

QUEST



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**TWIN PORTS PRIDE
WITH UNCLE BARBIE:
ANOTHER PINK FLAMINGO
ON THE GREAT LAWN OF LIFE!
INTERVIEW INSIDE**

**ALSO INTERVIEWED:
MVM'S NEW DIRECTOR,
JOHN SCHAEFER**

**PLUS PART ONE OF OUR
COMPLETE GUIDE TO THE
20TH ANNIVERSARY
MILWAUKEE LGBT FILM/VIDEO FESTIVAL
AND PICS FROM BLACK PRIDE KICKOFF**



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TWIN PORTS PRIDE BREAKS OUT LABOR DAY WEEKEND

Former Dee-Lite Thrush Lady Miss Kier Highlights Four Days Of Queer Fun

By Mike Fitzpatrick

Superior/Duluth - It's been heralded by Out magazine as one of the nation's best small town pride celebrations. It's also older than the state's best-known pride weekend, the Milwaukee PrideFest and has drawn gay folks from as far away as Winnipeg, Canada. It also serves to close Wisconsin's summer-long season of pride. And this year, the 21st annual Duluth-Superior Twin Ports Pride will add a top-name headliner as part of its four days of LGBT-themed fun August 30 - September 2.

Lady Miss Kier, best known as the lead singer of the 90's chart-topping Dee-Lite ("Groove Is In the Heart"), will close the centerpiece festival at the heart of the pride weekend Saturday, September 1 at 6 PM. Since Dee-Lite's disbanding in 1994, Kier has been deejaying and performing in clubs from New York to Europe and beyond. She has also lent her voice as an activist, protesting against the Iraq War, social inequality, environmental issues, and gay rights movement, garnering her a loyal following in the gay community. After a successful solo tour in Australia in 2006, she reportedly completed a solo album, *Me and My Records* - Lady DJ.

Kier's show will cap a day-long schedule of events at Bayfront Festival Park in Duluth that will include a keynote address by activist Mags David and a mix of entertainment that will span jazz, rock and ballet. Keynoter David has lived in Duluth for more than a decade and is a co-recipient, with Tineke Ritmeester, of the 2006-7 University of Minnesota Breaking the Silence Award.

Mags has been "out" for 30 years, variously identifying herself as gay, dyke, lesbian, and queer. Her multiple identities also include singer, musician, librarian, atheist, girlfriend, friend, sister, daughter, aunt, uncle, neighbor, and teacher.

Since the fall of 2006 Mags has been an advisor to the University of Minnesota Duluth's Queer and Allied Student Union, and also served as chair of



the UMD GLBT Advisory Commission from 2000 to 2005. In the fall of 2006 she spoke to the UMD campus community in honor of National Coming Out Day. David's speech will begin at 2 PM.

Throughout the day festival attendees will have the opportunity to enjoy Duluth's six-woman band Winchell's Machine, self-described "pansy folk singer" Jeree Small, the Minnesota Ballet troupe, Minneapolis rockers Concentual, post-punkers Manheat and The Keep Aways and the funky jazz

ensemble Ill Chemistry featuring Desdmona and Cabbage.

Over fifty vendors and information booths are already registered, according to festival organizers, plus there will be a wide variety of food and beverage choices for sale. There is no admission charge for the festival, but all are encouraged to purchase the Twin Ports Pride buttons to help underwrite the cost of the weekend.

The weekend officially kicks off with a formal mayoral celebration Thursday, August 30, at The Depot in Duluth. The free event runs from 5-8 PM and will feature Duluth Mayor Herb Bergson's pride proclamation, which has caused some controversy in past years. The reception also will feature music by Clear (beginning at 6:30), hors d'oeuvres, and a cash bar.

Following will be three days of events that include a lesbian film festival, a poetry reading, a cruise, a night-long pub crawl, a 5K run, a bonfire, a drag show, a worship service and a parade in addition to Saturday's festival.

The pride celebration begins in earnest with several events on Friday, August 30. A poetry and other reading event will run from 6-8 PM at Jitters Coffee & Tea House, 102 W. Superior St. in Duluth. Among those already scheduled to read is *Quest's* advice columnist Uncle Barbie. Also scheduled in the Building for Women that houses Jitters is a lesbian film festival that will run from 6:30-9 PM. Festival admission is \$5.

A new event this year - The first Annual Friday Night Crawl - will start at 6 PM with an Art Walk at Jitters, followed by the opening of *Jaded, Bitter...and Proud Of It*, described as "a one drag queen show in two frocks" at The Playground, 11 E. Superior St. in Duluth at 7:30 PM. The night-long tour ends up at 9 PM with the Red Star Jazz Night at Fitters at the Red Star Club in the Fitters Complex, 600 E. Superior St.

Also scheduled Friday evening is the traditional all-night bonfire on Wisconsin Point that begins at 7 PM and lasts until dawn. Attendees are encour-

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aged to bring a blanket, a warm jacket and mosquito repellent, two necessities for the typically cool and insect-filled late summer evenings in the north woods.

Saturday will begin with the 5K Fun Run, Walk and Roll at Western Waterfront Park in Duluth. The beautiful Western Waterfront Trail runs along the St. Louis River near the Northern head of the Munger Trail. The event, which has a \$5 per person or \$10 per family entrance fee, begins with registration at 8 AM, steps off at 9 and is expected to last most of the morning.

The annual Block Party at JT's Bar & Grill in Superior returns for its second year on Saturday evening. The outdoor dance and party will cover over 1,000 square feet and run from 9 PM until bar closing. JT's deejays will be spinning a mix of rock and pop music, and there will be four bars to serve the expected crowds for the event.

Sunday's events will begin with a worship service and breakfast at Peace United Church of Christ, 1111 N. 11th Avenue in Duluth. Breakfast will be served at 9:30 AM, followed by the service at 10:30. Peace Church is one of a half-dozen gay-affirming congregations in the Twin Ports that take turns holding the traditional pride worship service each year. An earlier 8:30 AM service will also be available.

This Twin Ports Pride Parade will be held in Superior, kicking off at Noon on the corner of Hammond and Broadway. The parade, which rivals Milwaukee's in terms of both entries and attendance, will wend its way down to the Main Club and feature music, floats filled with bare-chested young men and drag queens, leather-clad women on motorcycles, and marching units of families, friends and other allies.

Following the parade will be the traditional annual Fruit Float, featuring Vista Cruise Lines' Vista Star. As of Quest's deadline tickets were still available for the cruise that will feature live and illusionist entertainment. The Fruit Float will leave port at 3 PM for the waters of Lake Superior.

Twin Ports Pride will close with the annual drag show benefiting AIDS research and education at the Main Club Sunday evening beginning at 8 PM. Plenty of glitter and glamour are promised as both drag queens and kings are expected to strut their stuff on the club's stage. A \$5 admission charge will benefit AIDS programs.

Lodging arrangements for Twin Ports feature seven area hospitality providers: The Androy Hotel and Barker's Island Inn and Conference Center in Superior and the Hawthorn Suites At Waterfront Plaza, the South Pier Inn On The Canal, the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites, the Radisson Hotel Duluth Harborview and the Best Western Edgewater Resort and Waterpark in Duluth.

Organizers for this year's Twin Ports Pride include Co-Chairs Carolyn Reisberg and Harvey Plasch, Secretary: Cara Pearson, Treasurer Keith Haugen, and Asst. Treasurer: Jeff Anderson. More information about Twin Ports Pride can be found at the festival's extensive website located at: www.dspride.com or by contacting the committee. Phone 218-728-4217 or write the Duluth-Superior GLBTQAI Pride Committee at P. O. Box 3198, Duluth, MN 55803.

Cover Feature Barbie Cries Uncle: Quest's Advice Columnist Spills All

Interview by Mike Fitzpatrick

"As an advice columnist, it's not my job to save souls - I'm just here to help people feel better about going to Hell!"

Like his more famous namesakes Dear Abby or Ann Landers, *Quest* advice columnist Uncle Barbie prefers to use his *nom de plume* when speaking to his public when in print. However, Barbie will be making two rare live appearances back to back at the upcoming Twin Ports Pride festival weekend August 30 - September 2. In preparation for those appearances, *Quest* news editor Mike Fitzpatrick took the opportunity to "lift the veil" a little further for the magazine's readers prior to the flesh-and-blood sightings.

"I'm going to be in costume, roaming around (on Saturday)," Barbie said. "I'm going to be working the booth at the Northland Gay Men's Center." Besides his 10 AM - Noon appearance at the Twin Ports Pride Festival at Bayfront Festival Park, Barbie also will be reading excerpts from his column during the poetry reading to be held Friday, August 31 at Jitters in Duluth from 6-8 PM.

Barbie's column predates his his now "roughly" two-year old presence in *Quest*. "I've been doing the column for probably 10 years," Barbie said. "I started when I was in California getting my doctorate."

Uncle Barbie was first published in *NewsLink* and later for many years in the *Duluth Reader Weekly*. His current hometown paper is the *Zenith City Weekly*. The Uncle Barbie column is also published online both on the *Quest* website (www.quest-online.com) and the Lambda Rising bookstore site. "It's seen internationally," Barbie said. "It's nice because I get questions and comments from other countries."

Uncle Barbie also had a radio advice show. "About a year ago I had a six-month radio show on Mix 108 (KBMX)," Barbie said. "It was a commercial type radio show. It was call-in show on in the morning. It was kind of fun."

