

AUGUST  
NEWS 1987



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

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## GOODBYE, LEXINGTON!

As we are moving away from Lexington we would like to send all of you a message of gratitude for giving us so many warm friendships and good memories.

When we came here three years ago, we had been used to having organizations and groups readily available that paved the way to making friends and networking. During our first six months in Lexington we did not see the same opportunities here. Before long it became apparent that the gay men in the area had organized in the group called the Gay Services Organization. We had been told that it was for gay men but no lesbian group had formed for a similar function. As we continued our search we began to realize that GSO was open to lesbians but that its reputation as a "men's group" had the effect of keeping women from participating. It was suggested by GSO Board members that by joining a few other women who were beginning to attend, we could make this our group, too. One of the highlights of our lives in Lexington has been the gay men's community's open support and friendship.

From the point of our joining GLSO to the present, we have watched many groups fold for lack of participation. It has been sad and frightening to see that happen while so many lesbian and gay people have been willing to attend functions, yet so few have given energy and time to make it all happen.

During our 3 years we have seen GLSO grow to half men and half women; we have seen many more men and women participate by supporting GLSO's functions and becoming involved with the groups that "create" wonderful gatherings.

The Lexington community has many options for gays and lesbians now. As we depart we hope each of you know how much we love and respect our community in Lexington. It has been with great pride that we have spoken of our involvement with GLSO, and we hope that as we have gained so much from you, we have given some of it back with our energy. It is our hope that all of you continue your efforts to reach out to the "new comers" and invite them into the family of friends in Lexington. For those of you who have enjoyed the fruits of GLSO's efforts, we hope you will offer your energies to keep our family strong and functioning. We will miss you and hope you know how much we have appreciated and loved our family here.

We hope to see you at a dance or two in the coming year. As always, peace and love be with you!

Kris & Shirley



## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please put me on the GLSO mailing list, including a free subscription to the monthly GLSO Newsletter (delivered in an "unmarked" envelope.)

I would like to become a member of GLSO. Enclosed is \$10.00 (or \$5.00 for students) annual membership dues.

Please let me know how I can be more involved in GLSO by calling me at: \_\_\_\_\_ (phone) or writing to me at:

(Name) \_\_\_\_\_

(Address) \_\_\_\_\_

(Apt. #) \_\_\_\_\_

(City) \_\_\_\_\_

(State) \_\_\_\_\_

(ZIP Code) \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: GLSO, P.O. Box 11471, Lex. KY 40575

The GLSO Newsletter is published monthly by the Lexington Gay Services Organization, Inc. (d.b.a. Lexington Gay/Lesbian Services Organization) P.O. Box 11471, Lexington KY 40575. The GLSO is a registered non-profit organization the purpose of which is to provide educational, recreational, social, and referral services directly involving or relating to gay/lesbian people.

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Submissions for the Newsletter are welcome. All submission become the property of the Lexington Gay Services Organization, Inc. (d.b.a. Lexington Gay/Lesbian Services Organization). All submissions must indicate the full name and address of the author, although no by-line will be published without the express written permission of the author. Non-original material must indicate that the original author has given permission for use of the material. Anonymous submissions cannot be accepted. The editorial staff reserves the right to alter submissions (including ads) to meet publishing requirements.



**FOR LOVE AND FOR LIFE,  
WE'RE NOT GOING BACK  
NATIONAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON  
FOR LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS**

Join us in Washington, D.C. October 9-13 for a gathering of 500,000 lesbians and gay men celebrating such events as The Wedding, the Veteran's and AIDS Memorial Services, the Lesbian and Gay Bands of America, and the climax - The National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights.

Planning for this five day event began in November, 1986 when over 500 activists representing lesbians and gays from all walks of life met and articulated a list of demands and issues to be raised at such an event. Since that time delegates from around the country have worked to organize and publicize the March and ensure a strong turnout. We hope the March will force the American government and people to recognize the strength of an organized gay community, and to make them aware of the unjust oppression we face each day. Whether it is emotional oppression - as my women friends fight to keep their children with them while being judged by a legal system that terrorizes gay parents - or legal oppression as with the lesbian who was denied access to her critically injured lover of many years because of a court order obtained by the comatose woman's parents who held all legal rights - or financial oppression as insurance companies look for new ways to deny gay men affordable insurance because of "their high risk for AIDS" and the resulting expensive health care - or spiritual oppression as men and women who cannot withstand the pressure of opposing the heterosexual "norm" turn to alcohol, drugs, isolation, and even suicide to fight their own self-hatred - or even more dramatically, the threat of forced HIV testing and detention camps - these actions must be defined and defied. The events in Washington seek to do just this by a series of 7 demands:

1. Legal recognition of Lesbian and Gay relationships

2. Repeal of all laws that make sodomy between consenting adults a crime

3. a Presidential order banning discrimination against gay people by the Federal Government

4. Passage of the Congressional Lesbian and Gay Rights Bill

5. An end to discrimination against people with AIDS, ARC, HIV positive status, of those perceived to have AIDS. Massive increase in funding for AIDS education, research, and patient care. Money for AIDS, not for war.

6. Reproductive Freedom, the right to control our own bodies and an end to sexist oppression.

7. And as members of an oppressed group which must reach out and support the liberation of all people, an end to racism in this country and apartheid in South Africa.

By planning events that incorporate all of these goals and publicizing the need for change "we, the U.S. Lesbian and Gay community urgently...bring a message to this nation and it's leaders - - it is not we, but the threats to us that endanger the entire nation and it's values." The current "agenda of our enemies...of hatred, of fear, and of bigotry" eventually oppresses all people and precludes freedom, love, creativity, and individuality. We need to stand together and demand what we deserve - the right to live our lives freely and proudly in a community that fosters productive interaction between all peoples. That is what the March on Washington is all about. Its about me and its about you.

Many individuals and groups are organizing transportation and housing. More information can be obtained locally through the Gayline and GLSO. Whether you wish to attend just the March, the entire series of events, choose to support the March financially, or merely begin to become involved with a local action group that supports the goals of the March, you will be contributing to your own future and the strength of your own family.

