



**GAY and
LESBIAN
SERVICE
ORGANIZATION**
Lexington,
Kentucky

The GLSO NEWS

January 2005

A publication of the Lexington Gay and Lesbian Service Organization

Volume 20 Number 1

Rhythm of Life SisterSound Concert Jan. 22

SisterSound, Lexington's Women's Chorus, proudly announces its upcoming concert, *The Rhythm of Life* on Saturday, January 22nd, at 8 p.m. at UK Singletary Center. The performance will feature a variety of diverse musical styles. We will rock the house with medleys *The Best of Doo-Wop* and *Disco Divas*. *Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day* evokes the grace and elegance of classic ballet. In addition, the chorus will reprise the Leanne Womack hit *I Hope You Dance*. SisterSound will swing and samba and perform a number of other familiar tunes with our own unique interpretation.

Playing on the theme of Music, Rhythm, and Dance, SisterSound will host a number of Special Guest Performers who will be showcasing their dancing talents. Among others, the line-up includes cloggers and belly dancers. You never know who might take the stage at this upbeat, musical exploration of life and its many rhythms.

The concert promises to take SisterSound's joy in singing to a whole new level, so please come and enjoy this celebration. The event will be Festival Seating with ticket prices of \$15 for regular admission, \$10 for seniors/students, and \$5 for children. Tickets are available from any SisterSound member or from the Singletary Center Box Office @ 859-257-4929. For info., please visit us in cyberspace at: www.geocities.com/sistersound.

Bluegrass Fairness Annual Meeting Monday, January 24 7:00 pm

The Bluegrass Chapter of the Kentucky Fairness Alliance will be having its annual meeting on Monday, Jan. 24th at 7pm at the downtown Public Library, Conference Room A. Light refreshments will be served. The meeting is open to anyone who is interested in the activities of the Bluegrass Chapter and is supportive of its mission to end discrimination against members of the gay, lesbian, bi-sexual and transgender community.

We will be holding elections for several seats on our Steering Committee. Individuals interested in running for a seat should call 806-4114. We will also be taking nominations from the floor.

This meeting is an excellent time for you to meet the current members of the Steering Committee and to express your views as to what we should focus on in the upcoming year. It is also an opportunity for you to learn what you can do, including lobbying the General Assembly. Please join us on the ...continued on the next page

BLUEGRASS CHAPTER KENTUCKY FAIRNESS



ALLIANCE

see pages 5,14,16



The GLSO NEWS

Volume 20 Issue 1
published monthly by
*The Lexington Gay
Lesbian Service
Organization*
389 Waller Ave.

Editors

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Jackie Cobern

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**GLSO Annual Dues &
Newsletter \$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 staff reserves the right to edit submissions and advertisements as well as the right to reject submissions or advertisements.

Fairness cont. lower level of the downtown public library. For more information call 859-806-4114.

Volunteers Needed

GLSO is looking for help with this newsletter. We would love to have some contributing writers. In the past, individuals have written humorous, historical and personal essays. If you think you might have something to say, give it a try.

We would also like to have another editor, someone who would help get information or articles from the community, help with layout, design a new section, or other tasks. Please call the office and speak to Bill or Mary 253-3233. You can also call Mary at home at 266-5904.

We need volunteers to help keep the Pride Center Open on some weekday afternoon into early evening and on Saturdays. If you could be here for a few hours a week please give us a call at 253-3233.

AVOL MARDI GRAS BALL

Please join us and our Mistress of Ceremonies, Cathleen Collins, for an evening of New Orleans-style revelry at our annual Mardi Gras Ball. This Ball is in Memory of our long-time supporter and Master of Ceremonies, Brian Collins.

Doors open at 7 pm on Sat, January 29, at the Sheraton Suites, 2601 Richmond Rd. Opening Ceremonies will be at 8 PM. There will be dancing, a Cajun dinner buffet, a costume contest, and tarot card readings. There will be casino gaming including roulette, blackjack and Texas hold-em poker. We will raffle two tickets to the UK/Auburn Basketball Game.

Attire for the evening will be Formal or Fabulous (Black Tie, Masquerade or Mardi Gras Costume). Tickets are \$50 per person, VIP Tables of 8 for \$500 and VIP Tables of 4 for \$250. Get a group together for a VIP Table and join the decorating contest.

Sheraton Suites is offering a special Mardi Gras Ball Room Rate of \$84 for a Suite on Jan. 29th. For information or tickets contact AVOL at (859) 225-3000 or

Pick up the *Pink Pages 2005* at the Pride Center

Community News

Rainbow Families of Lexington

Rainbow Families of Lexington (RFOL) is an organization for gay and lesbian parents and their children that reside in the greater Lexington area. RFOL looks to bring parents and children together to make friends and share experiences in a friendly and accepting environment. RFOL's mission is to show our children that there are other families like theirs.

The group had their first social activity on Saturday, December 4th at Gattitown. Approximately 30 parents and children attended and fun was had by all.

RFOL is planning a January play date activity for kids of all ages. Details are still being worked out, but the date is set for Saturday, January 8, from 3-5p. The group is also organizing a daytime pre-Super Bowl gathering in February, details to come.

We invite parents and those who are just starting their journey to parenthood to join RFOL. To become a member, call Jen at 533-6260 email jen_cheryl@yahoo.com or join the Yahoo Group <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/rfolky/>.

MACT KY

Men of All Colors Together Kentucky is a chapter of the National Association of Black and White Men Together. For information contact mact.ky@aol.com. or see www.mactky.com.

