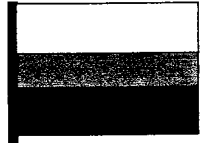


Bi All Means!

Bisexuality: The potential for physical, romantic or emotional attraction to more than one gender.



A Quarterly Publication from Bi Definition, Milwaukee's Bisexual Social, Support and Activist Organization

Summer 2003

Pridefest Parade & Stonewall Info

-see Page 4



Bisexuality Challenges the Either/Or World

-see Page 5



In Step adds bisexual column

-see Page 4

Pridefest 2003—Making the 'B' Visible

Maybe we're still years away from a bisexual band headlining at Pridefest, but Bi Definition is planning lots of fun opportunities to make bisexuals more visible at this year's Pridefest.

On Saturday, June 7th from 1-4pm, Bi Definition will be gathering at one or two picnic tables by the lake closest to the Stonewall tent and children's playground. This will be a chance for us to relax together while we also make Bi business cards, friendship bracelets and Bi stickers available to all.

Saturday evening we will meet at 7 p.m. at the booth that sells reusable drink mugs. Instead of our regular Saturday meeting and discussion, we will enjoy an evening together out at Pridefest. Bi Pride outfits are encouraged ☺

Sunday, June 8th at noon Bi Definition's game show skit will be performed at the Stonewall tent and at 2pm we will march in the Pride Parade with the Bi Bug. For details on these events, see the articles on page 4.

Come help Bi Definition and bisexuals be seen at Pridefest 2003!

Bisexual Paraphernalia

On Saturday, March 15th Bi Definition members got together to create Bi Spirit wear. Tired of being invisible, we decided to make buttons, bandanas and friendship bracelets in Bi colors that members could wear to be out.

Among the items made were a T-shirt saying "Bi Definition Babe," a button saying "Kiss Me—I'm Bi," and bandanas tie-dyed pink, purple and blue.

We had a wonderful time coming up with slogans like "Why did the bisexual cross the road? What road?" We laughed and munched on snacks and had a great afternoon together.

We are encouraging everyone to wear Bi Spirit wear to Pridefest this year to let the larger community know that bisexuals are more than a faceless letter—we are real live human beings.



If you missed this event or if you'd like to add to what you already have, Outwards Bookstore has a nice selection of Bi paraphernalia, including coffee mugs, buttons and jewelry. Outwards Bookstore is located 2710 N. Murray. You can also buy the Pride pins there for \$4 cash.

Bi Definition 4th Annual Camping Trip Information

How much:
Camping—\$5/night

Parking—\$5/night
or \$20 for a year sticker

When:
July 12-14
Friday-Sunday

To Sign Up Call:
Deb at 259-0203

Where:
Kettle Moraine North
Greenbush Group Camp,
Campsite #9



Calendar



For information or confirmation on any Bi Definition event listed, contact our information line at (414)299-9612 or write: *Bi All Means!*, c/o LGBT Center, 315 W. Court St., Milwaukee, WI 53202.
Bi Definition socials/discussions are held on the first Saturday and third Tuesday of each month @ 7:00 p.m. at the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court Street.

June

- Mon. 2 Bi? Shy? Why? Madison. Info: (608) 255-8582.
- Sat. 7 @ 7 P.M. Bi Definition PrideFest Outing, Henry W. Maier Festival Grounds, Milwaukee.
- Sun. 8 @ noon Bi Definition presents Illuminaughty at Stonewall stage
- Sun. 8 @ 1:30 Line up for Pridefest Parade
- Sat. 14 @ 7 P.M. Gemini Gender Group meeting. Info: 297-9328.
- Tues. 17 @ 7 P.M. Bi Definition Social/Discussion. Topic: "Bi 101: An Overview" LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St.

July

- Sat. 5 @ 7 P.M. Bi Definition Social/Discussion. Topic "What is Attraction?" LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St.
- Mon. 7 Bi? Shy? Why? Madison. Info: (608) 255-8582.
- Fri. 11-Sun. 13 Bi Definition Camping Trip
- Sat. 12 @ 7 P.M. Gemini Gender Group meeting. Info: 297-9328.
- Tues. 15 @ 7 P.M. Bi Definition Social/Discussion. Topic: "What is Attraction?" LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St.

