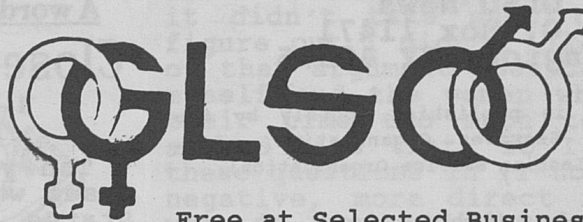


AUGUST
NEWS 1991



Free at Selected Business Locations
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LEXINGTON GAY/LESBIAN SERVICES ORGANIZATION, P. O.. BOX 11471, LEXINGTON, KY 40575

NAMES QUILT TO BE DISPLAYED LABOR DAY WEEKEND IN LEXINGTON

A major portion of the "Names Quilt" will be displayed in Lexington during the Labor Day weekend. The quilt is made up of thousands of three by six foot panels, memorializing those who have died from AIDS in the United States over the past ten years. More than 500 of these panels will be displayed in Heritage Hall at the Lexington Civic Center on Saturday, August 31 and Sunday, September 1.

Each panel honors one of those who died of AIDS and challenges the living to work to achieve a cure for the disease.

In the past on 12 to 45 panels have been in the state at one time. This is the largest display of the quilt in Kentucky, said Kevin Elkins spokesperson for NAMES Project Kentucky.

"This is a statewide outreach to educate people about AIDS. We hope this major display will attract many people," Elkins said.

Several organizations will have booths to educate people about AIDS. Volunteers are needed to help set up and take down the display, and to serve as guides. Persons interested in volunteering can call Katie McCormick, 233-3855 or Dan Ezell, 254-9998.

AIDS CASES UP 23 PERCENT

AIDS is still an epidemic 10 years after the first cases were diagnosed, but the demographics of those with the disease is changing. The U.S. AIDS case count stands at more than 179,000, with more than 113,000 dead, the national Center for Disease Control has reported.

The number of AIDS cases reported in 1990 was up 23 percent over 1980. Cases transmitted among heterosexuals increased by

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

MOST KENTUCKY CITIZENS SAY SEXUALITY IS A PRIVATE MATTER

Most Kentuckians say that the government should not regulate either heterosexual or homosexual activity between consenting adults. This was the finding of a statewide poll conducted by the University of Kentucky Survey Research Center in April and May.

A majority of 62.2 percent said the state should not regulate private sexual activity between consenting adults of the same sex. A larger majority of more than 75 percent said the state should not regulate private sexual activity between consenting adults of the opposite sex.

The statewide telephone survey of 646 randomly selected people is a fairly accurate measure of the views of what people in Kentucky are thinking, said Mark Berger, acting director of the research center. The poll has an average margin of error plus or minus 3.8 percent.

The Kentucky Supreme Court is presently considering an appeal of a 1985 case in which a Fayette District Court judge found the state's sodomy law to be unconstitutional. A ruling is expected before year's end.

GLSO News
P. O. Box 11471
Lexington, KY 40575

The *GLSO News* is published monthly by the Lexington Gay Services Organization, Inc. (Lexington Gay\Lesbian Service Organization).

Chuck Smith, editor
Craig Clere, president, GLSO board
Mailing: Bill
Folding and stuffing: Lee, Steve,
Mark, Jim, John, and Jan

The Esmerelda Collective produces the *Esmerelda Parlor* a feature with news and view of interest to Lesbians in the Bluegrass.

Views or opinions expressed in *GLSO News* are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of GLSO Board of Directors. Submissions are welcome. All submissions become the property of GLSO and must indicate the full name and address of the author. The editorial staff reserves the right to alter submissions (including ads) to meet publishing requirements, as well as the right to reject any submission it deems offensive or discriminatory. Placement of advertising in the *GLSO News* does not denote a person's sexual orientation nor a business's customer preference.

[] Please send me information on GLSO.

[] I'd like to become a voting member of GLSO, including home delivery of the *GLSO NEWS* and discounts at GLSO functions. Membership of \$10/yr. individual, \$15/yr. couple, is enclosed.

[] I don't wish to become a member but please send me the *GLSO NEWS* each month. I enclose the \$5 annual fee.

