

GLSO NEWS

MARCH + 1994

WASSON AWARD NOMINEES SOUGHT

-T.S.G.R.A.

It is time for the planning of Gay Pride week, and accordingly, the Tri-State Gay Rodeo Association (T.S.G.R.A.) is putting together the third annual Lexington Salute to Volunteers Banquet. For anyone who is not familiar with this event, it is the closing event to Pride Week festivities, and it is where each organization in the gay community gets to honor its outstanding volunteer of the year in front of the whole gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered community (hereafter referred to as "community").

For one low price, everyone at the banquet experiences dinner, a speaker, and the awards ceremony. The banquet has been at the Marriott for the past two years, but this year it has moved to the Radisson Plaza Hotel and will be Sunday, June 12.

Last year T.S.G.R.A. initiated an overall Volunteer of the Year Award, and there was one overwhelming choice for receiving the award. His contribution to the community was so monumental that the award is now named in his honor. That person was Jeffrey Wasson, and we continue to owe him our gratitude.

So now it is time to find the recipient of this year's Wasson Award. T.S.G.R.A. is very pleased to host this event and will continue to do so for a long time to come, but it does not feel qualified to choose the winner of such a prestigious award. Therefore, it has asked the Gay and Lesbian Services Network to be the vehicle through which this award is determined.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

National Gay/Lesbian Crisis Line

(800) 247-4283

Teenage Gay/Lesbian Support

(800) 347-TEEN

Thurs.-Sun. 7pm-Midnight

A LASTING IMPRESSION

-T. BRANSCUM

The Medicine Shoppe is one of our new advertisers. On Main Street near the Long John Silver's, they are conveniently located to serve all of Lexington.

Approximately one year ago, I was looking for a pharmacy to work with me in providing medication for a very dear friend. Someone in the community recommended the Medicine Shoppe. When I contacted them, they assisted me in walking through the red tape associated with government aid and insurance. Not only did they take the time to become familiar with medications, illnesses, and payment options, but they also took the time to get to know us. Imagine my surprise when on my second visit I was greeted by name and questioned about how my friend was doing. It was almost like dealing with family.

Since those first few visits, they have helped work through a myriad of problems, questions, and concerns. All with a personal touch and free delivery. I liked them so much, I even moved my prescriptions to them. Thanks, Webb. You and your staff make us feel like family.

GLSO NEWS

Published Monthly by the

LEXINGTON GAY/LESBIAN SERVICES ORGANIZATION

P.O. Box 11471
Lexington, KY 40575

Editor:

BRIAN THROCKMORTON

Layout Editor:

ELIZABETH A. GILLIAM

GLSO ANNUAL DUES: \$15

DUES FOR COUPLES: \$20

NEWSLETTER ONLY: \$10

Views or opinions expressed in the GLSO News are those of the authors and don't necessarily represent those of the GLSO Board of Directors. Submissions are welcome. All submissions become the property of GLSO and must indicate full name and address of the author. The staff reserves the right to edit submissions and ads to meet publishing requirements, as well as the right to reject any submissions. Placement of advertising in the GLSO News denotes neither a person's sexual orientation nor a business' customer preferences.

THANK YOU!

The GLSO News gratefully acknowledges the generous outpouring of support in response to our call for financial help. We received several donations, in amounts of ten, fifty, one hundred and even five hundred dollars! It's nice to be appreciated, and to know that Lexington values the newsletter and the other work done by members of GLSO. Let's hope these angels who rescued us inspire others to subscribe or add a little something to their membership renewal. And although ads alone won't keep the GLSO News solvent, please advertise with us or let us know of likely new advertisers. Thanks!

CONGRESSIONAL REPORT CARD

FROM THE HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN FUND

The Human Rights Campaign Fund has issued ratings of America's senators based on their votes on nine lesbigay issues over the last year.

Nineteen senators, all Democrats, sided with the HRCF 100% of the time: Daniel Akaka (HI), Barbara Boxer (CA), Bill Bradley (NJ), Christopher Dodd (CT), Dianne Feinstein (CA), Daniel Inouye (HI), Ted Kennedy (MA), Frank Lautenberg (NJ), Patrick Leahy (VT), Howard Metzenbaum (OH), Barbara Mikulski (MD), Carol Moseley-Braun (IL), Daniel Patrick Moynihan (NY), Patty Murray (WA), Donald Riegle (MI), Chuck Robb (VA), Paul Sarbanes (MD), Paul Simon (IL) and Paul Wellstone (MN).

Three Republicans received the only zero scores: Jesse Helms (NC), Lauch Faircloth (NC), and Malcolm Wallop (WY).

In the Kentucky delegation, Wendell Ford voted favorably 56% of the time, and Mitch McConnell had a 33% record.

The Human Rights Campaign Fund is the nation's largest lesbigay political organization.

WHITE WOMEN AGAINST RACISM

AT THE U.U. CHURCH

The first meeting of this new group will be held on Saturday, March 12, from 1-3pm at the Fellowship House of the Unitarian Universalist Church. "Combating racism is something that people in this community are wanting to talk about," says Barbara O'Hara, the group's organizer.

The meeting will feature two women from the Muse Cincinnati Women's Choir will be speaking about how *White Woman Against Racism* got started in their area. For more information, please contact Barbara at 255-3819.

