



Gay &
Lesbian
Services
Organization

The GLSO News

April 2009



A Publication of the Lexington Gay Service Organization

Volume 31 Number 4

GLSO Beach Vacation Raffle

6 days at Pawley's Island, S. Carolina
Saturday, Oct 3 – Friday, Oct 9, 2009

GLSO is raffling the second floor apartment of a beautiful home in a great location. The house sits between the ocean and a salt water estuary/bird sanctuary; there are views of the water from all but one room in the house.

The second floor apartment is best suited for four couples, or 8 adults who share rooms. There are also extra beds if 3 people want to share a room. Check in 4:30 Saturday, Oct 3. Check out 4 pm Friday, Oct. 9.

Raffle tickets are \$20 and will be available from board members and at the Pride Center. Bill is here 10 am-3 pm Mon-Fri. Call the Center 859 253-3233 to be sure someone is here.

The second floor has four bedrooms, a living and dining area, game/reading room, and a kitchenette with refrigerator, microwave, convection oven, hotplate, toaster oven, coffee maker and other small appliances.

The four bed rooms all have views of the water and include:

- 2 double beds - ocean front
- 2 double with bunks, ocean front
- 1 queen bed - view of estuary
- 1 dbl & one single - view of estuary

The owner will need to have access to a storage closet on the second floor occasionally during the week.

Continued on next page

GLSO Yard Sale

Renting a storage room that is "breaking the bank? Have too much clutter? Ready to spring clean? Let us help you!

The GLSO is having a Yard Sale on Saturday, May 2. You can bring items by the Pride Center the week before the sale, April 25 through April 30. Bill is here between 10 and 3 on weekdays and there is often someone here in the evenings and on weekends. Call to be sure.

We will also come pick up heavy boxes, bags, furniture, appliances and miscellaneous. We will be available all day on the weekend of April 25-26. During the following week pickups will be primarily in the evenings. We will have trucks and vans as well as muscle to lift your heavier donations.

Call the Pride Center at 859-253-3233 and give Bill your name, address, and day that you want your items picked up.

Continued on next page

Sponsor of the Month



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**GAY
LESBIAN
SERVICES
ORGANIZATION**
Lexington, KY

Incorporated as

The Gay Service Organization

P.O. Box 1172 Lex., KY 40588

www.glsopc.org

GLSO NEWS

VOLUME 31 NO. 4

News Editors

Mary Crone & Sarah Phillips

Assembly & Distribution

Debby Hemstock

Advertising

Jackie Cobern

Pride Center Office Manager

Bill Chandler

859-253-3233

GLSO BOARD

Mary Crone, President

Ginger Moore, Secretary

Jane Minder, Treasurer

Thomas Collins

Virginia Morman

Terry Mullins

Dana Wallingford

Dennis Wheatley

GLSO Membership & Newsletter

Individuals/Couples

\$20 per year

GLSO Beach Raffle *continued from pg 1*

Timing will be arranged for your convenience.

PLEASE NOTE: October is part of the Hurricane season for the east coast. If a storm is approaching, local authorities will post a warning on TV and radio. This warning is basically telling you to pay attention to the weather reports. If it seems likely that the hurricane will hit the area, there will be a mandatory evacuation. This does not happen often. GLSO will not reimburse the winner of the raffle if they have to leave a day or two early. If they miss half the week, arrangements can be made for another time slot in the OFF Season.

GLSO Yard Sale *continued from page 1*

Please include your phone number in case we get lost! Let us know what you have for us and get on the pick-up list soon.

You can leave all your information on voice mail if no one is at the Center. In addition, we will give you a receipt for the items so that you can use them as a deduction on your 2009 income taxes.

It's a win-win situation! You get a clean store room or home, and we get to raise money for the Pride Center. Thank you in advance for your donations. We hope to hear from you soon!

Be sure to shop at the Yard Sale on May 2 (rain date May 9). The location will be advertised in the Herald Leader as well as in next month's GLSO News.

GLSO News Deadline

May 15

Send articles and ads to
marycrone@insightbb.com

Contact # 859 266-5904

Community News

Kroger Cards

GLSO is distributing Kroger cards as a fundraiser. It works this way: we get Kroger cards and put \$5 on each card. We then give them to supporters for \$5. You then recharge the card at any Kroger store and use it for food, prescription drugs, flowers, cigarettes, and Kroger gas. It works as a debit card. GLSO will receive 4% of the money you put on your card. Cards are available through board members and at the Pride Center. We have already distributed about 40 cards! Thank you.

Red Ribbon Run

AVOL's (AIDS Volunteer's Inc.) Red Ribbon Run is a family event with an 8k run, a 3k pledge walk, and a fun run for the kids, happening April 11th, 2009 at the Kentucky Horse Park. The run is Lexington's only 8k. Registration starts at 8 am, and the run will start at 9am.

You may also pre-register online at www.avolky.org or John's Run Walk on Ashland. The walk is a 3k with persons being sponsored to walk. Ruth Hunt candies, the Easter Bunny and Starbucks will also be there. Entry Fee is \$15 and a t-shirt is included. All proceeds go to benefit AVOL.

Domestic Violence Within GLBT Relationships

There will be a panel discussion about domestic violence on April 9th starting at 6:00pm at the UK Student Center, room 363. Two speakers will be presenting information about how this issue is experienced within the GLBT community.

Continued on next page

Applebee's Fundraiser

On Monday, April 13, we will have our second Applebee's fundraiser. GLSO supporters are invited to eat at Applebee's, 2299 Richmond Rd., between 5 and 9 pm. Present the flyer inside this newsletter and 10% of your bill will be donated to GLSO.

The Richmond Rd. Applebee's is a stand alone building in front of what use to be the Lexington Mall. Hope to see you there.

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Advertisers who paid for advertising in the first issue of The Gay Phonebook will receive a 50% credit toward the renewal of their ad placement.