*Call to Action*  
for a new

## **March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights**

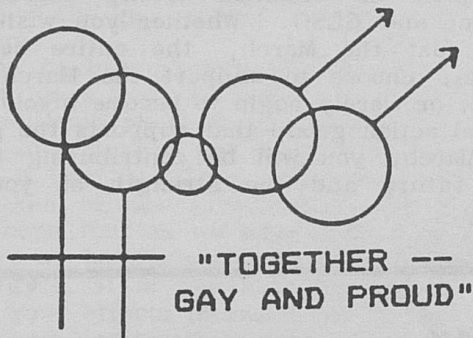
"Depriving individuals of the right to choose for themselves how to conduct their intimate relationships poses a far greater threat to the values most deeply rooted in our nation's history than tolerance of nonconformity could ever do."

—U.S. Supreme Court Justice Harry Blackmun,  
dissenting from the Court's 1986 ruling that upholds sodomy laws

**October 11, 1987**

The agenda of events:

- Fri.-Sun. Oct. 9-11 **March Against Death and Violence.** For a period of 40 hours, culminating with the March, people carrying banners with the names of individuals who have died from AIDS and homophobic violence will move in a solemn, single-file procession past the White House, the Capitol, and other national symbols.
- Fri. Oct. 9 **National Lobby Day.** Delegations will be lobbying in Congress.
- Sat. Oct. 10 **Never Forget, Gay/Lesbian Memorial Project.** Dedication of the Harvey Milk memorial in Congressional Cemetery. 11 am.; **The Wedding.** 2 pm (see related article); **Lesbian & Gay Bands of America Concert.** 8 - 11 pm.
- Sun. Oct. 11 **Veterans Memorial Service.** A memorial for gay and lesbian veterans at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, prior to the March; **AIDS Memorial Project.** Thousands of panels with the names of people who have died of AIDS will be assembled into one massive expanse and displayed across the Capitol Mall; **March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights.**
- Mon. Oct. 12 **National Lesbian & Gay Rights Congress Planning Meeting.** Plans will be initiated for a 1988 nationwide Congress of Lesbians and Gay Men, to coincide with the Democratic and Republican National Conventions.
- Tues. Oct. 13 **Civil Disobedience for Lesbian & Gay Rights.** Non-violent action at the Supreme Court.



#### D.C OR BUST!

Washington DC is a beautiful city during any season, but especially so in the fall. Therefore, why not combine the March on Washington with a mini-vacation, satisfying both your social and esthetic conscience, while taking part in one of the most important events in gay history politics since the Stonewall Riots.

How to get there? Several options are available, including bus, train, plane, or car.

Whether you drive or take a bus, its a long trip - about 10 hours through the beautiful West Virginia and Cumberland, MD area fall foliage - but think of the wild time you could have traveling with 40 other local folks on a chartered bus! GLSO is in the process of organizing just such a possibility, and depending on how many people are interested, may take several buses and may also plan on joining with Louisville busses to form one big Gay Kentucky Convoy. With 45 riders, the cost would be only \$50 per person. Tentatively the bus would leave Lexington very early Friday morning, Oct. 9, and leave Washington late on Sunday the 11th. (This would allow everyone to be a part of the major scheduled activities on Saturday and Sunday) The March Committee in Washington has made arrangements with downtown hotels for special group rates of \$75 per night double occupancy. The total cost of the trip would be \$125 per person excluding tax, food, tips and of course, any bar charges.

Washington is served by four major airlines from Lexington, with service to both National and Dallas Airports. A round trip seven day advance fare of \$148 - \$168 was recently available, depending on day and time of departure.

Believe it or not, you can still take Amtrak from Cincy to Washington for \$122. Sleeping accommodations are available at an extra charge. The train leaves Friday and returns on Wednesday, which would allow you to participate in the Congressional Planning meeting and the non-violent civil disobedience action at the Supreme Court, both these activities are planned for the Monday and Tuesday after the March.

In an attempt to access the interest in organizing local chartered buses, we are asking anyone interested to return the coupon below with your name and address, and mail it to GLSO, P.O. Box 11471, Lexington, KY 40575. Tell all your friends, especially anyone who might not receive the **GLSO News**. If we get enough people We'll just add another bus. **SEE YOU IN WASHINGTON!**

Yes, I want to take part of this all important effort to gain equal rights for myself and all gay and lesbian people! Please keep me informed on arrangements being made for bus transportation to Washington, DC.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_



## THE WEDDING

Are you presently in a committed, same-sex relationship? Have you ever been frustrated because society doesn't give legal and social recognition to the union between you and your partner? If so, then plan on attending The Wedding on October 10, at 2:00 pm in Washington, DC.

The Wedding is a national demonstration officially sponsored by the National March on Washington to emphasize the demand that lesbian and gay domestic partners in committed same-sex relationships be entitled to the same rights as straight couples.

The Wedding will include a non-sectarian union ceremony. Its goal is to have at least a thousand couples celebrate their existing relationships in support of the March's demand for couples' rights. Participation is not restricted by any definition of "couple" or "acceptable relationship". To respect diversity within the gay community, efforts are being made to encourage at least 50% participation by lesbian couples and 25% by people of color.

Contributions to defray the cost of the ceremony and reception are being accepted. Any amount received in excess of expenses will be given to the National March Committee. For additional information, contact Couples, Inc., P.O. Box 13323, Los Angeles, CA 90013. For registration forms, leave your name and address with the GLSO Gayline (231-0335, 7-11 pm, Wednesdays-Thursdays) and GLSO will send you a copy of the form to be completed and mailed to the above address.

## PROGRESS ON MARCH

As we approach the October 11 date for the March on Washington, a great deal of progress has been made toward making the March a successful reality.

Nationally, a Steering Committee of 64 people has been organized to coordinate the March activities. The US has been organized into eight regions, each with four delegates. The remaining seats are filled by lesbians and gay men representing especially oppressed groups such as people with AIDS, the physically challenged, people of color, and veterans.

The Southeast region includes Kentucky. At the Southeastern Conference of Lesbians and Gay Men held in May in Fort Lauderdale, the region's four delegates to the national Steering Committee were chosen. Work also began toward meeting the goals of the March.

Lee Bush has been hired to staff the national office of the March. Bush served as

## ILLINOIS CONSIDERS TOUGHEST AIDS LEGISLATION YET

The Illinois State legislature recently passed bills which are presently, by far, the most stringent, discriminatory, and hysteria-inspired legislation to appear within the U.S. If Gov. Thompson signs all four bills into law, they will: force HIV antibody testing upon all applicants for marriage licenses; report results of tests to the Public Health officials; require anyone convicted of sexual or drug related crimes to be tested; require Public Health officials to record names and addresses of all individuals who test positive; require these officials to ask positive-testing individuals for names and addresses of all sexual partners for the last 7 years, contact those people, and inspect any state, federal or military records for positive-testing Illinois residents for purposes of contact tracing; force all individuals incarcerated in state or county jails be tested; require all hospital patients between the ages of 13 and 55 be tested; restrict anonymous and written informed consent testing sites; and allow quarantining of individuals "deemed" dangerous to the public health. This last item included any or all "very active homosexuals".