NEWS SHORTS

by JEFF JONES

Texas:

The Texas Supreme Court issued in January a decision that has invalidated Texas' same-sex only sodomy law. In a bizarre 5-4 decision, the Court refused to judge the law by stating that the Supreme Court did not have the right to decide this law as it involved a criminal statute and not a constitutional question. Yet, the Court let stand another decision involving the invalidation of the sodomy law involving a case of the Dallas Police Department refusing to hire a lesbian applicant. Thus, in a back-door manner, Texas' sodomy law has been abolished.

California:

Gay author and AIDS activist Randy Shilts died Feb. 17 from complications from AIDS. Shilts is the author of *And the Band Played On* and *Conduct Unbecoming*.

Columbia, SC:

State Farm Insurance has dropped coverage of the new Columbia gay/lesbian community center after deeming it too controversial and risky as to vandalization, etc. Unless the center is able to find another insurer by February, it will have to close.

Cincinnati:

The American Historical Association has moved its conference from Cincinnati in protest of Cincinnati's November anti-gay vote to prohibit any future gay rights legislation. The city and several hotels are threatening to sue, however, for breach of contract.

Tyler, TX:

A crowd of 1500 protested in Tyler, Texas, to call attention to the brutal murder of 23-year old Nicholas West. Police and local activists say that West was murdered because he was gay. Again, this murder points out that gay-bashing occurs due to identification of a person as gay, rather than homosexual behavior.

New Hampshire:

A bill to add "sexual orientation" to New Hampshire's anti-bias laws has passed the NH House and is now making its way through the Senate. If passed, NH will become the ninth state to protect all orientations from discrimination.

(WASSON AWARD - FROM PAGE 1)

The Services Network has agreed to this and now asks for nominations from the community.

We know there are lots of people who have worked very hard for charity and/or social causes in our community in the past year. So we want you to write us a nomination letter on their behalf. This letter should list their accomplishments within the community, either as a part of an organization or organizations, or in the community at large. Please be very detailed in your nomination.

The criteria are very loose. We are looking for someone who, through self-sacrifice of labor and/or time, has in some way helped the community. This person does not have to be homosexual. If you know of a straight person who has aided the community, then don't hesitate to nominate him or her. The person may be a member of several groups who, by giving time to these organizations, has helped all of us. Or, a person may have devoted his or her efforts to a specific faction of the community (people with AIDS, for example).

One thing we are not looking for is someone who has given only in monetary terms. Although we realize that this type of contribution is of tremendous need and we venerate each and every donation, we are looking for "volunteers" and not benefactors. We also know that anyone who is an active member of a community organization gives a lot monetarily just to keep the day-to-day business going. Maybe T.S.G.R.A. will create a category for this type of contribution in the future.

Nominations should be mailed to GLSO, P.O. Box 11471 Lexington, KY 40575, Attn.: Wasson Award. The deadline is May 6.

LESBIAN AT LARGE
by Linda West
FAMILY BUSINESSES

Is it just me being slow to notice, or is it really the case that in the past couple of years there's been an explosion of economic development in our community? To me it seems as if Lesbian and Gay businesses are springing up the way mushrooms appear overnight after a spring rain. One day those businesses weren't there, and the next they were. And I don't mean local bars and boutiques; I mean national corporations like my long-distance company. In case some of you aren't aware of this economic growth and haven't plugged into it, I thought I would write about my own experience of plugging into the queer economy.

First, the long-distance company... It's called Community Spirit, and my partner and I dumped MCI in favor of it a year ago. CS's rates are lower than MCI's (and according to their ads, AT&T's and Sprint's), I like the one bill billing (their charges appear on our phone bill), and they donate 2% of their gross income (not just their profits) to Lesbian and Gay causes. We've had no problems with the service and are very glad we made the change. I've surveyed friends who've switched to CS and they also report being satisfied. So, if you've heard of CS but haven't tried them because you've wondered about service quality, or have doubted that our community could actually manage an enterprise as complex as a long-distance company, cease doubting. AT&T, MCI, and Sprint offer no advantage over CS that I can see. In fact, based on the past year's service, I see no reason why anyone in our community should be getting long-distance service from a "straight" company instead of a company which not only keeps our money "in the family", but which estimates that if just one out of fifteen of us participate, we will generate \$21 million yearly in funding for our community. If this is enough to make you interested, you can reach CS by calling 1-800-It's-Ours.

Have you been discriminated against in
the Commonwealth of Kentucky due to your
sexual orientation?
**REPORT IT TO THE GLSO
DISCRIMINATION PROJECT**
276-5383

A second economic resource that's relatively new to our community is the Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance Credit Union. The DGLACU is the issuer of a small piece of magical plastic in my billfold which reads "Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance Credit Union MasterCard." Every time I use it I puff up a little bit with happiness.

