

GLSO NEWS

Vol. 14 December 1999

No. 12

A publication of the Lexington Gay and Lesbian Service Organization

"Home for the Holidays"

Lexington Men's Chorus.

Think friends and family, fireplaces and holiday decorations, or snow and caroling. This season you can find all that with one stop shopping---the Lexington Men's Chorus holiday concert "Home for the Holidays." On Saturday, December 11 at 8pm and again Sunday December 12 at 3pm in the Recital Hall of the Singletary Center for the Arts, LMC will kick off it's 10th Anniversary Season with a festival of sond.

The concert will be a mix of tradional carols, not so tradional tunes and holiday favorites. As part of the yearlong celebration of its' 10th Anniversary, LMC will sing some of their favorite selections from previous holiday concerts. Long time supporters of LMC will remember the powerful "Betelehemu" with drum accompanment, the plaintive "Christmas Without You" by our own Brian Throckmorton and the soulfull "Hallelujah" from years past.

Additonal highlights include:--"In the Bleak Mid-Winter," directed by Richard Giles, LMC's new Assistant Director, --"Alleluia," a moving piece for a capella men's voices by Randall Thompson, --"Christmas Salad," Brian Throckmorton's clever homage to almost ...Continued on page 3

SisterSound "UNFORGETTABLE"

Prepare to jive, swing, rock and roll as SisterSound opens its 5th season with a look back at the unforgettable music of the century. A very different format than in past Decembers, this concert is guaranteed to chase away the winter blues with dance hits, radio classics, show tunes, anthems for social change, and soulful pop. We will also be welcoming Wishing Chair as our special quest.

The "Unforgettable" concert will be on Sat., Dec. 18 at 8 P.M. in the Recital Hall of the Singletary Center on UK's campus. SisterSound is under the direction of Caron Tandy, interim director. Tickets are \$12 adults, \$8 seniors/students, and \$5 for children 12 and under. Tickets may be purchased from the Singletary ticket office (257-4929) or from chorus members. SisterSound will be raffling off a beautiful "cosmic" double-wedding-ring quilt as a fundraiser.

SisterSound is a non-auditioned women's chorus aimed at fostering diversity and community while doing something we love--singing. You don't have to be a diva to participate; the focus is learning and working together to share our music with the community atcontinued on page 2

World AIDS Day

For persons living with AIDS
For their family and friends
For those in the healing professions
For those who are afraid or angry
For those who wish it would go away

For all who seek God's healing power

A Service in Remembrance and Hope for World AIDS Day will be help Wednesday, December 1, 5:30 pm at Christ Church Cathedral, 166 Market Street, Lexington. The service will be followed by a Candlelight Vigil to the courthouse grounds. Sponsored by the Episcopal Diocese of Lexington AIDS Ministry.

Of the 5,484 Kentuckians who have been diagnosed with HIV and/or full-blown AIDS since 1982: 1,385 are living with full-blown AIDS 2,514 are HIV+ but have not developed AIDS. 1,585 have died. The total HIV and AIDS cases reported in the United States as of 12/31/1998 is 688,200. Join us in rememberance.

Sponsor of he Month

The Lexington Men's Chorus



The GLSO News Vol.14 Issue 10 Published Monthly by

The Lexington Gay Lesbian Service Organization 321 Second St.

Editors:Mary Crone
Peter Taylor

GLSO Annual Dues and Newsletter: \$15 Dues and Newsletter for Couples: \$20

Opinions expressed in the GLSO News are those of the authors and don't necessarily represent those of the GLSO Board. Submissions are welcome and become the property of the GLSO. The staff reserves the right to edit submissions and advertisements as well as the right to reject any submissions or advertisements.

Unitarian Universalist Holiday Invitation

At this time of year, some of us yearn for a religious community, or perhaps a simple spiritual moment, even if we have left the religion of our childhood behind for good reasons. If this is true for you, or if you are looking for a spiritual home, we invite you to attend the Unitarian Universalist Church sometime during this month. We are a collection of diverse individuals with a variety of beliefs, who come together for fellowship, stimulating conversation, celebration, music, and opportunities for social justice work. Services start at 10:45.