We have planned a Slumber party and sightseeing at Red River Gorge for the weekend of Jan 7 though 9. We have a Cabin in the Woods that has indoor plumbing, heat, a kitchen, and beds. Participants are asked to bring their own sleeping bag or bedroll (linens, blankets, towels etc. are not provided) Space is lim-

ited. Preference will be given to members who wish to spend the entire weekend. A donation of \$25 is requested.

40+ WOMEN

We have some great ideas for 2005 starting with a New Years Eve bash at Club Liquid in Woodhill Shopping Center. This is the new bar in town and they have planned its Grand Opening for New Year's Eve. There will be a \$15 cover charge. We expect a night of great entertainment, dancing and surprises.

On Saturday, Jan. 22, we will get together for dinner and the SisterSound Concert, Rhythm of Life (see front page). The concert will be at Singletary Center for the Arts Admission is \$15, \$10 students or seniors. We will meet at Bangkok House, a Thai restaurant across from Singletary for dinner at 6:30. Email ladyjaneky@yahoo.com to reserve a seat for dinner.

Sue and Bonita are organizing a special experience for us, witnessing the birth of a thoroughbred. For complete information email Sue and Bonita at sighho@aol.com.

The next 40+ Club meeting will be on Jan. 9th, 2pm at the Pride Center, 389 Waller Ave. Come with ideas for activities you would like and plan to join us after the meeting for a meal at a local restaurant. With this group, you don't have to go it alone.

Lyons Levi/Leather Club

The Lexington Lyons meet every third month at the Pride Center. The next meeting will be on February 14 at 8 pm. You are welcome to join us.

...continued on next page

Imperial Court Turnabout Show

Join the Imperial Court on January 26th as they host their annual Emperor's Turnabout show. This is one of the Court's most anticipated shows. The drag queens will have the night off, and the male line of descent will be performing. The show will be at 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, January 26th at Club 141. Cover is \$5. Get there early. It may not be pretty.

If you haven't gotten your "Women on the Edge" 2005 calendar yet, they can still be purchased online at <http://www.imperial-court.org/kentucky>. Calendars can also be purchased by calling 258-2997, or by visiting the participating merchants listed on the website. They are \$12 each/ 10 for \$100 with proceeds going to Moveable Feast.

Finally, our most sincere thanks to those members of the community who helped the Court's "A Bluesy Christmas" show raise over \$700 to support AVOL's efforts to make sure that their clients' children had a very merry Christmas.

RAINBOW LEAGUE

The Rainbow League is sponsoring social bowling every Wednesday at Collins Lanes on Southland Dr. starting at 9 p.m. There is no obligation to come every Wednesday night. Participants will pay the open bowling rate, roughly \$10 for three games. Shawn Fritz will maintain statistics for those who want to participate in the International Gay Bowling Org. For info call Shawn Fritz at 859-271-8919

Frontrunners/Frontwalkers

Frontrunners/Frontwalkers meet every Saturday at 9 am at the the UK Arboretum for running/walking and socializing. Join us near the Water Tower. For info call Hal Kutter or Ken Waibel at 859-294-7944 or email Hal at haroldkutter@aol.com.

Diversity in Gender Alliance

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/lexDGA>

The Lexington Diversity in Gender Alliance will not meet in January. In February we will meet on the regular first Saturday evening of the month (Feb. 5th) at a private location. Doors open at 7, the meeting starts at 7:30. Call Julia at 255-7306 for information.

We welcome all people who transcend gender norms or who are questioning their gender identity, including transsexuals, intersexuals, effeminate men, masculine women, drag Kings, drag Queens, gender queers and more. Family and supportive allies who would like to learn more are also welcomed. This is not a therapy group.

UK Support Group

A new GLBTQ support Group is meeting at UK. on Thursdays, 12:30 to 1:45. Not a therapy group or social club, just a safe place to get support. We talk about issues that can sometimes be difficult to discuss including: coming out, flirting, sexuality, spirituality, family, employment, relationships, homophobia.

This group is free and for UK/LCC students only. Facilitators: Colby Cohen-Archer, PH.D and Sherry Rostosky, PH.D. Call 257-8701 or crcohe2@uky.edu

More Community News
see pages 6 ,8

Fairness News
see pages 14 & 16

**RELIGIOUS / SPIRITUAL
RESOURCES**

see pages 19 - 21

Bluegrass Fairness

KENTUCKY FAIRNESS



ALLIANCE

Promoting equality for all people regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity in sixteen central Kentucky counties.

Bluegrass Chapter Annual Meeting

Monday, January 24, 7 pm

Public Library - Conference Room A

see page 1

Please join us to
Lobby the State Legislature
in February

P.O. Box 22032
Lexington, Kentucky 40522
859 806-4114

www.bluegrassfairness.org
www.kentuckyfairness.org
info@bluegrassfairness.org



PRIDE CENTER NEWS and ACTIVITIES



389 Waller Ave. 859-253-3233 Mon-Sat 10 am. - 3 pm

Volunteers help us keep the Center open after 3. In January we will be open until 7 on Mon., Wed., and Fri. Want to volunteer? call us.

Freedom To Marry

Freedom To Marry is an upbeat, humorous, and moving documentary that will be shown at the Pride Center on Saturday, Jan. 8, and 2 pm. It documents the events that took place in February, 2004 when Mayor Gavin Newsom began allowing gay and lesbian couples to marry at the San Francisco Court House.

