



GAY and  
LESBIAN  
SERVICE  
ORGANIZATION  
Lexington, Kentucky

# The GLSO NEWS

March 2004

A publication of the Lexington Gay and Lesbian Service Organization

Volume 19 Number 3

## MR. KY. LEATHER

The Imperial Court of Kentucky is sponsoring the Mr. Kentucky Leather 2004 Contest, March 12-13, at Club 141. Assisting with the event will be Kentucky Leather Productions and the Lexington Lyons Leather Levi Club.

The winner of the contest will represent Kentucky and the Imperial Court at the 26th annual International Mr. Leather competition in Chicago, IL, Memorial Day weekend, May 27-31.

Contest events will get underway on Friday March 12, with a reception at Club 141 from 7 to 8 pm hosted by the Lexington Lyons for judges, contestants, and special guests. This will be followed by a Leather and Lace Fantasy Show that will include the introduction of the contestants, judges, and special entertainment.

The contest will be held on Saturday, March 13 in the Spectrum Lounge of Club 141. Doors will open at 8:30 and the contest will begin at 9:30. Cover for each night will be \$5.

Proceeds from the weekend will benefit the Leather Archives and Museum in Chicago, IL. During the weekend a traveling exhibit from the museum will be on display. In addition, Rick Storer, Executive Director of the Archives and Museum, *Mr. KY ...continued on page 2*

**Pride Gallery "Strange Fruit"**

**Photo Exhibit ..... pg 2**

**Pride Month planning ... page 3**

**Fairness at the Polls ... page 14**

## Baby Shower for Triplets

Stephanie and Marie are having triplets! After years of trying to get pregnant they hit the jackpot and are very excited. They are also wondering what it is going to be like having three infants to take care of in a couple of months.

**GLSO and the Discussion Group are sponsoring a shower for them on Sunday, March 21 at 2 pm at the Pride Center. Everyone is invited.** They will need all those things that every new baby needs - times three. If you not sure what to bring, diapers are always welcome.

They are having two boys to be named Chase and Connor, and a girl they will name McKenna Grace. They have a source of hand-me-downs for girl clothes but not for boys. They are not planning on matching outfits so anything is welcomed.

Stephanie and Marie are also interested in talking to other GLBT parents as they make plans to draw up the legal documents to protect ...continued on page 2

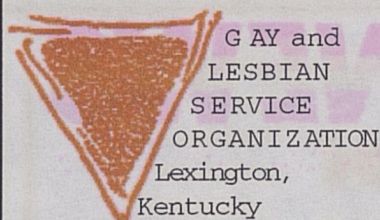
**Sponsor of the Month**

**Ernesto Scorsone**

**Attorney at Law**

**254-5766**





## **THE GLSO NEWS**

**Volume 19 Issue 2**

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.**

**Individual - \$15  
Couple - \$25**

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.

**MR. KY LEATHER** will be serving as a member of the judging panel.

To compete for Mr. Kentucky Leather contestants must be male and 21 years of age as of March 12. The contest is open to residents of Kentucky including the greater Louisville and Cincinnati metropolitan areas. There is a \$15 entry fee.

Judging criteria will be the same as used in International Mr. Leather. Categories include (1) leather image, (2) presentation skills and interview, and (3) physical appearance.

Interested persons should contact Larry Stanley at LDStanley09@aol.com or the Imperial Court of Kentucky, PO Box 265, Lexington, KY 40588.

**Shower for Triplets** their relationship and their children. Have you or someone you know been able to adopt their partner's biological child? If you have information to share but can not come to the party, you can leave your number at the Pride Center and we will pass it on. Also, if you can not attend but want to give a gift or donation, that can be dropped off at the Center, 389 Waller Ave, next door to the new WALLER CENTER sign.

The party will not be advertised in any other publication, on TV or in other media, so even if you are camera shy, this will be a comfortable event for you. Come support this couple and celebrate our expanding definition of family.

## **Strange Fruit**

**Photo Exhibit of Hate Crime Victims  
Pride Center Gallery**

**March 7 - 31**

This collection of photographs of hate crime victims has poster size photos accompanied by explanations of the events. It includes Brandon Tina, Matthew Shepherd and African American victims of lynching. It is a difficult exhibit to see, but one that educates. It comes to us from the National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ)



# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Miss Bag Lady Pageant

Club 141 will host the "Miss Bag Lady" Pageant on Wednesday, March 3. Doors open at 8:30pm and showtime will be at 9:30pm. There will be a \$3 door cover, all proceeds will be donated to a local charity.

Featured entertainers will include the reigning Miss Bag Lady - Crystal Diamond, Val E. Cheridan, Rayna Starr, Godiva Amore and LaToya BaCall. Anyone interested in competing in the pageant should contact Crystal or Greg (manager) at Club 141. Entry Fee is \$10.

## Lexington Lyons Levi/Leather Club

The Lyons meet every other month at the Pride Center. The next meeting will be in april. Anyone interested in learning more about the Club is welcome to attend. We will also be meeting for brunch at Mia's on Sunday March 28. at 1 pm. Please join us. The Lyons are proud to be a GLSO Pride Patron of the GLSO Pride Center.

## MEN'S MEET TO DATE

Men's Meet to Date gives men the opportunity to participate in fun activities designed to help people get to know each other followed by a dating match technique. Meet to Date will be at the Pride Center on Monday, March 8 at 7 pm and on Saturday, March 27 at 3 pm. For more information, contact Darnel at [darnel172000@yahoo.com](mailto:darnel172000@yahoo.com)

No one will be asked to go out with anyone they do not select and who does not select them. Dates can be as short as 20 minutes. This is a fun and interesting way to meet new people. Come join us.

## Pride Month Committee

The Pride Month Committee is open to all individuals and we are seeking participation from all GLBT organizations. We will be meeting on Thursday, March 11 at 7 pm. at the Pride Center.

