

A Publication of the Lexington Gay and Lesbian Services Organization

April 2012 Vol 34 No. 4

T-shirt order leads GLSO to file HRC complaint

Area citizens boycott T-shirt company

Plans for 5th Pride Festival in Full Swing



**Festival** 

Sponsored by Scott Ackerman

# Do you have a healthy relationship?

#### If your partner is:

- · jealous
- clingy
- · calls you names
- · threatens you
- · "keeps track" of you
- · isolates you from family or friends
- · controlling
- · hypersensitive
- · forces you in to having sex



Then YOU might be in an UNHEALTHY Relationship.



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At the GLSO

For more information:

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Email: Sbaker.bcc@gmail.com



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ICK	blooming
this	spring

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Every Tuesday, 7 p.m. Pride Center

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#### **Trans Kentucky** Meeting

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Pride Center

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#### **Domestic Violence Support Group**

Every Monday, 7 p.m.

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#### EDITOR Don Lowe

The GLSO News is published monthly by and for the Lexington Gay and Lesbian Services Organization members and community.

The mission of the Lexington Gay and Lesbian Services Organization is to provide support and services to the GLBTQQIA community.

The vision of the Lexington Gay and Lesbian Services Organization is to empower the GLBTQQIA community through voice.

The Lexington GLSO is founded upon the core values of fun, inclusion, respect, integrity, dignity, service and competence.

GLSO Pride Center 389 Waller Avenue Suite 100 Lexington, Ky. 40504 859.253.3233 www.glso.org

## GLSO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Chad Hundley, Office Manager

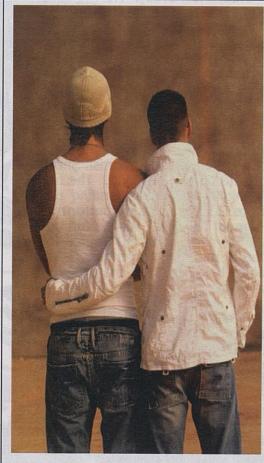
#### **EDITORIAL NOTES**

The GLSO is currently looking for new contributors and editorial staff. If interested, e-mail editor@glso.org.

#### **Pride Center Hours**

Sun, Mon & Tues - Closed, Wednes 3pm-7pm, Thurs 3pm-7pm, Fri - 11am-5pm and Sat 11am-5pm.

"Views expressed in this newsletter are solely those of the contributor and do not necessarily reflect the views of the GLSO."



Negative Partners of HIV

### Positive People

Do you love someone who is HIV Positive, and you are not? Does your partner have a HIV Positive support group to go to, but you don't? Do you have anyone to talk to about the changes in your life? Are you concerned about your and your partners' future? Have you built up a wall in order to keep from getting hurt? Do you feel pressure to "keep up appearances"? Do you take time to nurture yourself? Do you need someone to talk to? Do you do good things for yourself so that you will be re-energized to care for your loved one?

The GLSO is opening a new program for Negative Partners of HIV Positive People for all of the reasons above and more. We have a goal of offering support and understanding by shared experiences. The first meeting will be April 21<sup>st</sup> at 7PM at the Pride Center, 389 Waller Ave. It's a whole new viewpoint.

## Imperial Court Blooms This Spring By Shot Z, Contributor

Spring weather came a little early this year and provided us the perfect weather to be seen all over the city promoting the Imperial Court of Kentucky.

We welcomed our brothers and sisters from the Cincinnati Court for our annual co-produced show, Miss Big Bone Congratulations to Cincinnati Court member, Diamond E. Deville, on your win. Don't forget to add your own special touch to the "Bone" and we will see you in Cincinnati next year when you play host to this amazing event. Speaking of bones, the Scott County Humane Society's Wags and Drags was a resounding success. Our members showed up in full force and represented the Imperial Court of Kentucky with pride. It was in this same spirit of pride that our Court members came together and attended the St. Patrick's Day Parade in downtown You all did a wonderful Lexington. job of talking to the parade attendees about our organizations mission and encouraging membership!

