

MAY NEWS

GSS

LEXINGTON

LEXINGTON GAY SERVICES ORGANIZATION | P.O. BOX 11471 LEXINGTON, KY 40516

INSIDE:

**PROUD
PLANS**

**AIDS
UPDATE**

**EVENTS
CALENDER**



LEXINGTON'S GAY & LESBIAN NEWSLETTER

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING
POLICY

If you would like to advertise in the GSO Newsletter, please send your camera-ready ad copy to GSO, PO Box 11471, Lexington, Ky. 40575. The Deadline for ad submission is the 15th of each month. Any ads received after the deadline will not be guaranteed to be published in the next issue.

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The editor reserves the right to censor advertisements which are deemed in poor taste and to edit due to space and/or grammatical errors. Erotica, fantasy, or sexually explicit materials, or ads with sexual innuendo, will not be accepted for publication.

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Gay and Lesbian Democrats of Kentucky...	266-3934
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- Please put me/us on the GSO mailing list including a free subscription to the monthly GSO newsletter (delivered in an "unmarked" envelope).
- Enclosed is \$10.00 (or \$5.00 for students) for each membership in GSO.
- Please let me/us know how I/we can be more involved in GSO or other gay/lesbian organizations by calling _____ or writing: Phone # _____

Name(s)

Street Address

Apt #

City

State

Zip

Mail to GSO, P.O. Box 11471, Lex., KY 40575

The GSO newsletter is published monthly by the Lexington Gay Services Organization Incorporated, P.O. Box 11471, Lexington, Kentucky 40575. GSO is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to provide educational, recreational, social and referral services directly involving or relating to gay/lesbian people.

Views or opinions expressed in stories or letters are those of the writers and do not necessarily represent those of the GSO board or the newsletter staff. Publication of the name or photograph of any person, organization or other entity in articles or advertising in the newsletter is in no way indicative of the sexual orientation of such person, organization or entity.

Submissions for the newsletter are welcome. All submissions become the property of the Lexington Gay Services Organization, Inc. All Submissions must indicate the full name and address of the author, although no byline will be published without permission of the author. Non-original material must indicate that that person has given his/her permission for the use of his/her name in the publication. Anonymous submissions cannot be accepted. The editorial staff has the right to alter submissions (including advertisements) to meet publishing requirements.

Cover photo by D.E. Daniels

PROUD PLANS ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

PRIDE WEEK 1986
JUNE 8-14
OUR COMMUNITY'S CULTURAL CELEBRATION!

- Our History
- Survival Kit
- Guest Speaker, Sue Lovell,
President of Houston's Gay and Lesbian
Political Caucus
- Live Play
- Religion and Spirituality
- Art Exhibit
- Picnic, Jeter's Fun on the Farm, All Day,
Free Beer, Games, Information Fair

HELP NEEDED:

Actors for play, "Boys in the Band", Auditions
May 6 and 7, at 7:30pm. They will be held at the
Images Modeling Agency, 3517 Lansdowne Drive.
There are nine men needed, one of which is black.

People are needed to help organize and work at
each of the events.

The Float Committee (for the 4th of July) needs
anyone that has ever worked on building a float.
From design to construction. The immediate needs
are for a flat bed to build it on.

Anyone interested in any of the above activities
or has information to provide, please come to the
next Pride Week Association Meeting (see calendar
for dates and times).

Thank you!

MAY FORUM: Homophobia

If you saw the April 10th program of 20/20,
John Stocil did a fine piece of journalism on
homophobia. Our May Forum will view this tape and
then progress into a group discussion about
homophobia. We'll talk about fear and aggression
against homosexuals and how fear against gays
shapes our lives. Come ready to talk, listen and
learn.

GAY PARENTING

The first meeting of the Gay Parenting
Support Group was held on April 21st. Our next
activity will be a picnic at Jacobson Park on
Sunday, May 18th, 2:00 pm at shelter house #5.
Please pack a meal and enjoy an afternoon of
relaxation with those of us who understand the
special challenges of being gay and having
children. Everyone is welcome, including Fido and
the kids!

DISCRIMINATION

Lesbian and gay people face discrimination
every day. It is not being fired, or becoming an
outcast, or rejected by friends and family that is
as prevalent as subtle discrimination. Read
Cindy's story and see why.

CINDY'S STORY by Keith K.

Cindy is a smart, attractive woman of 27. She
is a lesbian. She has told her family, her
friends and her co-workers. She has not been
discriminated against at work. She just got a
raise. Her family accepts her and loves her.
Cindy has not lost any friends. Yet she is
discriminated against again and again, day in and
day out several times a day. For example:

At work - Cindy joined in on a conversation
about dating. The subject was quickly, if subtly,
changed to movies.

Without ever doing it once, she was asked
never to embrace her lover at work. It was even
suggested that it might be better if her lover
picked her up outside and not come in. She had
just witnessed five minutes before this supervisor
who professionally told her this, do just those
mentioned things with her husband.

A new co-worker who Cindy had never met came
up to her and said, "You don't look like a
lesbian. Oh, is it OK to say it?"

Shortly after she was hired, all employees
got a memo asking that only husbands, wives and
children's pictures be displayed in the work area.
Friend's pictures were not appropriate.

Her lover did not qualify for company
insurance under its family plan.

A co-worker one remarked, "Oh, I didn't know
you wore dresses."

When she said she didn't know how to play
softball when she was asked to play on the company
team, the person who asked said, "You're kidding!"