September

- Mon. 1 Bi? Shy? Why? Madison. Info: (608) 255-8582.
- Sat. 6 @ 7 P.M. Bi Definition Social/Discussion. Topic: "How Being Bi Has Changed My Life" LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St.
- Sat. 13 @ 7 P.M. Gemini Gender Group meeting. Info: 297-9328.
- Tues. 16 @ 7 P.M. Bi Definition Social/Discussion. Topic: "How Being Bi Has Changed My Life" LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St.
- Sat. 20 @ 7 P.M. Spa Night for Celebrate Bisexuality Day

August

- Sat. 2 @ 7 P.M. Bi Definition Social/Discussion. Topic: "Bi Relationships" LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St.
- Mon. 4 Bi? Shy? Why? Madison. Info: (608) 255-8582.
- Sat. 9 @ 7 P.M. Gemini Gender Group meeting. Info: 297-9328.
- Tues. 19 @ 7 P.M. Bi Definition Social/Discussion. Topic: "Bi Relationships" LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St.

Moving?
Make sure *BAM!* follows you to your new address. Send address changes to:
BAM!/Bi Definition,
c/o LGBT Community Center
315 W. Court St.,
Milwaukee, WI 53202

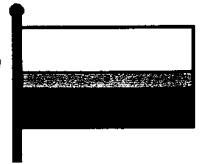
Bi Definition Business Meetings are on the third Tuesday of every month. They are held at 6:15pm at the Community Center right before the regular Tuesday meetings.

Clip and mail



"By all means, I gotta have *Bi All Means!*"

The Official Quarterly Newsletter from Bi Definition



NAME: _____ PHONE: () _____

ADDRESS: _____ EMAIL: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

- ___ Household/Patron/Organization (\$45/year)
- ___ Individual (\$30/year)
- ___ Student/Hardship (\$15/year)
- ___ I've enclosed an extra \$ _____ to help cover costs (Thank you!).

Please return to:
Bi Definition
c/o The Milwaukee LGBT Community Center
315 W. Court Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Total enclosed: \$ _____

* All newsletters are discreetly packaged for your privacy and our mailing list is completely confidential.

Mark Your Calendars

Friday, Saturday, & Sunday, June 6-8
 PrideFest 2003. Henry W. Maier Festival Grounds, Milwaukee.

Saturday & Sunday, July 12-13
 Annual Bi Definition camping Trip to Greenbush.

Sunday August 24 Mazo Beach Trip. For info call Deb or Scott 259-0203

September Spa Night. Date & location TBA.

For more information about any of these events, call the Bi Definition Information Line at (414) 299-9612.

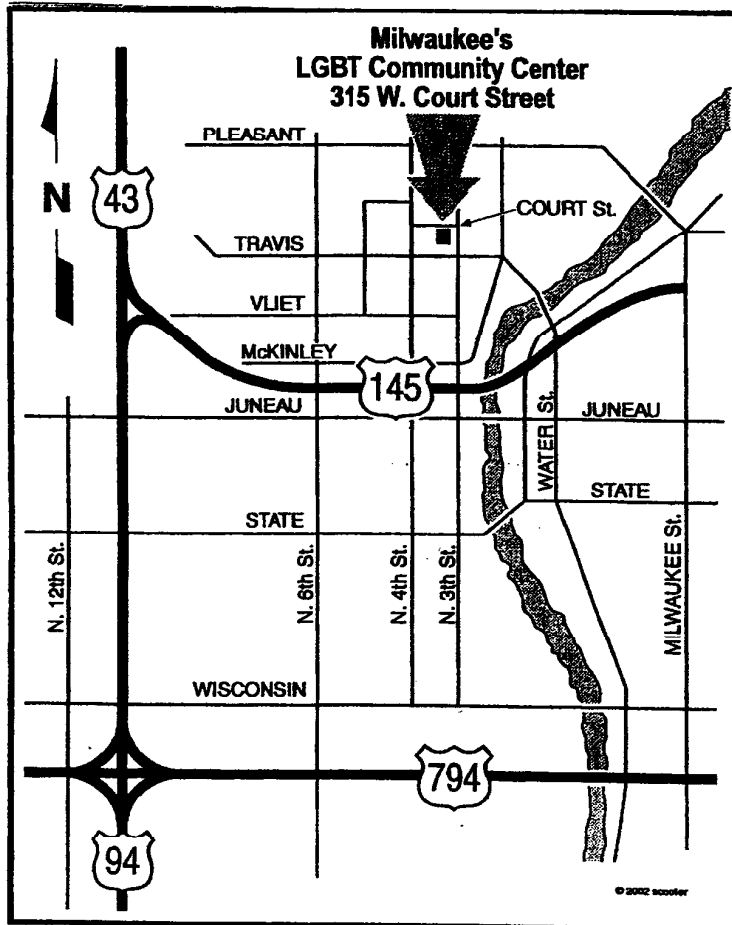


bisexuality support group
 men & women

Call Cheryl Orsini
 Counseling Center
 (414) 271-2565

"Organizing bisexuals is like herding cats."