To find out more about the credit union, I called its president, Charles Howard. He told me that the credit union has approximately 1500 members and \$600,000 in assets. Assets are limited to savings accounts and accounts receivable (loans) since the CU doesn't offer checking accounts. However, the CU will begin offering checking accounts this spring, and expects this to dramatically boost membership and assets. Charles also told me that plans are underway for a second Gay and Lesbian CU in Austin, with talk of others in Houston and Wichita. Just imagine the financial clout if all around the country we pulled our money out of straight financial institutions, put that money into our own credit unions, and financed our home mortgages, car loans, and credit card debt ourselves. That day may take a while to come, but Charles Howard firmly believes it will. Until then, credit cards, home mortgages, new car loans, student loans, and certificates of deposit are available from the DGLACU. Write to DGLACU, P.O. Box 190712, Dallas, TX 75219 if you'd like to become a member and get your own Gay and Lesbian MasterCard.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 5)

(Family Businesses - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4)

Yet another new business serving our community is Network Q. Network Q is a nationally distributed monthly video magazine featuring news, comedy, drama, art, travel, and entertainment for our community. Subscriptions are \$24 per month or \$199 for a year. I have a year's subscription and have received two issues, each slightly over two hours in length. It took me a while to decide to subscribe because I feared I would be buying some tacky beefcake video. I shouldn't have worried: nothing on Network Q would warrant more than a PG rating and most of it wouldn't warrant that. The most controversial piece so far has been a story on the Gay porn industry. The story was strictly journalistic, but it did include some off color language and "artfully blurred" film clips. A more typical Network Q feature spotlights families. January's issue included an interview of a gay father and his son with film cuts from their home life. Other features have been a documentary on Lesbian/Gay youth, the International Gay Rodeo finals, and a production of "The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me". One of my favorite Network Q moments, however, has been least expected. It's simply seeing the network name display: "Network Q, Television for Gay America". It appears amid the kind of space age special effects I associate with Steven Spielberg. Network Q is definitely not an amateur effort. For those who'd like to give it a try, the address is 4001 S. Decatur #367, Las Vegas, Nevada 89103.

Last but not least in the roster of new national businesses is Shocking Gray. SG is a mail-order catalogue offering home furnishings, clothing, jewelry, notecards, books, and videos.

At present, SG's product selection is limited and most items are "gay-themed". Unfortunately, one household can only absorb so many lambda-embossed mugs, wall clocks, bath towels, and door mats. On the other hand, there is, at least in my book, no limit to the number of flannel shirts one household can absorb. This explains why, despite the fact that I would love to

patronize SG more, I still end up giving more of my dollars to L. L. Bean. However, in a phone interview of Cynthia Cisneros, owner and founder of SG, I was told by her that SG hopes eventually to become a retailer of general clothing and furnishings for our community. So I continue to hope that someday I'll be buying my flannel shirts from a "family business". According to Cynthia, the odds are favorable. She reports that SG's gross in its first year topped \$1 million. When I asked her if any of that was donated to community causes, her answer was: "There's no fixed percentage, but yes, definitely. This business doesn't exist just to make me a living. We're here to put money into our community and provide a homophobia-free workplace. And of course we also try to provide products that reflect people's lives."

To me, those sound like good reasons for supporting any of the businesses mentioned in this article. After all, it's a safe bet that AT&T and L. L. Bean aren't going to become corporate donors to the NGLTF any time soon. With that thought in mind, if you're interested in getting on SG's mailing list, write to them at 1216 East Euclid, San Antonio, TX 78212-4159.

AIDS BENEFIT

The Imperial Court of Kentucky is sponsoring an AIDS benefit for the AIDS Volunteers of Lexington (AVOL) and other AIDS charities. The benefit is scheduled on Saturday, March 26 and *The Connection* in Louisville, from 5-9:30 PM. Cover charge at the door is \$5.00.

LESBiGAY FAMILY CATALOG

Tapestry Books, based in New Jersey, has created a new catalog called "Joined By Love," which offers 35 books for lesbigay families. There are titles for children and for adults, dealing with all manner of alternative family structures.

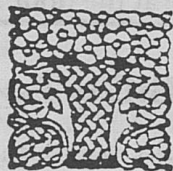
To order your catalog (at a cost of \$1.00), call 800-765-2367.



She said the hospital food was awful and her room was really grim. So I smuggled her a cheeseburger with a side of daisies.



Laughter is great medicine. But we have something that works even better.



IMPERIAL FLOWERS & GIFTS

Imperial Plaza Shopping Center

393 Waller Ave. - Lexington, KY 40504

(606) 233-7486

BEE'S BYTES

Allow me to introduce myself. Since my earliest computer-geek days on the Internet, I have been known as BeeTheGreat. I come from a very strange background. I was raised a devout Southern Baptist on various Marine Corps bases, and was in fact training to be a Marine Corps officer when I woke up one morning and realized that it wasn't just a phase, and that I couldn't with good conscience pretend to be something I was not. Then I got mobilized.

So you have on your hands a reactionary dyke. I'm very out, and very vocal about it, because just a couple of years ago, I was one of those people on the other side of the line. I was the one saying that gays were abnormal and unnatural. I was part of the problem. I was taught to detest homosexuality, like a good portion of those from "traditional families." I strongly believe that if I had been exposed to out queers sooner, I would have been at peace with myself much sooner, instead of at war with gays for so long. Feel free to oppose anything I say, or to send me bits of info to be featured here; points and counter-points are all welcome.

Courting Terrorists

I go through life being continually surprised by things. Just when I think that there is no hope for society, and I should move to Wyoming and refuse to speak to non-bovines, something good happens that restores my faith in humanity - at least until the next insane societal move.

Shock #1: On January 24, the federal anti-organized crime law (RICO-1970) was put to good use. **Shock #2:** the U.S. Supreme Court did it.

