Senate supporters of the federal gay rights bill to encourage constituent meetings and initiation of direct action.

Some Senators are justifying their votes by saying that the actual impact of this amendment will be negligible. "This is wrong and unacceptable on two counts," said Levi. "First, its intent and effect are homophobic, as Helms made patently clear throughout the debate. Our friends who abandoned us on this vote would never

have voted for a measure that was racist in intent, no matter how benign its impact. Second, this amendment could well rule out any federal funds for the safer sex programs our community has so successfully developed."

"We hope to defeat this amendment when the House and Senate have a conference on this bill, but its chilling effect on the Public Health Service bureaucracy may result in the reduction or elimination of funding for gay-related AIDS education programs," Levi observed.

Gay Rights Grassroots Unit Voted

WASHINGTON, DC - The day after the March on Washington, gay rights advocates voted to create a Lesbian and Gay Congress to help coordinate national grassroots political activities.

Though there are several national gay and lesbian organizations, such as the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, the congress would allow input from local gay and lesbian activists across the country, supporters said.

"We don't have a grassroots type of organization," Steven Ault, a co-chairman of the week of activities, said. "You don't really win these victories by going from the top down."

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Women Authors To Visit "A Room Of One's Own"

MADISON, WI - Two influential women writers, Mary Daly and Ebba Haslund, will be visiting the feminist bookstore, "A Room Of One's Own," during the month of November.

Mary Daly will be signing books, including her newest work from Beacon Press, written with Jane Caputi, *Websters' First New Intergalactic WICKEDARY of the English Language*. This book is a continuation of Daly's previous efforts to help shape feminism. In it, she uses both humor and daring to explore and liberate archaic meanings for words, phrases and concepts that have become "standard" English. Daly will be at the store, 317 W Johnson St, from 3pm to 5pm on Friday, Nov 6.

Norwegian novelist, Ebba Haslund will be doing a free reading at "Room" on Thursday, Nov 12, at 6:30pm. An activist and well-known author, her book, *Nothing Happened*, was ignored because of its lesbian theme when it first appeared in Norway in 1948, but was rediscovered in 1981 and translated into English.

Help in Extending March on Washington to March on Statehouses

WASHINGTON DC - The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force announces the release of **political action packets** to inform and inspire gay and lesbian activists and organizers working at the state level.

"Perhaps before AIDS we could ignore the politicians and let their disinterest in us pass for tolerance," said Sue Hyde, director of NGLTF's Privacy Project. "But given the Illinois legislative experience in which every bill regarding AIDS - from the repressive to the progressive - was passed by that state's legislature, we can not afford to let the politicians muddle through these issues on their own.

Over and over again, we meet the government, and ... it should not simply grind on without knowing that we will not sit by while very significant decisions are made about us."

Focused on five central issues - sodomy, AIDS, family issues, civil rights protection, and hate crimes - the packets include fact sheets on legislative campaigns within the past year. Also included are resource materials to help activists develop effective statewide action networks and information on NGLTF organizing projects which deal with sodomy laws and hate crimes.

The packets are a part of NGLTF's ongoing State Action Lobby, whose aims are to press the gay/lesbian agenda at the state level. Packets may be obtained by writing to:

NGLTF State Action Lobby
1517 U Street NW
Washington DC 20009.

Education Department Issues AIDS Handbook

WASHINGTON, DC - The US Dept of Education has prepared a handbook for use in schools which contains information on AIDS compiled from materials published by Federal Health agencies. Written primarily by William J Bennet, Education Secretary, the handbook recommends that education programs stress the value of sexual abstinence and monogamy, and gives little attention to the importance of teaching teenagers how to reduce the risk of

contracting AIDS by increasing safe practices.

Mr Bennet writes that teachers should emphasize "appropriate moral and social conduct," and claims that "promoting the use of condoms can suggest to teenagers that adults expect them to engage in sexual intercourse." The handbook has received criticism from those who note that it contains virtually no information about the use of sanitary needles and safer sex practices.

While Bennet has claimed that "this is not moralizing; it is realism," Rep Ted Weiss (D-NY) stated that with the prevalence of sexual activity among teenagers, "to pretend that this problem is being addressed by taking this moralistic approach only is not dealing with the real world." The handbook further demonstrates the disagreement between Mr Bennet and Surgeon General, C Everett Koop, who has advocated for early and thorough education on safer sex practices in addition to advising sexual restraint.



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**Top Leaders of President's
Commission on AIDS Resign
Admiral Named New Chair**

WASHINGTON DC- On October 7 the chairman, vice chairman, and only medical staff officer of Reagan's commission on AIDS resigned amid increasing signs of tension and turmoil. As a replacement for Dr W Eugene Mayberry, the commission's chairman, the President appointed Admiral James D Watkins, ret., a former Chief of Naval Operations.


The resignation of Dr Mayberry, chief executive officer of the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn, was joined by those of vice-chair Dr Woodrow A Mayers, the health commissioner of Indiana, and Dr Franklin Cockerill III, a Mayo Clinic physician specializing in AIDS and a senior medical staff advisor for the panel.

The resignations of the top leaders appear to be related to bitter factional disputes and rivalries within the commission and to mounting frustrations over the commission's lack of progress.

The commission has been tasked with the responsibility to advise the President on all aspects of the epidemic, and issue a final report by June, 1988. From its inception however, the commission has been beset with internal and personality problems which have prevented it from proceeding with its task.

**Free Updated Resource List
for Gay Couples**

PARTNERS: The Newsletter for Gay and Lesbian Couples offers a free, newly expanded list of resources. The annotated list includes information on nationwide social, political and support groups that serve gay and lesbian couples. Relevant books, videotapes, and films are also listed. To receive a copy, send a stamped, self-addressed business envelope to PARTNERS, Box 9685, Seattle WA 98109.



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**Windy City Gay Chorus
Announces Ninth Annual
Holiday Concert**

CHICAGO, IL - The Windy City Gay Chorus, under the direction of its founder, Richard Garrin, will perform its ninth holiday concert December 20, 1987, in Chicago's Orchestra Hall, 220 S Michigan Avenue. This will be the first time the annual concert has been held at Orchestra Hall.

The concert will include works for male chorus, brass, and organ, and will premiere a commissioned work by Chicago area composer, Kim Lyons. The Windy City Chorus has received both local and national recognition for their professional level performances.

For tickets and other concert information, write:

Windy City Performing Arts, Inc
606 W Barry, #216
Chicago IL 60657
or call (312) 871-SING.

**Spread of AIDS Virus
Slower Than Expected**

CHICAGO, IL - According to a preliminary blood testing program sponsored by the Federal government, the spread of the AIDS virus in gay men in San Francisco has slowed.


According to Walter R Dowdle, the deputy director for the Centers for Disease Control, months have gone by with no record of new infections by the virus in some groups of gay men.

A new Federal blood-tracking program in hospitals in San Francisco and other cities began six months ago. The blood of patients who had samples drawn for common medical procedures was tested. Samples were anonymously labeled, and patients were not informed of the results.

In the up-coming months, the study will be expanded to include testing blood in 20 other cities where large numbers of people have been exposed to the virus. Such cities include Los Angeles, New York, Phoenix, Seattle, St Louis, Cleveland, and Richmond.



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MOVING ON

Jack Johnson

Janet Woititz, in her book, **The Struggle For Intimacy**, suggests that no matter what age we are when we finally admit and accept the fact that our preference is for the same sex, we go through an adolescent phase all over again. It is a time of self-discovery and a time of discovering others in a new context; when there doesn't seem to be enough time for all there is to discover and experience in this new phase of life. It is also a time of intense feelings and strong mood swings from high elation to deep depression. It is a time of infatuations, of falling in and out of love or lust as the case may be, a time of experimentation, and a time of growth.

There seem to be no models to follow in our self-discovery. We find that there are similarities in our experience and parallels in the stages through which we pass, but we each must find our own way. It is important for us to discuss the differences in our experiences as well, so we can better understand each other. Perhaps we will discover that there may indeed be some models to guide us along our way.

There are those of us who grow up knowing, accepting, and practicing our same sex preference. There are those of us who grow up knowing but denying our same sex preference until later in life. There are those of us who for any number of reasons have married and become parents. Some are able to continue living the double life; others find it necessary to make a clean break and begin anew.

What is our common experience? Perhaps we can understand it as stages through which we pass with differing degrees of feeling. No matter at what age we pass through the adolescent phase, the experience and feelings are the same. The adolescent phase is a stage of confusion, even chaos at times, a stage of pain and uncertainty, with

our strongest desire being to find stability in this new world.