NAME: _____

Address: _____

City, St, Zip: _____

2 - GLSO/August

A word from the editor

Closets Are For Clothes

By Chuck Smith

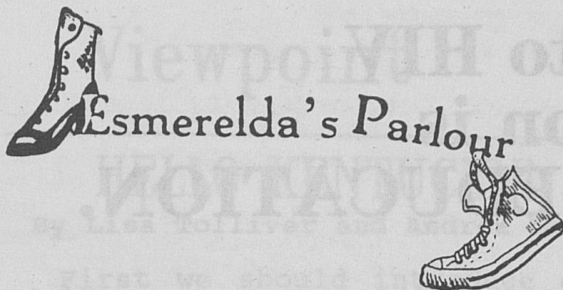
Ten years after the first AIDS cases were reported in the United States, the disease remains a major national health threat. An estimated one million Americans are infected with the human immunodeficiency virus that transmits and causes AIDS. The AIDS death toll is expected to reach 150,000 by then end of 1991. But a vaccine or cure for AIDS is still years away, scientists say.

For gay men and lesbians AIDS is more than a medical issue; from the beginning it's had political implications. AIDS has weakened the gay community in two ways. It been the rationale some have used to discriminate against gay people, and the disease has killed or debilitated many gay men. Even though lesbians as a group have a lower incidence of HIV than the general population, AIDS has been used a weapon against them.

We gay men should strengthen of fight against AIDS by stepping up efforts to educate our community about safe sex practices. These practices have slowed the spread of HIV among gays. However, a new study shows a increase in AIDS among young gay and bi-sexual men in San Francisco. This age group needs to be educated.

We should also take political action outside our community. One might choose to write policymakers to demand action, or become part of advocacy organizations such as AVOL, Queer Nation, or ACT UP.

AIDS is a volatile issue, any stand one takes will involve views on sex, drug used, privacy, and public safety and will offend someone. But it is important to become active in the fight, it is a matter of life and death. Attending and/or working for the Names quilt display provides an opportunity to begin.



Train of Thought Writing About Community

By Teri Wood

Ah the plight of Esmerelda -- or perhaps more properly the plight of community building. As one who has been involved (albeit off and on) with Esmerelda and the coffeehouses "since the beginning," I empathize with the frustrations aired in the last two months via this column. It is truly difficult to give time and energy to a project (pride week, Athena, dances, etc.) which you hope will add to the community only to see low attendance, criticism, apathy or any other less than enthusiastic response.

Yet there is another side, or angle, or aspect (can you see the ambivalence just oozing through?) to these events. My own departure from "community work" was spurred by a couple of questions echoing in the back of my head (along with a whole pile of laundry and "real work") which I think come from the "other side." I'd like to throw them out for others to hear and think about. Maybe they make sense only to me, but that certainly wouldn't be the first time I was off in the ozone by myself.

So here goes . . . question number one, could it be that what I am offering is simply what I want, not what others want? Question number two, do I have to be "patted on the back" for what I do?

Needless to say this side of the argument come off a little heavy handed, dare I say critical, toward those of us who complain

about feeling unappreciated. Well it didn't take much thought to figure out I didn't like the tone of that argument (besides, I like myself and the women who give of their time too much to slap us around like that) so I rephrased these questions in (I hope) a less negative, more direct fashion -- why do we contribute time and energy to the community and why is recognition/response so important to us?

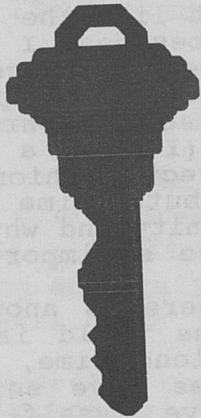
The idea that there is another way to organize the world is one I've liked for a long time, and community activities have seemed like a way to give myself and others a little bit of space, no matter how imperfect, to experiment with and feel what this different world could be. In other words, community work is as much social change as socializing. For

(CONTINUED ON PAGE FIVE)

Classified Ads

RELATIONSHIP ORIENTED -- Attractive Professional HIV+ W/M, 6' 170#, Healthy/Asymptomatic, health oriented, trim, in shape, non-smoker, honest, responsible, dependable, financially and emotionally secure, affectionate and caring -- seeks compatible similar same, trim and healthy, HIV+ man 30-55 for monogamous relationship, sharing and living together. Serious replies only, recent photo preferred, replies confidential. Write to John, PO Box 3308, Frankfort, KY 40603.