On Dec. 5, our new minister Rev. Cynthia Cain will preach on "Expectations", a theological issue and, at this time of year, a practical challenge. What do we expect from life and why? Should we expect anything? We will be sharing a First Sunday Lunch after the service so bring a dish if you can or be our guests.

On Dec. 12, the choir will be singing parts of Handel's Messiah, accompanied by a string quartet. Interweave will be having its holiday pot luck luncheon after the service at about 12:20. Join us.

On Dec. 19, the service will honor the Solstice. Last year, children presented a traditional nativity scene; this year they will participate in honoring the Four Directions, an older, earth based tradition.

On Christmas Eve, Friday 24 at 5 pm, we will have our traditional Christmas candle lighting service with carol singing and good cheer a plenty. The service after Christmas is often in honor of Kawanzaa. Please join us in celebration.

large. SisterSound is a member of GALA, an association for Gay and Lesbian choruses, but welcomes women of any orientation. For more information visit our web page at http://www.geo cities.com/Wellesley/Gazebo/7788. Come on out on December 18 and join us as we say "Bye Bye Blues" and hello to unfor-

BARNEY FRANK

gettable fun.

In a witty and often biting speech, U.S. Rep. Barney Frank urged gays and lesbians to go beyond rallies and marches and work within the political system. Frank "came out" half way through what has now been ten years in the U.S. Congress.

Politicians "don't care if you're not voters," he said "The National Rifle Association is the most influential political organization in the country, and I don't remember the last time they had a demonstration or parade." Frank emphasized that paying attention to detailed political planning and personal lobbying is how we will eventually become successful. (I would say that this worked for Fairness!)

Frank believes that the religious right is scrambling to find ways to oppose equal rights for gays and lesbians because overt discrimination is no longer acceptable to the general public. Popularizing terms such as "Defense of Marriage" is one way they have of making their positions sound reasonable. "If they were honest, they would call it the 'We Don't Want Two Lesbians to Live Together Act," Frank said. "Defense of Marriage? It's like the old V-8 commercial. As if this act didn't pass, heterosexual men all over the country would say, (smack) 'I could've married a guy?!' '

Community News

Men's Chorus...continued from page 1

every Christmas carol ever written, "I Saw _____Kissing Santa Claus," as only Fourte, LMC's quartet can twist it, "Cold and Fugue Season," a novelty take on a Bach fugue performed by Sweet Evening Breeze, and "Ta-Da" a new commissioned piece by Brian Throckmorton about life holding promise and the evolution of the spirit.

Tickets can be purchased through the Singletary Center Ticket Office at 257-4929 or from any chorus member. Adults are \$12, senior and student \$10 and child under 10 \$6. Season tickets subscriptions at a 20% savings are still available by calling Shelby at 231-0090.

Leigh Angelllique's "Vour Choicel Awards

On Wednesday, December 8th, Leigh Angelique will once again be presenting awards to some of Lexington's most talented entertainers and bar employees. The show and awards ceremony will take place at Crossings on Limestone. Awards will be given in various categories including Best Stage Performance of the Year.

A fabulous collection of entertainers will be on hand. Ashley Kruiz, Rayna Starr, Cassie Carlisle, Karen Kollett, Chi Chi Rodriguez, Trene', and Latoya Bacall will be featured. Admission is \$3 and the show will begin promptly at 9pm. Start the holiday season off right, join Leigh Angelique and Crossings for this spectacular event.

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GAMES NIGHT

The Metropolitan Community Church (LMCC) will be having games night on Friday December 3, starting at 7 pm. Please bring your favorite game and a snack. It is always free of charge and will be at the Pride Center, 387 Waller Ave. ending at about 11 PM. For more information contact Tomás Wayne Edison at 606-226-0978 or at twedis99@aol.com.

Interweave

On Sunday, December 12 Interweave will be having second Sunday lunch at the UU church after the service (about 12:20.) Members of Interweave and friends are invited to bring a dish and join us for pot luck. This Sunday service is dedicated to the singing of Handel's Messiah so music lovers should arrive by 10:45

A number of lesbians and straight women will also be gathering for the Women's Spirituality Group Solstice Ritual on Friday, Dec 17. We will be having a pot luck supper at the home of Mary Crone. Call for directions.