At the time this issue of GLSO News was being prepared, it was known that the governor had signed at least one of the four bills into law. These actions have been taken in the face of the opposition of the governor's own appointed council on AIDS, and even though the chairperson of this council actively urged all Illinois residents to write to the governor urging him to veto all four bills.

Regional Field Director of the 1986 Great Peace March, marched with MCC founder Rev. Troy Perry on the Lincoln Memorial in 1976, and helped organize protests in Los Angeles against Anita Bryant.

From our own region, Atlanta based AIDS activist and person with AIDS, David W. Almond, has been named to the seven member National Executive committee. Almond has worked as a rehabilitation counselor, assistant placement director for the handicapped in San Diego schools, and as a consultant to the deaf community.

March officials estimate that the activities scheduled during the week preceding and the two days following the March will cost \$300,000. At the Womyn's Music Festival in Georgia this past May, \$10,000 was raised for the March simply by "passing the hat." Those who cannot attend the March shouldn't feel left out: contributions will be gratefully accepted by the national and regional committees.

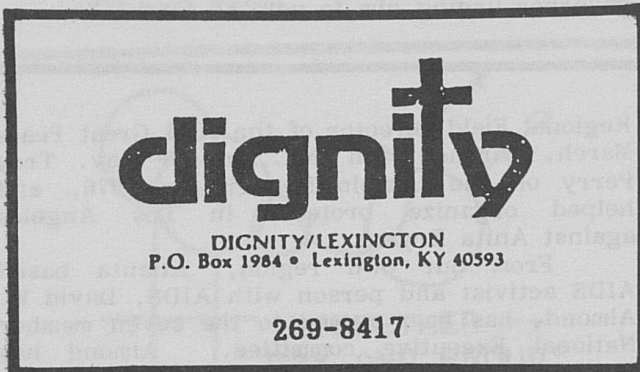
## FROM DIGNITY'S PRESIDENT

I have just finished a whirlwind vacation and am soon off for New England and Michigan. It began in Grand Rapids with the Dignity Region V House of Delegates. After Grand Rapids, I flew to Little Rock for the Unitarian Universalist General Assembly. The UUA has strongly recommended that all future national and district meetings be held in states without sodomy laws, or, if meetings are held in these states that an organized protest be held in conjunction with the meeting.

After General Assembly I flew to Philadelphia; I've also visited New Orleans, Pittsburgh, and Wisconsin this summer. By being involved I have created a wonderful opportunity to see places, do different things, and meet interesting people. I have many new friends plus wonderful experiences. None of these would have happened had it not been for going to a Dignity meeting in March of 1985 and sticking with it. I urge you to get involved. It doesn't have to be Dignity. Of course, I'd love it to be, but it could be GLSO, Interweave, LAGPACK, Feminist Alliance, the Imperial Court, a softball or bowling team, or whatever. Just get involved and give yourself a chance. I bet you'll find it worthwhile. And maybe you'll join me this year at Dignity Regional in Indianapolis, General Assembly in Palm Springs, IGBO '88 in Washington - that is, if you get involved.

Peace,

Keith



### MEMBERSHIP

Yes, folks, Dignity's still having our membership drive! Our goal is 25 and we'll need a hefty turnout in the next several months to reach it. Some of you may ask "why become a member?" Well, it's a fair question. You get regional and national news information and the privilege of saying "I belong to Dignity." But for \$25 is that enough? Ultimately, that question is up to you. But remember your \$25 works to make life better for lesbian and gay people. So join! Students can join for \$20 and couples for \$45.

## CHICAGO DIOCESE SUPPORTS GAYS

Roman Catholic Cardinal Joseph Bernardin praised a local parish, St. Sebastian's, for its "rich and varied ministries," including its ministry "to the gay and lesbian community." During a ceremony on the parish's 75th anniversary, Bernardin prayed that "all people, including those most alienated from society," would continue to be welcomed by the parish. The Chicago chapter of Dignity has celebrated mass at St. Sebastian's Church for 15 years. A spokesperson for the Archdiocese of Chicago indicated there were no plans to force Dignity out of St. Sebastian's.

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*Dignity is not something we give ourselves, it is something we give each other.*

*From a 1979 speech*

John J. McNeill, SJ

Author of *The Church and the Homosexual*

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## REGION V DISTRICT MEETING

Last month Dignity Region V met in Grand Rapids, Michigan. During the morning session we heard about the national convention in Miami, Dignity/Cincinnati being asked to leave their church, as well as an update concerning our Newsweek ad. About 500 responses were turned in netting almost \$5,000. It's interesting to note that one of Time's major stockholder's is the Vatican (Time turned down Dignity's request for an ad.)

After lunch and committee reports, it was discovered that two committees remain open: Women's Concerns and Media, (if interested, please contact Dignity.) The Pope's visit to Detroit was also discussed. A prayer service coinciding with the Pope's arrival, with media coverage, has been arranged. As a result of elections, Jack Degek, Ben Boerkel, and Mike Frye were elected regional director, secretary, and treasurer, respectively.

On Sunday, chapter reports were given and future district meetings set. Indianapolis will hold the district meeting October 24-26. Lafayette, Indiana will host the Winter of 1988. Thanks to Dignity/Grand Rapids for a great weekend!



# AIDS UPDATE

## AIDS NEWS

Because of the enormous volume and complexity of information about AIDS that might interest its readers, the GLSO Newsletter has organized an AIDS review panel. The purpose is to assure that facts are presented accurately and that issues covered are of interest locally. We will be trying to interpret national trends for our readers and we invite your articles, questions or comments. Coming up: Should I take the test? A discussion of the risks, pro and con, in next month's issue.