SERIOUS ABOUT COMMITMENT -- Attractive healthy W/M 32 years old, looking for someone who is as sick of the bars and cruising as I am. I'm 5'8", green eyes, long light brown hair. Wish to meet serious, healthy man around my own age. If you're into quiet evenings at home, and looking for something meaningful and long lasting, please send letter and phone number to TJK, PO Box 1705, Lexington, KY 40592-1705.



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KENTUCKY AIDS HOTLINE

1-800-654-AIDS

HIV is the virus that causes AIDS.

KENTUCKY

RESPONDS

TO AIDS

Viewpoint

HELLO KENTUCKY!

By Lisa Tolliver and Andrea Lonon

First we should introduce ourselves. My name is Lisa, and the womyn standing over my shoulder is Andrea. We're looking forward to joining Lexington's lesbian, gay, bisexual community this August as graduate students at U.K. We hope you had a great gay pride week -- we did -- so much so that we wanted to tell you about the experiences of two lesbians at the first Knoxville, Tenn. Lesbian & Gay Pride March.

We were filled with pride to be among the approximately 350 other marchers at this historic event, Saturday, June 29. As first marches always involve a greater element of fear, it was heartening to have such a good turnout. Marching down the parade route, we deid see about eight "homophoves" with latex gloves, masks, and other paranoid paraphenalia carrying signs stating thing like "Homosexuality is genoside" and "Suck on this, queer" (accompanied by a picture of a man wielding a bloody sword). These few people did not affect us so much as the supporters who lined the streets shouting and smiling their approval. It felt great to be out standing up for our rights, marching to clear the way for those who will come out behind us. It felt good to be a lesbian Southerner. No longer can we sit idly by and allow ourselves and our community to be oppressed. We need to stand up for ourselves and to be proud!

One thing you can do to help eliminate oppression is to urge members of Congress to cosponsor the Lesbian/Gay Civil Rights Bill S. 574 and H.R. 1430. Write to Senators Ford and McConnell, U.S. Senate, Washington D.C. 20510, and

to Rep. Mazzoli, Natcher, or Perkins, House of Representative, Washington, D.C. 20515.

We urge you to do what you can to promote the well-being of lesbian, gays, and bisexuals, individually and as a community! As Pat Hussain, the parade's grand marshall said, "We have kicked down the closet door. For love, for life, we're not going back."

(Begining this issue the GLSO News will provide this viewpoint page for the readers to express their ideas and comments. Send your comments to Viewpoint, GLSO News, P.O. Box 11471, Lexington, KY 40575.)

ESMERELDA'S PARLOR

(Continued from page 3.)

me then (and perhaps only for me), the frustration I feel when events go unattended, effort unnoticed, my own visions criticized, has not so much to do with wanting a pat on the back, bu the fear that other actually like the world the way it is, that chang is a pipedream.

"So were are you going with is Teri, is there a point?" you might well be asking. Well here goes. All my ruminating about the Esmerelda dilemma and the problems of other groups led me from thinking my own deep thoughts to reading the deep thoughts of other lesbians on this very subject (the subject of community building in case you're totally lost). In the process, I came across an incredible piece of writing by Nicole Brossard which touched my own vision of what Esmerelda could be, as well as helping me to get a better handle on the frustration felt by myself and I think, others. So here is abit of what Nicole has to say in "Certain Words."

"Amid the worst possible misfortunes (Continued on page 6)

RAPE IN THE GAY MALE COMMUNITY PART 4: THE RECOVER PROCESS

By J. E.

The initial crisis period confronting the rape, victim is often followed by a period in which the survivor has an outward satisfactory adjustment to the crisis. He may even deny that the event has taken place or temporarily forget that he has been raped. Sometimes this is a reaction to prolonged trauma rather than a real recovery. Some people, without help, never move beyond this outward adjustment. Reliving the rape event and working it through may follow. During this time, survivors may experience flashbacks, nightmares, anxiety, and depression as well as feeling of loss of control and loss of self-identity. One survivor likened this period to being on an emotional roller coaster -- riding emotional highs and low repeatedly during the day.

