



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

# The Wisconsin Light

## Two State Groups To Merge AIDS/HIV Clinical Drug Trials Jan. 1

[Milwaukee]- The AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW) will assume new responsibility for state-wide AIDS/HIV clinical drug trials through a unique merger of the Wisconsin Community-Based Research Consortium (WCRC) with ARCW, the largest AIDS service organization in Wisconsin and the Midwest.

The Consortium, created two years ago by physicians throughout Wisconsin who provide medical care to people with AIDS, conducts research on therapeutic drugs by enrolling patients in controlled trials. The merger will be effective January 1, 1993.

"This merger is a natural alliance that strengthens our mission of services and support for people with HIV disease," said Doug Nelson, ARCW's executive director. "These trials contribute to the national AIDS research effort and make vital experimental drug therapies available to people with HIV disease."

### ARCW To Provide Financial Security

Nelson said that ARCW would provide financial security for the clinical drug trial program. "We are committed to the continued development and growth of a quality AIDS research program that is able to bring a more complete menu of clinical studies to people with HIV disease in Wisconsin," said Nelson.

According to Lisa Al-Hashimi, MSM, RN, director of the Consortium, "an excellent way for people with HIV disease in Wisconsin to become involved in experimental therapies is to enroll in the international Observational Data Base (ODB) through their physician." Physicians receive monthly lists of their patients that meet eligibility criteria for clinical trials and expanded access programs. This enables physicians to easily identify those patients who may be eligible for experimental therapies.

As of October, 1992, 860 patients have been enrolled into the ODB. WCRC ranks third in the number of patients enrolled into the Community-Based Clinical Trials Network data base. The WCRC strives to expand the ODB study, reaching new urban and rural areas.

## Survey in Four Small Wisconsin Cities Finds Many Gay Men Still Practicing High-Risk Sex Behavior

[Chicago]- Gay men in small cities still are involved in sexual behavior that places them at high risk for contracting the AIDS virus, according to a study published in the November issue of the American Medical Association's Archives of Internal Medicine.

The study by Jeffrey A. Kelley, Ph.D., of the Medical College of Wisconsin, and colleagues found that nearly one-third of the Gay men studied in 16 small cities had engaged in unprotected anal intercourse an average of eight times in the past two months, usually outside monogamous relationships.

While city names were not listed in the research, among the 16 cities were four in northern and western Wisconsin.

### New Front Line for AIDS Prevention

The researchers write, "The combination of continued high-risk behavior and growing HIV infection prevalence among these small city homosexually active men, with nine percent of those tested reporting HIV seropositivity, suggests that a major new front line for AIDS primary prevention efforts among Gay men has shifted from large new cities hard-hit by AIDS to smaller and more moderate-sized cities not traditionally considered epicenters and rarely studied in AIDS prevention research."

Promiscuity is High Risk

## MAP Files Lawsuit Against Racine County Sheriff for Inmate Neglect



NOW, CARDS FOR US— Through Our Eyes is a bright new line of greeting cards for normal people who happen to be Lesbian or Gay. The initial 32 designs address sending situations like same-sex relationships, coming out, birthdays and Christmas.

The cards are now on sale at A Different World in Beloit and Pic-A-Book in Madison.

*Suit says prisoner with AIDS was denied access to medical care while being left naked, covered with vomit and feces.*

[Milwaukee]- Monday morning, November 23, 1992, at a press conference held at 10:00 a.m., Attorney Lawrence G. Albrecht of Hall, First & Patterson, S.C., and Stephen M. Byers, managing attorney for the AIDS Resources Center of Wisconsin (ARCW) announced the filing of a civil rights lawsuit on behalf of the estate of Dennis C. Hill. The press conference was held at the offices of the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP), 315 W. Court Street in Milwaukee.

As reported in *Light*, Hill had been confined in the Racine County Jail between November 16-18, 1991 where, the suit asserts, he was deprived of obviously necessary emergency medical care and treatment for multiple serious conditions related to AIDS under circumstances which "shock the conscience" and violated his constitutionally-protected liberty interests.

Arrested on a traffic violation, Hill was detained in the Racine County Jail to await an initial court appearance.

### Shocking Treatment

Named as defendants are Robert Rohner, Sheriff of Racine County and seven Sheriff's Department officers and employees, who were among the 26 Sheriff's Department personnel who allegedly had direct involvement with Hill and deliberately failed to provide any medical attention to him despite full knowledge of his condition.

Racine County is also named as a defendant because of its policies, practices and customs allegedly authorized and tolerated Hill's shocking treatment.

The complaint details that while confined in the Racine County Jail, Hill was denied access to any medical care, including the 16 medications he regularly took to control pain and alleviate his suffering.

### Hill Left in Own Feces

Medical care was denied even though Hill was visibly suffering, appeared naked in his cell with a medical tube protruding from his chest, was covered with vomit and feces, was disoriented and unable to communicate from lack of food, fluids and medications, and was discovered by his counsel and social worker in life-threatening conditions in his cell, shaking uncontrollably, breathing with great difficulty, demonstrating great pain and was clammy and cold to the touch.

Racine County Jail personnel also never contacted his medical doctors, never sought his medications list and also denied permission to his support group to administer his medications when brought to the jail.

The only medication he received during his custody was two Tylenol tablets — which were strictly forbidden by his doctor.

Hill was released from the Racine County Jail in a wheelchair and rushed to the Milwaukee County Medical Complex (MCMC) where he was immediately admitted to the emergency room and treated for respiratory failure and was then transferred to the intensive care unit.

Hill died on November 23, 1991, at the  
TURN TO RACINE, PAGE 11

## UW-River Falls to Exhibit AIDS Memorial Quilt

[River Falls, WI]- Blocks of a quilt, stitched by friends, family members or loved ones of people who have died of AIDS, will be on display at UW-River Falls' Knowles Physical Education and Recreation Center in December.

The project has developed through a volunteer committee comprised of University staff and community members whose goals are to illustrate the impact AIDS has had and to create a forum for AIDS education, particularly among young people, according to committee leader Laura Bayless.

"The NAMES Quilt is one of the most powerful events I have ever experienced," Bayless said. "When I worked on it at Miami University, I saw many people respond more passionately than they expected. It is an excellent demonstration of the fact that AIDS kills not only one group of people, but spans across all ages, ethnic groups, sexual orientations and genders."

The display will be free and open to the public December 10-12 from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. and December 13 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. In opening and closing ceremonies, many community volunteers will read aloud the names represented on Quilt panels on display.

Donations collected at the Quilt display will be distributed to the Aliveness Project of Minneapolis-St. Paul and the Northwest Wisconsin AIDS Project.

For more information or to volunteer, call Laura Bayless at (715) 425-3549 or Gretchen Link at (715) 425-3884.

During three nights in early 1991, all men entering each city's Gay clubs were asked to anonymously complete a set of measures pertaining to AIDS risk. The questionnaire was filled out and returned by 1,991 men.

Of all respondents who provided complete information concerning their sexual behavior (1,858), 574 (or 31% of the total) reported engaging in unprotected anal intercourse in the preceding two months.

Only 25.4% of unprotected anal intercourse occurrences were with partners described as monogamous and only 6% were in the context of both a monogamous relationship and the respondent's having been tested for HIV anti-bodies.

77% of the men who had engaged in unprotected anal intercourse incorrectly described their own risk as none or slight. Thus, more than three-fourths of high-risk men inaccurately underestimated their personal level of risk.

The researchers concluded, "Our findings show clearly that enhanced community-based resources and prevention efforts are now urgently needed for reaching Gay men in smaller cities who have been neglected in AIDS prevention relative to their urban counterparts."



## NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

### World AIDS Day Observed

[Milwaukee]- The Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in West Allis, in cooperation with the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP), will sponsor a day of remembrance and solidarity in honor of people living with HIV disease on World AIDS Day, December 1, 1992. A short, symbolic candlelight procession outside of Bethany House will follow the evening prayer service and precede a simple supper which is set to begin at 7:00 p.m.

Bethany House is the facility that MAP and the Parish would like to make available for housing for people living with AIDS. MAP and Parish officials have experienced opposition to the facility by neighbors and West Allis officials.

### Women's AIDS Knowledge Higher

[Milwaukee]- Women at risk for HIV infection reported greater AIDS knowledge, increased condom use, and fewer unsafe sexual practices three months after participating in a behavioral intervention program supported by the National Institute of Mental Health. Researcher Jeffrey A. Kelly, Ph.D., of the Medical College of Wisconsin, presented these findings on November 10, 1992 at the American Public Health Association's annual meeting in Washington, D.C.

The findings were collected from the first 92 women to complete the study, which is being conducted with 250 women in an urban health care clinic in Milwaukee.

Women in the intervention program increased their condom use by 40%, significantly reduced occurrences of unprotected intercourse, and stopped having sex with intravenous drug users. Women in a control group who received a general health education program showed little evidence of behavior change despite the availability of AIDS information in the media and community.

### New Book for Gay Teens Planned

[Boston, MA]- Ten years ago, Alyson Publications of Boston, brought out **One Teenager in Ten**, personal stories by Gay and Lesbian teenagers, edited by Ann Heron. Now Heron is working on a new edition to be called **Two Teenagers in Twenty**.

Heron is looking for young Gay people (under 20) who would like to contribute. Write to Ann Heron, c/o Alyson Publications, 40 Plympton Street, Boston, MA 02118.

### March on U.N. for Gay Rights

[New York, NY]- Representatives from Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and AIDS activist organizations throughout the U.S. will meet January 15-17 in Dallas, Texas to help build the International March of the United Nations to Affirm the Human Rights of Lesbian and Gay people to be held in 1994 as part of the commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the Stonewall Rebellion.

An International Advisory Committee (IAC) will meet at the 1993 ILGA Conference in Barcelona, Spain to plan for the International Rally. One of the tasks of the Dallas Conference will be to select U.S. members of the IAC. Your participation is needed. For further information, write: Stonewall 25, Inc., 208 W. 13th St., New York, NY 10011-7799.

### Life for Gay Teens Is Harsh Reality

[Los Angeles]- According to Gay and Lesbian Adolescent Social Services (GLASS), life for Lesbian and Gay teens on the streets is bad and getting worse.

In its Winter newsletter, GLASS reports that 30% of Lesbian and Gay youth will attempt suicide near the age of 15 and 1,500 will succeed in Los Angeles in 1993 alone.

GLASS notes that one reason for this is that many of the children have either been abandoned or thrown out of their homes because of their sexual orientation. They live on the streets, their fate left in the hands of pimps and pushers who trade affection for sexual favors.

### ACLU Sues Maryland Police

[Baltimore, MD]- In a case with strong similarities to the on-going debate over Lesbians and Gay men in the military, the ACLU and the ACLU of Maryland on November 17, sued the Maryland State Police for refusing to hire an otherwise qualified Lesbian as a state trooper.

The woman, identified in court papers as Jane Doe, freely acknowledged her sexual orientation. In April, 1990, she received a letter saying that she would "be given no consideration for employment. The reason given by the State Police was that 'Homosexual or other socially unacceptable conduct' would be detrimental to the 'public image' of the Department, bring 'ridicule and embarrassment' on the Police and undermine 'the need for obedience and discipline within the police department.'"

An ACLU spokesperson stated, "The Maryland Police, like the United States military, must get over their irrational and discriminatory fear of Lesbians and Gay men."

### NEA Critized for Funding Denial

[Washington, D.C.]- The Associated Press reports that arts organizations are blasting the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) for refusing to help finance three Gay film festivals, call the rejection a political gesture to appease religious right-wingers.

"This is an outright homophobic attack on these three organizations," said Larry Horne, executive director of the Gay and Lesbian Media Coalition in Los Angeles, which produced one of the film festivals.

In a brief statement, the NEA said its acting chairwoman, Anne-Imelda Radice, found that the film festivals "do not demonstrate artistic excellence and artistic merit worthy of support by this agency."