There is a photography / art contest for the cover of the 2009 phonebook. Artists can submit as many photos as they want. The winning picture will appear on the 2009/2010 cover of the phonebook. Additionally, the artist will be profiled in the directory. Submissions can be submitted online at: www.BluegrassGYB.com. The deadline is April 22

Domestic Violence Panel *continued*

There will be mental health professionals present to offer help to anyone who feels a need to talk about their reactions. The panel is sponsored by the OUTSource Center and the UK GSA.

Softball Team

The Heifers and Used Cows is a lesbian women's softball team that plays softball in the Lexington Parks and Recreation leagues. The spring season opens with the first game being held the first week of April. We play at the Athens-Boonesborough fields off of Richmond Road on Tuesday nights. The times of the games vary. Practices are held two to three times a week, depending on the weather.

New players are always welcome, as are cheerleaders and fans. For more information you can contact Andi Anderson via e-mail at andinlex2000@yahoo.com

TransKentucky

TransKentucky meets on the first Saturday of each month at 7:30pm. Doors open at 7. We are a support, social, and resource group. Our mission is to provide a safe place for transgender individuals.

We include cross dressers, transsexuals, gender queers, intersexuals, and others who do not fit the standard gender norms or who are questioning their gender. Supportive allies are also welcomed.

Meetings are free and you may dress however you feel comfortable. This is not a therapy group. For info and place contact TransKentucky@gmail.com

Pride Center Video Sale

GLSO will be selling many gay related videos, as well as some general videos and DVDs, at the Center during the week of April 6 through April 12. If you have any to donate, bring them in. We want to get these out of the way before yard sale items begin to arrive.

Lexington Pride Festival 2009

Stonewall Lives

Saturday, June 27 in Cheapside Park, downtown Lexington. Go to www.Lexpride.com for information. If you are interested in volunteering the day of the festival, you can contact Ondine at 859 368-4438 or laexigente@gmail.com.

The winner of the logo design contest is Anthony Mejean. See his design as it will look on the T-shirt on page 7. We hope to start selling them in May.

The wristbands will go on sale soon. They will give you special discounts during the month of June at several establishments!

Last year's festival created visibility and raised awareness for the GLBT community like few other events in Lexington have. It was one of the most diverse events Lexington has ever seen. Help us make the 2009 festival even better.

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Financial Planning for Domestic Partners

Similar Goals. Different Challenges. Domestic partners may share similar goals with married individuals, yet they face unique challenges when it comes to financial planning. We will help you develop a plan that's appropriate to your needs—one that takes into account not only where you want to go, but also how you want to get there.



For information, contact
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Pride Center

Phone 859 253-3233 Office Hours 10 to 3 M-F

389 Waller Ave.

HIV Testing

On Thursday, April 2 there will be free HIV testing between 6 pm and 8pm at the Pride Center. The oraquick mouth swab technique will be used. This test gives a result in about twenty minutes. If the test is reactive, a blood sample will be taken. The results are back in two weeks for the confirmatory blood tests. Testing is available at the Center on the first Thursday of each month.



DISCUSSION GROUP

EVERY WEDNESDAY 7PM
PRIDE CENTER 389 WALLER
ALL ARE WELCOME

Video Sale

Pride Center
April 6—April 12

Insight Group

Friday, April 3 Pot Luck

Friday, April 17 Movie Night
Pride Center 7 pm

Lexington Lyons & Levi Club

Monday, Feb 2 at 7 pm
Pride Center, 389 Waller Ave.

Bluegrass Women's Network

The Bluegrass Women's Network is a social group for women who identify as lesbian. Membership is free and there are no obligations. We have a variety of activities such as brunches, potluck dinners, plays, movies, parties, and whatever else we manage to dream up!

To announce events and share information, the Bluegrass Women's Network has a private/hidden Yahoo group website. It is not listed in the Yahoo Directory, and can only be accessed by group members.

Moderators/Facilitators for the Network are Debby and Lynn. If you are interested in joining please send a request to thebluegrasswomensnetwork-owner@yahoo.com and the link to the BGWN Yahoo group will

be sent to you. Then you apply to join.

BW Network Book Club

In April, we are having the second meeting of our book club on Sunday, April 26 at 3 pm at Joseph-Beth Booksellers. Please join us. We are reading Same Kind of Different as Me. Those of us who have started reading are really enjoying it. Here is a website for the book:

www.samekindofdifferentasme.com

Our next book will be Sex Wars by Marge Piercy. It is a novel but based on the lives of Elizabeth Caddy Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, and other women who are working to get women the vote and other rights. The right wing zealot of the time was Anthony Comstock. A very entertaining book.