The following week we attended the NOH8 Campaigns photoshoot brought to Kentucky by Lexington Fairness. All of our members in attendance had a great time! Thank you Lexington Fairness for bringing this opportunity to Lexington. March has brought us the Imperial Court of Kentucky's annual awards show, the Falsie Awards. Congratulations to all the winners from the community! Your support to your Court and Community is inspiring.

Lastly, we ended the month with a contingency of 12 members from the ICK attending Night of a Thousand Gowns in New York City with the Imperial Court of New York. Representation like this serves our community well as it promotes attendance to our largest fundraiser of the year coming up in June 2012, Coronation 31.

We have some wonderful shows lined up for this month. It all begins with "1 Girl 5 Queens" on Wednesday, April 18 being held at Pulse Nightlife. (Door 8:30/Show 9:30). We will have some exciting raffle prizes that will be used to spark conversation and get our panel going. Be sure to be there to see just what we have in store for you! Then on Wednesday, April 25 we will host our final EOY qualifying pageant of the year, Miss Derby Pride, at Pulse Nightlife.

For an application and pageant rules/categories please see Empress ShotZ or Empress Nicole Diamond. The following night we will be lending our talents to OUTsource as we perform at their annual "GAYLA." All the fun begins at 6p, check with OUTsource for location in the student center. Lastly we will be holding one of the most fun shows of the year, Turnabout!

This is the show where our guys that do not do drag on a regular basis get all doll'ed up entertain for us. I hear we have "queens" from AVOL coming to join us this year so be sure to join to see just who from the AVOL staff is coming to get PAINTED!

We are getting very excited as we draw ever closer to Coronation in June. Applications for your next Monarchs of the Imperial Court of Kentucky have been turned in and we anxiously await the candidacy announcements on Saturday, April 21 at midnight!

Good luck to all the candidates, we look forward to seeing what you have to bring to the table! Watch for the announcements and follow their candidacy shows as they show us how they can raise money for our community.

Voting for Monarchs will take place on Sunday, June 3, 2012 at Coronation 31 in the Lexington Downtown Hilton's Grand Ballroom.

You must have been a member, with no lapse, since November 30, 2011 to be eligible to vote.

As always, to become a member of the Imperial Court of Kentucky see a member of the Board of Directors for an application. You can email us at info@imperialcourtkentucky.org or contact the reigning Monarchs, Fred and ShotZ.

# 1 girl 5 queens

come & hear what these divas have been dying to say!

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18

**DOOR:** 8:30PM

SHOW: 9:30PM

\$5 DONATION PULSE NIGHTLIFE

NET PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE CHARITIES OF THE IMPERIAL COURT OF KENTUCKY

## **GSA Planning Pride Prom**

The Gay Straight Alliance for Youth is making plans for our 6th Opride Prom which will be held near the end of May. It is our biggest event and the youth learn in the planning process and then have a great time celebrating this event. We will be looking for chaperones next month.

GSA youth and some teens from local high schools have been participating in our Youth Empowerment Leadership Project funded primarily by Just Fund. A number of the high school GSAs will be in need of new advisers as well as new student leaders next year. GLSO is hoping to be able to take leadership training into the schools in support of the GSAs.

A number of teens were unable to attend our sessions at the Pride Center due to transportation and other issues. So with some additional volunteers and some additional funding we plan to take our materials and training to them and their GSAs in the fall.

As part of Youth Empowerment, we took a group of our teens to the NOH8 photography event. We have some young activists in our group that are ready to join in the fight for equality, and ready to have fun anytime.



## Calling All Volunteers!!

It is now time to start thinking about contacting us for volunteering for the Pride Festival. We have had many individuals help us in previous years and hope that we have the biggest turnout and response ever for volunteers for the day of and the duties leading up to the Festival. There are many volunteer opportunities in all areas including merchandising, concessions, first aid, services, activities, set-up and breakdown and more.

All volunteers will receive a little something as a token of appreciation. Take 2 hours to volunteer and then enjoy the rest of the day and know you had a part in helping to make it possible.