It is often very helpful for the victim to share his pain, fear, anger, and frustration with another person. With whom should these feelings be shared? Significant others react out of their own life experiences, beliefs, resources, and ideas concerning rape. The services of a trained professional are useful in helping the survivor choose the people to tell and make a decision on whether or not to report the rape to the police.

Such professional assistance is available at the Lexington Rape Crisis Center (253-2511). There the victim can receive immediate help and referral to other appropriate professionals. Services are free at LRCC immediately after rape; longer term therapy is available on a sliding scale. Early intervention in the recovery process by people who are experienced with rape cases is vitally important. This intervention acts to facilitate the recovery process and to allow the survivor to be a participant in his own recovery, thereby checking

some of the negative aspect of reaction to the trauma.

There is a resolution: an integration and healing that often come during recovery. This is not to say that everything becomes as it was before. The survivor has experienced a life altering event, but that alteration is not necessarily all negative. Many people in this phase show an absence or reduction in rape-related problems and an increase in effective life-coping strategies. Many changes can occur for the survivor that can be beneficial. The work that people do to integrate the experiences into the fabric of their lives often does have unforeseen, and unpredictable, positive effects. This again depends on the person. The important thing is to seek the help of others during the healing process. It does not have to be done alone.

ESMERELDA'S PARLOR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

the most daring nights of adoration, tragic death, and the softest skin, . . . and clothed in a utopian body and ecstasies, we proceed along the relief of words . . . Dressed in a woman's body, patiently we mark time at the edge of the page; we are waiting a feminine presence. With wet fingers, we turn the pages. We are waiting for the truth to break through.

From one reading to another, words relay back and forth as though to test our endurance around an idea, around the few self-images we have, images which apply only to us in the fictive space of our particular version of reality . . . In our reading, there are mauves, some indigo, terrible looks, women adorned in jewels and silence. Bodies, sorely tried. Stirring visions.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

News

Plays to benefit AIDS service group

Safe Sex a suite of three plays to be presented in mid-August will inform the public of the dangers of unprotected sex and raise funds for AVOL (AIDS Volunteers of Lexington). The plays are scheduled for 8:00 p.m. on August 16, 17, 23, and 24 at the Carrick Theater, Transylvania University.

The plays were written by Harvey Fierstein, who wrote *Torch Song Trilogy* and the book for the Broadway musical *LaCage aux Folles*. The plays are performed and directed by people active in the Actor's Guild of Lexington and Lexington Musical Theatre.

The production is a theatrical, educational fundraiser for AVOL to assist their goals of community education and outreach, referrals, counseling, and assisting persons with AIDS and their families.

Tickets are \$10, phone 254-AVOL; Mastercard and Visa accepted. Ticket at the door will be \$12. A limited number of free tickets for the HIV challenge are available through the AVOL office, 254-2865.

AIDS CASES UP 23 PERCENT

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

41 percent, while cases among drug abusing heterosexual men and women were up 24 percent. The number of reported gay male cases of AIDS increased by 19 percent. Cases of AIDS increased by 30 percent in the South, compared with a gain of 27 percent in the Northeast, 17 percent in Midwestern states and 13 percent in the West.

The need to step up AIDS education for young men is shown in a study by the San Francisco Department of Public Health. It reports an increase in the number of cases reported among young gay and bisexual men. A "second wave" of AIDS may be spreading among men who were only in grade school when the virus first began to decimate America's gay community.

JUMPIN' JAMMIN' JAMBOREE

It's gonna be a hot time in the old barn every night during the Cincinnati Stompers third annual Jamboree and Midwest Gay Dance Competition, August 9, 10, and 11. Participants are invited to compete for more than \$1000 cash in the Two Step, Line Dance, and Open Dance categories.

The Jamboree will begin Friday with a reception and dance. On Saturday an afternoon cookout will be followed by the Midwest Gay Dance Competition. Sunday will feature a brunch, show, T-shirt auction, and dance.