NEA spokeswoman, Jill Collins, said she didn't know what material in the film festivals had prompted Radice to reject them. She said, however, that Radice had watched "some of the films."

The rejected grants totaled \$17,500 and were to go to the Gay and Lesbian Media Coalition in Los Angeles, the New Festival in New York and the Pittsburgh International Lesbian and Gay Film festival.

A fourth organization, Great Lakes Film and Video, Inc., which sponsors a series of film festivals, including one with a Gay theme, was granted money, but only for the Milwaukee Black Film Festival.

### Gay Rights Vote Impact Uncertain

[Portland, ME]- Lawmakers are uncertain whether Portland voters' support of a Gay rights ordinance will have an impact on efforts to enact a similar state law.

A statewide Gay rights bill has gone before the legislature in Augusta eight times over the past 15 years and failed each time. The measure will be introduced in the upcoming session. "It'll be a brawl," said state Sen. Gerard Conley Jr., (D-Portland), who will submit the bill in several weeks.

### Boy Scouts May Lose Support

[San Diego, CA]- The California Highway Patrol is reviewing its affiliation with the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) because the group ousted a Gay police officer from an Explorer post, officials said on November 4.

The announcement came one day after San Diego Police said they would sever ties with the BSA because it had suspended El Cajon police Officer Chuck Merino after he said publicly that he was Gay.

Meanwhile, El Cajon Police Chief Jack Smith announced that his department also will sever ties with the BSA and the San Diego Human Relations Commission approved a resolution condemning the Scouts' anti-Gay policy as discriminatory.

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

## ACT UP to Campaign For Justice On World AIDS Day at Racine Jail

[Milwaukee]- This World AIDS Day, the AIDS activist group ACT UP Milwaukee will carry its campaign for justice in the Dennis Hill case to the Racine County Jail. They will hold a protest action there beginning at 11:30 a.m.

ACT UP says that their decision to act comes only after a long series of frustrations caused by officials investigating the Hill case.

ACT UP says that "our weariness grew stronger" when they learned in October, 1992, that the U.S. Department of Justice would not press criminal civil rights charges against officials of Racine County who were allegedly responsible for Hill's terrible treatment.

This month, November, things got even worse, according to ACT UP. They learned from a Southeast Wisconsin AIDS Project worker that Racine County Jail still has no major AIDS educational initiatives, this, a year after Hill's death.

The county has also reneged on its pledge of AIDS education for employees, according to ACT UP.

For these and other reasons, on

Tuesday, December 1, 1992, World AIDS Day, ACT UP will march at the Racine County Jail located at 717 Wisconsin Avenue in Racine.

According to Patrick Flaherty, a member of ACT UP Milwaukee, members of ACT UP chapters from Minnesota, Madison and Chicago will join the protest.

A rest stop for persons with HIV has been arranged for those attending the rally at the jail. The rest area is at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 625 College Avenue, approximately one and one-half blocks from the action.

There is also a free car pool leaving from the Milwaukee area at 10:00 a.m., the day of the rally. The pool will depart from Veterans' Park parking lot (free parking) on Lincoln Memorial Drive. For more information about the action, call (414) 768-8708.

If you cannot attend the rally, you may still call and question Racine County Executive Dennis Kornwolf (or Corporation Counsel Mark Janiuk) about Racine County AIDS education. Call their Courthouse offices at 1-800-242-4202.

## Trend Setters, 'In Crowd' Can Change High Risk Sexual Behavior

[Milwaukee]- If you're popular, you may be able to save lives. This, according to a study done by Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) AIDS-prevention researchers who found that popular "trend setters" can change high risk behavior in entire communities of Gay men.

The positive results of the intervention are reported in the November issue of the **American Journal of Public Health** by lead researcher Jeffrey A. Kelly, Ph.D., professor of psychiatry and mental health sciences, and a nationally recognized expert in behavioral studies of HIV/AIDS.

"Our most important conclusion is that a small group of influential people can change the behavior of an entire community simply by talking about AIDS," said Kelly.

"Our study indicates that popular opinion leaders can be taught to reduce the risky behavior practices of friends and acquaintances most vulnerable to HIV risk behaviors by talking with friends and suggesting that they make behavioral changes.


Between one and two million Americans are believed to be infected with HIV. AIDS is now the second leading cause of death among men under age 46, accounting for more deaths in this age group than cancer, heart disease, cerebrovascular disease, homicide and suicide, according to the January, 1991, **Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report**.

To emphasize their "safe" behavior message, leaders in the three small cities studied, wore buttons designed with a green, red and yellow traffic light which symbolized high risk, cautionary and low risk behavior. Similar posters in Gay bars reinforced the message and stimulated questions.

Initially, 31 percent to 49 percent of the 1,539 Gay men studied reported unprotected anal intercourse. After intervention, these figures dropped by up to 30 percent. Other behavior shifts in those surveyed included fewer sexual partners and adopting other safer

sex practices reducing risk.

"It is critical that we extend community-level AIDS prevention efforts beyond education alone and develop models that actively encourage the widespread adoption of behavior change," Kelly said. "The practical strategies developed for this research consistently reduced the high-risk behavior of entire community populations which supports the usefulness of this popular leader approach," he said.



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*Milwaukee*



## Milwaukee United Way Goes Into Closet After Meeting with Boy Scouts

[Milwaukee]- In a follow-up to earlier stories, on Thursday, November 19, 1992, top officials at the United Way of Greater Milwaukee were scheduled to meet with representatives of three local Boy Scouts of America Councils to investigate the Boy Scouts of America's (BSA) policy of banning Gays from all membership and leadership positions, whether volunteer or paid.

Queer Scouts spokespersons say that while the meeting was the direct result of pressure applied by those demanding the United Way immediately defund the Scouts because of this "immoral and illegal" policy, United Way officials have refused not only to include openly Lesbian or Gay individuals in the investigation, but also repeatedly refused to furnish Gay persons and members of the Gay press with the scheduled time and place of the meeting.

A call to United Way from Wisconsin

## Milwaukee Attorneys Procknow and Byers Gain National Acclaim

[Milwaukee]- On October 25, 1992, Milwaukee area attorneys, Stephen Byers and Debra Procknow were elected to the National Lesbian and Gay Law Association (NLGLA) Board of Directors. The election was held during NLGLA's Lavender Law III conference in Chicago.

Byers manages the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin's (ARCW) Legal Assistance Program. The Legal Assistance Program provides free legal consultation, representation and referrals to individuals who are affected by HIV disease.

Procknow operates a private law practice serving predominately Gay, Lesbian and transsexual clients. She is also one of 25 attorneys who provide pro bono services to people with HIV disease.

## 140 Madison Area Businesses to Participate In AIDS Fundraiser

[Madison]- Over 140 local businesses will be participating in the third annual "You Make A Difference" Day fundraiser for the Madison AIDS Support Network (MASN), according to spokesperson Mark Pocan. Pocan, owner of Budget Signs & Specialties, said the fundraiser targets area businesses who are donating ten percent of their day's gross sales on November 28, 1992, to the MASN.

"We are extremely pleased that over 140 Dane County merchants are participating in this fundraiser," Pocan said, adding, "The combined efforts of the public's support and the retailers' donations will help fund vitally needed services right here in our community."

### Three and Growing

"You Make A Difference" was initiated in 1990. Under the direction of

## Log Cabin Club For Republicans To Hold First Meeting Dec. 8

[Milwaukee]- An organizational meeting for the Wisconsin affiliate of the Log Cabin Club will be held on Tuesday, December 8, 1992 at 7:30 p.m. in the upstairs meeting room of the M&M Club, 124 N. Water Street in Milwaukee. Anyone who is in agreement with Republican Party ideals for government and who is concerned with the government's role in treating Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual persons with the same dignity and respect as all other citizens is urged to attend.

The Log Cabin Club has chapters in about 30 cities or states throughout the nation. It was instrumental in obtaining Governor Wilson's signature on California's Gay Rights legislation and in working with Governor Weld of Massachusetts. The national organization did not support the candidacy of George Bush for a second term.

The local club would work with state and local officials and have official representation at national Log Cabin meetings.

Among the major concerns of the club would be to work to prevent a further take-over of the Republican Party by the religious right and to work with conservative Gay men and Lesbians to help involve them in the political process.

The organizational effort is being led by a group of five Gay persons. It seeks to establish a steering group that contains

Light got nowhere in this regard.

In addition, Queer Scouts have stated that the results of this meeting, which was requested by concerned United Way board members at the October 13, 1992 meeting, will not be made public and may not even be given to the board at its December 15, 1992, meeting, Queer Scouts say.

### Queer Scouts Milwaukee to Continue Support of National Boycott

Queer Scouts will continue to react "appropriately" to United Way's decision to "coddle Queer-bashers," a Queer Scouts spokesperson said. They will continue to support the growing national boycott of United Way as the largest sponsor of BSA. Queer Scouts maintain that United Way's low fund-raising total this year was, in part, due to an "angry Gay population."

who are clients of the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP), the Southeast Wisconsin AIDS Project in Kenosha and the Northwest Wisconsin AIDS Project in Eau Claire.

NLGLA is the national voice of Lesbians and Gay men in the legal profession. On August 11, 1992, NLGLA received official recognition as an affiliated organization of the American Bar Association.

Chicago Mayor Richard Daley welcomed the three day conference by declaring October 23, 1992, "Lesbian and Gay Law Day in Chicago."

Procknow and Byers will serve as regional representatives for Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota and Nebraska.

David Smith, owner of Four Star Video Heaven and Four Star Books, MASN asked State Street and downtown merchants to participate. The first "You Make A Difference" Day was May 1 and netted nearly \$6,000 from 50 businesses.

This year, the November 28 fundraiser is being held to coincide with World AIDS Day on December 1. Campaign co-chairs are Marsh Shapiro of the Nitty Gritty and Ann Neviasser of Neviasser Investments.

Fellow organizer, Jane Kinney, owner of J. Kinney, Florist, said, "The generosity of so many small businesses in Dane County is greatly appreciated, as the demand for services offered by MASN increases daily."

Participating in the "You Make A Difference" Day fundraiser will be listed in local media and on posters throughout the county, according to Kinney.

gender and racial balance. Anyone interested in more information should call Jim McFarland at (414) 276-5428.

## Lesbian Pastor's Appointment Protested

[Irving, TX]- In an update to an earlier story in *Light*, the Associated Press reports that The Presbyterian Church (USA) cannot meet its own moral standards and allow a Rochester, NY church to select an open Lesbian as pastor, the denomination's national body was told.

The controversy surrounding the Rev. Jane Spahr was one of six appeals before the Permanent Judicial Commission of the General Assembly, meeting on October 30 and 31 in Irving, Texas. The hearing was forced by the protests of a group of upstate New York churches, outraged at Spahr's appointment as a pastor of the Downtown United Presbyterian Church in Rochester.

The Commission heard testimony for 75 minutes on the Spahr case. A decision is expected by mid-November.

In the meantime, Spahr continues to work at a special ministry serving Gay people and people with AIDS in San Anselmo, CA.

## MAP To Begin Distributing Food Through Self-Help Share Program

[Milwaukee]- The AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin announced on November 17 that the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) would become a host site for the Self-Help and Resource Exchange (SHARE) food distribution program.

"MAP will operate as a registration and distribution point where individuals may obtain food packages called 'shares' each month," said Tim Baack, manager of support services at MAP. "SHARE compliments our comprehensive food services program for people with HIV disease," Baack said.

Sign-up for the December 19 distribution will be at MAP on Saturday, December 5 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

According to Baack, each share contains approximately 30 lbs. of food with a retail value of \$26-30. Shares may be purchased with \$13 in cash or food stamps and two hours of time to the MAP SHARE site or another community organization.

The SHARE program is open to anyone. There are no eligibility requirements, no membership fees or long term commitments. Participation does not affect public assistance benefits.