For any and all Pride volunteer inquiries, please contact Chad at chad@lexpridefest. org or Adam at adam@lexpridefest.org.

#### GLSO Board files HRC Complaint against Hands-On Originals

Since posting the information about Hands On Originals, the GLSO has received a lot of attention. The board members of the GLSO have been listening. The board has decided to file a discrimination complaint with the HRC. The board does not wish to engage in nor does it condone name-calling, bad-mouthing, or threatening businesses. The board has two simple goals in this situation: 1) educating the community and 2) refusing to tolerate discrimination.

The board has already begun educating the community by posting this situation to its websites. It will continue to educate throughout the process of the complaint.

As for the second goal, the board does not agree with discrimination in any manner and will not tolerate discrimination. Lexington has had a Fairness Ordinance for 13 years because the citizens of Lexington voted against discrimination. The GLSO believes in the Fairness Ordinance and refuses to let discrimination go unaddressed. As a result, board president Aaron Baker filed the complaint today.

As part of our commitment to transparency, we have included the text of our complaint below:

"The Pride Festival committee of the Gay and Lesbian Services Organization (GLSO) received a quote from Hands On Originals in December by phone (from an employee named Kaleb) to produce t-shirts for the 5th annual Pride Festival in Lexington. The quote from Hands On Originals was the lowest bid from a lo-

cal company, and the committee intended to move forward with having them produce shirts. However, a committee member first called the business with the intention of finding out whether any lower price could be negotiated. He reached someone there who asked who he had previously talked to. At that moment, he could not remember their name, and when the name "Blaine" was suggested, he agreed. Numerous phone messages back and forth were exchanged before the committee member was finally able to speak with Blaine, who represented himself as an owner of Hands On Originals. His inquiries were related to what the GLSO was, what our mission was, and what we were promoting. The committee member explained, including that the t-shirt would only contain a stylized number "5" on the front and the name of the festival, and sponsors on the rear. When Blaine learned that it was a gay pride festival, he asked, "You know we're a Christian organization, don't you?" He then continued on to say that Hands On Originals would not print shirts related to a gay pride festival. He suggested that he could refer us to a different business who would print the shirts. Our committee member told them he would take that offer to the board, but that he felt that we would not want to do business with anyone who did business with Hands On Originals, based on their discrimination. On March 25th, the GLSO board met in emergency session and agreed to file a complaint with the HRC under the Lexington Fairness Ordinance."

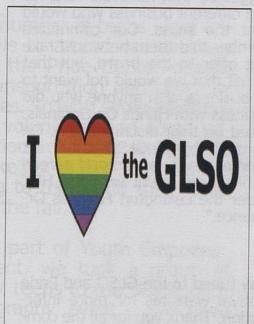
Stay tuned to the GLSO and Pride Festival websites for more information. Thank you for all the community support.

#### Wednesday Night Discussion Group

The Wednesday Night Discussion Group is back at 7PM at the Pride Center, 389 Waller Ave. The third Wednesday of this month, April 18th the topic of discussion will be "Self-Esteem in GLBTQQIA People". How is it affected by labels? How is it affected by family, friends and co-workers? How does it grow over the years? At what point do you truly love yourself for who you are?

We will discuss all these questions and more. How do you feel about your own self-esteem? This is the place to explore these questions safely, among warm, welcoming and accepting peers. This group is for anybody that wants to talk about anything related to being GLBTQQIA in Kentucky.

There will be a certified mental health professional there to answer questions and provide support. Join us for an evening of lively conversation.



### **Senior Social Group**

We are a group for seniors 55+. We believe that it is great to get out and have company doing it. If this sounds like something you are interested in, give us a call at 859-253-3233. We are actively seeking cost friendly ideas to have fun.

Come join us! We are now 11 persons strong and have lots of ideas!