It includes interviews with long term gay and lesbian couples who recount the joys of their relationships and the pain of living in a society that does not recognize their commitment. This documentary will renew you faith that eventually we will all gain the right to marry. Everyone is invited to join us. If you like food while you watch, bring snack to share.

Discussion Group

The discussion group meets every Wednesday night at 7 pm at the Pride Center and is open to all. We strive to make this a safe space where you can be yourself. If you enjoy lively discussions, please join us. For more info contact Jane at ladyjaneky@yahoo.com



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**We have a winner in our raffle!
Congratulations to Ruthie Maslin for winning the DVD: First Season of *The L Word*.**

Lesbian Movie Night

Join us on Friday, Jan. 14, 7 pm at the Pride Center for the pilot episode of the Showtime series *The L Word*. Jennifer Beals and Pam Grier star in this story of a group of Los Angeles lesbians, their friends, family and neighbors.

The second season of *The L Word* will be starting on Showtime in mid February. Everyone is invited to join us for Lesbian Video night at the Pride Center. Bring a snack to share and join us.

Pride Center Library Catalog

If you have been to the Pride Center Library lately, you know that the collection has gotten so big (over 2000 titles) that it is hard to find books on the subjects you want or by the authors you like. Well, we hope we have solved that problem by producing a catalog to the collection.

When you go to the library simply look for the notebooks labeled "Catalog." What you will find are three alphabetical lists by titles, authors and subjects. So if you are looking for *Loving Someone Gay* just look in the "Title Catalog." If you want something by Rita Mae Brown or Truman Capote check the "Author Catalog."

The biggest challenge has been creating the "Subject Catalog." Topical headings have been assigned to most works. You will find ...continued on page 8

SisterSound Presents

Rhythm of Life

It'll be one lively concert!



Saturday, January 22nd, 8:00 pm

UK Singletary Center for the Arts

Ticket Prices: \$15 regular admission,

\$10 students and seniors, \$5 children

Tickets are available from

the Singletary Center for the Arts Box Office, 257-4929

www.geocities.com/sistersound

Pride Library ..continued from page 6

topics like "Gay couples," "Lesbian parents," "Bible and homosexuality," and "Drag - History." Search by for biographies by name (ex. lang, k.d. - Biography; Warhol, Andy - Biography). You can even look up your favorite characters in fiction series (ex. Lawless, Jane (Fictional character); Rios, Henry (Fictional character). Gay and lesbian fiction are divided and classified under sub-headings such as Mystery stories, Erotic stories, Love stories...

The catalog will make the collection more accessible and much easier to use. We hope that you will come in and try it.

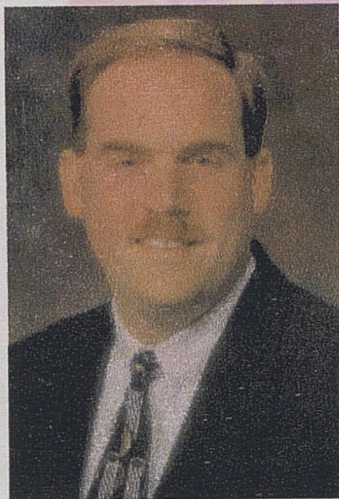
The Pride Center Library is open Monday-Friday from 10-3. There is often a volunteer keeping the Center open at other times, call the Pride Center at 859-253-3233 to check if we are open.

SoulForce Lexington

SoulForce Lexington continues to meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month. We follow the principles of non-violence practiced and taught by Ghandi and Martin Luther King Jr. to confront "spiritual violence" against GLBT people.

We believe that to create meaningful change, GLBT people and their allies needed to directly confront the religious organizations and individuals that are using the Bible to preach against us.

One technique we use is to ask churches to have conversations with us on an ongoing basis so that member of the congregation and members of SoulForce can get to know each other. Our goal is to reduce the fear and increase knowledge within conserving congregations. For information call Jamie at 859 230-5625. and see web page at www.SoulforceLexington.org,



Scott Ackerman

Mobile: 859-338-8483

Voice Mail: 859-294-2055

Office: 859-269-7331

E-Mail: SAcker4224@aol.com

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SisterSound806-0243

Diverse music for all women

Richardson Vision Center278-4201

1757 Alexandria Dr., Gardenside

Unitarian Universalist Church223-1448

Seeking a Diverse Congregation

The Bar Complex255-1551

224 East Main Street

Debra Hensley Insurance276-3244

1513 Nicholasville Road

Windy Knoll Farm299-7410

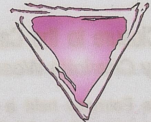
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GLSO Newsletter Calendar January 2005

To schedule events at the Pride Center, call Bill at 253-3233
Visit us on the web at: www.webspawner.com/users/glsqxnet