What Barbie enjoyed most about his radio days was being able to broadcast from his home. "I did not go into the radio station to do the show," he revealed. "They would call me at home. Most of the time I was in bed, propped up with pillows. People are talking to me about their problems... and I'm like laying in bed... with a cup of tea."

Inspiration for the column came from a supervisor. "I got lessons from here - in both what to do and what not to do," Barbie admitted. "For example, she used her real name. She had a real-ego investment in her advice column. She was



very careful... It was all very protected, even restrictive. When I decided to do it for entertainment reasons - I wanted it to be fun."

The pink-wigged, sun bnnnet, army boot and house dress-wearing Uncle Barbie persona was a conscious decision. "I (decided) to make myself look silly. I purposely tried to look like sort of a gay clown. It's hard to think that I'm 'hot stuff' when I look like a fool."

Writing an advice column is not Uncle Barbie's full-time career, however. "I actually teach at two different colleges. I'm a professor at Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College and I also am teaching at the University of Wisconsin in Superior," he said. "I was teaching full-time at the University of Minnesota in Duluth, then switched over to Wisconsin which is closer to my home. I teach psychology."

Uncle Barbie's *Quest* celebrity has caught up with him in the classroom at times. "Some of my gay students recognized me from the paper and have said 'Hey that looks like Professor —! My god! He's Uncle Barbie!'" he said. "They've come up after class and (whispered) 'Are you Uncle Barbie?' And I yell them 'Yeah, it's no big deal. That's how I keep myself humble!'"

Barbie and his longtime partner Ed live in rural Wisconsin. "My partner live out in the country on farm land. I have a huge garden. The neighbors are farmer," he said. "They just asked me today if I could come over and help feed their cattle. Last week I was shoveling manure. If people were to drive by they would assume I'm some heterosexual, redneck farmer."

The dichotomies of educator, farmer and drag queen advice column sum up Barbie's ultimate message. "I think should avoid taking themselves too seriously. The whole lesson that Uncle Barbie is trying to communicate with 'her' appearance is: Let's laugh with each other. Let's enjoy life."

QUEST'S OFFICIAL GUIDE TO THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY 2007 MILWAU'KEE LGBT FILM/VIDEO FESTIVAL

Opening Night: Thursday, September 6 –
Landmark's Oriental Theatre

* (7:30 pm) "Nina's Heavenly Delights"
(Pratibha Parmar, UK, 35mm, 92 min., 2006)
Reviewed last issue (Recommended)



Day 2 Friday, Sept. 7 – UWM Union Theatre
* (5:00 pm) "Oh Happy Day"
(Ian Poitier, UK, video, 96 min., 2007)



Oh, why do fools fall in love, thinks Glenn. The two fools in question are Jonathan (Christopher Colquhoun), a career-driven advertising exec and David (Stephen Billington), an American working for a company which has invented a Ecstasy-like pill for everyday consumption. The two meet by chance. Here's a original premise: "You don't really know me and it is 2:00 in the morning but can I hang out here while I wait for my cab?" Please. From this innocuous beginning, they share a night of unbridled passion only to find themselves working together come Monday morning. Oops. Of course there's a catch: Jonathan's firm has a long, hard and strict rule about fraternizing with clients. After much silliness – can't they see how perfect they are together, wondered Glenn – the boys fall in love. Both leads are attractive and engaging plus there's some fine supporting turns from Pooky Quesnel as Jonathan's colleague Fern and Chris Polick as cute little Neil. Love is definitely a rocky road in this enjoyable if predictable "Boy meets boy, boy loses boy, boy gets other boy's end in the end" flick. That's how it goes, isn't it? (Recommended)

* (7:00 pm) "Four Minutes" ("Vier Minuten")
(Chris Kraus, Germany, in German with English subtitles, 35mm, 112 min., 2006)

Frau Krüger teaches music in a women's prison, only caring, she insists, about music. But her rigid facade barely contains feelings of grief and remorse she feels for the death of her lover, a dissident, at the hands of the Nazis decades earlier.

"Four Minutes"



Jenny von Loeben, in prison for a ghastly crime, is an unlikely pupil. She was once a piano prodigy who now, on the brink of adulthood, But both women have had to endure enormous cruelty and atrocity in their lives and they both find in music the only possible, only available liberation from the past. The finale is a prestigious piano competition which will allow Jenny the chance to deliver, in the mere four minutes of the title, a declaration that expresses the rage, defiance, endurance and beauty of her life, and that of her mentor. (Not Screened)

* (9:00 pm) "Shelter"
(Jonah Markowitz, USA, video, 88 min., 2007)
(See adjacent review)

Day 3 Saturday, Sept. 8 – UWM Union Theatre
(1:00 pm) "Blueprint"
(Kirk Shannon-Butts, USA, video, 75 min., 2007)



Opposites attract in this (extremely) laid-back romance of two young African-American men, Keith (Blake Young-Fountain) and Nathan (Damion Lee). A straight-laced college student, Keith has decided to take a break from school. Enter Nathan. Both unpredictable and volatile, Nathan happens upon Keith at a coffee shop. Nathan is clearly smitten and starts to hang around. Somewhat oblivious, Keith nonetheless allows him. They bicker. They argue. They hit the road on a borrowed motorcycle. Amidst the fresh, clean air of the rural countryside, they promptly run out of gas. Boy, this is some first date. Surely they'll lighten up once Nathan produces a joint. An idyllic afternoon frolicking in a gently rolling stream is shattered, first by a voyeur with a camcorder and later, when they find their bike towed. In little more than a day, these two men manage to forge the first real relationship of their lives. Refreshingly and unpredictable, *Blueprint* proves an endearing as its two quirky protagonists.

with
"Float" (Kareem Mortimer, Bahamas, video, 35 min., 2006)
Set in the acutely homophobic Bahamas, two men risk falling in love.



* (3:00 pm) "FtF: Female to Femme"
(Kami Chisholm & Elizabeth Stark, USA, video, 48 min., 2006)

A curious documentary illuminating the latest flavor in the exploration of gender: Lesbians exploring their inner Femme. Filmmakers Kami Chisholm & Elizabeth Stark focus their cameras onto the movement's cutting edge. Fabulous Femmes like actress/filmmaker Guinevere Turner, rocker grrrl Bitch and "Gilda" chronicler Jewelle Gomez all tell why it's great being a Femme. Toss in contributions from an academic or two for a flash of sociological resonance, a revealing peek into FtF support groups and there you have it. For Femmes and their many admirers.



To be screened with a series of shorts assembled with *Milwaukee Femme Mafia*.

* (5:00 pm) "Tuli"
(Auracus Solito, Philippines, in Tagalog with English subtitles, video, 107 min., 2006)



A beguiling film of feminist defiance and lesbian courtship in rural Philippines. In this new film from the director of last year's delight, *The Blossoming of Maximo Oliveros*, Headstrong Daisy, daughter of a preeminent patriarch, assists her father in performing the male circumcision ritual (*tuli*). Daisy resists the life—and the marriage—chosen for her and instead devotes herself to her childhood girlfriend Botchok in a relationship that stirs the wrath of the superstitious village. Solito's film offers a complex portrait of a rural life caught between Christian and local shamanistic rituals. (Not Screened)

* (7:00 pm) "The Bubble" (HA-BUAH)
(Eytan Fox, Israel, in Hebrew and Arabic with English subtitles, 35mm, 117 min., 2006)



One of the real joys of an LGBT Film Festival is the exposure to wonderful and enlightening foreign films that often languish on DVD rental racks. A perfect example is

"The Bubble" from famed Israeli director Eytan Fox, ("Yossi and Jagger"). Taking inspiration in Shakespeare's "Romeo & Juliet," Fox offers an ill-fated love story of Ashraf (Yousef 'Joe' Sweid), a Palestinian immigrant and Noam (Ohad Knoller), who works as a Tel Aviv record store when not fulfilling his reservist duty at a border checkpoint guard. It is love at first sight for Ashraf, who goes to the trouble to bring Noam the identification papers accidentally dropped while caring for a pregnant Palestinian woman at the border. Noam's two roommates, Yelli (Alon Friedman) a restaurant manager secretly in love with Noam and Lulu (Daniela Vitzler), a ravishing young woman rather unlucky in love who dreams of becoming a fashion designer encourage Ashraf to stay. Yelli even offers to get Ashraf a job as a waiter. Yet while homosexuality is accepted in Tel Aviv, it is not in Nablus, where Ashraf's brother-in-law Gihad (Shredi Jabarin) is based as a Hamas terrorist. Ashraf's fantasy of a life with Noam comes crashing down when first his homosexuality is discovered and then, tragically, when Ashraf's sister is senselessly gunned down in the street. **(Highly Recommended)**

* (9:00 pm) "iLESBIAN" An Evening of Women's Shorts

Always one of the most popular programs - Lesbian short films. Here is an evening of the finest and newest in short films and videos about courtship, first dates and communities resourcefully invented in locker rooms. The standout may be *Pariah* (Dee Rees, video, 28 min., 2006), the powerhouse - and multiple award-winning - short that tells the tale of one young African American girl's struggle to bust out of the confines of the closet. Also to screen: *A Passing Rain* (Kim Myoung-Hwa, South Korea, video, 8 min., 2006); *Flowers at the Park (or First Kisses)* (Mariel Macia, Spain, video, 10 min., 2006); *Filled With Water* (Elka Kerkhofs, Australia, video, 5 min., 2006); *Eddie* (Quentin Kruger, USA, video, 10 min., 2007); *Vibracall* (Esmir Filho, Brazil, video, 5 min., 2006); *Spinning* (Heide Arnesen, Norway, video, 8 min., 2006); & more! **(Not Screened)**