WE ARE HELPING



to STAMP OUT SYPHILIS

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**JOIN THE NURSE BRIGADE
APRIL 9TH AT 10PM
AT THE BAR COMPLEX!**

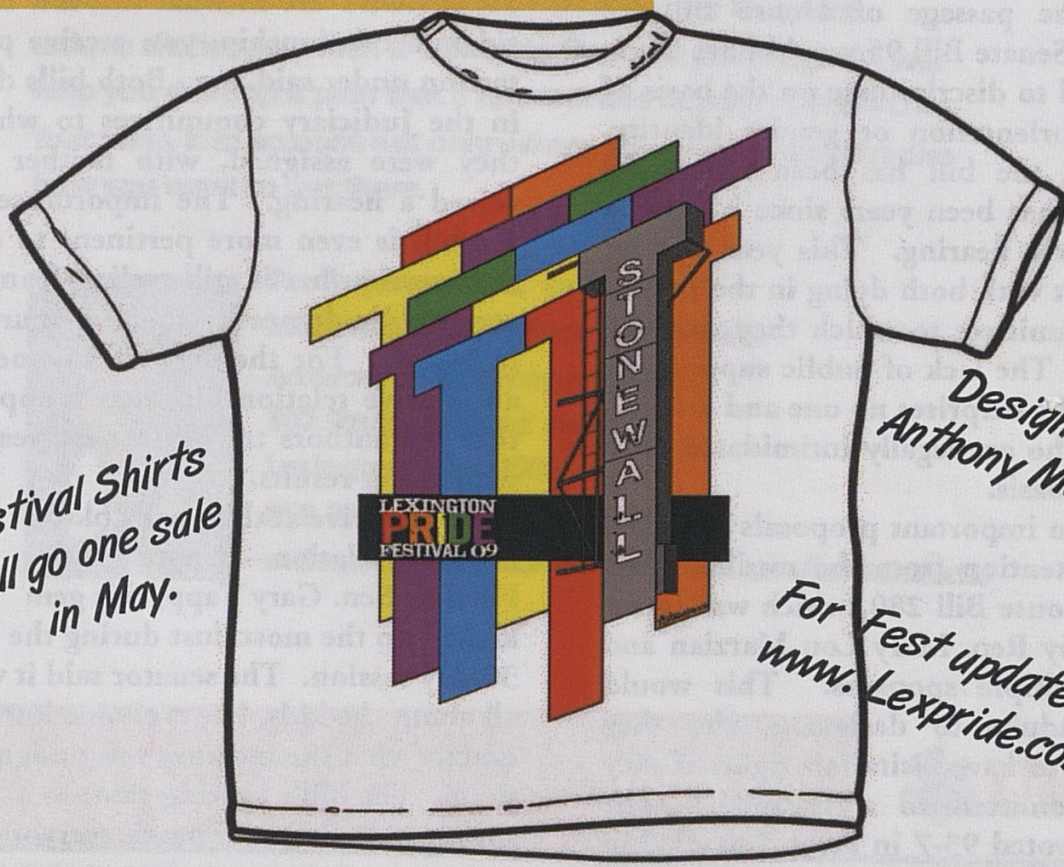
**--- FREE FROLICING FUN ---
GOODIES, CONDOMS, AND YOUR
FAVORITE ENTERTAINERS**

The Nurse Brigade

The Nurse Brigade is back sending out a S.O.S. to help Stamp Out Syphilis. Join the Brigade on April 9th starting at 10pm at The Bar Complex for a night of frolicking fun.

The dictionary's first two definitions of "frolic" are: 1. Gaiety, merriment and 2. A gay, carefree time. Join us and feel free to wear your favorite frock.

There has been an alarming increase in the number of people diagnosed with syphilis. Syphilis is a sexually transmitted disease that is often called "the great imitator" because so many of the signs and symptoms are indistinguishable from those of other diseases. The incidence of syphilis is highest in women 20 to 24 and in men 35 to 39 years of age



*Festival Shirts
will go one sale
in May.*

*Design by
Anthony Mejean*

*For Fest updates, see
www.Lexpride.com*

Legislative Wrap-up Lexington Fairness

Another 30-day legislative has come and gone. It was relatively unproductive, although some major legislation, including bills concerning education, the state road plan and the budget shortfall, passed. Some lobbyists, activists and organizations exited the Capitol doors after Sine Die feeling good, while others left trying to find the words to express their disappointment. Our agenda, "the gay agenda", fared surprisingly well.

Multiple pieces of legislation were filed that concerned the gay community. We'll begin with the most familiar bill – the statewide fairness law. Rep. Mary Lou Marzian and Sen. Kathy Stein have picked up where former senator and current judge, Ernesto Scorsone, left off.

The passage of House Bill 72 and/or Senate Bill 95 would have made it illegal to discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity. Though the bill has been repeatedly filed, it has been years since it's had a committee hearing. This year was no different with both dying in the Judiciary committees to which they were assigned. The lack of public support for these bills surprises no one and saddens those who are legally intimidated on a regular basis.

Two important proposals attracted little attention from the media. First up is House Bill 280, which was introduced by Rep. Mary Lou Marzian and had multiple sponsors. This would allow adults to designate who they wanted to have visitation rights if they were admitted to a hospital. The House voted 93-7 in favor, but died in the Senate Judiciary committee.

Hopes remain high for a similar bill to do well in next year's 60-day session. Though common sense tends to be rare in government, it may soon prevail in this matter. Legislators know that it is nearly impossible to make credible arguments against this policy. Who can argue that an adult cannot make his or her own decisions?

House Bill 48 (Reps. Joni Jenkins and Kent Stevens) and its counterpart Senate Bill 101 (Sens. Kathy Stein and Denise Harper Angel) redefined the terms "member of an unmarried couple" and "dating relationship" in order to allow more individuals to get domestic violence protective orders. Long story short, it all boils down to the length of and nature of the "relationship." What makes the measure relevant is the language, or rather the lack thereof. There is no specification of heterosexual or homosexual. So, if LGBT are in what this law considers a relationship, you receive protection under said law. Both bills died in the Judiciary committees to which they were assigned, with neither received a hearing. The importance of the bill is even more pertinent to our community that is still reeling from a very public domestic violence/ murder in March. For the sake of *anyone* in an abusive relationship, here's hoping that the authors try again next year – with better results.

