

➔ **PARENTS FLAG** ➔  
**P-FLAG - Lakeshore Chapter**

Parents and Friends of Lesbians And Gays  
 -> Listening, Learning and Loving <-  
 P. O. Box 1396, Sheboygan, WI. 53082 - 1396  
**Meets: 2nd THURSDAY of EVERY month.**



Next meeting: Aug. 8th.

**PLACE:**

Wesley United Methodist Church,  
 823 Union Av., Sheboygan, Wis.

**TIME:** 6:30 Pm. Social time,  
 7:00 Pm. Meeting.

I Sure hope to see you there,  
**AND BRING A FRIEND!**



**MEMBERSHIP:** \$20/Year, **NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION ONLY:** \$5 Per year or donation.  
 This Publication is intended as informational for members & friends of P-FLAG Lakeshore. Please feel as free to republish from it as I have in 'borrowing' from others for it. PLEASE GIVE CREDIT WHEN USING OUR MATERIAL! OPINIONS expressed in this newsletter may not reflect the views of some P-FLAG members or this editor.

## AIDS VACCINES!

PLWA

Scientists say they've developed a genetically engineered vaccine that appears to hold the AIDS virus in check. Levels of T cells have remained stable for over two years of treatment in some people receiving the experimental vaccine.

Scientists say it's a new approach to fighting infection. Until now, vaccines have been used to ward off infection, but in this approach, doctors used a vaccine to beef up the body's virus fighting powers after infection.

Using a vaccine after infection was suggested by Dr. Jonas Salk, who developed the first Polio vaccine. Salk and his colleagues have begun testing a vaccine made from killed AIDS viruses. So far it has been given to 160 people in the early stages of infection. (Additional information on Page 2)

## GAY AND LESBIAN CIVIL RIGHTS!

NGLTF

The National Gay & Lesbian Task Force is asking for YOUR help!

Most copies of the newsletter this month include a mailing from N.G.L.T.F. asking you to send Postcards to your Congressmen and Senators in support of the Federal Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights Bill. Your editor believes this is among the most important items on the social agenda today! Each of the three cards needs 19c Postage. Isn't 57c a great investment in the future of those we love?

For the Sheboygan area: Congressman Jim Sensenbrenner (R),  
 Senators Bob Kasten (R) & Herb Kohl (D).

## P-FLAG COLLECTING DISCRIMINATION STORIES

The Federation P-FLAG is collecting stories to be used in observance of National Coming Out Day, Oct. 11th. Members are asked to write a story or keep a journal of approximately a week in which they document the ways that anti-Gay/Lesbian discrimination affects their lives. They can describe overt or subtle affronts to their dignity, emotional and practical costs of living in the closet, anti-Gay violence, or discrimination in employment and housing services.

Diaries will be accepted in any form, preferably type-written, one or two pages long, and may be signed or unsigned. They should be sent by Sept. 15th to: P-FLAG Discrimination Diary Project, P.O. Box 27605, Washington, D.C. 20038.

TYPES OF AIDS VACCINES

PLWA

WAYS TO TRIGGER AIDS IMMUNITY:

Many different types of vaccines are being tested to see if they provoke the body into mounting an immune response that blocks the AIDS virus, (HIV). Researchers stress that none have yet protected humans from infection and that significant obstacles remain. Any successful vaccine must stop the virus before it can infect a single cell, no matter where or under what conditions the invasion occurs. In addition, since the virus is extremely variable, a vaccine that works in Uganda, for instance, may not work in the U.S., or even in another African country. Four different types of vaccines:

DESCRIPTION:

Whole Killed Virus: HIV is killed and then injected into the body in an effort to trigger antibody production without causing AIDS.

Disabled Live Virus: HIV is altered by genetic engineering just enough to make it incapable of causing AIDS, but the virus still reproduces and stimulates the body's defense system.

Subunit Vaccines consist of one or more genetically engineered proteins that resemble those found in HIV.

Altered Vaccinia Virus: Vaccinia, the virus used as a vaccine against smallpox, is subtly changed to resemble HIV. Other candidates for this technique include the TB vaccine.

