

Give the People Light and they will find their own way.

The Wisconsin Light

Trojan War Declared By Gay Activists

By John Zeh

[New York, NY]- Carter-Wallace, Inc., maker of Trojan condoms is under attack by Gay activists for its promotional policies on number-one selling Trojan-Enz.

In reports carried in *New York Newsday* and *The Wall Street Journal*, a company spokesman was quoted as saying the corporate giant prefers running ads in mainstream men's publications rather than Gay magazines and newspapers. This, despite research showing that Gay males use more condoms per capita than straight men.

"Gay people don't read different magazines than other people do," the Carter-Wallace spokesman was quoted as telling the press.

Mark Klein, vice president of Trojan Products told *Newsday*, "Our advertising schedule is dictated by target audience reach and cost."

In response, the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) has launched a grass-roots letter-writing campaign to convince Carter-Wallace that it should place ads in Gay publications. In addition, GLAAD also wants to raise the issue of the company's exclusive use of heterosexual images in ads and condom boxes.

GLAAD media committee chair, Stephen Miller, said "It's insulting to target Gay men solely with images of straight couples placed in straight magazines." The company "fears being tagged as the manufacturer of a Gay product," he added.

Miller went on to say that "Condom makers represent the most startling example of advertisers taking Gay dollars while slamming the door on Gay publications."

GLAAD asks that letters of protest, advocating advertising and underwriting of Gay media, be sent to: Henry Hoyt Jr., Chair and CEO, Carter-Wallace, 1345 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10105.

"These policies will only change when the Gay community confronts them and Trojan condoms is a good place to start," said Miller.

NAMES Quilt In Milwaukee December 1

[Milwaukee]- Milwaukeeans have received preliminary approval to observe December 1, 1991, International AIDS Day, with a display of the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt. Eight hundred panels of the NAMES Quilt will be on display at the UW-Milwaukee Student Union, 2200 E. Kenwood Boulevard, from November 30 to December 2, 1991.

The NAMES Quilt is currently composed of more than 14,000 panels, each one remembering the life of someone who has died of AIDS.

The Quilt's trip to Milwaukee is being sponsored by a Host Committee comprised of volunteers from various businesses, organizations and community groups from Wisconsin and the NAMES Project in San Francisco. These include the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP), STD Specialties, the American Red Cross, the Association Interfaith Conference, the Great Lakes Hemophilia Foundation, Greenfield Avenue Presbyterian Church, the Milwaukee County Medical Complex, Price Waterhouse and the UW-Milwaukee Center for Women's Studies, among others.

Milwaukeeans are being invited to create panels for the Quilt. Once completed, the panels will be displayed with the rest of the NAMES Quilt in Milwaukee and then shipped to San Francisco to be sewn into the larger Quilt. If you are interested in making a panel, please call Gloria Wright at (414) 562-0229.

The display will be free and open to the public. For more information, please call STD Specialties at (414) 264-8800.

Wisconsin Jump Starts National Coming Out Day

By Jamakaya

[Madison]- True to its reputation as the original Gay Rights State, Wisconsin will lead the country in celebrating National Coming Out Day, when 10,000 people converge on the capital city October 5 for a March for Lesbian and Gay Rights and Pride.

The Madison march is the largest national event planned to celebrate Coming Out Day, scheduled for October 11. It will provide the jump start for scores of other coming out events throughout the country.

In California on October 11, Gays and Lesbians will demonstrate in Sacramento against Gov. Pete Wilson's recent veto of a Gay rights bill. (See "News Briefs.") In Berkeley, City Council member Ann Chandler will sign an expanded domestic partnership ordinance to take effect on Coming Out Day.

In Washington, D.C., Queer Nation will hold a mass kiss-in at the U.S. Capitol Building.

In New York City, Mayor David Dinkins will issue an official Coming Out Day proclamation, while at the State University at Buffalo, students will festoon the campus with pink and lavender balloons and hold a "Gay Jeans Day."

In Texas, the Dallas Gay Alliance will send people to the County Courthouse to seek marriage licenses.

In Kansas City, Missouri, the Mayor's Commission on Gay and Lesbian Concerns will present its report, and an Art Festival and Street Dance are planned.

In Olympia, Washington, activists hope to see the Rainbow Flag flying over the state capitol.

This is just a sampling of the many events planned from coast to coast, heralded, of course, by the March in Madison.

National Coming Out Day (NCOD) was established in 1988 to mark the first anniversary of the historic March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights, which brought 750,000 people to the nation's capital. The primary goals of Coming Out Day are to increase the self-respect, visibility and political clout of Lesbians and Gay men in America.

"There are more than 30 million Gay and Lesbian Americans, yet most people don't think they know anybody Gay. That is mathematically impossible!" said Lynn Sheppard, Executive Director of the National Coming Out Day Campaign. "Telling the truth about who we are is the most positive thing we can do as individuals and as a community."

"Telling the truth about yourself is a fundamental step in creating better relationships with your family and friends," said Rob Eichberg, co-founder of NCOD and author of *Coming Out: An Act of Love*. "If you are Gay or Lesbian, come out to someone you care about on October 11."

Jean O'Leary, another co-founder of NCOD, added, "Polls indicate that the vast majority of people who report knowing someone Gay overwhelmingly support our rights."

"If the AIDS epidemic has taught us anything," said Eichberg, "it has made it clear that we will only achieve equality under the law if we are out and visible. This cannot be done from the closet."

Organizers of this year's NCOD are encouraging Gays and Lesbians to "Take Your Next Step." Because coming out is a process, a series of steps that take place over months and even years, everyone needs to take a step that is appropriate and comfortable for themselves. "Giant" steps and "baby" steps all count the same!

Please see the list of "Tips For Coming Out" in this issue of the *Light*, and make a commitment to act on the ones that feel right to you.

Happy Coming Out Day everybody!



Debbie Davis (back center) joined friends who walked on stilts to lead off the Wisconsin AIDS Walk on September 22 at Milwaukee's lakefront.

Record Crowd and Pledges Make Second AIDS Walk a Success

[Milwaukee]- An estimated 3,200 people took to the streets along Milwaukee's lakefront in a generous show of support for AIDS care and education at the 2nd Annual Wisconsin AIDS Walk, September 22, 1991. Participants raised \$286,186 for organizations throughout Wisconsin that provide AIDS services, a 50% increase over the first AIDS Walk in 1990.

Doug Nelson, Executive Director of the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) which produced the Walk, said that "the Wisconsin AIDS Walk is the largest event in Wisconsin's history dedicated to raising funds for AIDS care and education and for promoting AIDS awareness among citizens throughout the state." The Walk surpassed its goal of \$285,000 and 3,000 walkers.

The AIDS Walk was preceded by the Walk Leadership Breakfast held at Professional Marketing Services. An estimated 150 people attended, including Sen. Herb Kohl (D-WI), Congressman Jim Moody (D-WI), James Doyle, Wisconsin Attorney General, and Leonard Goldstein, Chair and CEO of Miller Brewing Co., among others.

Addressing the crowd, Goldstein said, "This AIDS Walk is not just a statement that something must be done about AIDS. It is a declaration of war on AIDS. We're going to marshal our resources against this enemy. We're going to fight it and we're going to conquer it."

Nelson added that "Today, through this Walk, we put an end, once and for all, to the stigma of AIDS by affirming that in Wisconsin, we will no longer accept prejudice and discrimination on any front

against people who are touched by AIDS."

The weather, which had begun cloudy, turned bright with some sun as the crowd began to gather at Urban Park around noon for the beginning of the Walk. Those in attendance were of all races, ages and both sexes, signifying the terrible universality that AIDS has become.

At opening ceremonies, emceed by WISN TV-12's Marty Burns Wolfe, the crowd heard Milwaukee Mayor John Norquist specifically address the Lesbian and Gay contributions to fighting the disease. The Mayor, last year's Walk co-chair along with Susan Mudd, his spouse, went on to stress the increase in AIDS cases expected in the immediate future.

The Walk began with Bud and Sue Selig, this year's co-chairs, cutting the ribbon under an arch of balloons. Bud Selig is an owner of the Milwaukee Brewers.

The Walk was led off by Debbie Davis and members of her company, each in stilts and in colorful costumes waving colored streamers in the warm lake air.

Among the thousands participating were people from all over the state, including Madison, Janesville and Beloit. Buses from these cities brought in nearly 100 walkers with many more arriving on their own.

Corporate and business support from these areas was extensive. These include M&I Bank of Hilldale, First Wisconsin National Bank and UW-Madison Residence Halls. Additional support came from Basics Food Store in Janesville and A Different World Bookstore in Beloit.

ACT UP Storms U.S. Senate Session; State Activists Arrested

[Washington, D.C.]- Christopher Fons of ACT UP/Milwaukee and at least three members of ACT UP/Madison were among 37 AIDS activists arrested for storming the Capitol Building in Washington on October 1. The previous day, 83 protesters were arrested for smearing themselves with fake blood and chaining themselves to the gates of the White House.

On October 1, over 450 demonstrators, representing 23 ACT UP chapters nationwide as well as the group Physicians for a National Health Care Program, descended on Capitol Hill demanding a national health care program and an end to the AIDS crisis.

The activists closed Independence Avenue in front of the Rayburn Office Building and stunned members of

Congress with biting guerilla theater on the Capitol steps. The arrests took place in the rotunda of the Capitol Building itself as activist Brad Lengyel disrupted the U.S. Senate while it was in session, demanding universal health care and an end to the AIDS crisis.

"We indict the members of Congress for crimes of greed in their collusion with the AMA [American Medical Association], insurance, and pharmaceutical industries in denying U.S. citizens adequate health care," said ACT UP's Scott Robbie.