Albert Lunde



Upcoming Discussion Topics

- June (Sat. 7):** cancelled (Group 'Outing' at PrideFest, 7pm :)
- (Tues. 17):** "Bi 101: An Overview"
- July (Sat. 5 & Tues. 15):** "What is Attraction?"
- August (Sat. 2 & Tues. 19):** "Bi Relationships"
- September (Sat. 6 & Tues. 16):** "How Being Bi Has Changed My Life"

Bi Definition meets on the first Saturday and third Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. for discussions about specific topics pertaining to bisexuality. All discussions are held at the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court Street.

Instead of our regular Saturday meeting, join us at Pridefest on Saturday, June 7. Meet at the booth where they sell reusable drink mugs at 7pm and join us for an evening OUT! We encourage everyone to wear bi pride regalia. On Tuesday, June 17 the topic will be "Bi 101: An Overview." We will gather definitions of bisexuality, go over bisexual myths and stereotypes and review bisexual history.

Have you ever run into someone that you instantly liked? Or met someone that you went all weak-kneed over? July's topic will explore attraction, what it is and how we respond to it. Are you attracted to a specific type? What is the difference between being attracted to someone as a friend or to someone as a potential lover? Join us as we explore "What is Attraction?" in July on Sat. 5th and Tues. 15th.

August's topic is an old favorite: "Bi Relationships." Our relationships, like our lives are always shifting, changing, growing, moving. How does being bisexual affect our relationships? Do we relate to the people in our lives differently based on our bisexuality? Do others relate to us differently when we tell them we are Bi? We will be exploring these and many other relationship questions in August on Sat. 2nd and Tues. 19th.

"How Being Bi Has Changed My Life" will be September's topic in honor of International Celebrate Bisexuality Day which happens this month. When did you know you were bi and what has changed in your life since that discovery? Perhaps you had several points of discovery instead of just one—how did each of these affect you? What did you learn? Come share your stories, your ideas and your thoughts in September on Sat. 6th and Tues. 16th.

An annual Bi Definition membership includes discreet newsletter mailings and free admittance to all events. Cost of a single gathering for nonmembers is \$5. For information on membership rates, call our information line (414) 299-9612. We also ask that you please refrain from wearing scented products at the meetings.

Pridefest 2003: More Ways Of Making the 'B' Visible

Illuminaughty: A Bi Game Show for the Stonewall Tent

For the past few years Bi Definition has given a presentation at the Stonewall tent at Pridefest. These have been well prepared and poorly attended. We decided that this year we needed something snappier than just another presentation and settled on the idea of doing a game show spoof with a bisexuality theme.

For the past month, Scott has worked diligently trying to contact the person who is organizing the Stonewall tent this year so that we could get a good spot. After numerous unanswered emails, he finally was contacted at the end of May. He was informed that almost all of the spots were already taken and only the least desirable times were left. This was very disappointing.

Nevertheless, when put to the group for a vote on whether or not we should persevere in spite of the awful time, everyone still wanted to go for it.

We will be presenting "Illuminaughty—A Bi Game Show for the New Millennium" on Sunday, June 8th at noon at the Stonewall tent. The game show will be spoofed on the Jeopardy format and will focus on bisexuality and bisexual community.

Here is a sneak preview. Test yourself and see if you can come up with the questions to some of these answers:

Answer: 1983 the oldest bisexual women's group begins.

Answer: '90's dance song by La Rissa.

Answer: "I believe it will be the bisexuals that make the change in the world."

Answer: 4th annual weekend getaway for outdoor living and group fun.

Come see the game show and find out the answers!

Stepping Toward the 'B' in LGBT

By Stefanie

IN Step, Milwaukee's LGBT newspaper of record since 1984, has taken a step closer towards balanced reporting on Milwaukee's queer community.

Bi Definition member and *BAM!* Editor Nikki Schlaishunt has jumped aboard IN Step's regular writing staff. Once a month, she will be submitting an opinion piece reflecting her thoughts and experiences as a bisexual. Two of her pieces have already been published since April 2003.

IN Step can be found at businesses supporting Milwaukee's free publications.

Bi Bug to Lead Bi Definition In Pridefest Parade

This year Bi Definition will march in the Pridefest Parade in front of the "Bi Bug," a VW bug that we will decorate in Bi colors and slogans. We will also have a Bi Definition banner, at least one Bi flag and a bubble gun.

A new addition to this year's march will be the preparation of handouts for the parade watchers. We will be taping candy hugs to our information cards to hand out to spectators. The hugs will be taped with stickers that say "you have been hugged by a bisexual," and maybe one or two other slogans.