Miss 'Mary' Christmas

Deck the wigs with boughs of holly.

Fa la la la la la la la la

Fill the season with some folly.

Fa la la la la la la la

Don we now, our gay apparel

Fa la la la la la la la la

Yes folks its that time again for the only Christmas Pageant to feature creative Christmas-wear. Held December 8 at Club 141 for the third year in a row, this contest has become a bit of a

favorite among the pageant circuit. Its a contest where you can have some fun.

Miss "Mary" Christmas began during reign 16 and has been a good time ever since. This year, an added feature of the show will be a toy drive for Toys for Tots. Bring a new toy for the drive, and you will get a discount of \$1 off the admission. The discount will probably not save you money in the long run, but it may make a child's Christmas a bit more merry.

Discrimination Project

The GLSO Discrimination Project has been well administrated by Jeff Jones for many years. He is now turing over the collection of data about discrimination to the Human Rights Commission. Jeff serves on the commission. They will take calls, answer questions, and compile data. Please call them if you are ever discriminated against. We need this data when people ask why we need legal protection as a specific group of people.

Discussion Group

The GLSO Discussion Group is marking its one-year anniversary in December. We will be meeting every Wednesday night in December, except the 22nd. We will definitely be discussing how to get through the holidays with family and friends. Come out to the Pride Center on Wednesday nights at 7:30 for some good talk, support, and laughs. Call Jane at 389-7698 for details.

Community news continued page 4

Movable Feast is in great need of people to deliver food. Call 252-2867

Community News Continued

Social Concepts

Social Concepts has big plans for December. We will get together for the SisterSound concert on Saturday, Dec. 18 at 8pm. Come to Portabella's at 115 North Locust Hill Drive (off Richmond Road in front of the Man O' War movie theaters) for cocktails or dinner at 6pm and join the group for the concert. Call the Singletary Center for tickets to the concert.

Then see in the Millennium with a New Year's Eve party. Don't stay at home on a night like this. The party will start at 8pm and go until we've seen the New Millennium in in style. This will be BYOB. Contact Ginger at 389-7698 or gg40504@hotmail.com for details and directions.

Social Concepts has held successful social events for women over the last six months. They have recently had an organizational meeting and established a five member board. They will continue to provide a variety of activities including social events for women of all races, sexual orientation, ages, backgrounds and livelyhoods for the purpose of camaraderie, fun and sisterhood.

They will sometimes have events that include family members, which means children, cousins, even husbands. They will also focus on events that promote the Gay and Lesbian Community, in particular the events sponsored by the Gay and Lesbian Service Organization.

In addition to social events, Social Concepts plans to develop a mentoring program to offer friendship and support for individuals newly coming out or new to the Gay and Lesbian Community in Kentucky. A training program for mentors is planned for

January 15th at the Pride Center.

Plans are in the works to develop a Website to represent the activities of the group. Also planned is a Valentine's Party on February 12th.

DIVERSITY FILMS

Diversity Films has scheduled two films to be show at the Downtown Central Library Theater on Dec 18, free of charge. At 1:30 Europa. Europa, directed by Agnieszka Holland, tells the true story of Solomon Perel, a German-Jewish teenager who survived World War II by concealing his identity and using to his advantage the oddest twists of fate.

At 3:30 Visas and Virtue which won the 1997 Academy Award for Live Action Short Film will be shown. This film explores the moral and professional dilemma of Japanese Consul General, Chiune Sugihara, who made the difficult decision to disobey his government's orders and issued 2,000 visas to Lithuanian Jews enabling them to escape German persecution. Although both of these films are in the context of the Holocaust, they are both affirming of the positive within human nature. (not depressing--really!)

These films will be followed by a reception and discussion in Conference Room A on the lower level of the Library.