### MAP Food Pantry Expands

Due to a dramatic increase in demand over the past year, the MAP Food Pantry has expanded its food storage and distribution facility located at the agency's headquarters at 315 W. Court St. in Milwaukee.

More than 360 individuals and families with HIV disease received perishable and

non-perishable food and personal hygiene products from the Pantry in October. So far in 1992, the volunteers who staff the Pantry have prepared nearly 2,500 disbursements to individuals and families.



### NOTICE:

The next issue of *The Wisconsin Light* will be the last one published in 1992.

Dated Dec. 10 through

Jan. 6, 1993, the paper will be distributed for four weeks (as is our tradition, *Light* will not publish at year's end).

Any news releases or advertising received after Dec. 9 will be held for the Jan. 6 issue.

Thank you.

The Wisconsin Light staff



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

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## EDITORIAL

### December 1 World AIDS Day Is Reason to Keep Hope Despite Despair

Someone said that they think it ironic that World AIDS Day, December 1, comes on the heels of Thanksgiving and just before Christmas. Millions are sick from the disease. Hundreds of thousands have died and untold more will inevitably follow. Politicians and the bigoted have ignored the suffering for years. Right wing religious zealots betray their faith with self-righteous glee. What then have we to be thankful for, they asked. What is there possibly out there to celebrate? The questions are valid and should be addressed.

Hope. Let us be thankful for that. There are people like those in ACT UP who have the courage to fight the uncaring, the ignorant and the bigoted; those who add to the outrage of suffering and who would deprive us of a cure. In ACT UP there is hope.

We can find hope too in every person who puts some food in a barrel for the Pantry at MAP; hope, every time we see a little piece of red ribbon fluttering shyly on a coat. And hope in the love of the valiant women who provide holiday treats for the kids living with AIDS. (Shirly, you're one terrific Gay woman.)

There is hope as well to be seen in the actions of MAP as it brings suit on behalf of Dennis Hill who suffered and died, but must not be forgotten. His is our cause, the cause of everyone who believes in human dignity.

Perhaps we can be thankful too in the hope that this world of AIDS, starvation, war, drugs and destruction, is not an end in itself. There is a deity out there, not female nor male, not tied up and defined by religious doctrines of one kind or another.

It is vast, incomparably so, wonderful and ineffably sublime, like a rose window in some great cathedral glowing jewel-like in the sun. Understand it? It would be easier to ask an ant to comprehend Beethoven.

But perhaps what we can know is that it doesn't want services, only service and, we believe, the only acceptable service is love. In this whole universe, in this limitless cosmos of ours, love only is unchanging. Each individual act of love enhances a person's life and makes it stronger. Each time we love — and show it — that act will be remembered and preserved. Each loving heart will never die and we, here, now, struggling, will be in their arms once again.

This is our hope this World AIDS Day. For this hope, we think, we can give thanks and offer celebration despite the darkness that hems us in.

## FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Recently, I received a letter from a publishing house (not a bad one, actually), asking me if I had an idea for or was, perhaps, working on a novel. Even a collection of short stories would be considered.

But it wasn't just any novel or anthology that they were looking for. What they wanted was a particular theme. It had to be one where the Gay characters (male and/or female) are identified, not by sex, but by whom they love.

The editor, with whom I've had some correspondence before, wrote that he was unhappy with much of Gay literature. The tendency was and always had been, he thought, to define Gays by sex as if that were all that there was to being Gay.

He wanted a book, he said, where two men meet and fall in love with each other precisely because they are Gay. In this way, the reader should understand and understand clearly, that Gay people in love have something to offer each other that goes far beyond sex.

As I read his letter, I thought of something Quentin Crisp had once said. "Sexual freedom has become more important than identity. Indeed, it has superseded it. The modern philosophy states, 'I ejaculate, therefore I am.'"

I thought also of something I'd written to the editor when submitting a short story (a Christmas story) some months ago. "Gay Lib," I'd written, "has to mean more than free sex or what's it for?"

The editor went on to say that the book he was looking for would show two Gays, thoroughly in love. The story should show the depths of that love and the strength they derive from it, strength and fulfillment they cannot get from a member of the opposite sex.

They should be monogamous and committed to each other and to their building of a home.

Show them, he said, as being tender and loving men. Show them as giving each other little gifts. Show them, not as "macho males," but two sensitive men who come to realize that they can be far better individuals as members of a couple than either could be alone.

He said he was tired of the books and stories about Gays where the relationships were fleeting, but the sex was great (with the sex described in explicit detail). Neither did he want a plot line about Gays living in some Gay ghetto or struggling to come out.

The characters should be two ordinary people, resolved to make their "marriage" work. "Show them in their day-to-day lives," he wrote. "Show them working to fit into the larger community." This, in his opinion, is the true "Gay lifestyle" and it needed to be depicted more often than it is.

I am intrigued by this, I'll admit. Not only because I am working on something (which I wrote to tell him), but because of the on-going furor over Lesbians and Gays in the military. The critics of lifting the ban seem to believe that once it is gone, no straight in the place will be safe.

We can chuckle at this and we do, but these critics, I think, are not without foundation for their belief.

Recently Michael Nava, author of many

Gay-themed books, wrote in an essay about "the sexualization of homosexuality." By this he meant, if I read him correctly, that society (ourselves included) has conspired to reduce Gay people to nothing but sex.

Hence, the problem that Senator Dole, General Powell and others have with Gay people in the military. As Nava points out, the "prevailing cultural belief is that what Gay men have to offer each other is sex, not love," and our "relationships are as transient as sexual attraction." If our "lifestyle" is nothing but sex, constant predatory sex, they ask, then how can we serve?

We know, I think, that being Gay is more, far, far more than that. But our detractors believe this and, I think, our efforts to educate them differently have been minimal. Maybe that's because we don't really believe it ourselves.

That's what I believe my editor friend was talking about. He wants a book about two males who are tender, loving and sweet with each other, a story of commitment where sex is a symbol of a powerful interior reality, not an end in itself, not something to be had anytime, anywhere, you can get it.

To write something like this is to fly in the face of the popular concept of "masculinity," the image of the dominant, predator male. But as Nava and others point out, this image is negative and powerfully destructive of both women and men. It makes us both less than human; only actors on a stage, concerned not with our humanity, but with playing the rolls assigned us.

For years women have been trying to break through this stupidity, not to "become men" as the critics say, but to be fully human. Gay men should join the battle. As I've said before, as long as women are shackled by stereotypes, men, Gays and straights, will never be free.

## LETTERS

### Fire Officers

#### TO THE EDITOR:

Although I respect your generous belief to relieve the police of their responsibility in the Sinthasomphone murder... I do not! I think your good intentions are misplaced.

I support your idea for 1000 hours of work with Gay/Lesbian, Afro-American and Asian groups... not for Gabrish and Balcerzak, but for the entire police force. If these two officers "ranked in the top 1% to 2% of all officers on the force"... what are the rest like?

The two officers neglected their duties and responsibilities to investigate this case as prescribed by their own department, as they readily admit, with terrible result. They need to be punished in a meaningful manner... they should be fired!

— David Rebella  
Milwaukee

### Colorado Boycott

#### TO THE EDITOR:

I was disturbed to see in the local Gay press mention that there were some doubts on whether there should be any boycott of Colorado, in particular the report that some unnamed Gay leader in Washington had claimed that this is the time "for there to be more Gays and Lesbians in the state than ever."

A correspondent in Colorado Springs, where the hateful initiative got its start, has written as follows: "Just to let you know where supporting the tourist industry comes from, here in Colorado Springs. We have one daily paper, the *Gazette Telegraph*. It is virulently homophobic, anti-Choice, religious right, etc. Yet today (November 9), they had an article urging Gays and Lesbians to triple their attendance at this year's Gay Ski Week in Aspen in January."

"So, if the Religious Right wants Gays and Lesbian to swarm to Gay Ski Week in Aspen, dividing our solidarity, then it's clear that the boycott of Colorado's tourist industry scares them. All the more reason to support it wholeheartedly."

The indications are that a boycott will have an impact, but I don't think it will be felt as it could be if "solidarity" reigned. Already I see "Milwaukee Glemmings" (Gay lemmings) rationalizing, not canceling, their ski trips. At least some of them are frank enough to admit that they are going to Colorado because they do not want to lose their deposits. It is especially disheartening to see some who claim leadership positions within the Gay community rush to the snow.

— Al Geiersbach  
Milwaukee



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Milwaukee's Warmest and Friendliest Bar!

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## Brady East STD Clinic Offers Support Group for HIV Positive Men

[Milwaukee]- Brady East STD (BestD) sponsors a support group for Gay men who have tested HIV positive. Participants discuss a variety of issues including: emotional needs, therapies, clinical trials and designs for healthy living, loving and relationships. Emotional needs and friendships are also an important part of the group as frequently family and friends do not offer understanding and support necessary for the HIV positive person.

There is no charge to attend these meetings nor are there any dues. Confidentiality is assured to all group participants.

This important outreach is another

service of BestD which also offers free HIV counseling and testing by appointment on Monday and Wednesday nights between 6:00 and 9:00 p.m. as well as at various bar outreaches every month.

A Walk-In STD Clinic is held every Tuesday night from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. and an Alternative Women's Clinic is held the first and third Saturday of each month between 10:00 and 12:00 a.m.

For more information on the Clinic, please call during the above hours. The Clinic is located at 1240 E. Brady Street. The phone number is (414) 272-2144. For more information on the Gay men's HIV support group, call the Clinic or George at (414) 933-0210.

## Madison Agency Seeks to Start Support Group for Older Gay Men

[Madison]- New Ventures of Wisconsin, an area agency on aging, is seeking to form a group to explore aging and policy issues that effect the Gay community. This will be parallel to an older Lesbian group which has been meeting for the last year. "Older" refers to men who are 50 years old and older, although younger men may participate. This project is currently viewed as having four parts:

Develop a group of older men to brainstormed aging issues and policies that affect their lives;

Develop a forum using the issues brainstormed by the group as a basis for

discussions. Men from around the region will gather to voice their experiences and concerns. We hope that there will be a strong attempt to attract rural older Gay men to this forum;

Present the information gathered at the forum to a national retreat (organized by the American Society on Aging (ASA) in San Francisco);

Design a pilot project that will probably be developed in Southern Wisconsin.

For more information, write New Ventures of Wisconsin, 3601 Memorial Dr., Madison, WI 53704 or call (608) 249-7760 or Susan Buzby at (608) 251-3886.

## Tomah To Host First International Gay Love-In on July 4, 1994

[Tomah, WI]- The First International Love-In will be held in Tomah, Wisconsin on July 4, 1994. Tomah doesn't believe that Gay Rights exist.

Notice of the Love-In has been sent to various organizations, including **The Bob Damron Address Book**, and will continue to be announced until the day of the Love-In itself.

People interested in gathering at Gillette Park on July 4, 1994, should make room reservations early otherwise, you probably won't find space. Plan ahead.

Tomah, a town of 5,000 people has

never seen anything like this. There will be public kissing. Going in drag is okay. There are five-six police officers who are on duty in Tomah, so we expect that "indecent exposure" will be prosecuted.

At this time, we anticipate that about 30,000 people will be coming for this event. There are numerous motels, Holiday Inn and Best Western included. There are also several campgrounds in the area.

Tomah is centrally located at the division of I90 and I94. We hope to see you. It's only a year and a half.

## Russian-Born Dancer Rudolf Nureyev Reported to Have AIDS

[London, England]- Russian-born dancer Rudolf Nureyev, 54, has AIDS, according to a British newspaper. Nureyev had appeared haggard and weak at a ballet premiere in Paris in late October. An American friend told the Associated Press that the dancer has the disease.

The friend, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Nureyev would never talk about his disease.

London's **Daily Express** quoted Vladimir Reine, whom it identified as a "close friend" of the dancer, as saying Nureyev was infected, but adding that "Rudi will simply not accept that having AIDS is a problem."