At the Christmas exchange, Cindy was given a
big box of chocolates with a card that started,
"Since you don't have to worry about your
figure....."

She was not given funeral leave when Diane's
mother died. When Diane had surgery, Cindy had to
take vacation days.

She was asked to work on weekends and
holidays since she didn't have family commitments.

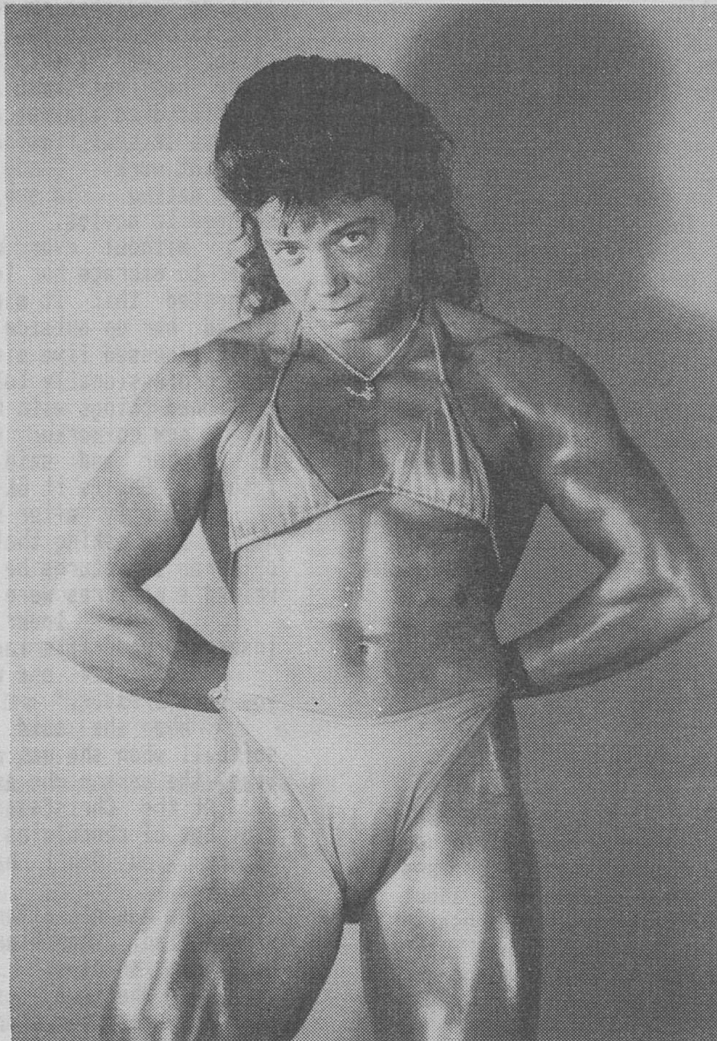
At home with the family - Whenever Cindy and
Diane visit Cindy's parents, which they are always
welcome to do, they are put in separate bedrooms.

Cindy's mother has asked during the holidays
if it wouldn't be easier on Diane to go spend the
holidays with her family. For six years in a row
Cindy's mother has given Diane a lady's razor and
Nair.

Cindy's sister said that everyone should live
and let live. And she was going to make every
precaution that her daughter didn't turn out that
way to avoid the pain of that life.

IMAGES

Spring is the time to shape-up and Images Hair Design and Tanning Center wants to help you.



CALL 273-2301
3517 Lansdowne Dr., Lexington

Cindy asked her brother to let her nephew come stay for a few days. His reply was if you want to see him, you're welcome to come visit.

The family picture includes all the in-laws except Diane and her family.

Cindy's mother asked Cindy, after she told her, if it would be alright to still say grace before meals now that she's no longer a Catholic. When Cindy said she still attended mass, her mother asked how she could be a lesbian, too.

It took Cindy's parents a year and a half before they visited her house. It was while Diane was out of town on business. They have yet to stay overnight.

When she told her mother she knew since she was 15, her mother spent weeks talking and trying to figure out what happened that year.

If they're all together and homosexuality is discussed or seen on TV, no one talks and everyone is conscious not to ask Cindy about it.

Cindy's father no longer calls her "his little girl."

With her friends and in public - She is always invited as a single, never as a couple. "We'd love to have her, but some of our guests aren't ready for that yet."

Some friends have asked her not to talk about Diane but talk endlessly about their own relationships. Or in a group they'll ask straight people about their relationships and then ask Cindy about work.

A few waitresses have refused to put the bill on one ticket. Some assume automatically it's separate tickets and don't ask.

The other day a friend remarked, "I can't believe you and Diane have stayed together for six years. That's amazing."

One of Cindy's friends never takes her eyes off Cindy. When Cindy asked, this friend said, "Oh, I'm just waiting to see what you do next." Another friend has become like a groupie who constantly says things like, "You amaze me. Only a truly remarkable person could cope so well as you."

Cindy and Diane had to change doctors when their old one informed them only family were allowed to visit in the I.C.U. after Diane's surgery. When Cindy showed the doctor the correct legal document stating that Cindy was Diane's next of kin, the doctor stomped off and said, "We'll see about this." Later, the doctor reluctantly agreed to let Cindy visit. There was no apology.

Cindy's anger rises every year when two tax forms come in the mail.

When Cindy told a friend she was a lesbian, this friend did not hug her for over two years.