We have set up a calander of events, please contact Terry if you are planning an activity during June. This is what is now scheduled:

- June 2 Miss KY Pride contest
- June 4 - 6 Imperial Court Coronation
- June 10 Dining Out For Life
- June 18 -27 ActOut Play
- June 20 Pride Picnic
- June 27 Volunteer Awards Banquet

There is also a concert/dance, Pride Reading, and films in the planning stages. If you are interested in volunteering, we need help on all of these events. We have some specific tasks that someone can take on such as being the contact person for vendors who want to set up at the picnic. Or you can volunteer to help out at one event. If you have an event you would like to see happen, come to the meeting and we'll see what we can do. This is a great way to meet people.

If your organizations is planning an event, please contact Terry at 252-2867, days.

## Wishing Chair

On Friday, April 23, Whishing Chair will present a Re-Tree Lexington Concert at the Carnegie Center, on Second St. from 7:30 to 10 pm. Joining Wishing Chair will be Todd Burge, The Bootleggers, and more! Free trees ready to plant will be available. Admission \$10

...more community news on next page



## AIDS Walk for Life

The 12th Annual AIDS Walk for Life will be on Sunday, April 25 at Triangle park. Raise pledges individually or as a team and join us to walk to benefit AIDS Volunteers of Lexington.

In addition to the walk there will be activities such as a pre-walk party with music, entertainment, raffles, and team photos. Come join for the fun and show your support. For information and to download pledge sheets, go to [AIDSVolunteers.org](http://AIDSVolunteers.org).

## Men Of All Colors Together

KY Men of all Colors Together (MACT) is a local chapter of a national gay multiracial organization which fosters a supportive environment where friendships and partnerships can be celebrated free of racial and cultural barriers. For information email [MACTky@aol.com](mailto:MACTky@aol.com), call 859-351-4453 (Jon) or see [www.mactky.com](http://www.mactky.com)

## SisterSound

SisterSound is in rehearsal for their May concert every Sunday evening at 6 pm. If you would like to sing with us, come join us any Sunday at the Lansdowne Cumberland Presbyterian Church. For more info Patti (806-0243) or Toine (276-0753), [sistersound@hotmail.com](mailto:sistersound@hotmail.com).

## Gay Straight Alliance for Youth

The Gay Straight Alliance is open to all youth ages 15 - 20. You do not have to label yourself to join. We meet every week at a private location. Sometimes we just hang out and talk, other times we have a program. Thanks, Tiffany, for the show and the discussion of drag.

For information contact Mary Crone at 266-5904 or [lexgsa@yahoo.com](mailto:lexgsa@yahoo.com) or [www.lexingtongsa.com](http://www.lexingtongsa.com)

## THE LEXINGTON MEN'S CHORUS

The Lexington Men's Chorus is on hiatus for awhile. We still have LMC recordings available and it would help us financially if you would purchase one or two.

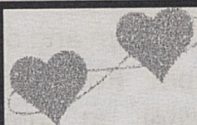
The Chorus has recordings that will please everyone's musical enjoyment. "Facets," our first collection of in-studio recordings, has 12 songs from our early years. CD - \$10, Cassette - \$6. "LMC LIVE!," our 2nd CD of "live" recordings, is a collection of 16 songs that celebrate LMC's first 10 years! CD (only) \$10. Special price of \$15 if you buy both CD's.

The proceeds will benefit the chorus. See/buy from Kenneth, at The Bar Complex, 224 E. Main, or give him a call at 255-1974.

## UK Support/Therapy Group

The UK Counseling & Testing Center offers a weekly Therapy /Support group to provide a safe environment for GLBTQ folks to talk about issues related to their sexual/relational orientation.

The group is led by Anne Edwards, Psy.D. and Colby Cohen-Archer, Ph.D. Students taking at least 6 credits at LCC or UK are eligible. The group is meeting on Mondays from 1-2. Anyone interested in joining or wanting additional information is encouraged to call 257-8701.



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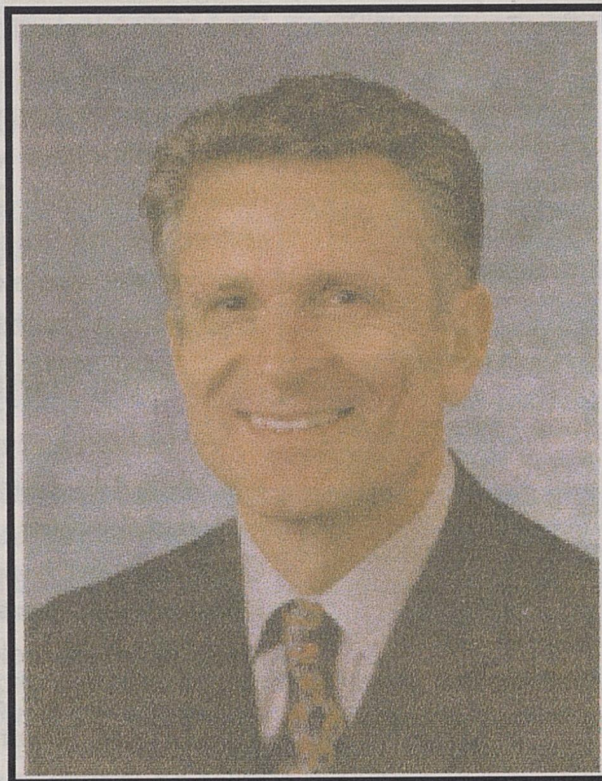
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Sponsor of the Month

# ERNESTO SCORSONE

*Attorney at Law*



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## PRIDE CENTER NEWS and ACTIVITIES

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



### **Lex. Dress and Gender Alliance**

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

LexDGA is a peer discussion group for anyone who transcends gender norms or is questioning their gender identity. This includes but is not limited to transsexuals, intersexuals, effeminate men, masculine women, drag kings, drag queens, gender queers and gender questioning individuals. We will meet the first Saturday of March at 8 pm. email for location.