## Cornell University President Condemns Campus Anti-Gay Graffiti

[Ithaca, NY]- Cornell's president has condemned the scrawling of anti-Gay graffiti on walls and footpaths on campus.

"Members of the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual communities should feel as free of personal intimidation as any other member of the university community," Frank Rhodes said in a statement. "Violence and the threat of violence... have no place at Cornell."

The statements included: "Have you killed your fag today?" and "God didn't create queers," according to the university's public safety department.



Jerry Johnson

**OPEN HOUSE HELD**—The Medical College of Wisconsin held an open house at their 1201 N. Prospect Ave., Milwaukee, offices on November 19, 1992. The historic building houses the offices of the Community Health Behavior Program. Pictured above (L to R) are: Jeffrey A. Kelly, Allan C. Haulk, Michael G. Morgan and L. Yvonne Stevenson.

## State Rep. Tim Carpenter Elected Speaker Pro Tem of State Assembly

[Madison]- State Representative Tim Carpenter, a South Side Milwaukee Democrat, was elected Speaker Pro Tem of the Wisconsin State Assembly by his colleagues in mid-November. In his new position, Rep. Carpenter will preside over and direct the flow of debate as well as sit on several influential legislative committees with others of the Assembly leadership.

"I feel honored to be selected by my

colleagues to this position," said Rep. Carpenter. "I believe trust and fairness with my colleagues was important in my selection and I look forward to continuing a bi-partisan, equal opportunity approach to directing proceedings on the floor of the Assembly."

Rep. Carpenter will assume the position of Speaker Pro Tem immediately upon inauguration on January 4, 1993.

## Bruce Clark Receives 'Longevity' Award for Years of Cable TV Work

[Milwaukee]- Bryce Clark was honored by MATA Channels 14/47 staff with the "Longevity Award" at the 7th Annual Philo Awards presentation, November 13, 1992 at the Astor Hotel. Presented by staff member Tammy Hill, Clark was recognized for his long service as a producer. He has been actively involved in over 100 programs since 1986.

"His dependability as a creative producer and dedication in promoting the Gay and Lesbian community through the public access audience is an inspiration to MATA staff and producers alike," said Hill.

Clark is co-executive producer of the Milwaukee Gay/Lesbian Cable Network, of the Cream City Foundation, and is presently involved with the **Queer TV** series. The production group has won

numerous local and national awards for programming excellence since 1987, including the first Milwaukee area group to win the prestigious "Hometown USA" first place award in 1989.

The annual Philo competition, named after Philo T. Farnsworth, the inventor of television, is the public access station's equivalent to broadcast TV's Emmy Awards.

## Dec. 13 Christmas Dinner is MLGPC, MAP Fundraiser

[Milwaukee]- The Milwaukee Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee and the Milwaukee AIDS project invite you to attend a Christmas Dinner Fundraiser on Sunday, December 13.

Festivities will begin with a 5:00 cocktail hour at the 1100 club, 1100 South First Street. From there the revelers will proceed to the 3B's 1753 S. Kinnickinnic for a delicious, traditional and festive Christmas dinner.

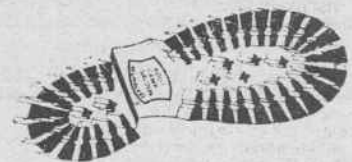
Fabulous entertainment will be provided at both the 3B's and the 1100 Club.

Tickets are only \$10.00 and can be purchased at 3B's, the 1100 Club, MAP, or call Chris Lubus at 384-3911.

### COME UP AND SKI US!

2 people, 3 nights: \$90 plus tax; 2 people 5 nights: \$140 plus tax. Sun-Thurs. excluding holidays at your bed-&-breakfast second home in the great north woods. (Ask about Northstar House for group outings!)

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## Dykes To Watch Out For





# The Light LIVELY ARTS

## Fiction 'Queer Quinceanera: A Coming Out Party'

Wisconsin Light is proud to introduce a new work of fiction by two members of the Hispanic community, Ric Oquita and David Figueroa. Ric has appeared in many Milwaukee Repertory Theatre productions including *Death of a Salesman* which toured in Russia. David is a member of the Foothold Dance Collective. Both are active members of our community.

**Editor's Note:** A Quinceanera is a party to celebrate a girl's debut in society on her 15th birthday. It is often more lavish than a wedding.

By Ric Oquita and David Figueroa

The scene opens at the Tropicana Club with our debs, David, a Queer National and dancer with Wild Space, and Ric, a national queer and actor at the Milwaukee Rep, laying out the lavish spread for their long-awaited Quinceanera. Ric is cutting up Jalapenos with his grandfather's machete and wearing his grandmother's apron as David yelps, "Mijo, I'm taking this melting pot back to Target. Do you think we can fry my frituras in a wok?"

"Yeah, my tamales came out bland. Throw in some red pumps."

"Good idea."

R-r-r-ring!

Ric dashes to the phone, removing a four-inch earring on the way. "Nino, that was Rico Suave herself. She ain't coming cause the word is out you're dating her brother."

David winks. "You'd be surprised what you can find under a Pirates cap. Is your family coming?" he asks, spritzing the room with Eau de Fritura.

"No," Ric replies. "Yours?"

"Yeah, but I had to tell them it was a performance art piece."

"What about the entertainment?" Ric inquires. "Did you get funding for that gender-bending Mariachi band?"

David shrugs. "I tried, but the Mayor couldn't pronounce the words 'Gay' or 'Hispanic.'"

"So, I guess that means we'll have to provide it ourselves," says Ric as he falls into the splits.

David seizes the idea and begins to fantasize about doing his hair up into a Carmen Miranda beehive, dancing the Lambada, thus hypnotizing the spectators into a steamy trance causing them to yell: "North America! South America! We're all a big ol' Queer America!" whenever they pass a Taco Bell.

Ric interrupts dreamy David with, "I could do a monologue from a play I've done!"

"Anything queer?"

"Well, I played Roy Cohn."

"Never mind," says David rolling his eyes. He continues his fantasy, casting a drag show featuring Esai Morales, Jimmy Smits and Gerardo in his Puerto Rican prom dresses, while Ric, the Norte de Mexi-Chicani-Ameri-Colombiani, squeezes into his spandex pancho.

He wiggles his hips seductively and says, "Maybe we can do some interpretive dancing."

We may be expected to wear sombreros and holsters," David responds.

"Or feathers and loincloths."

"And dance to 'La Cucaracha.'"

"With beer logos tattooed on our butts," Ric says.

"That would probably take care of our funding problem."

"Jua! Jua! Jua!" Ric laughs.

The Milwak-y-riqueno starts filling a pink pyramid-shaped pinata with salsa-flavored condoms, wondering, "Are there any Latinos coming?"

"Latinoa?" Ric asks. "Is that masculine or feminine?"

"Both, mijo."

"I see. Pues, no se. I'm not sure," Ric says dropping "Silencio es Muerte" buttons into the triangle. "Is this party bilingual?"

"Claro, and bisexual too." David hoists up his skirt. "Hold this ladder for me." He attaches the pinata to the ceiling

fan.

"By the way, who is your patron?" Ric asks, admiring David's endurance in heels.

"Cesar Romero. Yours?"

"Frida Kahlo."

"Cool." David climbs off the ladder and checks the pink triangles embroidered on his guayavera. "Ricardito, I thought you were coming in drag?"

"I am," Ric answers. "This is the costume I wore in *Our Town*. Don't I look like the Boy Next Door?"

"Seguro, but don't you need a door to go with that?"

"Jua! Jua! Jua!" Ric laughs.

\*\*\*\*

As time ticks away on the Felix the Cat clock, their corsages and hearts begin to sink.

"Caramba! David, there's nobody here yet. Do you think they are on Mambo time, or what?"

"Puede ser. I wonder if people had trouble crossing the border to get here?"

"Where are they coming from?" Ric wonders.

"The south side. And speaking of the south side," lisps David, "I was down at the bars and was told that there are no queer Hispanics to invite."

"Dios mio!" screeches Ric as he runs to a mirror and practices rolling his R's.

"So I started thinking," David continues, "and I had to be sure. So I ran to the video store and rented 'Hot Exotic Time Serving Macho Barrio Beefcake in Savage Island Heat' for reassurance."

"I have a cousin in that," nods Ric. "Oh yeah, I was down at the bar and saw this cute Mexican guy I wanted to invite. Guapisimo! But he was holding hands with this hunky All-American guy."

"What kind of American? GWM?"

"No," Ric answered. "GHM."

"What's that? Gay Hispanic Male?"

"No," Ric answered. "Gay Hyphenated Male. Jua! Jua! Jua!"

David pulls Ric's ear. "Sin verguenza."

Three days later, as the amigos take a siesta from reheating their fritatas and refried beans (which have been reduced to the size of pigeon peas), they begin to suspect that their dream party remains just that, a dream.

"Well, now I know how the INvisible Man feels," David says.

"We'll commemorate the day as 'Dia de los Escondidos,'" Ric sighs. "I'd rather have my Quinceanera."

"Well then, we have work to do. We're going to send out new and improved invitations, throw ourselves a party and take it to the streets!"

Respond R.S.V.P.! Cross the bridge, raise your voice and have yourselves a queer positive Quinceanera!

## 'Quarantine of the Mind' Set For Dec. 12

[Milwaukee]- "Quarantine of the Mind," a funny, yet touching performance about Gay men and the effects and fear of AIDS, by Canadian David MacLean, will be presented Saturday, December 12, at Walker's Point Center for the Arts, 911 W. National Ave.

MacLean uses humor and tenderness in his one-man show that mixes theatre, performance art, slide shows, and stand-up in a fast paced, amusing and shocking series of characters who must make everyday decisions in a variety of situations from a visit to a doctor's office to writing checks for the "right" charities.

"Quarantine of the Mind," on tour since 1990 throughout major cities in Canada and the U.S., will be presented at 8:00 p.m., Saturday, December 12. For more information, call the Center at (414) 672-2787.

## Performing Arts Community Plans Benefits for MAP Food Pantry

[Milwaukee]- Performing arts groups from the metropolitan Milwaukee area will use the world-wide attention generated by World AIDS Day this December 1, to kick off a food drive to support the Milwaukee AIDS Project's (MAP) food pantry.

Food barrels will be set up during area performing arts events, including those provided by Theatre X, the Boulevard Ensemble, the Performing Arts Center (PAC), Present Music, the Bauer Contemporary Ballet, the Bel Canto Chorus, the Florentine Opera, Robert Florek/Dale Gutzman Productions, the Skylight Opera Theatre and UW-Milwaukee's Northern Stage Company.

Non-perishable food items placed in the barrels will be made available to the more than 600 clients of MAP through its food pantry.

In October, the pantry served more than 350 individuals and families, providing them with nutritional food and personal care products. Individuals may receive up to four bags of groceries per month and families, up to eight bags.

"The arts community has historically been a strong presence in meeting the

many challenges of AIDS," said Doug Nelson, MAP's executive director. "The Arts Action Committee is dedicated to ensuring the continued commitment of performing arts organizations and their patrons to support services provided by MAP."

### A Rep Benefit

A Milwaukee Repertory Theater benefit performance of *Rodgers And...* will be held on December 16 at 7:30 p.m. in the Stackner Cabaret in the Milwaukee Repertory Theater Complex.

Featuring Jack Wilson, this program highlights the colorful music of Richard Rodgers and his collaborators. Tickets are \$12 and can be purchased by calling the Rep Box Office at (414) 224-9490 or MAP at (414) 273-1991.

The Milwaukee Repertory Theater will also be displaying their special fundraising quilt. For every \$250 the Rep raises for MAP, a panel is hand-crafted and added.

For more information on events sponsored by the Arts Action Committee, call Jim Schleif at (414) 273-1991.

