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Northeast Wisconsin Gets Serious About Pride

July 12 Festival Will Be Most Extensive In Area's History

Interview by Mike Fitzpatrick

Green Bay - Since their beginnings in the late 1970's as an "appreciation beer bust" for local gay bar patrons at a rural county park, pride events in northeast Wisconsin - an area loosely defined Green Bay, the Fox Cities and Sheboygan - have had their ups and downs. The "Alive With Pride" picnic in 1995 marked the first event that officially called itself a pride festival.

In 1996 "Alive With Pride" beget Rainbow Over Wisconsin, which developed from a pride picnic and bar show fundraising committee into a community foundation over the next decade. ROW coordinated annual pride picnics held in Appleton, Hilbert and DePere over the next eight years.

Following its 2003 event at the Brown County Fairgrounds that featured comedian Vicki Shaw ROW realized it had a difficult choice. To respond to the increased financial development demands from northeast LGBT community organizations, it had to decide to either stay in the "pride business" or follow more closely its stated mission as a community foundation with more diversified fundraising programming. Since it also in the interim had been asked to take over the Guernsey Gala fundraising pageant that annually raised thousands of dollars for HIV/AIDS care, ROW chose the latter.

Pride event planning over the next four years went to the Argonauts of Wisconsin, who put together a loose knit coalition of community members to run

the pride picnics. A licensing snafu canceled the 2006 picnic and the 2007 event drew fewer than 50 attendees.

Now, in 2008, Rainbow Over Wisconsin is back in the pride business - sort of. ROW has agreed to provide a new generation of community leaders - the NEWPride Committee of the LGBT Green Bay Area Action Network - its fiscal agency umbrella plus \$5000 in seed money and credit to develop and run what promises to be the most extensive and elaborate pride event in the history of northeast Wisconsin's gay community. To top it off, the daylong July 12 festival will happen just a block away from the historical starting place of another city legend: the Green Bay Packers.

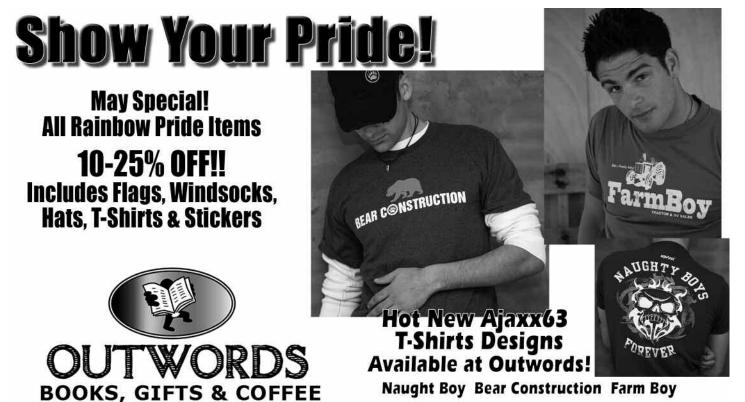
Helmed by twentysomething co-chairs Andrew DeBaker and Andrea Schultz, NEWPride already has been working almost nine months on its phoenix-like revitalizing of gay pride in northeast Wisconsin. *Quest's* Mike Fitzpatrick sat down recently with DeBaker and Schultz to hear about that journey and learn what the entire gay state of Wisconsin can expect to find happening in Green Bay just two and a half months from now.

Quest: Why did you decide to take on the reorganization and revitalization of the pride events in northeast Wisconsin?



DeBaker: The journey started about a year ago when a bunch of people who were involved in the Fair Wisconsin ("No on the Amendment") campaign got together. It was a meeting that asked "where are we at now?" and "what direction do we want to go in?" Fair Wisconsin has several of those meetings in communities around the state of Wisconsin.

In Green Bay we discussed that we wanted to keep fighting for our rights and to keep visible in the community. We wanted people to know that even though the marriage amendment passed that we're sill here and part of the community.



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One of the things that came up was that Green Bay had a pride event that maybe wasn't as large as it could be. Andrea and I and a couple of other people really got the ball rolling. Andrea and I as co-chairs have taken the lead on this.

All along we wanted to make sure that its something that's visible, something that's positive for our community to show the larger community that we're here, we're part of your community, but that we have a community of our own.

Quest: You selected a very visible site in Green Bay to address that visibility issue and scheduled it on the weekend on which pride events in this area have been held. And I understand that you are actually having two days of events?

Schultz: Correct. On the Friday before - July 11 - Harmony Café (in Appleton), one of our partners, will be having two screenings of "For The Bible Tells Me So." The pride festival itself will be from 11 AM to 9 PM on July 12 at Joannes Park on the East side of Green Bay.

Quest: Isn't there a lot more to putting on an event in the middle of Green Bay than here has been in putting on an event in a rural area?

DeBaker: We've been working on this for a good eight months or more. Part of it is a learning curve, being part of this for the first time. Because we're having this in Green Bay, it means working with the various city departments. And, of course, fundraising has been in full swing as well to make sure we have the funds to do everything the right way and have as big of a party as we possibly can.

Quest: What kind of funding have you secured?

Schultz: We're working closely with Rainbow Over Wisconsin who has generously agreed to be our non-profit fiscal agency. That gives us non-profit status. As far as fundraising goes we really wanted to get businesses in northeast Wisconsin an opportunity to support the gay and lesbian community.

DeBaker: We've reached out to businesses that run the gamut. From Fortune 500 companies to local companies, we've had a very positive response thus far.

Quest: Can you give some specific examples?

DeBaker: In addition to ROW some of our major sponsors are Oneida Bingo & Casino, Kimberly-Clark, Aon - which is located in downtown Green Bay, Wisconsin Public Service, Best Buy, Starbucks. On a more local scale, there have been organizations such as Positive Voice to businesses like Four Seasons Floral, Avenue Jewelers in Appleton, and Sunshine Travel.

Quest: What was your fundraising goal?

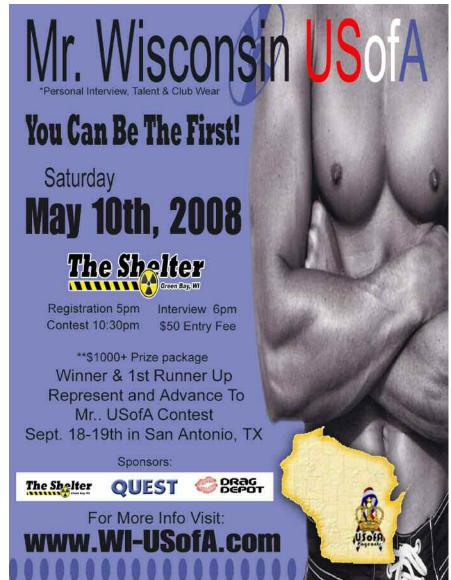
DeBaker: We had a goal of around \$15,000 for this first year and we're just shy of that goal. And we've got quite a few more companies that have expressed interest, the we just need to firm up their support.

Quest: Why do you need so much money?

DeBaker: Because we're holding this in Green Bay, there are certain permits and fees involved. There's insurance costs - liability insurance for the day of the event. There are marketing costs, entertainment costs. And there are costs that are not as glamorous - Port-A-Potties, stage rentals, city-required security, technicians - that sort of thing.

Quest: What's lined up so far? Can you give an overview of what's already set for the day?

Schultz: We are working with a number of entertainment



acts. We have signed the female acoustic act Martha Berner, we have signed Glamarama, a female cabaret show. We are working to sign other bands and a big headliner to end the night.

In addition to the live entertainment acts we are going to have a number of panel discussions and group discussions in a separate area. So if people want to hear about programs that impact the gay and lesbian community, they can go over to that shelter area to learn about those topics and meet others (with similar interests) as well.

Quest: So what can people expect during the day. Can you go through the schedule as you know it?

DeBaker: Well the interfaith service begins at 11 AM. Noon will be a kick-off ceremony. Immediately after that the bands will start. Our headlining band will be coming on about 7 o'clock and will do about a ninety minute set. So that will end about 8:30 or 9 o'clock. And we're working with all the bars in the area to have drink specials and activities so the night

can continue. And it's free for everyone. There's no cover charge.

We will encourage people to get involved in our state-licensed raffles. They will be able to buy raffle tickets for a merchandise and a 50/50 raffle.

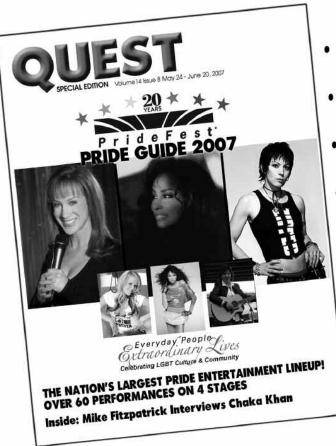
DeBaker: In addition we're going to have vendors - both profit and non-profit. There will be food vendors. There will be a beer tent and drink vendors as well. We're going to have a kids' area for people who want to bring their children or nieces and nephews. It will be a fun day and hopefully the weather will be nice. It will be a chance to join with others in our community to show the larger community that we're here and to learn about resources in our area that people may not know of.