Family and supportive allies who would enjoy discussing trans issues are also welcomed. This is not a therapy group. For info email [kellindel@hotmail.com](mailto:kellindel@hotmail.com).

### **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. We discuss a wide range of topics, some serious, some hilarious. Some people join when they are coming out or have just moved to Lexington, others attend because they enjoy the conversations. For more info contact Jane at [lady-janey@yahoo.com](mailto:lady-janey@yahoo.com)

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### **LESBIAN VIDEO NIGHT**

On Friday, March 12 at 7:00 p.m. at the Pride Center we will watch Salma Hayek's Oscar-nominated performance as the Mexican surrealist painter Frida Kahlo.

Julie Taymor, who directed the Broadway stage production of The Lion King, directed this visually stunning biography that follows Frida's life from her days as a student in 1922 to her death in 1954. While the film focuses on Frida's tempestuous relationship with her unfaithful husband, muralist Diego Rivera played by Alfred Molina, Frida's affairs with men and women are also explored. Frida is rated R. Everyone is invited to join us.

### **40+ Women's Group**

All lesbian and bi-sexual women over 40 are invited to attend our regular meetings and social events. We meet at the Pride Center on every second sunday, which in March is Sunday the 8th, at 2 p.m. After meeting we will pick a restaurant and go out to eat. There will be a pot luck and games night on Sat. March 13, call Sidney at 885-0417 for directions.

We plan to rent a cabin in Red River Gorge in May. Some people will camp. If you are interested give Ginger a call now, these cabins go fast. Ginger - 253-0061 or email [ggclr@hotmail.com](mailto:ggclr@hotmail.com).

### **Sistahs in The Life**

Sistahs in the Life is a support group for Black Lesbians and Bi-sexual women. Join us for provocative discussions about our lives and experiences. We meet at 7 pm every first Tuesday at the Pride Center. For information contact Joan at 859 539-2657 or email [Jweslie@aol.com](mailto:Jweslie@aol.com).





# MR. KENTUCKY LEATHER 2004

MARCH 12-13, 2004  
LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY  
CLUB 141

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, MARCH 12  
8:30 PM

"A LEATHER & LACE  
FANTASY"

CONTESTANT MEET & GREET  
AND SHOW  
\$5 DONATION

SATURDAY, MARCH 13  
9:30 PM

MR. KENTUCKY LEATHER  
2004

CONTEST &  
"DEMONSTRATIONS"  
\$5 DONATION

THE LEATHER ARCHIVES AND MUSEUM WILL  
PRESENT AN EXHIBIT DURING THE WEEKEND.

MR. KENTUCKY LEATHER 2004 IS A PRODUCTION OF THE IMPERIAL COURT OF KENTUCKY, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE LEXINGTON LYONS LEVI-LEATHER CLUB AND KENTUCKY LEATHER PRODUCTIONS. NET PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT THE LEATHER ARCHIVES AND MUSEUM.

THE MKL CONTEST IS OPEN TO MALES, 21 YEARS OF AGE, LIVING IN KENTUCKY (INCLUDING THE GREATER LOUISVILLE AND GREATER CINCINNATI AREAS). ANYONE INTERESTED IN COMPETING SHOULD CONTACT EMPEROR LARRY STANLEY AT:  
LDSTANLEY09@AOL.COM



[HTTP://KENTUCKY.IMPCOURT.ORG](http://kentucky.impcourt.org)



**EXTRA!!! EXTRA!!!**  
Watch for other special Saturday  
Imperial Court events this Spring!!!





## Spiritual Resources

### *Unitarian Universalist Church*

The U.U. Church of Lexington welcomes visitors at any time. Worship Services are at 9:15 and 11 am every Sunday. There is child care and religious education for young people K-12 during the second service. We are located at 3654 Clays Mill Rd, one block from Man O'War as you drive towards town.

Unitarians hold a variety of beliefs about spiritual and religious matters. You can see this reflected in our services, discussion groups, and other activities offered at the church. You are invited to attend Buddhist Meditation, the Humanist Forum, Women's Spirituality, Simple Living Pot Luck, or the Social Justice Roundtable.

The principles that hold our congregation together include the belief in everyone's right to search for truth in a responsible way. We also believe that working for justice is a fundamental spiritual responsibility. (Well, actually some of us do not relate to the word spiritual.)

We define our community in terms that are inclusive, not exclusive. We have gay, lesbian, bisexual, straight and transgender members, members of a variety of racial and cultural backgrounds, and interesting people from all walks of life. For more info see [www.uucl.org](http://www.uucl.org).

### **Dignity**

Founded in 1969, DignityUSA is a national organization working for respect and justice for all gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender persons through education, advocacy and support. The local group meets on the second and fourth Sundays at 6 pm. March 13 will be a Pot Luck get together and on March 27 there will be a service. For place and other information, contact Richard at 850 494-1933.

### **Integrity**

Lexington Integrity, a group for GLBT Episcopalians and friends, invites you to join us on Sunday, March 14, in the Chapter Room of Saint Michael's Episcopal Church from 4 to 5:30 p.m. The church is located at 2025 Bellefonte Drive. Integrity meets on the second Sunday of each month.

Integrity is additionally holding their Spring Retreat at a facility called The Close located on the banks of the beautiful Rockcastle River between London and Somerset. St. Michael's Associate Rector Sandy Stone will lead the retreat held the weekend of March 19, 20, and 21. The cost is \$100 per person which covers the cost of lodging and all meals on Saturday and breakfast and lunch on Sunday. For further information please call Sandy Stone at 277-7511 or email [stmintegrity@yahoo.com](mailto:stmintegrity@yahoo.com).