Now we arrive at this year's blockbuster legislation – Senate Bill 68. Filed by Sen. Gary Tapp, this gem kicked up the most dust during the 30-day session. The senator said it was all about the kids, but everyone knew exactly what the measure was designed to do. The bill's hearing came as a shock to, well, pretty much everyone

Continued on insert

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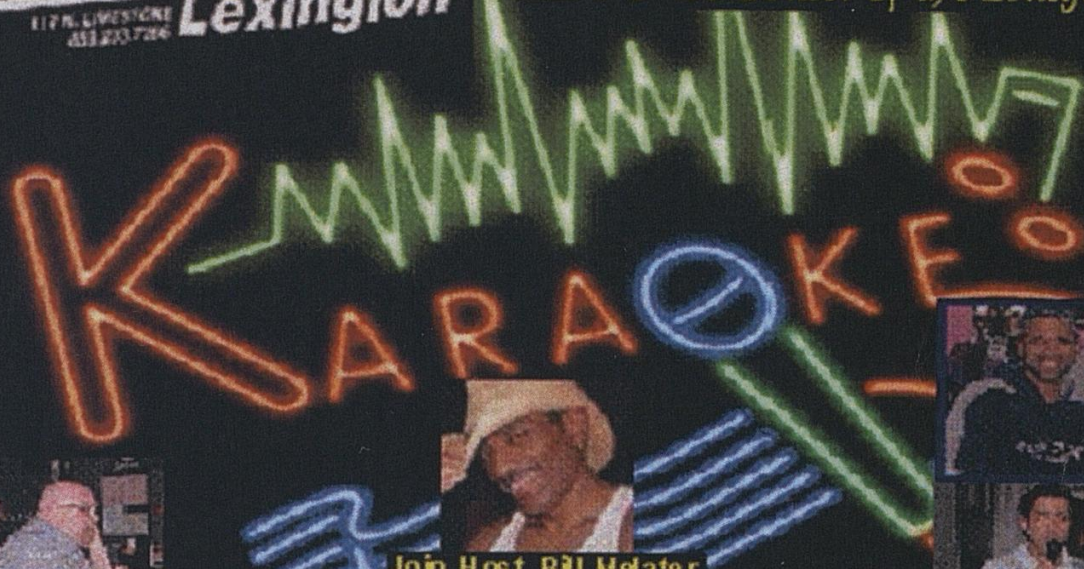
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A Fund-Raiser for the
GLSO Pride Center of the Bluegrass



Join Host, Bill Melater
And
Friends
for an evening
of Fun & Music

Every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month @ 9:00 p.m.

Inauguration, 2009

Lynne and Skye went to the Obama Inauguration in January. They will remember it as "a once in a lifetime experience". Here is their impression of the weekend.

On Sunday, the "Opening Event" at the Lincoln Memorial was supposed to start at 2 pm. When we came up out of the Metro we saw thousands of people already streaming down the Washington Mall for the concert. One sight that made my heart jump with joy was the army of port-o-potties lined up for our use—an issue that we had been concerned about. We joined the throng, waiting about 15 minutes in a line to go through security, and then found a place on the left of the reflecting pool, and sat down to wait.

The crowd was truly diverse, but was younger than I expected; lots of high school/college aged people. We were particularly looking forward to the Invocation by Bishop Gene Robinson, so after the long wait, it was exciting to see him (through the binoculars) walk up to the podium. It was very disappointing that the sound system didn't seem to work until the last 30 seconds of his prayer, after which the HBO logo was splashed on the stage and on the Jumbotrons, and the drums introduced the beginning of the concert.

I hope you all watched or will watch the concert, which was a moving mix of readings from and about Lincoln, FDR, Rosa Parks, ML King and JFK, as well as music from a wide selection of outstanding artists. There were some truly beautiful visual moments, like when Tom Hanks was reading quotes from Lincoln in front

of Lincoln's image projected on the four Jumbotrons and with the stately columns of the Lincoln Memorial rising in the background.

Of course, hearing from Barack Obama was the highlight for me, and he gave a signature eloquent speech. We didn't stray from our patch of the Washington Mall until the concert was over at dusk, at which point we flowed back with the crowd into the Metro and rolled our way home.

On Monday we went to a few museums and found people everywhere excited about the Inauguration. When we walked out of the museum, it was dusk, the Capitol was lit up in all its grandeur, and on the Mall, it was a festive atmosphere of people strolling around and taking pictures and enjoying the evening. So we joined them, walking around the frozen reflecting pool towards the statue of Grant, getting as close to the Capitol as possible, browsing the t-shirt stands, and taking our own pictures.

We decided to walk down Pennsylvania Avenue along the route that the parade would take in the morning. We marveled at the beautiful buildings, passing the FBI, the Archives, and the famous Washington Grille. It was dark and everywhere were sirens, police and workers putting up bleachers and barriers to get ready for the parade. We talked to all kinds of people, got interviewed by the local ABC TV station, and didn't stop until we reached the White House, 1.6 miles later. The closest we could get was across Lafayette Park, from where we could see the White House, also dramatically lit up in the dark. A hushed crowd had gathered there also, taking pictures and talking. From that point, you can look one di-



DINE TO DONATE

**Dine at Applebee's and 10% of your bill
will be donated to**

GLSO NIGHT

Present this flyer to your server on

Monday, April 13

Between 5 pm and 9 pm

Only Valid at the following



**2299 Richmond Road
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Fairness Wrap-up *continued from page 8*

since it was never made public that Sen. Robert Stivers, the Judiciary chair, was going to allow it a committee appearance. The fairness rally held at the Capitol focused a good deal attention on the dangers of the despicable proposal. (As an aside, the rally went well. There was a decent turnout and most were respectful and enthusiastic. Thank you to all who attended that day.) In the end, the Senate never debated or voted on it. However, it is remarkable that the bill died quietly in the right-leaning chamber. Maybe they just didn't want to waste a good wedge issue in a non-election year. Or maybe the leadership understood what Sen. Tapp did not – that it was simply bad policy. Or maybe, just maybe, the Senate office was so overwhelmed by the number of calls, letters and e-mails YOU MADE against the measure that they surrendered this session. Whatever the reason(s) the leadership had, the fact remains that the bill went nowhere. This was quite a victory for not only the LGBT community but the state as a whole. SB 68's defeat was a significant win.

This month's article doesn't contain the usual wit, we apologize if

you're disappointed and promise to be more entertaining next month. Government tends to be dry, tedious and often times boring, but what happens to LGBT issue bills serves as an important barometer for the Kentucky community. We feel that it is our duty to keep you informed of the progress and setbacks in Frankfort on the issues that greatly affect you.

