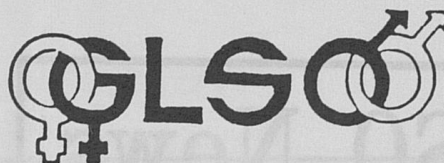


SEPTEMBER 1991



NEWS

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LEXINGTON GAY/LESBIAN SERVICES ORGANIZATION, P. O. BOX 11471, LEXINGTON, KY 40575

## GAYS PROTEST CRACKER BARREL'S HIRING POLICY

The anti-gay hiring practices of Cracker Barrel restaurants were protested at the corporation's headquarters in Lebanon, Tenn. on August 11. About 150 people from several Southern states staged the non-violent protest against the corporation.

Last year the company adopted a policy that stated, "it is inconsistent with our concepts and values, and is perceived to be inconsistent with those of our customer base, to continue to employ individuals in our operating units whose sexual preferences fail to demonstrate normal heterosexual values."

The chain fired at least 15 gay men or lesbians on the basis of their sexual orientation. Over the past several months, gay protesters have staged sit-ins and have been arrested at restaurants where the firings took place.

The August 11 protest began with a rally in Nashville; then the protesters drove to the restaurant at the corporation headquarters in Lebanon. More than 40 picketed outside the restaurant and 90 others occupied tables inside between 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

The restaurant's management made no response to the action and it was well covered by the media in Nashville, said Bill Turner, a coordinator for the sit-in.

A press release issued by the company in February stated, "Our recent position on the employment of homosexuals in a limited number of stores may have been a well-intentioned over reaction to the perceived values of our

customers."

But the company's hiring practices continue to discriminate against gay people according to spokespersons for the Coalition Opposed to Cracker Barrel Policy. The coalition includes several gay and lesbian rights groups and many labor union activists.

## DRUG "AZT" HELPS REDUCE ONSET OF FULL-BLOWN AIDS

People infected with the AIDS virus can greatly delay their progression to full-blown AIDS if they take the drug AZT and other medications to fight off a deadly pneumonia, according to a study done at John Hopkins University.

The study was done on 2,516 gay and bisexual men from Baltimore, Washington, D.C., Pittsburgh, Chicago, and Los Angeles. It found that the drugs reduced by 60 percent the chances that an infected person would progress to AIDS in a six-month period.

AZT has been widely used in treating AIDS since 1987, when it received federal approval. Since then, other drugs such as the aerosol pentamidine have been used to fight an AIDS related pneumonia that claims the lives of many AIDS patients.

"The study demonstrated that these drugs could have a major effect on the community's health if they become readily available," said Dr. Scott Zeger, professor of biostatistics at the John Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health in Baltimore. CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

# GLSO News

Published monthly by the Lexington  
Gay/Lesbian Services Organization,  
P.O. Box 11471, Lexington, KY 40575

Chuck Smith, editor

Craig Clere, president, GLSO Board

Mailing: Lee. Folding and stuffing: Lee,  
Laurie, Mark, Steve, and Willy.

The *Esmerelda's Parlour* column with news and viewpoints of interest to lesbians in the Bluegrass is produced by Esmerelda Collective.

Views or opinions expressed in *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 submission. Placement of advertising in the *GLSO News* does not denote a person's sexual orientation nor a business's customer preference. .

## DRUG AZT SLOWS AIDS ONSET

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The study was reported in England's leading medical journal, *The Lancet*, in an article authored by Dr. Neil Graham, a John Hopkins epidemiologist.

In May, a team of John Hopkins doctors reported that AZT doubles the survival time of those who suffer from full-blown AIDS.

2 - GLSO/September

A word from the editor

## Closets Are For Clothes

By Chuck Smith

Being a gay man or lesbian in Kentucky is more than a private concern; it has legal importance. We have been reminded of the legal risks of being gay by the Kentucky Supreme Court's consideration of a Fayette County court's holding that the state's sodomy statute is unconstitutional. The state's high court is expected to rule on the appeal before year's end.

There is no way of knowing how the court will decide this appeal. But it is clear that most people in Kentucky feel the sodomy statute should not be retained. A recent survey found that over 62 percent of Kentuckians said the state had no business regulating private sexual conduct between consenting adults. Moreover, about 25 church and professional groups have filed friend of the court briefs that argued the sodomy statute is unconstitutionality.