* (11:00 pm) "Born in Flames" FREE

(Lizzie Borden, USA, 16mm, 80 min., 1983) A rare presentation of this radical feminist classic of the struggle of alternative politics and the control of the media. In Borden's troubled imagined future, the government celebrates the tenth anniversary of the US's own Social Democratic War of Liberation. In this alternate America, government oppression and violence against women is rampant, and the feminist response is increasingly powerful. *Born in Flames* chronicles the activities of the Women's Army, a formidable if loosely organized faction of female vigilantes and

counterrevolutionaries, and two pirate radio programs trying to rally the sisterhood and shake up the system. When the outspoken leader of the Women's Army dies in police custody, a united front emerges to take direct action and potentially dangerous measures. **(Not Screened)**

Day 4 Sunday, Sept. 9 - UWM Union Theatre

* (3:00 pm) "The Believers"

(Todd Holland, USA, video, 80 min., 2006) The Transcendence Gospel Choir's story is truly remarkable. Its members having overcome considerable personal adversity, ranging from transitional voices and hormone therapy to religious condemnation and the danger from hate crimes to emerge a nationally known choir boasting an Outmusic Award in 2004 for "Whosoever Believes." Nevertheless documentary maker Todd Holland has managed only a hodge-podge of a portrait. There being so many fascinating aspects to the story, Holland proved to be overwhelmed. He could have focused on how this disparate group managed to come together, both as a surrogate family and as a choir or perhaps even on their struggle for acceptance as a transgender choir singing Christian music. Instead, "The Believers" seems content merely ticking off the choir's various accomplishments and highlights. An enjoyable documentary that might have been so much more.

* (5:00 pm) "Vivere"

(Angelina Maccarone, Germany, in German with English subtitles, 35mm, 97 min., 2006) One of the most striking films of the Fest's first week is *Vivere*, a fascinating exploration of three women and their relationships, some lesbian but all merely separated by a degree or two. Duty-bound daughter/sister Francesca spends day driving a cab and her nights endeavoring to hold her dysfunctional family together. So it is up to her to chase after her incorrigible little sis on Christmas



Eve when Antoinetta skips town with her hunky rocker boyfriend. Along the way, Francesca discovers Gerlinde, an injured woman in a cracked up car. Maccarone's camera and narrative weave forward and back into time, revealing the inner story of these three women, how each were lead to this fateful Christmas Eve. A terrific follow-up to her stunning, "Unveiled."

(7:00 pm) "PRISONERS OF LOVE:

Jean Genet on Film"

Querelle (Rainer Werner Fassbinder, Germany/France, 35mm, 103 min., 1982) &

"Un Chant D'Amour" (A Song of Love)

* (Jean Genet, France, in French with English subtitles, 35mm, 26 min., 1950)

Genet's only film, *Un Chant D'Amour* is a remarkable loving, hand-crafted paean to men and male sexuality, unmistakably Genet in its transgressive outlaw imagery. That the film is from 1950 is absolutely astonishing. Prison, in Genet's vision is a voyeur's paradise as a prison guard hunches at spy holes to watch his charges at their most intimate acts, aroused but solid stone walls managing to keep them apart. Most tantalizing is a tattooed narcissist who manages to communicate with his hairy-chested neighbor. Eventually the guard, he too separated from these men, finds his desire turn to violence. *Un Chant D'Amour* is a cinematic gem. **(Recommended)**

All Glenn can say of openly gay filmmaker Rainer Werner Fassbinder's misfortunate adaptation Jean Genet's classic novel, "Querelle" is "Oh, dear." A sailor, Querelle, is Genet's embodiment of masculine desire, wanted by all, most of all by his commanding officer. Unhappily, there's little left of Genet in Fassbinder's day-glo cinematic vision. Nor is Fassbinder helped by a mismatched international cast presumably forced upon him with box office considerations in mind. Most regrettable piece of casting is that of Brad Davis as the singular Querelle. An extraordinarily handsome man, Davis is far too pretty and sadly, never possessing sufficient acting chops to bring Querelle truly to life. Still, he's easy on the eyes, being hot and shirtless and sweaty throughout this otherwise disappointing film.

Day 5 Monday, Sept. 10 - UWM Union Theatre

* (7:00 pm) "Beyond Hatred" (Au Dela de la Haine) (Olivier Meyrou, France, in French with English subtitles, 35mm, 82 min., 2006)

Beyond Hatred is an absorbing documentary focusing on a middle-class French family following the death of their son François, the victim of a hate crime at the hands of three skinheads. It is an



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extraordinarily senseless crime. Three disenfranchised youth went to Leo Legrange Park in Rheims; their goal merely "to do an Arab." Not finding one, they

ran across François who, when asked, admits to being gay. Unwilling to play the victim, François defends himself. Calling out his assailants as the cowards they are, they proceed to beat him horribly. Then fearing that they murdered him, throw him in a nearby pond where he drowns. But Meyrou's film isn't as concerned with the actual crime so much as its aftermath. As lawyers prepare for the trial, François' family must cope both with their loss but also endeavor to understand and ultimately to forgive the three youths. Expect to have to work a bit at first to sort out who's who and what exactly had happened in **Beyond Hatred** as the filmmaker seems to anticipated potential audiences already knowing the shocking facts of this disturbing case. (Recommended)

Day 6 Tuesday, September 11 – UWM Union Theatre

* (7:00 pm) **"News From Home"** FREE (Chantal Akerman, Belgium/USA, 16mm, 85 min., 1978)

An experimental movie about home, **News from Home** is a diary, of sorts, of this European filmmaker's sojourn in New York City, the then dirtier metropolis captured in a series of striking tableaux. Available light and color haunt the imagery, imbuing the film with the melancholy

and warm sadness of an Edward Hopper painting. Accompanying this captivating series of emotional postcards—is Akerman's own voice, reading the letters sent by her Belgian mother that report on the anxieties and quotidian activity of some domestic elsewhere. (Not Screened)

Day 7 Wednesday, September 12 – Landmark's Oriental Theatre

FESTIVAL CENTERPIECE

* (7:00 pm) **"The Witnesses"** (Les Temoins) (André Téchiné, France, in French with English subtitles, 35mm, 112 min., 2007)



With **"The Witnesses"** acclaimed French filmmaker André Téchiné (**"Wild Reeds"**) turns his camera back to the hedonistic days of the early 1980s, with its rampant gay sexuality. A time just before the outbreak of AIDS. Enter Manu (Johan Libéreau), who arrives in the summer of 1984 from the provinces, like so many young gay men before him. While basking in the sexual freedom offered in the city's many parks and bars, Manu establishes a curious, platonic relationship with

Adrien (Michel Blanc), a wealthy doctor, who introduces him to Sarah and Mehdi, a young married couple possessing a leisurely view of monogamy. All too soon, Manu establishes a clandestine affair with Mehdi, his friendship with Adrien all but forgotten. When Manu comes down with a strange and deadly disease, the seductive youth becomes something of an eloquent symbol for the arrival of the menacing virus. Combining a thoughtful, poignant screenplay with many fine performances, **"The Witnesses"** is certainly a worthy choice as "Festival Centerpiece." (Recommended)

Day 8 Thursday, September 13 – UWM Union Theatre

* (7:00 pm) **"For the Bible Tells Me So"** (Daniel Karslake, USA, video, 97 min., 2007) Is the chasm separating gays and lesbians and Christianity too wide to cross? Karslake's provocative, emotionally charged documentary brilliantly reconciles homosexuality and scripture. Through the experiences of five conventional, emphatically Christian, American families—including those of former House Majority Leader Richard Gephardt and Episcopalian Bishop Gene Robinson—we discover how insightful people of faith handle the realization that their child is gay or lesbian. Informed by such respected voices as Bishop Desmond Tutu, Harvard's Peter Gomes, Orthodox Rabbi Steve Greenberg and Reverend Jimmy Creech, **For the Bible Tells Me So** offers healing, clarity and understanding to anyone caught in the crosshairs of religion and sexual identity. (Not Screened)

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"Twenty-seven percent of LGBT people report great concern about discrimination as they age, and less than half expressed strong confidence that they will be treated with 'dignity and respect' by healthcare professionals."

(Out and Aging: The Midlife Study of Lesbian and Gay Adults, November, ASA, 2006)

This program will explore the unique concerns of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered elders as they age. Using the landmark study, "Out and Aging," participants will examine the relationship, care-giving, financial, housing and end-of-life issues that are specific to LGBT elders. This workshop will assist LGBT people in identifying resources and strategies for their aging journey. Providers of services will acquire insights needed to extend culturally competent care to this large and under-recognized group of elders.