The activists pointed out that of all industrialized countries, only South Africa and the U.S. refuse to provide universal health care to their citizens. In the U.S., there are over 40 million people living with no health insurance to assist them.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Gov. Wilson's Veto Stirs Outrage

[Los Angeles, CA]- California Gov. Pete Wilson's September 29 veto of a measure to prohibit job discrimination against homosexuals has ignited a firestorm of protest by Gays and Lesbians. Angry Gays smashed windows and threw firebombs at government buildings in Los Angeles and San Francisco and lobbed fruit and garbage at Wilson as he attempted to address a centennial gathering at Stanford University October 1.

In his veto message, the Republican Governor said that although he did not want to give comfort to the "tiny minority of mean-spirited Gay bashing bigots," he felt Gays were already protected by existing legislation and that the bill would have added further legal burdens to the state's businesses.

Earlier this year, Wilson had expressed support for the bill but, under increasing pressure from conservative Republican colleagues and fundamentalist leaders, changed his mind. The state's Republican Party, meeting in Anaheim recently, voted overwhelmingly against the bill. Wilson, a moderate Republican, has faced criticism from his own party's right wing for raising taxes in the state. Many observers saw the veto as a political move to placate the conservative Republicans.

The day after the veto, the independent California Poll found that the majority of the state's residents supported the bill. If signed, the measure would have made California the fifth state in the union to adopt Gay rights protections.

D.C. Site of Historic Adoption

[Washington, D.C.]- The Washington Blade reports that a Lesbian couple in the District of Columbia have become the first openly Gay couple in the U.S. to adopt each other's children. The women, together for eight years, are now legal co-parents to the children, ages 5 and 2.

"It really is an astounding step forward for the legal integrity of Lesbian and Gay families," Paula Ettelbrick of the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund told the Blade. While historic, the decision is not precedent-setting in the legal sense, because adoption laws vary state by state. However, Ettelbrick said the D.C. case could be cited as an example in other courts.

D.C. Associate Judge Geoffrey Alprin of the Superior Court's Family Division ruled the joint adoptions would "serve the best interests of each child." He agreed with the reasoning of Nancy Polikoff, attorney for the mothers, who argued that any rights the natural mother lost as the result of her child's adoption by the other woman were simultaneously regained through the joint adoption.

Polikoff credited intervention by the Office of Mayor Sharon Pratt Dixon for assisting in the case. The D.C. Department of Human Services (DHS) initially advised Judge Alprin that adoption guidelines prevented such adoptions. After the Mayor's Office urged a review of the statutes, DHS issued a positive report.

Liz Hendrickson of the National Center for Lesbian Rights told the Blade that such adoptions should be pursued state by state. "Joint adoptions are the best way to legitimize our families. It's the best way because it gives both parents a complete, legal parental relationship with their children."

Hoover Squelched Gay Rumors

[Washington, D.C.]- When the operator of a Washington, D.C. beauty salon told a customer in June of 1951 "I hear J. Edgar Hoover is a homosexual," she was visited days later by two FBI agents who "vigorously questioned" her and warned her that such comments "would not be countenanced."

In 1944, agents had interrogated a man in Louisville who claimed that Hoover was Gay. In a memo to the FBI chief, M.W. McFarlin, head of the FBI's Louisville office, promised "to protect you from malicious lying attacks and throw the lies down the throats of those whom utter them."

While agents squelched rumors about Hoover, the FBI director collected information about the sex lives of Eleanor Roosevelt, John and Robert Kennedy, Adlai Stevenson, Martin Luther King, Jr. and other public figures for his own private files.

The new revelations are included in *From the Secret Files of J. Edgar Hoover*, by Marquette University Professor Athan Theoharis. The overall theme of the book is how Hoover "exploited the FBI's resources...to advance his own bureaucratic, political and moralistic agenda during 48 years as director."

Helms Has Prostate Cancer

[Raleigh, NC]- According to Associated Press reports, Sen. Jesse Helms (R-NC), the outspoken opponent of Gay rights and AIDS education and funding, has announced that he is undergoing radiation treatments for prostate cancer.

Although prostate cancer is treatable when caught early, it is the Number 2 cancer killer of men, behind lung cancer, according to the American Cancer Society.

Helms, 69, said he had been receiving treatments five times a week at Bethesda Navy Medical Hospital since the cancer was discovered during a routine test in June.

In July, Helms disclosed that he was also suffering from Paget's Disease, a degenerative disorder that causes weakened and deformed bones.

On Monday, September 23, Helms released a letter from Dr. Robert C.J. Krasner that said that the cancer had been detected early and that "a complete and uneventful" recovery was expected.

Lesbian Couple Hired at Iowa U.

[Iowa City, IA]- The University of Iowa's College of Law has made history by hiring a Lesbian couple, Pat Cain and Jean Love, to teach law under the same roof.

Dean N. William Hines said: "We treated them both as separate candidates, as we would a husband and wife team that were on the market -- two people who wanted to be at the same place and had a relationship with each other."

Love, 47, of Edgerton, WI, teaches torts, federal courts and anti-discrimination law. She has been a tenured professor at the University of California-Davis for 19 years. Cain, 46, of Columbus, GA, teaches federal tax, property, trusts and estates and feminist legal theory. She has been a tenured professor at the University of Texas School of Law for 17 years.

"They bring a richness of experience to the academy that's extraordinary," said Dean Hines. "Being able to get two of these very rare professionals at the same time is an unusual thing."

"We'd like to think we're starting a trend," quipped Love.

Quickies...

[New York, NY]- On September 12, Democrat Tom Duane, a Gay man who is HIV-positive, won a landslide victory over fellow Democrat Liz Abzug in the primary race for a City Council seat for Manhattan's 3rd District. Abzug, an open Lesbian, is the daughter of former Congresswoman Bella Abzug. The district, which includes Greenwich Village, is heavily Democratic, so Duane is expected to win the November contest over his Republican opponent.

[Cambridge, MA]- Harvard University officials announced that Amsterdam has been chosen as the site of the 1992 International Conference on AIDS. The Harvard AIDS Institute canceled the original site, Boston, because of US policies which prohibit people with HIV/AIDS from entering the country. Almost 12,000 scientists, doctors and activists are expected to attend.

[Boston, MA]- Four anti-Gay initiative petitions submitted by the Committee to Restore Traditional Morality have been ruled invalid by Massachusetts Attorney General Scott Harshbarger. Two of the eleven signatories on the original petitions withdrew their names, bringing the total below the ten required to launch the campaign.

News Briefs are compiled by Jamakaya from mainstream newspapers and wire services, organizational press releases and Gay and Lesbian papers from across the U.S.



Milwaukee Brewers owner, Bud Selig and Milwaukee Mayor John Norquist are shown cutting the ribbon at the start of the Wisconsin AIDS Walk in Milwaukee on September 22.

Dinosaur Bones, Fossils on View At LAMM's October 17 Meeting

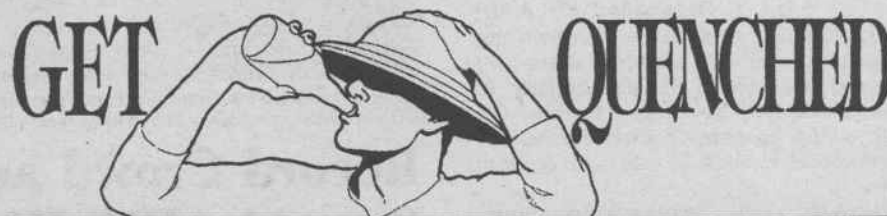
[Milwaukee]- Dinosaur bones, teeth and tendons will be available for fondling at the October 17 meeting of the Lesbian Alliance of Metro Milwaukee (LAMM).

An adventurous LAMM member spent part of her summer vacation at an archaeological dig and has returned bearing fossils ranging in age from 10 million to 200 million years old. An enticing slideshow featuring activities at

the dig will also be presented.

The program begins at 7:00 p.m. after the usual 6:00 p.m. potluck, at the Milwaukee Enterprise Center, 2821 N. 4th Street, one block south of Locust. Secure, lit parking is available.

LAMM meetings are held regularly on the third Thursday of each month and are open to all Lesbians. For more information, call (414) 264-2600.



PARTNERS
813 South First Street • Milwaukee • 647-0130

The Milwaukee AIDS Project

Thanks you for participating in the

1991 Wisconsin AIDS Walk

You helped raised \$286,186,
making the Walk
the most successful
AIDS fundraiser
in Wisconsin history!

THANK YOU!

A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

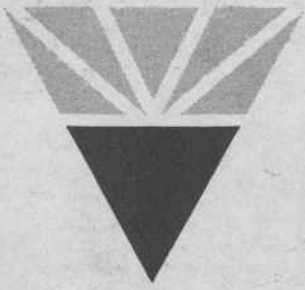


Sunday, September 22, 1991
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

The 1991 Wisconsin AIDS Walk is produced by the Milwaukee AIDS Project and co-sponsored by the Madison AIDS Support Network and the Southeast Wisconsin AIDS Project.

Give the People Light and they
will find their own way.

The Wisconsin Light



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Institutional Member



EDITORIAL

Do the Right Thing: Come Out, Come Out, Wherever You Are!

We at the **Wisconsin Light** heartily concur with the aims of National Coming Out Day and can offer no better advice to anyone who is Lesbian or Gay than to celebrate the occasion by coming out. The advantages — both personal and political — are manifold.

Living in the closet is like living behind a stone wall. You've got your "secret" in the keep, but there's no way it's safe there. Someone, given the slightest crack in your facade, can breach the barriers so that you have to be constantly on the battlements, guarding the works, lest somebody get in and "find you out."

So much energy is expended to so little effect and purpose when you could be free. Yes, sometimes, there's a price to be paid — that's true of anything in life — but how wonderful it is to walk out in the air and feel unburdened and forever free!

In coming out, you have owned yourself, accepted and integrated yourself, and come that much closer to Abraham Maslow's final step of self-actualization.

Wouldn't it be fantastic to be yourself, open, free to create yourself instead of spending energy being on the defensive, leading a life of paranoia and duplicity? Think about it, think hard. Then c'mon down off your wall, take your secret out of hiding and open the gates and walk out happy and proud. You will never regret having that kind of integrity. In the long run, it will strengthen your relationships with others. It will permanently and gloriously enhance your life.