## Marla BB and Marcia Wilkie to Perform at Madison's Apple Island

[Madison]- Apple Island Productions is bringing two hot new shows to Apple Island, 849 E. Washington Avenue in Madison.

On Saturday, December 5, at 8:00 p.m. Marla BB will be performing her hot "Sassy Mama Lesbian Blues." She will be accompanied by Melanie Monsur on keys. Marla is a blues singer and actress from Philadelphia, Boston and now, New York. She personalizes the messages of the blues she's selected from the 1920's through the 1990's.

Marla says, "Being sassy is not following anybody else's stereotype of what a woman should think, say, feel."

The show is open to all women and tickets will be sold at the door, sliding scale, \$6 to \$10.

### Marcia Wilkie

On Saturday, December 12 at 8:00 p.m., comic and performance artist Marcia Wilkie will be returning to Apple Island. She played to a sold-out house last year and returns this year with an all-new one-woman show, "Close-At-Hand."

Wilkie began her career at Second City in Chicago and humor remains an integral part of her performances. But more than anything else, Wilkie is a story teller. She explores what it's like to be a Lesbian in a world that often refuses to understand.

This show is open to all women and will

be ASL interpreted for the deaf and hard of hearing by Sharon Matuszeski. Tickets are available at the door on a sliding scale, from \$7 to \$11.

Work exchange is available for both shows. For more information, call Pat Calchina at (608) 256-2521.

Apple Island is a smoke and alcohol free space and is wheelchair accessible. Personal care attendants are admitted free. Please consider not wearing scents out of respect for women with environmental illnesses.

## Original Music Needed for AIDS Fundraiser

[Los Angeles, CA]- Patchwork is looking for songwriters to contribute original music for a fundraising album to benefit AIDS organizations. The album will contain songs memorializing people who have died of AIDS and songs about the AIDS crisis and how it affects society. In effect, this will be a musical quilt.

Those interested in submitting music or getting involved in some other way, submit cassette tapes and inquiries to: Patchwork, 125 Gower St., Los Angeles, CA 90038.

THE MUSIC OF  
BROADWAY WILL  
FILL THE CABARET  
TO HELP FIGHT  
AIDS.

**RODGERS AND...**  
The Broadway Songs of Richard Rodgers

Join us on WED., DEC. 16TH in the  
STACKNER CABARET as the  
Milwaukee Repertory Theater  
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PERFORMANCE for the  
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CURTAIN TIME:  
7:30 P.M.  
TICKETS: \$12.00  
All seats reserved  
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December 11 - January 17  
The classic American music of Richard  
Rodgers and collaborators Hart,  
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Hamrick fill the stage with 50 years of  
Broadway's best.



## 'Making History: The Struggle for Gay and Lesbian Equal Rights'

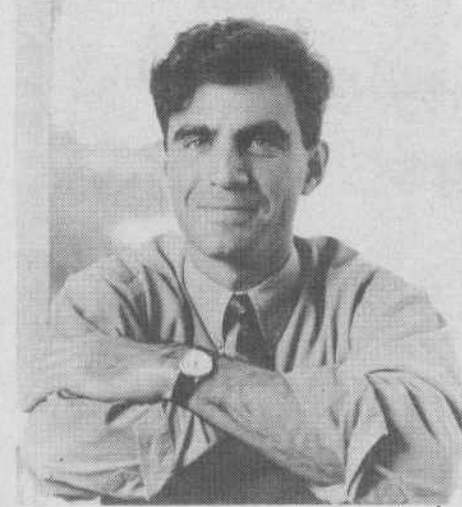
By Cynthia Van Vreede

**Making History: The Struggle for Gay and Lesbian Equal Rights, 1945-1990, An Oral History** by Eric Marcus, Harper Collins Publishers, \$25, 532 pp

Does the name Frank Kameny mean anything to you? How about Joyce Hunter? If the names don't ring a bell with you, don't be surprised. Many of us in the Gay and Lesbian community are woefully ignorant of our history. Kameny and Hunter are just two of the 49 people profiled in a new book, **Making History: The Struggle for Gay and Lesbian Equal Rights, 1945-1990, An Oral History** by Eric Marcus.

Despite its textbook title, **Making History** is a wonderful collection of stories of the people involved in the Gay rights struggle by the people themselves. The book not only focuses on Gay men and Lesbians, but also supportive straights.

Marcus divides his book into five parts, with the Stonewall riots considered a part of the movement, but not the birthplace of the Gay rights struggle. He starts **Making History** with the discussion groups that formed after World War II.



ERIC MARCUS

### The Early Years

It was a difficult time for Gays and Lesbians. The FBI, under J. Edgar Hoover, spied on Gay activists. Senator Joe McCarthy (R-WI) was on his witch hunt for perverts (guess who?). And in this climate of paranoia, the Daughters of Bilitis and the Mattachine Society offered the first organizations for Lesbians and Gays.

Inspired by the Black civil rights movement, men and women participated in the first public demonstrations for Gay rights. One of the leaders was Frank Kameny who was fired in 1957 from his

federal job because he was Gay.

The rise of leftist and anti-war activism further influenced Gays and Lesbians. Gay Liberation drew increasing numbers of people and organizations into confrontational tactics following the Stonewall riots. One of my favorite stories from the book is from Barnard College secretary Martha Shelley.

Shelley was working for a female administrator while doing work with the Daughters of Bilitis. A local radio station was doing a series on the sexual revolution and interviewed Shelley on Gay rights as well as other young women who were living in the first coed dorm on campus. The administrator planned on listening to the program and Shelley was afraid she'd lose her job.

Instead of calling the radio station and asking them to pull the interview, Shelley told her boss that she was also interviewed for the program. The administrator wanted to know why and Shelley told her she was speaking on behalf of an organization for Lesbians.

The administrator's response? "Well, that's nice dear. It's wonderful that you young people are taking up all these causes."

Shelley later found out that the administrator was living with a well-known businesswoman.

### The Backlash

With increasing visibility came an increase in the anti-Gay backlash (read: the Reagan Years). Joyce Hunter became a social worker concerned with Gay and Lesbian teens who were tossed out of their homes and onto the streets by their own parents. She is now with the Hetrick-Martin Institute for Lesbian and Gay Youth and is also working as a counselor at Harvey Milk High School in New York City.

The last part of **Making History** deals with the AIDS crisis. In 1981, the mainstream media published the first articles on a new "Gay cancer" and our community saw the rise of AIDS educators and groups such as ACT UP. AIDS has killed three people who were interviewed for this book; several others are HIV-positive.

Marcus writes in **Making History**, "It is my hope that these few stories contribute to our understanding of the Gay and Lesbian struggle, and an appreciation of the life and times, the heroism and passion of the thousands of people who took part in it."

Read **Making History**. The stories of hope, struggle, and achievement make for compelling reading. Then go out and make a little history of your own.

## Shaw's 'Dear Liar' Opens Dec. 11 at Boulevard Ensemble

[Milwaukee]- The Boulevard Ensemble brings George Bernard Shaw to life in December with its presentation of **Dear Liar** by Jerome Kilty. Kilty's play is based on the witty correspondence between the celebrated author and his famous contemporary, the actress Mrs. Patrick Campbell.

The Ensemble will present the production, the second of the 1992-'93 season, Thursdays to Sundays, December 11 to January 3, at the Boulevard Theatre, 2250 S. Kinnickinnic Avenue. There will be no performances December 24 and 25. To reserve tickets, call (414) 672-6019.

**Dear Liar** portrays the wildly fluctuating friendship and unspoken romance between Shaw (who claimed he was a virgin until age 27) and Patrick. The production is directed by Stephannie Kulke. Cast members are Mark Bucher as Shaw and Pamela Brown as Mrs. Campbell.

### A MAP Benefit

The Ensemble is preparing another charity benefit for its production of **Dear Liar**. The season's first benefit for the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP), **The World is Lit by Lightening**, raised more than \$600 for MAP.

### The New Year

The Boulevard Ensemble will bring classical drama and classical comedy to the stage in the final two productions of its 1992-'93 season.

First, in February-March, the Ensemble will present Spain's supreme philosophical drama, **Life is a Dream** by Don Pedro Calderon, who is often called the Spanish Shakespeare. Pat Acerra will direct the production.

In April, the Ensemble will present its production of Moliere's **The Learned Ladies**, a verse comedy in which three women led by a haughty mistress of the household confuse knowledge with snobbish erudition and receive their comeuppance. Mark Bucher will direct this production.

### Auditions to be Held

The Ensemble is seeking actresses and actors of all ages and ranges for the third production of the 1992-'93 season;

Calderon's **Life is a Dream**.

Auditioners should prepare two contrasting classical monologues no more than two minutes in length total. Auditions will be held January 5, 6 and 7 at the Boulevard Theatre. Call (414) 672-6019 for an audition appointment.

For further information on any of the remaining productions or for reservations, call (414) 672-6019.

## Resource Book A Must For Gay Writers

[San Francisco]- In early 1991, Putting Out Books, a small press in San Francisco, founded in 1990, published its first edition of **Putting Out: A Publishing Resource Guide for Lesbian and Gay Writers**, a reference book with over 250 book publishing, newspaper, magazine, journal and theatre markets for Lesbian and Gay writers and playwrights. **Putting Out, 1991** was a finalist for the 1992 Lambda Literary Awards Small Press Book Award.

Putting Out Books has just released a 1992/1993 Supplement to the 1991 edition, with more than 95 new markets for Lesbian and Gay writers. In addition, the 1992/1993 Supplement gives updated information on the markets included in the 1991 edition.

Both the 1991 edition and the 1992/1993 Supplement covers all major genres of writing, including fiction, nonfiction and poetry. The Supplement retails for \$4.95, or is included free of charge when ordered with the 1991 edition at a cost of \$12.95.

To order, write Edisol W. Dotson, Putting Out Books, 2215-R Market Street, No. 113, San Francisco, CA 94114; (415) 621-5766.

**Editor's Note:** The 1991 **Putting Out** is one of the most valuable writing resources I have. The information in it is complete and reliable. It is one book I never loan out.

## Holiday Season Brings Array Of Theatre Events to Milwaukee

[Milwaukee]- Milwaukee theatre goers will have plenty to entice them this holiday season. Here are only a few of the many offerings.

### Theatre X

Theatre X will present a delightful holiday double offering of Truman Capote's **A Christmas Memory** and Thornton Wilder's **The Long Christmas Dinner**. Both will be presented at Theatre X's newly renovated theatre at 158 N. Broadway in the Historic Third Ward. The program will run from December 9-27, 1992.

Continuing this season will be the candlelight dinners with menus based on the Truman Capote family recipes. Dinners are served in the Theatre X lobby on Wednesdays and Fridays, one hour prior to the play. Reservations are necessary.

For more information or to order tickets call (414) 278-0555.

### Danceworks

Since September 1, the Danceworks studios at 727 N. Milwaukee Street have been the site of a flurry of activity. Through the efforts of many dedicated people, the space is well on its way to becoming a hub for the Milwaukee dance community.

On Thursday, December 3, Danceworks will host an Open House Celebration from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at its downtown studios. All are welcome to come and see the renovated studio facilities and to meet the many fine dancers and teachers associated with the organization. For more information, please call (414) 276-3191.

### Milwaukee Repertory Theater

Due to sold-out performances, the Milwaukee Repertory Theater has extended the run of **Hula Hoop Sha-Boop**, currently playing in the Stackner Cabaret. Originally scheduled to close on November 22, **Hula Hoop Sha-Boop** will now run until December 6. The show has played to the largest audiences in the history of the Stackner Cabaret.

For more information and tickets, call the Rep. Box Office at (414) 224-9490.

### Skylight Opera Theatre

**Dames At Sea**, an affectionate tribute to the movie musical extravaganzas of the '30's, kicks up its heels for the holidays with a run from December 9 to January 3 at the Skylight Opera Theatre, 813 N. Jefferson Street. Included will be two special New Year's Eve performances at 6:00 and 10:00 p.m.