We may then move on to a stage of stability, a stage which will take different forms, however. For some of us, the yearned-for long term relationship happens, and with all the highs and lows and the level dullness, there is someone on whom you can depend and who can depend on you. Others of us find stability in new friendships that are caring, understanding, and supportive. They are friendships with a depth we have never known before, because for the first time in our lives we do not feel the need to hide who we are, and we can openly share experiences we have never been able to talk about before with anyone. Stability also comes in just becoming aware of who you are and that you can be in charge of your life and your future.

Sometimes, though, the stability is short-lived as in the case when a relationship changes abruptly or is ended. Depending on what has happened to us in even this brief time, we can either slip back into the stage of adolescent uncertainty, which we may have never really left, or we can move on again to a stage of questioning, doubting, and exploring what it means to be who we are among others who share our journey.

It is only when we feel secure in our stability that we can begin to question the validity and meaning of who and what we are and the issues and problems related to our stable state. Some of us never move on to the questioning stage; instead, we cling to our stability or we move back and forth between stability and adolescent uncertainty. Those of us who cling to the stability we have found in our homosexual lives are often threatened by those who begin to doubt and question.

Those of us who do doubt, question, and explore can discover a new stage in which we are able to say, "Aha! Now, it all makes

sense. Life does have meaning and purpose! It's ok for me to be me. It's ok for you to be you. It's ok for us to be different yet the same! Let us celebrate who we are!"

In this new stage, we can really find a meaningful stability that is not threatened by either questioning or the fear of falling into the chaos of adolescence. In this new stage, we discover how fluid our lives are and accept the reality that we constantly move back and forth through the creative stages of gay awakening.

Mystery Stories Sought By Alyson Publications

BOSTON, MA - Short stories with a mystery theme for inclusion in a gay and lesbian anthology are being sought. Michael Nava, author of "The Little Death," is compiling the collection for Alyson Publications of Boston. Inquiries and submissions accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope may be sent to: Michael Nava, 6537 Moore Dr, Los Angeles CA 90048.



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A Brief Look Backwards...

Sarah Orne Jewett

Terry Boughner, PhD

It was a warm summer day; a metallic blue October afternoon. No time to be in an American Literature class. In the front of the room, Mrs Calvini droned on like a fly in the sun about Sarah Orne Jewett. At that moment, I, along with the rest of the class, couldn't have cared less.

Then, suddenly, I was all ears. Mrs Calvini was talking about an "intense friendship." I had heard her use those words before in relation to Emily Dickinson and one or two other women and I'd learned that the phrase was her modest little way of avoiding what was to her the totally unacceptable topic of Lesbianism. Well, if Sarah Jewett had an intense friendship with someone, it was good enough reason for me to learn more about her.

She was born in 1849 in South Berwick, Maine - as much a New Englander as Willa Cather had the blood of the Midwest in her veins. Sarah's formal schooling was spotty, but she learned to love the natural beauty of the countryside and the hearty culture of her area which makes New England more a state of mind than anything else.

She came to the literary scene in the lingering golden autumn of New England's most distinguished era, a time dominated by Emerson, Longfellow, Lowell, Holmes, and Whittier. But Autumn in New England is not a twilight time; it is a brilliant burst of color and fragrance. Autumn is decidedly vibrant, and so this literary autumn was sparkingly alive with the writing of women such as Louisa May Alcott, Helen Hunt Jackson - and Sarah Jewett. Without sentimental excess, they loved New England and spoke with quiet defiance to the new, raw-toned realism that was coming from the South and West.

But there was something else about many of these women who, like Jewett, rose to prominence in the arts in the late 19th Century. They did not see themselves, nor did they act, as shadows of men. They were women identifying women who operated as independent human beings fulfilling themselves by themselves. When they formed relationships, it was most often with other women. This situation was common enough to have been described as a "Boston Marriage."

Mark DeWolfe Howe, a 19th Century editor of the *Atlantic Monthly*, wrote about such relationships and noted that there was no truer word for them than "union." The 20th Century writer, Lillian Faderman, maintains that "*Lesbian* is an accurate word even if we can never know the level of sexual involvement." Thus, what my college professor couldn't even mention, except indirectly, Sarah Jewett and others handled very well indeed: Sarah was a lesbian.

Even the most assiduous of her many biographers have been unable to find the slightest heterosexual interest. Usually what happens is that after admitting her deepest relationships were with women, they hurry on to "redeem" her by mentioning that she had friendships (never intense) with "scores of men." In its own way, that's as silly as the practice of some gay writers who insist on identifying every unmarried person in history as a homosexual. Stupid!


So call it a "Boston Marriage," or a "union," or whatever you want, but Sarah had one with Annie Fields. Fields was a strikingly beautiful woman, 14 years Sarah's senior. In 1854, at the age of 19, she had married James T Fields, owner of the *Atlantic Monthly* and one of America's best known publishers. It probably wasn't love at first sight for the two women, but over the years, things ripened until Fields recognized the serious closeness between his wife and Sarah.

I say "serious closeness" because in that day, he probably never thought of lesbianism. Most men didn't. The primary reason was that it was "medically proven" that women felt nothing sexually. Anything between them *had* to be nothing more than mere friendship. There just *couldn't* be any sex.

In 1880, Fields knew himself to be dying and began to do everything possible to encourage the relationship between Sarah and his wife. As he saw it, their closeness would be the ideal thing to fill the gap in Annie's life after he was gone. That was nice of the old boy, but they certainly didn't need his help. Sarah was a frequent visitor to Gambrel Cottage, the Fields' seaside place in Manchester, Massachusetts.

It was there, among the sea breezes and hollyhocks, that Sarah told Annie she had left her heart. It was love, wonderful and glorious. Sarah wrote of that magical summer by the sea during which she and Annie had given themselves to each other and sealed their commitment with an exchange of rings.

Given themselves to each other? I wouldn't read too much into that. Sex? Maybe yes. Maybe no. But that it was love, there is no doubt. In a poem penned that same year, Sarah wrote to Annie that, "Your dear love holds me close to you."

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James Fields died in April 1881. At Annie's invitation, Sarah moved in immediately. Their lives assumed a schedule that would be kept for the rest of Sarah's life. For most of the year, she lived with Annie in Boston or Manchester. But for several months each year, she was cloistered in South Berwick, writing full time. Annie understood. She shared that interest as well and understood a writer's needs. But though apart, there were daily letters, sometimes no more than love notes, that kept the bond strong.

More than anything, it was love that enabled Sarah to write with so much energy and concentration - and to write of love as she did. Love that makes one a better person; that makes one, as she said, "unconsciously beautiful, like a saint."

Having that kind of love is perhaps the reason why she felt no need to hide the beauty of same-sex love. She described it openly and freely. But in her day, she could get away with that. She could; and did, espouse her belief that love between two women had great redemptive power that could make a person something far beyond what they thought they could be.

On an afternoon in September, 1902, Sarah was badly injured in a carriage accident. It left her with periods of dizziness and she could read and write only with great difficulty. Annie, of course, took care of her, but there was little improvement. Annie worried herself to exhaustion. Sarah confided to Willa Cather that she was afraid she would outlive her lover.

It was not to be. In March, 1909, Sarah suffered a stroke and a month later she died. She was buried not far from where she had been born in South Berwick. She had lived a life full of beauty and of love. Few are as fortunate, and none could ask for more.

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Milwaukee Metro Area 273-AIDS
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Gay Archives

ST LOUIS, MO - The gay and lesbian community in St Louis is about to undertake an ambitious project. In an attempt to record the history and contributions of gays and lesbians to the city, several groups are working together to gather documents, periodicals, literature, interviews, and letters that will form the core of the St Louis Gay and Lesbian Archives.

Jack Churchill, spokesperson for Challenge (formerly St Louis Gay and Lesbian Services), expressed hopes that local publicity about the archive will "help us get the word to older lesbians and gay men that we want to record their memories and experiences."

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New Book on History of AIDS

SAN FRANCISCO, CA - Randy Shilts, a gay reporter who writes about AIDS for the *San Francisco Chronicle*, has written a heavily researched and highly critical book on the introduction of AIDS to the US, and the reaction of the government, gays, and society in general to the disease. *And the Band Played On: People, Politics and the AIDS Epidemic* focuses on the possible role that Gaetan Dugas, an airline steward who contracted "gay cancer" from Africans in Europe, may have had in initially spreading the disease to the US through sexual encounters with large numbers of men in New York and San Francisco.