Although, results for the 2009 short session were mixed, some progress was made. Legislators were lobbied hard on all important issues, particularly on Senate Bill 68. You, the LGBT community and its allies, truly made an impact. Your passion and determination were felt in the halls of the Capitol building. Important people took notice. Your activism is this session's biggest win. We thank you for your hard work and applaud the community's lobbying efforts.

SHAMELESS PLUG: Speaking of activism, just a quick reminder that the 2009 Fairness Awards will be held on June 26th at 7 p.m. at the Lexington Downtown Hotel. Please visit our website for more information or to submit a name for consideration of one of our four awards to be presented. It'll be a great show, and we hope you will join us!

Mail to PO Box 1172, Lexington, KY 40588

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_____ Additional donations Welcome

rection and see the White House and look the other direction to see the Washington Monument across the grassy lawn of the Ellipse. I did the right thing and called my mother to tell her I was standing in front of the White House.

Kudos to the original architects and planners of this elegant city. There were police all over the place, but all seemed friendly and relaxed. One spoke to us with a teacher's sternness when we crossed a street against the light. "Ladies, you have to look at the signals!"

Although the Metro started running at 4:00 a.m. the next morning, 4:30 a.m. was our agreed upon wake up time. We dutifully rolled out of bed (actually, off the air mattress) when the alarm went off. The four of us from Kentucky were out of the house on our way to the Metro at 5:15 a.m. The train was only partly full, but with every stop, more happy people poured in, so by the time we reached downtown, it was shoulder to shoulder with excited Obama supporters.

I alternated between riding high on the enthusiasm of everyone around me, and flashbacks to trainloads of people naively packed into trains in the dark days of Germany. I was in the back of the crowd when the train doors opened to let us out at the L'Enfant plaza, and I almost couldn't get off the train because the platform was so crowded. The four of us held on to each other as we climbed up the (not working) escalator to street level. We were swept along in the dark for several blocks with an enthusiastic crowd of thousands. The first $\frac{3}{4}$ mile of the Mall was already packed with people, so we walked to the middle of the Mall, and close to a Jumbotron, and put our blanket down. Within min-

utes we were surrounded by more attendees, standing shoulder to shoulder as far as we could see. The crowd included a lot more (elegantly attired) older people this time, especially African-Americans. We couldn't move from our spot—partly because there was no room to walk, and because we wouldn't be able to find our group again if we left it. It was about 6:15 a.m. and 19 degrees, with a cold wind. Five hours to wait...

Girl Scouts came by and passed out American flags, which later we waved with abandon to signal approval and enthusiasm. Text messaging came in handy, as cell phones calls didn't work after about the first hour. We chatted with people around us (a group of 4 who had driven down from New Jersey that morning, and a family group from Louisville in front of us). I give thanks for hand warmers, long underwear, snacks and friendly people.

At 8, the Jumbotrons lit up and the crowd roared. It provided safety tips and Metro updates, and then re-played the concert from Sunday. That helped pass the time. I got insight to the life of a dog as I sat on the blanket, trying to conserve energy, and looked at the crowd from the vantage point of knees to feet, occasionally shifting position to avoid being stepped on by the regular flow of people jockeying for a better position. The sun finally rose up above the eastern city scape, and we began to warm up. The temperature rose to 23 degrees.

The Jumbotrons finally switched to views of dignitaries arriving at the Inauguration, I guess the same views that you saw on TV. At 11 am, the "pre-show" entertainment started. The rest of the Inauguration was well broadcast,

Continued on page 14

Inauguration *continued from page 12*

but I have to convey the energy that I felt from the sea of celebrating people who cheered and cried with me when Obama was sworn in and gave his Inaugural speech. I alternated between taking pictures and waving the American flag, hugging my friends and crying.

When it was all over, the Mall was a total mess of newspapers, food wrappers, Kleenex and random hats and gloves left by the sea of people. We made a bee line for the port-a-potties, then went back towards the Museum for a leisurely lunch. (We were four happy people when we finally made it onto the Metro later that day, still having to wait about 10-15 minutes just to get into the station. The crowd was tired and more subdued, but still friendly and helpful. At last estimate, 1.9 million, and no Inauguration related arrests.

We got back in the car on Wednesday to head back west to Kentucky. By the time we reached Morgantown, WV, it was time to stop for a lunch break. In the rest room we ran into a young mother with an Obama pin on; she was on her way back from the Inauguration also. She said, "I wish I could bottle the energy I felt from being there." That pretty much sums up my feeling also. It was fun and historic, yes, but unexpectedly moving and energizing. I'm glad to be back in Lexington, but we are re-playing the Sunday concert and still processing the enormity of this event. We have searched for our faces (so far to no avail) in the aerial pictures of the mall.

In one sentence: a once in a lifetime experience.

GLSO News On-Line

GLSO has published it's first email version of our newsletter. If you would like to receive the next e-newsletter, please send your email address to lexingtonglso@yahoo.com. Put "on line newsletter" in the subject line. For those of you who received the first copy, please let us know what you think.

When you receive a copy, you will see that there is a way to unsubscribe. There is also be a request for a \$20 a year donation but you can receive the e-newsletter with a smaller donation or free. There will be advertising possibilities in the e-newsletter; we are working out the details

We do not plan to stop producing hard copies but, in time, the format will change. We are excited about the possibilities including new people we will reach & new writers for the newsletter.

A Quotation about Prop 8 from Al Sharpton

"There is something immoral and sick about using all of the power (of the church) to not end brutality and poverty, but to break into people's bedrooms and claim that God sent you. It amazes me that when I looked at California and saw churches that had nothing to say about police brutality, nothing to say when a young black boy was shot while he was wearing police handcuffs, nothing to say when they overturned affirmative action, nothing to say when people were being (consigned to) poverty, yet they were organizing and mobilizing to stop consenting adults from choosing their life partners."