RESULTS:

In monkey tests, the vaccine blocked infection from SIV, the Simian form of HIV, at least under ideal conditions.

In Preliminary human trials, the product appeared to slow the onset of the illness in patients already infected with HIV. But safety concerns make this the least likely method to be used.

Chimps given one of these vaccines gained protection against HIV infection.

Early studies in healthy humans showed the vaccine is safe and can spur some antibody production, but that does not prove that it gives immunity to HIV.

IV GAMMA GLOBULIN THERAPY

PLWA

If your HIV+ child suffers from recurring bacterial infections there is hope. Monthly treatment with IV gamma globulin prolonged the time free from serious laboratory-proven bacterial or clinically diagnosed infections in children with symptomatic HIV infection and CD4 lymphocyte counts over 200. Those with counts below 200 did not benefit from this therapy.

This treatment is used along with treatments such as AZT or PCP prophylaxis, not in place of them. Children receiving monthly treatments of IVGG do not require a 2nd measles vaccine, - the temporary boost of the immune system received from the treatment should provide adequate measles protection. A medical waiver to this effect can be signed by your child's doctor to meet the school's immunization requirements.

Is Your heart true to my heart as mine is to yours? If it is, give me your hand. - 2 Kings 10:15

A faithful friend is a sure shelter. Whoever has found one has found a rare treasure. - Ecclesiasticus 6:14

**EDITORIAL : Health Plan needed!**

PLWA

Our democracy Preaches to us about keepin9 the matters of Church and state separate. It's too bad that we could not survive with a separation of medicine and Government. It seems that the Government wants to have it's hands in every aspect of our medical care, but when it comes to Payin9 the bills, we get the shaft.

Take the Social (in)Security Administration for example. You become disabled, and get SSI and title 19, and you are medically taken care of, including hospitalization, drugs, doctors visits and lab work, all essential in treating HIV infection. When your SSD kicks in, chances you will be recievin9 a great deal more money, so they take away your title 19. Now you are at the mercy of your county agencies. But if you're lucky to live lon9 enough, (24 months), to get your medicare, then you only have co-payments to pay, but it doesn't cover any drugs unless you are in the hospital. Unfare? YES! Logical? Of course not! But that's our Government!

Which is why we need a National Health Insurance for everyone. That is why we need to contact our Congressmen and Senators to support such legislation. There are many Programs bein9 introduced in Washington, but none seem to hit the right combination of what to offer and to whom!

Congressman Jim Moody of Wisconsin and Marty Russo of Illinois and several others introduced the Moody-Russo National Health Insurance Act of 1991 on March 6th. HR 1300 would not only help keep medical costs down, but set a limit on what doctors and hospitals can charge. A set, negotiated fee for a given Procedure would be Paid, no matter where the Procedure was Performed or under which Payment system it fell.

This "Canadian Style" system, as it is nicknamed, would encourage early intervention of an illness, insted of forcing someone to wait until it's too late to treat that illness, and take the risk of gettin9 a hod9e-Pod9e treatment in some emergency room.

This bill would also allow smaller companies to offer their employees health care coverage at greater savings than is now offered. Also, universal access to medical care. The U.S. is the only industrialized nation not Providin9 universal access, which is one of the main reasons our total costs and business costs are so high. Patchwork access costs more!

We encourage support of HR 1300, and any other National Health Care Plan. For more information, contact: Jim Moody, 135 W. Wells, Milwaukee, Wi. 53203, or call (414) 297-1331.

**GOP HYPOCRITES (Letter to Editor,  
Wisconsin LIGHT)**

Senator Jesse Helms and other Republicans are out to stop homosexual rights in the U.S.A. They are out to stop abortions too. But so many GOP wives have had abortions. Many Gays are hidin9 in the Republican Party and are Gay-bashers to cover up their "sin." Many Gays are on the GOP staff, Congressional staffs. The Republicans can't have their cake and eat it too. Two staff members on Senator Helm's staff are Gay. The cuts now comin9 from the AIDS Program due to President Bush are from dont-care feelings.