Quest: What is your goal for attendance?

DeBaker: We've thrown around a number of 1000 people as the goal we're trying to get. We're billing this as a northeast Wisconsin Pride, not just Green Bay. We have support already from the Appleton area, and our support extends north into Door County and all the way up to the border of Michigan.

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Schultz: And it is our goal to make this an ongoing, annual event that is fun, that gives people a chance to connect, and have it grow from year to year.

DeBaker: We're not on the same scale this year, being our first year, as say a Milwaukee PrideFest. But PrideFest is in its 21st year. 21 years from now we'd love (Pride Alive) to be bigger and better than it is now. But this year we wanted to make our event as manageable as possible, even it if means making it a bit smaller the first year. We want to do the first year very successfully. If people come to it, have a good time and walk away with a positive impression, we'll be able to continue to grow.

Quest: How many people are actually working on this event right now?

DeBaker: We have set up seven committees to handle each aspect of the planning. Over those seven committees we probably have a good 25 people that are putting in their support. On our marketing committee for example, we have generous support from Jim Rivett and Arketype. Toni Loch, the former Executive Director of the United Way of Brown County has been very involved in our programming.

Schultz: The Angels of Hope MCC has been very involved as well. They will be holding an interfaith service to kick off the day.

Quest: How many people will you need to actually make this event come off? More than the 25 you've got signed up now?

DeBaker: Definitely. Its going to be a 9-10 hour day so we're definitely going to need a lot more volunteers!

Schultz: If anyone is interested in volunteering, all they have to do is send an email to: info@newpride.org and we will get in touch with them. We will find out what they're most interested in helping out. We will be doing more outreach to invite people to sign up, become involved and give support as volunteers.

DeBaker: We will need people to greet people as they come in, to help with giveaways as they enter Joannes Park, to bartenders to all sorts of set-up and clean-up.

Quest: How may groups have you reached out to in terms of having a presence at the festival?

Schultz: We have vendor space available both for non-profits and for businesses who are supporting us. We hope to have in the area of 50 vendors at the event, focusing on those non-profits who might want to promote their services to the LGBT community.

DeBaker: We're about halfway there already. Some of the ones that we know are going to be involved already are the local gay-straight alliances (GSAs) at the high schools; ARCW will have rapid HIV testing.

Schultz: Dykes on Bikes are going to be there too.

DeBaker: We've been in talks with some of the statewide gay sports teams including the Madison Minotaurs rugby team, the Milwaukee Gay Soccer League for example. We hope to have them there both to stimulate interest in possibly starting local teams and to help them recruit for their own teams.

Quest: And another sign of how serious this year's pride event will be, there is a deadline for vendors to get involved, isn't there?



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Schultz: Definitely. There are forms that need to be turned back in by June 1. We have a vendor packet that's available on the NEWPride website - www.newpride.org.

DeBaker: Because of various permits and needs - things like power demands for vendorswe have to be prepared and have things in place.

Quest: What has been the greatest challenge to getting things to the point where they are now? **DeBaker:** One of them might be location. We finalized on Joannes Park, but it wasn't our first choice. There were zoning issues. We worked closely with the Park and Recreation Committee in Green Bay. They've been great.

Part of it was a learning curve: some parks may have alcohol, others not. For some parks , the city charges fees that it doesn't at other parks.

Schultz: We also wanted to respect the tradi-

tions that have already been established in the area. We didn't want to step on anyone's toes. We just wanted to create something that was newly invigorating and fun, and visible to the public. We did a lot of fact-finding before we began setting anything up.

DeBaker: We also had to educate companies about pride events. We had to reach out to companies and to individuals to explain to them what is pride, what are the goals of pride.

Quest: This is one of the more conservative areas of the state. Are you concerned or nervous about bring pride so visibly to this area?

Schultz: Because of the fact that we've been going down the proper channels since the beginning of this event, everyone know what this event is all about. The proper authorities have been working with us since the beginning. We're not running into too many obstacles. People seem to be very supportive of this event,

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as long as we follow the appropriate protocols. We've been doing that so I'm not super concerned

DeBaker: Part of this is a testament to the fact that this is 2008. Hopefully as a community we become more progressive, more accepting. Pride is a way to showcase that progress, to allow people in the general community to show that they are accepting. That Green Bay and northeast Wisconsin can have an event like this. With the support from huge names of companies in this area, that helps as well.

Quest: The reason I brought this up is because pride events also tend to draw the attention of the professional provocateurs of the Religious Right. Almost every pride festival in this state has historically been picketed by fundamentalist organizations and individuals.

DeBaker: It's something we've planned for in terms of security. We're working with the city to prevent anything from happening. I think generally the majority of the population recognizes that (protesters) are a small minority of the people who think that way. So you smile, you wave and you move on. We'll treat it the same way as they do in Chicago, Milwaukee or other cities.

Quest: With this being a political season, is there any interest in the event from political types either left or right?

Schultz: In an effort to remain nonpartisan, we'll be extending an invitation to any politicians who would like to attend. We have confirmed that Lieutenant Governor Barbara Lawton will be in attendance at the event.

DeBaker: Actually she's the keynote speaker at the opening ceremony at Noon. We've also have casual conversations with several of the local politicians including Senator Dave Hanson and Rep. Jim Soletski. We've also reached out to U. S. Senator Feingold, Governor Doyle and U. S. Representative Steve Kagen. We're pretty sure, with Barbara Lawton being involved, that we're going to get quite a few responses from politicians and candidates.

Quest: And just as this article comes out, I understand that you will be doing something with the Green Bay Press Gazette.

DeBaker: In line with pride, and to their credit as well, the paper has reached out to us to do a series of articles over the next couples of months to highlight the gay community in northeast Wisconsin to highlight the diverse spectrum within out commu-

Quest: Do you have any other media sponsors as

Schultz: In addition to *Quest*, Madison's *Our*



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DeBaker: And Jones Advertising will be donating some billboards.

Quest: That kind of advertising may be somewhat of a shock to the area's gay community, who aren't very used to having such public notice. Is there a concern that this pride might bring charges that somehow now Green Bay is sort of, as the right wing says, "slouching toward Sodom and Gommorah" on the Bay?

Schultz: I guess my perspective on that is the only way to effectively cause social change where that isn't an issue any more is to live authentically and be true to your values. By having pride events like this, we showing that we're normal people with

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families with children and grandchildren - that we're your neighbors.

DeBaker: Pride is in the same vein as some of the other cultural events that happen in northeast Wisconsin. The Hispanic community gets together every year. So does the Hmong community. There are Belgian Days, Polish Polka Days too. Pride is designed to show our particular niche and our culture, and hopefully promote tolerance.

Quest: But how about the things that tend to get all the media coverage? The leather daddies and the drag queens. You know that the gay lawyers don't get the kind of footage that the drag queens do.

Schultz: We welcome everyone's participation in pride, as long as the participation is respectful of others. We want everyone's presence and involvement.

DeBaker: We've had members of the N.E.W. Brotherhood and the Argonauts involved in the planning so far. We had participation on various levels from a wide variety of community members. We welcome it - it's part of who we are. We're not



looking to whitewash our community - we're looking to highlight it and showcase it.

DeBaker: We're looking at having the Transgender Transformation group that works closely with Positive Voice to do a presentation in the shelter (the festival's cultural and educational programming area) at some point of time in the day if they're willing. Having their presence there is important to us as well.

Quest: So there's going to be some educational

focus, but there's going to be a party too.

DeBaker: Right. It's gonna be a good time.

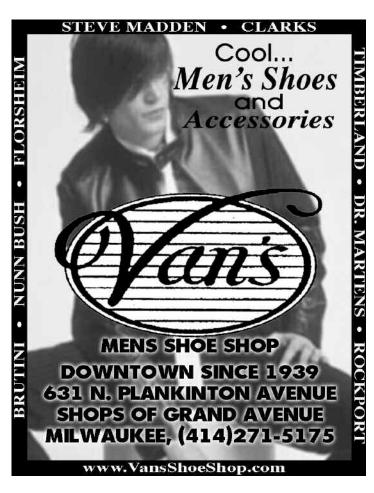
Quest: And how can people learn more, get involved or ask questions?

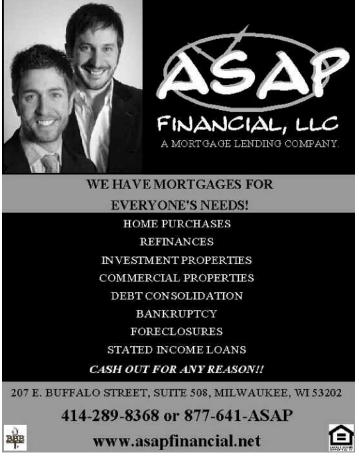
DeBaker: The website is www.newpride.org. The email address is info@newpride.org. For those without computers, you can call give the NEWPride number a call: It's 920-471-3260.

Quest: Is there any event where people could come to learn more about NEWPride?