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>More information about many of the events are in this newsletter. You may want to call or email the group to confirm the date and time, see the directory on back page. Pride Center may be abbreviated - PC Call for Place may be abbreviated - Call</p>			<h2>Happy New Year!</h2>			9a Frontrunners/walkers Arboretum 7:30 p - Diversity in Gender (Canceled)
9:15 & 11a UU Church 10:30 a St. Mychal 4p Integrity @ St. Michael's 7p LMC	8p AA Step Study (call for place) Pride Center open til 6pm	7p GSA (call for place 266-5904)	Pride Center open til 6pm 7p GLSO Discussion Group-PC 9p Rainbow Bowling League Southland Lanes		Pride Center open til 6pm 7p Lesbian Movie Night 7:30 p Gay/Lesbian AA (call for place) MACT Retreat Jan. 7-9	9a Frontrunners/walkers 2p Documentary Freedom to Marry to be shown @ PC 3-5p RFOL Play Date call Jen for more info @ 533-6260
9:15 & 11a UU Church 10:30 a St. Mychal 2p Women 40+ Club-PC 4p Integrity @ St. Michael's 6p Imperial Court Mtg.-PC 7p LMC SoulForce (call Jamie 230-5625)	Pride Center open til 6pm 8p AA Step Study (call for place)	7p GSA (call for place 266-5904)	Pride Center open til 6pm 7p GLSO Discussion Group-PC 8p AA Step Study (call)		Pride Center open til 6pm 7:30 p Gay/Lesbian AA (call for place)	Newsletter Dead-line 9a Frontrunners/walkers Arboretum
9:15 & 11a UU Church 10:30 a St. Mychal's 4p Integrity @ St. Michael's 6p SisterSound 7p LMC 7p MACT-PC	Pride Center open til 6pm 7:30 p GLSO Board Mtg. PC 8p AA Step Study (call for place)	7p GSA (call for place 266-5904)	7p GLSO Discussion Group-PC 8p Gay/Lesbian AA (call for place) 9p Rainbow Bowling League Southland Lanes		Pride Center open til 6pm 7:30 p Gay/Lesbian AA (call for place)	8p SisterSound Concert @ Singletary
9:15 & 11a UU Church 10:30 a St. Mychal 2p Women 40+ Club-PC 4p Integrity @ St. Michael's 6p Imperial Court Mtg.-PC 7p LMC SoulForce (call Jamie 230-5625)	7p GSA (call for (call for place 266-5904) 8p AA Step Study (Call) Pride Center open til 6pm	7:30 p Fairness-PC	7p GLSO Discussion Group-PC 8p Gay/Lesbian AA 9p Rainbow Bowling - Southland 9:30 ICK Turn-About Club 141		Pride Center open til 6pm 7:30 p Gay/Lesbian AA (call for place)	

Weekly Activities:

- Mondays:**
8pm - AA Step Study (Call for Location)
- Tuesdays:**
7pm - GSA (Gay Straight Alliance)
- Wednesdays:**
7pm - GLSO Discussion Group
8pm - Gay/Lesbian AA (Call for Location)
9pm - Rainbow Bowling League Southland Lanes
- Fridays:**
8pm - Gay/Lesbian AA (Call for Location)
- Saturdays:**
9am - Frontrunners/Walkers @ UK Arboretum
- Sundays:**
9:15 & 11am - UU Church Worship Services.
10:30 - Mass. St. Mychal The Martyr.
4pm - Integrity @ St. Michael's
6pm - SisterSound Rehearsal @ Landsdowne Presby. Church.
7pm - LMC Rehearsal @ St. Michael's Episcopal Church.

Bi-weekly:

- 6pm - The Imperial Court
SoulForce -Call jamie 230-5625

Monthly Activities:

- Mondays:** 7pm - GLSO Board Mtg. (3rd Mon.)
- Tuesdays:** 7pm - Fairness (4th Tues)
- Wednesdays:**
- Thursdays:**
- Fridays:** 7pm - Lesbian Movie Night (2nd Fri.)
- Saturdays:** 8pm - Diversity in Gender (1st Sat.)
- Sundays:** 2pm -Women 40+(2nd. Sun.)
7pm -MACT (3rd. Sun.)

GLSO Pride Center **FREE** Referral Service

As the office manager of the Pride Center, Bill Chandler quite often receives calls requesting referrals for a wide variety of services with an emphasis on the business being GLBT or GLBT supportive.

Calls have come in for Doctors (General Practitioners), Dentists, Attorneys, Plumbers, Electrician's, Auto Mechanics, Realtors, Accounts, Cleaning Services, Therapists and others. People have also called for suggestion for places to dine, live, work and play.

Many of these requests are easy to answer but others are not. Therefore, in addition to the Pink Pages, we are creating a list of gay and gay-friendly businesses and service providers.

There is no charge to be added to this list.

If you would like to be added to our Referral List, please fill out the form below and mail it to GLSO Referral Service, P.O. Box 1172, Lexington, KY 40588 or email your information to us at lexingtonglso@yahoo.com. Please put Referral Service in the subject line.

Call the Pride Center with any questions: 253-3233. We are open from 10 to 3 Monday through Friday.

Name (Business) _____

Contact Person _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Web-Site _____

If there is more information you would like to include please feel free to do so. Mail to GLSO P.O. Box 1172, Lex. KY 40588 or email us at lexingtonglso@yahoo.com. Put Referral Service in the subject line.

VIDEOS/DVDS LIBRARY

One of the most popular parts of our Pride Library is our collection of videos and DVDs. We have older releases such as Desert Hearts and Torch Song Trilogy and newer ones such as The Laramie Project. Some of the feature films, such as Big Eden and The Twilight of the Golds, are not easily found in rental stores. We also have concert videos including The Indigo Girls Live at the Uptown Lounge, documentaries such as The Celluloid Closet, and collections of short films.

We have had over 100 Videos and DVDs in our library, but sadly many are checked out and never returned. We love that the collection is being used, but we want to be able to continue to offer these to borrowers in the future. Please check the corners of your living room to see if you have any Videos or DVDs that

belong to us. And if you have some of your own that you are no longer watching, please consider donating them to us. Thank you.