We came up with the following ideas of things to do: Dancing, Music, Cultural activities, Movies (Drama, Comedy, and Horror), Cincinnati Orchestra, Ballet, Theater, Sports, Musical Theater, Reading Book Club, Crafts, Drag Shows, Drag King Shows, Natural Bridge, Fishing, Tour of Rood and Riddle, Trail Riding, Picnic, Hiking, Art Show at Woodland, Pot Luck, and Shakespeare in the Park.

We have already gone to the movies and are planning these outings: Big Band, March 31st at the Singletary Center, 7PM. FREE.

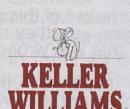
Meet at the bench in front of the ticket booth at 6:30. have an arrow sign. And Rolex Horse Event at the Kentucky Horse Park, April 28th. It is \$35.00 but worth it. Meet at the Gatehouse, far left side. Look for someone with an arrow sign at 9:00AM. We will wait until 9:30, then go the "the lake". We'll still have the arrow sign in case anyone is late. Look for us. Don't forget to bring a chair and be prepared to do lots of walking.

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#### Citizens boycott Hands-On Originals

Reprinted from Lexington Herald-Leader

A wave of critical public opinion already hit the company online beginning Friday, March 23, after the GLSO posted a description of the issue on its Web site

A Facebook group called "Boycott Hands on Originals" had more than 1,000 members by Monday afternoon. Another Facebook group boycotting the company and Wildcat Wearhouse had 52 members. GLSO President Aaron Baker said the GLSO did not organize either page.

Hands On Originals' own Facebook page has not been available since that Friday. Members of the boycott group said criticism had been posted on Hands On Originals' Facebook wall.

Complaints also were posted

on Twitter by Lexington residents, including Caitlin Neal.

"What bothered me personally is for anyone as a Christian to say we're doing this on behalf of all Christians," she said. "It's just kind of ridiculous."

The GLSO's Baker said the outpouring of support online confirms his long-held conviction that Lexington "is a very fair-minded city."

"It's interesting to see how much this has touched people in the community who have said this is not acceptable," he said.

"Nothing may come out of this except the city saying yes, they discriminated, and that was wrong.

"But even if that's all that happens, our board felt it was important to stand up."

Read more here: http://www.kentucky.com/2012/03/26/2127245/ hands-on-originals-t-shirt-company.html#storylink=omni\_ popular#wgt=pop#storylink=cpy



#### Blood Donation Controversy CORRECTION: Don't lie to save lives

By Aaron Baker, Contributor

Are you a gay man who knows his HIV status and wants to donate blood to save lives? Kentucky wants to put you in jail for 5 years.

Recently, in this newsletter, our columnist "Cousin Query" said revealed that he has lied about whether he was gay in order to donate lifesaving blood. That column drew some criticism, and so in the next newsletter, I wrote an article about the controversy. While highlighting the bigotry behind the policy that men who have sex with men are permanently deferred from donating blood, I told you that it was not a crime in Kentucky to lie about your sexual partners in order to donate blood.

I was wrong, and it's important that you understand how much trouble you could potentially be facing if you do lie. Under Kentucky law, you may not donate blood if you are at "high risk" for contracting HIV. Of course, the brilliant Kentucky legislators didn't define who was at "high risk," and gay men who know their status would

be safe, except that you also may not give false information regarding your personal history if it would affect your suitability as a donor. Again, I don't believe that gay men who know their status are unsuitable as donors, but the federal government does. And their "risk factors" are what generate the tions asked when you go to donate. So if you are asked whether you've had sex with a man since 1977 and lie, you could end up in jail for as much as 5 years, as well as lose your right to vote forever.

Please, readers: be careful. I know you want to save lives, but don't risk jail time to do it. Instead, lobby your legislators and educate your friends and family on this hateful law. And thank you to the eagle-eyed community member who sent in this correction—you may have just saved someone from a long prison sentence."

#### Support your community.

Sign up today to make a recurring donation as part of the GLSO Member Program.