THOUGHTS



On Thanksgiving and Perspective

Roger Margason

Peter Pan, Pollyanna, Bambi and I live in relative contentment in a small Home for the Hopelessly Optimistic. Located in the comparatively sheltered isolation of rural Wisconsin, we are spared many of the day-to-day hassles and frustrations of life in the cities. And, although we usually manage to keep our rose-colored glasses firmly in place in the face of reality's raging winds, each year as the holiday season approaches, we find ourselves indulging in nostalgia. Nostalgia that, unchecked, slides into sorrow over lovers lost, relatives and friends parted and departed, and a lead-weight awareness of the vast chasm that separates life as it "should be," or "could have been," and life as it is.

Whenever this happens, we more often than not treat ourselves to a brief, but all-out, pigs-in-a-mud-puddle, no-holds-barred wallow in self-pity and mental breast-beating. A little self-indulgent misery every now and then, we suspect, is good for the soul. But the unrelenting gloom seldom gets beyond its first or second hour before the little man who lives behind my eyes steps in and yells, "Time!"

God knows there are enough things out there to be seriously depressed about, and unfortunately, no pair of rose-colored glasses can make them go away. The shadow of AIDS chills us all; hunger and poverty stalk the world; nations still quibble and bicker and squander irreplaceable resources.

All in all, with Thanksgiving just around the corner, it may well seem that there's not all that much to be thankful for. But when rose-colored glasses won't help, try perspective. For a key on how to attain perspective, consider the serenity prayer alcoholics use as a lifeline to recovery: "God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference."

Last month, several hundred thousand of us gathered in Washington to protest very real wrongs and outrageous injustices. No rose-colored glasses here. Ah, but *perspective*. The fact is that we did gather, and we were heard. Could we have done it 20 years ago? Would anyone have listened?

When I first moved to Los Angeles in 1966, members of the community - and no one but us thought of it as a community then - were regularly harassed, beaten, and sometimes even killed by a notoriously homophobic police force. The year I left L.A., I was one of 250,000 of us who swept past the West Hollywood Sheriff's Station in a river of pride. The police watched, from lawn chairs set up on the roof of the station, with bemused interest rather than hostility. Now, that's change. That's perspective.

We're not where we're going to be, but we're certainly not where we were.

On a more personal level, it's important to remember that Thanksgiving was never intended as a world-scope holiday. It is, rather, a personal time allowing each of us to narrow our scope from "what's out there" to "what's in here".

Now, if you've ever seen a ragged V of wild geese honking their way south through an autumn sky and not been little-child delighted at the sight, or devoted a few minutes on a warm summer afternoon to picking out elephants and faces in a cloud-scattered sky, you may not really have any idea of what I'm talking about. But I think you do. There is hope for everyone who has ever sat on a bench and wondered whether the pebbles and grains of sand within your reach might outnumber the stars.

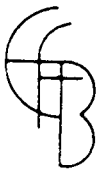
I'm not Robert Redford (as I pointed out in this column last month). I'll never be Robert Redford, or President of the United States, or an atomic physicist, no matter how much I might want to be, and not all the weeping, wailing, and self-pity in the world is going to change that. So I'd damned well better acknowledge the fact and get on with being the best possible me I can be - admittedly no easy task, and a 24 hour a day job.

So what am I thankful for? Saccharine as it may sound, just to be alive, for starters - to be able to *think*; to *imagine*; and to *know* full well, even in the middle of a good wallow in depression, that tomorrow or the next day there will be something that will make me laugh and be really glad I'm alive.

After all, there has never, in all history of the world (regardless of what Shirley McLain says!) been another me, and there never will be again. There's never been another you, either. Each of us has a choice, far more often than we may realize, of whether to be an optimist or a pessimist. For myself, I'd rather get as much fun out of my one ride on the merry-go-round as I can.

Let's give thanks for what we are, and who we are - and that we are at all. Let's live our lives for friends and loved ones who no longer have lives to live for themselves. It may be a dark night, but each of us is a candle.

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Letters from the Farm

Lee Lawrence

"...a plain brown wrapper"

Greetings,

They're coming at me again. They wait until the days are gray and snowy - day after day. They wait until the nights are bitter cold with gusts of hail and sleet thrown in to weaken my spirit, and when just getting out from under the covers to stoke the fire turns my whole body into one massive shiver.

They wait until I have to slog through mud or snow to feed horses, so by the time I've slipped and slid to and from the barn I'm a broken man. Only my keen sense of survival reminds me to bring in an armload of firewood and a bucket of coal. Later, muffled to the eyeballs, I'll plod to the mailbox. It's been at least a week since the last one came and on a day like this with the snow bending cedars as if in prayer - it can't fail.

I'm practically pleading with the Man upstairs: "Don't let them do this to me! Don't they realize that I'm just a po' country fella all alone up here in these mountains? There's no one I can do it... no one to help me get my... there's nothing!"

I approach the mailbox with trepidation. Maybe the long-awaited check from the Readers Digest of Life Magazine will come, maybe a publisher will be begging for my latest book idea. Or maybe there'll be another one of *them*. There's the usual assortment of junk mail, a bill from Ma Bell, one from the electric company, and the truck insurance is due. My sense of depression is deepening. Will the grayness never end? "Snow, snow go away - come again another day." Beneath the pile of bills and direct mail fire-starters I see one... The familiar plain brown wrapper.

Quickly stuffing it under my jacket - mustn't let anyone see - and with a growing sense of anticipation (just 'cause I'm a po' country boy all alone in the

mountains don't mean I ain't human!) I race back to the house. Pulling the draperies and locking the doors (the Amway lady could appear at any minute!) I tear off the wrapper - "Oh, geez, this one's in full color!"

Scrunching down in my easy chair my eyes devour the pages. Staring wide-eyed in awe and envy: "Do you believe the size of that thing! My gosh, that's a good ten inches long and as big around as my fist!"

"My gosh, that's a good ten inches long and as big around as my fist!"

The ad reads: "Be the first to have this new discovery for your very own. Be the envy of your friends." Shit, my hands are shaking! It continues, "We call this one *Big and Beautiful*, and best of all, it's burpless! Yes, it's true, Burpee's new, improved Hybrid Cucumber is burpless!"

Furiously turning pages I see beans: bush beans, pole beans, garbanzo beans. Garbanzo beans! And corn, and 'maters 'n' taters - oh my God! - I'm doing it again, I can feel the symptoms creeping up on me. Those pages are fairly singing "Spring is just an order away!" I've got to fight this off. I promised myself last year and the year before, this would not happen. I will not be seduced again!

**...watch them shrivel,
turn gray and get hairy.**

Last year the loneliness, boredom and cabin fever really got to me. Just how much can one poor li'l ol' country boy take? I sent in my biggest check ever. "This will just *have* to make spring come earlier," I said while slipping the order in the mail. And look what happened - we had that big freeze in June and it zapped everything.

Seventeen dollars worth of vegetable seeds alone? Do you know how many veggies that will plant? Let's put it this way: at one foot intervals, you could hoe, hoe, hoe all the way from here to Miami! Peanuts were fun to plant, but not to dig up. Six varieties of melons were a good idea - to extend the harvest season. But I didn't recognize some of them and cut into a whole lot of hard, bitter melons before I figured out the secret of knowing when they were ripe. When the chickens pecked them full of holes and ate the insides - that's when!

Cucumbers and zucchinis almost did me in. A slice of cucumber in a gin and tonic is nice, but what if you don't like pickles - and I don't - what then? Well, you pick 'em anyway and fill the fridge and watch them shrivel, turn gray, and get hairy. There's no way a guy can eat zucchini as fast as the damn things grow. I planted a whole row - just in case. In case the entire Saturday night crowd from the Copa came for lunch.