We hope to have a large turnout for this year's parade and are encouraging everyone to invite family and friends to join us as Bi Allies. There will be "Bi Ally" small signs for people to wear who want to join us and who don't identify as bi. Also, the person who brings the most people to march with us will win a gift certificate for a one hour massage.

We will meet in front of the main gate at 1:30 for the parade line up. Look for the pink, purple and blue flag and the blue VW bug and join us.

INTERNET

Made Fast and Easy!

- Eliminate Busy Signals!
- Ultra Fast Download Speeds!
- Immediate Technical Support!
- Corporate or Personal Web Pages!
- **FREE** 10MB for E-mail and Web Pages!
- **FREE** Internet Access! Call for details!
- **FREE** Set-up and Software!
- **SATISFACTION GUARANTEED!**



NETWURX

Making the Net Work for you!

LOCAL ACCESS TO ALL SE. WISCONSIN

1.800.NETWURX (638-9879)

www.netwurx.net

Bi All Means!

c/o The Milwaukee LGBT
Community Center
315 W. Court Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

bidef@hotmail.com
www.netwurx.net/~bidef

Editorial Board

Nikki Schlaishunt and Stefanie L.K.,
Co-editors and Layout
Stefanie K., Distribution Manager

Contributors to Issue no. 28

Nikki, Stefanie

General Information

Bi All Means! is a publication of Bi Definition, a bisexual social, support and activist organization in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. *BAM* is published quarterly and is offered to those on our mailing list on a subscription basis. To subscribe simply fill out the form on page 6 of this issue.

Opinions expressed by writers in *BAM* are not necessarily those of the editors, publisher, advertisers nor the philosophy of Bi Definition. Any reference made to any individual or organization should not be construed as an indication of the same's orientation.

We reserve the right to edit any submission at our sole discretion. Those who wish to contribute letters, articles, stories, poems or artwork are encouraged to do so, and may have their names withheld if so desired. Please provide text submissions typed double-spaced. Send all submissions to:

Bi All Means!/Bi Definition, c/o Milwaukee LGBT Community Center, 315 W. Court St., Milwaukee, WI 53202, or e-mail nikkicow2@earthlink.net. The unauthorized use of the 'Bi Definition' name is strictly prohibited to members and non-members alike, except when written permission is received from the current organizational leadership.

Contacts: (414)

General - 299-9612
Bi All Means - Nikki 485-2697

Subscription/Membership Rates

\$45/year Household/Patron/Organization
\$30/year Individual
\$15/year Student/Hardship
Free via newsletter exchange
or service donation

Next Submission Deadline

August 15

Bi the Editor. 

Summer is coming and Bi Definition is gearing up to challenge bisexual invisibility. Frustrated with being treated like the step-child, bisexual members are making plans and doing things to make Bi's visible.

Already there have been Bi Bar Outings where we gather for social fun and we also wear our Bi buttons, shirts and colors. My monthly article in IN Step is my small way of challenging the gay and lesbian community to look at their prejudice and assumptions regarding Bi's.

There's more! Many members will be helping to make Bi Definition and bisexuality visible at this year's Pridefest with a whole list of fun events. And the business meeting members are trying to organize Bi representation on the LGBT Community Center Board and, hopefully, on next year's Pridefest Board.

Melissa Ethridge said, "I believe it will be the bisexuals that make the change in the world." I think she is right—bisexuality challenges the black and white divisions that keep us all separate and isolated.

The summer looms large with so many possibilities!

Respectfully submitted,
Nikki :)

Inside This Issue

Bi News 1
Mission Statement..... 2
Upcoming Events..... 3
Discussion Topics..... 3
Map..... 3
Pridefest & Stonewall..... 4
In Step Addition..... 4
Bisexuality Challenges..... 5
Klein Grid..... 5
Membership Form..... 6
Calendar..... 6

**A
Bit of
Bisexual
His/Herstory**

1989—Openly bisexual veteran Cliff Arnesen testifies before the US Congress on behalf of gay, lesbian and bisexual veteran's issues.

~from BiNet USA ~

**Bi Definition Mission,
Vision and Governance Statements**

Adopted August 1999

Mission Statement

Bi Definition shall exist to facilitate the development of and maintain a cohesive bisexual community in metropolitan Milwaukee, WI. We will also promote bisexual visibility and education on bisexual issues.

Vision Statement

Bi Definition shall provide a social, support and activist organizational resource for bisexuals, people who do not like labels and our allies residing in and visiting metropolitan Milwaukee, WI. We shall work for equal rights and the liberation of all area bisexuals and others who refuse strict heterosexual and/or homosexual personal identification.