Cindy finds herself constantly justifying her life, her relationship and herself to almost everyone - even some of her lesbian and gay friends (she has lesbian friends who are upset with her for having male friends) - because society has been socialized so strongly that even some of lesbian and gay friends downgrade their lives and make it less personally acceptable than those of others.

When someone told Cindy she should just not be friends with those who discriminate against her, she said all she would have left were Diane, her two dogs, and possibly three to four others. That friend didn't understand that. After all, she was very out and had a good job, a loving family, and many friends. That friend didn't see any discrimination. Do you?

EMPLOYEE RELATIONS HANDLING AIDS by Thomas West

"Business communicators should be aware that we're dealing with two outbreaks, one the outbreak of the disease (AIDS) and the other an epidemic of fear," said a public relations expert in the April issue of "Communication World," the monthly magazine of the International Association of Business Communicators.

The article is very positive in the way it informs business communicators about the extremely low possibilities of contracting AIDS in the workplace.

While the realities of worker reactions are often unpredictable, some encouraging news of successful programs is presented.

Companies with progressive AIDS and related communicable disease policies are: Allstate Insurance, Quaker Oats, AT&T, Pillsbury, BankAmerica, and others.

Companies that have handled the AIDS education issue in corporate newsletters include: Pacific Bell, Wells Fargo Bank, Chevron, Levi Strauss, Exxon, Johnson Wax, AT&T and others.

One of the articles published by AT&T appeared in the health publication the company prints for its employees and their families. "AIDS, Are Our Children at Risk?" is the title of the article that tries to ease the fears of parents about sending their kids to school with an AIDS patient.

Both magazine articles are important to Gay people in several respects: (1) They signal an end to the Gay Organizations as the sole communication tool of AIDS education. (2) The articles demonstrate a genuine thirst for information on the part of the blue collar workers--the largest segment of the population. (3) They show that Business Communicators are, for the most part, serious about trying to prevent a rash of hysteria and discrimination in the event an employee develops AIDS.

The AT&T article ended with an interesting fact: while doctors cannot say they are absolutely certain your child won't get AIDS from another child with AIDS they also cannot tell you they are absolutely certain your child won't be struck by lightning on his/her way to school, which is more likely to happen.

GET INVOLVED!

THANK YOU

MORGAY

productions

FOR THE

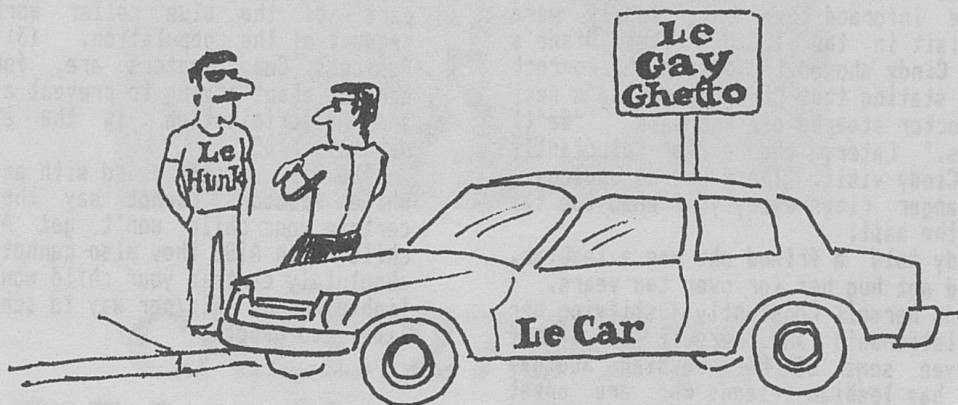
EASTER

BONNET PARTY

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE:

- ENTERTAINERS
- DJ'S
- BARTENDERS
- DOOR WATCHERS
- AND
- SPOTLIGHTERS

A PERSONAL THANK YOU GOES TO
FREDIA AND CÉLESTE!!



Christopher Street

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

SUBJECT: MASS TESTING OF INDIVIDUALS AT HIGH RISK FOR HTLV-III ANTIBODIES

The Lexington Gay Services Organization agrees with this statement from THE SEVENTH NATIONAL LESBIAN/GAY HEALTH CONFERENCE and FOURTH NATIONAL AIDS FORUM. The following was adopted by the conference on 3/15/86, (GWU, Wash. D.C.), unanimously.

"We who have been at the forefront of the fight against AIDS oppose the Public Health Service's recommendation for mass testing of high-risk individuals for HTLV-III antibodies as an AIDS prevention measure, as reflected in the March 14th article in MMWR.

"There is no medical intervention for those who test positive other than to counsel them to follow risk reduction guidelines. Those in high-risk groups who test negative, however, should also follow those guidelines, as the CDC's article suggests. We question the diversion of resources from basic education efforts and counseling that have been proven effective in changing the behavior of at risk individuals to a testing program. The assumption that there is a positive correlation between knowing antibody status and changing behavior is unproven.

"The proposal fails to include universally accepted criteria associated with a screening program, as most recently outlined in the President's Commission for the Study of Ethical problems in Medicine and Biomedical and Behavioral Research. Additional research is needed to document the efficacy and interpretation of HTLV-III screening.

"The recommendations are seriously flawed by omitting any recognition that informed consent is a fundamental feature of any public health effort or use of a testing device. Anyone considering taking the HTLV-III antibody test should be warned of the medical and psychological implications and should be informed that they may risk losing their job or insurance as a result of taking the test or testing positive. Furthermore, the linking of testing to health care will discourage people from seeking needed medical advice in a timely fashion.