Instructors: Sara Sullivan, Ph.D., UW-La Crosse Department of Psychology and Mary Faherty, M.S., consultant on aging and public policy, and former Director of La Crosse County's Long Term Care/Case Management Organization

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www.uwlax.edu/conted

*** (9:00 pm) "Colma: The Musical"**

(Richard Wong, USA, video, 100 min., 2006)

The glowing review blurbs for **Colma: The Musical** contained in this reviewer's Festival packet did little to prepare Glenn for the film's 100 minutes of excruciatingly awful entertainment. 100 minutes of life lost to Glenn forever. This teen-angst driven musical has a great premise: three quirky, seemingly likable kids, having finished high school contemplate life beyond the confining confines of Colma, a soul-sucking San Francisco suburb where the dead outnumber the living. Except that the three best friends are a whiny, self-absorbed and self-indulgent lot. Out 'n Proud Thespian Billy (Jake Moreno) is straight but clueless that BF Rodel (H.P. Mendoza) is truly, madly, deeply and tragically, unrequitedly, in love with him. Taking a refrain from Cyndi Lauper's signature song, their hag Maribel just wants to have fun. Read that: get drunk. Excellent camera work and some dazzling film editing does little to conceal **Colma's** micro-budget, vapid script as well as the alarming fact that Mendoza's 13 pleasant if repetitive songs are sung by a vocally-challenged cast. Nope, Glenn never feel the urge to sing along.

ironically paired with

("I Hate Musicals") (Stewart Schill, USA, video, 20 min., 2006)

A man who hates musicals is cursed to sing them.



there's Shaun persuading him to try to go to art school. Worse yet, Zach's sister's loser boyfriend Alan is going to Oregon for a job and Sis wants to go with him. And leave Cody behind in Zach's care. Zach sees his dream of independence, of art school and Shaun, vanish right before his eyes.

Shelter

Reviewed by Glenn Bishop

Coming of Age films don't get much sweeter or more heart-warming than Jonah Markowitz's "Shelter," notable for co-starring hunky Brad Rowe, perhaps remembered best for his role as the unobtainable stud puppet in the classic gay comedy, "Billy's Hollywood Screen Kiss."



Zach (Trevor Wright) is almost too good to be true, a serious young man doing his best to hold together his extremely dysfunctional family. A natural born artist, he works as short-order cook in a local diner. His dad's a drunk, his sister Jeanne (Tina Holmes) is not only an unwed mom but a total slut. It is left to Zach to play stable guardian to his precocious nephew Cody (Jackson Wurth).

Despite taking his familial duties to heart, Zach wistfully fantasizes a life where he fulfills his dreams of going to art school. And to escape, whenever possible, he surfs. Zach's simple, uncomplicated life changes when he has something of a reunion with Shaun (Rowe), older brother of Zach's best friend Gabe. Years before Shaun fled to Los Angeles, to be writer. Broke, just out of a relationship and facing writer's block, Shaun's come home. Over beers and waves, these two rather lost souls find comfort and friendship. And maybe just a little bit more. One night, over too many beers, Shaun seizes the moment to take matters a step further.

Being all things to all of his little family, Zach has little time to sort out his burgeoning feelings and desires. Or to confront his sister's condemnation. As Zach begins to take tentative steps with Shaun, he is faced with even more crises. First, there's his gorgeous on-again, off-again girlfriend Tori (Katie Walder). Then,

Full Price, Matinee or wait 'til the Budgets

First time director Jonah Markowitz has been quoted as saying he hoped to make "the anti-Brokeback" and has succeeded marvelously. Zach and Shaun are such warm, wonderful characters that it is impossible not to root for them getting together. Scenes between the two are not only filled with crackling sensuality but genuine affection and surprising chemistry between Trevor Wright and Brad Rowe. "Shelter" is surely the feel good film of this year's Milwaukee's LGBT Film Fest.

Just the Facts...

"Shelter" has a running time of 88 minutes and is in English

Trevor Wright was a regular on "The George Lopez Show" while moviegoers might remember Tina Holmes from "Six Feet Under."

"Shelter" is a here! production

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Black Pride Week in Milwaukee

kicked off to a great start outside the LGBT Community Center on Court Street in Milwaukee Sunday, August 12. Left is the Connexus booth that was taking face shots for the Cover of the October issue of Queer Life News. More Black Pride pics later in this same book...



Guernsey Gala Brushes \$11K

Green Bay - Jeff Nelson of the Napalese Lounge was crowned the Guernsey Gala "queen" for 2007 here August 18. Nelson raised \$6063.38 to top second place finisher Clint "Smiley" Winter of The Shelter's \$4689. An additional \$185 raised by the annual softball tournament and door admissions brought the 16th annual Guernsey to an unofficial total of \$10,937.38, and a lifetime total of over \$153,000. The annual benefit pageant now run by Rainbow Over Wisconsin began in 1993 and benefits client services offered by the Green Bay office of ARCW

Ask the Irreverent, Uncle Barbie

Your Intellectual Whore

(An effervescently gay advice columnist)

Disclaimer: Although the author of this syndicated column holds a doctorate in clinical psychology, the tongue-in-cheek advice given is for entertainment only and is not a substitute for therapy. Send your questions to Uncle Barbie: AskUncleBarbie@aol.com. Barbie responds to all emails... whether you deserve it or not.

Recovery from Sexual Abuse

Dear Uncle Barbie,

After half a lifetime spent "being there" for my sexually abused partner—complete with extensive damages to the children involved, as well as irreversible, psychological scars to myself—said partner left me (taking all the assets) for a partner with all the appearance of similar sexual abuse. In the process, irreparable harm has been done to my children and grandchildren, my finances, and my life. Within a sexual relationship with an abused person, "being there"—caring, patient, and respectful, and all the other similar advice you poured out—is not enough. You need to face those gorgons with your partner on a very intimate level. This is not a task for the warm and fuzzy. And lastly, you must also be prepared to accept that (as with my own story), in the end, your partner may not have the courage or the resources that it takes to go the ultimate distance.

Signed, A Survivor of a Survivor

Hello Survivor,

It sounds like you are crawling through a jungle of depression. This grueling relationship has eaten you hollow. I hope you are receiving some professional counseling of your own. I am sorry to hear that she left you for another. Have you considered the possibility that when she ran away from you, she was really running away from herself? Maybe she did not feel that she deserved the love and care you gave her. If you treated her with the love and respect that every human deserves, and her self-perception was that of an unlovable person, then this would create a conflict within her which ultimately manifests itself as unbearable anxiety. Everyone naturally tries to get away from anxiety. So she left, and found someone who (according to your description) is as psychologically wounded as she is. Please don't think that I am blaming you for the collapse of your relationship. On the contrary, I admire your loving commitment and dedication. Her decision to leave was her choice. You are only responsible for your own actions; she is responsible for hers. It sounds like you did all you could have done. Now it is time to focus on taking care of yourself with as much care as you have shown to her. It's time to heal as best as you can. In your letter, you refer to the "irreversible, psychological scars" that you have endured. I do not believe that any psychological scar is completely irreversible. There is always hope. It will take time, however. Just as a small sapling eventually grows into a strong tree, you, too, can heal those scars and reach for the sunshine.

The flavor of your letter seems to indicate that you are blaming yourself for everything that has happened. This, and other indignities, justifies your feelings of self-dishonor. However, you are in control of your own attitude. You need to stop thinking about the negative things. There is enough misery in life; you don't need to revisit it in your mind. Think of yourself as a survivor, instead of a victim. Change the memory by using cognitive restructuring. In

other words, change the way you view the situation by focusing on the positive aspects. You always have the power to choose your attitude. Do not let anyone else write your life script for you. You give the meaning to the event. The best thing I can tell you is don't let your pain become your identity. Let your life experiences become your teachers. Once you have learned lessons from your pain, you can draw strength from that wisdom. And that strength can see you through just about anything!

Forgive and Forget, Barbie



Barbie's column is comparable to a nationwide lobotomy.

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FOR RENT / ROOMMATES

60th & National, Milwaukee, 2BD upperflat, oak woodwork and built-ins, carpeted, basement storage, W/D hookups, off street parking, separate utilities, close to bus line, fenced yard, one sm. pet, \$600.00/mo + security call 414-778-2222 [1]

Milwaukee charming, Arts and Crafts style, large 2 bdrm, S. 29th st., heat incl., appl./dishwasher, central air, with built ins. laundry hookups, off street parking, clean, HWF, remodeled kitchen and bath, amazing garden, non-smoking, gay friendly neighbors. \$650/mth contact Paul or John (414) 643-5946 [1]

Roommate Wanted - Beautiful Downtown Racine Loft. 2200 sq. ft. All bills paid. Washer & Dryer in unit. A lot of Extras. Available NOW! Serious Inquires ONLY! \$600 month + Deposit. Call PJ - 414-614-4399 [1]

Pewaukee: Looking for a roommate Share a 3 bedroom home, you have your own bath, own entry, laundry, cable, DSL, utilities included, quiet area, 4 blocks to the beach 3 miles to 94. \$400.00 per month call 414-708-8878. [1]

Avail Sept 1st furnished bedroom with house privileges also have privacy deck with grill \$200/month includes all utilities except long distance phone **just minutes from Green Bay** live in style for only 200 a month call 826-2869 Pete [1]

Roommate wanted share upper level apt. Your own bedroom, TV room, own bath, shared kitchen and laundry room. No utilities. **Burlington, WI Before Sept 1st.** Call Gary 262-749-9811 [1]

Roommate wanted to share a large two bedroom, two bath apartment in North West Green Bay, (Howard) \$400.00/month All utilities, cable, DSL, off street parking. Email: bearturk38@yahoo.com or 920-819-0156 [2]

Rental to Share - Beautiful Downtown Racine Loft. 2200 sq. ft. 1st floor, 2 Bedrooms, Full Bathroom. All Bills Paid! Washer & Dryer in unit. Cable & High Speed Internet included. Elevator, secure parking. A lot of EXTRAS. MUST SEE!! \$600 month + Deposit. Serious Inquires ONLY! Call PJ - 414-614-4399 [2]

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SEEKING A YOUNGER MALE to help a middle-aged man in exchange for room and board, in the Fox Valley home of a middle-aged couple. Prefer N/S, clean and honest. Call 920-738-0112 for details [2]

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welcome. Submissive a plus. Send phone# to PMB #i43 1528 S. Koeller Oshkosh, WI 54902 [1]

Bi WMM mid 50's, 6'4" 210# brown hair & eyes ISO CD/TV for discreet safe fun. I D/D free non smoker. I get to Wisconsin from Kenosha to Sheboygan areas late week. Into pleasing the woman in you. discretion assured and required.