Bi Definition will also collect and distribute information on bisexuality.

Governance Statement

In order to insure that all minority opinions are considered at business meetings, Bi Definition will use the consensus process of decision making for governing.

Bisexuality Challenges The Either/Or World

By Nikki Schlaishunt

We live in an either/or world. This means that we are trained to put things into one of two—and only two—categories and then rank these two things; e.g. men over women, straight over gay, mind over body, etc. This is called hierarchical dualism.

As a bisexual, poly, pagan woman, I have been involved in many different groups over the years. One thing I have noticed is that the more an ideal, a group or an issue challenges society's norm of hierarchical dualism, the more that ideal, group or issue is undermined, attacked, and vilified. It doesn't necessarily have anything to do with the idea itself or the people supporting the idea.

For example, forms of feminism that can fit into our hierarchical dualistic society thrive, while forms of feminism that advocate a basic restructuring of society have either been co-opted, disappeared or belittled to pointlessness. Forms of environmentalism that can fit into hierarchical dualism do well in this society—buying green products, using recycled paper, recycling cans and glass, all while still living basically the same over-consumptive lifestyle. Environmentalism that promotes a basic change in the way we live and the way we look at money—like the field of green economics—is blown off as silly, unrealistic and unworkable; all despite solid evidence to the contrary. (Never underestimate the power of denial!)

Bisexuals are perhaps the clearest example of the either/or paradigm (hierarchical dualism) clashing with the both/and paradigm. Bisexuals are widely maligned, belittled, rejected and vilified by both straight people and by the gay and lesbian community. We are told we have to "pick one side or the other." Why this emphasis on having to pick a side?

Because, if we don't pick a side, if we try to spread the message that there is room enough for all, to let people know that they can be accepted for the whole of who they are without picking a side, then there is the risk that we will put irreparable cracks in the infrastructure of hierarchical dualism, that perhaps the whole damn thing will come crashing down—and then what? The Unknown,

Change, Something New—and therefore something to be frightened of.

The main tool of hierarchical dualism is fear. Fear keeps us all divided. Fear keeps us separated up into different small and *manageable* groups. The paradigm underlying hierarchical dualism is the idea that there is not enough to go around. In the financial field this is known as starvation economics. Fear is very effective at keeping us divided, separate, and alone, and this isolation combined with fear keeps the status quo.

A both/and world would be based on the idea that there are many different categories and, not only can't you rank them, you wouldn't want to rank them. After all, how can you say that blue is better than red or daffodils are better than tulips? This is what bisexuals do when they refuse to pick one gender preference and instead choose both, all or none. The both/and concept directly challenges the either/or paradigm.

Also a both/and world would be based on prosperity thinking—on believing that there is enough to go around so I don't have to worry about getting less than my share or being shortchanged. If I am not making my decisions based on fear—the currency of the either/or world—then I can't be controlled and, once again this is a direct challenge to the either/or paradigm.

In the past twenty years, bisexuals have made definite advances. We also have not made anywhere near the progress that lesbians and gays have. I've been thinking about this a lot lately, wondering how to approach the world in a way that will enable a dialogue to happen. I've been coming up with buttons and T-shirt slogans as a way of combating bisexual invisibility and I think I've found my favorite: "I'm bisexual. Feel free to ask questions."

The really fearful will still shun me. But some people will ask me questions, and I can educate them, correct any misinformation and, best of all, I will give them the opportunity to meet a real-life bisexual who is human just like them. And perhaps they will begin to see the world as a little less black or white and a little more red and yellow and green and blue . . .

RATE YOURSELF on the Klein Grid:

Place a number from 1 to 7 in each box as follows:

For variables A to E:

- 1. = Other gender only
- 2. = Other gender mostly
- 3. = Other gender somewhat more
- 4. = Both genders equally
- 5. = Same gender somewhat more
- 6. = Same gender mostly
- 7. = Same gender only

For Variables F to G:

- 1. = Heterosexual only
- 2. = Heterosexual mostly
- 3. = Heterosexual somewhat more
- 4. = Heterosexual/Homosexual equally
- 5. = Homosexual somewhat more
- 6. = Homosexual mostly
- 7. = Homosexual only

Variable	Past	Present	Ideal
A. SEXUAL ATTRACTION			
B. SEXUAL BEHAVIOR			
C. SEXUAL FANTASIES			
D. EMOTIONAL PREFERENCES			
E. SOCIAL PREFERENCES			
F. HETERO/HOMO LIFESTYLE			
G. SELF-IDENTIFICATION			