In March, Diversity Films is planing to show *Golden Threads*, a documentary about Christine Burton who founded an international network for midlife and elder lesbians. The film makers, Lucy Winer and Karen Eaton, are coming to Kentucky for this viewing in early March.

We are also planning to bring Lucy Massie Phenix, another lesbian

film maker, to Lexington in April. She is the editor of *Regret To Inform*, an Academy Award nominee for best documentary in 1999. Phenix's work has been shown in Lexington and at Women's Music Festivals over the last decade.

We are looking for volunteers, financial sponsors and contributors to enable us to bring these women to Lexington. If you are interested please contact Mary Crone.(266-5904)

International News: Columbian High Court Restricts Genital Surgery on Intersex Infants

BOGOTA, COLOMBIA -- The Constitutional Court of Colombia recently issued two decisions which significantly restrict the ability of parents and doctors to resort to the scalpel when children are born with atypical genitals. These surgeries, also known as IGM, or Intersex Genital Mutilation, have been widely practiced for over 40 years in most industrialized countries.

In the US we estimate that at least five children are cut every day. "Here in the US, doctors who perform IGM continue to reject the voices of those harmed by the surgery. Current laws do not protect us," noted Cheryl Chase of the Intersex Society of North America (ISNA).

This is the first time that a high court anywhere has considered whether IGM is a violation of human rights. Colombia's Constitutional Court went further than the pressing issue of IGM. The Court recognized that intersex people are a minority which enjoys the constitutional protection of the State against discrimination,continued on page 5

Be Of Good Cheer... by Lori Shepard

They say with age the first thing to go is the eyesight, or is it the sanity. Well, either way, I disagree. I believe that the first thing to go is optimism.

When you are a young child everything is full of light and promise of the future. As you grow older that light is replaced by artificial illumination from fluorescent bulbs and that promise of a new day gives rise to dread of tomorrow.

I am acutely aware of my pessimism as we go into the holiday season this year. As I begin Christmas shopping, too late in the game as usual, it is hard for me to hold onto my reasons for participating in the holiday madness in the first place.

Okay reality check, those women who wear the pins that say "Jesus is the Reason for the Season," need to put down all those packages that are cutting off blood supply to something vital.

Now for all of you who just gasped in terror at my blasphemous comments, blow it out the other face for awhile! I am "good Christian" and have a very personal relationship with my God, but I was not thinking of anybody's god when I bought that talking Winnie the Pooh bear for my nephew. I bought it because of societal obligations, not a religious belief. I bought it because it was so cute and Meijer did a good job of marketing it.

When I was child Christmas held a multitude of wonders for me, the magic of make believe, the fellowship of family and the religious bonding at church. I felt the magic of Christmas when my peers and I sang Silent Night to baby Jesus, who was actually Baby Wets-A lot wrapped in a bath towel on lying in a cradle that was painted brown to look like a wooden manger.

Now as I work extra hours in my retail hell to accommodate the hateful and sometimes frightening holiday shoppers, I am inclined to believe that what I felt was just stage fright or too much pumpkin pie.

The fact that Santa isn't real is the least of my problems when I imagine another holiday of that aforementioned, family fellowship. Now I understand why my mom looks so grim in all those pictures we took on Christmas morning. I realize her gift to me was that she didn't tell me what the future would hold, but then again how could she have known.

Now that I am the adult, my partner and I face those same night-mares my parents faced every year. Whose house will we go to and when? Why did her mother and my grandmother have to schedule Christmas dinner for the same time? Whose house can we go to as a couple and whose house do I have to take my "good" friend too? When do we actually get to sleep and where?

The holiday season must be exposed for what it is, a well-planned attack on our sanity, our wallets and our dignity. It was, in another time and place, a time of year for a particular religious sect to celebrate the birth of their Messiah, but that time has passed.

Yes I am aware that those people who wear the pins that are suppose to remind me why we are doing this to ourselves have a pretty good argument but I just can't buy it with the same innocent blind faith of my childhood.

So, when all the hoopla of December is over and I am left feeling spent financially and emotionally, I will take January and be with my God. Whatever you may perceive your God to be, I suggest you do the same.