(920)809-3615 Leave a message with phone number and best time to call. [1]

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Bottom needs hot hung tops for play. Be clean. Age unimportant. Virility, chemistry is. Entire male body is sexy. Arms, hands, legs, feet, big balls, eyes, smile, mind. I live alone, work all shifts. Unavailable, anonymous calls (caller ID) not answered or returned. (920)497-2522 **Green Bay**

GWM, 41, 6', 175# 8" Average looks, tired of being alone. don't go to bars often. Looking for relationship, friend, or buddy to have fun with. Eau Clair area Text Only (715) 210-7266 [1]

32 YO GWM HIV negative seeing friendship to possible relationship. Butch type like movies, TV, dining, cooking, camping, boating, cuddling, talking. North of Phillips WI (715)661-1530 [1]

GWM 45 185# brown hair, blue eyes, bottom. Lake Geneva/Burlington, Racine & Kenosha. Tan all over, like to be naked. good looking, good at kissing, also good at cuddling after having sex. Ask for Gary (262)749-9811

Man on Man Fun! 18+ Record & Listen FREE! (920) 431-9000, code 4166

Single, 49, bi-male, sometime crossdresser looking for friend and more. Must like outdoors and easy going. gommer582001@yahoo.com

BRENT I am looking for you! This is TODD from Michigan, contact me at toddka82000@yahoo.com

Attractive tall GBF 38, seeks GF's 38-55 for friends and possible long term. Race open: Carol: 414-243-5657: carol_lharris@yahoo.com

BiWM 50+ looking for BiMale to have sex with me and very hot sexy wife. I am partial crossdresser, she is blonde and needs a good stiff cock. **Jefferson County idu-chow@tds.net** If you are horny and keep going, you won't be disappointed. [1]

All Male Chat! 18+ record & listen FREE! (920)431-9000 code 4120 [P]

Wanted: Friends of erotic play fetish and more. Call after 3 pm till 10pm. Please no weekend or late calls. (920)707-6467 [2]

SWM 6'0" 175 mid 50's. I enjoy sucking men with enthusiasm and oral talent. Prefer going slowly to encourage a strong full finish. Like saved-up. OK to talk dirty to me and give me special instructions. Can travel and/or host. South Central Wisconsin Send email to: suxnlxjizz@yahoo.com [2]

GWM 54yo 180# in shape. You should B 2. Looking 4 friends or relationship in UP, Northern WI. Honest, romantic, sports, music, motorcycles. You: younger, not feminine, dark hair a plus, enjoys life. Drop me a line. Bob V.S. US2 W8079 Lot 12 Iron Mt., MI 49801 [2]

Hot fun ads= Hot male swinger, looking for hot boys and girls for discreet fun. No psychos please! call me (262)902-2792 No calls after 1am please. Anything goes!!

GWM, 6', 170#, looking for other nudist/naturists. (414) 379-5350 [2]

VIAGRA WANTED - Tall goodlooking guy seeks viagra in exchange for ??? I am in the Milwaukee area. Friendly. Serious only. (314)315-0492 [2]

La Crosse, WI hairy bear, 46, looking for dominant playing top. I'm 5'11", 250, stocky, very hairy. Like to get spanked, heavy nip play,



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sucking, etc... email me at pjohn39@msn.com [2]

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DODGE County. To join www.DodgeCountyGayLesbianSocialGroup-subscribe@yahoo.com All Races Welcome. [3]
 Fun, active or relaxed, funny, creative man, seeks man for walking or dancing or conversation & laughs! 773-585-6275 Tommy [3]

Very attractive and pretty Madison area bimale,

CD, exhibitionist, 5'11", 145 Lbs., bottom, shaved and tan all over has fantasy to strip and masturbate for group of people, males or females, preferably in outdoor environment. No single males please. Call Kris 608-663-9687 If no answer, please leave message. [3]

52 year old guy, 5'10" 160# lookin to suck all cummers,

young and old willing to feed me. I'm 1 hour north of gb, willing to travel, e-mail me at dowunder54144@yahoo.com or call 715-938-1366, very discreet & safe, hope to hear from you.

If you're a female couple, or M/F couple with a bi-male, would you like this fit, handsome gentleman to watch or join you in sensual pleasures? I'm a healthy, passionate, 50+, with a pleasant personality. You set the limits. wayneheart@hotmail.com

Wisconsin Rapids: GWM, 26, 5 foot 9 in, 175lbs, 32in waist (Husky Build). Hi my name is Tony, I am looking for an older man to please. H/W proportionate please. Tops or Bottoms welcome. I am into oral, anal, leather, 420, Bears, Daddies. Men with body/facial hair is a plus. I can host. e-mail me deepspaceproductions@gmail.com

Slim, slender, **PHYSICALLY FIT** crossdresser LOVES to dress up VERY SEXY & SLUTTY, VERY SHORT SKIRTS, stockings, sexy/slutty high heels. ISO other PHY FIT CD's..OR..DOM PHY FIT BLACK MALES..must send stats and a pic...100% SINCERE, DISCRETE. contact rswhite@wi.rr.com [3]

GWM, 35, 170#, 6" cut, looking for men to orally service, like to do multiples and bukake, I love cum. I'm available on Sunday afternoons, your place, Milwaukee area. Send response and stats to moon-scape2006@yahoo.com. Really enjoy men in their 20's. [3]

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Diversion of the Day

Quest's Events Calendar

Thursday, August 23

BOOM (Milwaukee) Live Band! The Whisper System 9:30pm

Saturday, August 25

City Lights chill...(Milw) Full Moon Party

Milwaukee Pump House Goldie Adams: Celebrating 30 years in the biz. Benefit for

ARCW Food Pantry Bring 5 or more canned foods & get Free rail or tap 8pm

Swim Party/Project Q at Lincoln Outdoor Pool 1300 W. Glendale 5:30 pm.

Meet at the Center, 315 W Court St. BYO snacks or food. FMI 414-223-3220

Sunday, August 26

Boot Camp (Milwaukee) Annual August White Party, a fundraiser for the G/L Community Trust Fund 3-9 pm Complimentary wine & hors d'oeuvres.

Center Advocates PAC Garden Party 11 am-1 pm. 2770 N Summit Ave.

Sponsor the Garden Party & Help Elect Pro-LGBT Legislators. If you are interested in finding out more about Center Advocates PAC or the Garden Party, please call 414-347-1892.

Fluid (Milwaukee) Refrigerator Magnet Bingo 4pm

Tuesday, August 28

Midtowne Spa (Milw) BESTD Clinic FREE 30 min AIDS testing. 6-9pm

Thursday, August 30

BOOM (Milwaukee) Live Band! Mr. Wrong 9:30pm

LABOR DAY WEEKEND Friday, August 31

SWITCH (Milwaukee) Foam Party Part 1

LABOR DAY WEEKEND Saturday, September 1

The Tazbah (Milwaukee) Finale! the final day of operation. Bar is closing.

SWITCH (Milwaukee) Foam Party Part 2

Madison Gay Video Club "Fabulous! The Story of Queer Cinema"

"Obsession of D.O." XXX 8:00 PM, <http://www.mgvc.org>, 244-8675 (evenings)

Saturday, September 8

Triangle (Milw) Rummage sale benefiting AIDS Walk WI. from 11 am. to 6 pm.

Sunday, September 9

KRUZ (Milw) Castaways MC Packer Backer Beer/Soda Bust \$7 after the noon game (3pm-7pm) Prizes given away \$1 donation or \$5 crotch to floor.

Triangle (Milw) Rummage sale benefiting AIDS Walk WI. from 11 am. to 6 pm.

Wednesday, September 12

Midtowne Spa (Milw) BESTD Clinic FREE 30 min HIV test 6-9pm

Saturday, September 15

Madison Gay Video Club "Boys In Love Vol. 1" (TLA Rel., dir. Marchant, Swain & Wilson, 2006) "Link: The Evolution" (All Worlds, dir. Chi Chi LaRue, 2007) 8:00 PM, <http://www.mgvc.org>, 244-8675 (evenings)

Milwaukee Gay Arts Center Presents The Art of Edge-Fantasy and Fetish 3pm at UW Union Milw LGBT film/Video Festival screens BlackWhite+Gray: A Portrait of Sam Wagstaff & Robert Mapplethorpe 8pm-midnite a reception at Milw Gay Arts Center follows. MGAC & Chicago Leather Archives & Museum present historic artifacts, photos by Adam Kozik and other artists.