On a political level, we have known for years that our invisibility has been the core of our oppression. Gays and Lesbians experience hate, fear and prejudice because people don't know who we are. We touch the lives of millions of people whose negative view of homosexuality would change dramatically if they knew who we really were: mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, sons, daughters, of all ages, races, religions, aptitudes and political affiliations.

As a community particularly devastated by the AIDS epidemic, we know **literally** that silence equals death. For your own personal liberation as well as for the advancement of all Gays and Lesbians and our future generations, come out today! Take your next step. Do the right thing.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

First of all, since we rapped Milwaukee's public television channels 10/36 for refusing to show **Tongues Untied**, it's only fair to offer kudos to the station for showing **Longtime Companion**. I'm sure they got their share of flack from the "moral-infants-of-the-little-god" (Good mercy!! The film showed two men kissing!), but the picture was terribly moving, painfully so, and in its wrenching pathos, needed to be seen. Thanks to PBS and thanks, too, to the Cream City Foundation for sponsoring it.

And then there's WISN Talk Radio. First J. Allan Schmidt gets himself fired for being arrested for allegedly soliciting a prostitute (no gender mentioned in the newspaper reports) and then, according to Mike Zahn in Tuesday's **Journal**, Don Vogel gets the ax and the program manager, Richard Holcomb resigns.

And THEN, the station gets itself sued by Brenda Wesley for supposedly eavesdropping on her conversations.

'Course, I'm not too surprised by, at least, some of this. About a month ago a friend called to say that the station was due for a shake-up — and it happened just like he said. The question is now, will the tremors be complete or will the station still try to pawn off the Mark Belling Show on Milwaukee?

WISN says it specializes in "issues." But when does this happen? When can we expect the conservative point of view to be aired with the proficiency and attention to homework that I've never heard from Belling?

Or do we continue to put up with someone who doesn't seem to begin to fathom the difference between provocative thought and just being provoking?

On another and more frightening front, the incidence of AIDS is growing, spreading out into the general population. For 10 bloody years, the government has done little or nothing as the "throw-away" people die. Now, as the disease flares outward, the answer from Jesse Helms, William Dannemeyer and their ilk is not more money for research, drugs and education, for fighting the disease, but money for mandatory testing. In other words, to find out who has it.

It seems to me that we should not and can not pass this over lightly. In fact, it should frighten us as an alarm bell in the night.

First of all, testing like that is going to call upon resources better spent elsewhere.

Secondly, the supporters of mandatory testing don't want to cure the disease. They want to contain it; business as usual, let the queers and junkies die. Blame them, the "disposable people" for it and protect the rest of us "good people" who "didn't do anything wrong."

And don't fool yourself. I'm just cynical enough to believe that mandatory testing, once established, will only spread and with it will come, eventually, isolation, discrimination and quarantine.

Thank God for ACT UP. On the AIDS Update that aired following **Longtime Companion**, it was rightly pointed out that ACT UP's actions have been largely responsible for getting the federal government to move as far as it has. I, for one, wish ACT UP nothing but well.

Angry? You bet you're sweet ass I am. I've seen too many people I knew and loved die from this disease; die often in pain and misery and suffering and loneliness — and it's only going to get worse. And there sits the U.S. government, after 10 years, throughout 10 years, facing the epidemic of the century by blaming the victims (some of them, anyway), and I hear in the news that funding to eradicate this disease "has lost its momentum" as was said on ABC.

That's why I wept again as I watched **Longtime Companion**. All I could think of was "Oh dear God, did we, could we possibly, know how terrible this was going to be? Did we really know (we couldn't possibly) how hateful, perverted, nasty and mean the likes of Helms and Dannemeyer were really going to be?"

Terry Boughner

LETTERS

TO THE EDITOR:

America's Lesbian and Gay community has recently been dealt several defeats at the hands of the Federal Government. Like you, I have watched in dismay and disgust as Congressman William Dannemeyer helped ban HIV-positive travelers and immigrants; as Jesse Helms championed mandatory testing of doctors and nurses. We have taken a beating at the hands of homophobes in Congress and the White House and it's time to fight back.

Who speaks for you in Washington? The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF).

As a long-time supporter and a recently elected board member of NGLTF, I strongly believe in the need to help the group that represents our interests in the nation.

I urge you to back NGLTF with as generous a contribution as you can possibly give (send to NGLTF, 1734 14th Street N.W., Washington, D. C. 20009-4309).

I am so confident that NGLTF deserves your support that I pledge to match any contribution you make to NGLTF dollar for dollar. Just write or call me and tell me how much you have donated, and I will send a check for the same amount to the Task Force offices.

I can be reached at: 1420 Clayton Street, Apt 203, San Francisco, CA 94114, or call (415) 552-8382.

—Drew Siegel
San Francisco, CA

Hot Music Hot Men

135 East National
Milwaukee, WI

643-9758

FIGHT RACISM & HOMOPHOBIA

DEMONSTRATE

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7th
MILW. CITY HALL 11^{am}

Fight institutionalized bigotry against
Queers and People of Color in
Milwaukee. Show our police, media
and politicians that we will not tolerate
anti-Queer and racist policies or
practices. Join us in a non-violent
demonstration and march from City Hall
to the Police Administration Building.

There will be a pre-demonstration
meeting on Sunday, October 6th at 3^{pm} at
the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Student Union in the Wisconsin Room.

Sponsored By:

Black Ribbon Committee (414) 374-6555
Queer Nation Milwaukee (414) 384-3911
ACT UP Milwaukee (414) 769-8708
Community Action Coalition (414) 264-7822

Madison's Pride March and Weekend: Schedule of Major Events

Friday, October 4th

NAMES Project Quilt Opening

McClain Facility • 1436 Monroe Street • 6:30 PM
(The Quilt will be on display from 4 until 10 PM today)

A GAYLA Affair, "Coming Out with Friends & Lovers"

An evening of music, comedy, and dance.

Memorial Union • 800 Langdon Street • 8 – 10 PM

GAYLA Dance

Open to all. Starts following A GAYLA Affair.

Memorial Union • 800 Langdon Street • 10:30 PM – 1 AM

Saturday, October 5th

Signmaking

Make a sign to carry in the march! Materials provided.

Madison Senior Center • 330 W. Mifflin Street • 10 AM

Workshops

Memorial Union • 800 Langdon Street • 10 AM – NOON

NAMES Project Quilt

McClain Facility • 1436 Monroe Street • 10 AM – 4 PM

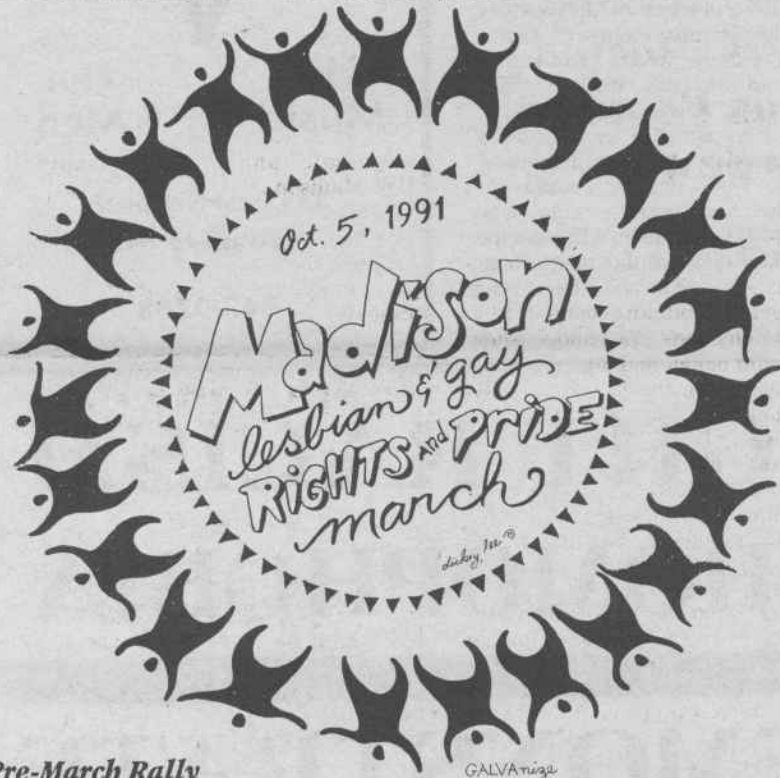
Pre-March Party at Rod's

Rod's • 636 W. Washington Street • 10 AM

Michael Callen Booksigning

Michael Callen of *The Flirtations* will autograph his new book, *Living with AIDS*.

Four Star Fiction & Video • 315 No. Henry Street • 11 AM



Pre-March Rally

Welcoming by Ricardo Gonzalez. Speakers Joe Elder of PFLAG and Urvashi Vaid of the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force.

State Capitol • State Street quadrant • 1 – 1:30 PM
(ASL Interpreted)

March for Lesbian & Gay Rights and Pride

From State Capitol to James Madison Park.

Starts at State Capitol • State Street quadrant • 1:30 PM

Celebration in the Park

Speakers County Supervisor Tammy Baldwin and State Representative David Clarenbach. Entertainment by Lynda Finn, Jan Wheaton, The Harris Lemberg Trio, and On the Verge.

James Madison Park • 300 block East Gorham • 2:30 PM
(ASL Interpreted)

Kate Clinton

Feminist humorist.

Barrymore Theatre • 2090 Atwood Avenue • 7 PM
(\$15 admission)

The Flirtations

A capella gay male quintet.

Barrymore Theatre • 2090 Atwood Avenue • 9:30 PM
(\$10 admission)

Women's Dance, with D.J. Susan Knoedel

Apple Island • 849 East Washington Avenue • 9:30 PM
(Donation requested)

Sunday, October 6th

NAMES Project Quilt

McClain Facility • 1436 Monroe Street • 10 AM – 3:30 PM



Comedian and San Francisco school board member Tom Ammiano will participate at Madison's Pride March activities October 4-6.