Intersexual Rights (from pg 4) and that every individual has a constitutional right to define his or her own sexual identity. The Court concluded both decisions with the same emphatic exhortation:

"Intersexed people question our capacity for tolerance and constitute a challenge to the acceptance of difference. Public authorities, the medical community and the citizenry at large have the duty to open up a space for these people who have until now been silenced. We all have to listen to them, and not only to learn how to live with them, but also to learn from them."

"The Court noted that this is not a medical decision, but a judicial and ethical decision. Ethicists in the US have uniformly denounced IGM as unethical, but until US courts act, American doctors will continue to perform IGM on 2,000 children every year," noted Chase.

In addition to the Colombian Constitution, the Court also based its holding on the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. According to Shannon Minter, staff attorney for the National Center for Lesbian Rights, "By holding that parents must place the well-being and best interests of their child above social prejudice, the Court affirmed the inherent dignity and worth of all children, including those who are gender variant." The US is not a signatory of the UN Convention.

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"Multiple Voices: Diverse Identities in the Queer Community"

Marshall University's 10th Annual Pride Celebration and 1st Annual National Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgendered Conference will be hosted by The Marshall Lambda Society and The Marshall University Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Outreach Office. Dates are April 6 - 8, 2000 Marshall University Huntington, West Virginia

Keynote Speakers include: Best Selling Author and witch, Starhawk; Two-Spirit, Clyde Hall; and Poet, Jeff Mann

A Call is extended for individual papers, multi-paper sessions, round table or group discussions, panels, films, or performances that explore some aspect of the conference theme: Multiple Voices: Diverse Identities in the Queer Community.

We especially encourage submissions on the following broad topics:

Queer Theory

Queers and Rural America

Queer Politics

Ethnicity, Sex, Gender, and Race Issues in the Queer Community

Queer Activism

Queer Spirituality

Queer Scholarship

Perspectives that take on an interdisciplinary approach are encouraged.

The program committee also strongly encourages proposals for entire sessions based on a central issue or theme. Multi-paper presentation sessions should include no more than four presenters.

Individuals and groups are limited to submitting two proposals for consideration.

PROPOSALS MUST INCLUDE:

A cover sheet with the title of presentation, presenter's name, address, affiliation, e-mail address, phone number, fax number, and a

one-paragraph biographical sketch. For panels or multi-paper sessions, include the names, addresses, and biographical information for all participants. Include a description of audiovisual needs or any other special arrangements, 10 copies of a one-page abstract of panel or presentation. Abstracts for papers or presentations that are selected will be published in the conference program.

Proposals must be received no later than January 15, 2000 Please send proposals to:

Conference Proposals

"The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual
Outreach Office
Marshall University
400 Hal Greer Blvd.
Huntington, WV 25755
For More Information Call: 304-696-6623 or email: pride@ezwv.com
<mailto:pride@ezwv.com>
or visit our website at:

http://users.ezwv.com/~pride/>

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\$15 membership and newslett	ter
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WE NEED YOU SUPPORT NOW!	Mail to GLSO News, PO Box 11471 Lex. Ky. 40575

"Share The Care How to Organize a Group to Care for Someone Who Is Seriously III"

by Mary Crone

Sometimes a book comes into your life at just the right time. This is the case with "Share the Care" by Cappy Capossela and Sheila Warrnock. These two women along with ten others came together to care for a terminally ill friend and worked together well for three and a half years. Out of that experience, they have written a wonderful guide for how to help without burning out.

For most of us, there will be a time in our lives when someone we love is faced with a serious illness whether it is AIDS, cancer, chronic illness, or simply old age. Often we want to help but are not sure how. Some of us through ourselves into the task with great energy but become exhausted. The emotional stress of being a caregiver is often difficult to handle.

This book acknowledges the difficulties and suggests ways in which a group of people can come together to organized the care giving process. Some of the Topics covered: Assessing a sick person's needs, agenda for an initial meeting, exercises to help people express their concerns, forms that will be useful, difficulties that may arise, and so forth. There is a lot of wisdom in this book.