Further information: Cincinnati Stompers, P.O. Box 2948, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202. Phone: (513) 541-6102.

DENVER GAY RIGHTS ORDINANCE SURVIVES REPEAL CHALLENGE

Denver's gay and lesbian civil rights law survived a challenge at the ballot box. Voters in a recent city-wide election decided by a large majority to retain civil rights protection for gays and lesbians in the city's human rights ordinance.

The ordinance was passed by the Denver City Council in October, 1990. Religious and political conservatives called for a referendum, hoping that the voters would reverse the council's action.

ESMERELDA'S PARLOR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

We open and close our eyes on them in the hope of a sonorous sequence, or a vital discussion perhaps. Our fervor sweeps into the text in order that from the discussion truth might break through.

What animates us in a sentence or an expression is a decision to be it. Inclined to become one with the text in order to seize the fire of the action We advance toward a subtle and complex woman who reflects the process of our thinking and its forms of development When we turn the pages with our wet fingers, going from terror to ecstasy, we confront eternity; we are believers and disbelieving before the sum total of bodies, craniums, orgasms; we confront the beyond of the whole and become desire's precision in the unrecountable space of the brain . . . All reading, is a desire for image, and intention to re/present which gives us hope.

For myself, "Esmerelda," the coffeehouses, pride week, Athena, the passion group, is about taking the few self-images we have in the "fictive space" of our own versions of reality and hoping that by putting those images into action they cease to be fictive, that they become a part of our lives which we can count on, can draw strength from. And for those of us who wish for, and work for an alternative version of reality, it is scary to think we may be more alone than we had imagined.

This, gentle readers, is where you come in. I'm willing to bet that I (and Laura, Debbie, Linda, and, well, you get the point) are not so alone as it seems. I'm willing to bet that there are lots of women (and dykes and lesbians, take your pick) out there who aren't to keen on the way the world works and would be willing to stir things up a bit. Perhaps we're just having trouble finding

each other. To find out if my optimism is justified, we are going to do stand still for a bit, (figuratively speaking), perhaps hop up and down and wave our hands to draw attention to where we are, in the hopes that some of you will see us and wonder back this way. Of course to be fair, we are also willing to look for your heads and hands bobbing and waving to say "no, you come this direction." (In fact, it's already working in the form of two women moving up here from Tennessee.)

While we're standing here, we'll be looking for some mail. Please drop us a line or two about what you would like to see in "Esmerelda." Political writing? Poetry? Comic relief? Recaps of dyke news? Gossip? Book reviews? Something I haven't thought of yet, 'cause there's sure lots of it? Importantly, full schedules and "real lives" aside, would you like to be involved in the production of "Esmerelda?" And while you are at it, what other activities would you like to see (actually I mean come to) and how would we (that includes you) go about organizing such events?

So, what do you think? Let us know! (or we will just inundate you with what we think). Our address is Esmerelda's Parlor, P.O. Box 11471, Lexington, KY 40575. We'll be looking for those bobbing heads and waving hands. And one final note, we could have given you a boring questionnaire to fill out about "what I want in the lesbian community" but instead we're giving you the "fictive space" of your own reality. Isn't this fun already.

AIDS INFORMATION

How is AIDS transmitted? Of the 174,893 cases reported through April 1991:

Gay males made up 59%; gay IV drug users, 7%; heterosexuals, 6%; non-gay IV drug users, 22%; person receiving blood, 2%; others, 5%

LEXINGTON NIGHTLIFE

The Bar Complex, 224 East Main, 255-1551. The restaurant, Cafe Montparnasse, open from 6 - 11 pm, Saturday 6 pm - 3 am. Also features Johnny Angel Disco, Gilded Gage Cabaret, and the Living Room Lounge. Afterhours Saturday night from 1:30 - 3:30 am.

Crossings, 117 North Limestone, 233-7266. Lexington's mens' bar. Cowboy night 1st Saturday, Leather night 3rd Saturday. Operates The Rack, a leather shop, open Friday and Saturday, 10 pm to 1 am.

The Metro, 156 West Main, 254-9881. Shows every weekend. Afterhours Friday and Saturday, 1:30 - 4 am.