Brunch

Community Housing & Services Building • 306 No. Brooks Street, #5 (formerly the Brooks St. Y) • 10 AM – 1 PM (\$5)

Workshops

Memorial Union • 800 Langdon Street • NOON – 4 PM

Videos

Memorial Union • 800 Langdon Street • NOON – 4 PM

Ecumenical Worship Celebration

University United Methodist Church • 1127 University • 2 PM

NAMES Project Quilt Closing Ceremonies

McClain Facility • 1436 Monroe Street • 3:30 PM

Silver Branch Gathering

Drop-in support for "older" lesbians

Apple Island • 849 East Washington Avenue • 5 PM

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A man mourned the loss of a loved one as he reviewed a panel of the NAMES Project Memorial Quilt.

Personal and Political Motives Sustain NAMES Project Quilt

[San Francisco, CA]- In June of 1987, a small group of strangers gathered in a San Francisco storefront to document the lives they feared history would neglect. Their goal was to build a memorial for those who had died of AIDS, something that would make the United States, and the world, understand the devastating impact of the AIDS epidemic.

Today, four years later, the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt is a powerful, visual reminder of the AIDS epidemic we continue to face. More than 14,000 individual three- by-six foot memorial panels — each one remembering the life of someone who has died of AIDS — have been sewn together by friends, family members and loved ones.

The NAMES Project now displays the Quilt, across the United States and overseas, to encourage visitors to better understand the respond to the AIDS epidemic; to provide a positive means of expression for those grieving the death of a loved one; and to raise vital community funds for people living with AIDS.

The Quilt was first conceived in November of 1985 by Cleve Jones. A long-time Gay rights activist in San Francisco, Cleve helped to organize the annual candlelight march honoring Harvey Milk and George Moscone, the San Francisco politicians assassinated in 1978. As Cleve was planning for the 1985 march, he heard that 1,000 San Franciscans had died of AIDS.

To mark this terrible milestone, Cleve asked each person joining in the march to write down the names of their friends and loved ones who had died of AIDS. At the end of the march, shrouded in a sea of candlelight, Cleve and others stood on ladders taping these names to the walls of the Federal Building.

In the midst of the process, Cleve stepped down from his ladder to view the growing tribute and was struck by the image of the names on the side of the building. The individual squares, each with a name, looked to him like a patchwork quilt. Inspired by this sight, Cleve created the first panel for the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt, in memory of his friend Marvin Feldman. Then, in June of 1987, Cleve teamed up with several others to formally organize the NAMES Project Foundation.

The goals of the organization were established then and remain the same today:

- * To confront individuals and governments with the urgency and enormity of the AIDS pandemic and underscore the need for an immediate and compassionate response by revealing the names and lives behind the statistics.

- * To build a powerful, positive, creative symbol of remembrance and hope — the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt — to link diverse people worldwide in the

shared expression of our common pain, grief and rage in response to the AIDS pandemic.

- * To encourage donations in every community where the Quilt is displayed, thereby raising the desperately needed funds for people living with AIDS and their caregivers.

The response to the Quilt was immediate. People in each of the cities most affected by the pandemic — New York, Los Angeles and San Francisco — sent panels to the San Francisco workshop in memory of their friends and loved ones. Lesbians, Gay men and their friends were especially generous, rapidly filling "wish lists" for sewing machines, office supplies and volunteers.

As awareness of the Quilt grew, so did participation. Thousands of individuals and groups from all over the United States and the world began to send panels to San Francisco to be included in the Quilt.

On October 11, 1987, the NAMES Project displayed the Quilt for the first time on the Capitol Mall in Washington, D.C. during the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. The Quilt covered a space larger than two football fields and included 1,920 panels. Half a million people visited the Quilt that weekend.

The Quilt returned for a second time in Washington, D.C. in October, 1988. More than 8,200 panels were displayed on the Ellipse in front of the White House. Hundreds of celebrities, politicians, families, lovers and friends read aloud the names of Quilt panels included in the display.

That tradition continues today at nearly every NAMES Project display, as members of the community read aloud panel names and often add the names of those loved ones recently lost to AIDS.

In 1989, a second NAMES Project tour of North America brought the Quilt to 19 additional cities in the U.S. — including Madison, WI — and Canada. The tour and other displays in 1989 raised nearly a quarter of a million dollars for hundreds of AIDS service organizations. In October, 1989, the Quilt was displayed on the Ellipse in its entirety for the third time in Washington, D.C.

The Quilt continues today as an ever-growing memorial and tribute to those who have died of AIDS. It now includes panels from every U.S. state and 26 countries. Regional displays of the Quilt continue across the country and around the world to increase both awareness and understanding of the epidemic. To date, there are 33 NAMES Project chapters in the U.S. and 25 NAMES Project initiatives around the world.

The Quilt was nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize in 1988 and in 1990. *Common Threads*, a documentary film about the Quilt, won an Oscar.

Jazz Vocalist Jan Wheaton Performs at Madison Celebration

[Madison]- Madison's own dynamic jazz vocalist Jan Wheaton, backed by the Harris Lemberg Trio, is scheduled to entertain the crowd at the "Celebration" in James Madison Park following the Pride March October 5. The "Celebration" will run from 2:30 to 5 p.m.

One of Madison's longtime favorite singers, Wheaton was actually born in Kansas, where she first performed publicly at the tender age of eight. Her mother gave her piano and singing lessons for nine years, and Wheaton learned to play the clarinet in high school mostly, she says, so she could participate in the school's marching band!

Wheaton's earliest influences as a vocalist were Carmen McRae and Nancy Wilson, who led her into a strong appreciation for the work of Billie Holiday and Dinah Washington and, in more recent years, Roberta Flack and Natalie Cole.

While in school at the University of Kansas at Lawrence, where she received a B.A. in Microbiology, she sang with the Carmel Jones Trio at Lawrence night spots and appeared at the Blue Room in Kansas City, Missouri with the Reginald Buckner Trio.

Since arriving in Madison in 1964, Wheaton has performed in many of Madison's clubs with such well known local musicians as Ted Jackson, Melvin Rhyne, Peter Lundberg, John Thulin and Joan Wildman. She opened Betty Carter's 1982 concert, and has been a frequent participant in local benefits. She recently appeared with Richard Davis and



JAN WHEATON

Friends at the renowned Sweet Basil jazz club in New York.

Wheaton's recent release, *Small World, Isn't It?*, is selling well at local record shops. It features pianist Peter Lundberg, bassist Richard Davis, and percussionists Jim Latimer and Michael Weiss.

She currently works with the Full Count Jazz Band and the Harris Lemberg and Stan Godfrieaux Trios, and can be found some weekend evenings at the Lake Monona Pub, 131 W. Wilson, as well as at other night spots.

In addition to being an accomplished musician, Wheaton has an M.S. in Bacteriology and, until mid-1990, worked full time as Assistant Dean for the UW College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. She is now Associate Athletic Director for Academic and Student Support at UW-Madison.

Wheaton enjoys doing her daytime gig and her "after hours thing." Madison is lucky to call this scientist, this dean and this unique song stylist "our own." Enjoy!

MASN Meeting: Officers Elected, Awards Bestowed, Quilts Sewn

[Madison]- The Madison AIDS Support Network (MASN) held its 1991 Annual Meeting on September 19, 1991. Over sixty people attended an evening filled with Board elections, a slide show, awards and quilt panel-making.

Three Board vacancies were filled through unanimous approval by ballot. Re-elected were David Clarenbach and Tony Sheehan, while Pam Meyer became a newly elected member.

The theme "Many Hands, One Heart," was emphasized through the many awards presented that evening. Bill Hazelton received the President's Award; Dave Rompa was given the Executive Director's Award. The Rodney Scheel Award went to Mark Pocan, while the Board of Directors Award went to Pam Meyer, Jane Kinney and E. Leslie Dorff.

Volunteer Awards were presented to Sandy Markowski, Joe Policarpio, Laurie Jambretz, Chauncey Hunker, Paul Paglusch, Linda Sundberg, Dan Wilcox and Frank Roub.

Participants created paper quilt panels that will be displayed in the windows of local businesses to announce the coming of the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt the weekend of October 4-6, 1991. The panels will again be displayed as part of the 1991 World AIDS Day celebration.

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The Light LIVELY ARTS



Gus Van Sant (left) directs River Phoenix (center) and Keanu Reeves in the film "My Own Private Idaho."

Van Sant's 'Private Idaho': A Look at Male Hustlers

By John Zeh

[Venice, Italy]- Winner of best actor at the prestigious Venice Film Festival was River Phoenix for his role as a male prostitute in Gus Van Sant's *My Own Private Idaho*.

While a Soviet film took top honors, the talk of the town was Van Sant's chronicle of "old-time, honky-tonk" hustlers, starring Phoenix and Keanu Reeves in what are arguably the most controversial roles of their careers. The poignant film's American premiere at the New York Film Festival sold out. Its regular run opened September 29, 1991 in Manhattan.

Phoenix, who has starred in a number of hit films, was nominated for Best Supporting Actor in Sidney Lumet's *Running On Empty* (1988).

Van Sant, best known for *Drugstore Cowboy*, is currently working on a movie based on Tom Robbins' classic celebration of lesbianism and hitchhiking, *Even Cowgirls Get The Blues*.

Asked by *Genre* magazine's Charles Isherwood if he'd classify *Idaho* as a "politically" Gay movie, Van Sant said, "only because it exists. It doesn't take any stands. Funnily enough, if you asked the hustlers and customers if they were Gay, they'd say they weren't. This secret society doesn't really identify itself with the Gay movement. They're not even interested in that. They'd rather not think about it."

Van Sant isn't sure if he's politically active. "I guess I am in the sense that I'm openly Gay and I'm making a movie like *Idaho*. But that's about it."