The Court ruled (9-0!!) that the statute that deals with racketeering can be applied to the extremist abortion protesters who bomb clinics, threaten - and sometimes murder - doctors, and go so far to harass women considering abortion that they will call them at home and vandalize their houses.

Regardless of the insistence of the Operation Rescue, etc., groups that their overzealous violence in some way constitutes free speech, I think many people feel as I do: they are stepping over the boundaries. I am very pleased that the Supreme Court chose this case to remind us that they are the final defenders of freedom after all.

All I thought I wanted was a place in the country

I recently received word from the Lake Cumberland/Somerset area that a social group who call themselves "Country Dykes" has taken root. Debbie (502-866-2304) has described a thriving nest of wimmin who get together for parties, cards, picnics, and all manner of Fun Schtuff. They are seeking to make the second Saturday of every month their established Quality Time, and Debbie says they are always looking for more dykes to join them (honey, aren't we all?).

Say, Debbie, that reminds me... have you tried the Herald-Leader's "Meeting Place"? The really great-sounding prospects all seem to live in Corbin, Berea or Somerset (just my luck).

Kids Today

"...and is so common that one out of every ten babies will probably have one." *Birthmarks*. That's what it was referring to. I came across it in one of my sister's ba-zillions of baby books - right before, incidentally, the section entitled "Penis Care". (You know, this latest edition makes the sixth time I have become an Aunt Bee). Anyway, I was wondering how the phrase would read if it had been about homosexuality. "...and is so rare that only one out of ten babies will be gay..."

Americans With Disabilities Act

If you feel that you have been discriminated against because of being HIV⁺, you may contact these Federal agencies:

Employment (EEOC)	(202) 663-4900
Medical CARE, Day CARE, Public ACCOMMODATIONS (Dept. of Justice)	(202) 541-0301
Housing(HUD)	(800) 669-9777



March 1994

GLSO Is 20 Years Old This Year!



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 7:00pm WS FilmFest: Gsa... 7:30pm Gay/Lesbian Al-Anon 8:45pm Rainbow Bowling-Southland	2 6:00pm Frontrunners-Woodland Park 6:30pm MCC-L'ville 7:00pm GLOBAL-U of L. 8:00pm Gay/Lesbian AA	3 7:30pm Men's Chorus 7:30pm UK Lambda 8:00pm HIV/AIDS Sppt. Grp.	4 8:00pm Gay/Lesbian AA	5 9:00am Frontrunners 10:00am HIV/AIDS Sppt. Grp. 11:00am G/L Svcs. Network
6 6:00pm MCC/Lex. Greenleaf Motel 7:00pm Gay/Lesbian AA	7 7:00pm GLSO Board @Thom's 7:15pm GLSO Support Group meets	8 7:30pm Gay/Lesbian Al-Anon 8:45pm Rainbow Bowling-Southland	9 6:00pm Frontrunners-Woodland Park 6:30pm MCC-L'ville 7:00pm GLOBAL-U of L. 8:00pm Gay/Lesbian AA	10 7:30pm Men's Chorus 7:30pm UK Lambda 8:00pm HIV/AIDS Sppt. Grp.	11 7:00pm Dignity 8:00pm Gay/Lesbian AA 9:00pm Iris Events: Coffee Ha. Dance	12 9:00am Frontrunners 10:00am HIV/AIDS Sppt. Grp. 1:00pm White Women Against Racism-UU Church
13 6:00pm Imperial Ct-Club U 6:00pm MCC/Lex.-Greenleaf Motel 7:00pm Gay/Lesbian AA	14 Idul-Fitr (End of Ramadan) 7:15pm GLSO Support Group meets	15 7:30pm Gay/Lesbian Al-Anon 8:45pm Rainbow Bowling-Southland	16 6:00pm Frontrunners-Woodland Park 6:30pm MCC-L'ville 7:00pm GLOBAL-U of L. 8:00pm Gay/Lesbian AA	17 GLSO News Deadline St. Patrick's Day 7:30pm Men's Chorus 7:30pm UK Lambda 8:00pm HIV/AIDS Sppt. Grp.	18 8:00pm Gay/Lesbian AA	19 Catholic HIV Ministry Work... Iris Events: Coffee House 3 9:00am Frontrunners 10:00am HIV/AIDS Sppt. Grp. 10:00am Men's Network
20 Spring begins/Ostara 7:00pm Lesbian Podack 6:00pm MCC/Lex.-Greenleaf Motel 7:00pm Gay/Lesbian AA	21 7:15pm GLSO Support Group meets	22 7:30pm Gay/Lesbian Al-Anon 8:45pm Rainbow Bowling-Southland	23 6:00pm Frontrunners-Woodland Park 6:30pm MCC-L'ville 7:00pm GLOBAL-U of L. 8:00pm Gay/Lesbian AA	24 7:30pm Men's Chorus 7:30pm UK Lambda 8:00pm HIV/AIDS Sppt. Grp. 8:00pm Cris Williamson in ... 9:00pm COLTS Mtg.	25 7:00pm Dignity Mass 7:00pm Dignity 8:00pm Gay/Lesbian AA	26 AIDS Benefit-Connections (...) 9:00am Frontrunners 10:00am HIV/AIDS Sppt. Grp.
27 2:00pm GLSO News Folding 6:00pm Imperial Ct-Club U. 6:00pm MCC/Lex.-Greenleaf Motel 7:00pm Gay/Lesbian AA	28	29 7:30pm Gay/Lesbian Al-Anon 8:45pm Rainbow Bowling-Southland	30 6:00pm Frontrunners-Woodland Park 6:30pm MCC-L'ville 7:00pm GLOBAL-U of L. 8:00pm Gay/Lesbian AA	31 7:30pm Men's Chorus 7:30pm UK Lambda 8:00pm HIV/AIDS Sppt. Grp.	ICK Coronation XIII	