"While the CDC acknowledges the need for confidentiality in testing programs, it fails to recognize that no state in this country is able to offer those who are tested protection from subpoena of identifiers. Until such protections can be granted, all testing should be done on an anonymous basis.

"In failing to address these basic concerns, the PHS continues to promote an atmosphere of distrust among those who are being encouraged to voluntarily submit to this test. Sound public health policy requires the cooperation of individuals at risk. To gain that cooperation for this program, the PHS must take affirmative steps to regain the trust of those at risk for AIDS. Until then, we will advise our community not to participate in this program.

"As the community that has been hardest hit by this epidemic, we understand only too well the urgency of taking public health measures that would contain the disease. We have been working intensively to that end since the beginning of the crisis -- long before the PHS recognized its implications. We hope the PHS will join us in resolving these issues."

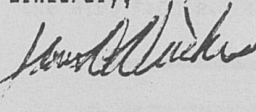
SUMMARY:

- It is our belief that the funds allocated for testing should be directed to broad base community education.

- Everyone (HTLV-III positive/negative, Gay/Lesbian or Straight), should practice preventative measures.

- Remember, any information gathered from this test is subject to subpoena. If you must be tested, seek out an anonymous test site.

Sincerely,



James D. Wiechers
President, Lexington Gay Services Organization

AUNT MARY

Dear Aunt Mary: I've always heard that 10% of the population was gay. I am constantly amazed when I go out at the number of gays I run into. Honestly, I never go anywhere that I don't run into members of the gay community that I either know or have seen at the bars or at gay functions. Last month's newsletter said Lexington was to become the 'Gay Mecca', then April's Fool. Maybe the joke is really on us and we are indeed becoming an unusually large community. What do you think? - Just Curious

Dear Curious: That 10% figure we hear brandished about so frequently comes of a famous study published, I believe, in 1949. Some more recent studies place the numbers at about 18%. All studies, of course, measure only the number of persons willing to admit they are gay, so the actual numbers could be considerably higher.

Given these figures and the fact that metropolitan areas tend to have a much more visible gay community, it is not really so surprising that you see people you recognize regularly.

I have also heard the opinion expressed that gay persons from all over central and eastern Kentucky are drawn to Lexington to escape the lack of acceptance they experience in small rural communities, so perhaps Lexington does have a slightly higher proportion of gay residents.

The idea of a 'Gay Mecca' is rather intriguing though, isn't it? Perhaps a Chamber of Gay Commerce could be formed to promote tourism, sell gay businesses on locating here and encourage gays in general to relocate in the Bluegrass. If

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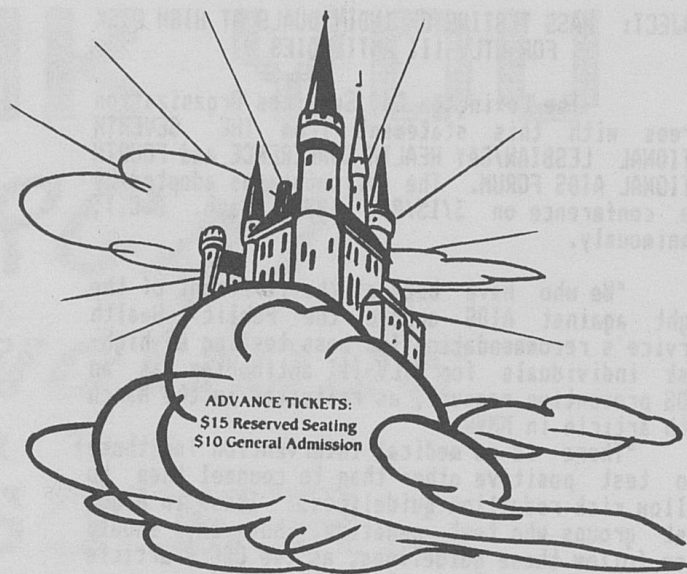
presents

An Official Preliminary to the MISS GAY AMERICA PAGEANT



SATURDAY, MAY 24

Lexington Sheraton



The Official 1986

MISS GAY KENTUCKY AMERICA PAGEANT

featuring

**Reigning Miss Gay America Lauren Colby
Former Miss Gay America Jimi Dee
Reigning Miss Gay Kentucky Crystal Sinclair**

And Also Starring

**Reigning Miss Gay Great Lakes Diana Black
Reigning Miss Gay Mid-North Andrea Lauren
Former Miss Gay Southwest Trudy Tyler
Former Miss Gay Georgia Blaze Starr
The North Carolina Legend Miss Kelli Rae**

and Guest Emcee

Former Miss Gay America Lady Baronessa

For Tickets, Applications or Information contact

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acceptance is directly related to the size and visibility of the gay community as some people claim, it would be to every gay persons advantage if Lexington did indeed become the 'San Francisco' of the South. Never mind that Atlanta already thinks it holds that title, we all know that Belle Watlin was simply a figment of Belle Brezing's imagination, and saturday night I'm sure I saw Scarlet wrapped in her draperies riding in a horse drawn carriage through Gratz Park. - Aunt Mary

If you would like to write to Aunt Mary, send your letter to: Aunt Mary, ZGSO, Post Office Box 11471, Lexington, Kentucky 40575. If you would like a personal reply, include a self addressed, stamped envelope. All names are strictly confidential.

ARE YOU A CHRISTIAN AND GAY?