Schultz: That's a good question! We recently participated in the women's studies and LGBT studies conference at UW-GB, but that's already passed. There's also the Positive Voice Annual Business Meeting and Dinner on May 12 at Liberty Hall in Kimberly. We'll be talking about pride there. Don't forget to look at the articles coming in the *Green Bay Press-Gazette* as well.

DeBaker: And we'll on the radio around the end of June. Of course, we'll be sharing all the news with *Quest* for sure, so everyone can look right here too!





Mother Mabel sent us these pics from the recently held Mr & Miss Club 1226 Pageant held in Oshkosh at the namesake club. Below is a photo that includes the owners front and center!



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SCHWARZENEGGER FLIP FLOPS: NOW OPPOSES GAY MARRIAGE BAN

San Diego - California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger now says that if an initiative to ban gay marriage qualifies for the November ballot, he's prepared to fight it.

California's governor spoke April 11 in San Diego at the convention of the Log Cabin Republicans, the nation's largest gay Republican group.

He has previously vetoed bills that would have legalized gay marriage. A Schwarzenegger spokeswoman did not say what prompted the governor to shift his position.

Schwarzenegger said he was confident a ban would never pass in California and called the effort "a waste of time."

As he reflected on the LCR convention, Log Cabin President Patrick J. Sammon felt that it was

clear that his place in the GOP is more necessary than ever. "Our Party is at a crossroads and, thanks to the leadership of allies such as Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, we are going to win back the heart of the Republican Party for the next generation of Americans," Sammon wrote in an April 16 email to supporters obtained by *Quest*.

GLSEN NATIONAL DAY OF SILENCE TO HONOR MEMORY OF SLAIN GAY TEEN

Hundreds Of Thousands of Students Expected To Participate

New York - This year's 12th Annual National Day of Silence on April 25 will be held in memory of Lawrence King, the 15-year-old California student who was shot and killed at school last February by a 14-year-old classmate because of King's sexual orientation and gender expression.

The Day of Silence is held by students every year to bring attention to anti-LGBT name-calling, bullying and harassment. According to organizers, the senseless tragedy at E.O. Green Junior High in Oxnard, California brings even more meaning to a day that has brought hope to millions of students.

Hundreds of thousands of students are expected to participate by taking some form of a vow of silence for the entire day or part of it. Their efforts will be supported by hundreds of community-based "Breaking the Silence" events at the end of the day. Together, concerned students will create a powerful call to action in order to prevent future tragedies.

Students will hand out speaking cards during the Day of Silence that read: "Silent for Lawrence King: Please understand my reasons for not speaking today. I am participating in the Day of Silence (DOS), a national youth movement bringing attention to the silence faced by lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people and their allies. My deliberate silence echoes that silence, which is caused by anti-LGBT name-calling, bullying and harassment. This year's DOS is held in memory of Lawrence King, a 15 year-old student who was killed in school because of his sexual orientation and gender expression. I believe that ending the silence is the first step toward building awareness and making a commitment to address these injustices. Think about the voices you are not hearing today."

The Day of Silence is sponsored annually by the Gay Lesbian & Straight Education Network (GLSEN). The organization's 2005 National School Climate Survey found that four out of five LGBT students report verbal, sexual or physical harassment at school and 29% report missing at least a day of school in the past month out of fear for their personal safety. The Day of Silence is one way students and their allies are making anti-LGBT bullying, harassment and name-calling unacceptable in America's schools.

For more information and a complete collection of organizing materials, visit www.dayofsilence.org.

MINNESOTA GAY EQUALITY RALLY DRAWS A THOUSAND

St. Paul - Over 1,000 people rallied outside the Minnesota state capitol building here April 17 to promote equality for the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender population in the Gopher State. Representatives from over 110 cities from across the state attended the rally.

OutFront Minnesota Just Fair Lobby Day participants met and talked with their lawmakers about GLBT equality during the day.

"We're here to keep moving Minnesota forward," House Speaker Margaret Anderson Kelliher said to the crowd at the kickoff rally.

OutFront delivered a petition to Governor Tim Pawlenty – asking him to pass

the bill that would enable the state to offer domestic partner benefits to their employees. "This is really our chance to think and hope and dream of a better state. This is also our chance as GLBT people and allies to really think about what we want our movement to look like in the years to come," OutFront Public Policy Director Monica Meyer said.

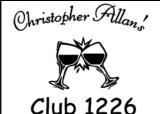
The legislation has passed the Senate and awaits action in the House.

NEARLY 1,000 UW-STOUT STUDENTS PROTEST WESTBORO WACKOS

Menominee - Four members of Kansas' notorious "god hates fags" sect found more than a chilly morning here April 10. Nearly 1,000 UW-Stout students, faculty and city residents thronged the streets outside UW-Stout's Memorial Student Center to protest the Westboro Baptist Church's (WBC) demonstration in response to the accidental deaths of three students in a house fire nearly a week earlier. The locals were joined by other visitors from as far away as Eau Claire.

According to a press release issued by the family cult led by Fred Phelps, "God





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sent the fatal fire" and the students "died for Wisconsin and Minnesota's sins."

Campus and local police were on hand to monitor the miniscule demonstration and massive counter-protest. According to Menominee Police Chief Dennis Beety, reported that four WBC members, including Shirley Phelps-Roper, arrived at the university in the sect's van, had coffee in the student center, then came out at around 7:30 AM. They were directed by UW-Stout campus police officers to stand on a corner across from the center.

Cult members carried signs inscribed with messages like "Don't Worship the Dead," "God's Wrath Is Revealed," and "Pray for More Dead" in addition to those with their typical anti-gay rhetoric.

One Stout student was arrested by campus police after he stole signs from the backpack of one of the church members. "He was apprehended immediately by UW-Stout officials and whisked off to jail by a member of our department," Beety told *Dunn County News* reporter Barbara Lyon.

Counter-protesters waved signs of their own. Among those messages were "Hate is Sin in God's Eyes" and "God Hates No One." The crowd then surrounded the foursome, chanting, "Go home."

The WBC protesters then asked to leave and were escorted by the authorities to their van. Though the cult had claimed in a press release that they would protest for 45 minutes, the group headed out of the city less than 20 minutes after they had begun their demonstration, headed to their next announced destination, the First Baptist Church of St. Paul and the funeral of April Englund, one of the three students who died in the fire on April 12.

"Having witnessed and experienced some of the riots of the late 60s and early 70s," Beety said, "this was a very peaceful demonstration by those who opposed the beliefs of the Westboro Baptist Church members."

University Relations Director Doug Mell agreed with the police chief's assessment, noting the WBC's history picketing military funerals. "Obviously, emotions were running high," he said. "Our students were incredibly well-behaved but I think their message came through loud and clear. They rejected the hate-mongering that this group came to UW-Stout to deliver."

Mell added that the students stood up for diversity. "They stood up for people who were gay, straight, black, white, Hmong," he said. "They embraced the diversity which obviously this group that came to UW-Stout today does not embrace."

Mell said the students also stood up for real family values. "They stood up for the families and the memories of the three UW-Stout students who were killed in the fire," Mell noted. "Obviously, it was abhorrent that this group tried to use that tragedy to deliver their hatefilled, anti-gay message. But our students showed in no uncertain terms that they rejected that effort - and did it in a very peaceful way, but in a very forceful way."



MILWAUKEE PRIDE PARADE NAMES JUDGES, HOTEL PARTNER

Milwaukee - The Milwaukee Pride Parade has announced its judges for the 2008 parade. They are Andrew DeBaker, Marilynn Mee and a mystery judge from Madison.

Debaker is the co-chair NEWPride, the Northeast Wisconsin Pride event scheduled for July 11 and 12 in Appleton and Green Bay. (DeBaker and co-chair Andrea Schultz preview the major revitalization of pride events in the Green Bay/Fox Valley area elsewhere in this issue of *Quest*.)

Mee is the midday host on Cream City's 96.5 WKLH Classic Rock and a staple of the radio industry in Milwaukee for many years. In addition to her on radio show she also is a active supporter of the Wisconsin Humane Society.

The final parade reviewer will be a mystery judge from Madison Pride, the successor to the long-held and well-remembered MAGIC Weekend. This year's event will be held on July 19-20. The Milwaukee Pride Parade is also happy to announce a

partnership with the Hampton Inn Milwaukee-Airport. Through this partnership the Milwaukee Pride Parade has been able to negotiate a special room rate for the thousands of people who travel to Milwaukee for the Pride Weekend. Specially priced rooms will start at \$89 per night with complimentary shuttle service to and from the Pride Parade and other Pride events. For more information on room rates can contact Inn Manager Matthew J Landgraf by phone at: 414-762-4240 or via email at: landgraf@raymondteam.com.

The Milwaukee Pride Parade will step off on a route through the city's gay entertainment district on Sunday, June 8 at 2 PM. For more information about the parade route, sponsorships, and entry applications contact Brett via phone at 414-607-3793 or email at: coordinator@prideparademke.org. Information about this year's event and photos from the 2006 and 2007 parades is also available online at the parade website: www.prideparademke.org.