Wednesday, September 19

MONA's (Milwaukee) Three Strikes Presents Dominique Mahon & Friends

Friday, September 21

Milwaukee Gay Arts Center 7-10 Body Adorned A special belly dance drop-in with a fetish twist \$5 admission

Saturday, September 22

Milwaukee Gay Arts Center 9:30pm-Midnite, Black Party \$5 admission (10pm program fetish gear show) Boot Black & photographer avail, raffle

Wednesday, September 25

Midtowne Spa (Milw) BESTD Clinic FREE 30 min HIV test 6-9pm

Saturday, September 29 - AIDS Walk Wisconsin

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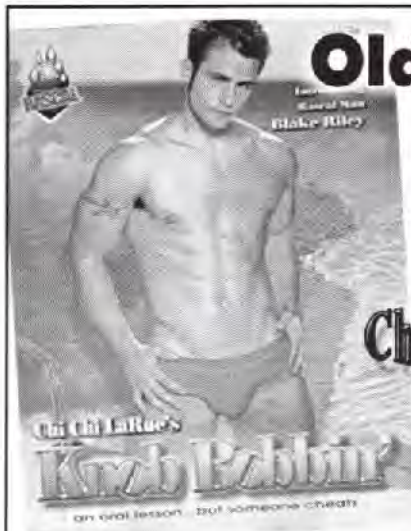
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THE LOGO/HRC GAY "DEBATE" - ONLINE POLL SUGGESTS HILLARY "WON"

Analysis by Mike Fitzpatrick

Los Angeles - Billed as the "Visible Vote '08" (and repeatedly visible in *ad nauseum* televised repeats and on demand online) The Human Rights Campaign and LOGO cable channel's so-called "gay presidential debate" went off with a semi-historic bang August 9. And a recent online poll suggests that front-runner Hillary Clinton may have won the series of "job interviews" conducted by reporters Margaret Carlson and Jonathan Capehart, HRC Exec Joe Solmonese and celebrity panelist Melissa Etheridge.

From a political standpoint it was ground-breaking: all of the top contenders for the Democratic Party's candidate for President in 2008 were present. After making a lot of noise so were several of the lesser lights. Though offered their own fifteen minutes of gay fame none of the Republican presidential candidates took the bait - not surprising since several believe gay people (not to mention evolution) don't actually exist.

By now the "news" about what was actually said is stale: Bill Richardson followed up his lame defense of his Imus show comments by blurring out that he though being gay was a choice (and apologized officially and frequently for the gaffe over the next few days). Dennis Kucinich couldn't oppose anything on the "gay agenda." Obama looked a little uncomfortable when the gay marriage question was framed in the "separate but equal" rhetoric of pre-Brown vs. Board of Education America. John Edwards once again looked very pretty.

According to the results of an online poll released August 18 by Gay.com, 53% of the "nearly 6,000 online voters" said Senator Hillary Clinton won the night's conversations, with Barack Obama coming in at 30% - numbers surprisingly similar to recent 2-1 mainstream voter point spreads in polling for the 2008 Democrat nod. Kucinich came in third with 7% for those who are counting.

What's more telling is that less than a week after another survey said that upwards of 90% of self-identified gay and lesbian voters participated by voting in the 2006 election, only *four one thousandths* of 1% of those politically active voters chose to click an online poll on the debate. Now it's true that Gay.com has suffered hard times recently (Bill Gates helped bail them out with \$38 million or so), and the portal is not considered a leading gay political destination. Also it's still "early" in the campaign season, its summer time, and not everyone gets LOGO or has online access. But depending on how many gay people you actually believe live in the USA, that's a pitiful response for such a "historic" event, don't you think? 6000 vs. 12 to 24 million?

I could go on about what was wrong with the debate - the mind and butt-numbing length, the Mitchell Gold furniture on the set, the audience of "activists" that appeared to include every comic who has done 15-minutes of stand-up on LOGO's "Wisecrack," Melissa's making it all about her cancer survival, etc. - but no matter how you slice it to have six of the Democratic Party candidates, among whom most likely may be the next President of the

United States, sit down on national TV and talk about our issues is one for the history books. But so is our community's apparent collective "ho-hum." It's the stuff GOP victories are made of and a reminder - just nine months after a devastating 59-41% setback for full equality right here in Wisconsin - that over confidence and complacency bred by bad news for the "other side" (Iraq, the sluggish economy, sex scandals and so on) does not automatically turn into good news for "our side."

LGBT issues are not going to go away come the real battle for the White House in 2008. The major political party candidates are now going to be chosen with a process that apparently will be starting about the same time as you begin to return unwanted Christmas presents. The sound bites of the Visible Vote will be back to haunt us in the form of Republican attack ads sooner than we'd like to think.

Just like the kids in gay households around the country - its "back to school" time for our community when it comes to politics - presidential and otherwise. Take the time now to ratchet up your awareness of who's saying what about us - before today's current spin becomes the "conventional wisdom" six months from now.

In closing, a side note: You don't have to wait to get involved, at least not locally. Wisconsin's budget battle is still not over - and the domestic partner benefits for state employees is still on the table. If you haven't weighed in with the budget reconciliation committee by offering your opinion at Fair Wisconsin's website (www.fairwisconsin.com), now's the time to do so.



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Lutherans Postpone Gay Clergy Vote

Chicago - The country's largest Lutheran denomination officially bars openly gay people from the ministry. But in a move that advocates for gay men and lesbians hail as a step toward changing that policy, the denomination is urging its bishops to refrain from disciplining gay clergy who are in committed same-sex relationships.

A resolution to that effect was passed August 11 here by delegates to the biennial meeting of the Church-wide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America.

Church officials said it did not signal a change in policy. But they said a denomination task force was completing "a social statement," or theological document, on human sexuality, to be discussed in 2009, and that the resolution allowed bishops to hold off in the interim on taking action.

According to Robert Tuttle, counsel to the bishop of the synod of metropolitan Washington, the decision "gives bishops some cover who want to exercise discretion to not bring charges."

Those who support the ordination of openly gay men and lesbians hailed the vote. "Full inclusion and acceptance is still down the road, but the dam of discrimination has been broken," Emily Eastwood, executive director of Lutherans Concerned/North America said.

Lutherans who consider open homosexuality incompatible with biblical teachings played down the vote, however, saying it still left the decision at the discretion of bishops.

New Jersey Poll: 63% Of Voters Favor Gay Marriage

Trenton - Twice as many New Jerseyans "would be fine" with allowing gay couples to marry as would be upset if lawmakers enacted a marriage equality law, according to a new poll. The Zogby survey of 803 New Jersey voters was commissioned by the gay rights group Garden State Equality to mark the six-month anniversary of New Jersey's civil unions law on August 19.

Gay couples were granted the same legal rights, if not the title, as married couples last February when New Jersey became the third state to offer civil unions. Gay rights activists have continued to press for full marriage equality, saying civil unions do not satisfy a state Supreme Court ruling that entitles gay couples to the same benefits as married couples.

The poll, released August 15 showed 63% of voters surveyed said they would not be upset if the Legislature upgraded civil unions to marriage equality, compared with 31% who would be upset. 72% also said lawmakers would not jeopardize their re-election bids by enacting marriage equality, compared with 21% who felt such a vote could

effect an incumbent's chances of remaining in the Legislature.

Regardless of their personal beliefs, those polled believe New Jersey will allow gay couples to marry within a couple of years, by a margin of 61-29%.

"Regardless of whether any public official supports marriage equality or wants to maintain the state's failed civil unions law, no official in New Jersey can credibly say that marriage for gay couples is a divisive issue in the state," Garden State Equality Chair Steven Goldstein told the Associated Press. "Even voters who oppose marriage equality are ready to accept an upgrade of the state's civil unions law to real marriage equality."

The poll was conducted from August 8-10 and has a sampling error of plus or minus 3.5%. Though Garden State Equality commissioned the poll, Zogby collected the data independently.

Another Day, Another GOP Blow Job Young Republican Fed Prez Resigns After Sex Charges

Jeffersonville, IN - The recently-elected president of the national Young Republican Federation has resigned abruptly after yet another scandal involving gay oral sex. 33 year-old Glenn Murphy, Jr. announced in an August 7 email that he was resigning the young GOP post as well as his position as Clark County Republican Party chair, claiming "an unexpected business opportunity."

The email arrived four days after the county Sheriff's office announced they were investigating Murphy for alleged deviate sexual conduct based on a July 31 complaint in which a 22 year-old man claimed the GOP mouthpiece had given him an unwanted blow-job while he was asleep. Murphy claimed through his attorney Larry Wilder that the sex act was consensual. However, according to the victim and his sister Murphy had previously approached the man seeking to "resolve the issue" on several occasions. The pair eventually met with Murphy and taped their conversation which is now in the hands of the investigators.

A reporter for the *Terre Haute Tribune-Star* soon discovered Murphy had a history of giving sleeping men oral sex. A 1998 Clarksville Police Dept. report offered a disturbingly similar account by a 21-year old man who alleged he was awakened by Murphy giving him a blow job, an event also witnessed by the man's girlfriend. Formal charges were never filed in the nine-year old case.

The Murphy episode is the third sex scandal to hit the GOP this summer. Florida representative and former McCain state campaign chair Bob Allen continues to resist pressure to resign from his elected position after being caught in a public restroom peeking over a stall and offering an African-American undercover detective \$20 to perform oral sex. In Louisiana "family values"-obsessed Senator David Vitter (aka "Vitter The Shitter") has also stonewalled resignation demands after his diaper sex escapades at New Orleans bordellos came to light.

QNU Quickies: Recent Stories Of Note

By Mike Fitzpatrick

Here in no particular order is Quest's take on stories of gay interest since the last issue. A friendly reminder that breaking news is updated daily on the QNU: Quest News Update site online. Visit us at: www.quest-online.com.

Scientists Trick Moths Into Gay Sex: Blame it on global warming. Hot April weather has caused brown-tailed moths to become a problem in some parts of the United Kingdom. The moths have multiplied in such numbers that the men of the nation's only full-time lifeboat station at Spurn Point have suffered rashes and breathing problems from the poisonous hairs of the moths' larvae blowing in the wind.