Twenty-five states no longer regulate sexual conduct between consenting adult gay people. Also, in Michigan and Texas, as in our state, lower court rulings that such laws are unconstitutional are being reviewed by their supreme courts.

There is little one can do to influence the Kentucky Supreme Court decision; the appropriate steps of filing briefs and making oral arguments have been seen to. But we can contribute to changing social views that discriminate against us. A positive step is to be open about who we are. Studies indicate that when straight people are acquainted with gay people, they are less apt to discriminate them. Statistically there are between 23,000 and 25,000 gay men and lesbians in Fayette County. If we're open a lot can be done to dispel incorrect perceptions and simplistic gay stereotypes.

# Viewpoint

## Writings of women political prisoners to be performed locally

**By Laura Whitehorn**

I am writing this to introduce myself and to invite you to an evening of poetry and video by and about women political prisoners.

I am a revolutionary anti-imperialist political prisoner, currently incarcerated at FCI Lexington, serving a 23-year sentence for acts of resistance against the U.S. government. I am a lesbian and one of the Resistance Conspiracy Case defendants. We were charged with "conspiracy to oppose, protest, and change U.S. government policies in international and domestic matters by violent and illegal means." One of those means was the bombing of the U.S. Capitol in 1983, in protest against the invasion of Grenada and the shelling of Beirut. As opposed to the brutal results of the U.S. policies, not a single person was ever injured in any bombing of which we were accused.

I am one of over 150 political prisoners and prisoners of war in U.S. prisons -- activists and revolutionaries from the black liberation struggle, Puerto Rican independence movement, Native American movement, North American anti-imperialist movement, and anti-nuclear movement. From what I've heard, it seems the government is anxious to add to our numbers, as it threatens to charge anti-war protesters with crimes punishable by long prison terms.

The U.S. denies that we are political prisoners because acknowledging our status would mean admitting that there are serious social injustices in this country, and legitimate movements struggling for change. In our continuing struggle for justice, those of

us behind bars and those of you on the street are united. Our struggles for justice in prison mostly takes the form of fighting racism, white supremacy, sexism and homophobia. In particular, many of us are involved in work on education about HIV and support for people with AIDS in prison. And we struggle to connect with progressive movements on the outside, to break through the isolation the government tries to impose on us by locking us up.

Many of you may have participated in the campaign to close down the High Security control unit here at FCI Lexington in 1986-1988. That campaign was very effective -- and I can tell you that it has not been forgotten by the authorities here at the prison.

September 16, at Alfalfa's restaurant, 7:30 p.m., there will be an evening in solidarity with women political prisoners, focusing on the poetry, essays, and journal entries of the four women of the Resistance Conspiracy Case: Marilyn Buck, Linda Evans, Susan Rosenberg and me. The evening will include dramatic readings from our work and a video about political prisoners. I urge you to attend, to learn more about political prisoners, and become a part of our fight for freedom.

(606)233-3709

(606)231-0090

**LEXINGTON'S MEN'S CHORUS**  
All are welcome

**Michael Breeding**  
Director

**Shelby Reynolds**  
President

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# The key to HIV Prevention is Through EDUCATION.

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For more information, call your  
local health department or the

# KENTUCKY AIDS HOTLINE 1-800-654-AIDS

HIV is the virus that causes AIDS.

**KENTUCKY  
RESPONDS  
TO AIDS**

# News

## Amnesty International debates its gay/lesbian rights position

By David Williams

In the wake of growing protest against Amnesty International's refusal to help gay men and lesbians imprisoned because of their sexual orientation, the American branch of Amnesty International has issued a statement indicating its support for gays and lesbians.

"The U.S. Section of Amnesty," the statement says, "has long advocated an expansion of the 'prisoner of conscience' definition to also include those imprisoned solely for their sexual orientation." The statement notes that this view of the U.S. Section has not prevailed at the international policy-making level, which recognizes only those who have been incarcerated for advocating gay and lesbian rights.

A resolution is to be presented to the 1991 International Council Meeting in September in Tokyo to amend the group's current statutes to include "persons who are imprisoned solely because of their identity as homosexuals, including the practice of sexual acts in private between consenting adults." However, the resolution may be watered down by a compromise that would include "expression of sexual orientation" but not sexual conduct.