There are more of us just like you, and we've discovered that God really does Love us! Come join with those of us who desire a Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) in Lexington as we meet for worship, prayer and fellowship.

This month's meeting is on Sunday, May 11 at 4:30pm. Oh, and don't miss a potluck we're having on Saturday, May 17th, at 7:00pm (Christians have a good time, too!).

Call 299-0800, or 252-5452 for details and directions.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear GSO,

We, the womyn of Lake Cumberland Area Support Group, wish to thank you for the inclusion of our notice in the April issue of the GSO Newsletter. If/when, there is available space in future newsletters, we would be most appreciative if you will run our notice again. We are trying to reach as many womyn in south/central Kentucky as possible, and we appreciate GSO for the valuable resource for all of Kentucky that you are.

For the members of L.C.A.S.G., in strength.
J.K.H. - Nancy

Editor's Note: Anyone wishing to contact the Lake Cumberland Area Support Group should write: Post Office Box 27, Nancy, Kentucky 42544

LETTER TO THE HERALD-LEADER

Anyone who has ever been denied anything (a service, job, housing, etc.) because he didn't have the right color of skin, or he was from a foreign land, or his lifestyle wasn't the most accepted, try to think back to that moment when he was not afforded the opportunities or privileges we are all due.

In America, that is not supposed to happen. The Founding Fathers of this great nation believed that diversity and alternative points of view were necessary, if not imperative, for the advancement

of a democratic society. As a nation, we have not had a good track record. Still, this nation has made tremendous contributions to the human condition of the planet. Scientists from the United States have treated and cured diseases for years. America is usually the first to provide aid to disaster-stricken countries.

Why then, I ask, have we dropped the ball in our efforts to treat and cure AIDS? It cannot be argued that it is a gay disease. Hemophiliacs can testify to that. Nonetheless, we are exploiting, harassing and discriminating against the gay community.

This disease is a scourge to all of America. If the victims of terrorist attacks abroad were a group of gay Americans, would that make them less insulting to our people?

We are a strong nation and pride ourselves on being informed. I only hope we can free our hearts of prejudice and seek out the answers to the AIDS riddle. Thomas West - Richmond

On WLEX-TV's "Your Government" program, aired February 23rd and discussed on your editorial page February 25th, former Governor Julian Carroll called homosexuality a greater issue for Kentucky than anything that occurred during his administration.

In light of Governor Carroll's somewhat "checkered" past, this statement brings to mind a comment made once by former Carter aide, Hamilton Jordan: "It's like being called ugly by a frog."

Lesbian and gay Kentuckians rest secure in the knowledge that the voters of Kentucky are intelligent enough to recognize a smoke screen when they see it. Keith D. Eiston - Chairperson, Gay and Lesbian Democrats of Kentucky - Lexington

LETTER TO THE COURIER-JOURNAL

On February 13, nearly 100 members and friends of the Greater Louisville Human Rights Coalition ("GLHRC") heard a presentation by our attorneys before the Human Relations Commission. GLHRC's lawyers clearly defined the gay community's entitlement to equal access to jobs, housing, and public accommodations and addressed the need for civil rights legislation to prevent arbitrary discrimination. This event was the first time in the state of Kentucky that an organization of gay men and lesbians has made a legal presentation to a government agency in defense of their rights. This hearing was the culmination of a year-long effort by GLHRC to win the endorsement of the Human Relations Commission. What should have been reported as a first for this civil rights movement was instead portrayed by the editors as "Foes Speak Out Against Proposals to Protect the Rights of Homosexuals."

The fact that prejudice and bigotry against gay people is verbalized, whether before the

Commission or in any other setting, is not news, nor is it a "first." The Commissioners, and all the rest of us who live in 1986 have heard many times from the opponents of civil rights for gay men and lesbian women. These same voices spoke out against civil rights for Black Americans in the 1960's, and are still heard when the issues of job equity and other rights for women are debated. Two Louisville radio stations regularly make anti-gay remarks on their morning programs. Such slurs against Blacks or Jewish Americans would not be tolerated, but "fag jokes" are common humor on radio, television and in our workplaces. What gay person has not left work with grinding knots in his or her stomach after hearing a supervisor or a co-worker make disparaging comments about "homos" and "dykes?"

A member of the Klan, in a recent letter to the Editor, defined his enemies as "blacks, Jews and homosexuals." People of a similar mentality make an average of 400 harassment calls each month to the Gay and Lesbian Hotline, which exists to provide information and support to gay people and their families. Sadly, prejudice and irrational hatred of minorities is not new or original. To report it as such only fans the fires of social oppression in our country.

Information which would have given a more accurate portrayal of the hearing was apparently cut for "space" reasons. Will our newspapers use their space to educate and inform the public, or to underscore bigotry? Dona Meers - GLHRC

KENTUCKY ANTI-GAY AMENDMENT FAILS from GLHRC

In the final week of the 1986 Kentucky General Assembly, Rep. Joel Ellington (D-Paducah) offered an amendment to HB 360, a bill dealing with dissolution of cities, that would prohibit local governments from amending their anti-discrimination statutes to cover sexual orientation as a protected class.

With only 48 hours until the vote, Greater Louisville Human Rights Coalition received an alert from Eileen Blanton of the Archdiocesan Peace and Justice Commission who had read of the amendment in a Moral Majority publication. GLHRC immediately notified Dona Wells of the Pro-Choice Coalition and Melody Wolder of Jefferson County NOW, both of whom were lobbying in Frankfort during the session. Both agreed to contact Sen. Danny Meyers, who wrote the original bill, to encourage him to reject the amendment. Suzy Post, Director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Kentucky, also called Sen. Meyers. Other members of KCLU's Civil Rights Committee also agreed to call their legislators to protest the amendment.