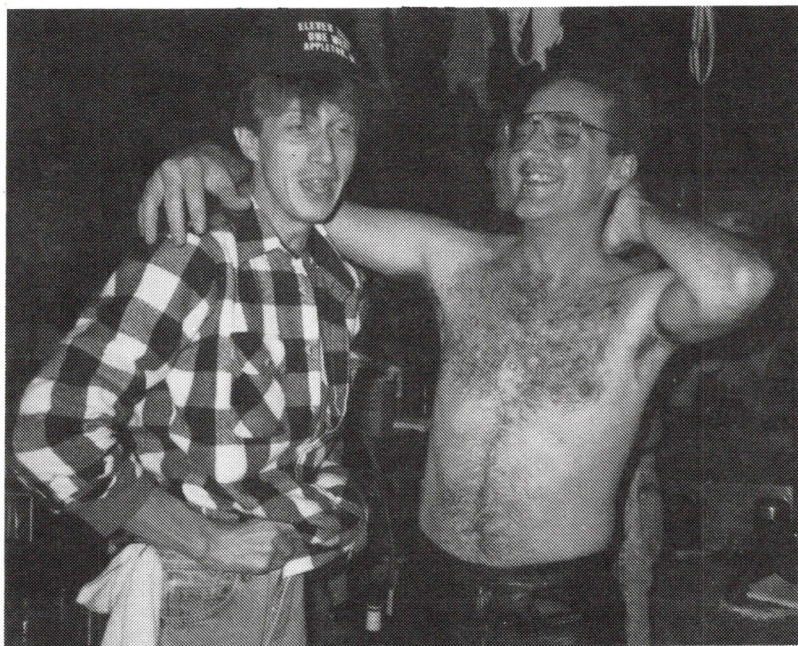
But I learned my lesson. Now, the catalogs go up in smoke as quickly as they come. I will *not* be seduced into spending wads of money on plants that won't grow, seeds that don't germinate - or even worse - seeds that *do*! Never again will I suffer from an attack of the giant zucchini.

Next year, I'll measure my garden in inches, not yards. I'll accept veggies from neighbors who have nothing better to do than guide their Troy-Bilts up and down the rows. No sir-ree. No way I'm gonna get suckered into the garden catalog syndrome again! Not me!

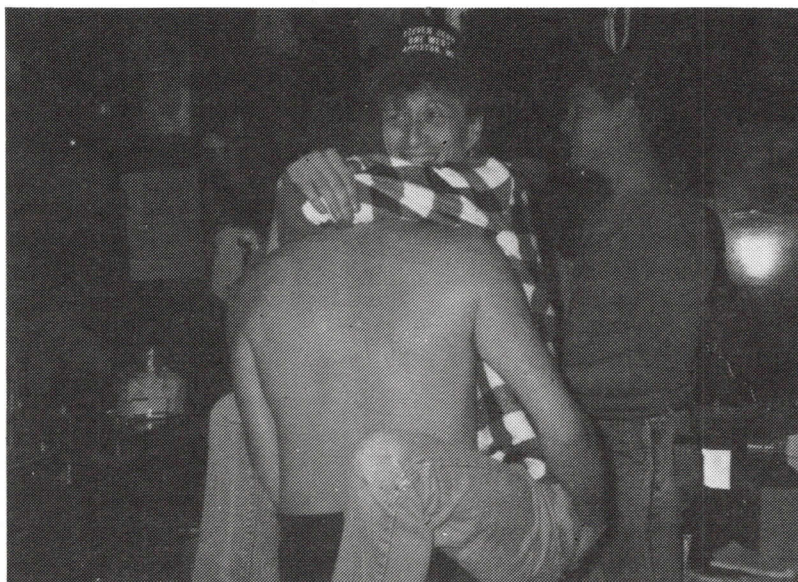
Been nice talkin' at y'all. The snow sure is coming down. T'ain't much to do. Maybe I'll just bundle up and wander on down to the mailbox...

"Stay with us... please!"

Lee



The boys from the 1101 Club get a little exposure at Rod's



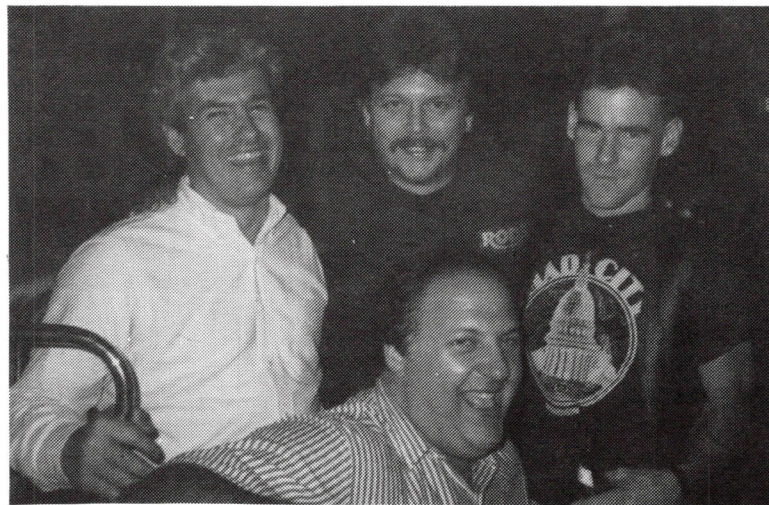
I could have sworn this is the way Kraig said it's done!

... to

"Bistro Too" Opens Doors

CHICAGO, IL - One of the newest additions to Chicago's nightlife is the dance bar, "Bistro Too," which opened in October. It boasts a high-tech lighting system, unique interior design, videos, and a large dance floor. Located at 5015 N Clark St, Bistro Too is open daily from 8pm, with dancing Wed-Sat.

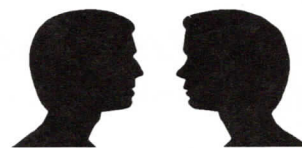
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Gay Talk Hotline

KANSAS CITY, MO - For gays and lesbians in the Kansas City area, Gay Talk is an information, peer counseling, and professional referral telephone line which operates every evening, from 5pm until 1am on weeknights and all night on weekends. The Gay Talk number is (816) 931-4470.

Topics which callers may wish to talk about include lifestyles and relationships, events, and health or legal problems. Telephone calls are anonymous, but printed information is also available for those who provide a name and address.

Love Letter???

One of our friends recently discovered this letter when clearing out her aunt's desk...

Athlone, Ireland
March 24, 1942

Dear,

Your welcome letter received and me and your Aunt Bridget thank you kindly for the money you sent. We had seven Masses said for your Grandfather and Grandmother. God rest their souls.

You have gone places in America. God bless you. I hope you'll not be putting on airs and forgetting your native land.

Your cousin, Hughie O'Toole, was hung in Londonderry last week for killing a policeman. May God rest his soul and may God's curse be on Jimmy Rodgers the informer, and may he burn in hell. God forgive me. Times are not as bad as they might be. The herring is back and nearly everyone is making ends meet and the price of fish is good, thank God.

We had a grand time at Pat Muldoon's wake. He was an old Blatherskite and it looked good to see him stretched out with his big mouth shut. He had too many friends among the Orangemen. God's curse on the lot of them.

Bless your heart, I almost forgot to tell you about your uncle Dinney. He took a pot shot at a turncoat from the back of a hedge, but he had too much drink in him and he missed - God's curse on the dirty drink. I hope this letter finds you in good health and may God keep reminding you to keep sending money.

Nellie O'Brien, the bray you used to go to school with has married an Englishman. She'll have no luck, and may the devil run a race with him.

May God take care of you and keep you from a sudden death.

Yours,
Dealia

P.S. Things look bright again. Every policeman barracks and every Protestant Church has been burned to the ground in County Cork.

Memory Board

Jane Rule. The Naiad Press, Inc.
322 pp, \$8.95.

Reviewed by Kate Elliman

Canadian writer Jane Rule's eleventh book and sixth novel, *Memory Board*, is sure to please all of her fans and should bring her many more. Writing in her usual simple and quietly elegant style, full of subtle ironies, gentle humor and occasional sly wit, Rule focuses on Diana Crown, a retired physician in her 60's; Diana's lover, Constance, who apparently suffers from Alzheimer's disease; and Diana's twin brother, David. The sparse plot centers on the reconciliation between David and Diana, who have been out of contact for four decades, a separation provoked by the prejudice of David's late wife.

Readers who have complained that Rule's novels don't have "enough lesbian characters" will have no such cause to grumble this time. But, as always, her work is peopled with an array of different characters, which separates it from the bulk of today's lesbian fiction. In *Memory Board*, we also meet David's two daughters, their husbands, their children and the latter's friends, one of whom is a young man with AIDS. To some, Rule's novels seem full of "token" characters: always at least one lesbian, usually one gay man, someone with special abilities or disabilities, often a racial minority, and several "mainstream" heterosexuals. But Rule's characters, here as always, prove anything but tokens. I was not surprised, but certainly was dubious, when Rule introduced the young man with AIDS into her work. Jane Rule opportunistic? I'd never have believed it. But I had no reason to fear. Rule pulls off the scenes with Diana counseling the young man in a most credible and humane fashion.