This is one of several times Sharpton has supported us.

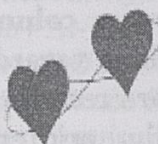
Iran Pressures Gays To Change Gender *continued from page 19*

Her mother is happy with the change. "A boy will always just get married and leave his mother, but a girl stays. Now I have a daughter as I always wanted."

Negar (previously Aki), has not had an easy time after her operation. Her family's reaction has been harsh. Although they warned her she would be disowned, she thought that they would change their mind after the operation. "They pray for me to die soon. If I'd known that my family would truly shun me like this, I would never have done it."

She now lives with other MTFs who have had a sex change. She has had to work as a prostitute to make ends meet. Rejection by her parents has affected her deeply: "When parents can kill the love for their own child inside themselves, I have killed love in my being. I will never fall in love".

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"Keep the love you find,
Get the love you want!"

Jessica Bollinger LCSW
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COOK'S CORNER

Another month has rolled by and I must admit I was anxious for the recipes to start rolling in. I'm a bit disappointed that as of this writing, we've not received a single recipe. I know everyone is extremely busy, but this is for a really good cause. The GLSO is compiling a cookbook as one of their fundraising activities. In order for this fundraiser to be successful, it will take just a wee little bit of your time and effort.

For each recipe that you submit by April 30, 2009 (date has been extended), you will be entered in a contest for a basket filled with kitchen goodies. So please send your recipe's to cooking-withpride@hotmail.com to enter the contest and to help the GLSO cookbook fundraiser. Remember, this doesn't cost you a thing but a bit of your time. There will be another contest after this one closes.

I was filling a bit "dippy" this month so I thought I would share some of my favorite dip recipes with you. Each one is really easy to make and quite delicious! I hope you'll try one or all of them and let me know if they worked for you. I always recommend using fresh ingredients versus canned ones as fresh ingredients always enhances the flavor of any dish.

BUFFALO CHICKEN DIP

8 ounces cream cheese
1/2 cup ranch dressing
3/4 cup chopped celery
4 ounces red hot sauce (or to taste)
2 cups cooked chicken, diced or shredded (Canned Chicken breast works)
shredded cheddar cheese
tortilla chips, crackers or vegetables

Mix together *Continued on page 16*

BUFFALO CHICKEN DIP

Continued from previous page

Mix together the cream cheese and ranch dressing. Add celery. Set aside.

In skillet, sauté hot sauce and chicken. Stir chicken into cream cheese mixture.

Spoon into a 9 inch pie plate and cover with cheddar cheese.

Bake at 350 for 30- 35 minutes.

Serve warm with tortilla chips, crackers, or cut up raw veggies for dipping.



BLT DIP

2 cups sour cream
2 cups mayonnaise
2 lbs sliced bacon, cooked and crumbled
6 plum tomatoes, chopped

3 green onions, chopped lettuce for garnish (if desired) assorted crackers or chips

In a bowl, combine the sour cream, mayonnaise, bacon, tomatoes and onions. Refrigerate until serving. Garnish with shredded lettuce just before serving, if desired. Serve with chips and crackers. Also, nice served in a bread bowl with bread chunks.



EASY SPINACH DIP

1 (8 ounce) package frozen chopped spinach
1 package ranch dressing mix



1 (8 ounce) package cream cheese, at room temp

1 (8 ounce) container sour cream

1 cup of shredded cheddar cheese, split into (2) 1/2 cup portions

Defrost the spinach. Place it in a colander and press it until as much moisture as possible is removed.

Mix all ingredients (1/2 of the cheddar) and blend well.

Put it in a shallow baking dish in the oven for 20 minutes at 350 degrees.

Remove from oven and while still hot top it with remaining cheese, heat in oven again for 5 minutes. Remove, let cool, and serve. Goes well with tortilla chips's.

I usually cook everything from scratch, using fresh ingredients, just like my Gramma taught me. However, I do recognize the need for short-cuts. So, I wanted to let you know about a new item, Pillsbury Savorings, which can be found in the frozen food section of the local grocery store. These flaky pastry bites come in three flavors: Cheese & Spinach, Mozzarella-Pepperoni, and Buffalo Style Chicken. They are great little appetizers or make for a quick lunch. There are 12 per box for \$3.99.

I hope that you have enjoyed our column and look forward to receiving your recipes, comments, and suggestions. Please let me know what YOU would like to see in future columns. Also, if you have questions regarding cooking preparation or techniques, please ask away. Again, our email address is:

cookingwithpride@hotmail.com.

I look forward to hearing from you soon!

Happy Cooking! The Unknown Chef

Spotlight on the Beautiful People...

...by Helena Handbasket.

Our beautiful person in the spotlight for April is the fabulous Natalie Gaye. A hairdresser by day and Diva by night, Natalie has lived in Lexington for 21 years but is originally from Stearns, KY. She shares her life with her partner of six years, Thomas Chaney, and five beloved pets: A black lab named Eartha Kitt, a white toy poodle, Tommy Hilfiger, and three cats, Siegfried, Roy (brothers, not lovers!), and Posha.

Natalie has been performing in Lexington for 20 years. Her drag mother is Judy Jetson. Natalie's favorite charity is the Imperial Court of Kentucky. Besides being very involved with the Court, she also held the titles of Empress 15 and 20!

One of the things that makes Natalie special is her sense of humor, like when she tells us the biggest misconception about her is that she is fat. When asked about her most embarrassing moment on stage, she giggled and told this story: "I had just been introduced at Illusions at Main Street Live. It was during the coronation at the All Empress show. Before I knew it, I fell from backstage right into the audience and a ficus tree, busting my head wide open! Needless to say, I didn't do that number. I thought I would need stitches but my doctor told me just to super glue it. I about died!"