We would like to clarify the figures appearing in the July AIDS Update of the newsletter. It was reported that 21% of the "high risk patients (primarily gay men)" screened in Lexington and Louisville Health Departments tested positive. We would like to discuss high risk behaviors, not high risk people. Those persons presenting themselves for testing are not necessarily representative of the gay community (exact figures are unavailable). It should be noted that from January to April, 1987, 12.7% of "receptive" males were positive (9 of 63); with a couple of tests added separately this figure is not entirely accurate either. At any rate, the number of gay men presenting themselves to be tested in Lexington has dropped steadily since the first of this year. Testing at the Lexington site is anonymous; Louisville reportedly, (sources: Becke Herrin, Kentucky Bureau Health Services AIDS coordinator and Greg Lee) has no anonymous testing and figures there are unavailable. One important note to area gays: if you want to be tested and you contact a physician, clinic, hospital or laboratory, and your results are positive, your name, address and other identifying information must be forwarded to the Kentucky Bureau of Health Services. There it is maintained confidentially, but regulations require the reporting. It is also not advisable to include positive results in your medical record; there have been reports (source: Edwin Hackney) that HIV positive persons have had their health insurance canceled by their insurers. Legal protection in Kentucky against such cancellations remains uncertain at this time.

The HIV infection rate continues to be a greatly debated issue. CDC head Dr. James Curran puts the infection rate at 1 in 30 among all young and middle age men in the US (National AIDS Network 7/1/87); just released Department of Defense figures of testing of over 300,000 army recruits found an infection rate of 1.5 individuals per 1,000 nationally,

with the rate going as high as 20 out of 1,000 (2%) in NYC, San Francisco, and the District of Columbia (CNN News, 7/14/87). Rates among gay and bisexual men and IV drug users are thought to be higher, but accurate figures are not available.

Contrary to local press accounts, a positive test does not mean that a person will develop AIDS or has AIDS. However, it does imply they can infect a sexual partner and should practice safe sex and protect against the exchange of body fluids. To be safe, everyone, EVERYONE, who is a gay male (all right, bisexuals too) in Kentucky must assume they may be at risk and take necessary precautions. More about this next month.

## PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE ANNOUNCES MASSACHUSETTS AIDS EDUCATION PROGRAM

On June 11, Gov. Dukakis announced an AIDS education program to be instituted in his home state of Massachusetts. His plan's four major points are: 1) a "teaching guide" to be developed by the state's Dept. of Public Health and Dept. of Education, which will be sent to all school superintendents and committee chairpersons, and all mayors; 2) public service announcements for television and radio, aimed at minorities and young people; 3) creation of an informational brochure to be mailed to every household in Massachusetts by early fall, and mailing Surgeon General Koop's report on AIDS to 3000 education, community, religious, and business leaders; and 4) expansion of free, voluntary, anonymous AIDS antibody testing programs from the current 13 test sites to a total of 28 sites.

Dukakis has firmly opposed the possibility of programs to provide IV drug users with sterile needles, and distributing condoms in schools and prisons. The governor has also taken a clear stand against disclosing AIDS antibody test results to public health officials, and disagrees with mandatory testing for any groups other than the military and certain immigrants (though he gives no reasons for this decision). In commenting on the proposed contents of his household mailing, Dukakis said, "We're not talking morality here, just plain facts."

Dukakis, who announced his candidacy for the Democratic presidential nomination a few months ago, adds he had not given any thought to how this new program would affect his campaign. Many people would find that statement very difficult to believe of any presidential candidate, and especially from one whose stands on gay issues have recently been so contradictory.

# ASK AUNT MARY

Dear Aunt Mary: My son is fifteen years old and does not know I am gay. Should I tell him?

Worried,  
Mt. Sterling

Dear Worried: You haven't given me much to go on, such as what kind of relationship you have with your son, how your ex feels about (or even knows about) your orientation, and how well adjusted your son is at this time. Basically, most of the research I have read indicates that teenagers, who are struggling to find their own sexual identities and who want more than anything to "belong" and "fit in", may have difficulty in dealing with the information that one of their parents is gay. It has been suggested that if a parent does not come out to their child by this age of about twelve, it may be best to wait until after the teenage years to broach this particular subject.

Now, if any of my readers has any experience along these lines and would like to share your experience, please feel free to write and comment. Your input would be most welcome and will be passed along.

Thanks!  
Aunt Mary

If you would like to write to Aunt Mary, send your letter to: Aunt Mary, c/o GLSO, P.O. Box 11471, Lexington, KY 40575. If you would like a personal reply, please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope. All names are strictly confidential.

## RAINBOW BOWLERS RETURN

GLSO's Rainbow Bowling League will begin its season with its first night of bowling on Tuesday, August 25 at 8 pm. A pre-bowling party is set for Tuesday, August 18, also at 8 pm, at Chuck's new home. For directions call Bill or Kenneth at 278-0048.

We are happy to announce that once again we will be bowling at Joyland Bowling Lanes off North Broadway. Lots of strikes, and we'll see you at the alley.

## GAY PARENTING COOKOUT

The August meeting of the Gay Parenting Group will be a cookout at Barry's. Bring a covered dish and something to be cooked on the grill; drinks will be provided. Children are welcome, too! Date: August 28 (Friday). Time: 7:00 pm.

## KENTUCKY'S FIRST GAY PRIDE MARCH - A SUCCESS!

Saturday June 27th marked an important day in the minds of gay and lesbian Kentuckians. It was the date of the first of (hopefully!) a series of Gay Pride Marches in Kentucky. This "March for Justice" was endorsed by the ACLU of Kentucky, Jefferson County NOW, the Fellowship of Reconciliation, the Kentucky Nurses Association, the Louisville Frontline Committee, First Unitarian Universalist Church, Kentucky Alliance Against Racism and Political Repression, Epiphany Social Responsibility Committee, and Central Presbyterian Peace and Justice Committee, among others.

About 300 gay men, lesbians, and non-gay participants took part in the march. At least eight people from the Lexington gay community marched. The route began downtown in Central Park and ended an hour later at the steps of the Jefferson County Courthouse.

The March for Justice was a march for human rights but it focused on the need for gay and lesbian rights. Speakers at the rally which followed the march represented gay organizations but also included non-gay activists who addressed the issues of gay rights from their own perspectives.

When asked what they hoped the march would accomplish, many of the participants answered, "We don't want special rights, we want the same rights as everyone else." In fact, many of the march organizers and supporters are continuing to work quietly to gain the support of Louisville's Board of Aldermen for an ordinance to protect gay men and lesbians from discrimination.

Hope for this anti-discrimination legislation increased fifteen months ago when the Louisville-Jefferson County Human Rights Commission concluded that significant discrimination exists against homosexuals in areas of employment, housing and public accommodations. The commission recommended that the Board of Aldermen and Fiscal Court amend human rights ordinances to guarantee gay and lesbian citizens equal access under the law.