Rule's most brilliant creation, however, not only here, but perhaps in her entire body of work, is Constance Crowley, whose "memory board" gives title

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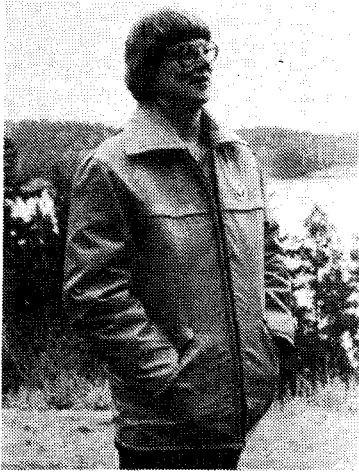
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Jane Rule, author of *Memory Board*

We Can Always Call Them Bulgarians

Kaier Curtin. Alyson Publications, Inc. 342pp, hardcover, \$19.00.

Reviewed by Jeff Kirsch

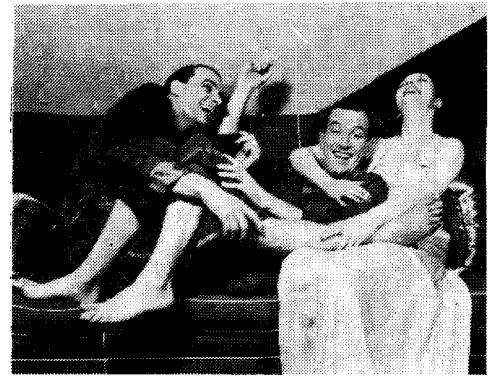
Subtitled "The Emergence of Lesbians and Gay Men on the American Stage", Kaier Curtin's study begins by tracing hints of homosexuality in pre-20th century theatre. He soon takes us to 1922, when we have "the first lesbian character ever seen on the English-language stage" in the drama, *The God of Vengeance*. After a successful run in Greenwich Village, the show moved to Broadway. The actors and actresses were promptly arrested for violating the penal code which prohibited "presenting an obscene, indecent, immoral and impure theatrical production." The troupe paid fines of \$300 each and returned in time to give a matinee performance the next day.

to the novel and serves to remind the character what she has to do each day. Constance has absolutely no short term memory. She's a sort of catalyst for bluntness and truth, and the pivotal character of the novel. For it is her disability, combined with the slightly cantankerous Diana's ill health, which opens Diana up to accepting the help of her brother,

In *Memory Board*, nothing, yet everything, happens. Life flows at its slow mundane pace, building ever so slowly to a gripping climax, then returning to life as usual. Rule's motto, apparent more than ever here, is that life goes on, preciously, though often precariously, to be lived day by day. If the theme sounds ordinary, its treatment and the characters are not. Those who have yet to enter Jane Rule's world have a great treasure awaiting them.

Memory Board is available from The Naiad Press, Inc, PO Box 10543, Tallahassee FL 32302 for \$8.95, plus 15% postage.

Many early productions which danced around the topic of homosexuality had problems with the law and the censors. Among the more notorious were two plays by Mae West, the first to introduce gay male characters onto Broadway. West's mercenary attempt to exploit gay male transvestites on stage earned her praise from almost no one, but bolstered her career with media coverage of her closed-down shows. West made the curious distinction between the "inverts" - effeminate gays who were "born that way" and who she liked - and the "perverts" - non-effeminate gays who "chose to be that way" and whom she didn't. Closings such as West's continued through 1945.




Noel Coward, Alfred Lunt, and Lynn Fontanne in 1933 film, *Design for Living*. Photo from *We Can Always Call Them Bulgarians*. Credit: The Billy Rose Theatre Collection, NY Public Library, Astor, Lenox, and Tilden Foundations.

Curtin takes us from the ambiguous message of Lillian Hellman's, *The Children's Hour* in the thirties, through the sparse forties, and the many appearances of minor gay characters in the fifties - an era when the topic could be more easily broached, as long as the gay characters repented, killed themselves, were "cured" or the suspicions of homosexuality proved false. A final chapter takes us quickly through the sixties and up to *Torch Song Trilogy* and *La Cage aux Folles*.

Curtin has brought all extant documents to bear in his treatment of the subject, relying heavily on theatre reviews of the productions and creating a damning indictment of decades of homophobic theatrical criticism. The author tells an untold story of unflagging interest, save, perhaps, for one or two cases of excessive plot summaries.

The book, whose title refers to what Samuel Goldwyn purportedly said when he learned he'd bought the rights to a play containing lesbians, is not only meticulously researched, but well edited. Scholarly, it is always readable, a landmark work, which in its quality and thoroughness rivals some of the best books on gay culture.

Alyson books may be ordered from Alyson Publications, Inc, Dept. H-16, 40 Plympton St, Boston MA 02118. Include \$1 postage per book.



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Personals

SEEKING GM or BiM in SW WIS, especially Richland County area for friendship, possibly more. I am a GWM, 34, very lonely.
Among Friends - C151, PO Box 426, Madison WI 53701

Seeking to correspond with those interested in the metaphysical, especially the serious study of astrology.
Greg Zak, Rt 6, W Spencer Rd, Appleton WI 54915

Quiet, straight acting/appearing guy named Doug seeks lasting friendship/relationship with same, 20-30. I'm 26, 155#, 5'6", Br/Bl, financially secure, intelligent, and healthy. I dislike the bars, use of drugs or smoking. If you're interested in honesty, good morals, and someone with feelings, please reply to:
PO Box 93274, Milwaukee WI 53203

Seeking older lesbian to establish relationship. Prefer single, over 40, non-smoker. Clean, honest, sincere. Lonely, have much to offer.
PO Box 23166, Milwaukee WI 53223

HOT, lonely, young thinking, looking, w/m, 43, 5'10", 162# seeks young lover, 19-33. No smokers or drugs. Shy, inexperienced ok. I'm caring, understanding. Let's share our love, life, and lust. Among Friends - N37, PO Box 426, Madison WI 53701

GWM, 47, 6', 175#, would enjoy other male friends. Prefer straight looking, clean-cut, healthy, honest, sincere. Age mid-20's and up. All replies confidential.
PO Box 2662, Oshkosh WI 54903

BiWM, 45, 6'2", 250#, professional looking to meet bi/gay male for friendship and safe things. All replies answered. Pictures appreciated, but not necessary. Let's be friends. Reply to:
PO Box 4584, Madison WI 53711

Bi-minded white male seeks easy-going males for friendship. I'm 35, 6'2", 175#. All letters answered, photo a plus. Write to: PO Box 5103, Glendale Hts IL 60139

THIS SPACE is waiting for your personal ad - **Free!** Fill out the form in this issue to send the message you want some special person to read next month. Please limit your ad to 50 words.

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COMMUNITY NOTES

Integrity/Dignity - Madison

Mailing Address: PO Box 730, Madison WI 53701
Telephone: 836-8886 (Jim and Bill); 256-8204 (Luke)

I/D gathers for worship on the second and fourth Sunday of every month at 7:30pm at St Francis House, 1001 University Ave (September through May)

November 8 - AIDS Vigil of Hope & Love

Dress comfortably and bring candles and incense sticks. 7:30 pm, St Francis House, 1001 University Ave

Madison Gay/Lesbian Resource Center

Located at: 1127 University Ave, Room B104

Mailing Address: PO Box 1722,

Madison WI 53701. Telephone: (608) 257-7575

Men's Coming Out Support Group

Meets on weekday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00pm.

For more information, call Tom (238-0119) or the GLRC.

Crossdressers' Support Group

Reorganizing to meet on a more regular basis. For more information, call The United (255-8582) or the GLRC.

Phase Two "Moving On" Support Group

Meets Thursday at 8:00pm, 1127 University Ave, in the basement.

First Sunday of the Month Brunch - Chowder and Munching Band Society

For more information, call David (241-2500)

Madison AIDS Support Network

Located at: 301 S Bedford, Suite 4

Mailing Address: PO Box 731, Madison WI 53703

Telephone: (608) 255-1711

November 4 & 18 - Bingo

New Bar, 8:00pm

November 10 - Board Meeting

Memorial Union, 7:00pm

November 11 & 25 - Wheel of Fortune

The Shamrock Bar, 9:00pm

November 16 - "Inquiring Minds

Want to Know"

Dinner/roast at the Avenue Bar. 255-1711 for more information.

Life Care Services

A new support group begun for the families, lovers, and friends of people with ARC and AIDS. The first meeting was at the beginning of September, and the group will be meeting on Thursday evenings, from 7:30 to 9:30pm.