### **SoulForce**

Soulforce Lexington follows the principles of non-violence practiced and taught by Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr. to confront "spiritual violence" against GLBT people. Members come from a variety of religious backgrounds. They initiate conversations with conservative religious organizations and develop other projects to address the negative messages coming from these organizations. For info call Jamie at 859-230-5625 or check out [www.SoulforceLexington.org](http://www.SoulforceLexington.org).

### *St Mychal The Martyr*

St Mychal is a member of the Orthodox Catholic Church of America, a national denomination that is gay supportive. Sunday services are at 1350 Eastland Dr. 10:30 am with Rev. Kenneth Waibel performing mass. See page 10 for a longer article about St. Mychal



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## What is the Orthodox Catholic Church of America?

By Rev. Ken Waibel

St. Mychal the Martyr Parish Community is part of a national church organization called the Orthodox Catholic Church of America (OCCA). Its uniqueness among other Christian main-line churches can best be defined by St. Mychal's motto: Welcoming all people equally. Its commonality with other churches is best defined by its Creed and its rituals.

The OCCA welcomes all people, of all manners and walks of life, equally at its front door, at its altar and into its ministries. All persons are welcome to come and worship with the St. Mychal community regardless of sexual orientation, gender, marital status, or religious affiliation. A person's sexual orientation - GLBT, heterosexual or other - has no bearing on their giftedness as a child of God or on their status as co-equal in this parish family. Women and men are believed to be equal in all capacities of ministry.

All persons are welcome to participate as fully as they may feel comfortable in our worship and in our communion. Our Eucharist is open to all those who are

Baptized into the faith life of Christ and who believe that Christ is present in the mystery of Communion.

For the OCCA all ministries, both lay and ordained, are open to all persons regardless of gender, orientation, or marital status. We celebrate the diversity of God's creation and welcome women and men, gay and straight, married and celibate, into all lay ministries and into the ordained ministries of Deacon, Priest, and Bishop.

The OCCA is a liturgical, sacramental church that bases its theology on the Nicene Creed and the "Golden Rule" of Jesus. Our Sunday worship, and all our prayer services, are based on ancient ceremonies that have been adapted for our modern times.

We believe that seven sacraments have been handed down to us from tradition for our assistance in this life. We celebrate regularly the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist (the Lord's Supper) - sacraments that initiate us into the Life of Christ and sustain us for ministry; the Sacraments of Reconciliation (Confession) and the Anointing of the Sick - sacraments ...continued on page 17

## St. Mychal the Martyr Church



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# MARCH 2004



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>To schedule events at the Pride Center, call Bill at 253-3233.</p>	<p><b>1</b> 7pm GSA for youth ages 15 -20 (Call for place)</p>	<p><b>2</b> 7 pm <b>Sistahs in The Life - Pride Center</b></p>	<p><b>3</b> 7 pm <b>Discussion Group Pride Center</b> 8 pm Gay/Lesbian AA (Call for place)</p>			<p><b>6</b> Pride Center Open 10 -3 <b>8 pm LDGA meeting</b></p>
<p><b>7</b> 9:15 &amp; 11 am UU Church World 10:30 Mass @ St. Mychal the Martyr <b>2 pm 40+ Lesbians meet PC</b> 6 pm SisterSound Rehearsal Landsdown Presby Church</p>	<p><b>8</b> 8 pm AA Step Study (Call for place) 7 pm Men's Meet To Date Pride center</p>	<p><b>9</b> 7pm GSA for youth ages 15 - 20 (Call for place)</p>	<p><b>10</b> 7 pm <b>Discussion Group Pride Center</b> 8 pm Gay/Lesbian AA</p>	<p><b>11</b> 7 pm <b>Pride Month Committee Meeting open to all - Pride Center</b></p>	<p><b>12</b> 7 pm <b>Lesbian Movie Night, Pride Center</b> 7 pm <b>Mr. KY Leather Reception &amp; Show Club 141</b> 7:30 pm Gay/Lesbian AA (Call for place)</p>	<p><b>13</b> Pride Center Open 10-3 <b>9:30 Mr. KY Leather Contest - Club 141</b></p>
<p><b>14</b> 9:15 &amp; 11 am UU Church 10:30 Sunday Mass, St. Mychal 6 SisterSound Rehearsal, Landsdown Presby Church 6 pm Imperial Court PC 7:30 Soulforce</p>	<p><b>15</b> 7 pm <b>GLSO Board Meeting, Pride Center</b> 8 pm AA Step Study (Call for place) <b>GLSO News Deadline</b></p>	<p><b>16</b> 7 pm GSA (Call for place)</p>	<p><b>17</b> 7 pm <b>Discussion Group Pride Center</b> 8 pm Gay/Lesbian AA (Call for place) <b>St. Patrick's Day Dance The Bar</b></p>	<p><b>18</b> 7 pm <b>Men's Movie Night - Pride Center</b></p>	<p><b>19</b> 7:30 pm Gay/Lesbian AA (Call for place)</p>	<p><b>20</b> Pride Center Open 10-3pm 3 pm Men's Meet to Date PC <b>7 pm Open Mic Night at Pride Center</b></p>
<p><b>21</b> 9:15 &amp; 11 am Worship Services UU Church 10:30 Sunday Mass, St. Mychal <b>2 pm Baby Shower - Pride Center - everyone invited</b> 6 SisterSound Rehearsal, Landsdown Presby Church</p>	<p><b>22</b> 7 pm GSA (Call for place) 8 pm AA Step Study (Call for place)</p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>24</b> 7 pm <b>Discussion Group</b> 8 pm Gay/Lesbian AA (Call for place)</p>	<p><b>25</b></p>	<p><b>26</b> 7:30 pm Gay/Lesbian AA (Call for place)</p>	<p><b>27</b> Pride Center Open 10-3pm <b>3 pm Men's Meet to Date Pride Center</b></p>
<p><b>28</b> 9:15 &amp; 11 am UU Church 10:30 Sunday Mass, St. Mychal the Martyr 1 pm Lyons Brunch at Mia's 6 pm Imperial Court PC</p>	<p><b>29</b> 7pm GSA for youth ages 15 - 20 call for place</p>	<p><b>30</b> 7 pm Fairies Streeing Committee, Pride Center</p>	<p><b>31</b> 7 pm <b>Discussion Group</b> 8 pm Gay/Lesbian AA (Call for place)</p>	<p><b>Pride Gallery Photo Exhibit</b> <b>"Strange Fruit"</b> March 7 - 31</p>		