And he feels he doesn't have much in common with mainstream Gay culture. "That's another thing that leaves me sort of outside the political circles," he said. "I'm not a middle-class, well-adjusted, well-groomed yuppie Gay. My crowd is just weirdos."

Idaho's origins include Shakespeare's "Henry IV" parts one and two as well as Van Sant's experiences on the streets of Portland, Oregon about 10 years ago.

"One night I was watching Orson Wells' *Chimes At Midnight*, Van Sant said. "and I thought that the 'Henry IV' plays were really a sweet story. And I knew this fat guy who had always reminded me of Falstaff and who was crazy about hustler boys. It was then that I decided to combine the two stories."

The film follows Mike (Phoenix) searching for his lost mother and Scott (Reeves), who hustles as an act of rebellion against his powerful and controlling father, the local mayor. Along the way, their lives are confounded and enriched by a colorful band of companions, johns and lost relatives.

My Own Private Idaho will open at Madison's Orpheum Theater and Milwaukee's Prospect Mall Cinemas on Friday, October 18.

Lesbian/Gay Theater Company Established in Milwaukee

[Milwaukee]- The Board of Directors and founding members of Milwaukee's first Lesbian and Gay Theatre Company are pleased to announce the formation of "The Different Drummer Theatre Alliance." The Alliance is dedicated to the presentation of Lesbian and Gay plays by Lesbian and Gay writers to be performed by Lesbian and Gay actors. The troupe promises that the plays presented will represent "our community, our lives and our issues."

The Different Drummer Theatre

Alliance has secured the rights to Victor Bumbalo's "Adam And The Experts" for a December, 1991 Milwaukee premiere. "Adam And The Experts" is considered by many to be the most important play to deal with the AIDS crisis since "As Is" and "The Normal Heart."

Anyone interested in auditioning or working behind the scenes should write: The Different Drummer Theatre Alliance, P.O. Box 92756, Milwaukee, WI 53202 or call (414) 347-0673 after 6:00 p.m.

55th College Art Conference In Madison October 16-19

[Madison]- How and for what do artists become known? Are they heroes?

What about this growing tendency in student preference for violence in film, video, music and visual embellishment?

Is there a Gay/Lesbian sensibility in the arts?

These are but a few of the questions that will be addressed at the 55th Mid-America College Art Association Conference on October 16-19, 1991. The event is being hosted by the UW-Madison Department of Art and co-sponsored by twenty UW and Madison area arts departments, programs and institutions.

The Gay/Lesbian Panel is open to the public and scheduled for 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 17 in Room 150 Elvehjem Museum of Art in Madison.

'Banned by PBS' Film Fest At UWM October 25, 26

[Milwaukee]- A film festival featuring films "Banned By PBS" from its P.O.V. independent filmmaker's series is scheduled for October 25 and 26 at the University of Wisconsin- Milwaukee.

Tongues Untied by Black Gay filmmaker Marlon Riggs will be shown, along with *Stop the Church*, the controversial documentary about an ACT UP protest at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City in 1989. *Son of Sam and Delilah* by director Charles Atlas will also be shown.

Each of the three films was censored from broadcast this Summer by Milwaukee's PBS affiliate, WMVS. The "Banned By PBS" festival will be the first public showing in Wisconsin of all the censored films.

Screenings are scheduled at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. both Friday and Saturday evenings. They will take place in Room B91 of UWM's Mitchell Hall, which is located at the corner of Downer Avenue and Kenwood Boulevard. Admission is \$4.

Among the questions to be addressed is: How does the invisibility of Gay and Lesbian students and faculty limit everyone's experience? How do Lesbian and Gay students and faculty survive the academy?

Panelists will discuss strategies for moving beyond homophobia and heterosexism in the teaching of art and art history.

Moderated by Ann Schaffer, the panel includes artist Robert Tollefson, MaryJo Schnell of the Randolph Street Gallery, Chicago and Michael Starkman of Southeastern Louisiana University.

A reception will follow in the Fireside Lounge of the University Club from 5:30-7:00 p.m.

Wild Space Dance Company In Performance

[Milwaukee]- Wild Space Dance Company in a one-time only Milwaukee performance will premiere *Impossible Thoughts*.

The Milwaukee-based seven member dance company will perform with PSYOPS, a New York City group of musicians in an evening of improvised dances.

The performance will take place October 26, 1991 at 8:00 p.m. in Ivory Hall at the Lincoln Center for the Arts, 820 E. Knapp Street. For more information, call (414) 271-5632.

Faron Evans

Sunday
Oct. 6 and 13

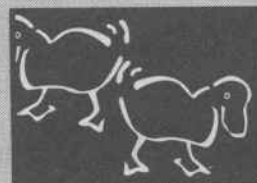


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comedy play..."

Heartland

Fall Social Season For Women Offers Music, Dance and Theater

By Jamakaya

The Fall social season for the state's women's community is underway, with concerts, dances and theatrical productions offering plenty of variety from now until the holiday season.

On Saturday, October 5, Fallen Woman Productions presents comedian Kate Clinton (as part of Madison's Pride Weekend) at 7 p.m. at the Barrymore Theater, 2090 Atwood Avenue. Tickets are \$15. The Gay a cappella singing sensations, the Flirtations, will follow in a separate concert at 9:30. Tickets for the Flirts are \$10.

On Friday, October 11 at 8 p.m., comedian Karen Williams will headline a Women of Color Variety Show at Apple Island, 849 E. Washington Avenue in Madison. Tickets for the show, sponsored by Tribade Productions, are \$8, \$10 and \$12 at the door. Proceeds will go to the women of color community. Call (608) 258-9777 for more information.

Dos Lesbos, a musical comedy about Lesbian life and coupledom, will be presented at 8 p.m. on Friday, October 11 and Saturday, October 12 at Centennial Hall of Milwaukee's Central Library, 733 N. 8th Street. Tickets are \$10 in advance at Room of One's Own in Madison (directions to Centennial Hall included) and at People's Books, Outpost Co-op and Station II in Milwaukee. Tickets at the door are \$12. **Dos Lesbos** is sponsored by Hurricane Productions.

On Friday, October 25 at 7:30 p.m., Tribade and WORT will present Ann Reed in concert at the Barrymore in Madison. Reed will appear with special guests Kate McKenzie of Stoney Lonesome and Joan Griffith of Naima in a benefit for Take Back the Night. Get tickets at Room of One's Own or charge them by calling (608) 241-8633.

Milwaukee's annual Halloween bash for women, which has drawn hundreds of wildly costumed partiers in past years, is set for Saturday, October 26 at the Lake Park Pavilion (Lake Drive and Newberry Boulevard) beginning at 8 p.m. It's \$6. A DJ will play music and the much anticipated costume contest (with prizes) will be featured again. The dance is sponsored by Full Moon Productions.

On Saturday, November 16, Full Moon is sponsoring another dance with the dynamic Louisville Band Yer Girlfriend. It's set for 8 p.m. in the Snack Bar of the UW-Milwaukee Student Union at 2200 E. Kenwood Blvd. Yer Girlfriend plays a mix of blues, rock, ballads and original compositions. Tickets (cost unspecified at presstime) will be sold at the door.

That same night, in Madison, Tribade and WORT will present Ferron in concert at the Barrymore. Ferron and the band from her latest album, **Phantom Center**, will perform at 8 p.m. Tickets will be available in late October at Room of One's



ANN REED

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Own, or by phone charge: (608) 241-8633.

Mark your calendars for November 22-24. That's the "I Got This Way From Kissing Girls" weekend in Madison!

The Sixth Annual Lesbian Variety Show will be performed both Saturday (7:00 p.m.) and Sunday (6:00 p.m.) at the Barrymore Theater. The weekend includes a Friday night Poetry Showcase and a weekend-long Art Show at Apple Island. Stay tuned for more details, or call (608) 241-5685.

Also on Saturday, November 23, Alverno College is presenting Sweet Honey in the Rock at the Pitman Theater, 3401 S. 39th Street in Milwaukee. Tickets at \$8, \$12 and \$18 can be obtained by calling the Alverno Box Office at (414) 382-6044.

Finally, Kate Clinton will be performing in Milwaukee December 14 at 8 p.m. at Centennial Hall of the Public Library.

Watch the **Light** for further details of these and other women's events.

Attention! Women in La Crosse, Superior, Green Bay, Racine and parts between! Please send the **Light** notices of your events. Include all relevant details. Send info to: Women's Events, **Wisconsin Light**, 1843 N. Palmer, Milwaukee, WI 53212.

'Nothing To Hide' October Schedule

[Madison]- The following is a list of the programs scheduled for "Nothing to Hide" on Madison's WYOU TV for October.

October 9 Real Eyes Realize Real Lies with Jay Hatheway

October 16 A Conversation with Sam Day and his Friends

October 23 GALVANize's 1991 March in Madison

October 30 Carter Hayward — one of the first women to be ordained as an Episcopal priest (Part One, Sept. 27, 1990)

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**Our Hats Off
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Second March**

Cancun, Rio, Bangkok, Hong Kong Await Wisconsin Travelers

By Terry Boughner

[Milwaukee]- Sunny beaches, exotic places, magic nights and fun-filled days; all these fantasies and more are being offered to Gay and Lesbian travelers who want to indulge their tastes for adventure in a journey rather than just a trip, going with other Lesbians and Gays.

For example, from October 26-November 2, you can take a Halloween Cruise on "Fantastic Voyage '91."

You will embark on the "Crown Monarch" for a visit to Key West, the "Gay Capitol" of the east. From there, your journey takes you to Cancun, Mexico where, if you are so inclined, you may explore the ancient Mayan center of Chichen-Itza (among the Maya, same-sex marriage was encouraged) — and later, after another day at sea, roam the unspoiled beaches of Labadie Shores. In between, there's an on-going shipboard Gayla.

