

Lakeshore FLAG

Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays

=> Listening - Learning - Loving <=

P. O. Box 1396, Sheboygan, Wi. 53082-1396

All meetings are at 7:30 pm.

"If nobody's there just then, please wait,
'Cause we might be just a little bit late."

We sure hope to see you there...
AND BRING A FRIEND!



P-FLAG - General meeting: 2nd Thursdays of every month. Next meeting: Mar. 11th.

P-FLAG - Parents only meeting: 3rd Mondays of any month. Next meeting: Mar. 15th.

Both meetings are at 7:30 pm at Wesley Methodist Church's office building, (the green house), located at 831 Union Ave., Sheboygan, Wisconsin.

S.A.L. (Support and Acceptance for Lesbians): Meets 1st and 3rd Thursdays at various locations. Call Carolyn at (414) 467-0422 for time and place.

P-FLAG's MISSION IS TO:

- => Provide a support system for families and friends of Lesbians and Gay men in an effort to understand, accept and support their children with love and pride.
- => Support the full human rights of Lesbians and Gay men.
- => Provide information and support for those with AIDS and those who love them, regardless of sexual orientation.

Membership in P-FLAG LAKESHORE is \$20 per year. A subscription to this newsletter is \$5 per year or a donation. This newsletter is intended as informational for members and friends of P-FLAG LAKESHORE. Please feel as free to re-publish from it as I have been in "borrowing" for it. **Please give credit when using our material.** Thank you.

Opinions expressed in this newsletter do NOT necessarily represent the views of all P-FLAG members, members of the homosexual community or this editor.

We value confidentiality, and will NOT give, sell or trade our mailing list to ANYONE!

The New Look...

In the couple of years that I have been publishing this newsletter, those of you who have been reading it since then have noticed a number of changes. Originally, I used my old Commodore 64 computer, with it's LOW quality printer. About a year ago I obtained a SLIGHTLY newer IBM "Semi-compatible" computer and access to a better printer to do the newsletter. Now I'm in the "third generation" - an IBM 286 compatible computer and 300 DPI "Near-laser" quality printer that I have been using for the last 2-3 months, but I was still not satisfied with the results. I have just obtained a MUCH better desktop publishing program, and still have a LOT to learn about it! This edition is my "first project" with it. Please let me know what you think. Is the type clear, readable and LARGE enough to be easily read? You would be doing me a BIG favor if you would cut out the form on the right, fill it out and mail it to the P.O. box. This edition is the first that I have done TOTALLY on the computer with one program, including graphics I scanned in!

Reader Survey

You would be doing me a BIG favor if you would please take a few minutes to clip this out, fill it in and send it back to me in the small envelope. This would also be a good time to send a check for your \$20 dues (or at least \$5.00 for a newsletter subscription) for 1993 if you can afford it. Thank you!

	Yes	No
Is the type easy for you to read? ..	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Should I use a larger type?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Should I start a desktop-publishing business? (HAHA!) ...	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Comments?		

Thank You for your opinions!

'Reparative Therapy' for Gays Decried NASW

"Therapies that purport to change Lesbians and Gay men into heterosexuals constitute unsound and dangerous practice and should be avoided, according to the National Association of Social Workers, (NASW) National Committee on Lesbian and Gay issues warned in a recent statement.

The statement came in response to upbeat publicity about the "reparative" or "conversion" therapies of psychologist Joseph Nicholas and others, said Gray Lloyd, who chairs the committee. A rising tide of anti-Gay violence and suicides of Lesbian and Gay adolescents also figured in the committee's concern.

"A major concern is that social workers working with young Lesbians and Gays might be beguiled" into thinking that the therapies have merit, Lloyd said. "It could lead practitioners to take some very ill-advised steps that could harm clients."

Although the therapies -- which employ behavior modification and counseling -- may change behavior, they cannot change sexual orientation, he pointed out. "What usually happens is that they feel worse about themselves. This leads to emotional upheavals, a rush into ill-advised marriages, and the need for secrecy.