"What Amnesty would be saying to governments around the world," said Julie Dorf, cochair of the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission, is that you can't do a bar sweep and imprison gays and lesbians for choosing to socialize together, but you can invade someone's bedroom with impunity, and lock them up for the way they love."

This is a very divisive issue," said Cossette Thompson, director of AI's San Francisco office. "But the U.S. chapter and several other countries support extending Amnesty's mandate."

## GLSO RECEIVES \$105 REBATE FROM PEGASUS TRAVEL PLAN

Pegasus Travel has donated \$105 to Lexington's Gay and Lesbian Service Organization from its revenues for the first six months of 1991. GLSO participates in a rebate program with Pegasus. The travel agency donates to GLSO one percent of the income it receives from GLSO members and supporters.

There is no fee for making travel arrangements through Pegasus and you are donating to GLSO with each transaction.

When making your reservations just mention that you are a GLSO member or supporter and Pegasus will make sure GLSO gets credited with the donation. Pegasus Travel is located at 2040 Idle Hour Center, off Richmond Road, phone: 268-4337.

## "PHANTOM OF THE OPERA" TO BE AVOL FUNDRAISING PARTY THEME

The AIDS Volunteers of Lexington annual fundraising party will be on Sunday September 29, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. at Bell House. The party's theme is "The Phantom of the Opera." Black and white attire, either formal or informal, is requested. A minimum donation of \$20 covers the food, drink and entertainment provided.

Bell House is located at Bell Court, one block off East Main Street. Information: 254-2865

# Book Reviews

## BLUEGRASS AUTHOR ADDRESSES WOMEN'S ISSUES

**THE BEAN TREES**, by Barbara Kingsolver, Perennial Library, Harper and Row, 1988, 232 pages. Reviewed by Dan Mynear.

Barbara Kingsolver is as unlikely an author as her protagonist is the heroine in this novel, *The Bean Trees*. Kingsolver hails from Nicholas County, just thirty miles from Lexington. She attended a small rural high school, but her writing embraces a global perspective that takes in women's issues, the plight of the Native American, child abuse, Guatemalan refugees -- replete with safe havens and last, but not least, ecology. Her talented pen manages to accomplish this feat in this novel filled with gutsy ambition and perseverance and most importantly, humor and personal growth.

Marietta Greer, poor rural Kentucky girl, sees two mandates in life: don't get pregnant and get the hell out of Kentucky. Off she goes in here '55 Volkswagon, heading west, destination unknown, and for that matter, unimportant. By

the time she arrives in Tuscon, Arizona, she has acquired three things: two flat tires that she can't afford to replace, a new name for herself that she got from a road sign (Taylor), and a three year-old Native American child she names Turtle.

Kingsolver has a special knack for getting her readers acquainted with her characters Taylor Greer becomes you best friend and you agonize with her over the tough decisions she has to make (and occasionally offer advice). You grow as she grows; your perspective of world issues expands with hers. You suddenly realize how small and trivial your problems are beside hers.

I stumbled upon Kingsolver by accident. I was looking for another book, when the woman behind the counter suggest that Barbara Kingsolver might just be the best woman writer in America today. This same fan said Kingsolver was the most insightful writer of women's issues that she knew. After reading *The Been Trees*, I have to agree.

ATHENA PRODUCTIONS and U.K. WOMEN'S STUDIES

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### Kate Clinton, fumorist\*

Sunday, September 29, 7:00 p.m.

Singletary Center for the Arts, Recital Hall

Tickets (257-4929): student and advance \$10, at door \$12

Sponsorship tickets: Linda Laporte, 266-9748

\*feminist and humorist



## Esmerelda's Parlour



By Debbie Currie

Yes, it's me again, admittedly sooner than I expected primarily because the newsletter deadline slipped up on me. However, I've had several people express an interest in submitting something for *Esmerelda's Parlor*, and I also have some ideas of my own, so hopefully we'll be able to carry on for a while. And while I'm on that train of thought, thanks to Teri Wood for her "Train of Thought" piece in the August newsletter. It was a great way to launch our new collective format. This month I would like to talk about networking. Networking can make or break a community like outs, and there are times when it has seemed like we've been close to the breaking point. Sometimes I think that a class in Networking 101 should be required for all new

lesbians. Here's a little quiz to see how you would do:

1. The Holly Near concert is this Friday (it's Wednesday). You've known about it for weeks, so you

a. assume everyone else knows about it too.

b. make sure your friends all know about it, because you want them to go too

c. tell everyone you meet about it, just in case they missed hearing about it.

d. walk around with a "HOLLY NEAR CONCERT FRIDAY NIGHT" sign around your neck

2. On Monday you hear there's a Coffeehouse on Saturday night, so you:

a. don't tell anyone about it, because you're sure your ex-girlfriend will be there, so you don't want anyone to go

b. plan to go, but don't tell anyone but your best friend because you don't want word to get to your ex-girlfriend that you'll be there

c. tell everyone you know, because the more people that ate there, the more fun you will have

d. make sure your ex-girlfriend knows about it, then go do something else (it's good to keep track of them isn't it?)

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

## CLASSIFIED ADS

37 YEAR OLD GERMAN euro-civil servant, cosmopolitan, very romantic, warm-hearted, widely travelled - seeks intensive and truly lasting FRIENDSHIP with very well built, tall, professional, straight-acting MAN - preferably aged between 30-50 years. Would enjoy correspondence, mutual visits and more with the right person. I am interested in the humanities, nature, travel and music (classical, jazz, ballads). I also don't smoke or take drugs of any kind. Guaranteed replies to all

detailed responses supported by a photo. Please call: Rebonto Guha, Oberlander Str. 33, W-8000 Munich 70, Germany. Tel. (+89) 776556 pvt - evenings only (my time), 100% discretion assured

-----  
RELATIONSHIP ORIENTED - Attractive professional, HIV+ W/M, 6' 170#, healthy/asymptomatic, health oriented, trim, in shape, non-smoker, honest, responsible, dependable, financially and emotionally secure, affectionate and caring - seeks compatible similar same, trim and healthy, HIV+ man 30-55 for monogamous relationship, sharing and living together.

Serious replies only, recent photo preferred, replies confidential. Write: John, P.O. Box 3308, Frankfort, KY 40603.

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

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## ESMERELDA'S PARLOUR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

3. You just heard about a Maura O'Connell (if you say "who?" then that's part of the point) concert tonight that is at a place that doesn't advertise very well. Do you

a. call your friends to find someone to go with

b. don't worry about it, because you're not interested in going

c. call your friend who's a big fan of Irish music and make sure she knows about it, even though you're not interested in going

d. call as many people as you can

4. You find out that "Yer Girlfriend" is going to be performing at The Metro tonight. You can't go, so you:

a. don't tell anyone, because you don't want them to go if you can't

b. call you ex and tell her about it (what the hell, someone might as well have some fun)

c. call a half a dozen of your friends and tell them and ask them to pass the word on

d. tell your friend known as the "mouth of Lexington" and let her do the rest

So, how'd you do? Actually, there are are no right answers (it's great being a lesbian, isn't it).

The point is that we could probably all do MORE! Networking can be a pain, but I'd like to think that it's worth trouble. Next time you hear about something that's going on in the community, pass the word along, even if you aren't interested in attending or you can't go.

When you tell people, ask them to pass the word on as well. I can't tell you how many times I've had women in our community tell me that they missed an event simply because they didn't know about it or they found out too

late. Don't ever assume that anyone already knows about anything that is coming up. Make a pest of yourself, if you must (I know I do sometimes), but spread that word! Let's make this community a COMMUNITY!

## METAMORPHOSIS

By Gina Rose

A butterfly emerged  
and she flew

metamorphosis

Like so many sisters  
before her

metamorphosis

She ripped and struggled  
until the cocoon  
was cast away

metamorphosis

She breathed  
and she knew

metamorphosis

To use these wings  
to leave these binds

metamorphosis

And her sisters were there  
between the earth and sky  
waiting to be

metamorphosis

Fly with her  
share her glory  
freedom  
knowledge

metamorphosis  
metamorphosis  
metamorphosis



## DIRECTORY

GLSO Gayline . . . . . 231-0335  
 GLSO Board (Craig) . . . . . 266-8887  
 GLSO News (Chuck) . . . . . 253-0661  
 GLSO Speakers Bureau (Bill) . . . . . 266-9175  
 GLSO Phonenumber (Tony) . . . . . 266-9175  
 GLSO Coming-Out Group (Alan) . . . . . 253-2414  
 GLSO Bowling League (Terl) . . . . . 268-4789