February

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					

April

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

March is Women's History Month

Precious Furs

All Breed Pet Grooming
Experienced

277-9365

Laura E. Kaplan, MSW
Clinical Social Worker
Certified Chemical Dependency Counselor

436 West Second Street
Lexington, KY 40507
(606) 254-9112

9 HICKS TIMES VIDEO WATCHDOG PATRON SEIN TWO FILM COMMENT VC
PA TOGA
IN NEWS
2 OPTION
USERS V
OUR LEX
NEW SOUTHERN EXPOSURE UNDERLY CITIZENSHIP IN THREE TIMES TWO
THEY REFLECTION OF AN EVER CHANGING
SOCIETY EVERYTHING FROM THE MAJOR
GLOSSY ZINES THAT HAVE BEEN OVERLOOKED
BY THE COSMOPOLITAN PUBLIC TO BEHOLD
PERSONAL ZINES STAPLED IN SOMEBODY'S
BASEMENT THE HYPNOTIC EYE OFFERS A
SELECTION OF OVER FIVE HUNDRED OF THE
MOST INTERESTING, INFORMATIVE, AND
UNUSUAL MAGAZINES AND BOOKS. ART, SPORTS,
MUSIC, PHOTOGRAPHY, THE ENVIRONMENT, POLITICS,
ALTERNATIVE LIFESTYLES, POP CULTURE,
ALMOST ANY OTHER TOPIC YOU COULD
IMAGINE. THE EYE ALSO CARRIES SELECTED
FOREIGN TITLES, BRITISH PAPERS, AND A
LARGE SELECTION OF INDEPENDENT COMICS
OTHER JOURNALS THROUGHOUT THE SOUTH
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
SUN-THUR 12-9 FRI-SAT 12-11
504 1/2 EUCLID AVE - 255-8987
NEXT TO NEW MORNING COFFEE HOUSE
WEEKLY WALKS REVIEW FRONTIERS PHOTOGRAPHY FILE CUPLES

The Hypnotic Eye

UK Lambda

presents



*Cris Williamson & Tret Fure
in Concert*

*Thursday, March 24, 1994
UK Memorial Hall, 8:00pm*

*Tickets \$12.00 advance
\$14.00 at door*

*On Sale at Special Media
or by calling 266-9748*



*local singer/songwriter
Diane Hazen*

an ouvrir la porte production

Do You Know Your H.I.V. ABC's?

by HEITH LESTER RATLIFF

During my work with AIDS Volunteers of Lexington (AVOL), I have received numerous phone calls from concerned, worried, and sometimes frantic people. Some are afraid they have placed themselves at risk. Some just want more information. Most have specific questions about how human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) can be contracted.

Even in the days of Benjamin Franklin's popular Poor Richard's Almanac, people longed for quick and simple answers to problems occurring in everyday life. Today is just the same. Almost everyone knows to use a latex condom, and some know how to use it correctly. But many do not know exactly what HIV is.

Most of the questions I've encountered about HIV disease and routes of infection have indicated that people only know basic rules of "how not to get it," but not what HIV is. People need a clearer understanding of HIV.

If we know more about the actual virus, nine times out of ten we will be able to assess risks with confidence and without worry. We have all been taught that knowledge is power. In the case of HIV, we can arm ourselves with information whereupon healthy judgment can dictate rules of behavior with which we can be confident and comfortable.

The question at hand: Do we only know how not to transmit or contract HIV, or do we really know the invisible stalker we are up against?

How large is an HIV particle? What is seroconversion? What environment does HIV thrive in? How little do we know about our anatomies?

It is believed that rates of infection within the Lexington lesbian community have dropped dramatically, and the lesbian community is quick to attribute that fact to behavior modifications. But the greatest number of risk questions I have encountered come from the lesbian community, which seems to skew the statement about behavior modification. Even today, more than ten years into the epidemic, lesbians are still asking specific risk questions even though they know the "how not to get it" guidelines. What exactly does this say about us?

I will quickly point out that there is no such thing as a "dumb" question. Questioning is the first step of HIV disease education. We should make up our minds to take the next step, now that we have some knowledgeable measure of protection, and build ourselves the additional security that comes with knowing what HIV is all about.

Greg Lee of the Lexington-Fayette County Health Department's HIV/AIDS Program says that Lexington has a significantly higher proportion of uninfected people than comparable areas and that now is the time for us to seek preventive care.

"Educating ourselves removes the fear, reduces the stress, and frees us to educate others," adds David Mawn, executive director of AVOL.

For more information, contact AIDS Hotline Lexington at 606-231-7545, AVOL at 606-254-AVOL, or the Lexington-Fayette County Health Department HIV/AIDS Program at 606-288-AIDS, and don't forget your public library.

STRAIGHT SPOUSE SUPPORT GROUP

If you know of gays or lesbians whose spouse is straight, tell them there is interest in forming a straight spouse support group. Call **P-FLAG** for more information at 276-1777.