Missing Videos /DVDs

Beautiful Thing	Tootsie
Bound	Lianna
Boy's Don't Cry	Siren
Boys Life 3	Vickie Shaw Live
Cabaret	
Claire of the Moon	
Fire	
Forbidden Love	
Gay! Gay! Hollywood	
Get Bruce	
Looking For Langston	
Paragraph 175	
Party Monster	
Stonewall	
If These Walls Could Talk, II	
She Must Be Seeing Things	
The Lost Language of Cranes	
The Times of Harvey Milk	

GLSO needs your financial support to maintain the Pride Center and to support our other projects that include:

Gay Straight Alliance for Youth Pride Month Activities
Discussion Group Diversity in Gender Alliance
Pink Pages 40+ Women Pride Gallery ActOut
Speakers Bureau Pride Library Social Events

Name _____ Phone # _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

_____ \$15 Membership and newsletter

_____ \$20 Couple membership and newsletter

_____ I would like the newsletter at this reduced rate

_____ Additional contribution

Mail to GLSO News PO Box 1172 Lexington, KY 40588

Giving Closure to the Campaign

by Charlotte Wood

Bluegrass Fairness held a community meeting December 13 to debrief from the No on the Amendment campaign. There were about 20 people in attendance, some of whom had been very involved in the campaign, and others not at all. Entitled, "What Happened? What's Next?" our goal was to ensure that everyone was heard, and the meeting was structured accordingly.

We broke up into small groups and considered the following questions:

1. Inclusion (groups & individuals)
 - *Who was included in the campaign?
 - *Who should have been involved that appeared not to be?
2. Methods (voter ID, media, e-mail, press, bumper stickers, use of staff, etc.)
 - *What methods appeared to work well?
 - *What methods seemed not to work well?
3. Other positives and negatives
 - *What impressed you or excited you about the campaign?
 - *What bugged you or discouraged you about the campaign?
4. Lessons Learned
 - *What should we keep doing and build on?
 - *What should we avoid doing in the future?

This was an important exercise in listening. We heard that people needed to see tangible signs of the campaign, and they needed a sense of hope and solidarity. The rally at Triangle Park helped, but they would have liked to have more town hall-type events. We heard that people wanted to help, but were only told of one or two things they could do--voter ID walks and phone banks. Surely there were other ways they could have helped.

We heard that people appreciated the families who were out there telling their stories in the media, but needed to see more of

them. We heard how important it is to cultivate relationships with allies BEFORE we need their help.

We heard that when people give money to a campaign, they need to know what it's going for. We heard that people were frustrated by multiple phone calls due to a faulty database and poorly coordinated efforts between callers in Lexington and Louisville.

Everyone seemed to understand how difficult it was to develop a statewide campaign in just a few months, but their pain was real all the same.

On a more subtle note, we heard that people would rather be called "members" than "volunteers." The campaign slipped into the habit of calling people "volunteers," but KFA is a member-run organization.

Andrea Hildebran, KFA's Executive Director, reported that when she started in 2002, we had 4,000 names on our mailing list. We are now mailing to 20,000 supporters. At the beginning of the campaign, we had 600 people on our e-mail list. We now have 6,500. One of our challenges in the year ahead will be bringing these folks into KFA as fully participating members.

The Bluegrass Chapter is already planning an event to help do just that. On Thursday, January 13, we will have a light dinner and introduce folks to the various ways they can get involved in Fairness. Please join us! Place to be announced. Contact Charlotte Wood for more details: charlottewoodky@yahoo.com or 259-0854.

More Fairness News on page 16

**For Rent: Close to Elsmere Pk.
1 bedroom, high ceilings, newly
renovated \$435 includes utilities
225-4425**

The Imperial Court of Kentucky presents...

the emperor's

TURNABOUT

Wednesday, January 26th

Club 141

Door 8:30 P.M.

Show @ 9:30 P.M.

\$5 Cover

TURNABOUT

Don't forget your "Women On The Edge" Calendars
Available online at <http://www.impcourt.org/kentucky>

Fairness, Bluegrass Chapter Volunteer Opportunities

There are many ways that you can get involved in Fairness. We have six committees that plan and develop projects with the goal of passing LGBT legislation and promoting equality for all people. It's easy: pick one and get involved!

Outreach Committee

Latino outreach project, Youth outreach project, Serve as a liaison to allied groups, Staff a table at events, Outreach to surrounding counties. Contact David Cupps (396-9691)

Communications Committee

Phone tree, mailings, website and listservs. Write letters to the editor. For phone tree, Jennifer Crossen (299-7410). For website, David Cupps (396-9691). For media relations, Charlotte Wood (259-0854).

Legislative Committee

Lobbying in Frankfort. In-district lobbying in Lexington. Write letters to your representatives. Survey candidates for elected office. Contact Jennifer Crossen (299-7410)

DP Benefits Committee

Work to get domestic partnership benefits in variety of job situations. Contact David Cupps (396-9691)

Volunteer Committee

Help us build a stronger, more diverse volunteer base to do all of these fabulous projects! Contact Charlotte Wood (259-0854)

Fundraising Committee

Makes all of our other work possible. Auto donor project. Bowling for Fairness. Annual Bluegrass Dinner. Host a house party for Fairness, Annual membership drive. Contact Jim Dickinson (252-5801)

Website: <http://www.bluegrassfairness.org>

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There's No Place Like Home,
There's No Place Like Home, ...Dorothy*

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phone call away from your next home.*

Abraham Lincoln: Gay?