She dreams of performing with or for Bette Midler (don't we all, Honey?) but her dream job would be to do hair and make-up for Saturday Night Live. Her dream vacation would be sharing quiet time on a beach in Costa Rica

Natalie Gaye



with her husband, Thomas. Her favorite songs to perform are "Proud" by Heather Small and a special rendition of "At Last." Her favorite music is anything by Cher, favorite color purple, favorite movie and TV show is *Sordid Lives*, favorite actress is Elizabeth Taylor and favorite actor is Leonardo DiCaprio. Currently, she is reading "The Miracle of Myrtle" by Donna Ison.

When asked to name three people she would want to be stranded with on a desert island, Natalie replied: Thomas, Cammie Dietrich (because she is so resourceful and can do anything!) and her niece, Tabitha, who just got back from a year-long stay in Afghanistan. Natalie says she wants to be remembered for "always trying hard to do the right thing. Whether I achieved it or not, I always tried."

Here's how Natalie finished these next sentences: The world would be a better place if... "everyone was treated equal". I strive to make the world a better place by... "trying to keep a positive attitude".

Natalie invites everyone to come see her, among others, at the Lexington Drag Queen Hall of Fame show on Sunday, April 26th at Natasha's Café. The show starts at 8 pm. The honorees this year will be Chelsea Pearl, Bellaire aka Kelly Colbert (formerly of Lexington but now

Continued on next page

Spotlight *continued from page 17*

of Hollywood, who also portrays Roger the hairdresser on the LOGO TV series, *Sordid Lives*), and a post-humous honor to Leigh Angelique. Also appearing are the Reigning Empress, Eve St. Mychal, Nicole Diamond, Cammie Dietrich, Eden Towers, Tracy Taylor, Lady Marmalade, Cheyenne, Karen Colbert, LaToya Bacall, and others.

*** If there is someone in the community that you feel deserves to be honored in this column, please send your request to Advicefrom-Helena@aol.com Let's be MySpace friends! . Look me up at www.myspace.com/helenah.

Thanks to My Family

By Iggie

In Oct. I had a heart attack and by pass surgery and my real family stepped up. I thought the best way to thank everyone was to write a little something for the GLSO Newsletter. This also lets the community know that if you need help, you can often find it in our LGBT community.

I would like to these people and organizations: Jane and Ginger (Pinky and Punkin) along with members of the discussion group (Ronnie, Andy, Sara, Sonny Norma, Jerry, Missy and all the gang) Thanks you. you are great. The GLSO members Thomas, Mary and Bill, thanks for all your help. St Joes Hosp staff, thank you and for let me express my faith while visiting you. St Joes Free Clinic (Ellen ,Pam, Kathy and the gang) To any I missed, thank you. I love you all. If you every need me feel free to ask. BLESSED BE.



Unitarian Universalist Church

3564 Clays Mill Rd.

Public Support for GLBT Rights

The U.U. Church has worship service at 11 am each Sunday. We are a welcoming congregation that celebrates our GLBT members. We are located at 3564 Clays Mill Rd. , just inside Man-O'War.

Interweave, a support group for GLBT people and friends, will be meeting for a pot luck lunch after church on April 12. We will be discussing the possibility of participating in Pride Month activities. We also have a new bisexuality curriculum to look over.

Last year, Interweave asked the church to create two gender neutral bathrooms in our lobby. The board agreed to do this but they have not yet come up with the financial resources for the work.

Ours is a liberal religious tradition with room for many beliefs. Our congregation includes people who identify as Christian, Jewish, Buddhist, Pagan, Muslim, Atheist, Agnostic, and Humanist. On Sunday mornings, there is sitting meditation at 9 am, and a Buddhist discussion at 9:45. You do not have to know much about Buddhism to join us.

The **Women's Spirituality Group** will be meeting on Sat., April 11 at noon. Contact Mary Crone for info., 266-5904. or email marycrone@insightbb.com. We will be using the UU curriculum, *Cakes for the Queen of Heaven*. This is a study guide that helps us explore that which is both sacred and female within our lives. We will meet the second Saturday of each month.

Iran: Gay Men Pressured into Changing Gender

In Iran homosexuality is punishable by death. Transsexuality, however, is recognized as a medical condition and sex reassignment surgery is available. Twenty-five years ago the Ayatollah Khomeini passed a religious edict authorizing operations for "diagnosed transsexuals".

Today, Iran carries out more sex change operations than any other nation in the world except for Thailand. The government even provides financial assistance and a sex change is noted on the birth certificate.

"Islam has a cure for people, if they want to change their gender", says Hojatol Mehdi Kariminia, the religious cleric responsible for gender reassignment. He says an operation is no more a sin than "changing wheat to flour to bread".

"The discussion is fundamentally separate from a discussion regarding homosexuals. Homosexuals are doing something unnatural and against religion," says Kariminia. "It is clearly stated in our Islamic law that such behavior is not allowed because it disrupts the social order."

In Iran, gay men are seen as choosing to be immoral. Effeminate gay men are particularly targeted; they are harassed, beaten on the streets, rejected by their families and can be legally killed by the "morality police." For these men, being diagnosed as a transsexual turns a perceived sin into a medical condition. So, there are understandably gay men who have sex reassignment surgery in order to survive in Iran.

For Ali the decision to become a woman came at a heavy cost. His fa-

ther threatened to kill him if he went ahead with surgery. "He keeps telling me to come home so he can kill me. He had put rat poison in my tea."

Now renamed Negar, she says she would not have had the operation if she did not live in Iran. "If I didn't have to operate, I wouldn't do it." Negar says that as an effeminate man he could not work with men because they sexually harassed him. Men are not allowed to work with women. So he could not support himself.