Film: The Times of Harvey Milk

UK Lambda and the GLSO Coming Out Support Group are co-sponsoring the showing of *The Times of Harvey Milk* on March 28 at 7:30 at the New Student Center.

Winning the Academy Award for Best Documentary, this film critically-acclaimed film details the San Francisco gay rights activist's life and subsequent death at the hands of a gunman.

For more information, contact Mary at 266-5904.

ROUNDHOUSE

by BRIAN THROCKMORTON

Since many people don't think of themselves as writers, or are still coming out gradually and don't want their name to appear in the newsletter, we have come up with a way for more people to share their thoughts. Here's how it works: we'll publish a list of questions (see below) and any of you who want can send us your brief answers via mail or telephone, or your suggestions for future questions. This way we can all support each other and share our accumulated wisdom.

Q: What do you do if someone on the street calls you a "faggot/dyke"?

A: "I may be lucky but the faggot comment is seldom used toward me! Honestly, I'd pay no attention and not respond."

A: "If someone I didn't know called me a faggot, I'd show strength through eye contact, in the form of a withering stare."

Q: What's the best response to someone who claims that gays/lesbians are sinners who will go to hell?

A: "If God made us all with love, then that love expressed in us can't be wrong or a sin."

Q: Tell us about something somebody said or did that helped you come out.

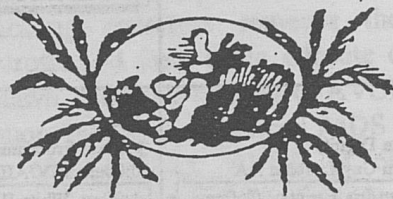
A: "A friend came out to me months before I was able to come out to her. She said she had no idea! Her ability to deal with her gayness made it easy for me to take the first step."

Q: Does the gay community have enough in common to band together and be a political force?

Send your answers to any of these questions to either 275-7801 or write to: GLSO Roundhouse, P.O. Box 11471, Lexington, KY 40575. If you really want your comment attributed to yourself, include your name (and a phone number—for verification only). Please take a moment to contribute to our collective strength.

GLSO News - MARCH 1994 -12

ALFALFA



- CHICKEN, SEAFOOD, VEGETARIAN
- BEER AND WINE
- HOMEMADE BREAD AND DESSERTS

557 SOUTH LIMESTONE
253-0014

FREE EVENING PARKING
BEHIND THE RESTAURANT ON PRALL ST.



WINDY KNOLL FARM

606-299-7410



- INDOOR ARENA
- CROSS COUNTRY COURSE
- STADIUM JUMPING COURSE
- OUTDOOR SAND DRESSAGE ARENA

BOARDING
TRAINING
LESSONS

Lessons in
Dressage
&
Jumping

Acreage for Trail Riding

3263 Cleveland Rd. North
Lexington, Ky. 40516

Jennifer Crossen
Instructor-Trainer

Lexington Gay and Lesbian Services Organization

Kentucky's Oldest Gay and Lesbian Organization

Working To Unite Our Diverse Community Since 1974

We would love to have you join us. Please consider becoming a member, subscribing to the GLSO News, or volunteering your time. We need your support.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

_____ \$10 Newsletter Only _____ \$15 Membership and Newsletter

_____ \$20 Couple Membership and Newsletter

_____ I do not wish for my name to be added to the Community Mailing List used exclusively by and for Kentucky Gay/Lesbian organizations.

Mail To: GLSO Newsletter, P.O. Box 11471, Lexington, KY 40575

A HISTORY OF LESBiGAY LEXINGTON

(A SERIES by Jeff JONES)

"A History of Sodomy"

Having last month discussed briefly the forces that influenced the location of gay bars along Main Street, I want to discuss the legal history of Lexington and its most apparent anti-gay law.

Although over time people often forget such things, laws are not forever. They have a beginning and an ending. Sodomy laws for example have a long history. Although some pre-Christian European cultures celebrated same-sex love and its expression, the proclamation of Christianity as the state religion of the Roman Empire under Constantine the Great eventually led to the introduction of Judeo-Christian theology into Western law. Based on Leviticus and Romans in the Bible, ecclesiastical and then English Common Law outlawed "crimes against nature" punishable by death.

European colonization of the Americas brought these European ideas and laws to the Western hemisphere. Europeans looked with disgust at some "savage" Native American societies where homosexuality and transgendered people were celebrated as having a mystical "two spirits" and were respected shamans and warrior women. An early European settler in Kentucky discussed his kidnapping and adoption by a tribe with such practices.

In colonial British America, there are several cases of convicted sodomites being hanged in Virginia and other colonies. As a former county of Virginia, Kentucky's laws contained such early Common Law prohibitions against sodomy.

Records from the 1800s, however, find that sodomy laws were not so much used as a way to control gay people at that time. Rather, a disproportionate number of convicted and jailed sodomites were black men. Kentucky's power elites, all white men, made the laws that upheld the power structure giving their group continued

power. In the 1800s, sodomy laws were used to control black people resisting elite power that marginalizes African-Americans.