But now British experts have come up with the novel solution: tricking the males of the species into thinking that they are gay. Scientists are using a powder that spreads the smell of sexual attraction, confusing the male moths, and thus slowing the breeding. The powder is left near breeding grounds and, when larvae hatch, they are coated in it. Other male moths are then drawn naturally to have sex with them, believing them to be available for lovemaking regardless of the larvae's gender. The moths apparently have small brains and dreadful eyesight.

Why does this sound familiar? If they had added a throbbing dance beat it might have been a night of PNP at any gay club on the planet.

Church Reneges On Holding Gay Man's Funeral, Congregation Applauds: After suffering a worldwide firestorm of negative media attention for backing out of holding a gay man's funeral, the pastor of the Dallas "non-denominational Christian" (in other words, code for fundie bigots) High Point Church defended his decision from the pulpit to the applause of hundreds in the congregation, according to an August 15 report in the *Dallas Morning News*.

Apparently the presence the award winning gay men's Turtle Creek Chorale, an open mic for personal remembrances and a G-rated photo slide show (the family made a picture CD available to the press) made the funeral of decorated Persian Gulf War Navy vet Cecil Sinclair "too openly homosexual" for the church's liking.

Hey, the choir was going to sing "Amazing Grace," not "Amazing Will & Grace." And its just more proof that evangelicals' "love the sinner hate the sin" rhetoric is as empty as their promise to follow Jesus' second great commandment: Love Thy Neighbor As Thyself.

Surprise! Siegfried & Roy Are Gay: In news that probably will shock no one except for the few Liberace fans who still think the late pianist was merely flamboyant, veteran Vegas showmen magicians Siegfried & Roy are coming out of the closet, according to their soon-to-be-published autobiography as reported by the *National Enquirer*. Even as they divulge their secret publicly for the first time, the pair also admits they were "once very much in love but have since transformed (their) relationship into a working partnership and a deep friendship" just like every successful married couple, straight or gay. Of course, eagle-eyed queens weren't taken aback by the news: they'd spotted the matching pinkie rings years ago.

Rightie Wacko Demands Catholic Knights Oust Pro-Gay Members: An August 11 *Boston Herald* story reported that the "California-based Concerned Roman Catholics of America (CROCA)" had demanded the Massachusetts chapter of the Knights Of Columbus expel 16 "pro-Sodomite" state lawmaker members for their support of gay marriage. A member of the "group" passed out fliers with the demands at the national K of C convention in Nashville. The paper also reported the CROCA's website also offered names of 72 Massachusetts pols who were either pro-gay or "pro-abortion," a list that included Senators Ted Kennedy and John Kerry.

However the media scrutiny apparently was too much for the supposedly high-minded CROCA. A *Quest* pre-deadline check of the group's website shows it has become "CyberPort, the personal website of Matthew Moore." Clicking on Google's cached version of the site brings up most of the deleted material. The "Sodomite" lingo, disappearing website and guerrilla brochure blasts are tactics reminiscent of Wisconsin's own holder-for-life of the Christian cuckoo crown, Rantini' Ralph O, currently queen of all he surveys at the Pilgrims Covenant Church (formerly Wisconsin "Christians" United).

ACT 5 AIDS RIDE SURPASSES GOAL

Madison - AIDS Network's ACT 5 AIDS Ride raised over \$296,000 August 2-5 here. More than 130 cyclists pedaled the 300-mile journey wound through south central Wisconsin, averaging 70-100 miles each day. The route went through Baraboo, Columbus, New Glarus, Mount Vernon and Mount Horeb, ending Sunday on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard in Madison.

The cyclists surpassed this year's goal of \$250,000 goal by a wide margin and about an 11% increase over 2006's tally. 90% of the proceeds will go back into the sixteen counties served by AIDS Network, according to organizers.

WKOW news reporter Mitch Webber pedaled the entire route, creating both a journal and a video record of the event. Mitch's journal is available on the TV 27 website at: wkow.madison.com.

More than 80 participants have already registered for ACT 6, August 7-10, 2008.

MADISON'S MINOTAURS HIT THE RUGBY PITCH

Madison - On August 11, Madison Minotaurs competed in the Stuart Daily 10's tournament held here with three games played that day. The first game was against UW-Stout. After the first game, the team was acknowledged by members of the Wisconsin Rugby Club (WRC) that we have improved a great deal since our previous tournament in Oshkosh.

The second and third games were against the St. Paul Pigs and the Milwaukee Harlequins. "These guys (the Harlequins) were big, tough, and not giving anything away," Minotaur player Shawn Neal told *Quest*. "They were one of the better teams in the



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tournament that day. Although we lost this match...there were huge smiles from the Minotaurs for giving it their all."

The Wisconsin Rugby Club acknowledged the Minotaurs' effort at the end of the tournament. The team was honored by receiving the special the Kim Pederson award, for exemplifying the true spirit of Rugby on and off the pitch. "Kim Pederson was an amazing Rugby player who was admired by many on the WRC team," Neal said. "It was an honor to get this award in front of teams across all of Wisconsin and to be applauded by all of them for the strides we had made in the last 6 months in becoming another great Rugby team in Madison."

The following day the Madison Minotaurs were admitted into the Wisconsin Rugby Union. "We are the first ever gay-identified team to be inducted into the Wisconsin Rugby Union," Neal pointed out, while thanking other teams for their support. "When we needed support from other teams, there were numerous players on both the Wisconsin Women's Rugby Football Club and the men's Wisconsin Rugby Club who advocated that we be inducted into the Union. It was an amazing accomplish-

ment for a team that started off as mostly rookie, gay identified players to be officially accepted into the Wisconsin Rugby community. It has been an amazing 2 weeks for us."

The Minotaurs will be officially part of the International Gay Rugby Association and Board (IGRAB) on August 25th when they play our first 15's match against the Minneapolis Mayhem. "(The Mayhem) are extremely excited to play us and to be our first full match opponents," Neal said as he asked for community support. "We would really appreciate any and everyone in the community to come out and support our team as we face our biggest test yet."

The match will start at 1 PM on August 25. Directions to the field this team will be playing on can be found on the Madison Minotaur website: www.madisonminotaursrc.org.

The Minotaurs were formed in March 2007, after a "Rugby 101" training session hosted by the Minneapolis Mayhem and the Chicago Dragons. The team hopes to encourage more gay men to play rugby through educational programs and by participating in competitive events.

DISCO BALLERS KICKBALL TAKES TO THE FIELD

Green Bay - The Green Bay Action Network (GBAN) has formed a gay kickball team as a fun way to help support its mission of bringing attention to the LGBT community in Northeast Wisconsin. The team is part of the Green Bay City adult kickball league, that plays Monday nights alternating between Colburn Park and Bay Beach Park. Games will run August 20 through October 8, with a break on September 3 for Labor Day.

The "Disco Ballers" team is sponsored by the XS Night Club and consists of members Amber Hansen, Andrea Schultz, Andrew

DeBaker, Andy Debels, Bridgett Miller, Chad Wegener, Charlain Monroe, Cori Nicklaus, Dusty Miller, Elizabeth Liska, Haitham Mogherbi, Jessica Garrels, Paul Bredel, Robert Neuman, Scott Vanidestine, and Stephanie Sobieck.

Over a dozen fans came out to cheer on the team during its first practice game on August 13. Fans are encouraged to wear pink and wear "their best bling" to support the team. The team will debut formally at Bay Beach on August 20 at 7:15 PM. Additional games will be August 27 (7:15), September 17 and October 1 (8:15) at Colburn Park, and September 10 (8:15), 24 (6:15) and October 8 (Time TBA) at Bay Beach. Please call team manager Andrew DeBaker at 920-471-3260 with any questions.

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KEEPING TIME WITH MVM'S NEW VISIONARY

by OutBound's Michael Johnston

Recently, I had the pleasant opportunity to set down and have a chat with John Schaefer. Mr. Schaefer, is taking baton in hand and will be the new Maestro of Men's Voices Milwaukee. He has a brand new song that will keep MVM in-tune this season. I hope you will enjoy the following interview as much as I did conducting it

Quest: Congratulations on your new position with Men's Voices Milwaukee. What do You bring to the table for MVM?

John Schaefer: Introspectively, to motivate the Chorus to exceed and to entertain their audience.

Quest: Do You have a strategy to bring MVM to the forefront of our Community?

JS: Any organization needs to get noticed, if they master what they are doing -gaining respect of the audience. You have to be good first, admired, respected and earn a position in the Community.

Quest: Is there a way to bring Choral Music more up-to-date?

JS: Anything can be fun or mundane – or challenging. It's how you make it, excite, incite – rock their world!

Quest: What is your favorite genre of Music?

JS: My tastes are all over the place. What's new? Dance, Pop, Classical... Intrigued by all, new, keeping it fresh. I admire people who break the mold.

Quest: Who is your favorite Song Writer?

JS: Sondheim – is a genius! Weber's music is hum-able songs that stay with you. I love Rachmaninoff as well.

Quest: Who is your all-time favorite Performer?

JS: No idolized performer per say. Streisand is awesome, but hasn't chosen to reinvent herself. I like something new, fresh, and exciting. That will be reflected with the Chorus as well. In today, out tomorrow.

Quest: As previous Gay Choruses in Milwaukee celebrated our specific diversity in song – currently, no one seems to be singing our songs. Will You consider tapping this more political, message in music?