Rep. Ernest Scorsone, Rep. Fred Cowan, Sen. Ben Handy, as well as House Speaker Joe Blandford were also said to be opposed to the amendment. Members and friends of GLHRC called Frankfort to protest the Ellington floor amendment, asserting it was a denial of "home rule," as well as unjust to a minority group.

The amendment was defeated 96-2 after Blandford spoke against it on the grounds that it was not germane to the assigned bill. Blandford's ruling was challenged, but the House voted to reject the challenge.

(Editor's Note: We cannot waver in our vigilance, because other radical right legislators are certain to try such tactics again. This is a good example of the importance of networking with other civil rights groups. Support those who support us! Thanks to everyone who called Frankfort!)

650 Editor's Note: The Greater Louisville Human Rights Coalition can be contacted by writing to: Post Office Box 4473, Louisville, Kentucky 40204 or by phone at: (502) 456-4650 or (502) 589-0459.

KENTUCKY WANTS TO TEST "HIGH-RISK" GROUPS FOR AIDS By 650 Board Member Barry Grossheim

The state Department of Health Services says it hopes to 'identify' 2400 'high-risk' people, mainly in Lexington and Louisville, and test them for the virus associated with AIDS. The manager of the communicable-disease branch for the Department of Health Services, Dr. Reginald Finger, is quoted as saying, "Then we'll know how much of a task we have in the state in controlling infection."

I've never really considered myself to be paranoid or worried much about discrimination or repression or any of the other horror stories about what might happen as a result of being gay. Still, there are three words in the first paragraph that even I can't help but notice. They are: identify, high-risk and control. Separately they don't mean much, but in the above combination the results could very well justify our concern. The first question that comes to mind is, exactly how will the identification process be handled. News reports indicate it will be voluntary, but what happens if not enough people volunteer for testing. Since the Center for Disease Control has, rightly or wrongly, named gays as the highest of high risk groups, how many people can be expected to volunteer knowing that by doing so they are publicly labeling themselves as gay.

Once 'identified' and tested, exactly what happens to that information. How many people could afford to have the health insurance canceled, for instance, if the results, or even only the fact that a person volunteered for testing, appeared on a computer printout when information about a client was requested from the medical establishment by the insurance carrier. (Yes, just as a bank can check your credit history or an insurance company can check your driving history, health insurance companies can and do check your history of medical problems and treatments)

Finally, what does 'control' mean. The possibilities are ominous, to say the least. If

we use quarantine as the worst case scenario, exactly what are the other options? Surely quarantine would be found unconstitutional, but who among us would wish to be the test case?

Lexington Gay Services Organization has, along with nearly every national gay organization, recommended against voluntarily submitting to testing for the HTLV-III virus unless the individual displays symptoms or has reason to believe they have been exposed. Questions raised by the state's plan do nothing to relieve our concern.

GSO BOWLING BANQUET

The GSO bowling banquet will be held on May 20th at A La Lucie's on North Limestone. Cocktails will be from 7-8:00 pm and dinner will be served at 8:00 pm. The cost is \$15.00 and reservations are required. 278-0048 or 277-4640



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NATIONAL NEWS

ASK DOCTOR RUTH

Question: I'm a gay male and want a long-lasting, faithful relationship. For six months I have been with a guy who is quiet and out of the bar scene, but often quarrelsome and hostile for no reason. He has not really accepted being gay. How can I get him to go to couple therapy with me? Would it be worth it?

Answer: You have a Catch-22 there. It might help to go to couple counseling if he would agree to go. Refusing is a bad sign.

His moodiness and hostility don't promise much contented companionship in the future. If he had been moody and hostile when you met him, and quieted down in the last six months, that would be different.

Sometimes a lover, straight or gay, falls for a difficult person and resolves to love and to help that grouchy case. That is a grown-up choice, but nobody would urge it on anybody. I have to advise you to look around for someone else who will be more considerate of you.

NATIONAL NEWS

If he hasn't accepted his gayness after half a year with you, you should be doubtful of his ever doing so maturely. He could hover on the brink of that decision for years, periodically pouring anger or scorn on you for having made it. And also blaming you for leading him into a life he doesn't really belong in.

I think you have to begin to think of this troubled person as someone you have loved but who you have to give up, so that each of you can get on with his own life. I think that your future looks more livable than his - especially without him.

COURT ASKED TO UPHOLD GEORGIA SODOMY LAW

by Associated Press

WASHINGTON - The Supreme Court was urged to rule that consenting adults had no constitutional right to homosexual conduct in the privacy of their homes.

"Our legal history and our social traditions have condemned this conduct," Georgia Assistant Attorney General Michael E. Hobbs said in defending his state's sodomy law.

Sodomy is defined in Georgia as "any sexual act involving the sex organs of one person and the mouth or anus of another."

Harvard law professor Laurence Tribe said states had no authority to criminalize sodomy between consenting adults merely with "an invocation of the majority's morality."

The nation's highest court, expected to announce its ruling by July, is being asked to decide whether there is a "fundamental right" for consenting adults to engage in private homosexual conduct.

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the 11th Circuit last year ruled that Georgia's sodomy law infringed on a fundamental right and was constitutional only if the state could "demonstrate a compelling interest in restricting this right."