**ACT-UP** needs to go to the Congressmen's and Senator's offices in Milwaukee and act up.

-Rev. Jesse T. Jones, Milwaukee

**A REMINDER**

If you are thinking about going to the 1991 International Convention, "The Jewels In Our Crown", or would just like to be on their mailing list, write them at CHARLOTTE PARENT'S FLAG, 5815 Charin9 Place, Charlotte, NC., 28211

MINDS ARE LIKE PARACHUTES: THEY FUNCTION ONLY WHEN OPEN!.

NATIONAL TRAGEDY

Edited from AP via SP

It was 10 years ago, June 1981, that the Centers for Disease Control newsletter noticed puzzling cases of five Gay men in Los Angeles with Pneumocystis carinii, a rare pneumonia found in patients with failing immune systems.

In July, another report: 36 young homosexual men suffering from Kaposi's sarcoma, a rare cancer that normally afflicts elderly men with weakened immune systems.

By now, alarm bells were sounding. "Physicians should be alert for Kaposi's Sarcoma, P.C. pneumonia and other opportunistic infections associated with immunosuppressions in homosexual men," the C.D.C. warned.

Thus started the AIDS epidemic. Ten years later there is no cure, but there are treatments that have prolonged lives.

AIDS - SOME STATISTICS, (for 12 month periods ending 4/83, 4/86 and 4/91)

1983: 2,071 cases

62% Gay men, 18% IV drug users, 5% Heterosexual, 15% other sources.

93% men, 7% women, 57% whites, 27% blacks, 16% Hispanics. 33 children.

1986: 13,088 cases

66% Gay men, 18% IV drug users, 4.3% Heterosexual, 11.7% other sources.

93% men, 7% women, 60% whites, 25% blacks, 14% Hispanics. 197 children.

1991: 41,569 cases

55% Gay men, 24% IV drug users, 7% heterosexual, 14% other sources.

88% men, 12% women, 52% whites, 30% blacks, 17% Hispanics. 764 children.

Let us pray that a cure is found VERY SOON, so these senseless deaths can be brought to a screeching halt!

MILITARY COULD REVERSE GAY BAN!

WL

[New York, NY] According to the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, in a document released by the Justice Dept. on June 19th in the course of a lawsuit against the U.S. Naval Academy, the Dept. of the Army appears to be considering a proposal to drop its ban and permit Gay and Lesbian persons to serve.

The document was released by the Justice Dept. in connection with the discovery process in Joseph Steffan's landmark Gay/Lesbian civil rights lawsuit against the U.S. Naval Academy which discharged him in 1987. The fact that the document, which proposes changes in the Army's treatment of Gay service members, was produced by the government's attorneys defending the Naval Academy, suggests that the memo reached the highest levels of military policy administration.

The four-page document begins with a critical review of the history of the current policy, including military research indicating "homosexual personnel are no greater security risk than their heterosexual counterparts." It goes on to state that a change in policy is needed "to establish a supportable Army policy that can withstand inevitable challenges by either the courts or Congress." It ends with a dramatic proposal to change the current policy to state in part "The Army shall not discriminate in recruitment, promotion or retention practices based on sexual orientation."

HOMOSEXUALITY INHERITED?

SS

The evidence that it can be is mounting. For instance, if one identical twin is Gay, the other is likely to be too. And at the McMaster University in Ontario, researchers have found that homosexuals are more likely to be left-handed than the average person. (Hand preference is considered an inherited trait). Only 35% of all people favor their left hand, but among homosexuals almost half of the men, and over 2/3 of the women do.

DOES HIV CAUSE AIDS?

Edited from W.C.T.

(The views expressed in this article do not necessarily reflect the views of P-FLAG, this editor or The Windy City times).

A number of scientists are voicing the concern that the HIV virus may NOT cause AIDS. Chief among these is Dr. Peter Duesberg, Professor of molecular biology at U. C. Berkley. He has studied retroviruses for 25 years. He was the first to map the genetic structure of retroviruses. He strongly believes that HIV cannot cause AIDS because on the biomolecular level it does not act like a virus that can cause AIDS.