Dr Mir-Jalali, who performed Ali's surgery, is Iran's leading specialist in sex change surgery. He claims to have performed over 450 operations in the last 12 years. Once he makes a diagnosis, a patient can get official permission to cross-dress in public. It is interesting to note that nothing is said about FTM transsexuals. I suspect that lesbians are invisible in Iranian society and females that think of themselves as male may just keep it to themselves.

Another of Dr Mir-Jalali's patients, Anoosh, was deeply unhappy before surgery and felt pressured to leave school because of his feminine appearance. Anoosh struggled to reconcile his sexual orientation with the wishes of family, community and culture. He and his boyfriend were continually harassed on the streets. Anoosh was frequently threatened with arrest by Iran's morality police.

His boyfriend was in favor of the sex change. "When he goes out in female clothes and has a female appearance it is easier for me to persuade myself that he is a girl. It makes the relationship better," he says.

Anoosh had the operation and became Anahita, and is now engaged to her boyfriend. *Continued on page 15*

ST. MYCHAL THE MARTYR PARISH

Sunday Worship 10:30



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1033 Industry Rd.
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www.stmychalthemartyr.org

St. Mychal The Martyr

www.stmychalthemartyr.org

You are invited to our worship services every Sunday at 10:30 with Rev Ken Waibel performing mass. We are at 1033 Industry Rd. Suite #5, off Winchester Rd. We are a liturgical church with worship filled with ritual and hearts filled with joy.

Our Church performs blessings of gay unions, welcomes divorced people, and ordains all persons into the orders of Deacon, Priest and Bishop.

The Mission of St. Mychal is to provide a church that welcomes people in all their uniqueness and giftedness. St. Mychal is a member of the Orthodox Catholic Church of America, a national church that is gay

supportive. It is one of many offshoots of the Roman Catholic Church. We have space available for meetings and receptions.

Integrity

Integrity is a support group for LGBT Episcopalians. Call St. Michael's Episcopal church for information. 859 277-7511 St. Michael's is a welcoming congregation with services each Sunday at 8, a more contemporary service at 9, and a traditional service at 11:15. Other Episcopal Churches in Lexington are also welcoming of GLBT individuals. Please join us.



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MIS-PAGINATION

The GLSO Directory

** Have emails or websites*

GLSO Board:

GLSO Pride Center *(Bill)859-253-3233
 GLSO Board * (Mary)859-266-5904
 Discussion Group (Bill)859-253-3233
 GLSO News (Mary)859-266-5904
 Subscriptions.....859-253-3233
 Speakers' Bureau (Mary).....859-266-5904

Student Groups:*

Berea College ACE (Ryan)859-985-3633
 Centre College (BGLA (Mykol)) .859-238-5332
 Morehead State Univ. (Ned)606-783-2294
 OUTsource (UK)859-323-3312

Anonymous HIV Testing:

Jessamine County859-885-4149
 Lexington, Fayette County859-288-2437
 Woodford County859-873-4541
 U.K. Adolescent Medicine859-323-5643

HIV/AIDS Info/Services:

AVOL (AIDS Volunteers, Inc.)* .859-225-3000
 Lexington Health Dept.859-288-2437
 HIV/AIDS Legal Project502-584-1254
 Cumberland Region (SEKY-Pat)
 606-864-3776
 888-425-7282
 Lexington S.T.O.P. Program (Jeff)
 859-254-3469 ext.230
 Louisville Region502-574-0161
 Northern Kentucky Region859-341-4264
 Moveable Feast Lex., (Terry)859-252-2867

Community Groups:

Alcoholics Anonymous (Ron)859-948-0434
 Al-Anon / Al-Teen (Office)859-277-1877
 Bluegrass C.O.L.T.S. (Morris)859-225-9169
 Council for Peace & Justice859-255-6999
 Fairness of Louisville502-893-0788
 Social Services (formerly First Link).....211
 Internat. Gay Bowling (Steve)859-276-3058
 Lexington Fairness *.....859-951-4450
 Lex. Human Rights Comm.859-252-4931
 Lex. Insight Group (Dana)859-230-2428
 Lexington Pride Festival *.....859-253-3233
 Lyons Leather/Levi Club (Paul) *
 859-940-1769

MACT859 358-8335
 PFLAG Louisville *502-329-0229
 Rainbow League*.....859-420-6398
 SisterSound (Patti).....859-806-0243
 24 hr. Crisis Line1-800-928-8000
 24 hr. Teen Crisis Line1-800-999-9999

Religious Groups:

Interweave (Unitarian-Mary) ..859-266-5904
 Integrity (Episcopal-David) ...859-396-9691
 Lexington Friends (Quakers) ...859-254-3319
 Jubilee Fellowship (Rev. Cori)*. 859-421-5859
 MCC Paducah (Rev. Lillian) ...270-443-3339

* Email & Website Addresses:

GLSO Pres.marycrone@insightbb.com
 GLSO/Pride Center Website:..... www.glsso.org
 Pride Center Email.....lexingtonglso@yahoo.com
 Bluegrass Women's Network
 Thebluegrasswomensnetworkowner@yahoogroups.com
 Lexington Fairness.....www.lexfair.org
 Lexington Pride Festival.....www.lexpride.com
 Email.....lexpride@gmail.com
 Lyons Leather/Levi Clubwww.lexlyons.org
 AVOL.....www.avolky.org
 Moonshine Bears of KY (Jim)
 www.moonshinebears.com
 OUTsourcesusanmatsubara@yahoo.com
 PFLAG Louisville
 pflaglouisville@yahoo.com
 Rainbow League.....morgan@morganfry.com
 TransKentuckyTransKentucky@gmail.com
 Jubilee Fellowship
 jfellowship@windstream.net
 KY Pagan Forum<http://go.to/kypaganforum/>

GLSO News Deadline

May 15

Send articles and ads to
marycrone@insightbb.com

Contact # 859 266-5904

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KY Department for Public Health.....1-800-420-7431

HIV/AIDS Branch