Lesbians and Gay men who seek psychotherapy "need support," Lloyd said. "They don't need to be lectured about how they need to change. The focus [of therapy] should be on the struggle they are going through with respect to society's response to their being Gay, it's meaning for them, their fears for the future."

According to the statement, reparative therapies rest upon discredited theories about homosexuality's causes and consequences, are not backed by scientific data as proponents claim, and are motivated by thinly disguised prejudice and fear.

The therapies espouse goals of celibacy or heterosexual marriage and refuse to acknowledge that same-sex relationships are natural for Lesbians and Gay men and can be fulfilling, the statement said. It denounced "efforts to 'convert' people through irresponsible therapies which can be more accurately termed brainwashing, shaming or coercion.

The committee also stated it's belief that use of reparative or conversion therapies by social workers also violates the NASW Code of Ethics' provisions barring discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

Sexual bigotry is still bigotry!

Colorado - Lets repeal Amendment #2!

We have received a letter from Rev. Toni Cook and Gregory Norton of *Colorado United Methodists Against Discrimination*, telling of efforts there to repeal Amendment #2, which overturns local anti-discrimination ordinances in Denver, Boulder and Aspen. The letter says in part:

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

We know that many of you share the shock and disappointment at the passage of Amendment No. 2 in the November 3rd election. We need to bring national pressure on the state of Colorado to overturn this legalized discrimination. Therefore we are calling for a *Witness Against Discrimination* by requesting that the United Methodist Church move it's 1996 General Conference from Denver, Colorado to an alternate location to be determined by the Commission on General Conference.

Those of us who are members of *Colorado United Methodists Against Discrimination* are proud of our 1992 *Rocky Mountain Annual Conference's Resolution against Amendment No. 2* and the outspoken opposition from our Episcopal leadership. However the passage of the amendment shows us that words alone are not enough. One of the strongest messages we can send is an

economic message - both to the state of Colorado and to the other states considering similar legislation. The intention of the *Witness Against Discrimination* is not to punish the business community of Colorado, (which is mostly concentrated in cities which voted against the amendment), but to bring pressure to bear on those who have not yet realized that the amendment is a threat to all of us - not only to Gay and Lesbian people. A national stand by the United Methodist Church would be a powerful Christian witness against exclusion, oppression, marginalization and injustice.

Through this Christian witness we hope to find healing by knowing that we have contributed something tangible in the struggle for justice. Pray for those who are being hurt by this amendment and their loved ones. Join us in anticipation of the end of legally sanctioned discrimination in the state of Colorado - and ultimately, in our world.

Grace and Peace,

[Signed]

Rev. Toni Cook and Gregory Norton

Homophobia Kills!

About Last Month...

I apologize for the newsletter for the January edition being so late. With what seemed like 10,000 things hitting at once on top of Christmas, and then when I FINALLY got it ready for the copy machine the machine was busted, so that wound up causing a further delay of almost a week.. (And it looks like this could happen again for this issue. Here it is the 15th and I'm only on page 2!). I TRY to get the newsletter in the mail during the last week of the month, but sometimes this seems like an impossible mission. My apologies. I promise to TRY to keep to my deadline in the future.

Get those news items in! It is MUCH easier to dig through "too much" news to edit and squeeze into the newsletter than it is to have to stretch "too little" to fill it. YOU can help -- and make this a better newsletter for all! "HOW?," you may ask? Simple! If you have something you think my readers might like to read about, whether it is news about the Gay community and those who love them, a poem, a real-life experience you or someone you know has had, perhaps a quotation, or just a little tidbit that I might use to fill in a little "hole" in a page, PLEASE GET IT TO ME! If I get "too much" it may take a month or two before it gets published, but when things are slow in the mailbox, (like they have been the last couple of months), I have to fill with whatever I can find. To keep this newsletter from becoming BORING, (like this little dissertation), and possibly seeing it shrink from six pages to perhaps 4, FEED ME something! This computer is sitting here saying "More data! More data! I'm hungry and need MORE DATA!" Don't let it starve! You may drop items for the newsletter off at Wesley Methodist Church, 831 Union Avenue, Sheboygan, WI., - mark it "P-FLAG editor"-, Mail it to P.O. Box 1396, Sheboygan WI, 53082-1396, or if you have a computer and modem, you can modem it to Ivy's WALL BBS, (1200 Baud, 8N1) at 414-457-9255, 5:30 pm to 11:00 am (Weekdays), - 24 hours on weekends and legal holidays, (Central time). The deadline for the next month's edition is the last Friday before the 25th of the month. Your help is appreciated!