JS: I don't want people to see us as Gay – but to come, to learn, and to be entertained – oh, and by the way, they happen to be Gay. I don't believe it to be a mission in every song – the audience knows who we are. I won't shy away from material that has a Gay theme or message either. Not afraid of who we are, I just don't want to capitalize on it. The message is the show!

Quest: It has been said that Choral Music can be rather "staid", "black dress" if you will – first off, do you finds these comments valid and second – how will you avoid this happening with MVM?

JS: It won't be the case; chorus music is written for the masses and left up to the Conductor and the Chorus to avoid the above. Everything will be stylized, re-written, original scores. I'm not against what's been done or in some cases being done – but it's a new perspective, that I'm bringing to MVM.

Quest: Can we look forward to physical movement with MVM?

JS: Any performance needs to be mentally, emotionally, and visually stimulating. A lot of soloists – not the same

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soloist mind you, a variety of individuals making it interesting to watch. I'll do what's necessary to make sure it works – but only if the men are comfortable.

Quest: What is your vision of the MVM of tomorrow?

JS: I would hope in time, if it's what the Chorus wants that we can rival all the other choruses out there. To be of the quality of New York, Los Angeles and other well established choruses out there. I want to do a good job and I want the men to do a good job – as good as any one else. If we're going to do it – I want to do it right!

Quest: Will we be seeing a brand new chorus,

with a brand new look/sound for the Holidays?

JS: Yes, yes, and yes, on all three counts. As well as every subsequent show. You can see Men's Voices Milwaukee's next scheduled performance: Saturday, December 8th, 2007. Auditions for the 2007 – 2008 Season started on August 16th – however there is still time to join MVM in making music this year.

Quest: What would You like to share with our Readers with regards to You -- John Schaefer and Men's Voices Milwaukee?

JS: I am truly excited about this opportunity. It's a new chapter in my life and a new chapter for Men's Voices Milwaukee! I can't wait to see and hear what will happen!

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Wisconsin Gay Hockey
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www.uwm.edu/Dept/OSL/LGBT

Wisconsin Rainbow Alliance of the Deaf
P.O. Box 432
Germantown, WI 53022
www.wiscrad.org

LGBT Neighborhood Associations

Bay View GAYS
(414) 482-3796
bvqpresident@bvqays.com
www.bvqays.com

Washington Heights Rainbow Association
(414) 258-8834
washhtsrainbow@aol.com
www.washingtonheightsrainbow.org

Wauwatosa Rainbow Association
(aka Rainbow Fireflies)
(414) 774-9470
tosarainbow@yahoo.com

**NOT LISTED? *
NEED CORRECTIONS?**
email us your request
editor@quest-online.com
fax 920.433.0789
regular mail
Quest
P.O. Box 1961
Green Bay, WI 54306
*subject to space available

Wisconsin LGBT Groups and Organizations

LGBT Social Groups

Black and White Men Together
PO BOX 091475 Milw., WI 53209
(414) 540-9437
bwmtmilwaukee@aol.com
www.bwmtmilwaukee.org

The Brunch Club
jennieragland@wi.rr.com

Brew City Bears
PO Box 1035 Milwaukee, WI 53201
(414) 299-0401
info@brewcitybears.org
www.brewcitybears.org

Castaways
PO BOX 1697
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Femme Mafia Milwaukee
www.myspace.com/femmemaflamke

Great Lakes Harley Riders
PO BOX 341611
Milwaukee, WI 53234
bootedhog@aol.com

Rainbow Families
315 W Cour Street
c/o PFLAG
Milwaukee, WI 53212
mkerainbowfamilies@hotmail.com

LGBT Welcoming Churches

Angels of Hope MCC
3607 Libal Street
Green Bay, WI
angelsofhopemcc.org
aohmcc@netnet.net
920-983-7453

Appleton service at UCC chapel
724 East South River Drive
angelsofhopemcc.org
aohmcc@netnet.net
920-983-7453

First Unitarian Society of Milwaukee
1342 N Astor
Milwaukee, WI 53202
(414) 273-5257
office@uwmilwaukee.org
www.uwmilwaukee.org

Lake Park Lutheran Church
2647 N Stowell St
Milwaukee, WI 53211
(414) 962-9190
office@lakeparklutheran.com
www.lakeparklutheran.com

Milwaukee Metropolitan Community Church
PO BOX 1421
Milwaukee, WI 53204
(414) 383-1100
review2004@yahoo.com
www.queerchurch.org

Plymouth Church
2717 E. Hampshire Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53211
(414) 964-1513
plymouthchurch@choiceonemail.com
www.plymouth-church.org

Underwood Baptist
1916 N Wauwatosa Ave
Wauwatosa, WI 53213
(414) 258-4246
office@underwoodchurch.com
www.underwoodchurch.com

Unity Church of Kenosha, Racine
9220 26Th Ave.
Kenosha, WI 53143
Rev.Don (262) 914-8389
hellodjd@sbcglobal.net

Other Service Agencies with LGBT Programming

Aids Resource Center of Wisconsin
820 Plankinton Ave
PO Box 510498
Milwaukee, WI 53203
(414) 273-1991
www.arcw.org

Brady East STD (BESTD) Clinic
240 East Brady Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202
(414) 272-2144
bestd@excecpc.com
www.bestd.org

Children Service Society of Wisconsin
1212 S 70th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53212
(414) 453-1400
jane.ottow@csw.org
www.csw.org

The Counseling Center of Milwaukee
2038 N. Bartlett Ave
Milwaukee, WI 53202
(414) 271-2565
info@tccmilw.org
www.tccmilw.org



WISCONSIN LGBT BAR GUIDE

LACROSSE/MADISON (608)

My Place 3201 South Ave La Crosse
(608)788-9073

Players 214 Main St, La Crosse
(608)784-2353

Rainbow's End 417 Jay St, La Crosse
CLUB Impulse 132 W. Grand Ave.
Beloit, (608)361-0000

Club 5 Bar/Restaurant 5 Applegate Ct
Madison, (608)277-9700

Ray's Bar & Grill 2526 E. Washington
Madison (608)241-9335

Shamrock 117 W Main St.,
Madison (608)255-5029

Captain Dix (Rainbow Valley Resort)
4124 River Road WI Dells, WI
(866) 553-1818

NORTHERN WISCONSIN (715)

Scooters 411 Galloway Street,
Eau Claire (715)835-9959

JT's Bar and Grill 1506 N. 3rd
Superior (715)-394-2580

The Main 1217 Tower Ave
Superior, WI (715)392-1756

OZ 320 Washington St, Wausau
www.totheo.com (715)842-3225

Club Night Out 2533 Cty. Rd. M,
Stevens Point, WI (715)342-5820

NORTHEASTERN WISCONSIN (920)

Crossroads 1042 W. Wisconsin Ave.
Appleton (920)830-1927

Rascals Bar & Grill 702 E. Wis.,
Appleton (920)954-9262

Ravens (NEW) 215 E. College Ave
Appleton (920)364-9599

Napalese 1351 Cedar Street,
Green Bay (920)432-9646

SASS 840 S. Broadway, Green Bay
(920)437-7277

THE SHELTER 730 N. Quincy St. Green Bay
920-432-2662 • theshelterclub.com

Tipsy's On Broadway 301 S. Broadway,
Green Bay 920-455-1005

XS Niteclub 1106 Main Street, Green Bay

Christopher Allan's Club 1226
1226 Oshkosh Ave Oshkosh,
(920)651-1226

Blue Lite 1029 N 8th, Sheboygan
(920)457-1636

SOUTHERN WISCONSIN (262)

Club ICON (Formerly 94 North) 6305 120th
(Off I-94) Kenosha, (262)857-3240
www.club-icon.com

JoDee's 2139 Racine St, Racine
(262)634-9804

ROCKFORD, IL (815)

The Office 513 East State Rockford, IL
(815)965-0344

MILWAUKEE (414)

Art Bar 722 Burleigh,
(414)372-7880

Ballgame 196 S 2nd
(414)273-7474

Boom 625 South 2nd St
(414)277-5040

Boot Camp 209 E National
(414)643-6900

C'est La Vie 231 S 2nd
(414)291-9600

City Lights Chill 111 W. Howard Ave
(414)481-1441

Fluid 819 South 2nd
(414)643-5843

The Harbor Room 117 E.
Greenfield Ave. (414)672-7988

KRUZ
354 E. National (414)272-KRUZ

LaCage Videobar & ETC Lounge
8015 2nd, (414)383-8330

M's 1101 S. 2nd Street
(414)383-8900

Milwaukee Pumphouse
2011 S. First St. (414)744-7008

Mona's 1407 S. First St Milw
(414)643-0377

Nut Hut 1500 W Scott Milw.
(414)647-2673

SWITCH 124 W National
(414)220-4340

The Tazzbah Bar & Grille 1712 W
Pierce St. (414)672-8466
www.tazzbah.com

This Is It 418 E. Wells Street
(414)278-9192

Triangle 135 E National,
(414)383-9412

Viva La Femme 1619 S. 1st St.
(414)389-9360

Walker's Pint 818 S 2nd St
(414)643-7468

Woody's 1579 S. 2nd, Milw (414)
672-0806



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Cell - 414 241 5114 Email - sharkatk30@hotmail.com

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(414)276-8669

11931 West Blue Mound Road, Wauwatosa

(Anxiety, depression, couples, trauma, counseling)

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www.geocities.com/footstepfellowship/



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Oriental Theatre



The Witnesses

Centerpiece Film - Wednesday, September 12, 7:30pm

Oriental Theatre

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