Thus far the Board has yet to respond. In a surprising editorial which appeared the day before the March for Justice, the Courier-Journal came out in support of the proposed change in city ordinance. (See related article.) Before the March, organizers assisted participants with a letter writing campaign aimed at convincing city aldermen to enact the changes. One of the primary goals of the march was to build a coalition of support for the gay rights measures, and proof that this was achieved was evidenced by the diversity



of people who took part both in the letter writing campaign and the March.

Overall, the march was an impressive success and will further the gay rights movement in Kentucky. With consistent support and active campaigning, and with a strong showing at next year's projected march, we have realistic hopes for success with changing laws in Louisville, and eventually at state levels, too. The key factor is remembering that even though this march proved that we are not alone, we cannot rely on others to fight our battles for us. We must continue to fight our own battles, and never give up. And most importantly, never, never go back or remain silent in the face of bigotry.

### IN SUPPORT OF GAY EQUALITY

In response to complaints from the Kentucky Gay and Lesbian Educational Center, the Louisville Courier-Journal has adopted a new policy replacing the use of the term "sexual preference" with the words "sexual orientation" in all future news articles.

The newspaper also surprised many gay and lesbian Kentuckians with an editorial supporting proposed changes to city legislation which would add "affectional or sexual orientation" to the list of classes protected against discrimination. The Greater Louisville Human Rights Coalition has been working towards passage of the changes in legislation for several years.

In a third policy decision, the Courier-Journal announced that it will not treat any employee who contracts AIDS any differently than "anyone else who is ill", adding that "Corporate personnel should be notified immediately if an AIDS case is identified so issues such as privacy, morale, and disability benefits can be discussed."

### QUEENS ON PARADE!

Many of us in the Lexington Gay community would like to thank the Imperial Court of the Bluegrass Empire for their part in Lexington's Fourth of July Parade. Seeing the current empress, Twyla, accompanied by a former empress, riding down the middle of the street, waving to the crowd of thousands, was certainly a wonderful sight. Thank heavens at least one segment of the gay community was openly represented in the annual parade (even if most of the audience was probably - and apparently - too blind to those different from themselves to comprehend what they were seeing).

### GAY PEOPLE ARE HEROES, TOO!

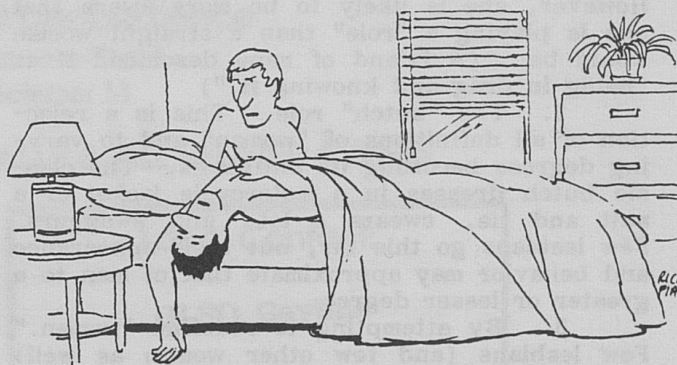
In a recent article in The Advocate, Leonard Matlovitch described his experience visiting the graves of Alice B. Toklas, Gertrude Stein, and Oscar Wilde in Paris: "There, in front of me, were some of the people who had given me the courage to confront the Air Force with the truth about who I really am... I was overwhelmed with a sense of pride, history and understanding that I'd never felt before. I knew that I wouldn't forget the experience for the rest of my life." Leonard Matlovitch knows all about the type of courage he credited to those famous people whose graves he had visited. Matlovitch had the courage to tell the U.S. Air Force that he is gay and proud of it. The Air Force then discharged Matlovitch, in spite of the many medals and honors he had been awarded while serving in Vietnam.

Now Matlovitch is speaking up for a new non-profit organization called Never Forget, which has been formed in order to create American memorials in visible sites across the U.S. to honor those who have advanced the positive perception of our gay community.

The first such memorial will designate a portion of Congressional Cemetery in Washington, DC as a final resting place for Harvey Milk. The ceremony is planned for Saturday, October 10 at 11:00 am in connection with the March on Washington.

Why the need for such memorials? Because, as Matlovitch says, "[the] public is never told that a famous figure is lesbian or gay unless an attempt is being made to discredit the individual, or the individual has been diagnosed with AIDS. There is no such thing in our culture as an American hero who is openly lesbian or gay.

The Harvey Milk memorial is the beginning of our attempt to remedy this error on the part of the straight public. Hopefully, by making gay and lesbian heroes more visible, it will someday become commonplace to society without that recognition being either singled-out or suppressed because of our "gayness".



"Every time you have an orgasm, I feel like notifying your next of kin."

# WOMEN'S NEWS

The following is a continuation of an excerpt from Our Right to Love, A Lesbian Resource Book, which was produced in cooperation with women of the National Gay Task Force. The book was published in 1978 and is now out of print.

## WOMAN TO WOMAN: LESBIAN INTIMACY

...The need for emotional support from other lesbians is increased considerably by the societal "cost" of being a lesbian. To be a lesbian is to reject the most basic thing one has ever been told about the definition of "woman". We are faced with how to come to grips with this situation during the process of coming out. Coming out can be on several levels, including:

1. Coming out to oneself: the process of discovering and accepting one's lesbianism.
2. Coming out sexually: going to bed with another woman.
3. Coming out to friends and/or family.
4. Coming out publicly: making one's lesbianism a generally known fact.
5. Coming out politically: becoming involved with lesbian feminism, the gay movement, or the women's movement in order to change the status of lesbians in society.

Besides the decisions about whether to open the closet door, keep it closed, or dynamite it, one has to define a self-identity which encompasses the various places. As a lesbian one does not fit the ideal of wife and mother. Lesbians have generally tried three different ways of adapting to this situation. The first two solutions are based on the traditional model of the straight marriage; while these patterns are diminishing in importance, they should still be mentioned.

1. The "femme" role. This is an attempt to keep all the definitions intact except the lover choice. The femme is usually indistinguishable from the average heterosexual woman, at least to the straight world. However, she is likely to be more aware that she is playing a "role" than a straight woman would be. (A friend of mine described it as "being in drag and knowing it.")

2. The "butch" role. This is a rejection of all definitions of "woman" and to varying degrees becoming its antithesis. The classic butch dresses in a motorcycle jacket or a suit and tie, swears a lot, and swaggers. Few lesbians go this far, but their appearance and behavior may approximate that of men to a greater or lesser degree.