Thank you!

Your Editor.

P.S. The thing I need MOST is one-liners like the one below!

God made us ALL, and God dont make no junk!

(I can use just about anything). Thank you!

Officially: 41 Hate Crimes In Wis. IS

Washington [In Step] [Edited] The F.B.I., under orders from the Justice department, compiled statistics from Wisconsin Police Departments showing 41 hate crimes were reported statewide in '91. This places Wisconsin among the lowest of the 32 states who participated in the first-ever National hate crimes survey.

Collection of the hate crimes statistics was mandated by the 1990 Hate Crimes Statistics act.

New York stat headed the list with 943 reported incidents. Three states - Kentucky, Louisiana and New Mexico - reported no incidents. Milwaukee Police Department reported no hate crimes, however incidents were reported in Milwaukee county, Greenfield and the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee. Seven of the crimes were motivated by sexual orientation, 22 for racial reasons, nine for ethnic reasons, and two were motivated by religious differences.

Many Gay/Lesbian community members feel the reported numbers for sexual orientation bias motivated crimes are not a true reflection of reality. Some reasons:

> Victims are not reporting hate crimes to police departments, whose numbers the FBI bases it's reports on. As an example, Ralph Navarro of Gay Information Services' Hate Crimes Hotline in Milwaukee, said he reported over 22 sexual orientation crimes occurrences to the Milwaukee Police Department in '91. Those numbers were forwarded to the MPD; however the MPD reports to the FBI only numbers reported by victims

> Victims aren't conscious of what a hate crime is. Anti-Gay/Lesbian verbal slurs, verbal and physical harassment, and physical or personal property attacks are all categorized as hate motivated crimes, but victims aren't aware they're hate crimes victims.

> Victims don't know hate motivated crimes are something they should report to the police.

> Victims fear reprisals from the perpetrator(s).

> Victims fear reprisals from authorities; or fear the act of 'coming out' to those authorities.

Medicinal marijuana use approved by San

Franciscans IS (Edited) San Francisco, CA - In November, San Francisco voters approved by a margin of almost four to one, a proposition urging the state of California to add marijuana to the list of approved medications.

Marijuana has been shown to help the symptoms of glaucoma as well as the nausea and loss of appetite experienced by AIDS and cancer patients. The F.D.A. has occasionally allowed individual access to the drug for therapeutic reasons, but the D.E.A. still classifies it as a schedule-3 illegal substance.

The San Francisco vote cannot overrule the D.E.A. policy, but activists there hope that public support for medical use of marijuana will discourage authorities from prosecuting those who use it for health reasons.

Washington DC
APRIL 25, 1993



DON'T MISS
THIS ONE!

(I had this half-page filled with an article, mostly about Zoe Baird's potential for helping the Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual community, but her withdrawal made it necessary for me to redo it! We lost a good champion when we lost her!) - Editor

Affirmation Comes To Sheboygan

Affirmation, the United Methodists for Gay/Lesbian and Bisexual concerns, has started a chapter at Wesley Methodist Church here in Sheboygan.

The first meeting, which was well attended, was held at 6:30 pm, Saturday, January 23rd in the Church. Future meetings will be held on the last Saturday of each month at 6:30 at the Church.

The gathering started with a meeting in the Church basement, followed by a communion service in the sanctuary, then a party in the social area.