Joe's Cafe & Bar at fleur de lys, 120 South Upper Street, 259-9973. 4 pm - 1 am, Monday - Friday, 6 pm - 1, Saturday.

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NATIONAL HATE CRIMES HOTLINE

(800) 347-4283

DIRECTORY

GLSO Gayline	231-0335
GLSO Board	call Craig, 266-8887
GLSO News	call Chuck, 253-0661
GLSO Speakers Bureau ..call Bill,....	266-9175
GLSO Phonenumber ..call Tony,.....	266-9175
GLSO Coming Out Group	
.... call Alan,	253-2414
GLSO Rainbow Bowling League	
.... call Teri,	268-4789
TSGRA (Tri State Gay Rodeo Association)	
.... call Terry or Mark,.....	233-7266
NAMES Project Kentucky	
.... call Katie	223-3855
Lesbian Potluck	
.... call Esmerelda,	873-0254
Esmerelda's Parlour	
.... call Debbie,	255-3851
Front Runners (Gay/lesbian running club)	
.... call Dan,	254-6850
GLUE (UK Support Group)	
.... call Steve,	231-8485
Gay/Lesbian AA	
.... call Dave,	277-9522
Gay/Lesbian Al-Anon	
.... call Robert,	293-0516
Imperial Court of the Bluegrass	
Empire .. call Terry,	266-8715
Dignity/Lexington	
.... call Don,	299-4458
Integrity	
.... call Kay,	277-4364
Interweave call Craig,	266-8887
(Unitarian Universalist gays, lesbians and friends.)	
AVOL	254-AVOL
(AIDS support and education)	
ACT-Lexington	281-5151
(AIDS education and referral)	
HIV+, ARC, AIDS Support Group	
.... call Edwin,	233-0444
Lexington-Fayette Co. Health Department	
AIDS Testing	288-AIDS
(For anonymous counseling and testing)	
Madison County Health Department	
AIDS Testing	623-7312
(For anonymous counseling and testing)	
Louisville Crisis Hotline	(502) 454-6699

AUGUST EVENTS CALENDAR

Contact names and numbers for all events can be found in the Directory on the previous page. The Camp Care Center is located at 201 Mechanic Street in Lexington.

AUGUST						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

W E E K L Y E V E N T S

- SUNDAY** Gay/Lesbian AA, 4 p.m.,
Camp Care Center;
- TUESDAY** Gay/Lesbian Al-Anon, 7
p.m., Camp Care Center
- WEDNESDAY** Gay/Lesbian AA, 8 p.m.,
St. Joseph Hospital, CCI
Meeting Room
- THURSDAY** HIV+, ARC, AIDS Support
Group;
- FRIDAY** Gay/Lesbian AA, 8 p.m.
Camp Care Center
- SATURDAY** Front Runners, 9 a.m.,
UK water tower at Alumni
Drive

Gayline information service,
231-0335 operates from 8 -
11 p.m. on Sunday, Wednesday,
Thursday, and Friday evenings.

S P E C I A L E V E N T S

- SUN 4** Tri-State Gay Rodeo
Association, 4 p.m.
- TUE 6** **Gayline** Meeting, 5:30
- SUN 11** Lesbian Potluck, 2 p.m.;
AVOL Meeting 5:30 p.m.
Camp Care Center
- TUE 12** AVOL's Bereavement Support
Group, 7:30 p.m.
- WED 13** NAMES Project Meeting,
7 p.m., Rosenthal Center,
Transylvania University
- THU 14** NAMES Project Panel Making
Workshop, 7 p.m., Quilters
Square, Regency Road
- MON 19** Pro-Choice Alliance,
7:30 p.m. Alfalfa's Cafe
- TUE 27** AVOL's Bereavement Support
Group, 7:30 p.m.
- WED 28** GLSO Board Meeting, 7:30
- SAT 31** NAMES Project display of a
major portion of the NAMES
Quilt, Heritage Hall,
Civic Center, Lexington

DATES MAY BE INCLUDED IN THE CALENDAR
BY CALLING 253-0661 OR BY WRITING
GLSO NEWS, P.O. BOX 11475,
LEXINGTON, KY 40575