The law was challenged by Michael Hardwick, a self-described homosexual who was arrested in 1982 for committing sodomy in his Atlanta home. He has never been prosecuted under the law.

Without mentioning AIDS by name, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor asked Tribe whether there was not a compelling interest in deterring "the spread of a communicable disease."

Tribe noted that the American Public Health Association had told the court that sodomy laws did not contribute significantly to fighting the spread of AIDS.

GET INVOLVED!!

AIDS UPDATE

SCIENTISTS PRODUCE INACTIVATED AIDS VIRUS

by Associated Press

NEW YORK - Scientists have produced an inactivated form of the suspected AIDS virus that points toward possible new anti-AIDS drugs and could lead to a vaccine, according to two new reports.

The virus resembles the normal, deadly virus in all respects except one -- it lacks a single microscopic gene, and in doing so is unable to reproduce and cause disease.

Such a virus might serve as the basis of a vaccine, its discoverers said yesterday. The theory is that the immune systems of people deliberately infected with the altered virus might produce antibodies that would protect against infection with lethal AIDS.

The missing gene is called the tat, or transactivator, gene. William Haseltine and colleagues at the Harvard School of Public Health in Boston had previously reported that the gene was a kind of "fast-forward switch," causing the AIDS virus to reproduce at up to 1,000 times the rate of other viruses.

The new discovery was made independently by Haseltine's team at Harvard and by a group led by Flossie Wong-Staal of the National Cancer Institute in Bethesda, Maryland.

Because the tat gene speeds up viral reproduction, the researchers had thought that removing it would slow down its multiplication. What they found is that the virus did not reproduce at all.

The discovery, in addition to opening up new avenues of research on vaccines, suggests that drugs designed to block the workings of the tat gene might stop AIDS infection, the researchers said.

Such drugs would block growth of the virus at a late stage in infection, and thus could potentially be helpful for patients with established cases of acquired immune deficiency syndrome, Haseltine said.

NEW AIDS-RELATED VIRUSES FOUND

by Associated Press

WASHINGTON - U.S. and French researchers working separately in Africa have discovered human viruses closely related to the one that causes AIDS but which apparently do not give people disease, a finding that could help in developing a preventive vaccine against AIDS.

In separate announcements, researchers at the Harvard School of Public Health in Boston and at the Pasteur Institute in Paris said they discovered new viruses in people living in West Africa that appear closely related to a monkey virus that can give an AIDS-like disease to certain non-human primates.

The virus that causes acquired immune deficiency syndrome is known as HTLV-3 by its co-discoverers in the United States and LAV by their counterparts in France.

The newly discovered West African viruses have been labeled HTLV-4 by American researchers and LAV-2 by the French. These viruses may be identical or at least very similar, but researchers said no one would know for sure until findings by the two groups were published and compared.

The Harvard researchers, including Dr. Myron Essex and Dr. Phyllis Kanki, said they found indirect evidence of HTLV-4 in blood samples from 20 healthy prostitutes examined in Dakar, Senegal. The scientist later isolated the virus itself from cell cultures from three of the subjects.

The researchers said none of the prostitutes showed any signs of sickness and noted that, to their knowledge, no case of AIDS had ever been found in Senegal.

Numerous research groups are looking for proteins common to all variations of the AIDS virus that could be used to stimulate a protective immune response against the disease for a vaccine.

The new viruses, which do not appear to cause disease in infected humans, could provide proteins for this type of work or could be a basis for a protective vaccine, researchers speculated.

Scientists have speculated that AIDS may stem from a monkey disease virus that crossed species into humans some years ago. The Harvard researchers said it was conceivable that the new HTLV-4 may be the ancestor of the human AIDS virus or that both may have come from an earlier common virus.

Dr. Luc Montagnier of the Pasteur Institute, who announced his team's discovery at a conference at the Gulbenkian Foundation in Lisbon, Portugal, said the virus was found in two of patients from Guinea-Bissau, a nation that adjoins Senegal.

STUDY SAYS MOST WITH VIRUS WILL GET AIDS SYMPTOMS

by Richard A. Knox - Boston Globe

Virtually everyone infected with the AIDS virus will eventually develop a serious abnormality of the immune system, according to a long-term study of Danish homosexual men.

The study also found that half the men infected with the AIDS virus for 29 months or longer developed symptoms of immune failure. The breakdown in the natural defenses appeared to be progressive and irreversible, the study's authors said in the April issue of the *Annals of Internal Medicine*.

"The implication is that almost everyone (who is infected) will have some immunologic or clinical manifestation, or both," Dr. James J. Goedert of the National Cancer Institute, one of the study's American co-authors, said in a telephone interview. "The disturbing thing is that, in most people, there is a steady decline."

Various authorities on AIDS agreed that the new findings carried profound implications because an estimated 2 million Americans are thought to be infected with the virus that causes acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

The new findings apparently carry a message, too, for people who have evidence of exposure to AIDS. To protect themselves, several AIDS specialists said, those people should try to minimize exposure to all disease organisms.

Dr. Arnold S. Relman, the editor of the New England Journal of Medicine, said that people at risk for developing acquired immune deficiency syndrome should be made to undergo blood tests for antibodies to the AIDS virus "to find out who is infected and who is not."

Other leading AIDS authorities disagreed with Relman's recommendation. They argued that it would be virtually impossible to implement, that testing would have to be repeated periodically to have any meaning and that the strategy would probably not slow the spread of AIDS.