Because the theory of how the HIV causes AIDS was worked out so quickly, theoretical gaps that were not immediately apparent are only now coming to light, according to Duesberg and others.

Duesberg says that that other retroviruses establish a symbiotic relationship with the host cells, unlike other types of viruses that kill their host cells by feeding off of them then moving on to other cells.

Duesberg has found that there is very little HIV present in the T4 cells of HIV-infected individuals: current tests for HIV can detect the virus in as little as one in 1,000,000 cells, and these tests have found active HIV infection in only one in 10,000 T4 cells, and dormant HIV in only 1 in 500 T4 cells of infected individuals. Three Percent of PWA's have no HIV present at all according to various studies.

Levels of other disease-producing viral agents is always much higher than the low levels of HIV found in AIDS; usually they are at the level of millions per ML. According to Duesberg, "How can HIV be said to cause AIDS when it infects so few T4 cells and it's level in the blood is so low? Even if HIV killed every T4 cell it infected, the body could easily replace such small numbers."

Duesberg believes that the immune system depletion found in AIDS can be much better explained by other infectious agents that have higher levels in the blood than AIDS. Recreational drugs such as Poppers and cocaine, and such prescription drugs as AZT - all of which suppress the immune response - could also cause AIDS, he says.

Dr. Luc Montagnier, discoverer of the HIV virus, now calls HIV "basically benign", becoming a killer only in the presence of another germ found in PWA's, mycoplasma fermentans, but Dr. Shyh-Ching Lo, discoverer of m. fermentans says that it can kill all by itself, rendering the role of HIV in m. fermentans infection unimportant.

Dr. Robert Root-Bernstein, an immunologist at Michigan State, believes that AIDS will be found to be caused by many co-factors working together.

Some scientists believe that Syphilis plays a major role in AIDS.

A PRAYER

## Open Hands

Holy Spirit, birth is a beginning and death is a destination. Life is a journey: from childhood to maturity and youth to age; from innocents to awareness and ignorance to knowing; from foolishness to discretion and then, perhaps to wisdom; from weakness to strength or strength to weakness - and often, back again; from health to sickness and back, we pray, to health again; from offense to forgiveness; from loneliness to love; from joy to gratitude; from pain to compassion, and grief to understanding; from fear to faith; from defeat to defeat; - until, looking backward and far forward, we see that victory lies not at some high place along the way, but in having made the journey, stage by stage, in love with You.

(From Avahat Shalom, a Gay/Lesbian congregation in San Francisco via Open Hands, (Reconciling Ministries with Lesbians and Gay Men).

**PRINTING:** This newsletter was printed experimentally last month, using a different computer program. It is hoped that, starting next month, it will be printed the new way EVERY month. We hope that you enjoy the change.

**CREDITS** for items used in this edition:

(Many items edited to make the news fit!).

Sources: PLWA: People Living With AIDS Coalition newsletter, SP: Sheboygan Press, WCT: Windy City Times, (Chicago Gay community Paper), WL: Wisconsin Light, SS: Southern Signal, (P-FLAG Louisiana)

Well, that's it for now... Have a good one, and I'll see you next meeting.

==> GET THOSE NEWS ITEMS IN!!! <==

Deadline for the newsletter: In the P.O. box OR to the BBS by the last Sat. before the 25th.

You may bring news items to the next meeting, 6:30 Pm, July 11th, at Wesley United Methodist Church, 823 Union Av., Sheboygan, Wi.;

Mail them to: P-FLAG Lakeshore, P.O. Box 1396, Sheboygan, Wi. 53082-1396 or

Modem them to: IVY'S WALL BBS, (414) 457-9255, 5:30 Pm to 11:00 am weekdays, (Central)/ 24 Hrs. on weekends & holidays, 300/1200 Baud, 8N1.

If you need a ride, call the Church at 458-4889

Sure hope to see you there, AND BRING A FRIEND!

Your Editor. 0 0

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**BUSINESS CARDS**

We will print **YOUR** business card for a donation of only \$5 Per month.

Parents-FLAG assumes no responsibility for advertisements. Publication of business cards does not imply that the owners of the businesses are Gay, but they DO support equal rights for all.

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