Everyone is invited to attend the next meeting, Feb. 28th at 6:30pm at the Church.

Come one - Come all!

The Good Samaritan Revisited

By: Beth Matheson
From: *Working Together to Prevent Sexual and Domestic Violence - Spring/Summer 1986*
Na Open Hands

There is a tale which creeps with silence through the Church, the people, the community. It whispers like a hot wind on ears which do not want to hear. A woman has been beaten. This the ears hear. The rest rushes by with the wind. She was beaten in her home, by her husband. They are well off, we see a happy marriage, three children. The wind says she ran to the priest who said: "Go back." She must return to her home; her responsibility was to her husband and her children. She returned. He beat her. What more we will not hear. The wind blows silence to our ears. She ran to her mother. "Return to your husband; you married him." She returned. He beat her. And forced her-- what more we will not hear. The wind carries it away. She ran into the street and cried. A Lesbian found her. "Get away from him," she said. "You don't deserve this. I know a safe house. Come. I'll show you." And the Lesbian took her, helped her and remained a steady friend.

Of these, who was the woman's neighbor?

All that is not Love is Fear!

Sexual Orientation glossary

Ambisexuality - Often used as an alternative term for Bisexuality, particularly by some Ambi/Bisexual persons. Ambisexuality's distinguishing characteristic is that it indicates an attraction to persons without regard to gender, rather than a conscious attraction to persons of both genders. Ambisexual persons typically explain that they are attracted to personality or internal characteristics and can be equally attracted to men or women possessing those characteristics.

Biphobia - The irrational fear of persons who describe themselves as Bisexual or Ambisexual. Biphobia can be expressed, for example, by insisting that a person who calls him/herself as bisexual as a Lesbian or Gay man unwilling to accept their homosexuality.

Bisexuality - An erotic/affective attraction to both same-sex and opposite-sex persons. Bisexual persons can be "Gay/Lesbian identified, (whose primary experience is with same-sex), or "Heterosexual-identified, (whose primary experience is with the opposite gender).

Homophobia - The irrational fear of homosexuality, homosexual persons or one's own feelings of attraction to another person of the same gender.

Homosexuality - An erotic/affective attraction to the same gender.

Heterosexuality - An erotic/affective attraction to others of the same gender.

Judge puts Colorado's Amendment #2 on hold!

ABC & CNN News services

A federal judge has put a last-minute temporary block on Colorado's Amendment #2, which would nullify anti-homosexual discrimination laws in Colorado pending the outcome of a lawsuit challenging the amendment.

The temporary order came hours before the new amendment was to go into effect.

I know you will know more about this by the time you read this than I do as the story is breaking, but I guess I just got excited at the thought that the amendment may be doomed!

Washington DC APRIL 25, 1993



CELEBRATING FAMILY



NEW ORLEANS STYLE

Y'all Come...

12th Annual International Convention
Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays
September 3-6, 1993
Sheraton Hotel, Canal Street, New Orleans * Hosted by P-FLAG N.O.
P.O. Box 15515, New Orleans, LA * (504) 288-3333

Married to a Gay or Lesbian ABC-TV

ABC's 20/20 on January 15th featured an article about people whose spouses have revealed their homosexuality, usually after several years of marriage, and often after several children.

I thought that the program was done in their 20/20's usual sensitive, accepting and revealing manner. Several P-FLAG Lakeshore members were going to videotape it, however I have not yet heard if they did.

The Power Of The Pen Seattle Wa. P-FLAG

At the National Convention in September, I attended a seminar put on by a Washington political representative. He stated that letters written in your own words have a very positive effect on determining whether a legislator votes *yes* or *no* on a particular issue. He said that he had witnessed one legislator changing her mind from a *yes* to a *no* vote after she received just six letters, (she had received no letters on behalf of a *yes* vote). Lets get out our pens and write to the state of Colorado protesting the passage of the anti-Gay initiative. Also, write to President Clinton to urge him to follow through with his promise to lift the ban on Gays in the military! **Lets outdo the opposition!** Send your letters to:

Mayor Wellington Webb
City and County Building
1437 Bannock Street, Rm. 35
Denver CO, 80284

Visit Colorado
Chamber of Commerce
1445 Mark Street
Denver, CO 80202

Governor Roy Romer
136 State Capital Building
Denver, CO 80204

Colorado Tourism Board
1625 Broadway, Suite 1700
Denver CO. 80202

Tell them that, (among other things), you plan to NOT vacation in Colorado because of the passage of amendment #2!