Or how about spending New Year's in Rio (December 26-January 4)? Rio, a city of some 10 million people, will be in high summer (while Wisconsin is high in snow) and I can tell you from personal experience, that the Copacabana district will be exploding with a throbbing, hot, Dionysian beat to bring in 1992. On this trip, you'll not only see the sights, but be introduced to Gay life through parties and get-togethers at private homes and clubs.

If you lust for the golden east, journey to Thailand and Hong Kong, January 28-February 6, 1992.

In royal Bangkok, you can shop, see the sights — the royal palace is a must — or, at night tour the Patpong area of the city where most of the Gay bars are.

In most of the bars there's a "host team" of guys available for personal

service. In most places, each has a number or letter pinned to his briefs. Just select the one who interests you and tell the waiter. He'll send him over to you and — need I go further? And there's more, so much more.

While in Bangkok, there will be a trip to Pattaya, a lovely seaside resort about two hours drive from the capital. There too, you can spend golden nights and sun-drenched days in the company of some of the most desirable young men on earth.

After that, it's on to Hong Kong, one of the seven mini-giants in the Orient and certainly a shopping jewel of the fabled east.

If January is a bit early, there's also a trip to Hong Kong scheduled for April 13-20, 1992. Again, from personal experience, let me tell you that while this British Crown Colony can be more western than New York, step off the main drag and you'll find yourself in the crimson and saffron yellow world of old China.

Finally, there's a trip to "down under" to celebrate Mardi Gras, February 21-March 4, 1992. You'll stay in Sydney — city of a spectacular beaches, sinuous streets and Victorian architecture — that, each year at this time, hosts one of the grandest celebrations of Lesbians and Gays known in the world. It's the peak of Australia's summer, the air is warm (while Milwaukee labors under drizzle and chill) and the party is lavish.

Interested? Why not give a call to Rich at Trio Travel, (414) 384-8746, or pay a visit at 2812 Forest Home Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53215. You have nothing to lose but the blahs.

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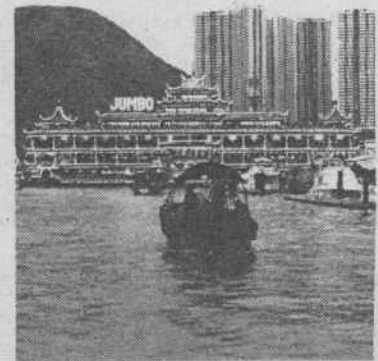
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PERSPECTIVE: Being an Outlaw In A Whole World of Outlaws

By Maytee Aspuro

Ten years ago I believed that if I were Out I would be an Outlaw. The notion of being Out promised danger, anti-social behavior and personal integrity.

Now, after being Out for more than six years I feel I am part of the conventional and that equates to a different kind of danger. One I refuse to live with for any span of time. At times I feel I have lost my Outlaw status and I want it back.

When I began to write publicly I stretched my boundaries. I consciously placed myself in a position of vulnerability not only because I have gotten to the point where I cannot be much more out than I already am, but because within the Lesbian and Gay community I have positioned myself in a role where I may not garner acceptability due to my articulation of what are, at times, minority opinions.

To become an Outlaw in a world of Outlaws is a new experience for me. It is a different frame of reference and I act without the assurance I arrogantly enjoyed in my first Outlaw position. Still, it is a position I have embraced.

I recently view the film *Thelma and Louise*. I left the theatre with a clearer sense of why I find myself dissatisfied with the comfort I enjoy. I don't need to be in mid-life to clear the fog from my eyes. Actually, the concept of a "mid-life crisis" is an ingenious conventionalization of a very radical process experienced by many, both Gay and not. The process of re-evaluating one's life choices on a periodic basis can foster the elimination or at the very least diminish cultural mind-fuck.

A recent *Newsweek* article discussed the critical reaction *Thelma and Louise* had generated. My favorite part of the article was a reference to John Leo who writes for *U.S. News & World Report*. He is quoted as describing the film's theme as "explicitly fascist."

What was this fascist theme? My reading of it was simply that women can thrive without men and that when women break free of their cultural restraints, are re-defined as Outlaws and fight back, they become a mighty powerful force to reckon with.

The final scene of *Thelma and Louise* defines a fate worse than death. To some women the ending of this film may be disturbing. It could be read as hopeless. My reaction was the antithesis of such a reading. I left the theatre exhilarated by *Thelma and Louise's* act of self-love and love for one another. Theirs was an act of defiance. I can only admire it and reference it when ever I find myself in a position in which I believe I have no choice to make. Not that I would chose their extreme solution but that I may be reminded that another solution does indeed exist where I was led to believe none did.

It was the ending of *Thelma and Louise* that clarified why I want to be a self-identified Outlaw. To not be an Outlaw is much more dangerous than to be one. To not be an Outlaw is to go back to a living sleep. As *Thelma* states, after achieving Outlaw status, "I never felt so awake." Could there be a more subversive concept than wide awake women?

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'Affirming' Christian Churches Offer Support, Services for Gays

By Sue Burke

[Milwaukee]- The life and word of Jesus has convinced some Christians to seek out and value Gay men and Lesbians as members of their churches.

This year in May, Plymouth United Church of Christ at 2717 E. Hampshire Street in Milwaukee, declared itself an open and affirming church to Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual people.

"In fact the Bible doesn't say a great deal about homosexuality," said the Rev. Mary Ann Neevel, pastor of the 150-year-old Plymouth Church. The story about Sodom and Gomorrah, for example, is about hospitality, not homosexuality, she said.

The denomination interprets the Bible with "intelligent study," she said, and expects "more light and truth to break out" with hard work.

Nationally, the United Church of Christ has challenged its congregations to become open and affirming. Because Plymouth considers itself to be a "just peace" church, the church council took up the challenge and appointed a task force to explore the issue.

Barbara DeMaster, whose sister is a Lesbian, was named to a council-appointed task force. DeMaster said that she accepted the job because she wanted to be sure her sister would be welcome and fit in at Plymouth.

DeMaster helped lead a six-session Sunday morning study program which included the handing out of a survey to the congregation. It was discovered that only about 10 percent were uncomfortable

with such ideas as Gay or Lesbian Sunday school teachers or hiring a Gay or Lesbian minister.

In the end, a resolution was passed saying: "The Christian Church has often perpetuated discriminatory practices." The resolution affirms "each diverse form of the family" and pledges to support committed partnerships of Lesbian and Gay people and to address homophobia and sexism in the church and community.

One result, said DeMaster, is that a Lesbian member of Plymouth Church has begun studies to become a minister. If she completes her work, she would be the first openly Gay person ordained in Wisconsin, DeMaster said.

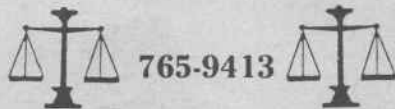
As part of its affirming stand, Plymouth Church hosted a conference called "Re-Envisioning the Family of God: Gays, Lesbians and the Church" September 20-22.

Rev. James B. Nelson of the United Theological Seminary in the Twin Cities gave the keynote address, and workshops on holy unions, using the Bible as a positive resource and creating an inclusive church community were presented.

Barbara Mars, a Lesbian instrumental in getting the affirming resolution passed, said the conference was primarily directed at the clergy but included a Sunday morning worship service for Gay and Lesbian participants. Members of the New Hope United Church of Christ, a southside church led by Lesbian minister

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Margarita Suarez, joined the Plymouth congregation for the service.

In a related matter, nothing has changed at Milwaukee's St. James' Episcopal Church at 8th and W. Wisconsin Avenue. It is still welcoming and accepting any person, according to Ray Lane, a member of the church's vestry or decision-making group.

At a recent national convention, bishops decided to continue studying issues of sexuality, Lane said, but St. James remains "well within the tradition" of Episcopal churches in believing that the matter is between an individual and God.

Church members have a family feeling toward each other, Lane said, "an almost palpable feeling of welcome" in "a safe place to gather for purposes of spiritual renewal and social contact." He adds, "We don't just celebrate church on Sunday."

For further information about Plymouth and St. James' Churches, please call (414) 964-1513 and 271-1340, respectively.

Milw. Flippers Swim Club Set To Enter Competitions

[Milwaukee]- The Milwaukee Flippers swim club is off and running with weekly workouts at the downtown YMCA. The purpose of the club is to promote health and fitness and the camaraderie of working out with other Gay and Lesbian swimmers. For those interested, the Flippers will be entering Masters swimming competitions this fall. For further information, call Leonard Sobczak at (414) 963-1990 or Dana Nix at (414) 265-5340.

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POLITICALLY SPEAKING

Russia's Rebirth of Freedom Needed Here in America

By Bill Meunier

The dramatic events of the last 18 months have given us plenty of drama. First we had the fall of communism in Eastern Europe, then the reunification of Germany and, finally, the collapse of communism in the former Soviet Union and the freeing of the Baltic republics.

But while we were thrilled at the sight of thousands of Russians rallying to defend their parliament, we should be less than pleased by what is going on here on the home front. Communism may be out in Russia, but good old fashioned Republican conservatism is still all the rage over here.

Half of Europe is taking a firm stand in favor of individual rights and equality no matter what the economic consequences are. In California, equal rights (especially as they pertain to Gays and Lesbians) have been subverted to imagined economic bogeymen.

The California Central Republican Committee voted to ask Governor Pete Wilson to veto a bill that would have outlawed discrimination against Lesbians and Gays in the work place and in housing. These protectors of the public good said the bill was "anti-family" and "an insult to legitimate minorities." (Bet you didn't know you were illegitimate.) The Guv obliged them, vetoing the bill because it would have imposed "so oppressive a burden" to employers.

Meanwhile closer to home, the people of St. Paul, Minnesota are gearing up for another referendum on Gay and Lesbian rights. Back in 1978 the City passed one of the first Gay/Lesbian rights ordinances in the country. Then came Jerry Falwell standing on the steps of the State Capitol telling the good people of St. Paul that if they didn't repeal that ordinance they were doomed. Being sensible people, they didn't want to be doomed; they held a referendum and repealed the ordinance.