A group of us have used this book as we have organized to support Linda Laporte who has Juvenile Rheumatoid Arthritis (beginning at age 15). In the last two months we have had three meetings, developed up to date lists of medications, recruited "floaters" who can help run errands, had helpful conversations with her biological family, gotten her into a new pain management program, and seen her through two illnesses. Because we divide up the tasks, none of us have become burned out.

There are many other benefits to working in a group. Each of us has our own area of skill and knowledge to offer. Difficult decisions can be discussed and jointly made thus relieving some of the stress. And when Linda had to be hospitalized, doctors and hospital staff were impressed when we handed them well organized information and legal health care surrogate documents.

Linda appreciates our work and feels we have improved the quality of her life. It is a great relief to her to know we are making plans ahead of time so that a crisis is less likely to occur but if one should, we will have procedures in place to deal with it.

We will always be open to having other people join us in this endeavor. We have a list of floaters, people who can be available at times to run errands or to visit with Linda. If you might be interested you can call Mary Crone (266-5904) or Linda Laporte (266-9748) for more information.



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DECEMBER 1999

DECEMBER 1999 USE DIRECTORY ON LAST PAGE TO CONFIRM		1 WEDNESDAY 5:30 pm World AIDS Day Service (Christ Church Cathedral) 7:30 pm GLSO Discussion Group (Pride Center) 8:00 pm Gay/Lesbian AA	2 THURSDAY 7:00 pm Men's Chorus Rehearsal (Pride Center) 7:30 pm UK Lambda (Student Center)	3 FRIDAY HANUKKAH 6:30 pm Solstice Ritual Women's Spirituality Group (Mary's House) 7:00 pm LMCC Games Night (LMCC) 7:30 pm Gay/Lesbian AA	4 SATURDAY 7:30 pm Gay/Lesbian AA	
5 SUNDAY 10:45 am UU Church 11:30am LMCC 12:30 am CUUPS (UU Church) 6:00 pm Dignity 6:00 pm SisterSound reh. (Park Methodist Church)	6 MONDAY 8:00 pm AA Step Study	7 TUESDAY 7:30 pm Fairness Lexington (Pride Center) 7:30 pm PFLAG (Chapel Hill Presbyterian Church)	7:30 pm GLSO Discussion Group (Pride Center) 8:00 pm Gay/Lesbian AA time tba Miss Mary Christmas Pageant (Club 141) time tba Your Choice Award (Crossings)	9 7-00 pm Men's Chorus Rehearsal (Pride Center) 7-30 pm UK Lambda (Student Center)	10 7:30 pm Gay/Lesbian AA	11 7:30 pm Gay/Lesbian AA 8:00 pm Men's Chorus Concert
12 10:45 am UU Church 11:30 am LMCC 12:30 am CUUPS) (UU Church) 3:00 pm Men's Chorus Concert 6:00 pm sisterSound reh. (Park Methodist Church)	13 7:00 pm GLSO Board Meeting - open to the public - (Pride Center) 8:00 pm AA Step Study	14	15 7:30 pm GLSO Discussion Group (Pride Center) 8:00 pm Gay/Lesbian AA	16 7:00 pm Men's Chorus Rehearsal (Pride Center) 7:30 pm UK Lambda (Student Center) GLSO NEWS DEADLINE. SUBMIT ADDITIONS AND/OR CORRECTIONS FOR NEXT CALENDAR 27:36419	17 6:30 pm Women's Sprituality Group 7:30 pm Gay/Lesbian AA	18 7:30 pm Gay/Lesbian AA 1:30 pm Diversity Films (Central Library Theater 6:00 pm Social Concepts Meet ((Portabellas) 8:00 pm SisterSound Concert
19 10:45 am UU Church 11:30 am LMCC 12:30 am CUUPS) (UU Church)	8:00 pm AA Step Study	21	8:00 pm Gay/Lesbian AA	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVI: 7:30 pm Gay/Lesbian AA	25 CHRISTMAS DAY 7:30 pm Gay/Lesbian AA
26 10:45 am UU Church 11:30 am LMCC 12:30 am CUUPS) (UU Church)	27 8:00 pm AA Step Study	28	29 7:30 pm GLSO Discussion Group (Pride Center) 8:00 pm Gay/Lesbian AA	30	31 NEW YEARS EVE 7:30 pm Gay/Lesbian AA Social Concepts Years Eve Party (time and place tba)	MOVEABLE FEAST EVERY DAY CALL 252-2867

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GLSO PAGE 9

FRIENDS OR WHAT?

by Reinette F. Jones

"Hey Jackie, somebody's knocking!"