Also, tell President Clinton that you support removing the Gay/Lesbian ban from the military. (Tell him that they had the same "Don't let THEM serve with US" battle over Afro-Americans some 50-odd years ago, and "THEY" turned out to be valuable assets to the military once the discrimination was overcome!). Please write to:

President Bill Clinton
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington D.C.

"We in Denver do not accept discrimination, whetheror sexual orientation." - Mayor Wellington Webb of Denver Colorado, in a speech where he received a standing ovation from his constituents.

(There is another item referring to this subject elsewhere in this issue.)

JUST A THOUGHT: If Bi- means two, and Tri- means three, then wouldn't a "Trigot" be a bigot and a half? (I had to have SOMETHING to fill this little space!)

Points To Ponder Northern Womyn Newsletter

"If that law were passed against Jews or people of color, the whole country would be outraged and nobody would question a boycott of the state. What I said in that speech was 'If we are asked to, we must refuse to play where they discriminate.' I did not ever back off, back down or back away from my original statement, as some of the press reported. Let me clearly state my position tonight: It appears that a boycott is underway in Colorado, and I will personally honor it and find some other state to vacation in." - Barbara Streisand, speaking about her call for a national boycott of Colorado following the passage of a constitutional amendment barring units of government from passing laws protecting Gays and Lesbians from discrimination, quoted in U.S.A Today.

Pointless To Ponder Northern Womyn

"Homosexuals are not born to sodomize any more than Catholics are born to fornicate. Catholic teaching on homosexuals never has, and never will degrade homosexuals. Instead, the Church urges homosexuals to refrain from degrading themselves."

-- Edward Hummel, Green Bay, in 12/22/92 letter to the *Green Bay [Wi.] Press Gazette*.

Lesbians, Bisexuals and Gay men long to be honest, to gain integrity; but their search is made more difficult by the oppression of a homophobic culture.

55% of American Churches offer programs to deal with abuse of substances. How about abuse of homosexuals?

Molecular Knife May Nick HIV PLWA

[La Jolla, CA] Scientists have developed a tiny "molecular knife" that cuts and destroys part of the AIDS virus, and they will soon test the treatment on people with the HIV disease. It could be a potentially powerful tool, but it needs a lot of refinement, said Dr Flossie Wong-Staal, a researcher at the University of California San Diego.

The researchers applied the enzyme knife to AIDS-infected white blood cells grown in test tubes. As a result, the virus made only 10 to 30% as many copies of itself as it normally would have done. Members designed it to "cut and destroy" genetic instructions used by HIV, short-circuiting the virus' ability to reproduce and spread throughout the body.

Tests on AIDS patients will start within the year to learn if the treatment is safe and effective in slowing down or even halting the progression of the disease. Researchers plan to use several of these knives at once, each attacking the AIDS virus in a slightly different way. By using several substances at once, reproduction of the virus should be slowed down further.

HIV Patients offer hope for vaccine PLWA

LONDON - Australian investigators say they have identified six patients with the same strain of the AIDS virus who have remained free of symptoms for up to a decade, a finding that may provide clues for developing a vaccine.

The researchers spotted five people who got the virus from the same blood donor between 1982 and 1984. As of June 1992, these recipients and the donor have no symptoms of AIDS.

Experts said finding a cluster of long-term, symptom-free patients who acquired the virus from the same donor was exciting because they would be able to investigate what was different about the virus, rather than the recipients.