"WHAT MAKES A FAMILY" TO BE EXPLORED APRIL 27

Madison - Dr. Paula Pedersen, Assistant Professor of Psychology at the University of Minnesota-Duluth, specializing in Human Sexuality & Intercultural Effectiveness, will engage us in an interactive and thought-provoking stroll through the nostalgia of "family" Sunday, April 27 at 2 PM at the First Unitarian Society auditorium, 900 University Bay Drive here

Through personal stories and historical review, Dr. Pedersen will challenge traditional and contemporary notions of what it means to be a family. She will challenge attendees to find their own assumptions and limits of how we as a society define family, identifying how such personal and historical lenses can leave LGBT people, as well as other families, out of focus and outside the margins.

Dr. Pedersen's presentation is part of the 2008 William and Joyce Wartmann Lecture series. A reception will be held following the talk.

The First Unitarian Society at 900 University Bay Drive, is located just north of University Avenue. The parking lot is currently limited to those with handicap passes and others with walking difficulties. Parking is also available near by in the Doctors Park and along the Arbor Vitas just north of the railroad tracks.

For more information, contact the First Unitarian society at: 608-233-9774.

RICHARDS TO SPEAK AT SAGE/MILWAUKEE LUNCHEON AND ANNUAL MEETING

Milwaukee - 19th District State Assembly Representative Jon Richards will provide an update on legislative events and issues at SAGE/Milwaukee's Luncheon and Annual Meeting, Sunday, April 27 at the Astor Hotel, 924 E. Juneau, here. The event will begin with a reception and silent auction at Noon, followed by a luncheon at 1:30 PM, Rep. Richards' talk and the LGBT senior organization's Annual Meeting.

Tickets for SAGE members are \$22 each,

and \$27 for non-members wishing to attend. Reservations are necessary for the luncheon. For more information, luncheon selections and payment options including low income sponsorships, contact SAGE at 414-224-0517.

OUTREACH, LGBT SENIOR ALLIANCE TO HOLD MEXICAN FIESTA MAY 1

Madison - OutReach and the Madison Senior Center are cosponsoring a Mexican Fiesta on Thursday, May 1 from 5-7 PM. at the Madison Senior Center, 330 W. Mifflin St. Here.

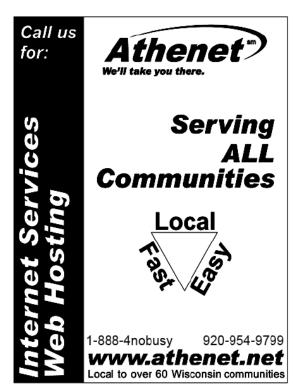
The event will include a taco bar, wine, music and an LGBT Resource Fair. There is a \$6 suggested donation which includes a \$1 parking voucher (parking is available at the Overture Ramp next door). The "Friend Raiser" is especially for LGBT Seniors and their friends and family.

Because both groups are expecting a large turn out, reservations are needed. For more information or to make a reservation, call OutReach at 608-266-6581.

LESBIANS SOUGHT FOR STUDY

Madison - Erin Doolin, a doctoral student in the Counseling Psychology department at the University of Wisconsin-Madison is interested in exploring how sexual minority women know that their community will be there for them. This study asks that women complete a series of questionnaires regarding their definition of community and how connected they feel to that community. Doolin estimates that the onlinequestionnaires will take between 30-40 minutes to complete.

Women interested in participating in this study who identify as lesbian, bisexual, queer, or a woman who loves women, are 18 years of age or older, may contact Doolin by email at: lesbiancommunity@gmail.com, or by phone at: 513-309-2378. Emails and calls with questions or concerns are welcome. Student advisor on the project is Bill Hoyt, Ph.D., who can be contacted by email at: wthoyt@education.wisc.edu.



POSITIVE VOICE TO HOLD ANNUAL MEETING

Kimberly - Positive Voice will hold its Annual Business Meeting and Dinner On Monday, May 12 at the Liberty Hall Convention and Banquet Center here. The evening will begin with a reception at 6 PM followed by dinner at 6:30.

The evening's program is scheduled to begin at 7. In addition to an annual review of programming and elections, attendees will have the opportunity to hear about the upcoming Pride Alive scheduled in Appleton and Green Bay on July 11-12. The organization will also honor its patron level members and above.

Special guests form the Transgender Transformation Group will also be in attendance.

Tickets for the event at \$7 for members, \$12 for non-members. RSVP with payment is due by May 5. for more information, contact Positive Voice by email at: info@pvinc.org.

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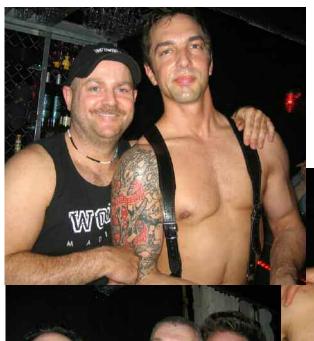
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Madison opened their first LGBT Sports Themed Bar WOOF'S as reported recently in Quest. Tony Ritschard got us these snaps of all the fun they are having without us!

I guess it is time for a road trip then...



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Florentine Director's William Florescu On Bellini & Gay Love Of Opera

Interview by Mike Fitzpatrick

Milwaukee - Opera fans of all sexual stripes will it's really interesting that all the operas of be in their glory this weekend when the Florentine Opera Company presents the Bellini opera I Capuleti e I Montecchi to Milwaukee audiences on April 25-27 at the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts. Quest's Mike Fitzpatrick spoke with the Florentine's General Director William Florescu about the upcoming production, the gay love of opera and much more. The interview will appear in two parts in this and Quest's May 8 issue.

Quest: Let's start off the the question that I think almost every gay man asks himself sometimes in his life: what is it with gays and opera? What makes opera so attractive to the gay male persona?

Florescu: (chuckles) I don't know. Since I'm not a gay man I don't know the answer to that. I only know that as an opera producer that its one of these things that you might say "that's a myth or a stereotype," but there seems to be some reality to it.

I certainly know it's there. I've been doing music now for over thirty years and I certainly know that it does exist. As a producer I'm glad its there because it generates interest in our product which is what I'm all about.

Quest: Well, to be real honest, it's the costumes and in general - though it varies with the composer - the oversized drama and almost melodramatic elements of some of the greatest pieces. And obviously the music helps - and it's a chance to dress up.

Florescu: I think it's not by coincidence that some of the entertainment icons not in the world of opera that have become sort of identified with male gay worship are referred to as divas, which is an appropriation from the world of opera. So I think some of the elements - even if it doesn't involve operatic pieces like you say - the larger than life aspect of it, the glamour, etc. sometimes transcends the genre itself but of course is always present in opera.

Quest: Look at the production that you're going to be kicking off the 75th season with. There's the message of racism and second-class citizenship that permeates Madame Butterfly, for example. And it is true that there was a stereotype that gays bumped themselves off in the last act of almost every play that they were in up until recently. But the whole concept of this wonderful relationship that was betrayed because of societal pressures.

Florescu: In my studies for my Master's thesis

Benjamin Britten, who himself was homosexual at a time in (Great) Britain when that wasn't necessarily a safe thing (to be) - If you look at the subjects of his operas, whether they're serious or comic, they're about the outsider and how they deal with a sometimes hostile world, whether its represented by Peter Grimes or society in general in Albert Herring. I think you make a good point. Madame Butterfly is probably another good analogy to that.

Quest: Let's talk a little about the outreach the Florentine Opera is doing to the gay community.

Florescu: It struck me odd, after I had been here a couple of years, they we hadn't done something like that. Why hadn't we made any kind of contact in a structural way with a community that's very supportive. So I spoke with Scott Stewart our concert master and said "Let's try something! Let's do something to show we are aware of this support."

Any time you are not a part of the community (you wish to reach out to), you're always in danger of stepping your foot into it, in terms of making what might be viewed as a stereotyped assumption. One of the tough things is that if you're making an outreach to the Latino community or the African-American community, that's self evident in who that group is. Whereas with the gay community it's something where the people involved have to let you know that they want to be identified as part of it. I've tried to be very sensitive to that.

So Scott came up with what I thought is a really nice idea: contacting the folks at the Room and setting up an opportunity to meet a cast member and talk a bit about the opera. The first time we did it, it was the coldest night of the year but we had a nice turnout.

It was successful enough that we knew we wanted to try it again. Sort of just take baby steps to show that we really have interest in doing this

Part of the reason I've done this is when I lived in Columbus (Ohio) for 15 years, the gay men's chorus and the opera did some joint fundraisers together. It was really successful.

So I thought, "you know what, the Florentine should be doing something like this." It's part of a larger, philosophical view of mine. The Florentine has always been traditionally very successful. But in my view of it, we've been somewhat inward-looking and not outward-looking to the community in the larger sense. To me this is a very practical and pragmatic part of that. To me, this was a logical step that was long overdue.



Quest: As for the upcoming opera I think most people would be familiar with the story source of Bellini's I Capuleti e I Montecchi.