Gay
Women



For a change in your life we invite you to try: **The Wishing Well Magazine**. Features hundreds of current members' self-descriptions (by Code #), letters, opinions, valuable resources, reviews, and much more. Introductory copy \$5.00 ppd. (mailed discreetly first class). Confidential, supportive, dignified, sensitive, prompt. Beautiful, tender, loving alternative to "The Well of Loneliness." Fully personal, non-computerized. Reliable reputation. Established 1974.



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Santee, CA 92071

What is Your Group Doing?

Let others know about your group or organization's regularly scheduled meetings and activities or about special events you are planning for the up-coming months.

Community notes are a free service of **Among Friends**. Send your notes to:
Among Friends Community Notes, PO Box 426, Madison WI 53701.

Nothing to Hide

Cable 4 Television, WYOU; Wednesdays at 9:30pm

November 11 Celebration: Nicaraguan Revolution

November 18 Africa

The 25th Anniversary of the UW Madison Department of African Studies Program, Part 11; Political Economy and the Political Process in Africa: Classes, Groups and the State

November 25 Women's Show

"Wisconsin Women: Voices and Votes," Part 2.

Parents and Friends of Lesbians and

Gays

PO Box 1722, Madison WI 53714; (608)241-0270

Meets the second Sunday of each month from 1:30 to 3:30pm at the Friends Meeting House, 1704 Roberts Court (behind the Randall Bank on Monroe St) Teen groups meet at the Memorial Union, UW-Madison, every Saturday from 1:00 to 3:00pm; check bulletin board for "Youth Meeting" to find room.

November 8 - Parents Come Out - We will view and discuss the 30 minute film, "Parents Come Out," made by the San Francisco parents group. The film is very well done and offers a lot to think about.

Rod's

636 W Washington Ave, Madison WI 53703;
255-0609

November 5-7 - Bring in NYLON ticket stubs for a free drink.

November 11 - Wear your best Army outfit and help celebrate Veterans Day. Let our nurses fill you with shots!

November 12 - Libra Birthday Party

November 13 - Lucky night!! Show your lucky charm and receive a free drink.

November 26 - Thanksgiving. Surprise specials.

The Lesbian Variety Show

Barrymore Theatre, 2090 Atwood Ave

November 21 - "I Got This Way From Kissing Girls, Too"

The show will celebrate lesbian creativity - art, drama, comedy, singing, dance, slides and of course, THE RAGING HORMONES!

7:00 pm, dance following. Doors open at 6:00pm with artwork on display. All womyn welcome!

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Publication: *Walk A Mile In Our Shoes*

MCC Rock River Parish,
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Iowa (selected)

Ames

Bars **Lucullan's Party Bar, (G/L on Mon)**
400 Main St, IL 61104;

Support **Gays and Lesbians of Ames,**
PO Box 2283, IA 50010; (515) 292-7000
Publication: *Resource Directory*

Cedar Rapids

Bars **Warehouse, (M/W)**
525 H Street SW, IA 52404; (319) 365-9044

Religious **MCC c/o People's Unitarian Church,**
600 3rd Ave SE, IA 52401; (319) 393-7974

Support **Gays of East Iowa;**
(319) 365-5436 or 383-8025

Clear Lake

Support **Gays and Lesbians of North Central Iowa,**
200 N 3rd Street, IA 50428; (515) 357-7252

Davenport

Bars **Club 506, (M/W, juice bar)**
506 Brady Street, IA 52801; (319) 323-2072

Religious **Dignity/Quad Cities, PO Box 2224, IA 52809**
Metropolitan Community Church (MCC),
PO Box 4095, IA 52808; (319) 322-5055

Des Moines

Archives **A Mind of Your Own, Nonsexist Library,**
3500 Kingman Blvd, IA 5031; (515) 279-7312

Bars **Brass Garden, (M/W)**
112 4th Street SE, IA 50315; (515) 243-3965

La Cage, (M/W)
416-1/2 E Walnut, IA 50309; (515) 243-9025

Surprises, (M/W)
2016 Forest Ave, IA 50311; (515) 288-2016

Support **Gay Coalition of Des Moines,**
PO Box 851, IA 50314; (515) 279-2110
Publication: *Des Moines GC Newsletter*

Gay and Lesbian Resource Center;
(515) 277-1454

Dubuque

Bars **DJ's Bistro, (M/W, rear door)**
951 Main Street, IA 52001; (319) 588-3131

Religious **Dignity, PO Box 1424, IA 52001**

Support **Dubuque Lesbian/Gay Support Group,**
PO Box 1424, IA 52001

Grinnel

Support **Grinnel College Gay Community,**
PO Box 805, IA 50012; (515) 236-2500
Publication: *Just Shy*

Iowa City

- Bars 6:20, (M/W)
620 South Madison; (319) 354-2494
- Support **Gay & Lesbian Academic Union,**
PO Box 3396, IA 52244; (319) 351-3557
Publication: *GLAU Bulletin*
Gay People's Union, University of Iowa
Memorial Union, Activities Center, IA 52242;
(319) 353-7162
Publication: *Gaily Iowan*
Switchboard: Gayline; (319) 353-7162

Sioux City

- Bars **Casbah, (M/W)**
513 Pearl, IA 51101; (712) 277-9173
- Rowdies, (M/W)**
1127 4th Street, IA 51101; (712) 277-9115

Waterloo

- Bars **Dutch Mill,**
823 Franklin, IA 50703; (319) 234-9403

Minnesota (selected)

Statewide

- Publications **Equal Time, 711 W Lake Street #504,**
Minneapolis MN 55403; (612) 823-3836
- GLC Voice, 1517 La Salle, Unit E,**
Minneapolis MN 55403; (612) 872-8325
- James White Review, PO Box 3356,**
Traffic Station, Minneapolis MN 55403
- Religious **Lesbian/Gay Interfaith Council**
of Minnesota, PO Box 8503,
Minneapolis MN 55408; (612) 874-9192
- Support **Minnesota Committee for Gay and**
Lesbian Rights, PO Box 993,
Minneapolis MN 55440; (612) 871-5542
- Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays**
(PFLAG), PO Box 5173, Hopkins MN 55343;
(612) 474-3739

Duluth

- Bookstores **A Woman's Bookstore, (G/L/Fem books)**
8 W 2nd Ave #208, MN 55802;
(218) 722-8532
- Radio **Wise Woman Radio (KUMD, 103.3FM),**
130 Humanities Bldg, Univ of Minn at Duluth,
MN 55812; (218) 726-7181
- Support **Gays and Lesbians of Duluth/Superior,**
PO Box 6044, MN 55806

Fergus Falls

- Support **Free Spirit, PO Box 39, MN 56537**

Grand Forks

- Support **Greater Grand Forks Gay/Lesbian**
Community, c/o 117 10th Ave NW,
East Grand Forks, MN 56721; (218) 773-1286

Minneapolis and St Paul

- Alcohol **Lambda Sobriety Center,**
Abuse 2217 Nicollet Ave, MN 55404; (612) 874-7430
- Lesbian Al-Anon,**
1900 Nicollet Ave, MN 55403; (612) 871-7400

Lesbian Al-Anon,

2104 Stevens Ave, MN 55404; (612) 871-2603

- Archives **Quatrefoil Library, 1021 W Broadway,**
MN 55411; (612) 522-7185 or 224-5431
- Bars and **Brass Rail Lounge, (M)**
Restaurants 422 Hennepin Ave, MN 55401; (612) 333-3016
- Cloud Nine Express / The Little Gay Cafe,**
(M/W) 829 Hennepin Ave, MN 56403;
(612) 339-4135
- Gay Nineties / Happy Hour, (M/W)**
408 Hennepin Ave, MN 55401; (612) 335-3366
- Ladies Night, (W) 1183 University Ave W,**
St Paul MN 55104; (612) 646-2288
- Lavender Kitchen, (M/W)**
430 Oak Grove St, Rm 103, MN 55403
- Nineteen, (M/W)**
19 W 15th Street, MN 55403; (612) 871-5553
- Ruby's Gem Cafe, 2827-1/2 Hennepin Ave S,**
MN 55408; (612) 871-1441
- Rumors, (Mixed) 490 N Robert Street,**
St Paul MN 55107; (612) 871-0703
- Townhouse, (Mixed) 1415 University Ave,**
St Paul MN 55104; (612) 646-7087
- Y'All Come Back Saloon, 830 Hennepin Ave,**
MN 55403; (612) 332-0835
- Baths **Three Fifteen, (24 hrs)**
315 1st Ave, MN 55401; (612) 332-5081
- Bookstores **Amazon Bookstore, (G/L/Fem)**
1612 Harmon Place, MN 55403;
(612) 338-6560
- A Brother's Touch, (G/L/Fem)**
1931 Nicollet Ave, MN 55403; (612) 872-1412
- Counseling **Gay and Lesbian Counseling**
(Catholic Charities),
404 S 8th Street, MN 55404; (612) 340-7504
- Gay and Lesbian Counseling Program**
(FCS), 414 S 8th Street, MN 55404;
(612) 340-7479 or 340-7457
- Legal **Minnesota Gay Defense Fund,**
PO Box 21072, Columbia Hts MN 55421;
(612) 291-2913
- Minnesota Gay and Lesbian Legal**
Assistance, PO Box 75224,
St Paul MN 55175; (612) 870-9193
- St Paul Human Rights Commission,**
Gay and Lesbian Task Force, 515 City Hall,
15 W Kellogg Blvd, MN 55102;
(612) 645-7227
- Support **Black and White Men Together,**
PO Box 2259, MN 55402
- GAMMA, (social and sport events) PO Box 9536,**
MN 55440; (612) 377-5628 or 332-4936
Publication: *Gamma News*
- Lesbian and Gay Community Services,**
1010 Park Ave, MN 55404