## Fairness at the Polls The KFA Voter ID Project

by Jennifer Crossen and Moya Hallstein

As volunteers for the KY Fairness Alliance, we would like to share our experience at the Feb. 17th special election doing what is commonly known as voter identification. It was both galvanizing and empowering, even though there was a great deal of negative press that day about what we were doing at the polls. We would also like to clarify the day's events and explain the ongoing project that Fairness has taken on in response to the anti-gay marriage bills currently in the KY General Assembly.

It is crucial that our community knows about the proposed amendments to both the Kentucky and U.S. Constitutions and takes action to prevent their passage. These measures would define marriage as solely between a man and a woman, effectively prohibiting any recognition of committed relationships between same-sex couples.

This means everything from civil unions to domestic partner benefits and even the ability to visit a sick partner in the hospital. If these amendments are passed, the attainment of civil rights for the GLBT community will suffer a huge setback!

These amendments would assure that GLBT families would be formally and explicitly relegated to second-class citizenship in the very Constitution of our state and possibly the entire country. This not only hurts gay and lesbian individuals; it hurts real families with real children. Over twenty percent of GLBT families in this country have children.

KFA determined that in Fayette County alone, it will take thousands of votes to defeat these amendments if they appear on the ballot in the November election. KFA

decided to take the opportunity offered by the special election and initiate a voter identification project. This project involves more than just identifying voters. It involves personal conversations with voters on the subject of gay and lesbian marriage and the implications for the GLBT community of the proposed constitutional amendments. It involves educating voters on these pertinent GLBT issues as well as recruiting potential volunteers.

At 5:45 a.m. on election day, a small determined group of volunteers checked-in with the polling officers at eight polling sites in Lexington. We explained that we would be talking with voters about gay and lesbian marriage, in an effort to start educating the public about this potential drastic change to our Constitution. Overall, we were well received by the polling officials who, for the most part, had no problem with our presence.

Conversations with voters that day ranged from very positive and supportive, to undecided and/or unaware of the issues, to some very hateful reactions.

On a personal note, we found the experience to be very empowering. Just talking to complete strangers about a very controversial issue was difficult and at times gut wrenching, especially after some of the negative responses. We had to endure name-calling, being ignored and even being told that we needed help and didn't deserve any rights. The positive responses and being able to educate some of the middle of the road folks was a very powerful experience and enabled us to keep going.

Despite how well we were received by polling officials, the Fayette Co. Board of Elections caved in to the pressure of complaints from some unhappy voters and

...continued on next page

**At 5:45 a.m. on election day, a small determined group of volunteers checked-in with the polling officers**



one irate Baptist minister. Around noon, the Fayette Co. Sheriff's department made a personal visit to all of us at our polling sites and requested that we observe the 500 foot buffer rule, which had recently been declared unconstitutional by the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Had we not been talking about such a controversial and unpopular topic, we feel that we wouldn't have been asked to stop talking with voters. We believe that we were exercising our constitutional right of free speech in public places to ask people their opinion about an issue that affects all of our lives. We were both saddened and angered that the Board of Elections was so easily swayed by those who don't support the GLBT community and favor discrimination.

Contrary to most of the media coverage our action received, we were all very careful not to intimidate or harass any of the voters when approaching them. Our intentions at the polls on February 17th were to educate voters about how the proposed amendments would harm Kentucky families. We believe that people said they were intimidated when they were actually just uncomfortable with the topic. In openly discussing gay and lesbian issues in a mainstream environment, we were breaking new ground for Kentucky voters. Our presence at the polls forced people to realize that this is an issue that isn't going away and that Kentucky's GLBT community isn't going to hide in the closet anymore!

A surprising number of the voters we spoke with were supportive of civil unions and were not aware of the fact that these amendments would prohibit not just marriage, but civil unions and even the most

minimal of domestic partner benefit systems. We spoke with more people who said they would vote against the amendment even if they didn't support gay and lesbian marriage because they didn't think that the Constitution should be used to take away rights. This would set a terrible precedent.

As Beth Robinson made explicitly clear during her recent visit to Kentucky, our work has only just begun. KFA will continue this voter identification project statewide through the November election with volunteers at the polls again for the May primary.

**In openly discussing gay and lesbian issues ...we were breaking new ground for KY voters.**

Locally, we will also be going door to door and phone banking to talk with more voters. For these projects and other grass

roots organizing and educating projects, Bluegrass Fairness needs your help and support. Call 806-4114 if you can't wait to sign up! If not, we'll be calling you!

### **BETH ROBINSON: Inspiring and Provocative** *by Jim Dickinson*

In a speech filled with personal stories, humor and pathos, Beth Robinson addressed a crowd of about 100 people at Memorial Hall on Friday, February 13, 2004. Beth Robinson, an attorney from Middlebury, Vermont, was the co-counsel in the landmark case of Baker vs. State of Vermont which ultimately led to the passage of legislation recognizing civil unions in Vermont. The underlying theme of her speech was that ordinary people can perform remarkable acts of bravery.