For ticket prices, reservations and more information, call the Skylight Box Office at (414) 271-9580.

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## Colorado Supreme Court Asked To Strike Down Amendment 2

[Milwaukee]—“The people fighting against it were fighting too nicely,” said Martina Navratilova speaking of the passage of the anti-Gay constitutional amendment in Colorado. “They didn’t fight as dirty as the Colorado family values group did,” she said.

In a letter to the editor in *Out Front*, Denver’s Gay/Lesbian paper, Alan Potter writes “They won... so what? They may have gotten their hate amendment approved, but the fight is far from over.”

The fighting back sentiments expressed by Navratilova, Potter and others in the Gay media seems to reflect the spirit in Colorado in the weeks following the vote. This time, the battle will be carried on in the courts where right-wing Fundamentalism is less likely to prevail.

### Legal Challenges

On November 12, a coalition of community legal activists, attorneys for Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, the ACLU of Colorado and the Colorado Legal Initiatives Project (CLIP), and led by former Supreme Court of Colorado Justice Jean E. Dubofsky, filed suit in the Colorado Superior Court in Denver seeking to strike down as unconstitutional the recently passed Amendment 2.

The lawsuit was filed on behalf of several Gay men and Lesbians, a heterosexual man with AIDS, the City of Denver, the City of Boulder, the City of Aspen, and Navratilova who lives near Aspen.

The filed complaint challenges Amendment 2 based on several provisions of the Constitution of the United States, primarily the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. The complaint states that Amendment 2 authorizes and encourages public and private discrimination on the basis of perceived sexual orientation, establishing as official Colorado policy a right to discriminate against Lesbians and Gay men.

The lawsuit also includes additional legal claims, including allegations that Amendment 2 would chill speech, limit advocacy and coerce people to adhere to a single, state-approved belief respecting Gay, Lesbian or Bisexual orientation — all in violation of the U.S. Constitution’s guarantees of freedom of association and expression.

### Boycott or Not to Boycott

In the meantime, debate continues over whether or not Gays, Lesbians and their supporters should boycott Colorado.

As of press time, national Gay organizations, the Human Rights Campaign Fund and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force have made no call for a boycott.

## Something had Gone Terribly Wrong—What Really Happened in Colorado?

Special to Wisconsin Light  
Analysis By Sam Gallegos

[Denver, CO]—It wasn’t supposed to happen this way.

Even the exit polls taken minutes after the voting was done on Tuesday evening, November 3, showed that that Amendment 2 was solidly going down in defeat. The party at Denver’s Monmouth Gardens was going to be the Lesbian and Gay event of the season. The cry went up, “After tonight, you’ll have nothing to fear.”

And then a queer thing happened just as Bill Clinton was carrying the state. Amendment 2 passed. Suddenly, it became clear; something had gone terribly wrong. Now people are trying to sort it all out. The following is a point by point breakdown of just where the campaign against Amendment 2 may have gone awry.

**Admitting that the Amendment would make the ballot.** Long before it was even clear that the amendment would make the ballot, Judy Harrington, campaign manager of Equal Protection Of Colorado (EPOC) who spearheaded the campaign against the measure was telling reporters that she expected the Amendment to make the November ballot. Admitting this, in the eyes of many here, was politically stupid.

**Letting Bill McCartney’s version of the bible go unchallenged.** Last Spring, when University of Colorado football coach Bill McCartney made his statements about homosexuality being an “abomination,” condemnation of his words was swift and direct.

The problem was that while he was

Despite passage of Amendment 2, a promoter of the annual Gay Ski Weekend in Aspen says she hopes to see Lesbians and Gays come “in their tens of thousands.”

The promoter, Robin Tyler said, “The Blacks did not leave Alabama. They marched on Selma. We are not going to the back of the bus. We are not accepting bigotry. We are coming to Aspen,” she said.

Aspen was the first in Colorado to pass a Gay rights ordinance, in 1977.

Aspen Mayor John Bennett said, “I hope they don’t misdirect their anger toward Aspen. We have always been on their side.”

Nevertheless, Houston’s Gay paper, *The New Voice*, reports that Gays and Lesbians have begun canceling vacations and conventions in Colorado. Denver sources have told *Light* that there is no estimate as of yet on numbers or what the financial impact will be of individual boycotts.

In addition, Barbra Streisand, has called on vacationers to boycott Colorado. “There are plenty of us who love the mountains and rivers of that truly beautiful state,” Streisand said at a recent Los Angeles AIDS awards dinner. “But we must now say clearly that the moral climate there is no longer acceptable — and if we’re asked to, we must refuse to play where they discriminate.”

Will Perkins, a founder of Colorado for Family Values (CFV), which sponsored Amendment 2, said calls for boycotts are “a preposterous threat.”

Perkins did not return phone calls. The message on CFV’s answering machine says, “All of our phone lines are most likely busy at this time... Our phone is ringing off the hook because of all our supporters.”

## What Exactly Is Colorado’s Amendment 2?

**No Protected Status Based on Homosexual, Lesbian or Bisexual Orientation**

Neither the State of Colorado, through any of its branches or departments, nor any of its agencies, political subdivisions, municipalities or school districts, shall enact, adopt or enforce any statute, regulation, ordinance or policy whereby homosexual, lesbian, or bisexual orientation, conduct, practices or relationships shall constitute or otherwise be the basis of, or entitle any person or class of persons to have or claim any minority status, quota preferences, protected status or claim of discrimination.

personally challenged and discounted, his interpretation of the bible to support his claims was not.

Reporters seeking to counter McCartney called the EPOC office. In response, EPOC stressed their long-standing desire to stick to the campaign and not get involved in biblical issues. By not responding, EPOC let stand one of the lingering falsehoods that many voters in Colorado went to the polls with — that McCartney’s interpretation of the bible was correct.

**Ignoring the small towns and rural areas of Colorado** Conventional wisdom in politics says to go wherever you stand to shake the most hands. EPOC and Harrington did just exactly that. Little or no emphasis was placed on towns like Fruita, Holly, Rifle or Las Animas.

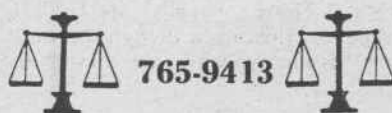
The result of ignoring towns like this proved devastating. Because these voters had no frame of reference, much less a Lesbian or Gay that they could identify other than Liberace, they voted on what they knew. They know religion; they probably do not know homosexuality — the result was an unintentionally discriminating YES vote.

**Not seeing the warning signs of panic** Early on, Lesbians and Gays throughout the state were expressing concern about how the campaign was going. While much of that may have had to do with unfounded panic, it was no doubt a real feeling which EPOC failed adequately to address. The consistent word from the campaign was “Don’t worry, we have a plan.”

The problem with the plan, however, was that no one knew about it. EPOC wisely stated that they did not want to

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give away their strategy lest Colorado for Family Values (CFV) find out. Yet, in the process, EPOC left Lesbians and Gays and their supporters in the dark as well.

What happens now will depend on the courts — and that will be a long process taking years. We can do nothing but ask for the community’s support nation-wide.

## Elected Gay Officials Increase To 75 Across U.S.

[Washington, D.C.]— Openly Gay and Lesbian candidates have won new state seats in Wisconsin and New Mexico, plus retained important positions in Oregon, Texas, Maine, Minnesota, New York, Vermont and Washington. Both openly Gay Massachusetts Congressmen Gerry Studds (D) and Barney Frank (D) were re-elected as well, according to Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund Executive Director William Waybourn.

Prior to Tuesday, November 3, there were 64 openly Gay and Lesbian elected officials in the U.S. A total of 16 won re-election, plus 11 others won for the first time, bringing the total number of elected officials to 75. A total of 52 candidates were seeking office on election day, 27 won.

### Wisconsin and New Mexico

Tammy Baldwin (D-Madison) becomes Wisconsin’s first openly Lesbian member of the State Assembly.

Liz Stefanics (D) joins the New Mexico State Senate.

Studds, who won re-election after a bruising primary and tough general election, is in line to become the U.S. House’s first openly Gay chairman of a full committee, the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries. Studds soundly defeated two challengers, while Frank overwhelmed his opponent.

### Across the Nation

Winning re-election were Texas State Representative Glen Maxey (D), Oregon State Representative Gail Shibley (D), Minnesota State Senator Allan Spear (DFL), Minnesota State Representative Karen Clark (D), Maine State Senator Dale McCormick (D), Maine State

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Representative Susan Farnsworth (D), New York State Assemblywoman Deborah Glick (D), Vermont State Representative Ron Squires (D), and Washington State Representative Cal Anderson (D).

Six openly Gay and Lesbian candidates for boards of education were also elected, including Gary Miller, Robla, CA; Angie Fa, San Francisco; Tim Wolfred, San Francisco Community College; Ken Yeager, San Jose Community College; Tom Brougham, Peralta, CA Community College; and Richard Gordon, San Mateo, CA.