Tri-State Gay Rodeo Association  
 (Terry or Mark) . . . . . 233-7266  
 NAMES Project Kentucky  
 (Katie) . . . . . 233-3855  
 Lesbian Potluck (Esmeralda) . . . . . 873-0254  
 Esmeralda's Parlour (Debbie) . . . . . 255-3851  
 Front Runners -- running club  
 (Dan) . . . . . 254-6850  
 GLUE (UK Support Group)  
 (Keith) . . . . . 266-3934  
 Lexington Men's Chorus (Shelby)  
 (Michael) . . . . . 231-0090  
 (Michael) . . . . . 233-3709

Gay/Lesbian AA (Dave) . . . . . 277-9522  
 Gay/Lesbian Al-Anon (Robert) . . . . . 293-0516

### RELIGIOUS GROUPS

Dignity - Catholics (Don) . . . . . 299-4458  
 Integrity - Episcopalians (Kay) . . . . . 277-4364  
 Interweave - Unitarians (Craig) . . . . . 266-8887

### AIDS INFORMATION AND ORGANIZATIONS

AVOL (Info. & education) . . . . . 254-2865  
 ACT-Lexington (referral) . . . . . 281-5151  
 HIV+, ARC, AIDS Support Group  
 (Edwin) . . . . . 233-0444  
 Kentucky AIDS Hotline . . . . . 800-654-AIDS

### Anonymous AIDS Testing

Lexington-Fayette County . . . . . 288-AIDS  
 Madison County Health Dept. . . . . 623-7312  
 Jessamine County Health Dept. . . . . 885-4149  
 Woodford County Health Dept. . . . . 873-4541

Gay activities in Louisville & Jefferson County:  
 Gay and Lesbian Hotline (502) 589-3316

NATIONAL GAY/LESBIAN CRISISLINE  
 (800) 347-4283

## LEXINGTON NIGHTLIFE

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

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

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

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

## NATIONAL GAY/LESBIAN CRISISLINE

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GLSO/September - 9

# SEPTEMBER

## EVENTS CALENDAR

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

SEPTEMBER						
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					

### W E E K L Y   E V E N T S

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

**GAYLINE - 231-0335**  
Lexington Gay Information Service  
Operates Between 8 - 11 p.m.  
Sunday, Wednesday, Thursday,  
and Friday evenings.

**10 - GLSO/September**

### S P E C I A L   E V E N T S

- SUN 1**    NAMES Project display  
of NAMES quilt, Heritage  
Hall, Civic Center;  
Tri-State Gay Rodeo  
Association, 4 p.m.
- TUE 3**    **Gayline Meeting, 5:30**
- SUN 8**    AVOL Board Meeting 4:00  
p.m., general meeting 5:30  
-- 214 W. Maxwell Street
- WED 11**   NAMES Project Meeting,  
7 p.m., Rosenthal Center,  
Transylvania University
- THU 12**   NAMES Project Panel Making  
Workshop, 7 p.m., Quilters  
Square, Regency Road
- SUN 16**    Lesbian Potluck, 2 p.m.
- MON 16**    Conspiracy of Voices (see  
page 3) Alfalfa Restaurant  
on S. Limestone, 7:30 p.m.
- TUE 24**    GLSO News, folding and  
stuffing, 6:30 p.m., for  
info, call Lee, 277-9365
- WED 25**    GLSO Board Meeting, 7:30
- SUN 29**    AVOL's annual fundraising  
party, 7:00 p.m., at Bell  
House (see page 5)
- OCT**  
**SAT 5**    Financial Recovery in  
Recovery Workshop, 9:30  
a.m. - 5 p.m. for info:  
277-0450, Judy or Skeet

**TO INCLUDE EVENTS IN THE CALENDAR  
CALLING 253-0661 OR WRITE  
GLSO NEWS, P.O. BOX 11475,  
LEXINGTON, KY 40575**