During her speech, she noted that couples, who were living regular lives and who were in many instances heavily closeted, were willing to come out into the limelight to express their

*...continued on page 16*



support for the passage of the civil unions legislation. She recounted the example of one person, who showed up at a legislative hearing intending only to be part of the anonymous crowd of supporters, being called on to address the legislative committee. Although she had a choice not to speak, she nevertheless went to the podium and faced the legislators and a host of media cameras. As Beth noted, this woman went from being in the closet to being "out" to the entire world in a space of five minutes.

Beth Robinson also gave emphasis to the importance of grass roots work in preparation for this case. Early on, her law firm recognized that gay and lesbian couples on their own would want challenge the legal prohibition against marriage. In anticipation of filing such a case, she and her colleagues knew that a massive educational effort would have to be mounted to ensure that a victory in court would not be overturned by legislative fiat. To that end they created a non-profit organization and sent volunteers to every county in Vermont and made a point of having an educational booths at the local county fairs, filled with pictures of gay and lesbian couples.

At one of the fairs, a typical straight looking farmer came up to the booth, chewing tobacco and who appeared kind of mean. He looked at the pictures, turned to Beth, and said, "Yep, got a gay brother, he wants to get married, keep up the good work" and walked away.

Beth ended her talk by noting that the Massachusetts's decision will create an impetus in Kentucky and other states to address the issue of gay and lesbian marriages and that it is important to put in place a grass roots educational effort.

Her speech on Friday culminated a whirlwind tour of the Commonwealth in

which she gave similar addresses at the University of Louisville, Centre College and University of Kentucky Law School. On Saturday, she participated in an educational seminar hosted by the Bluegrass Chapter at the Public Library at the Beaumont Center. In total approximately 500 to 550 people attended one of these events.

In addition to the efforts of Bluegrass Chapter to bring Beth Robinson to Kentucky a number of other organizations participated in this project by offering financial support or volunteers. They are the UK Women's Studies, UK Lambda, UK Lavender Society, and the UK Law School.

## **A Personal Responce to Beth Robinson**

*by David Hall*

I was touched by Beth's continual use of the word family to discuss the victory in the Vermont vote. I was raised by two sets of parents, my mother and step-father and my gay father and partner. It was a wonderful, safe and secure environment in which to grow up. It did not "make me gay" (though, it would not have been tragic if it did) or particularly dysfunctional (at least no more than anyone else's experiences mess them up). I have a fulfilling marriage, have attained a fairly high level of education, and I'm generally happy with my life. As a side note, my parents have remained close friends over the years, and continue to celebrate holidays together; I simply have a larger nuclear family than most people do.

**Register to Vote  
at the Pride Center**

**MON - FRI 10 TO 3**



## St. Mychal the Martyr Church

...continued from page 10

that offer healing and renewal; and the Sacraments of Ordination and Matrimony/Holy Union - sacraments that bring us into special ministry and witness.

When asked: "What do you believe?" we best respond by inviting the person to listen to the words of our Creed and understand that all of our doctrines (beliefs) surface from there. We accept God as Creator, Sustainer and Redeemer (Father, Son and Holy Spirit). We believe in the need for church to be one, holy, catholic and apostolic owning its mission to accept all people, to be a witness of faith, to reach out to the world and to respect the traditions of our ancestors.

Our moral code is based on the "Golden Rule" of Jesus. Our parishioners are challenged to live lives that reflect our love of God above all things and our love

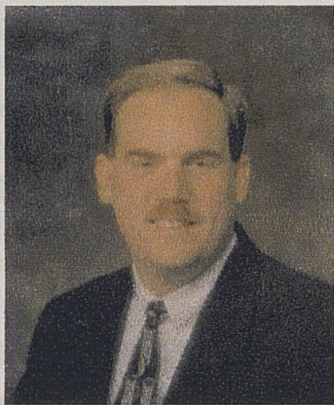
of neighbor as equal to our love of self.

In conclusion the OCCA strives to be a church that is willing to grow and is open to challenges. Please feel free to ask questions and to invite us to become a better church community to serve you and to help you find God! St. Mychal the Martyr Parish, 1350 Eastland Drive, Suite #5 Lexington, KY 40505 (859) 389-9418

## Pride Month Committee

**Thursday, March 11  
7 pm Pride Center  
We need You**

If you can't come to the meeting, get your Pride Activity on the calendar by calling Terry at 252-2867



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Voice Mail: 859-294-2055

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## DECISION MAKING 101

By Kelly O'Ferrell

*"Until one is committed, there is hesitancy, ...the moment one definitely commits oneself, then Providence moves too. All sorts of things occur to help one that would otherwise never have occurred. ... Action has magic, grace and power in it."*

Evoking The Soul by Goethe

I was born and raised to work in an office. Mama said that if we learned to type, we'd always have a job. She was right - I'm not so sure it was just because I could type, but I've certainly been able to get an office job. In January of 1993 I quit the office job de'jour, left my hometown in NC and headed west for the dude ranch in AZ. I ended up here in Lexington in June of '93 and started working in another office job for the next 2½ years. In those first years here, it was a known, safe place for me while I found my roots.

Then I began to remember. I hadn't left NC and traveled across the country just to work in an office job again. After discussing my feelings with my partner, I went part-time for a while. That gave me room to realize in December 1995 that I wanted to decide by January one way or the other about that office job. My partner and I went to Houston, TX to visit her sister for Christmas that year. One evening I was reading my new Rune book and came across Evoking the Soul by Goethe: "...the moment one definitely commits oneself, then Providence moves too." I knew right then my answer, and I gave my 1-month notice in January 1996.

Between 1996 and 2001 I had 17 different jobs - and only one of them part-time in an office. That's a lot of jobs considering that from 1979 to 1996 (17 years) I had 3 jobs - all in an office.

I simply wanted to do things I'd always wanted to do, or just thought I might like to do and to stop doing them when I didn't want to do them anymore. That meant noticing how I felt about what I wanted to do and how I felt while I was doing it.