Florescu: It's interesting that the Bellini story is not based on Shakespeare. It's based on older Italian legends that Shakespeare (Romeo & Juliet) was based on. It has some key differences. One of them - not in terms of how the story is told - but one thing that people who haven't been to an opera before need to be aware of is that the role of Romeo is a travesty role. In other words its a "pants role" - a male role sung by a woman.

Its something that continues to be an operatic convention. You'll occasionally see the role sung by a tenor, but there's another tenor in the opera so that doesn't work. It's all about how the voices fit. With a tenor it doesn't work as well.

But the basic story is the same: they fall in love and they die. But there are slight differences from the Shakespeare.

Quest: Are tickets still on sale for I Capuleti e I Montecchi? Are limited seats available?

Florescu: Friday (April 25) is a good night. Saturday and Sunday tend to sell even bigger, so opening night is a good night to get tickets.

Friday and Saturday performances of the Florentine Opera's production of I Capuleti e i Montecchi will be at 7:30 PM. Curtain for the Sunday matinee performance is 2:30 PM. Single tickets start at just \$25. For more information on ordering your tickets, visit the opera company's website at: www.florentineopera.org or call 414-291-5700 Ext. 224. Limited seating may also be available the night of each performance by inquiring in person at the Marcus Center box office.

Editor's Note: In Quest's May 8 issue, our interview with William Florescu will continue. Be sure to read about opera's user-friendly innovations, the link between opera and NASCAR, how opera is truly the last "real deal," and the Florentine's magnificent, upcoming Diamond Jubilee season.

Quest: Wisconsin LGBT News & Entertaiment - Arts and Entertainment

NEW ON DVD

by Glenn Bishop

BOYS LOVE

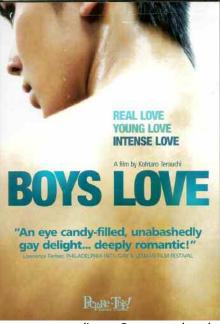
Occasionally Glenn wishes he paid more attention in school. Or any, really. When faced with films from foreign countries, "**Boys Love**" for example, Glenn cannot help but regret the serious deficiencies in his education.

"Boys Love," from Japanese director Kohtaro Terauchi, is a film fashioned after "boys love," or BL, the immensely popular literary form – in Japan – of romances focusing on male/male relationships and intriguingly marketed at females. Here in the USA, this is known as "yaoi."

Uninformed as he is in the world of world literature, Glenn found it necessary to turn to his laptop and perform a "Google" search. Where would we all be without "Google" and the fabulous Wikipedia!

But back to "Boys Love," which offers up story of a magazine editor, Taishin (Kotani Yoshikazu) on an important assignment to interview a beautiful male model/artist/high school student, Noel (Saito Takumi). Taishin, a tall, slender young man is straight-laced and earnest if perhaps rather too young to have already become an editor of a major Japanese magazine. Conversely, Saito Takumi's Noel first appears curiously mature and worldly for someone merely 17 years old.

The interview doesn't go particularly well yet Taishin proves to be sufficiently intrigued by Noel to impulsively invite the



young man to dinner. Once seated at the swank if deserted restaurant, they continue their verbal sparring. Noel might be too young to drink, yet orders a bottle of Dom Pérignon. Perhaps at this point Noel is merely wants to make Taishin just another in a long line of sexual conquests. Or maybe he's really attracted to the shy young man. In any case, Noel follows Taishin into the restroom whereupon he drags his reluctant partner into a stall.

For all of the Taishin's noisy protestations, one might well suspect that he is being ill-used by an angry, horny horde

Buy it, rent it or forget it...

If one can ignore the series of trite, tiresome quotations meant to burden this rather slight gay love story with an absurd notion of profundity, "Boys Life" has much to commend itself. Kotani Yoshikazu and Saito Takumi, both Japanese heart-throbs according to Glenn's research, are cute and quite appealing as the star crossed lovers and more often than not, scantily clad. Fascinating as an introduction to yaoi, "Boys Love" proves a surprisingly refreshing, romantic little film.

Just the facts...

"Boys Love" runs a languid 90 minutes and is in Japanese with English subtitles. "Boys Love" is available on DVD now with a SRP of \$24.95

DVD Extras include a photo gallery and a "Making Of" feature in which all of the cast and crew profess their rampant heterosexuality.

Kotani Yoshikazu took the lead another theatrical film, also titled "Boys Love," which featured a new story and an otherwise new cast. Here Kotani was cast in the part of a young teacher at an all-boys boarding school, who discovers that his new student is the same boy with whom he recently had a sexual encounter.

rather than cute little Noel. The morning after finds a restless Taishin a state of agitated torment. "What is the age of consent in Japan?" pondered Glenn, as he watched Taishin diligently beginning a ritual cleansing in the shower.

Sorry folks, no full frontal.

Surely these two wacky would-be lovers are meant to fall truly, madly, deeply in love so it won't come as much of a spoiler if Glenn confirms this expected development. Still, Taishin's affection comes at a cost – that Noel gives up his naughty, sexually promiscuous ways, applies himself at school and generally becomes a good egg. Director Kohtaro Terauchi

lulls audiences into rose-hued complacency with a series of adorable scenes of Noel and Taishin together, frolicking at the pool, teaching Noel to box, etc. Their's is evidently an altogether purer sort of love, one not to be sullied by sexual desire.

Glenn imagines that this is a (decidedly peculiar) characteristic of yaoi, not a suggestion that gay men in Japan entirely abstain from sex.

Yet a snake lurks in the garden: Noel's childhood friend Chidori (Hiroya Matsumoto). Chidori's passionate love for Noel has for too long gone unrequited and while he has never minded – too much – Noel's frequent one-night stands, Chidori senses real danger in Noel's emerging relationship with Taishin. How far will Chidori go to keep Taishin and Noel apart?

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Serving the LGBT Community for 15 Years





Saturday, April 26
Miltown King's Queer Prom at the Miramar Theater (Locust/ Oakland) Door open at 9pm. \$7 cover. Dress in your Big Bottom Prom Finest!!.

CLUB ICON (Kenosha) 2nd Anniversary Celebration! 8-10 pm invitation only event (get an invitation from a bar staff member. \$5 cover after 10 Buffet, over \$1000 in prizes and give-a-ways, first ICON shot is on the house. Ronnie Nyles performs 8-midnight plus special guest performers.

Club 1226 (Oshkosh) End Of Month Drag Show. Hosted by Neely O' Hara

Tuesday, April 29

Outwords (Milwaukee) Poetry Reading, Milwaukee native Yvonne Zipter will read from her latest chapbook, Like Some Bookie God

KRUZ (Milw) Madonna Night 9-1am New CD Release "Hard Candy"

Midtowne Spa (Milw) BESTD clinic FREE 30-minute HIV testing 6-8:30pm

Friday, May 2

CLUB ICON (Kenosha) Bacardi Party

Milwaukee Gay Arts Center "Livewire " OPEN MIC night 7pm

Saturday, May 3

CLUB ICON (Kenosha) Cinco de Mayo Party

Madison Gay Video Club "Darker Secrets, Sideline Secrets 2" (Culture Q) "Gigolo" (Lucas Entertainment) 8 PM www.mgvc.org , 608-244-8690 (evenings)

Milwaukee Gay Arts Center Women's Voices Milwaukee "Greatest Hits" 7:30 pm

Sunday, May 4

LaCage (Milwaukee) Mr & Miss LaCage Pageant 8:30pm

Saturday, May 10

CLUB ICON (Kenosha) Great Lakes Riders Benefit for ARCW

Monday, May 12

Outwords (Milwaukee) Outwords Book Club will discuss Arnon Grunberg's controversial novel, The Jewish Messiah New members are always welcome.

Tuesday, May 13

Outwords (Milwaukee)The Lesbian Reading Group K.I. Thompson's The Heart of the **Matter** is the book to be discussed. Come and meet the group and discuss a great book!

Wednesday, May 14

Midtowne Spa (Milw) BESTD clinic FREE 30-minute HIV testing 6-8:30pm

Saturday, May 17

Madison Gay Video Club "Socket" (TLA Releasing, dir. Sean Abley, 2007) "East Berlin" (Raging Stallion, dir. Collin O'Neal, 2007) 8:00 PM, http://www.mgvc.org, 608-244-8690 (evenings)

CLUB ICON (Kenosha) Mr. & Miss WI United States Pageant

Sunday, May 18

KRUZ (Milw) 3-7pm Castaways MC Beer/ soda Bust-- Anyone in Boots & boxers gets \$2 off their bust. there will be prizes given away \$1.00 donation or \$5.00 crotch to floor

Milwaukee Gay Arts Center Coyote Grace, acoustic duo from Seattle 7pm

Friday, May 23

CLUB ICON (Kenosha) Jager Party

Saturday, May 24

CLUB ICON (Kenosha) SWEAT-Club ICON Pride 08 Benefit

Tuesday, May 27

Midtowne Spa (Milw) BESTD clinic FREE 30-minute HIV testing 6-8:30pm

Saturday, May 31

MONA's (Milwaukee) Live Julie Schurr... Julie's music is a mix of indie rock and "bitchfolk". Very unique, yet not completely off the beaten track... cdbaby.com \$5 at the door.