Now a new referendum will be held to repeal the Lesbian/Gay rights ordinance passed in 1990. The vote is expected to be close, but then again so was the last one when we were soundly defeated.

Does anyone want to explain to the people who risked life and limb in the streets of Moscow how, in this country (or at least in St. Paul) individual rights are

subject to the will of the majority: isn't that after all the excuse used by their rulers to justify over 70 years of riding roughshod over the people?

Then there is the County Election Commission in Dallas. Acting on a complaint filed by the local Republican party, they voted to remove a polling place from a Gay Community Center even though voter turnout in that precinct had increased by about 50% since the voting machines were located there.

According to these folks (who are supposed to be pleased with higher turnouts), the location was keeping people away because they didn't feel comfortable going to vote there. You have to wonder who put these geniuses in charge of counting votes when they obviously don't know elementary mathematics.

Local Lesbians and Gays should have blockaded the Center to prevent the removal of the voting machines. Perhaps CNN would have covered it live just as it did with the events in Moscow. The image of Gays and Lesbians linking arms blocking the tanks of the Texas National Guard would have been a compelling one. It would have been interesting to see which side most of the American people would have rooted for.

It's time to create our own revolution here at home. We don't have to stand in the streets blocking tanks, but we do have to organize. We don't have to worry about being thrown in jail for speaking out, (well at least not in most places) but we do have to vote.

There are an estimated 23 million Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals in this country, and all of them who are over the age of 18 can vote in the next election. All of them who are old enough to help can help the campaigns of sympathetic candidates.

Does anyone really believe that if even 10% of us got really involved in the next election we would have to fight over every penny for AIDS funding or that the Governor of California (or any other state for that matter) would have the political guts to veto an Gay/Lesbian rights bill because it may hurt business?

The choice is clear: either we wait for Boris Yeltsin or we do it ourselves. Yeltsin is currently pre-occupied with other matters. It clearly is up to us.



A portion of the 3,000 walkers is shown prior to the start of the second annual Wisconsin AIDS Walk, held in Milwaukee on September 22.

Jerry Johnson

Milwaukee Support Groups Aimed At People With HIV, AIDS

[Milwaukee]- Every week, more than 100 individuals attend at least one of the nine free support groups offered by the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) for people living with AIDS and HIV infection, their friends, families and partners.

"Support groups meet a wide range of needs for people affected by the AIDS epidemic," said Cheryl Vaughn, director of Life Care Services at MAP. "They encourage individuals to share feelings, ideas, coping strategies and experiences, helping people to address some of the many issues surrounding AIDS."

Many of the groups offered by MAP are open to the general public, including "AIDS Information Milwaukee," the "Gay Men's HIV-Positive Support" group, an "HIV-Positive Sobriety" group, and a group for "Family, Friends and Significant Others." Other groups are provided for MAP clients and volunteers.

AIDS Information Milwaukee (AIM), is an informational group for men and women who either believe or know that they are infected with the AIDS virus. Facilitated by Bruce Brewer and Jane Casseus, the group meets every Wednesday from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the MAP offices, 315 W. Court Street, Milwaukee.

AIM features guest speakers at every other meeting. Presentations for October and November include "Legal Aspects of HIV Disease," on October 16, with Steve Byers, attorney and manager of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin Legal Assistance Service.

On October 30, Brenda McClellan-Tilson, R.N.C., M.S.N., will

present "What Makes Women Different," an informative program dealing with medical, psychological and social issues for women with HIV infection. McClellan-Tilson is an OB-GYN nurse practitioner who has worked with HIV/AIDS issues since 1985.

Eileen Henning, R.N., Connie Newman, R.N., Charlene Schultz, R.N. and Julie Reeder, medical assistant from the Milwaukee County Medical Complex will discuss the institution's HIV/AIDS Research Protocol on November 13.

In an effort to provide a vehicle for Gay men to discuss common issues surrounding HIV disease, MAP has begun a Gay Men's HIV-Positive Support Group. The group, facilitated by David Huibregtse, a trained group facilitator, meets Thursday's from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the MAP offices.

MAP also offers a group for individuals in recovery from drug and alcohol abuse who are HIV-infected. Individuals may participate in this group by referral from a physician, counselor or other health care professional. The group meets every Monday and is facilitated by Jane Casseus.

Often, those who care for people with AIDS and HIV infection require an established support system. MAP provides a support group entitled "Family, Friends and Significant Others" to meet this need. The group, facilitated by Kate Zbella, a psychotherapist in private practice, and Nels Deloria meets on alternating Tuesdays at St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

For more information on any of these programs, contact Joan Lawrence at MAP, (414) 273-1991.

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Internal Pentagon Memo Says Gays Are Not Security Risks

[Washington, D.C.]—Gay men and Lesbians should not be disqualified from obtaining military security clearances solely on the basis of their sexual orientation, states an internal memorandum issued by the Department of Defense (DOD) Office of General Counsel.

Gay and Lesbian activists say the memorandum, sent to the U.S. Army command on January 29, 1991, may be one reason DOD Chief Dick Cheney has recently distanced himself from the military's argument that Gays pose a security risk.

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), which obtained the internal document from an anonymous source, says the memo's acknowledgment that Gays are eligible for security clearances contradicts and "finally destroys" the Pentagon's argument that Gay men and Lesbians in the military represent a security risk.

The memo states: "A person's sexual practices, whether homosexual or heterosexual, have a rational relationship to eligibility for security clearance, if they (1) make him or her susceptible to exploitation, or (2) reflect untrustworthiness, unreliability, or a lack of common sense judgment that must be demanded of anyone with access to classified information."

"The Counsel's memo is quite clear in stating that homosexual orientation or 'homosexual behavior' in and of itself is not sufficient reason to categorize someone as a security risk," said Tim Drake, director of the NGLTF Military Freedom Initiative. "This memo, from their own legal department, destroys the Pentagon's reasoning for defending its taxpayer-funded policy of discriminating against Gay people serving in the Armed Forces."

In addition, the memo explains that "a claimed marital relationship with a person of the same gender" would be disqualifying "only if" other circumstances were involved, namely the two conditions stated previously.

The memorandum goes on to assert that violations of local sodomy laws — which make homosexual acts criminal

behavior in 25 states and the District of Columbia — are not sufficient grounds to deny a security clearance.

"The general lack of enforcement and acceptance of this type of private activity suggest that it would be of security concern... only if it is indicative of poor judgment other than criminality such as involvement with minors or sex in public places," the memo states.

Dated January 9, 1991, the memorandum was sent out on Office of General Counsel letterhead over the signature of Michael Sterlacci, the Assistant General Counsel. It stands in sharp contrast to the military's policy of excluding homosexuals from service because the Pentagon alleges they pose a security risk.

NGTLF's Drake views the memo as "yet another nail in the coffin" for the Pentagon's homosexual exclusion policy. "This policy," said Drake, "remains the major — and one of the last — examples of institutionalized discrimination against Gays and Lesbians in America. The exclusion is based on an outdated societal prejudice toward Gay people, a prejudice that the Pentagon codified into government policy almost 50 years ago. It is time for them to undo the policy."

HIV Topic At Medical College

[Milwaukee]—A cardiovascular and thoracic surgeon from Marshfield, Wisconsin, Dr. Edward Rozar, will be speaking at the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) about his personal experience with AIDS. His talk, to take place October 7, 1991, is entitled "Living with HIV: Personal Reflections." The one-hour question and answer discussion will begin at 4:00 p.m. in room C-232 at the College, on the County Grounds at 8701 Watertown Plank Road.

Dr. Rozar has appeared on CBS' "This Morning," NBC's "The Today Show" and numerous other shows discussing his experience. The presentation is free and open to the public.

Kiss-In, Whistles Confront 'Concerned Women of America'

By John Zeh

[Crystal City, VA]—Over a hundred Gay men and Lesbians picketed the national convention of the Concerned Women of America (CWA) here, Saturday, September 28, 1991. The demonstration was sponsored by ACT UP and OUT (Oppression Under Target).

CWA is headed by Beverly LaHaye, often seen on WVCY-TV 30.

According to Robert Bray of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, CWA advocates that "women stay at home and be human incubators; that civil rights for people of color be rolled back and that Gays and Lesbians be oppressed back into the closet."

Speaking to the demonstrators, Bray said: "What we are doing here is reclaiming an agenda of social change in this country away from Concerned Women of America."

In making their point, activists employed two key and old-fashioned techniques to oppose peoples' oppressors.

These included loud whistle-blowing as well as hand-made posters of Sen. Jesse Helms (R-NC) and Rep. William Dannemeyer (R-CA), depicting the two as wearing lipstick and having kiss marks on their cheeks.

But the most exciting side of Saturday's demo was colorful guerrilla theatre that allowed activists to vent their anger through an honored political and theatrical tradition.

Ten activists performed in "church ladies" garments, singing creative, pro-choice hymns that satirized "hateful" haranguing CWA members and "other homophobes."

Activists charged CWA members and LaHaye with "hypocritical sins."

According to one OUT organizer, "In the book of Leviticus, God condemns the wearing of two different pieces of fiber. LaHaye and her cotton/polyester blends have got to go!"

Meanwhile, ACT UP protesters chanted, "Lesbians and Gays under attack! What do we do? Act up! Fight back!" Guerrilla thespians added, "Keep your rosaries off my ovaries" and "Stop your bigotry! Save our families!"

We die. You do nothing!"

Not all the theatricality was outside. Inside the posh Marriott Hotel where the convention was meeting, Margaret Cantrell of ACT UP/DC and three other women performed "a big, sloppy kiss-in," she said.

"It so disgusted them they asked us to leave," said Cantrell, "so we found another group to kiss in front of."

"The type of hate these people are preaching is very dangerous. We can't let something like this go by unchallenged. We have to confront them," Cantrell said.