So, what did I do for those 5 years? I worked with horses, mowed yards, taught writing to pregnant teenage girls getting their GEDs, inn kept for a B&B, presented programs at retirement centers, cashiered at Winn-Dixie and Blockbuster, cooked/served for caterers, worked in an office, house-sat for peoples' pets and worked 9 hours at McDonald's - to name a few.

I never worked any of them full time. At one point, I had 5 jobs going at once. I rarely scheduled myself to work earlier than 10:00 in the morning because I loved waking up slowly, having coffee, reading, cleaning house if I wanted, talking on the phone, going for a walk - whatever I wanted to do in those morning hours.

A few months into my new work life, a friend told me about an opening for Pages at her library and I immediately felt excited. I wasn't excited about getting a paying JOB, but about what I'd get to do at the job. They were going to pay me to find books using the call numbers. WhoooHoooo!!

And off I went on a little adventure to find the place to put in my application and take a test. When I arrived, the woman told me that they were going to be giving the test in the next 5 minutes and not again for another two weeks and asked if I wanted to stay and take the test.

"Yes, I'll stay," I said out loud. "Fate," I said to myself. "Just puredee fate." It was obvious that this is where I was supposed to work for a while since I'd gotten there just in time to take the test. I loved the test

....continued on next page



too. I got to do the things I enjoy - alphabetizing, numericalizing, looking for minute differences in two sentences and literally re-shelving books.

I was having so much fun until I came to the part where they wanted to know when I could work. Dear God in Heaven, they wanted me to write down days and times and commit (I'd quit breathing at this point) COMMITT to working every other weekend! "Kelly, Kelly, Kelly," I thought. "You can do this. What's wrong? They're only asking for four hours a day and not even every day. For God's sake, you're excited about this, remember, fate!! Remember??" So, I forced down some days and times and handed in my four page application after the 45 minute test in order to be a Page in the library part time for \$5.00 an hour.


I'd passed the test, she told me. I was thrilled. I think.

Someone from the library called the next day and left a message that they'd like to talk to me about the Page job. Shit!! I didn't think it'd get this far! I sat there with the phone in my hand, vacillating back and forth in front of my partner. She reminded me that I didn't have to call them that day that I could wait and call them the next day.

By the next day, I still felt the same way so I committed to an interview that Friday. I had to pick one of the choices and trust that I would know what I needed to know by staying aware. Fortunately, it was Thursday and I had to go to the farm to work and ride. When I arrived, my friend asked if I'd be interested in weed eating the farm and I jumped at the chance. In my excitement, I committed to the next morning at the exact time of my interview at the library.

All during that evening, as I heard the halters swinging from my arms, as I walked down the lane flanked by two glorious horses filling my body with the scent of heaven, and felt the sun on my face, I noticed something happening in my body. Whenever I'd think about the interview at the library my breathing would become quick and short. Whenever I noticed how great it was to be at the farm - the crisp air and the early stars - my breathing would be deep and relaxed.

I knew what I wanted to do - and what I didn't want to do. I called the library from the farm and canceled the interview. I wasn't ready to be committed to doing something indoors. It was as simple as that. It is as simple as that.



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## Reality Bytes

Reality Bytes is a new Coffee Shop and Internet Cafe in Georgetown. They are located on Frazier Court, between 84 Lumber and Wal Mart. Come enjoy specialty coffee or tea, check your email or play games. On some Sunday afternoons you can also catch a GLBT movie. Call 502 863-6090 for information.

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ONE WORLD  
FILM FESTIVAL  
FREE ADMISSION

The festival continues in March with two films. On Sunday, March 7, at the Central Library Theater at 2 pm., **Shadow Magic**, directed by Ann Hu, will be screened. This film tells the story of an itinerant Englishman who's first to bring motion pictures to China. His young Chinese assistant is fascinated by this new art form but finds himself in conflict with his father and the traditions of his community.

On Sunday, March 21 at 2pm. at the Library Theater we will show **Raising Victor Vargas** directed by Peter Sollett. The Vargas family lives on the Lower East Side of New York. Grandma who immigrated from the Dominican Republic, now finds herself raising her three grandchildren. Victor, Nino and Vicki are exasperated by their grandmother's old world ways, but they love and need her.

This coming of age saga explores the issues facing many grandparents who are raising their second generation of children. **Raising Victor Vagas** was nominated for Best Picture by the Independent Film Association.



Song Numbers  
WordFind  
By Reinette F. Jones

a	b	c	1	2	3	6	3	4	5	7	8	9	2	2	h	c	t	a	c
1	1	2	3	r	e	d	l	i	g	h	t	0	\$	5	5	v	u	l	1
2	9	6	3	t	e	n	d	a	y	s	w	3	1	1	2	6	5	8	0
0	8	n	n	8	1	9	9	9	7	5	o	5	3	9	2	1	4	6	0
0	o	e	o	8	o	p	u	s	4	0	m	7	o	7	m	t	s	6	i
c	n	e	i	e	u	u	n	o	7	7	o	6	l	9	k	e	y	e	d
u	r	t	s	k	4	z	e	r	o	5	o	8	5	s	6	e	a	t	r
r	e	r	n	a	p	a	r	t	m	e	n	t	5	4	3	w	w	u	e
f	d	i	e	f	7	a	n	d	7	i	s	9	t	o	5	s	9	o	a
e	n	h	t	1	8	y	e	l	l	o	w	r	o	s	e	s	2	r	m
w	o	t	x	0	0	5	6	a	i	n	a	v	l	y	s	n	n	e	p
s	w	e	e	t	l	i	t	t	l	e	6	6	0	2	5	1	0	1	5

List words are spelled backward, forward, up, down, and diagonal in the puzzle.