Weekly Bar Specials	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Art Bar	Free Pool \$2 Mystery Beer	2fer Tuesday 2-4-1 til12am	Double It for a Buck!	\$5 Martini	\$5 Margaritas	\$2 Shot Special	\$4.40 Bloody Marys
Ballgame	2–4–1 Rail Day	\$3 Jagermeister Bombs	Tuesday & Thursday 9pmP	'ull tabs Drinks as low as 25¢	May Drink Special: \$2	2 Shots of Doctors Check	out the new music system!
ВООМ	2-4-1 Pitchers Miller Lite	Karaoke with 2–4–1 Leine's	Bad Boys Nite Out	\$3 Tall Pinnacle Flavored Vodka	Beer Bust 5-9 pm	Beer Bust 2-6 pm	Open 2 pm
City Lights Chill	\$1 Mugs	\$2 Shots	\$4 Mug and a Shot	\$2 Domestic Bottle Beer	\$4 Martini & Cosmo	12"Pizza & Pitcher for\$12	\$3 Pints Rail Mixers
FLUID	2-4-1 All Day & Nite	\$3 Jagermeister & Bacardi O Bomb	s \$1 off Miller Bottles	\$3.50 Cosmos	Tue-Fri Happy Hour 5-8pm	\$4 Long Islands/Long Beach	\$3 Rail Bloody Mary, Screws & Greyhounds
LaCage	Movies'n \$4Martinis	Male Dancers \$4 Effen Mixers \$6 Effen Martinis	2–4–1 Drinks all nite	\$4 Mixers \$6Martinis DJ Wizz Kid	Trans-Fromation Female Impersonators		2-4-1 Absolute, Grey Goose & Effen Drinks
SWITCH		Sign up now for	Spring Volleyball	Karaoke after 8pm	Male Strippers 10:30pm	Saved@Switch DJ Doug	Male Strippers 10:30pm
TRIANGLE	\$2 Absolute Drinks	2-4-1 All Night \$.2 domestics & Texas Hold'em	Thursday Nite Show	Bacardi Fridays \$3 shorts \$5 Talls	2–4–1 Taps 6am–Noon Friday, Saturday,Sunday	Guise n Dolls 10:30pm 3rd shift Happy Hour

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LGBT Arts, Sports and Entertainment Organizations

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Cream City Squares (414) 445-8080 djdilges@execpc.com www.iagsdc.org/creamcity

Front Runners

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Holiday Invitational Tournament PO BOX 899 Milwaukee, WI 5320 (414) 881-8071 director@hitmilwaukee.org www.hitmilwaukee.org

Harmony Cafe 124 N. Oneida St. Appleton WI 54915 920-734-223 www.harmonycafe.org www.myspace.com/harmonycafe

Men's Voices Milwaukee 315 W Court Street Milwaukee, WI 53212 (414) 765-9198 www.mvmchorus.org

Metro Milwaukee Tennis Club 3957 North 81st Street Milw, WI 53222 (414) 616-3716 Moenell@MSN.COM www.milwaukeetennis.com

Miltown Kings www.myspace.com/miltownkings

Milwaukee Gay Arts Center 703 S 2nd Street Milw, WI 53204 (414) 383-3727 milwgac@yahoo.com

Milwaukee Pride Parade P.O. Box 070177 Milw, WI 53207 414-607-3793 www.prideparademke.org

PO BOX 511763 Milwaukee, WI 53203 (414) 272-3378 www.pridefest.com

Saturday Softball League 2333 N 56th Street Milwaukee, WI 53210 (414) 350-7147 www.ssblmilwaukee.com

Shoreline Country Dancers 2809 E. Oklahoma Ave Milwaukee, WI 53207 info@shoreline-milw.org www.shoreline-milw.org

Wisconsin Gay Hockey (414) 202-5874 wigayhockey@wi.rr.com home.wi.rr.com/wigayhockey

Women's Voices Milwaukee 315 W Court Street Milwaukee, WI 53212 (414) 534-5645

LGBT Service and Advocacy Organizations

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Cream City Foundation 315 W Court Street Milwaukee, WI 53212 (414) 225-0244 director@creamcityfoundation.org

Diverse And Resilient 1240B East Brady Street Milwaukee, WI 53202 (414) 390-0444 director@diverseandresilient.org www.diverseandresilient.org

Fair Wisconsin 122 State St Suite 309 Madison, WI 53703 (608) 441-0143 www.fairwisconsin.org

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Gemini Gender Group PO BOX 44211 Milwaukee, WI 53214 (414) 297-9328

Human Rights League-Political Action Committee (HRL-PAC) PO BOX 510407 Milwaukee, WI 53203 (414) 319-9863 www.hrl-pac.org

Lesbian Alliance 315 W Court Street Milwaukee, WI 53212 (414) 272-9442 lamm@milwpc.com

Log Cabin Republicans PO BOX 199 Milwaukee, WI 53201 (414) 755-1954 membership@lcrwi.com Milwaukee LGBT Community Center

Milwaukee LGB1 Co 315 W Court Street Milwaukee, WI 53212 (414) 271-2656 www.mkelgbt.org

Pathfinders 1614 East Kane Place Milwaukee, WI 53202 (414) 271-1560 info@tccmilw.org www.tccmilw.org

PFLAG Milwaukee 315 W Court Street Milwaukee, WI 53212 (414) 299-9198 pflagmilwaukee@hotmail.com

PFLAG Racine/Kenosha PO BOX 580058 Pleasant Prairie, WI 53158 (262) 694-2729 pflagkenosha@aol.com

Positive Direction Milwaukee (414) 461-5894

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Wauwatosa Rainbow Association (aka Rainbow Fireflies)

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Rainbow Over Wisconsin 702 East Wisconsin Avenue Appleton, WI 54911 www.rainbowoverwisconsin.org

SAGE Milwaukee 1845 North Farwell Suite 220 Milwaukee, WI 53202 (414) 224-0517 email@sagemilwaukee.org

Transgender Aging Network 6990 N Rockledge A Glendale, WI 53209 (414) 540-6456 loreecd@aol.com

UWM LGBT Resource Center UWM Union WG89 P.O. Box 413 Milwaukee, WI 53201 (414) 229-4116 jrmurray@uwm.edu www.uwm.edu/Dept/OSL/LGBT

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

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LGBT Social Groups

hwmtmilwaukee@aol.com

www.bwmtmilwaukee.org

jennieragland@wi.rr.com

The Brunch Club

Black and White Men Together PO BOX 091475 Milw., WI 53209 (414) 540-9437

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

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

Bear Club 4 Men PO Box 13463 Green Bay, WI 54307 www.bc4m.com

Castaways PO BOX 1697 Milwaukee, WI 53202

Femme Mafia Milwaukee nemafiamke

(414) 774-9470 tosarainbow@yahoo.com

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

Footstep Fellowship
First Presbyterian Church Chapel
(715)355-8641
P.O. Box 171 Wausau, WI 54402
footstepfellowship@yahoo.com
www.geocities.com/footstepfellowship

Milwaukee Metropolitan Community Church P.O. Box 1421 (1239 W. Mineral St) Milwaukee, WI 53204 (414) 383-1100 info@queerchurch.org pastor@milmcc.org www.queerchurch.org

N.E.W. Brotherhood PO Box 12793 Green Bay, WI 54307 www.NEWBrotherhood.org

Over 50 Men's Group (NE Wisc) (920)495-9714 giannicontra@att.net

Rainbow Families c/o PFLAG 315 W Court St. Milwaukee, 53212 mkerainbowfamilies@hotmail.com

Plymouth Church 2717 E. Hampshire Ave. Milwaukee, 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

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@uumilwaukee.org www.uumilwaukee.org

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

Other Service Agencies with LGBT Programming

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

Brady East STD (BESTD) Clinic 1240 East Brady Street Milwaukee, WI 53202 (414) 272-2144 bestd@execpc.com www.bestd.ora

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

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

OutReach 600 Williamson Street, Suite P1 Madison, WI 53703 (608) 255-8582 (phone) (608) 255-0018 (fax) www.outreachinc.com





Quest Classified ads have been a FREE RACINE service to the LGBT Community for 12 Years! Advertise a room for rent, sell items vou no longer need or take advantage of the BEST classified personals in the State. Please note...if you charge for a service (massage/escort, remodeling, cleaning, etc.), we consider these as business classifieds for which there is a \$10 charge per issue for each. You must be at least 18 years old to run a classified ad; we require your signature stating you are at least 18 along with a phone number to contact you if necessary. Emailed classies may use our email address in lieu of a signature. LIMIT COPY to 40 WORDS or less. (NO classified ads over the phone or from incarcerated folks) Each classified ad will run a minimum of two times unless you request a single run. If you wish to run ads longer, you must submit a new request after each ad has run twice.