A century later, the restrictions on heterosexual sodomy had been lifted in Kentucky. Illinois repealed its sodomy law for all people in 1961 under the Model Penal Code making it the first US state to do so. By 1982, almost half the U.S. states had repealed or invalidated such laws. Unfortunately, the US Supreme Court upheld in its 5-4 *Bowers v. Hardwick* decision in 1986 that states had the right to enforce sodomy laws. This decision came at the height of a media AIDS panic, and one justice has since said he should have voted against sodomy laws. This would have radically changed the position of sodomy laws in the US. Again, the link between homophobia, AIDS and discriminatory laws is revealed.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 15)

Personal Advertisements

Lesbian woman, 22, seeks woman to share intimacy and romance with. Write to: "Teresa," 103 Ridge Rd., Irvine, KY 40336

GWF - 43, honest, intelligent, attractive, feminine - seeks intellectual equal, 35-45, for possible relationship, with interest in poetry, philosophy, reading, politics, vocabulary, nature and animals. P.O. Box 3048 Frankfort, KY 40603-3048

Lesbian Newcomer Seeking Gay Friends to introduce her to Lexington's Lesbian Community and the gay night life. Write to: "Teresa," 103 Ridge Rd., Irvine, KY 40336

(A History of Sodomy - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14)

Here in Lexington, police raids and entrapment of gay people were used to enforce sodomy laws to keep lesbigay Lexingtonians fearful and "in check." Local interviewees remember a time in the early 1980s when the police would patrol through The Bar. Eventually, Lexington's Jeff Wasson stood up against this unfair law after a police entrapment case occurred involving him behind The Bar in 1986. The Wasson case even found the state arguing that sodomy laws were needed to curb AIDS. Recent research in my geography department, however, has shown some statistical significance that the climate of fear leading to inadequate HIV preventive education and gay self-esteem that is founded in sodomy laws has influenced a higher than expected number of AIDS cases in the state. States with sodomy laws (and thus greater repression of gay institutions/people) create conditions for greater numbers of people becoming infected. Eventually appealed to the Kentucky Supreme Court, Kentucky's own same-sex, consensual sodomy law was overturned in 1992.

Today, 22 states still have sodomy laws on their books and most enforce them. These laws have been used within the last year here in the U.S. to: a) deny a lesbian mother custody of her child, b) as arguments against anti-discrimination laws based on sexual orientation, and c) as reason to deny gay people entry into the armed services. If Hawaii should legalize gay marriages, legal experts believe such laws will also be used to prohibit states such as Virginia from legally acknowledging such marriages. Such laws are made by one group to control another group. In the past it was black people. Today it is gay people. Yet, these laws can be changed, and there is the hope. As Alice Walker has written, "the secret of joy is resistance."

Update: Kentucky Legislature and Fairness of Lexington

Pam McMichael was the guest speaker at the Fairness Campaign - Lexington's February meeting. Pam, a veteran activist in the Louisville Fairness Alliance is currently the lobbyist for the Kentucky Fairness Alliance (KFA) during the current legislative session. She is the first ever openly gay presence in the Kentucky statehouse.

Pam reported on the three principal anti-gay bills currently in committee. As of this writing, the overall atmosphere in Frankfort regarding the future of the proposed legislations is favorable. However, it is imperative that our community be educated on the issues and are prepared to respond if events move in an unfavorable direction.

Right now, those concerned about issues of fairness for all people should call their senators and representatives and voice opposition to Senate Bills 18 and 69 (when calling their Senator), and House Bill 10 (when calling their Representative). **The legislative message desk line is 1-800-372-7181.**

NABWMT CONVENTION

The National Association of Black and White Men Together announces its 14th annual convention in Washington, D.C., July 16-24. The 1994 theme is "Breaking the Chain of Isms." NABWMT was formed in 1980 as "a gay, multi-racial, multi-cultural organization wherein racial and cultural barriers can be overcome and the goal of human equality realized."

For more information, call the NABWMT office at **800-624-2968.**

MATCH PROGRAM

*SPONSORED BY AIDS VOLUNTEERS OF
LEXINGTON (AVOL)*

A SERVICE TO ASSIST OUR
HIV+ COMMUNITY, MATCHING
ALL THOSE CARING HANDS
WITH DIGNITY, RESPECT AND
COMPASSION.

to volunteer or request a match, please call
(606) 254-2865

AVOL begins the MATCH program

AIDS volunteers of Lexington are proud to introduce a new program in Central and Eastern Kentucky called MATCH. MATCH is the acronym for "Matching All Those Caring Hands." The program will match volunteers with HIV+ individuals in an effort to provide supplemental support.

HIV+ clients will be matched up with volunteers based on mutual interest and the MATCH needs. Clients will begin receiving services on March 7. The MATCH program will offer a multitude of services such as: Bereavement support, emotional support, hair grooming, light housekeeping, occasional laundry, minor legal work, phone visits, range of motion exercises, short day trips, social visits, spiritual support, pet care, support group contact, and transportation to appointments. The MATCH program is willing to consider and evaluate additional services.

All information and services are strictly confidential. If you or anyone you know can benefit from this program, please contact AVOL at (606) 254-2865. Volunteers may also call to receive MATCH Program training material.

ARE YOU HIV+?

DO YOU HAVE LEGAL CONCERNS?

CALL

(606) 254-2865

AIDS VOLUNTEERS OF LEXINGTON LEGAL REFERRAL PROGRAM

Serving

(at the moment)

Clark, Estill, Fayette, Garrard, Lincoln, Powell and Madison Counties.