As little as \$5 per month can make a difference!

www.glso.org/membership

## **GLSO Library Project** underway

The GLSO, in collaboration with several graduates of the University of

Kentucky School of Library and Information Science, is

updating our

library. The first goal of this project is to make the library materials more accessible to the public--which will hopefully include

a publicly searchable catalog (available online) and an

easy way to

check out materials so you can read them at home. The

second goal is

to create a separate and expanded children's and young adult

literature section; we hope these materials will be used to promote

acceptance and understanding among young people as well as provide

literature appropriate for teens who may be questioning their sexual

identification or orientation. We would greatly appreciate donations

of relevant books, particularly in the following areas: children's

books, young adult books, DVDs, and recent adult fiction. We hope to

get the library up and running soon, so that people can take advantage

of all the wonderful materials we've collected.

## **Bachelor/Bachelor- ette Auction Planned**

by Chad Hundley, Contributor

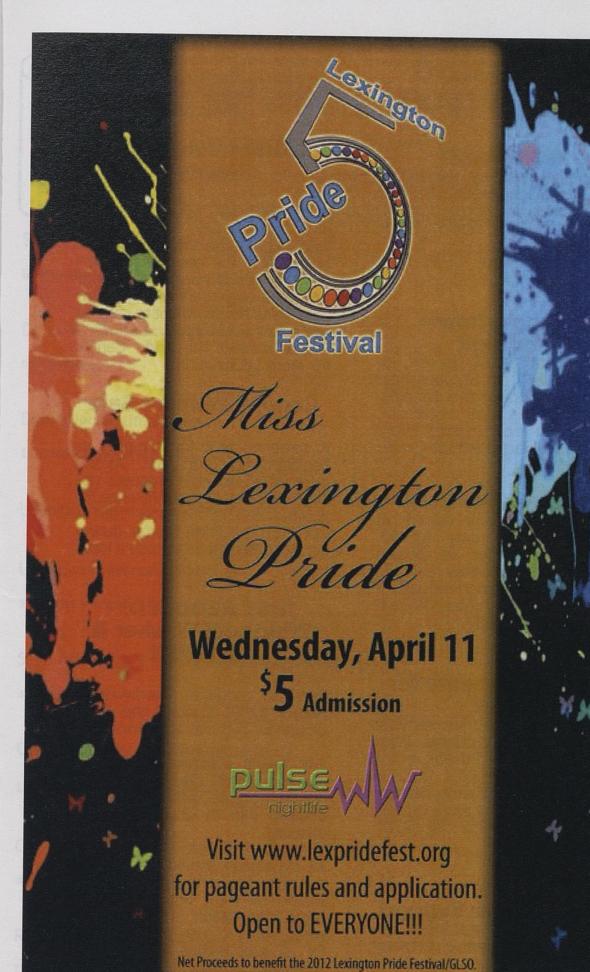
The third annual Bachelor/Bachelorette Auction will be held on Sunday, April 22nd at Bogart's Lounge in the Crown Plaza Hotel. Doors and silent auction items will open at 6:30pm and the show and auction will start at 7:30pm.

This event is open to 18 and up. How it works, we put people up for auction, highest bidder gets to go to dinner with the auctionee and the best part is we provide the dinner! Along with the Bachelor/Bachelorette auction there will be a silent auction with items.

Admission price is \$10/\$5 with valid student ID. All proceeds benefit the services of the GLSO and Pride Festival. Special drag performances will also take place during the course of the evening as well.

If you would like more info, volunteer to be auctioned or donate an item to be auctioned off, please email chad@glso.org.





## APRIL GLSO CLASSIFIEDS

YARD SALE!

Ginger and Jane are DOWNSIZ-ING! Yard sale Laredo Ct. Most things under \$1. Home, garden, furniture, holiday, glass, hardware, etc.

April 6-7 and April 12-13 from 8am-2pm.

Sleeping Room for Rent

\$200 a month, \$150 deposit, located a block from St. Joes Hospital right off Waller Ave. No pets, no drama. Shared bathroom, kitchen and living space. Nonsmoking. Contact the Pride Center for more info.