FOR RENT / ROOMMATES CLINTONVILLE RENTAL

WANTED: Have a new job, need a room or small aprtment, preferably furnished, right away in Clintonville. Call (920)360-8696 [2]

FOX VALLEY/GREEN BAY

Green Bay Roommate Wanted to share large three bedroom house with two others near downtown area. \$400 includes everything. Bathroom off bedroom, furnished or unfurnished. Must be quiet, responsible, employed, no pets. Call Dave at 920-217-4280.

METRO MILWAUKEE/SOUTH-EASTERN WISCONSIN

6004 West Lincoln Avenue GREAT Location near 60th and Lincoln. 1,200sf. **OFFICE OR RETAIL**. FREE Design Services. \$9.50sf triple net. Approximately \$1,205 total per month for 1,200 sf. (414)-852-3812.

RACINE ONE **BEDROOM** UPPER available now. \$400/ plus security deposit. Located near N. Memorial + Hamilton. Freshly renovated throughout, hardwood floors. Stove and fridge included. You pay your own utilities. Call Mark at (414) 699-2027. [1]

ONE **BEDROOM UPPER** HEAT INCLUDED. plus \$475/month security deposit.Completely renovated with new ceramic tub surround, hardwoods refinished, all new paint in every room. Includes stove and fridge. You pay own electric. Available May 1st. Call Mark

WEST ALLIS near 96th & National -1 Bedroom apt 4 rent. \$475/month incl appliances, heat, electric & laundry. Clean nice yard & safe area. Offstreet parking. Call (414)545-6539 6-8pm

at (414) 699-2027 [1]

WASHINGTON HEIGHTS-2176 NORTH 51ST Great Neighborhood. Very Gay Friendly - 2 Bedroom upper. Charming Living and Dining Rooms with built-ins, Hardwood floors, and ceiling fans. Remodeled Kitchen and Bath. Garage included. Pets OK. Rent \$650 call 414-331-0964 [1]

Spacious one bedroom upper, full bath with shower, kitchen, dining room & living room. You are living above the owner. No Smoking, pets, waterbeds or loud noises allowed. Recently painted. Utilities not incld except hot water. Off street parking can be arranged. Month to month lease, security deposit and credit check required. Please call (414)671-5490 leave message with return number and best time to call. Thank you. [1]

BEAUTIFUL LOWER UNIT IN DUPLEX. \$800, 2 bedrooms, available June 15. 2 ½ blocks west of park & lake. 1814 E. Estes St. Wood floors, woodwork, & molding. Ceiling fans. Appliances & water/sewer included. Non-smokers, no pets please. Gay owned. 414-403-7883. [2]

Looking for a non-smoking roomate to share our large home on Milwaukee's upper east side. Private phone line is available. Dish network for TV hook-up is in your room. We are easy to get along with. Close to UWM, bus lines and shopping. \$400 plus security. Call Tom for more info before 9pm or leave message. (414)963-1315 [7/23]

HELP WANTED / **SERVICES OFFERED** LOOKING FOR MALE TO HELP DISABLED MIDDLE AGED MAN

with chores and daily living duties. No rent, modest payment for assistance. N/S, clean and honest. Reliable references required. 920-738-0112 after 6pm please. [1]

AUTO TECH STUDENT seeking part time entry-level employment in the automotive field, RACINE & KENOSHA counties. Serious Replies Only.

Email: enginestudent29@aol.com [1]

SEEKING A GAY MALE TO **CLEAN** 1 BR apt every 2 - 3 weeks. More hours available, Good pocket money for student. Minimal to moderate cleaning. Must be responsible and reliable. References a MUST! Eastside Milw location. 414 225 9683 [2]

FOR ALL YOUR TRAVEL NEEDS GO TO WWW.MARKSNETTRAV-EL.COM I can make any Travel Need Come True, Dream, Explore, Experience what's over the Rainbow.

FOR SALE or TRADE WANTED TO BUY Out of Style, & no longer available in stores, mens shirts & jackets from the 1970's, 80's & 90's Ph. Jim The Memorabilia Collector @ (262)637-2539 after 12 noon [2]

Silicone breast enhancers normally \$340 now \$200-225 all sizes & colors. Hair pieces, human & artificial available. Discreet photography and all transactions discreet. Rick (414)321-8005 [5/21]

THERAPUETIC MASSAGE & REIKI

Experience REIKI Healing - Reiki is a form of touch therapy which is effective for relaxation, stress relief and to promote the body's natural ability to heal. Reiki is not erotic and is done fully clothed. \$35/1 hr session. Call 414-793-4828 or email MilwaukeeReiki@yahoo.com [5/7]

50 year old CERTIFIED MAS-SAGE THERAPIST in Appleton offering Sweedish relaxation, sports massage and deep tissue massage in my private studio by appointment only. Please call (920)915-4318 Serious inquiries only please. [5/7]





SENSUAL MASSAGE

I offer very discreet relaxing, therapeutic or sensual/erotic massage services to interested individuals. If you are in need, please contact me for more hunginformation at topguy@gmail.com for more information or to set up an appointment. [8/13]

Man-2-Man Massage for men who care for their bodies. \$50/hr In or Out calls. Treat yourself to a very relax-Experienced in Sweedish or ing full body massage. Ladies Deep Tissue (920)737-2769 Green Bay - Married, Straight, Valley area. Page me (920) Bi, or Gay men in good shape. 613-3835 [6/18]

Massage and More! by a cute, smooth stud. (414)614-8883 masseur w/ table. 34, 5'9", 50" Outcalls Only. [7/23]

50 year old certified massage therapist in Appleton offering Sweedish relaxation, sports massage and deep tissue massage in my private studio by appointment only. Please call (920)915-4318 inquiries only please. [5/7]

welcome, too! Green Bay/Fox

BODYBUILDER certified chest, 30" waist, 220 lbs. German/Italian. Very good looking, huge and ripped. Nude/erotic. Milwaukee/ Bavview area. In/Out. Jeff (414) 690-9706 [5/7]

PERSONALS Serious **MESSAGES**

Central Wisconsin Pride Festival, this year at Amherst fair grounds, Portage County WI, August 2, We're raffling a 56" Samsung HDTV. Tickets on sale now at the bars around and pride members. Come join in the fun. Hope to see you all there. FMI www.centralwisconsinpride.com

Hi guys. Bi & Gay club meeting May10th at Billevs and Chucks in Ladysmith, 320 West 2nd St South. Join us, all welcome! Pot luck dinner starts 2pm plus plant and bulbs exchange. Call terry (715)654-5044 or Billy or Chuck at (715)532-0995

Out on the town? Please drive responsibly. DO NOT DRINK & DRIVE, call Yellow Cab, Green Bay 920-435-1111

CROSSDRESSING

Be my hot bitch! BiWM 39, 5'11" 180# looking for male between 20-40 to wear lipstick & nylons, make out and take it like a pussy in heat. Call T.D. (414)469-4183 [1]

Geranamo: Anxious anxious anxious - please call. Be sure to clearly leave your phone number. Rachel. (262)496-0364 [1]

I am a lonely black male who dreams of having men, tranny's, trans or groups of guys just stop by my apartment between 11pm & 4am for hugging, caressing, kissing and oral. Mel at 7357 West Beloit Road, Apt#6, Milw. also if you're looking for early relief on the way to work in the morning, stop by. [2]

Bi white male travels to Wisconsin every two weeks (from Chicago through Milwaukeee to Johnson Creek) Seeking guys, TS or Crossdressers. I'm 6'2" 238lbs. 6.5inches. discreet meetings and be d/d free. send a message and pics to allstateperson@yahoo.com [2]

Looking for passible cd ts or tv hot and sexxxxxxxxxy male in milwaukee looking for passible cd tv or ts for fun and adventure i am 510 195 7cut thick and love to kiss cudle and have kinky sex you must be passible i love a man in nylons and silky and lace bras lipstick wigs and very sexxxxxxxy please email kmz@wi.rr.com or call keith at 1-262-8801198 lets met and make sweet music together

Older man wants to meet crossdressers , very private residence. ask for don, 262-994-5977 [2]

MEN looking for MEN

GWM 44, 5'7" 170# with dark hair & eyes. Looking for LTR with down to earth guy 30-50. Not into bars, D&D free living in LaCrosse. into photography and 80's music. Email sglewin@yahoo.com

GWM 50's 5'7" 180# into body shaving, feet, oral & very adaptable. Seeking open minded, in-shape males for shaving fun. Also open to w/s activity. (414)234-0027 Ken

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

LOOKING FOR BUDDY!

caring, loyalty, a+! love Vegas, beaches, walking, playing games, talking nutrition or travel! 773-569-6333 tom 3658 w. 79pl., Chicago. pen pal wanted too! [1]

SINGLE HOT 21 YO White-Latino male in Racine. 6' 160 pounds of muscle, 7" cut sexy guy seeking men for adult fun. I like business men, voung skinny men and vou must come to Racine. I love sex and I am super hot! Contact me at awoodcock34@yahoo.com Send pics & number. contact me for details. [1]