Because several articles I expected have not arrived, I am printing this article that I had started working on for next month concerning a new book by C. A. Tripp. Because of the rush, I have relied heavily on a recent article written by Dinitia Smith for the New York times.

Mary Crone, ed.

When I heard a Log Cabin Republican say that Abraham Lincoln was gay in a TV interview almost a decade ago, I thought he was drawing a conclusion from very little evidence. The primary evidence he quoted at that time was that Lincoln had a long term friendship with Joshua Speed, shared his bed for four years as a young man, and continued to see him regularly during his Presidency.

People were accustomed to sharing beds with family, friends, or even strangers up to perhaps the early part of the Twentieth Century. Four or so children here, three adults there, children and adults together, a couple of blankets in the barn, it was unusual for anyone to have the luxury of sleeping alone.

There are also mixed opinions about how sexuality was viewed in past centuries. Individuals were often considered to be more sexual if they had a variety of partners, but the gender of who they slept with may not have been seen as particularly significant.

The word homosexual did not find its way into print until 1892. A committed relationship between members of the same sex is also largely a Twentieth Century concept. So, I was not convinced by statements from the Log Cabin folks. In the last few years, however, I see the evidence building for perceiving Lincoln as gay.

In his book *The Intimate World of Abraham Lincoln*, to be published next

month by Free Press, Mr. C. A. Tripp examines the evidence and concludes that Lincoln, one of our greatest presidents and an icon of the Republican Party, was a gay man.

Mr. Tripp, who died last year, two weeks after finishing the book, subjected almost every word ever written by and about Lincoln to minute analysis. Tripp, a psychologist and former sex researcher for Dr. Alfred C. Kinsey, was an influential gay writer during his career.

In his book, Tripp examines earlier biographers of Lincoln, including Carl Sandburg. In the preface to Sandburg's original 1926 multi-volume biography, Sandburg wrote: "Month by month in stacks and bundles of fact and legend, I found invisible companionships that surprised me."

He continues to say that Lincoln and Joshua Speed had "streaks of lavender, spots soft as May violets." Mr. Tripp points out that these possible references to Lincoln's homosexuality were cut in the 1954 abridged version of the biography.

Mr. Tripp also quotes from the records of William Herndon, Lincoln's law partner. Herndon cites Lincoln's stepmother, Sarah Bush Lincoln as saying that Lincoln "was not very fond of girls, as he seemed to me."

Other historians point out that although Herndon sometimes slept in the room with Lincoln and Speed, he never mentioned a sexual relationship. Perhaps he was reluctant to be that explicit?

Tripp also quotes Herndon's writing that another man, Billy Greene, told him that Lincoln's thighs "were as perfect as a human being could be."

Mr. Tripp also suggest that Lincoln had a sexual relationship with Derickson, his bodyguard. This relationship stirred comment in Washington. Tripp cites a diary entry from Nov. 16, 1862, by Virginia Woodbury Fox, ...continued next page

wife of Gustavus Fox, assistant secretary of the Navy. She recounted a friend's report: "There is a Bucktail soldier here devoted to the president, drives with him, and when Mrs. L. is not home, sleeps with him. What stuff!" Another historian says that those final two words indicate that Mrs. Fox was dismissing the story as rumor.

Tripp cites a second description of the relationship from an 1895 history of Derickson's regiment, by Thomas Chamberlain, Derickson's commanding officer: "Captain Derickson advanced so far in the president's confidence and esteem that, in Mrs. Lincoln's absence, he frequently spent the night at his cottage, sleeping in the same bed with him and - it is said - making use of his Excellency's night-shirts!" in addition to these sources, Tripp points out that when Derickson was to be transferred, Lincoln pulled strings to keep him in Washington.

Not all historians have been critical of Tripp's research. He has won support from a number of scholars. Jean H. Baker, author of "Mary Todd Lincoln: a Biography", wrote the introduction to Tripp's book. She said that Lincoln's homosexuality would explain his tempestuous relationship with Mary Todd, and "some of her agonies and anxieties over their relationship."

Denita Smith quotes from her phone interview with Ms. Baker, "Some of the tempers emerged because Lincoln was so detached. I previously thought he was detached because he was thinking great things about his court cases, his debates with Douglas. Now I see there is another explanation."

Michael B. Chesson, a professor at the University of Massachusetts at Boston, wrote an afterword to Mr. Tripp's book supporting his thesis. The book is "enormously important to understanding the whole person," he said in an interview with Smith.

Good research and interpretation is very important to historians. Mr. Chesson notes "It's incumbent on us as scholars to present to readers (new) material if historians have ignored it or swept it under the rug because they don't agree with it."

Larry Kramer, author and AIDS activist, says that Mr. Tripp's book "will change history." "It's a revolutionary book because the most important president in the history of the United States was gay," he said. "Now maybe they'll leave us alone, all those people in the party he founded." (I wouldn't bet much money on that.)

If Lincoln was gay, how did it affect his presidency? Ms. Baker believes that his outsider status would explain his independence and his ability to take anti-establishment positions. The Emancipation Proclamation was a decision Lincoln made without much support. As a homosexual, Baker says, "he would be on the margins of tradition. He is willing to be independent, to do what is right,... it is invested in his soul, in his psyche and in his behavior."

The debate about Lincoln's sexuality will continue. As part his work, Mr. Tripp created a vast database of cross-indexed material, now available at the Lincoln Library in Springfield, IL. Other historians will examine this material and write their own interpretations.