Breitlow Cites 'Burn Out' In Resignation From CCF Board

[Milwaukee]—Warren E. Breitlow, President of the Board of the Cream City Foundation (CCF), has announced plans to retire from the Board in October.

Breitlow, who has served as an officer and Board member of CCF for the past nine years, cites "burn out" as the reason behind his decision.

In announcing his intention to retire, Breitlow said it was "an honor to have had the privilege to participate and work" with those in CCF. He called them "dedicated, loyal, diligent and untiring" in their volunteer efforts on behalf of the Milwaukee Gay/Lesbian community.

He reflected with pride on the steady growth of the Foundation, remembering the time when there had been only \$500 in seed money. Now, he noted with pleasure, CCF "annually gives over \$12,000 in grants to support organizations, projects and programs to better our Gay/Lesbian community."

Breitlow said that he may return to the Board in the future — "if they will have me back" — but, in the meantime, he will carry "many fond memories and a great feeling of satisfaction."

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New Era Institute Conducts Research on Gay Organizations

[Milwaukee]- Several current projects are about to be published and released by the non-profit New Era Institute of Milwaukee. The Institute is a research body that studies Gay/Lesbian organizations, management and fund raising. According to Robert Melig, the Institute's Chief of Research, the organization serves the entire national Gay/Lesbian community.

Just completed and currently being published, is the newest survey of Gay/Lesbian community foundations active in the U.S., a follow-up study of one done by the Institute two years ago.

In the newest study, the Institute found that foundations have grown from 8 to 13 in number and will raise an estimated \$2 million in 1991 as opposed to less than \$600,000 in the former study. In addition, the endowments of the foundations have risen from under \$300,000 to more than \$1.3 million and annual grants have risen to over \$1.2 million per year.

Another of the Institute's research projects, now nearing completion, is the Wisconsin Project. This seeks to be the most definitive study of any one state ever conducted by the Gay/Lesbian community.

Wisconsin was chosen because it most closely represents the 90% of the Gay/Lesbian organizational picture outside the 10 largest U.S. cities.

The Institute's largest project, underway now for five months, is titled "Mega-Trends for the '90's." The purpose of the project is to trace the trends Gay/Lesbian organizations can expect to face through the year 2000.

Publication of the findings of the Mega-Trends Project will be in the first edition of the Institute's soon to be inaugurated monthly publication, **Our Causes Digest**. The publication is aimed exclusively at top leadership, staff and boards of directors of Gay/Lesbian organizations.

"This is a busy time for us," said Melig, adding that "New Era Institute hopes to make a major contribution to the ability of Gay/Lesbian organizations to more effectively serve the whole community."

Persons who would like to volunteer to

assist in the research, help publish the **Digest**, or assist in the office may write the Institute at 3282 N. 46th St., Milwaukee, WI 53216, or phone (414) 871-3131.

Pirandello Farce Set For Oct. 24-Nov. 17 In Milwaukee

[Milwaukee]- The Boulevard Ensemble will open its 1991-92 season with an adaptation of Luigi Pirandello's enlightening comedy, "Right You Are If You Think You Are," a farce of identity.

The play will be directed by Milwaukeean Pat Acerra. Among the cast are: Mark Bucher, Pam Brown, Nomi Bence, Joe Heseleu, Susan Tellier, Charles Henei and Miriam Brennan.

"Right You Are If You Think You Are" will be presented Thursdays through Sundays, October 24-November 17 at the Boulevard Theatre, 2250 S. Kinnickinnic Avenue in the Bayview section of Milwaukee. To reserve tickets, call (414) 672-6019. All performances begin at 8:00 p.m.

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EARTH LAST? Veteran reporter seeks Gay men and lesbian working in the environmental and peace movements for articles on activists who "cross-over" to other causes. Call John Zeh (202) 232-5456 or write 1320 18th St. NW, WDC 20009-1811.

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Books Offer Advice and Support For People Coming Out

By Jamakaya

Gay men and Lesbians in the process of coming out to their families, friends and co-workers can use all the support and advice they can get. In recognition of National Coming Out Day, here is a review of several books which offer such practical guidance.

Rob Eichberg's **Coming Out: An Act of Love** (Dutton, \$18.95) is one of the best. The book contains dozens of personal letters in which men and women have come out to their loved ones, as well as step-by-step tips for talking about sexual orientation.

Eichberg reviews the many reasons people remain closeted: fear of rejection, internalized homophobia, self-doubt, etc. He then gently, persuasively counters those concerns with practical advice such as:

"What you really risk losing is not love, but the illusion of love."

"Others' judgments are more a statement about themselves than about you."

"Every apparent loss in life can be used as an opportunity to learn, grow and expand."

He notes the terrible toll secrecy and paranoia wreak on closeted individuals and asserts: "The freedom that accompanies coming out, even when it involves losses and challenges, is worth it."

Eichberg continually stresses the connection between identity, self-esteem and truthfulness and, ultimately, views coming out as an act of love, opening the way for more honest and fulfilling relationships for all parties involved.

The Final Closet: A Gay Parent's Guide to Coming Out to Their Children by Rip Corley (Editech Press, \$8.95) addresses the special circumstances facing Gay and Lesbian parents: whether, when and how to tell the kids.

Corley says the overwhelming majority of children of Gays surveyed say they wanted to know about their parents. Most were aware of a secret aspect, an unresolved tension, in their parents' lives. In the absence of a clear explanation, children often worried that they themselves might be the cause of the problem. Many expressed bitterness for the years of confusion and distance in their family relationships.

Corley argues that laying the foundations for a mutually honest lifelong relationship with one's children requires disclosure at some point.

The child's age and maturity, the

previous parent/child relationship and the attitude of the non-Gay parent are significant factors in determining when and how to broach the subject. Whole chapters on age-appropriate language, legal considerations, the role of Gay partners and coming out to adult children offer further advice.

An Appendix listing Gay Parents groups, Children of Gays' support groups and legal, religious and health resources is very helpful as well.

There's Something I've Been Meaning to Tell You (Naiad, \$8.95), edited by Loree MacPike, is an anthology of touching true-to-life stories by Gay and Lesbian parents who have come out to their children.

Wonderfully heartwarming, sometimes heartbreaking, the stories brim with honesty, drama, humor and love. The authors are working class and professional people, men and women, young and old, Black and white, out and still closeted.

In one story, a mother tells her sons she is a Lesbian. One son is carefree, the other disturbed. A year later, the troubled one lives happily with his mother while the other has angrily moved away.

In another poignant story, a Gay father wonders if his developmentally disabled child will understand when he tries to explain his homosexuality.

Chapters called "The Secrets Our Children Keep for Us" and "Love Comes in Many Forms" convey the tender nature of the book as a whole.

There's Something I've Been Meaning to Tell You, unlike the other books reviewed here, is not really a step-by-step guide book. But a great deal of wisdom can be gleaned from the experiences of Gay and Lesbian parents who have embarked on the difficult but often rewarding process of coming out.

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POSTERS	@ \$15.00 each.....\$
GREETING CARDS	@ \$ 1.50 each.....\$
BUTTONS	@ \$ 1.00 each.....\$
STICKERS	@ \$.05 each.....\$

Shipping & handling:

\$3.00 for first shirt, or sweat or posters
\$1.00 for each shirt or sweat after the first
\$1.00 for buttons, stickers, or cards

Sub-total \$

Shipping \$

Total \$

NAME _____ ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONES _____ FAX _____

VISA/MC _____ EXP. DATE _____

SIGNATURE _____

For more information, please write or call: National Coming Out Day,
P.O. Box 8349, Santa Fe, NM 87504, 505-982-2558 or 1-800-445-NCOD

Tips for Coming Out

- Wear an openly Gay symbol or button for an entire week.
- Call a radio talk show and introduce a Gay/Lesbian topic.
- Read a Gay newspaper on the bus or in a restaurant.
- Write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper commenting on Gay coverage or lack of coverage.
- Write a check to a Gay/Lesbian organization using the full name of the organization.
- Boycott a company or organization known to discriminate.
- Take a straight friend to a Gay/Lesbian event.
- Invite your Gay and straight friends to the same party.
- Confront your co-workers about a bigoted joke or comment.
- Put your lover's photo on your desk at work.
- Circulate a petition in support of Gay rights at your workplace.
- Consider leaving **The Joy of Lesbian Sex** on your bookcase when mom visits.
- Move your favorite "fantasy" man's poster to a prominent place in your house.
- Call "him" a "him" and "her" a "her" when talking about your love life.
- Speak the truth when you are asked: "So, are you engaged yet?"
- Hold hands with your partner publicly.
- Have both of your names on your magazine subscriptions.
- Be affectionate with your lover upon arrival or departure at an airport or train or bus station.
- Go to your local jeweler with your lover to shop for matching rings.
- Register your china pattern when you and your lover make a commitment.
- Include your Gay/Lesbian family in traditional family or religious functions.
- Take your lover/partner home for the holidays.
- Come out to your family — parents, brothers and sisters.
- Come out to your landlord, neighbors and co-workers.
- Write a letter to your Senator or member of Congress in support of Lesbian and Gay rights.
- Organize a march or demonstration for Gay and Lesbian rights.
- Come out, come out, wherever you are!

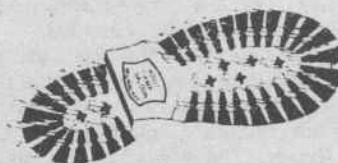
"GIANT" STEPS AND "BABY" STEPS ALL COUNT THE SAME!

Tips supplied by National Coming Out Day, P.O. Box 8349, Santa Fe, NM 87501.

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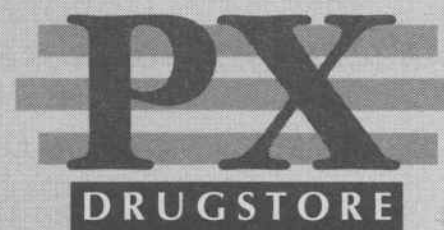
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