3. By attempting to redefine "woman." Few lesbians (and few other women as well) totally fit the stereotypic roles of the ideal

woman or its antithesis without a lot of pushing and shoving. The women's and gay movements have encouraged all women (and men as well) to redefine themselves as persons, not as halves to be completed by the opposite half. As a result, an increasing number of lesbians are defining themselves as having both "sides": the rational/aggressive and the nurturing/emotional. A lesbian relationship then becomes the meeting of two equals, not a contest in mutual leaning. Lesbians are increasingly discovering that it is easier - as well as more honest - to be themselves rather than a character in someone else's play.

Lesbians are a very diverse group, and I have barely scratched the surface in this article. I have probably come closer to defining what lesbians are not than to defining what we are. Lesbianism defies simple explanations. We are complex human beings in search of many things. In recent years, as we have begun to define ourselves instead of allowing others to do so, we have been struck by our differences. If it weren't for the discrimination against us, we would have much less in common. Yet through all the variables, in our love and caring for women we are united.

## FOR WOMEN TRAVELERS, ONLY!

The International Women's Guesthouse Registry (IWGR) offers confidential up-to-date listings of women-owned and operated inns, campgrounds, and Bed & Breakfasts, both in the U.S. and abroad.

For only \$3 per state/region requested, IWGR will send a catalog of all women-oriented accommodations which list with the organization. IWGR will also provide free assistance to any women interested in starting a B & B in their residences. Inclusion in IWGR's listings costs only \$15 per year.

IWGR was begun by the non-profit, women-dedicated Foundation Institute for Women (FIW). FIW also published Travel Talk, a free, quarterly newsletter for lesbian travelers. For more information, write to Foundation Institute for Women, P.O. Box 700TWI, Rego Park, NY 11374.

## LET'S PLAY WHILE THE WOMYN ARE AWAY!

Anyone interested in getting together the Saturday of the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival (August 15) for OUR OWN celebration right her in Lexington? Bring your own pillow, blanket and bottle and dance the night away. For more information, call Teresa at 231-7985.





*For love and for life,  
We're not going back!*

Non-violent Civil Disobedience  
at the U.S. Supreme Court  
Tuesday, October 13

JOIN US FOR THE MARCH, RALLY & ALL RELATED EVENTS

March on Washington, Inc.  
P.O. Box 7781  
Washington, DC 20044  
202-783-1828

Local Contact:  
GLSO Gayline

## LOCAL BIGOTRY

Late in June, a friend living near Lexington sent GLSO a copy of the June 23, 1987 issue of a small, local newspaper called The Scott Shopper. Included on the editorial page was an astoundingly bigoted ranting which is all the more amazing for the ignorance it reveals. We repeat the article below, followed by GLSO's response.

"Ralph's Report"  
By Ralph G. Maurer

See where this week is Gay Pride Week in Louisville and in a column announcing the week the writer admonished readers "You who are stuck in negative stereotypes concerning gays and lesbians, this would be a good time to begin working out of them."

Well, I can tell Columnist Ellie Beecher this much...her statements such as "Gay and straight singles have more in common than the average straight person may think...and "The pursuit of steady, loving, faithful and stimulating companionship is universal...and "The desire to lead a life that is intellectually, professionally and romantically fulfilling while remaining unattached is not limited to heterosexual yuppies" are all disgusting to me as she continues her quest to promote gays and lesbians.

Beecher says Gay Pride Week is an effort to promote community dialogue and that singles should take part. She says a number of films with gay themes will be shown. And, can you believe this? There are at least 20 gay support, social and religious groups in the Louisville area and the gays and lesbians even have their own "hot" line.

NOTE: Yes, Ellie Beecher, I'm stuck in the negative stereotype concerning gays and lesbians...and I'm damn proud of it. And, likely, if I were your boss, you wouldn't last until Friday.

Accompanying the copy was a letter as eloquent and heartfelt as "Ralph's Report" was homophobic. Unfortunately the person who sent us the article and wrote the accompanying letter could not be reached for consent to reproduce the letter here.

GLSO sent the following response:  
Messrs. Hisel and Maurer, Publishers  
The Scott Shopper  
Information, Inc.  
116 West Main Street  
Georgetown, KY 40324

Gentleman:

We were disappointed to see the attack on gays and lesbians in "Ralph's Report" on June 23rd.

Mr. Maurer is "stuck in the negative stereotype" because we are an invisible minority. With over 10% of the population being gay or lesbian we must assume he's acquainted with several of us. We're the people he sees every day, in all walks of life.

It's easy to hate people you don't know, but Mr. Maurer should be embarrassed to publicly announce he hates some of the people he considers friends.

The person who wrote to GLSO about this article is certainly not alone when it comes to a sense of helplessness at such bigotry. However, we are not nearly as helpless as we usually feel. There are plenty of ways to strike back without losing our frequently necessary anonymity. One easy step is for every gay and lesbian person who receives the The Scott Shopper to send each business that advertises in the paper an anonymous letter stating that no responsible person with a sense of humanity and justice could ever patronize a business that advertises in such a publication. After all, why should we gay and lesbian people spend our money to help support such homophobic bigots financially?

These letters could easily be sexual orientation neutral, or even be signed anonymously as an "outraged, customer". For those of us who need to cautiously safeguard our anonymity, the most effective means of fighting homophobia is to donate much needed money to any of the local or national organizations which are struggling to overcome prejudice for all of us. GLSO would be happy to provide anyone with the addresses of these organizations upon request.

# WE NEED YOUR HELP

## OUR RIGHTS ARE ON THE LINE



GLSO would like to thank-

Twyla Knight, Judy Jetson,  
Lauren Wells & Brandi Michaels  
of the Imperial Court of the Bluegrass  
for their performances at July's

GLSO's Coffeehouse and Dance.

Congratulations to the winning couples of "The Dating Game"  
Richard & Brian/Ann & Lori  
who will be dining at a la lucie's and Fleur de Lis

July's Coffeehouse and Dance was certainly a success, with the proceeds benefiting GLSO services. In presenting this monthly event GLSO is attempting to present a variety of entertainment not readily available to our gay community. Our first C & D presented the talent of local musicians Candy and Carrie, scenes from a production written by Keith about gay history, and the musical duo Tendre, who performed earlier this year at the Southern Womyn's Music & Comedy Festival. July's C & D offered a different theme with performances by The Imperial Court and our version of "The Dating Game."