James Curran, director of HIV and AIDS for the CDC, commented that it's an interesting and important study that needs further follow-up and a better understanding of what's going on, but it's a long way to a vaccine. One way to make a vaccine is with a virus that does not cause disease but can be administered to trigger a build-up of protective antibodies.

Test Blocks AIDS Infection In Cells PLWA

Duke University Medical Center researchers say they have created a protein fragment that stops the AIDS virus from infecting human cells in laboratory tests. This finding could lead to a new class of drugs against HIV, but there's no guarantee and that a new drug wouldn't be developed quickly.

The Duke team created a peptide - a short piece of protein - that mimics a key part of the HIV infection machinery, found on the outside of the virus particle. In lab experiments, scientists mixed the peptide, called DP-107, with the HIV and human immune cells. The peptide blocked the virus from entering the cells and also stopped infected cells from killing healthy cells.

Atta Boy, Dave! St. Louis P-FLAG

Mayor David Dinkens, Mayor of New York, recently issued an executive order giving Gay and Lesbian city workers with registered domestic partners the same rights as married spouses.

Gay Side

From: *In Touch Magazine* by Tom Rezza



Please Thank Them! P-FLAG - D.C.

(Related item elsewhere in this issue)

The Denver chapter of P-FLAG is requesting that we send letters of support to Colorado's Governor and Denver's Mayor who have been staunch allies in the fight against discrimination because of sexual orientation, and who are receiving calls and letters from those in opposition to the position.

Mayor Wellington Webb
City And County Building
1437 Bannock Street, Room 35
Denver, CO 80204

Governor Roy Romer
136 State Capitol Building
Denver, CO 80203

Thank You!

A suit filed to test the constitutionality of the Amendment could use your monetary support. Send checks to: *Lambda Legal Defense Fund/Colorado Initiative, E.P.O.C., C/O CLIP, P.O. Box 300476, Denver, CO 80203-0476*

Whoopee for Whoopi! GLAAD via St. Louis P-FLAG

Whoopi Goldberg deserves praise, not only for campaigning recently against Colorado's anti-Gay initiative, but using her syndicated talkshow to dispell stereotypes and promote inclusion.

Guests on the *Whoopi Goldberg Show* are asked questions that would send Arsenio or Jay into fits! In a poignant interview, Elton John told Whoopi about being Gay, his sham marriage and how he finally found true love with a nice man.

And Whoopi got K. D. Lang to talk extensively about why she decided to come out in *The Advocate*.

Please drop a letter to her at: *The Whoopi Goldberg Show, c/o The Lippin Group, 230 Park Ave., Suite 550, New York, N.Y. 10169.*

'92 in review... St. Louis P-FLAG

1992 was an interesting year in many aspects.

A new president was elected who promised to stop allowing the military discrimination against Gays. In general, he represents a reversal of the previous attitude of hostility toward Gays and Lesbians.

The city of St. Louis, previously located near the rear end of America as far as Gay/Lesbian rights are concerned, passed a model Civil Rights bill. The Mayor and the president of the Board of Alderman both stated that discrimination against Gays and Lesbians is wrong. Wonders will never cease!

Colorado and Oregon, both with good reputations for Gay/Lesbian rights, had anti-Gay/Lesbian initiatives on the ballot. Oregon's was defeated, Colorado's wasn't.

(This editor thought of putting in a similar editorial, but I could not have said it any better than the above.)

Wednesday, January 20th marked the end of Quayle season. Now the pundits have someone else to Gore!

Credits for items used in this issue: (That are not credited in the text)

IS: In Step Magazine;
NASW: National Association Of Social Workers
PLWA: Patients Living With AIDS Newsletter;
WL: Wisconsin Light

- The Back Page -

We will print Your business card for a donation of \$5.00 (or more) for each issue.

Parents FLAG assumes no responsibility for products or services advertised on this page.

Publication of business cards does not imply that the owners of the businesses are homosexual, but they do support equal rights for all. Please support our advertisers - They support us!

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Homophobia...

A comment!

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