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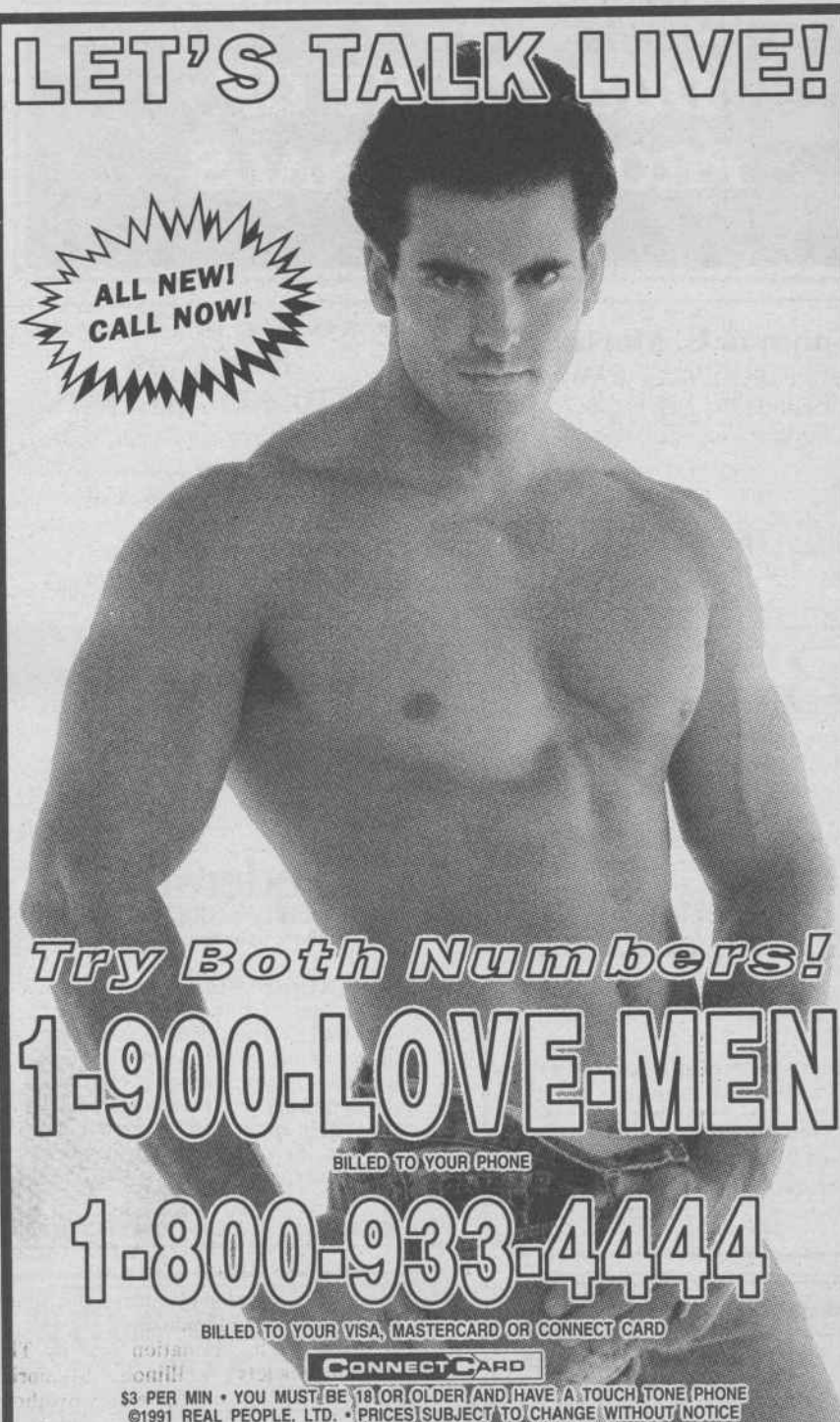
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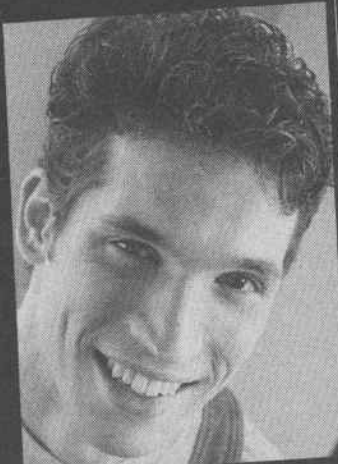
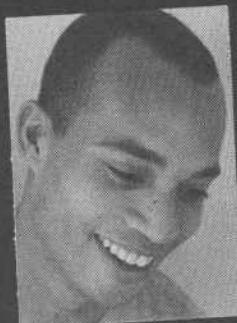
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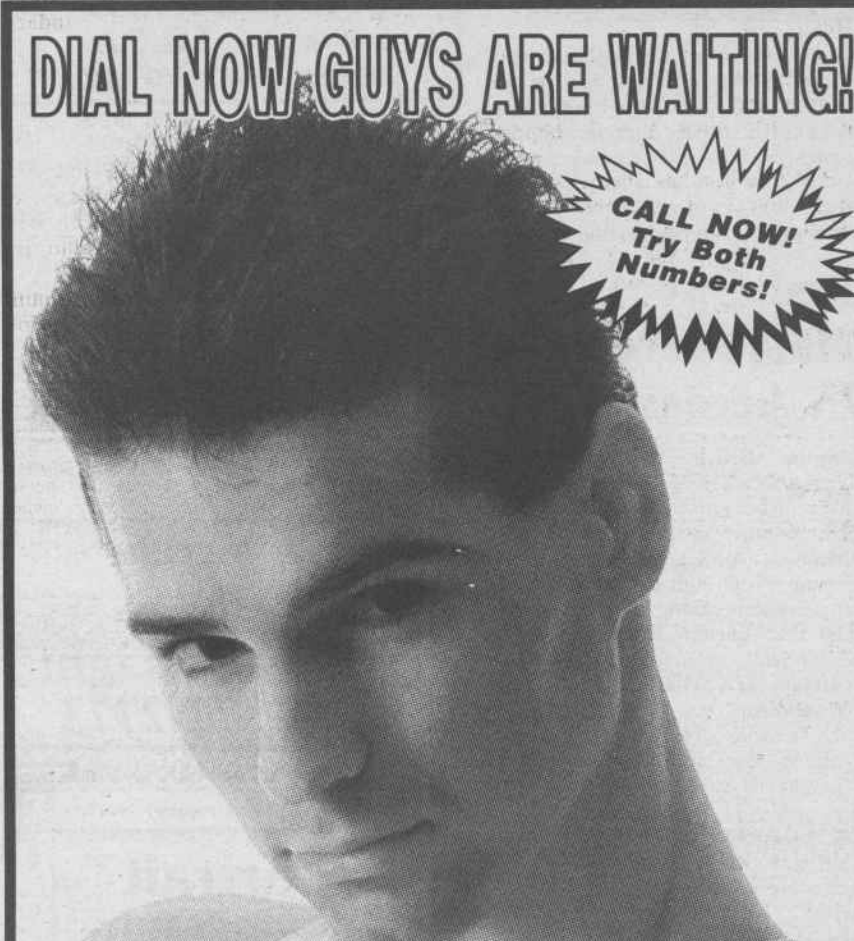


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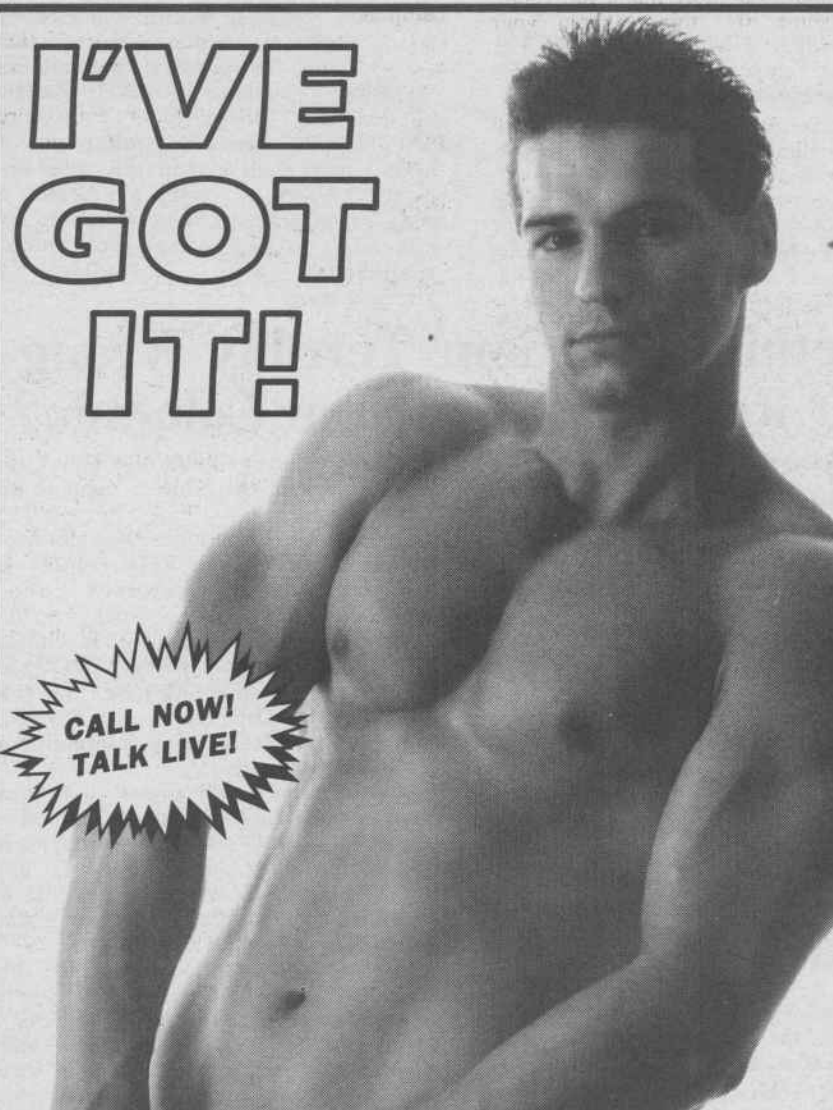
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# With the Campaign Over it's Time to Announce our Quadrennial Awards

By Bill Meunier

Well folks now that the election and the serious business of picking a government is over with its time for our Quadrennial Election awards.

**SLEAZIEST CANDIDATE FOR SENATE IN A MIDWESTERN STATE**— This prestigious award (a bucket of mud) goes to lame duck Senator Bob Kasten who obviously coveted it so much that he went overboard to win it. There were many reasons for this "honor" but if I had to pick just one, it would be Kasten's volunteers implying that his opponent would free Jeffery Dahmer after just 13 years in prison.

**MOST UNPRESIDENTIAL PERFORMANCE BY A PRESIDENT**— The Lack of Dignity Award and the Emily Post book on good manners goes to President Bush. Bush won this award when in the closing days of the campaign he called Clinton and Gore "bozos" and said his dog Millie knew more about foreign policy than they did.

**BEST COMEBACK BY A MAJOR CANDIDATE**— The winner is Vice President Elect Al Gore. Gore responded to Bush's remarks as stated above when he said, "We thought Millie was the one who taught him to roll over and play dead on the economy."

**BEST QUESTION BY A SENATE CANDIDATE**— California's Senator Elect Barbara Boxer gets the nod on this one. Her opponent conservative commentator Bruce Herschenshom said he opposed federal help for states and cities even when a natural disaster occurs. Boxer asked voters in San Francisco "Who would you rather have as your Senator when the next earthquake hits."

**BEST QUIP BY A VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE**— Al Gore picks up his second award for his performance during his Vice-Presidential debate with Dan Quayle and what's his name. After Quayle said that Clinton and Gore were opposed to term limits, Gore replied, "Oh we're fixin to limit one alright."

**MOST SINCERE VICTORY SPEECH**— It's traditional to politely thank the voters and say some nice things about your opponent when claiming victory. Senator Elect Russ Feingold wins this award for breaking with tradition.

While claiming victory Feingold recounted all of the mud his opponent, soon to be former Senator Bob Kasten, had thrown in his campaigns. Feingold went all the way back to 1974. It wasn't traditional but it was honest.

**THE GAY AND LESBIAN RIGHTS AWARD**— The coveted Gay and Lesbian Rights Award goes to the Republican Party. The GOP succeeded where all of America's Gay and Lesbian activists had not.

It wasn't enough for the Republicans to be quietly homophobic, nooooo! The Republicans cheered for Pat Buchanan's call for a "holy war" on Gays and Lesbians and passed a homophobic platform. In doing so, they succeeded in uniting the Gay and Lesbian community into a solid block vote.

Thousands of Lesbians and Gays got involved in a campaign for the first time. Thousands more registered and voted for the first time as well, and over 3,000,000 Lesbian and Gay dollars for the Clinton campaign were raised and the Lesbian and Gay community became united like it never had been. This award comes with a calculator so the GOP can figure out just how many voters 10% of the population is. It's the least we can do since we owe them so much.

**MOST PARANOID CANDIDATE IN THE PRESIDENTIAL RACE**— Beyond question this award goes to Ross Perot.

It's not that I don't think Bush and the Republicans are capable of dirty tricks but the thought that Bush would somehow gain some political advantage by disrupting a wedding was ridiculous.

Perot can use this award, a metal colander covered with tin foil, to communicate with his friends on the planet Zeos.

**BEST FAMILY VALUES**— The Republican's made a big issue out of family values in this campaign, but some of the family values that arose out of their rhetoric were probably not what they in mind.

My own family wins this award and a kiss on the cheek for its work in the Clinton campaign. They were turned off by the Republican's homophobic rhetoric and alarmed by polls that showed Bush closing the gap. My mother piled my father and his walker, my younger brother and my niece in the car and drove the lot of them to the Clinton phone banks several times in the closing days of the campaign.

They shared the celebration on election night with me and other Gay and Lesbian volunteers.

It made me value my family even more than I already did, and I am proud of them.

## Nov.-Dec. Queer TV Cable Schedule

[Milwaukee]— The Queer Television (QTV) program for the remainder of November provides a unique after-the-election perspective. Host Michael Lisowski talks with Gay Republican Jim McFarland and Lesbian African-American activist Cheryl Franklin. Cablecast dates are November 22, 26 and 29.

QTV's first December program scratches at the surface of homophobia at the University of Wisconsin- Milwaukee. Featured guests are: Shane Reister and Jennifer Hanrahan of the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Community at the University. Cablecast dates are December 3, 6, 10 and 13.

All programs are produced by the Milwaukee Gay/Lesbian Cable Network and are cablecast on Milwaukee Warner Cable's public access Channel 14 (MATA), Thursday and Sunday evenings, 10:30-11:00 p.m. Watch or program your VCR.