FINALLY, A PHARMACY THAT DELIVERS (AND WE'LL DO IT FOR FREE)



FREE same day delivery in metro Lexington



We can arrange direct billing to your insurance - this means reduced out-of-pocket expense



TOTAL confidentiality



FREE confidential mail/UPS delivery - overnight service available (minimal charge)



Personal one-on-one medication counseling



15-minute prescription guarantee

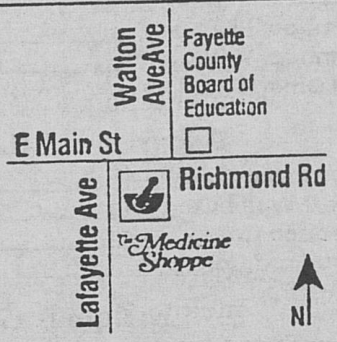
Complete line of prescription and OTC products - special orders are our specialty

630 E. Main St.
Lexington, KY. 40508

606-233-3110

Mon - Fri 10am - 6pm
Sat 10am - 1pm

The Medicine Shoppe®



PRESCRIPTION SUPER COUPON

\$25.00



\$5.00 off each prescription up to five prescriptions

* LIMIT ONE COUPON PER PERSON



GLSO DIRECTORY

GLSO GAYLINE.....231-0335

Staffed 8pm-11pm Wed., Thurs., Fri. & Sun. (Voice Mail Available When Not Staffed)

GLSO

GLSO Board (Mary)	266-5904
GLSO Discrimination Project (Jeff)	276-5383
GLSO: News (Brian)	278-0795
Ads (Mary)	266-5904
Calendar (Jeff)	276-5383
Folding (Lee)	277-9365
Layout (Elizabeth)	275-7801
GLSO Gayline Volunteers (Peter)	273-5845
GLSO Speakers Bureau (Bill)	266-9175
GLSO Support Group (Mary)	266-5904
(Mike)	225-1828

STUDENT GROUPS

ACE League: Berea College (Russell)	986-9876
AGLF: NKU (Pat)	572-5604
Alt. Voice: Murray State (Jeff)	(502) 574-5792
B-GLAD: Centre College (Mykol)	238-5332
GLOBAL: UL (Ken)	(502) 852-3436
GUESS: EKU (Matt)	622-5821
Lambda: UK (Julian)	272-7232
Lambda: WKU (Larry)	(502) 796-9114
Phi Omega Epsilon: MSU(David)	(502) 783-4729

ANONYMOUS AIDS TESTING

Jessamine Co.	885-4149
Lex./Fayette Co.	288-2437
Madison Co.	623-7312
Woodford Co.	873-4541

Religious Groups

Dignity [Catholic] (Don)	299-4458
GLAD [Disciples of Christ] (Jeff)	255-4958
Honesty [Southern Baptist] (Eddie)	(502) 637-7609
(Dorothy)	(502) 458-5392
Interweave [Unitarian] (Craig)	269-8215
MCC, Lexington (Rex)	271-1407
MCC, Louisville	(502) 775-6636
Pagan Forum (Pat)	268-1640
Quaker FLGC (Connie)	231-2554
Roman Catholic HIV Ministry (John)	231-9955

TO REPORT HATE CRIMES:
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
(800) 457-HATE (4283)

COMMUNITY

Asians & Friends, Ohio	(614) 341-7349
Bee's Bytes (Elizabeth)	275-7801
Bluegrass COLTS (Mark)	233-7266
Diversity Business Coalition	281-8444
Country Dykes (Debbie)	(502) 866-2304
Fairness of Lexington HOTLINE	275-7812
Fairness of Louisville	(502) 893-0788
Front Runners (Keith)	254-6850
GBL Veterans, Columbus (Mike)	(614) 299-7764
G/L AA (Dave)	293-6822
G/L AI-Anon (Robert)	293-6822
G/L Defense Fund	(502) 589-2986
G/L Services Network (Ann)	266-6568
ICK (Ken/Ashley)	255-9881
Iris Events (Phyllis)	272-1182
KY ACLU (Keith)	266-3934
KY Fairness Alliance (Keith)	266-3934
KY LEGISLATURE	
Bill Status Line	(800) 382-2455
Meeting Info Line	(800) 633-9650
Message Line	(800) 372-7181

Lesbian Potluck (Esmerelda)	231-0335
Lexington Men's Chorus (Shelby)	231-0090
Louisville Youth Group	(502) 635-1302
Names Project - Lexington (Katie)	272-2588
P-FLAG (Ruth)	276-1777
Rainbow Bowling League (Teri)	268-8563
Tri-State Rodeo (Terry)	255-5469
(Cathy)	269-5966
Womynweave (Kathy)	271-3484

AIDS Info/SERVICES

AIDS HOTLINE - Lexington	(606) 231-7545
AIDS Volunteers of Lexington (AVOL)	254-2865
AVOL Legal Referral Program	(606) 254-2865
HIV/AIDS Legal Project	(502) 584-1254
HIV+ Youth Support Group	254-2865
KY AIDS HOTLINE	(502) 564-6539
Partners of HIV+/AIDS Support Group	
(Greg)	288-2437
Thursday HIV+/AIDS Support Group	
(KIPWAC - Edwin)	281-2100
Saturday HIV+/AIDS Support Group	
(AVOL)	254-2865