**Fur Coat For Sale** 

Gorgeous Fur Coat valued at \$15,000. Asking only \$3,000. Would be great for an elegant drag performer or classy real girl. Pictures available upon request. If interested, please contact Joyce K Cruse at 859-254-682.

## 1 BR Apartments for Rent

North Hanover Ave, just off East Main St, near Woodland Park. Kitchen & bath. Private entry. \$550 per month plus electric. \$250 deposit, pet friendly, Section 8 Welcome. Laundry room on site. Please call Nori at 859-230-8079.

## **Negative Partners of HIV+ Partner Support**

There is interest in starting a support group for negative partners of HIV+ individuals. If you or someone you know would be interested in attending this, please contact Rodney at R.Day66@ gmail.com.

#### Library Volunteers Needed

The GLSO Pride Center is in search of individuals who would like to help update the Pride Center library. All of the necessary equipment & materials are available but just need volunteers willing to donate some time & talent to catalog some new additions to our library. Please contact the Pride Center for more information.

#### **Canopy Tent for Sale**

A screened tent for camping or backyard use for sale. Asking price is \$35 with the proceeds going to the Gay Straight Alliance for Youth.

Come by the Pride Center during normal office hours to take a look!

#### JUST REDUCED! -Whirlpool Washer & Dryer Set

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Excellent condition. Hardly used. Asking \$299! Contact the Pride Center for pictures and more info!

For more information or to place a FREE classified ad in our next edition, please email the detailed info to Chad at chad@glso.org.

All classifieds should be directed through the Pride Center and should be short but contain the basic information of who, what, when, where, cost, etc. Deadline for all submissions to the GLSO Newsletter is April 20, 2012.

## The GLSO Rainbow Sponsor

The Imperial Court of Kentucky

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**GLSO Phone Directory** 

A community resource page for gay and/or gay-friendly organizations across Kentucky.

#### **HIV/STD Testing, Services & Info.**

AIDS Volunteers Inc (AVOL)	859.225.3000
Cumberland Region, SE Ky.	606.864.3776
	888.425.7282
Health Dept., Fayette	859.288.2437
	877.606.2437
Health Dept., Jessamine	859.885.4149
Health Dept., Woodford	859.873.4541
HIV/AIDS Legal Project	502.584.1254
Louisville Region	502.574.0161
Moveable Feast	859.252.2867
Northern Ky. Region	859.341.4264
UK Adolescent Medicine	859.323.5643

Sister Sound	859.806.0243
Social Services, Lexington	211
Speaker's Bureau	859.266.5904
TransKentucky	cassiemtf@ yahoo.com
United Way	859.313.5465

#### **Religious Groups**

Integrity, Ky. Diocese	859.369.9691
Integrity, St. Martha's	859.533.9851
Interweave, Unitarian	859.266.5904
Lex Friends, Quakers	859.254.3319
Mercy Ministry Church	859.358.3357
MCC Paducah	270.443.3339
Open Arms of God Ministry	502.545.6355

#### **Community and Social Groups**

24-Hour Crisis Line	800.928.8000
24-Hour Teen Crisis Line	800.999.9999
Alcoholics Anonymous	859.967.9960
AA/Alcoholic Teens	859.277.1877
Bluegrass COLTS	859.225.9169
Council for Peace & Justice	859.225.6999
Discussion Group	859.253.3233
Fairness of Louisville	502.893.0788
Gay Straight Alliance, Teens	859.266.5904
GLSO Pride Center	859.253.3233
Imperial Court of Kentucky	859.619.7521
International Gay Bowling	859.276.3058
Kentucky Fairness Lexington Fairness	270.703.1582 859.951-8565
Lexington Human Rights	859.252.4931
Lexington Insight Group	859.230.2428
Lexington Pride Festival	859.253.3233
MACT	859.358.8335
PFLAG Lexington	859.338.7393
PLFAG Louisville	502.329.0229

#### **Student Groups**

Berea College ACE	859.958.3633
Centre College BGLA	859.238.5332
Morehead State University	606.783.2294



#### **GLSO News Deadline**

April 20 Send articles and ads to editor@glso.org



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