The GLBT Community owes Mr Tripp thanks for his years of work and determination in doing the research and publishing his book. I wish he were still alive to speak up to the critics that I am sure we will hear from. On, the other hand, the response may be to ignore his work. Let's not let them do that.

Pick up a copy of the
Pink Pages 2005
at the Pride Center

Religious and Spiritual Resources

St Mychal The Martyr

St. Mychal The Martyr Parish holds services every Sunday at 10:30, with Rev Ken Waibel performing mass. We are located at 1350 Eastland Dr. St. Mychal is a member of the Orthodox Catholic Church of America, a national denomination that is gay supportive, performs blessings of gay unions, welcomes divorced people, and ordains women to the orders of Deacon, Priest and Bishop.

The Church is one of about three dozen offshoots of the Roman Catholic Church, and is open to married, divorced, and single individuals, welcoming all persons regardless of the blessings or problems of their lives. We have space available for meetings and receptions.

The church is named for the Rev. Mychal Judge, an openly gay priest and a chaplain for the New York Fire Department who was killed on Sept. 11, while working to rescue victims at the World Trade Center. The Orthodox Catholic Church made Judge a Saint in 2002.

Call 389-9418 for more information or join us any Sunday in celebration of our lives.

INTEGRITY

Integrity is a group dedicated to exploring issues within the Episcopal Church and Christianity as they relate to GLBT people. It meets every second Sunday at Saint Michael The Archangel Episcopal Church on Bellefonte Drive in Lexington. The next gathering will be Sunday Nov. 14 at 4 p.m. in the Chapter Room of the church. Light refreshments will be served and all are welcome to attend.

Society of Friends - Quakers

Do you seek a religious home, without creeds or required statements of belief? Are you looking for a meaningful spiritual community? Are you concerned for peace, justice and reconciliation? We invite you to join us for silent worship where we do not have the complications of rituals or programs. We believe that in such periods of quiet waiting we can open to spiritual resources which will enable us to live more calmly, more compassionately and more creatively in this chaotic age. Sundays, 10:30a-11:30a, 649 Price Avenue, Phone 254-3319. Everyone is welcomed.



St. Mychal the Martyr Parish

Sunday Worship 10:30 am

We publicly celebrate Gay Marriage

Come Worship with Us

1350 Eastland Drive #5, Lexington (859) 389-9418

"A true Christian community celebrating diversity"

Religious and Spiritual Resources Continued

Open Door Fellowship

The Open Door Community Fellowship in Louisville has started an outreach Bible Study group for gay, lesbian, bi-sexual and transgender individuals in Lexington. For those of you who are not familiar with Open Door, it is a Spirit-led, Bible-centered, open and affirming Christian Church spreading the awesome news of Jesus Christ's unconditional love for ALL people. Through this dynamic ministry, God's love is reaching out to all His children in the Kentuckiana area.

The meetings are being held on Friday nights from 7 to 9 in Lexington. Members of Open Door's leadership team will be regularly attending and giving support. If you are seeking to know more about Jesus and His unconditional love for you and to discover the purpose God has for your life we invite you to join us as we discover that together in a Bible study atmosphere. Please contact Rev. Cori Wood @ 859-264-7006 for further information.

One of the things Open Door is known for is their sponsorship of the Rainbow CafØ held on Saturday nights at 2530 Frankfort Avenue, Louisville, from 7 to 11. Area

artists such as Wishing Chair, Mother Jane, Kentucky Bootleggers, Robbie Bartlett and many others have shared their musical talents with the Louisville community through Rainbow CafØ.


See www.opendoorcf.com/index.html for more information about Open Door

Kaleidoscope Disciples of Christ

Members of the Christian church, Disciples of Christ are establishing an open and affirming congregation in Lexington. They are meeting at 11 am on Sunday mornings in the Mary Anne Sanders Chapel, Lexington Theological Seminary, 631 S. Limestone St.

From a flyer delivered to the Pride Center: We intend to seek peace, justice and equality for all people through intentional, pro-active response to inequalities... By fostering a community which crosses every barrier and division, guarding each one's dignity and pride, we embody the love which God has graced the world.

(We would love to print contact information for this congregation if someone from the group would call us at 253-3233)



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Unitarian Universalist Church Sunday services at 9:15 and 11

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Lexington (UUCL) welcomes gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people to all our worship services, educational programs, and other events. In January and February we will be having a series of workshops centered on GLBT issues.

Welcoming Congregation

As part of being a Welcoming congregation, our church periodically provides these workshops for members and friends. The goal of the workshops is to reduce prejudice by increasing understanding and acceptance among people of different sexual orientations. Topics in the workshops include: bisexuality and transgender issues, how homophobia hurts heterosexuals; interconnections with other forms of oppression; gender socialization and homophobia; and Biblical perspectives on homosexuality, including how to talk with people who are not from a liberal religious tradition.

I participated in Welcoming Congregation workshops shortly after joining the church ten years ago and benefited from talking to other members about these issues; I learned a lot and increased my comfort level at the church. The first set of workshops in January are fundamental and a good introduction to gay /lesbian issues.

The second set offered in February will cover bisexuality, transgender issues (including transsexual, intersexual, and related topics) and will encourage participants to explore their internal discomfort and biases. We welcome any interested individual to participate in these workshops. Call Mary Crone for more information 266-5904.

Social and Environmental Justice

Activism in local, national and international issues involving social and political justice is a key part of the UUCL.Lexington.