ORAL INTIMACY MALE TO MALE, very good, must be clean, drug and disease free, please call 262-994-5977. ask for Don. [1]

Wisconsin Gay Men! Meet other gay, bi or curious men in your area for FREE! No Games, No Gimmicks, just a quick and easy way to meet hot men in vour area. Call (2428)712-930-CHAT NOW for hot talk and hot action! [P]

Fun, funny, creative, hiker, seeks man for cooking, playing cards, or talking & (773)585-6275 laughs! Chicago or P.O. box 63, Lawrenceville, IL Tommy [1]

a single guy living alone. I've had ads in before and some just see your # and ask you all the same things that you say in your ad. PLEASE READ ALL BEFOR CALLING. I'm 5' 8" 178lb brown hair, green eyes, gotee, 7" I like fishing, camping, walks, dining, moves, like kissing cuddeling, 69, sucking; more top but versatile to some. Not into pain. I live 4hr north of Milwaukee, west (45 Wansan miles) Dorchester in the country. I'smy own place, a hobby farm. NOT into PHONE SEX, dont smoke or do drugs. NOT INTO ANI-IMALS, want a guy not a pet that's not into games. I do live far but it might be worth



HI GUYS I'm TERRY,

Racine, WI 53402 262-638-2435 Open 9am-Midnight

Plainfield, WI 54966 715-335-8277 Open 8am-midnight

Offer expires 5/7/08 Not valid with any other offer.

MUST BE 18 TO ENTER. VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE OR STATE-ISSUED ID REQUIRED.

it! If intrested call (715)564-5044 email rechot@aol.com

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

Still looking for young bottoms or young willing to train in West Central Wis. Will train u to be a total bottom. Call Steve, (608) 427-2269 or e-mail brownie3@mwt.net

Looking for a partner in life: looking for a gay asian to come to Oshkosh to live with me if possible. No diseases and responsible. GWM 54 full of love and affection. Call Rich at 920-426-2683 or drop in at 102 W. Bent Ave, Oshkosh, WI 54901 [2]

GWM 31 yo Bottom 5'8" looking for redneck cowboy type in Green Bay area. (920)412-0083 [2]

UNDERWEAR PARTY only in Central Wisc every month for gays and bi guys only (sorry others) in differnt home every month. If you can host let me know. If intrested (715)654 5044 first one April 20 near Abbotsford off 29hy & 13 [2]

44yo, looks a lot younger, Male, brown hair hazel eyes 6'1" 170lbs, and extremely hotttt!. Seeks other hot lookin males under 40 for great times & posible ltr. I am from Pittsville, WI. Email me with Picture & Phone number, gets my very fast reply at youngpleaser69@yahoo.com (Dominic) [2]

Recently moved back after 30 yrs, looking to meet other gwm for friendship and more if that happens. 56, 5'10, 153, decent shape, like movies, travel, music, staying fit-have a wrestling interest. Call

(920)279-7597 & we can talk.

LOOKING FOR FUN 36w/m looking for cental Wisconsin 18 60. can host Foxrd61@wmconnect.com

WANT TO TRY: Bi-curious WM, 36, drug/disease free. I want to feel someone inside me, either hole. Sex only, no relationships. No overweight men please. Race open, age 20-40. Contact me at eiknujxe@yahoo.com [2]

Photographer wanted for fun exciting erotic revealing photo poses of sexy CD i various sexy-slutty outfits. Discreet naked, good looking, also likes to daytime sessions. Rachel P.O. Box 541 Kenosha 53141 (262)-496-0364

53 year old slave seeks dominant and abusive Master who wishes to totally own and use this slave as he sees fit. Master will control everything and own everything. slave wishes to live as a slave to Master for the rest of its life. Master should be very controlling, abusive and ready to take what he wants. slave to serve as Master wishes, Call slave at 414-429-1349 anytime. Leave a message if no answer [2]

GWM new to area studying at UW Milw. I live very close to university off campus. Friends, dating and LTR at the top of list and NSA at the very bottom. For stats, detail, photos & a clean personal video check out myspace.com/x2zvoice.com [2] (Editor's note: This link did not work when Quest tried it.)

Wanted, lovers of sensual erotic play. Singles, couples open to all types of erotic excitement. Love all forms of sexuality and willing to learn anything new. Open to all ages, races, genders, looks mean nothing, just your interest and open mind and I'll try to meet your needs. I'm a safe, sane, mature older man. Let's talk, Lyle (414) 788-4908 [3]

46 vo GWM 5'10" 200# Br/Br looking for friendship/relationship. I'm a smoker, social drinker, handicapped w/ speech impediment, but Willing to relocate. (262)644-8305 Mark Schicker 326 James St. Slinger, WI 53086 [3]

37, white male, mustache, brown hair & eyes, 5'6", 200 lbs. I am looking for FRIENDS & SEX & Hopefully more if we are Compatible. I don't currently have an Picture yet. Send me a Reply at: billy greene@hotmail.com Billy [3]

slave seeks Master, safe and sane B/D. Serious offers only. Write: Noel, P.O. Box 107 Iron River, MI 49935

Pound 'n half of Groin? ALL Straight/Masculine? MALE? Clean cut Sane? MEN 21-45yrs that crave regular throat service/sessions. Private, discreet, thourough. Show me the beef? PIX get first reply! 326 B.E. Park Ave Libertyville, IL 60048 Leave size info-message otherwise. (847)367-6151 Happy Penis! [3]

GWM 46, 180# brown hair, blue eyes, 7.5 bottom or top, Lake Geneva, Burlington area likes to be kiss, loves to cuddle after sex, nonsmoker. Please ask for Gary (262)749-9811

Older man seeks a few select playmates----must be,clean and drug and disease free. if you are a drunk, don't call. 262-994-5977 [3]

I'm a fun loving 40 yr old in the upper peninsula of Michigan but travel to Greenbay often, looking for some friends to party/hang with. I'm 5' 11' brown blue 175' 8" cut versatile bottom, into anything fun, lets email toddka82000@yahoo.com

Bi looking for MEN & WOMEN Calling all interested Males, Females & couples. Very BiCurious 51 yo white male 7.5" looking for erotic adventure. New to this, but willing to learn and try anything. Clean & disease free a must. Write me at Steve L, P.O. Box 342 Ingleside, IL 60041 [1]

GET INVOLVED!



Milwaukee Pride Parade

Volunteers Needed

P.O. Box 070177 Milwaukee, WI 53207 Ph: 414-607-3793 ParadeCoordinator@prideparademke.org www.prideparademke.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

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

WOOLF'S 114 King Street, Madison

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.totheoz.com (715)842-3225

Club Night Out 2533 Cty. Rd. M, Stevens Point (715)342-5820 www.club-nightout.com

NORTHEASTERN WISCONSIN (920)

PULSE 222 W. Franklin St Appleton (920) 364-9024

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

XS Niteclub 1106 Main Street, Green Bay

Club 1226 1226 Oshkosh Ave Oshkosh, (920)651-1226

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

ROCKFORD, IL (815)

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

SOUTHERN WISCONSIN (262)

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

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

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

ETC (Below LaCage) 801S 2nd, (414)383-8330

Fluid 819 South 2nd (414)643-5843

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

KRUZ 354 E.National (414)272-KRUZ

LaCage Video Dancebar 801S 2nd, (414)383-8330

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

Pumphouse 2011 S. First St. (414)744-4008

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

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

Triangle 135 E National, (414)383-9412

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

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





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Phone: 715-355-8641

email: footstepfellowship @ yahoo.com Mail: P.O. Box 171 Wausau, WI 54402 website: www.geocities.com/footstepfellowship NEW THIS YEAR! ON THE RAINBOW STAGE

8 pm, Saturday, June 7th

BEARAPALOOZA

A musical showcase of performers from the Bear & Leather communities.



Maier Festival Grounds (Summerfest)

Miller Lite Main Stage

2008 Headline Entertainment



Friday, June 6, 2008

Comedian WANDA SYKES

EXCLUSIVE Midwest appearance. Ranked "one of the funniest stand-up comics" by her peers. Among Entertainment Weekly's 25 Funniest People.

Limited Premium Reserved seats available, but all festival ticket types, including general admission at the gate, include headline performances.

New This Year! Print-At-Home Tickets

Buy tickets online and print them at home so you can zip right through the gates!



Saturday, June 7, 2008

Pop Superstar

NATASHA BEDINGFIELD

#1 smash "Unwritten," the most played song on US mainstream radio in 2006, plus top hits "Love Like This," "These Words," "Pocketful of Sunshine," "The One That Got Away."

Limited Premium Reserved seats available, but all festival ticket types, including general admission at the gate, include headline performances.



Sun. June 8, 2008 LGBT Cultural Icons

INDIGO GIRLS

"Closer to Fine," "Galileo," "Hammer and a Nail." One of the most popular folk rock acts of the past 20 years.

MORE RESERVED SEATS ADDED! All festival ticket types, including general admission at the gate, include headline performances.



- Volunteer
- Exhibitor Space
- Pride Guide Ads
- Proud Crowd



