"See who it is Brenda. If it's a woman, let her in."

"What do I look like, the damn butler? I'm a guest in this shanty, answer your own door. What kind of a Christmas party are you suppose to be throwing?"

"Brenda, you said you were going to help."

"Help does not include butler services. Someone is knocking at your door. Madam!"

"Screw you Brenda."

"Is that a promise?"

Jackie answers the door. "Merry Christmas. I'm Jackie. Glad you could make it. Please come in. This is my butler, Brenda. May I get you something to drink?"

"That's ok Jackie, I'll get drinks for these wild women. This is my cousin Phil and her sidekicks C.J. and C.J. Glad you all found the place. Come on into the kitchen. Hey Jackie, someone is at the door again."

"Nice to meet all of you. Brenda, may I speak to you for a moment?"

"Sure thing Jackie, but don't you think that you should get the door first?

No. Ok, I'll get the door and you get the drinks. I'll be right back ladies."

Brenda answers the door.

"Hi. I'm Brenda the butler. Please come in and join the party."

"Not yet."

"Excuse me?"

"I'm going to wait out here in the hallway for my friends. You see, I, umm..., I don't like to go to parties by

myself because it gives the impression of desperation. I've got a girl-friend and we've been together for 3 weeks now. She's going to meet me here. I just knocked on the door to make sure that I had the right apartment. By the way, my name is Blue."

"Wow Blue. Colorful name. Would you like a drink while you wait?"

"Not yet."

"OK. Knock again when you're ready, Blue." Brenda closes the door.

"Brenda, who was at the door?"
"It was Blue."

"Ok Brenda, I'll bite. Blue who?"
"Honest Jackie, it was a woman named Blue. She said that she wanted to wait outside for her friends. I'm not pulling your leg. Go see for yourself if you don't believe me. See there, she's knocking on the door again."

"Why didn't you ask her to come in and wait. I just don't understand you sometimes Brenda. This had better not be one of your off brand jokes."

Jackie answers the door. "Hey! Vickie, Kay, Wanda, and Rochelle. Merry Christmas. Come on in. Brenda will get you something to drink in the kitchen. Would you like to come in also?"

"Not yet."

"Are you Blue?"

"Yes, I am. I already told your girlfriend that I'm waiting for my friends. But I will take something to drink now. Would you be a sweet and get me a glass of cranberry juice mixed with orange juice and some sparkling water, please? Do you have any mints?"

"Sorry Blue, you will have to come inside if you want refreshments." "Not yet."

"Alright. And by the way, that other woman is not my girlfriend." Jackie closes the door.

"Brenda! Brenda! Get over here. I need to talk to you."

"Jackie, believe me, there was a woman out there. She said that her name was Blue. She didn't want to come in. I did not invite her and I do not know her. I will never know her."

"Shhh, keep your voice down. She's still out there loitering in the hallway. She seems to like you, so will you go try to convince her to either come in or get lost. I don't want the neighbors to see her hanging around. There's the door again. Please Brenda, will you do this one favor for me?"

"First I'm the butler, now I'm the damn bouncer. It's your party, you get rid of her. Are you going to get the door?"

"Alright already! Why don't we both get the door?"

"Sure Jackie, I'll be your backup. Chicken!" Jackie and Brenda answer the door.

"Hey! It's Mykavera and the gang. Come on in. Merry Christmas."

"Hi Brenda. Hi Jackie. Our friend Blue will be back in a minute. She went down the hall to ask your neighbor something. I think she went in the last door on the left. It looks like a full house in here."

"Sure, sure, come on inside. Brenda made some of those cute creme sandwiches. Help yourself, they're in the kitchen with the drinks. I'll be right in."