The Social and Environmental Justice Committee helps coordinate the many justice projects within the church. Our projects include: mentoring students at Harrison Elementary School, mission visits to Ecuador, actively protesting the role and actions of the School of the Americas, selling Fair Trade Coffee to church members to support farmers in third world countries, outreach to women in our local prison, participating in Fairness lobbying in Frankfort, and providing educational campaigns on the dangers of Toxic Pesticides in our food and on our lawns.

In January, we will sponsor a film and discussion on **World Slavery** on Sunday, January 9 after the second service at about 12:20. A large number of the people enslaved today are children. Come join us to learn more. We will also participate in the annual Martin Luther King walk on the January 17 at Rupp Arena.

More information about UUCL can be found at www.uucl.org. The national organization, Unitarian Universalist Association, also has a great web site at www.uua.org. You can, for example, read an article in **The World** about international slavery, view the recent United Church of Christ ad that was rejected by several TV networks, and sign a petition in support of the UCC.

UUCL is a happening place, pay us a visit, join a discussion, celebrate diversity!

*The Pride Art
Gallery*

389 Waller Ave.

**Interested artists call
Thomas at 225-0094**

GLSO Directory

GLSO Board

GLSO Pride Center (Bill)253-3233
GLSO Board (Thomas)225-0094
GLSO Discussion Group (Bill)253-3233
GLSO News (Mary)266-5904
 Subscriptions (Bill)253-3233
GLSO Speakers Bureau (Mary)266-5904
Youth Gay Straight Alliance (Mary) ..266-5904
GLSO on Linelexingtonglso@yahoo.com
 www.webspawner.com/users/glsoqxnet
Pride Gallery (Thomas).....225-0094

Student Groups

EKU(Sue) sue.strong@eku.edu
UK Lavender Society uklavender@yahoo.com
Morehead State University (Ned) 606-783-2294
UK Lambdainfo@uklambda.com
Berea College ACE League (Ryan)..859-985-3633
Centre College (BGLAD-Mykol)... .238-5332

Anonymous HIV Testing

Jessamine County885-4149
Lexington-Fayette County288-2437
Madison County859-723-7312
Woodford County873-4541
U.K. Adolescent Medicine323-5643

HIV/AIDS Info/Services

AIDS Volunteers, Inc225-3000
Lexington Health Department (Julie) ...288-2362
HIV/AIDS Legal Project502-584-1254
HIV Support (Somerset) ..679-7478 or 678-5814
Cumberland Region (SEKY-Pat) ...606-864-3776
 or 888-425-7282
Barren River Region800-559-4448
Louisville Region (Geri)502-574-0161
Northern Kentucky Region859-341-4264
Purchase Region800-522-8289
Moveable Feast252-2867

Community

Alcoholics Anonymous (Brian)619-5294
 Office276-2917
AL-Anon (Office)277-1877
Bluegrass Belles502-346-5298
C.O.L.T.S. (Morris)225-9169
Bluegrass Fairness859-806-4114
Council for Peace and Justice
 (Richard)277-6101
Fairness of Louisville502-893-0788
First Link (was Ask-Us)313-5465
Fronrunners/walkers (Hal)294-7944
International Gay Bowling (Steve)...276-3058
Imperial Court of KY859-269-7756
 imperialcourtkentucky@yahoo.com

KY Leather Productions (Larry)253-0185
Kyians For The Commonwealth254-3585
 jlynjenks@msn.com
Lex. Lyons Leather/Levi Club (Paul) .619-3650
Lex Dress & Gender Alliance (Julia) .255-7306
Lex. Human Rights Commission ...252-4931
Lexington Men s Chorus (Kenneth) ..255-1974
Louisville Youth Group502-894-9787
Men of All Colors Together (Jon)...351-4453
 mactky@aol.com
Moonshine Bears of KY. (Jim) ..859-299-2047
 www.mooshinebears.com
People for Unity and Fairness803-1130
 CUFCKT@aol.com
Pride Alliance of Central KY(Gary) 859-236-4547
 (Shane)859-854-0596
 Pridealliance@yahoo.com
PFLAG (Ed)859-200-9512
Pegasus Travel253-1644
Rainbow Bowling League (Steve) ..276-3058
Rainbow Families of Lex. (Cheryl) ..533-6260
Sistersound (Patti)806-0243
 paowens@excite.com
Sistahs in the Life (Joan)252-2657
24 hr. Crisis Line1-800-928-8000
24 hr. Teen Crisis Line1-800-999-9999

Religious Groups

Dignity (Don)299-4458
Interweave (Unitarian-Mary)266-5904
Integrity (Episcopal-Rev. Stone)277-7511
Lexington Friends Meeting (Quakers)..254-3319
MCC-Elizabethtown (Rev.Cathy) ..888-340-6223
MCC-Louisville (Rev. Dee)502-587-6225
MCC-Paducah (Rev. Lillian)270-443-3339
Norse Pagan Community (Rev. Pat) ...268-1640
KY Pagan Forum ..http://go.to/kypaganforum/
RainbowWind (Pagan-Sarah)273-2455
 Soulforce (Jamie).....859-230-5625
 www.SoulforceLexington.org
St. Augustine s Chapel(Episcopal) ..254-3726
St. Mychal (Independant Catholic)
 (Rev. Ken)389-9418
Open Door (Christian-Rev. Pam) ...396-7636
Wiccan/Pagan Group.....(Iggie) 492-9904

NEWS DEADLINE

Articles and Ads: Jan. 15

Put Newsletter in subject line

marycrone@aol.com

lexingtonglso@yahoo.com