In August, we hope to relax a little with poetry readings and mellow, quieter music. Everyone is invited to bring displays of original art to share. Each coffeehouse is followed by a three hour dance with Top 40 dance music. We need your help locating a broad spectrum of entertainment. If you are, or know someone who is, willing to perform, (especially you guys!), song/dance/comedy/whatever . . . ok, almost whatever, call Laura (231-7895) or Janette (254-2483) or join GLSO (the membership form is on page 2 of this very Newsletter.) Call us with your suggestions and ideas. Attendance is obviously the key to the continuation of the C & D's and no form of P.R. is more effective than word of mouth - so our **next C & D is August 21th at 8:30 pm** (the 3rd Friday of each month) at the Unitarian Universalist Church on Clays Mill Road. Tell everyone you know and make plans to come support GLSO while you have a great time.

Thanks to the Dance Committee:

Charlene  
Lisa  
Gerry  
Mark  
Roberta  
Leise  
Teresa

Gina  
Ann  
Eddie  
Debbie  
Joyce  
Julie  
Sara  
Janette

Marie  
Cheryl  
Laura  
Kenneth  
Keith  
Teri  
Judy

# GAY AMERICA

## SAN FRANCISCO

On June 1, San Francisco Municipal Court Judge Mary Morgan, 41, became the first openly lesbian presiding judge in California history.

## PHILADELPHIA

The executive board of the Philadelphia Federation of Teachers has approved a resolution that would allow lovers of gay employees to receive life and health insurance benefits under the union's proposed 1988 contract. However, both the city school board and the state Insurance Department must approve the change before the new policy can be implemented.

## CALIFORNIA

Backers of Proposition 64, the Lyndon LaRouche-inspired AIDS quarantine measure that was defeated by California voters last November, have announced their intention to press ahead with a signature drive to place the issue on the June 1988 ballot. The revived initiative is identical to the original measure, except that it now extends the definition of "AIDS carriers" to include people who test positive for exposure to HIV.

## CINCINNATI

Almost 600 people, including a number of city council members, judges and candidates from local political parties attended Stonewall Cincinnati's fifth anniversary celebration. Stonewall Cincinnati is the city's primary gay rights organization.

Owners of InCahoots and The Diner restaurants have reached an agreement with Stonewall Cincinnati which the gay organization described as meeting all of its demands. The agreement effectively ends the boycott of the two restaurants. Stonewall Cincinnati had called for the boycott some months ago in response to the alleged firing of eleven employees solely because they are gay.

## FRANKFORT

On July 10th the Kentucky Court of Appeals ruled that custody of a child cannot be denied to a person solely because he or she is homosexual. Although the decision set no precedent, the court's unanimous decision was praised by gay activists in the state. The justice's ruling stated in part, "We believe that a party's sexual orientation is a relevant factor in determining custody, but should not be the sole factor." The case has now been sent back to circuit court for reconsideration.

## WASHINGTON, DC

President Reagan has made plans to appoint a gay man, Dr. Frank Lilly, chairman of the genetics department at Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York, to his new AIDS Commission. Prior to the announcement Reagan had steadfastly maintained there was no need for such representation on the Commission, even though the vast majority of PWA's are gay men. This change of policy can be attributed to intense criticism and lobbying by gay organizations relating to this matter. Lilly is well-known in New York's gay community according to a spokesperson for the Gay Men's Health Crisis of NYC.

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### NICARAGUA

Nicaragua's health ministry has embarked on a \$1-million AIDS education campaign and plans to distribute 5 million condoms in an effort to help prevent spread of the disease. UPI reported that full-page newspaper ads and radio and television commercials have appeared.

## BOSTON GAY NEWSPAPER NOW AVAILABLE IN LEXINGTON

Joseph-Beth Booksellers recently began selling one of the nation's best gay newspapers, Boston's Gay Community News. The paper is primarily concerned with events in the New England area, but always includes interesting feature articles on a great variety of topics, reviews of new books and movies, news of national interest, and much more.

Because of Massachusetts Gov. Dukakis' presidential primary campaign and his contradictory statements and policies on gay issues (ranging from recent lobbying in support of gay civil rights legislation in Massachusetts to his blatantly discriminatory executive order barring gays and lesbians from being foster parents), the Gay Community News is closely following Dukakis' campaign, as well as the gay rights activists who are persistently protesting his policies.

Gay Community News is published weekly and costs only \$1.00 per issue. The paper can be found on the shelves in the gay and lesbian section at Joseph-Beth Booksellers, which is located in the Mall at Lexington Green. Currently the store will only be ordering a few copies each week, but will gladly increase their stock if the issues sell quickly.



# INTO THE FUTURE

- August 12-16, 1987. 12th Michigan Womyn's Music Festival. Walhalla, MI.
- August 24, 1987. Whitney Houston Concert to benefit Boston's AIDS Action Committee.
- August 28-31, 1987. Ohio Round-Up sponsored by Gay/Lesbian AA. Cleveland, OH.
- August 28-31, 1987. 8th Annual West Coast Womyn's Music and Comedy Festival. Yosemite, CA.
- September 4-7, 1987. 2nd Annual Labor Day Retreat Gay Men's Retreat sponsored by the Unitarian Universalist Association. Rowe, MA.
- September 25-27, 1987. Affirmation - Gay and Lesbian Mormon's Annual Convention. Salt Lake City, UT.
- October 10-11, 1987. Annual GLSO Campout at Eddie's Farm. Details will be provided in the September GLSO News.
- October 11, 1987. March on Washington for Gay and Lesbian Rights. Washington, D.C.

## LAGPACK FORMS

The Lesbian and Gay Political Alliance of Central Kentucky (LAGPACK) recently formed in an attempt to address some issues facing our gay and lesbian community. The group initially met at Juice's Showroom in response to a Pride Week address by NGLTF speaker Sue Hyde, to develop community support for a group to work towards some local legislative reforms. Since then, in a meeting at the Unitarian Universalist Church, the goals of the group have emerged as follows: 1) to oppose discriminatory legislation and business practices, and support anti-discriminatory legislation and business practices; 2) to try and educate ourselves, our community, and the community-at-large about our rights (or lack thereof) as lesbian and gay people; and 3) to serve as an information/referral resource as well as a point of contact between our community and other similarly-minded groups.

If you are interested in supporting or working with LAGPACK in its efforts to implement these goals, we encourage you to attend our next meeting on August 7, 1987 at 6 pm at the Comprehensive Care Center, 201 Mechanic St., 233-0444. Come out and take part in the development of a group that would like to work for the benefit of all!!!