ABC 123	1979	Thirteen
Apartment 543	Op' 55	39-21-46
Catch 22	100 I Dream	36KM
867-5309	1 Luv	369
18 Yellow Roses	1 2 3 Red Light	TKS
Extension 33	Opus 40	1200 Curfews
Fake 88	Pennsylvania 6-500	29 Ways
\$55	Route 66	Two Moons
515	7 And 7 Is	2-6-5-8-0
5705	747	U4P
5-10-15-20	Sweet Little 66	Uno
9 To 5	Sweet 16	Wonder No 8
1999	Ten Days	Zero

\*Use the underline numbers in the word list above to complete the next line.

"All you got to do is pick up your telephone and dial, now, \_\_\_\_\_." --Wilson Pickett  
Find the phone number in the puzzle.



## Participants Needed for Next Study

Sherry Rostosky, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Counseling Psychology, and Ellen Riggle, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Political Science and Women's Studies, are both at the University of Kentucky. They are looking for interracial gay/lesbian/same-gender loving couples (at least 21 years of age and together at least one year) to participate in a study of race, romantic relationships, and relationship values.

Couples will participate at a time convenient for them and be compensated for their time (approximately 1½ hours). During this session, the couple will be asked to have a discussion about their views and perceptions about their experi-

ences as an interracial couple that will be taped and later transcribed. Each couple member will also be asked to individually (and confidentially) complete a questionnaire about him/herself and his/her relationships. All information that is collected will be treated confidentially.

Couples interested in hearing more about this study are asked to call (859) 257-7880 or email: [rostosk@pop.uky.edu](mailto:rostosk@pop.uky.edu). You are also invited to visit our website at <http://www.uky.edu/~pol164/couplesurvey-results.htm>. Links to information about advance planning is also available on our website or the website of Bluegrass Fairness.

### S & R Services

We can clean, paint, mow or do other yard work and even help you move. Give Sally a call at 859--389-9644

## GLSO is in need of financial support.

*It cost us about \$1500 a month to keep the Pride Center open. Please subscribe to this newsletter and donate what you can afford to keep the Pride Center open and to support these projects:*

Pride Library    The Gay Straight Alliance for Youth  
 Discussion Group    Young Adult Group    Speakers Bureau  
 Pink Pages    Pride Month    Act Out    Dress and Gender Alliance

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Mail to GLSO News PO Box 1172 Lexington, KY 40588



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# GLSO Directory

## GLSO Board

- GLSO Pride Center ..... 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 Line ..... lexingtonglso@yahoo.com  
     www.bluegrasspride.org  
 Pride Gallery ..... 225-0094

## Student Groups

- EKU(Sue) .....  
 UK Lavender Society c\_violet\_skies @ yahoo.com  
 Morehead State University (Ned) 606-783-2294  
 UK Lambda (Sara & Dave) .info@uklambda.com  
 Berea College ACE League (Dale) .859-985-3633  
 Centre College (BGLAD-Mykol) ..... 238-5332

## Anonymous HIV Testing

- Jessamine County ..... 885-4149  
 Lexington-Fayette County ..... 288-2437  
 Madison County ..... 859-723-7312  
 Woodford County ..... 873-4541  
 U.K. Adolescent Medicine ..... 323-5643

## HIV/AIDS Info/Services

- AIDS Volunteers, Inc ..... 225-3000  
 Lexington Health Department (Julie) ... 288-2362  
 HIV/AIDS Legal Project ..... 502-584-1254  
 HIV Support (Somerset) .. 679-7478 or 678-5814  
 Cumberland Region (SEKY-Pat) .. 606-864-3776  
     or 888-425-7282  
 Barren River Region ..... 800-559-4448  
 Louisville Region (Geri) ..... 502-574-0161  
 Northern Kentucky Region ..... 859-341-4264  
 Purchase Region ..... 800-522-8289  
 Moveable Feast ..... 252-2867

## Community

- Alcoholics Anonymous (Brian) ..... 619-5294  
 Office ..... 276-2917  
 AL-Anon (Office) ..... 277-1877  
 Bluegrass Belles ..... 502-346-5298  
 C.O.L.T.S. (Morris) ..... 225-9169  
 Bluegrass Fairness ..... 859-806-4114  
 Council for Peace and Justice  
     (Richard) ..... 277-6101  
 Fairness of Louisville ..... 502-893-0788  
 First Link (was Ask-Us) ..... 313-5465  
 International Gay Bowling (Steve) .. 276-3058  
 Imperial Court of KY  
     bluegrasssempire@hotmail.com

- KY Leather Productions (Larry) ..... 253-0185  
 Kyians For The Commonwealth ..... 254-3585  
     jlynjenks@msn.com  
 Lexington Lyons Leather/Levi Club  
     (Paul) ..... 312-9346  
 Lexington Dress & Gender Alliance .. 433-8388  
 Lexington Human Rights Commission 252-4931  
 Lexington Men's Chorus (Kenneth) .. 255-1974  
 Louisville Youth Group ..... 502-894-9787  
 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 Fairness ..... 803-1130  
     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 Travel ..... 253-1644  
 Rainbow Bowling League (Steve) ... 276-3058  
 Sistersound (Patti) ..... 268-0113  
     paowens@excite.com  
 Sistahs in the Life (Joan) ..... 252-2657  
 24 hr. Crisis Line ..... 1-800-928-8000  
 24 hr. Teen Crisis Line ..... 1-800-999-9999

## Religious Groups

- Dignity (Don) ..... 299-4458  
 Interweave (Unitarian-Mary) ..... 266-5904  
 Integrity (Episcopal-Rev. Stone) .... 277-7511  
 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-Rev. Chris) .. 254-3726  
 St. Mychal (Independant Catholic) (Rev. Ken) ..  
     389-9418  
 Open Door (Christian-Rev. Pam) .... 396-7636  
 Wiccan/Pagan Group..... (Iggie) 492-9904

## NEWS DEADLINES

Articles and Ads: March 15  
 Put Newsletter in subject line  
 marycrone@aol.com  
 lexingtonglso@yahoo.com