For more information on how you can get involved, write: QTV, P.O. Box 239, Milwaukee, WI 53201 or phone (414) 277-7671; (414) 271- 7812; (414) 265-8500.

## RACINE Continued from Page 1

MCMC of pneumonia and other AIDS-related medical conditions. Racine County Executive Dennis Kornwolf and Sheriff Rohner have publicly denied that any improper treatment of Hill took place.

### No Excuse

At Monday's press conference, Doug Nelson, ARCW executive director, told those attending that "Dennis Hill... was denied the most basic rights of humane treatment by the Racine County Jail because he was a person with AIDS."

## Raymond Pugeseck

[Milwaukee]— Raymond J. Pugeseck Jr., 35, of Kenosha, WI, passed away early Wednesday morning, October 14, 1992, following a long battle with AIDS. During Raymond's last few days, he was surrounded by his family and the prayers of his loved ones.

He was born on November 20, 1965, in Oak Park, IL, the son of Raymond J. and Irene Geraldine (Misch) Pugeseck Sr.

Raymond attended DePaul University where he majored in English. Throughout his college years, he was employed in the financial aid office. Following graduation, he was employed at Loyola University in a similar position. In 1989, he became Director of Financial Aid at Carthage College in Kenosha.

Raymond will be remembered by those who loved him as a man who enjoyed life to its fullest. All who knew Ray are left



RAYMOND J. PUGESECK, JR.

with many lasting good memories.

In addition to his parents, Ray is survived by one sister, Karen Hearle and his companion, Dale Heuser.

Memorials in Ray's name may be made to Carthage College, 2001 Alford Dr., Kenosha, WI 53140.

## Frank A. Beverage

Frank Allen Beverage quietly passed away on Tuesday, November 10, 1992, at his residence, Bonaventure House, 825 W. Wellington in Chicago.

Frank was born on August 9th, 1952 to Floyd H. Beverage and Carol Lucille Berry in Terre Haute, Indiana. Frank was well known in Lake County, Illinois as a real estate salesman for various Libertyville firms, including ERA Park Avenue, Baird & Warner, Century 21 among others.

He was also well known by many of his close friends as a flamboyant waiter for Highland Park restaurants, Sinclair's, La Foret and, lastly, Terczak's in Chicago.

Nelson went on to say that "With this lawsuit, we also send a strong and clear message to every jail in every county in Wisconsin that ignorance, fear and prejudice about AIDS by jail employees will not be tolerated."

Nelson, who spoke in firm, even tones, said that there was "no excuse" in this 12th year of the AIDS pandemic for public servants of Wisconsin's criminal justice system to have conducted themselves in this way. Nelson called for the establishment of policies "in every county in Wisconsin" that would require "annual education for jail staff, access to medical care for inmates with HIV disease, and compassionate release for inmates at end-stage of AIDS" like Dennis Hill.

Nelson, long a fighter for just treatment of people living with AIDS in the justice system, demanded that "what happened to Dennis Hill" must "never happen again."

ACT UP Milwaukee has always taken a strong and active interest in Hill's case. Patrick Flaherty, a member of ACT UP Milwaukee said, "We think it's important that Hill's survivors be compensated for their suffering. We're also pleased that the suit may bring injunctive relief."

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## Michael Lisowski: A Leader Who Continues to Help City's Gay Youth

By Terry Boughner

[Milwaukee]—Michael Lisowski is a long-time community activist in Milwaukee. He ran for an at-large position on the Milwaukee School Board in 1991, the first openly Gay person to do so. He is the advisor to Gay Youth Milwaukee and currently works in AIDS education and prevention at the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP).

**Wisconsin Light:** Michael, what have you been doing politically, since the school board race?

**Michael Lisowski:** Most recently, I've been working at getting the school policy for Gay/Lesbian teens, working on the task force, getting that passed by the skin of its teeth. As we speak, I believe, that the passage of that was a year ago, November 20.

**WL:** This was the policy to provide for education...

**ML:** Basically what we wanted, I mean the papers ran it as the Gay curriculum as if we were going to try and teach the Gay lifestyle. And what we did want was a policy that would ensure student safety, provide better education regarding human sexuality, provide some resources for teens who are Gay or Lesbian and assist in drop-out prevention strategies for kids who find it hard to stay in school because of their sexual orientation.

**WL:** I was there for that board meeting. There were a 1,000 Fundamentalists ranting and raving. It was a pretty hard time. What has happened to that since?

**ML:** It took a lot of energy out of me. After that thing was passed, I didn't do anything with it for a few months at least, thinking that this'll go through the proper channels of the school administration and be implemented.

But what I found out over time was that it was basically just another policy. Unless someone really takes it and runs with it, it's just going to be something that's on the books. What I have done, beginning in April or May, 1992, is called the head of curriculum instruction and tried to get the original task force together to see what we could do to implement the policy—even though it had been watered down.

So basically what it boils down to is that those of us in the Gay community who work and are concerned with Gay/Lesbian issues are going to have to be the "push" behind getting something going.

**WL:** What is there in Milwaukee for Lesbian and Gay teens who are frightened, confused, who may want to come out?

**ML:** There are one or two schools that I believe have a Gay support group, but those are small. It depends on the students. If they're concerned enough, if they have guts enough, they can approach a concerned faculty member and get a group started.

**WL:** Are there counselors in the Milwaukee schools who are sensitive to Gay teen concerns?

**ML:** Oh, yes. Over the years, I've worked with and talked to a lot of supportive teachers and staff at different levels. But teachers are overwhelmed. Unless there's a pressing need for such a group, it's just more work for them to do. They really need support from the outside to encourage both teachers and students.

**WL:** Is there much role modeling for youth within the Lesbian/Gay community in Milwaukee?

**ML:** Basically, it's what the kids read in the Gay media, *Light* and *In Step*. The only other chance for kids to interact with Gay/Lesbian adults, is most likely when the kids sneak into the bars.

UWM had a Hallowe'en Dance. It was non-alcoholic and a lot of kids went. They really had a good time. It's a safe environment.

**WL:** Is Gay Youth Milwaukee the only organization for teens?

**ML:** No. Actually, the Counseling Center does have a group that they sponsor there for young Lesbian women.

Gay Youth Milwaukee has been around since November, 1989. It started at UWM. I came into it six months after it had formed and just stuck with it.

About 1990, we moved it into the Milwaukee Public Library, a meeting space there.

**WL:** What's the age range?

**ML:** Age range on an average is around 16 or 17, but it's interesting, I've had kids call as young as 13 and kids as young as 14 come to the group.

I kind of focus it more towards kids in high school. Once they're adults, there's other options.

A lot of kids will never come the first



MICHAEL S. LISOWSKI

time. It takes a lot of guts to even call and talk. Sometimes they feel safer just talking on the phone.

The meeting is just a time for people to get introduced, relax, and find out that they're not the only kid in the world like them. There are kids of all races and ethnic backgrounds, and both genders. Forty to fifty percent of the group are people of color.

**WL:** I know one of your dreams is to have a youth center in Milwaukee. How close are we to it?

**ML:** All of us in the community been so tied up in various problems that it's hard to find the time. A couple of us have talked about it; a kind of drop-in center, a place where a kid could go, do their homework, nothing formal, listen to music, just kind of hang out. It's still a dream. I know there are smaller cities that have one. I would like to have an 800, toll-free line for Gay teens where they could call and just talk.

**WL:** What's the biggest fear Gay teens have today?

**ML:** Actually, I don't find the fear of AIDS is the dominant fear. Their biggest fear is that they don't want their parents to find out if they don't know. One of their biggest concerns is that they just want to connect with other people. With other people they learn that there's not just one way to think about being Gay. They just want to interact.

Over the years, that's been one of the greatest things; to see these kids come in timid, shy, and then, over time, watching them develop and grow and have a healthy sense of who they are. I'm real proud of my "graduates."

**WL:** Is the trend among teens today toward monogamy?

**ML:** What I find is that they really look for establishing some kind of relationship. It isn't a sex thing which I think is good. Few, if any, are into anonymous sex. They're not ready to jump into sex.

**WL:** Would you encourage other people to get involved with the teens?

**ML:** Yes. Gay and Lesbian businesses could offer Lesbian/Gay kids jobs, for example. Give them the opportunity. This is a good way for us to role model. The one thing Gay kids really need is financial ability. If their parents throw them out, they need to be able to support themselves.

It would be nice to have a job placement agency within the Gay community. Our community should learn to take care of its own. We've done wonders with AIDS, but there needs to be more. We have other problems.

## Green Bay to Host 24-Hour AIDS Vigil

[Green Bay, WI]—Angel Of Hope Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) will host a 24-hour community AIDS Vigil at St. John The Evangelist Church, downtown Green Bay, from noon Saturday, November 28 to noon Sunday, November 29. The Vigil is part of Green Bay's observance of World AIDS Day and is the 5th anniversary of the event hosted by Angel Of Hope.

A worship service will begin and end the Vigil. Vigil candles will be dedicated to individuals who have succumbed to AIDS. Many dedications will be for individuals from the Green Bay area and include one past pastor and one past founder of Angel Of Hope.

All are invited to dedicate a candle (or have a candle dedicated) to a friend or loved one. Over 100 dedications will be made over the 24-hour period.

## Clinton Receives Transition Plan From National Task Force

[Washington, D.C.]—The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) on November 4th, released a plan outlining steps for President-elect Bill Clinton to follow through on campaign commitments in support of Gay and Lesbian civil rights and AIDS-related issues. The plan was delivered to Clinton's transition team and other advisors.

In the first 100 days of the Clinton Administration, NGLTF calls on the President-elect to convene a meeting with leaders of the Gay and Lesbian community to discuss civil rights issues, preferably during the National March on Washington in April.

The transition plan also urges Clinton, in the first 100 days, to issue three executive orders: one to rescind the Department of Defense ban on Gay and Lesbian service members; another to ban discrimination based on sexual orientation in federal employment; and a third to clarify that sexual orientation per se should not be a factor in denying federal security clearances.

Additionally, within the first 100 days, Clinton should appoint an AIDS "czar" and implement the recommendations of the National Commission on AIDS; implement the Department of Health and Human Services recommendations on Gay and Lesbian youth suicide, which have been shelved for three years due to anti-Gay sentiment among Bush Administration officials; and appoint a director for the Office of Women's Health at the National Institute of Health that will focus attention on Lesbian health care needs.

### More Gays in Office

The NGLTF document also calls on Clinton to recruit and hire qualified Gay men and Lesbians for Administration posts; advocate for a federal Gay and Lesbian civil rights bill; fund the FBI's bias crime statistics collection effort and support preventative education aimed at ending bias crime.

Clinton is also urged to oppose content restrictions in the re-authorization of the National Endowment for the Arts.

## Some Gay Men Once Infected With HIV Virus Are Now Seronegative

[Milwaukee]—According to the November/December edition of the *News*, the newsletter of the PLWA Coalition of Milwaukee, the AIDS virus is not always an invincible killer. This, according to a growing body of research. Now, scientific papers show the virus can have a protective function.

At the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston, researchers believe they have evidence that HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, can actually be defeated in the bodies of some who have been exposed to it.

The consensus has been that if you were infected with HIV, you were doomed. But it may be that more people get infected than we realize and actually handle the virus and get rid of it. Researchers at the University of California at Los Angeles and Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions have

reported similar cases.

In 1988, Dr. Homayoon Farzadegan, associate professor of disease epidemiology and director of the AIDS Virus Research Lab at Hopkins, reported on four Gay men who tested positive for HIV in 1986 or 1987 in three different screening procedures. By the time this report was published in the *Annals of Internal Medicine*, all four were seronegative.

One of the four tested positive again six months later. However, three have remained negative and have normal CD4 (T-cell) counts. Today, they are totally healthy and show no signs or evidence of infection in any method of testing employed.

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