Wisconsin

Statewide

- Publication **Among Friends**, (G/L newsmagazine)
PO Box 426, Madison WI 53701;
(608) 255-3349
- Hotlines **AIDS Atlanta**; (404) 872-0600
Centers for Disease Control;
(800) 447-2437 or (800) 342-AIDS
(M-F, 9-7pm EST)
Legislative Hotline; (800) 362-9696
Milwaukee AIDS Project; (800) 334-AIDS
National Gay Task Force; (800) 221-7044
(M-F, 3-9pm EST)
New York Gay Men's Health Crisis;
(212) 807-7035
- Legal **Equal Rights Division**; (608) 266-6860

Appleton

- Bars **1101 West**, (M/W, dancing)
1101 W Wisconsin Ave; (414) 733-9839
Pivot Club, (M/W, dancing)
4815 W Prospect; (414) 730-0440
- Support **GAI**, Lawrence University,
115 S Drew St, WI 54911
Gay/Lesbian Alumni of Lawrence
University, Old Chelsea Station,
PO Box 234, New York NY 10011

Ashland

- Gay and Lesbian Support Group**,
1411 Ellis Ave, Box 247A, WI 54806

Beloit

- Beloit Gay Alliance**,
Beloit College, Box 1794, WI 53511

Eau Claire

- Bars **Maggie's**, (M/W)
505 S Barstow, WI 54701; (715) 832-1457
- Support **UW-Eau Claire Gay/Lesbian Organization**,
UW-Eau Claire, Union Box GLO, WI 54701

Fort Atkinson

- Old Fort Lounge**,
10 E Sherman Ave, WI 53538; (414) 563-8711

Green Bay

- Bars **Brandy's**, (M)
409 S Washington; (414) 432-3917
Loft, (W, dancing)
2328 University Ave; (414) 468-9968
Nepalese Lounge, (M/W, dancing)
515 S Broadway; (414) 432-9646
Who's, (M/W, rear door)
720 Bodart; (414) 435-5476
- Clubs **Argonauts of Wisconsin**, (leather/levis)
PO Box 1285, WI 54305
- Religious **Angel of Hope MCC Church**,
PO Box 672, WI 54305; (414) 437-3816
Dignity, PO Box 2283,
WI 54306; (414) 739-8030
- Support **Concerned**, (referrals) PO Box 1087, WI 54305
- Hurley**
Lodging **Lambda House**, (bed and breakfast)
PO Box 20, Pence WI 54553; (715) 561-3120
- Janesville**
Support, (social/support group)
PO Box 345, WI 53545

Kenosha

- Club 94**, (M/W, dancing)
9001 120th Ave; (414) 694-1597

La Crosse

- Bars **Loveboat**, (M/W)
411 S Third Street; (608) 784-4420
Tattoos II, (M/W, dancing)
1552 Rose; (608) 784-5833
- Support **La Crosse Area Gay Association (LAGA)**,
PO Box 2561, WI 54602-2561
Publication: *CrossCurrents*
- Publication **Leaping La Crosse News**,
PO Box 932, WI 54602-0932

Lake Geneva

- Lodging **Eleven Gables Inn on the Lake**, (resort)
493 Wrigley Dr, WI 53147; (414) 248-8393

Madison (608)

- Bars and **Back East**, (M/W, rear door)
- Restaurants **508 E Wilson**; 256-7104
Cafe Palms, (restaurant)
636 W Washington; 256-0166
The New Bar, (Mixed, video, dancing, upstairs)
636 W Washington; 256-8765
Rod's, (M, rear basement)
636 W Washington; 255-0609
Shamrock, (Mixed, restaurant)
117 W Main; 255-5029
- Culture and Media **Gay Men's Choral**;
251-1509, ask for Reynold
Gay Theatre Project,
PO Box 726, WI 53701; 251-6489
Nothing to Hide, Weekly TV Program, Cable 4,
(Wed, 9:30pm); 241-2500
- Hotlines **All Gays Crisis Line**; (608) 255-4297
Legislative Hotline; (608) 266-9960
- Support and Social **Adolescent Group for Children of Gay**
Parents, Donald Cooper at
Madison Psychotherapy Associates; 251-0839
- AIDS Info** (Division of Health),
Holly Dowling; 267-3583
Bette Davis Bowling League;
Bob at 831-4038
Blue Bus STD Clinic,
1552 University Ave; 263-7330
Crossdressing Support Group
(at The United); 255-8582
Democratic Party Lesbian/Gay Caucus,
255-5172 or 273-4483
Equal Opportunities Commission,
City County Bldg #500; 266-4910
Gay Alcoholics Anonymous,
1021 University Ave; 257-7575
Gay Fathers Support Network; 257-7575
Gay Issues Audio Tape; 263-3100, tape #3333
Gay/Lesbian Teens;
Dan at 241-4399 or Jane at 271-0270
Gay Men Over Thirty Support Group;
Larry at 244-8690

Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous & Lesbian Al-Anon,
406 N Pinckney on Fridays at 6:30pm
Lesbian Informal Drop-In Support Group;
255-8582, (12 - 4pm)
Lesbian Mothers Support Group; 249-0434
Lesbians of Color; 255-8582, (12 - 4pm)
Lizards, Support Group for Lesbians Over 30;
Jane at (608) 592-4534
Madison AIDS Support Network,
PO Box 731, WI 53701; 255-1711
Madison Gay/Lesbian Center,
PO Box 1722, WI 53701
Office: 1127 University Ave, B104; 257-7575
Madison Institute for Social Legislation,
935 Jennifer St, WI 53703; 256-6475
Madison NOW Lesbian Rights
Task Force; 255-3911
Madison Wrestling Club,
PO Box 8234, WI 53708
Mixed Lesbian/Gay Alcoholics
Anonymous; 255-8582
Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays
(PFLAG), PO Box 1722, WI 53701;
271-0270 or 257-7575
Police Liaisons to Lesbians and Gays;
Alix Olson, Donna Winter,
or Jim Witalison at 266-4248
Straight Partners of Gays, Lesbians, and
Bisexuals Support Group;
Marsha at 255-0914
Ten Percent Society, Gay and Lesbian Students
Box 614, Memorial Union, UW-Madison,
WI 53706; 262-7365
Transform, Transsexual Support,
PO Box 747, WI 53701
The United, for Gay/Lesbian Social Change,
PO Box 310, WI 53701; 255-8582
UW Gay Assistance, Dean of Students Office;
263-5700
Volleyball, Team and Social; Jeff at 251-8716

Menomonie

Support **Gay Community, UW-Stout, WI 54751**

Milwaukee (414)

Bars and **Angelo's Mint Bar II,**
Restaurants 819 S 2nd Street; 645-8330
Ballgame, (M, w)
196 2nd Street; 273-7474
Beer Garden, (W, m, food)
3743 W Vliet Street; 344-5760
Boot Camp, (M, leather/levi)
209 E National Ave; 643-6900
C'est La Vie, (M, w)
231 S 2nd Street; 291-9600
Club 219, (M, w, dancing, leather/levi)
219 S 2nd Street; 271-3732
Dance, Dance, Dance, (M, w, dancing)
801 S 2nd Street; 383-8330