## DIRECTORY

- GLSO Gayline..... 231-0335
- GLSO Board.....call Jim, 299-0352
- GLSO Newsletter,.....call Steve, 266-8887
- GLSO Gay Parenting Group and GLSO Speaker's Bureau, .....call Barry, 268-3935
- GLSO Potluck.call Kenneth, 278-0048
- GLSO Volleyball and GLSO Rainbow Bowling League .....call Bill, 278-0048
- GLSO Card & Games.....call Karen, 259-3292
- GLSO Movie Night.....call Tom, 252-1990
- Gay/Lesbian AA..... call Craig, 266-8887
- Imperial Court of the Bluegrass Empire...call Mark, 266-1779  
or Jerry, 272-7381
- Dignity/Lexington.....call Keith, 269-8417
- Dignity Liturgy..call Don, 299-4458  
(Lexington's chapter of the national Catholic gay and lesbian support organization. See the Dignity page included in this newsletter.)
- Interweave.....call Craig/Steve, 266-8887  
(A group within Lexington's Unitarian Universalist Church composed of gay men and lesbians and their non-gay friends.)
- ACT/Lexington..... 281-5151  
or call Dave, 271-4320  
(Lexington's AIDS support and education organization.)
- Lexington-Fayette County Health Department AIDS Information, 252-2371  
(For anonymous AIDS counseling and testing, call Greg Lee at the above number.)
- Louisville Crisis Hotline, (502) 637-4342
- Owensboro Gay Alliance...(502) 685-5246
- National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Crisis Line and AIDS Crisis Line,.....(800) 221-7044



# AUGUST EVENTS CALENDAR

August							1987
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
						1	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30	31						

Contact names and numbers for all events listed in the calendar can be found in the Directory on the previous page.

- SUN 2 GLSO Potluck-Picnic, 1:30 pm, Jacobsen Park, meet at Shelter No. 5; Gay/Lesbian AA, 4 pm, Comp Care Center, 201 Mechanic St.; Gayline, 231-0335, 8 - 11 pm
- MON 3 GLSO Forum, 8 pm, Comp Care Center, 201 Mechanic St.
- TUE 4 Dignity/Liturgy, 7:30 pm, at Don's, 299-4458; GLSO Dance Committee Meeting, 8 pm (see article for phone number to call for details)
- WED 5 Gay/Lesbian AA, 8 pm, St. Joseph Office Pk., Rm. 120; Gayline, 231-0335, 8 - 11 pm
- THU 6 Gayline, 231-0335, 8 - 11 pm
- FRI 7 Gay/Lesbian AA, 8 pm, St. Joseph Office Pk., Rm. 120; Gayline, 231-0335, 8 - 11 pm; GLSO Volleyball, 6:30 pm, Jacobsen Park; LAGPACK (see related article), call Tomi, 266-1318
- SUN 9 Gay/Lesbian AA, 4 pm, Comp Care Center, 201 Mechanic St.
- MON 10 GLSO Speaker's Bureau, 7 pm; Interweave, socializing at 7:30 pm, program at 8 pm, Unitarian Universalist Church; ACT/Lexington Education Committee, 5:30 pm, 3rd floor conference room, County Health Dept., 650 Newtown Pike
- WED 12 Gay/Lesbian AA, 8 pm, St. Joseph Office Pk., Rm. 120; Gayline, 231-0335, 8 - 11 pm
- THU 13 Gayline, 231-0335, 8 - 11 pm
- FRI 14 Gay/Lesbian AA, 8 pm, St. Joseph Office Pk., Rm. 120; Gayline, 231-0335, 8 - 11 pm; GLSO Cards & Games, 7 pm
- SAT 15 "Michigan Womyn's Festival in Lexington" (see article)
- SUN 16 Gay/Lesbian AA, 4 pm, Comp Care Center, 201 Mechanic St.
- TUE 18 Pre-Bowling Party for Rainbow League Bowlers, (see article)
- WED 19 Gay/Lesbian AA, 8 pm, St. Joseph Office Pk., Rm. 120; Gayline, 231-0335, 8 - 11 pm
- THU 20 Gayline, 231-0335, 8 - 11 pm; Dignity Cookout/Potluck/Rap Session, 7 pm (note time change) at Keith's new house, 269-8417, Topic: Communications; Newsletter Layout, 7:30 pm
- FRI 21 Gay/Lesbian AA, 8 pm, St. Joseph Office Pk., Rm. 120; Gayline, 231-0335, 8 - 11 pm; GLSO Coffeehouse & Dance, 8:30 pm, Unitarian Universalist Church (see article)
- SUN 23 Gay/Lesbian AA, 4 pm, Comp Care Center, 201 Mechanic St.; Gayline Training Session, 2 pm, Comp Care Center, 201 Mechanic St.
- TUE 25 Rainbow Bowling League, 8 pm, Joyland Lanes
- WED 26 Gay/Lesbian AA, 8 pm, St. Joseph Office Pk., Rm. 120; Gayline, 231-0335, 8 - 11 pm
- THU 27 Gayline, 231-0335, 8 - 11 pm; GLSO Board, 7:30 pm
- FRI 28 Gay/Lesbian AA, 8 pm, St. Joseph Office Pk., Rm. 120; Gayline, 231-0335, 8 - 11 pm; Gay Parenting Group Cookout, 7 pm; GLSO Movie Night, 7:30 pm, movie to be announced
- SUN 30 Gay/Lesbian AA, 4 pm, Comp Care Center, 201 Mechanic St.

No information was reported about August's Lesbian Potluck. No one could be reached at Feminist Alliance.



**GLSO** PRESENTS.....

the 3rd

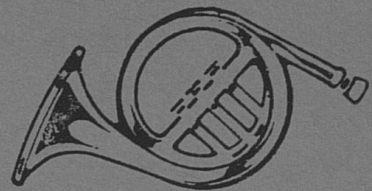
Coffeehouse & Dance

Mingle  

 with the  

- Piano Music
- ▣ Mellow Music  
by Women ARTISTS

ARTS



- ▣ Men's & Women's Poetry



then Dance to Popular Music



- **AUG 21<sup>TH</sup>** 8:30 - 1:00 a.m.

AT The Unitarian Universalist  
Church on CLAYS Mill Rd.

▣ BYOB

\$3.00

▣ Refreshments AVAILABLE

Tell a Friend!

Loose Item