Jackie pulls Brenda outside the door and closes it behind them. "Brenda, we have been friends for a long time and I am asking you as a friend to please go down the hall and

continued on page 11

get that Blue chick out of Ms McGutherie's apartment. Hog-tie her if you have to. Now, I would do this myself, but you know how Ms McGutherie hates my guts. And I do not want to get evicted from my apartment because some strange party guest knocked off a neighbor. If you will do this, I will owe you big time. Name it and it's yours."

"Gee, I don't know Jackie. Seeing as how we have been friends for so long, how could I possibly exhort a year's worth of wild sex from you on Christmas Day, just for the simple favor of going down to Ms McGutherie's and cleaning up a murder scene, then dragging the Blue woman back to your party. What kind of a friend would that make me?"

"Damn'it Brenda, is that a yes or a no?"

"I'll tell you if I make it back; you know that Blue woman looked like a barbed-wire scrapper."

Jackie goes back into her apartment. Brenda goes down the hall-way. One hour later...

"Brenda, where the hell have you been? Please tell me that Ms McGutherie is not dead."

"She's not dead."

"What are you smiling about? Brenda, say that you did not go down the hall and have an orgy. On second thought, don't say anything; I don't like the way you're grinning all over yourself. You will sleep with anything. Did you bring that Blue chick back?"

"Yes."

"Yes, what, Brenda? Which question are you answering?"

"The Blue woman is dancing in the other room."

"Where? Who is that she's dancing with? Brenda you didn't! Uhh-ahhh --Merry Christmas Ms McGutherie. Glad you could join us."

"Merry Christmas to yourself. It's about time you invited me to one of your girly parties. These nice girls helped me get ready. A real host would have made a personal invite. Hush up! You always interrupting and telling other people what to do. Bribing others to do your dirty work. And why don't you be nice to your girlfriend sometimes?"

"She's not my girlfriend!"

"Oh, that's what you think. Hey Blue, take five. You two C.J.'s, this next dance is yours. Move out of the way Jackie, I don't have time to teach you etiquettes. I got to bust a groove while the night is still young.

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Miss Mary Hopeful

Email: Bluegrassempire@hotmail.com or Telephone: Kevin 252-3014



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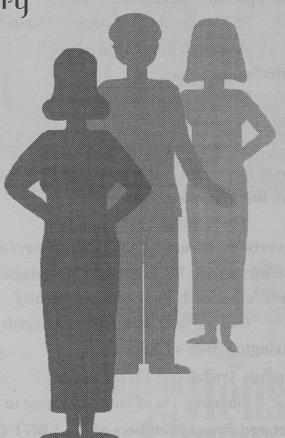
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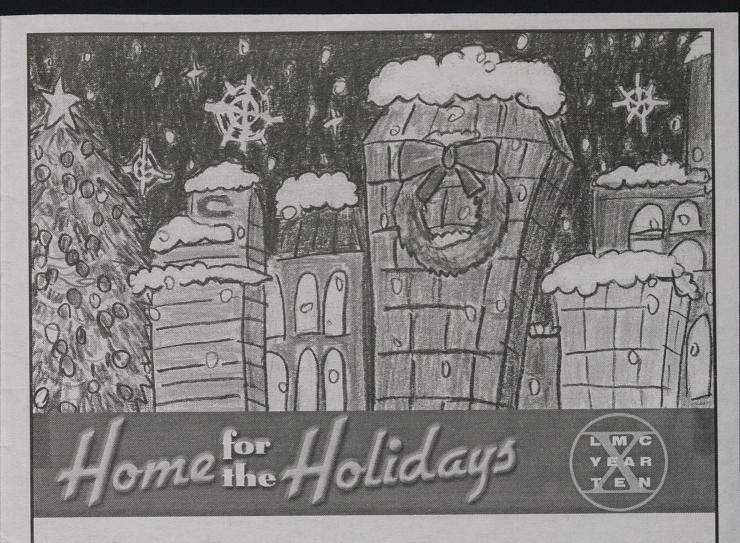
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Tickets: \$ 12 Adults

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