Fannie's, (W, m, dancing, food)
200 E Washington Ave; 643-9633
Grand Ave, (G/L Sun nights only)
716 W Wisconsin Ave; 271-9525
Hot Legs, (W, m, video, dancing)
814 S 2nd Street; 645-8572
Jet's Place, (M/W)
1753 Kinnickinnic Ave; 672-5580
La Cage, (M, w, video, dancing)
801 S 2nd Street; 383-8330
Loose Ends, (Mixed, food)
4322 Fond du Lac Ave; 442-8469
M&M Club, (M, w, food)
124 N Water Street; 347-1962
Phoenix, (M, w, dance)
235 S 2nd Street; 278-9727
This Is It, (M)
418 E Wells Street; 278-9192
Wreck Room, (M, leather/levi)
266 E Erie Street; 273-6900
Your Place, (M, w, dancing)
813 S First Street; 6747-0130

Baths **Club Milwaukee, (M, rear)**
704-A W Wisconsin Ave; 276-0246

Clinic **Brady East STD Clinic, (Best)**
1240 E Brady Street; 272-2144

Culture and Media **Cream City Chorus,**
c/o 124 N Water Street, WI 53202; 277-0434
Fest City Singers,
PO Box 11428, WI 53211; 476-SING
Milwaukee Gay/Lesbian Cable,
PO Box 239, WI 53201; 277-7671

Medical Info **Milwaukee AIDS Project,**
PO Box 92505, WI 53202; 273-AIDS
National Coalition STD Services,
PO Box 239, WI 53201; 277-7671
Professionals for Alternative Lifestyles,
PO Box 239, WI 53201; 277-7671

Publications **Hag Rag, (Fem bimonthly)**
PO Box 93243, Milwaukee WI 53203;
InStep, (local news, bar events)
225 S 2nd Street, Milwaukee WI 53204;

Religious **Christian Gay OK,**
PO Box 93433, WI 53202; 933-3662
Dignity, PO Box 597, WI 53201; 444-7177
Integrity, PO Box 10109, WI 53210; 871-7417
Lutherans Concerned,
2511 N Farwell, Unit L, WI 53211; 963-9833
New Hope MCC Church,
PO Box 93913, WI 53202; 442-7300

Support and Social **Alcoholics Anonymous (request gay meeting);**
272-3081
Beer Town Badgers, (leather/levi cycle club)
PO Box 166, WI 53212
Black and White Men Together,
PO Box 12292, WI 53212; 265-8500
Castaways M C, (cycle club)
PO Box 15152, WI 53215

Cream City Business Association,
PO Box 92614, WI 53202; 372-2773

Cream City Foundation,
PO Box 204, WI 53201-0204

Galano Club, Alcohol Free Recovery Club,
1428 N Farwell Ave; 276-6936

GAMMA, (sport/social events)
PO Box 1900, WI 53201

Gay Community at UW-Milwaukee,
Student Union, Rm E364; 963-6555

Gay Hotline, (referral, events); 562-7010

Gay People's Union,
PO Box 208, WI 53201; 562-7010

Gay Youth,
PO Box 09441, WI 53209; 265-8500

Grapevine, (women's group)
2211 E Kenwood; 964-6117

Holiday Invitational Tournament,
(G/L bowling) c/o 144 N Water St,
WI 53202; 278-8686

Metro Milwaukee Friendship Group,
PO Box 71012, Shorewood WI 53211-7112

Milwaukee Area Gay Fathers,
PO Box 08236, WI 53208; 871-2362

Saturday Softball Beer League,
PO Box 92605, WI 53202

Silver Star, (cycle club) 266 E Erie, WI 53202

Mineral Point

Lodging **Chesterfield Inn,** (bed and breakfast, restaurant)
20 Commerce Street, WI 53565;
(608) 987-3682

Norwalk

Social **Wisconsin Womyn's Land Co-op (WWLC),**
Route 2, Box 42, WI 54648; (608) 269-5301

Oshkosh

Support **Lambda Connection;**
(414) 424-1491, ask for TLC representative



Lover,

the beach is a lonely desert
without your shadow
caressing the sand next to mine...

a gull senses my loss
and reflects my loneliness
in a desperate cry above the waters...

the waves wear relentlessly
and silently against the sandy shore -
erasing one man's steps
where there should have been two...

Craig North



Platteville

Support **Gay and Lesbian Alliance (GALA),**
PO Box 111, WI 53818

Racine

Bars **Jo Dee's, (M/W)**
2139 Racine Street (Hwy 32); (414) 634-9804

Support **Gay/Lesbian Union of Racine,**
625 College Ave, WI 54303

Rhineland

Support **Rhineland Rap Group,**
PO Box 1396, WI 54501; (715) 369-2467

Rice Lake

Support **I GLOW, (support group)**
PO Box 363, WI 54868

Sheboygan

Support **Gay Support Group of Sheboygan,**
PO Box 192, WI 53081

Steven's Point

Support and Social **First Call for Help,**
PO Box 457, WI 54481; (715) 345-5380

Monday Night Dance Club,
PO Box 1016, WI 54481

UW-Steven's Point People's Union,
Slap Box 30, WI 54481; (715) 346-3698

Superior

Bars **Main Club, (M, dancing)** 1813 North 3rd Street,
WI 54880; (715) 392-1756

Trio Bar, (W) 820 Tower Ave, WI 54880

Wascott

Camping **Wilderness Way, (women only camping),**
PO Box 176, WI 54890; (715) 466-2635

Waukesha

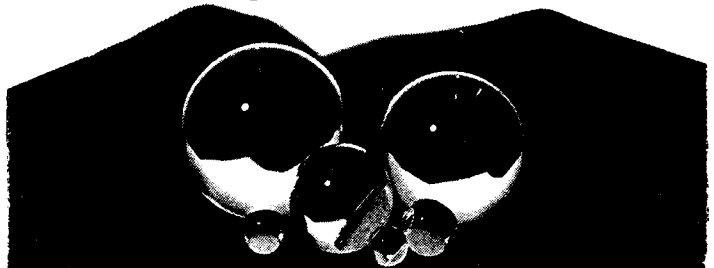
Support **Window to the World Services,**
PO Box 632, WI 53187

Winter

Lodging **Flambeau Forest Resort,**
Star Route, WI 54896; (715) 332-5236



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Among Friends welcomes written and artistic contributions in the form of original articles, short stories, essays, book reviews, poetry, humor, photographs, line drawings, or cartoons). Written contributions should be typed and should not exceed 1200 words. All materials must be signed, and include an address and phone number where you may be contacted by the editors. When sending in previously published items, please include the original publisher's name and copyright permission. Materials will not be returned unless a self-addressed, stamped envelope is included. Contributions will be reviewed and selected at the discretion of the editors. Written works may be edited for clarity, spelling, grammar, or space requirements. Manuscripts which the editors feel require substantive changes will be returned to the authors for resubmission at a later date. **Due date: 20th of each month prior to publication.**

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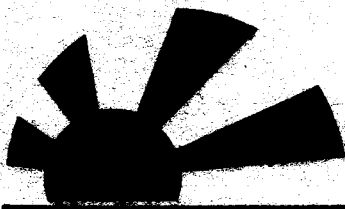
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Masturbation on Healthy Skin
Oral Sex with a Condom
External Watersports
Touching
Fantasy

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Protected Vaginal Intercourse
Protected Anal Intercourse

RISKY

Oral Sex without a Condom
Wet Kissing
Masturbation on Open/Broken Skin
Oral Sex on a Woman
Amphetamines (Speed)
Amyl Nitrite (Poppers)
Alcohol
Marijuana

DANGEROUS

Unprotected Vaginal Intercourse
Unprotected Anal Intercourse
Internal Watersports
Intravenous Drugs
Sharing a Needle
Fisting
Rimming

MASN

Madison AIDS Support Network

PO Box 731
Madison WI 53701-0731
(608) 255-1711

Wisconsin AIDS Hotline: 1 - 800 - 334-2437

UPCOMING EVENTS

AIDS Vigil of Hope and Love
St Francis House, Madison
Sunday, November 8th
For more info, call: 256-8204

"Inquiring Minds Want to Know"
Dinner/Roast at the Avenue Bar, Madison
Monday, November 16th
For more info, call: 255-1711

BINGO
The New Bar, Madison - 8:00pm
Wednesdays, November 4th and 8th

Wheel of Fortune
The Shamrock Bar, Madison - 9:00pm
Wednesdays, November 11th and 25th

MASN Executive Board Meeting
Memorial Union - 7:00pm
Tuesday, November 10th