The new study of those infected with the AIDS virus goes significantly beyond other recent research that has raised experts' estimates of the proportion of people infected with the AIDS virus who can be expected to develop AIDS itself.

In February some of the same researchers involved in the current study reported that up to one in every three Manhattan homosexuals infected with the AIDS virus went on to develop AIDS within several years of exposure to the virus. The new study extends that finding to suggest that almost no one may escape some serious consequences of AIDS virus infection, even if AIDS itself does not appear within two to four years.

"It definitely is a different perception than saying, as people used to, that 5 to 10 percent of infected people will get sick in a relatively short period of time and everybody else is home free. One cannot say that anymore," said Dr. Kenneth Mayer of Brown University Medical School and Boston's Fenway Community Health Center. "But studies like this shouldn't be construed to say that all people who show evidence of exposure are invariably going to get sick."

BSO BOARD NOMINATIONS MAY 5

- President - Treasurer
- Vice President - Secretary
- Board Member at Large

AIDS IN KENTUCKY

As of March 21, 1986 there have been 44 cases of AIDS diagnosed and reported in Kentucky.

Descriptive Data

	Cases
Males	42
Females	2
Age range	19 to 60
Average age	34
Deaths	30

Risk Groups

Homosexual/Bisexual Males	29
IV Drug User	6
Hemophilic	2
Transfusion	1
Haitian	1
Uncertain	5

County of Residence

Jefferson	18	Anderson	1	Lewis	1
Fayette	5	Campbell	1	Meade	1
McCracken	4	Greenup	1	Mercer	1
Kenton	3	Henderson	1	Monroe	1
Christian	2	Knox	1	Pulaski	1
		Letcher	1	Shelby	1

Results of Serologic Testing for AIDS Antibody

Blood Banks/Plasma Centers	466,743	tested
	662	repeat reactivities (0.14%)
	390	Western Blot tested
	20	Western Blot positive (5.1%)

Alternate Testing Sites at Local Health Departments

Counseled	525
Tested	207
Positive (HTLV-III Ab)	39 (18.8%)

NATIONAL NEWS

**GAYS BAND TOGETHER
IN WORKPLACE TO HELP CAREERS
AND BATTLE PREJUDICE**
from the Wall Street Journal

Despite his credentials - an Ivy League degree and a high-ranking job at Price Waterhouse & Company - Arthur Lazere, who is gay, figured he would have a hard time starting his own accounting practice and competing against straight, button-down professionals. But through his membership in San Francisco's gay chamber of commerce, business has blossomed.

Robert Casaletto, a former Merrill Lynch executive, opened the nation's first gay brokerage five years ago with just 10 clients and nearly \$1 million to manage. Today, thanks to mailing lists of gay organizations and ads in gay newspapers,

his Wall Street firm manages \$12 million for hundred of clients, mostly gays, including an Arizona man who recently inherited \$670,000. "As a gay person, I would very much like to deal with a gay businessman," noted the investor in a letter to Mr. Casaletto.

And Don Clarkson, a Portland, Oregon, real estate agent who once watched a colleague throw away a home buyer's registration card because the client was "queer," now runs a thriving referral service for gay home buyers that advertises nationally in the Gayellow Pages.

All across the U.S., gay professionals are coming out of the corporate closet, albeit cautiously, and banding together to further their careers and businesses and to battle discrimination in the workplace. With the nationwide fear of AIDS now making assimilation even more difficult, such support groups provide badly needed business contacts, job referrals and refuge for millions of gay men and women who feel cut off from corporate society.

-BUILDING A TRADITION-

In the Silicon Valley of California, for example, High Tech Gays - a group of about 300 computer specialists working for such companies as International Business Machines Corp., American Telephone and Telegraph Co., and Atari Inc. - keeps its members abreast of high-tech innovations - and high jobs paying through monthly newsletters and pot-luck dinner meetings. In Houston, the Executive and Professional Association offers seminars to gay oil men and other gay executives on such diverse subjects as tax accounting and the status of state sodomy laws. And the New York Bankers Group, started three years ago to combat anti-gay discrimination within the city's major lending institutions, now flourishes as a club for ambitious corporate climbers.

"We are building a tradition of helping our own in much the way Jews have," says Mr. Lazere, who recently began a program through 50 gay chambers of commerce to advise large industrial companies on more productive work environments for gay employees.

Adds Rachel Ginsburg of San Francisco's Bay Area Career Women, which offers its 1,000 lesbian members advice in such areas as climbing the corporate ladder and securing government contracts for gay, women-owned businesses: "We patronize our sisters."

The rise of networking among gay professionals is partly an outgrowth of the gay civil-rights movement. But unlike other minorities, such as poor blacks and Hispanics whose problems have gained widespread attention and sympathy, gays have continued to evoke ridicule and contempt.

-INCREASED HOSTILITY-

Today, with the gay community blamed for spreading AIDS, homosexuals at many companies say they are facing more hostility than ever. Last year, for example, some of the largest companies in Houston joined forces to defeat a gay-rights ordinance that would have outlawed discrimination

on the basis of sexual orientation. During the fight, Texas oil tycoon Oscar Wyatt sent a memo to his Coastal Corp. employees expressing grave concern over the effect of the ordinance "on the future public image and economic climate of our community."

Such hostility, psychologists say, has alienated gays in the workplace and has crimped their job performance and careers. Some gay employees, for example, reject promotions, fearing that such a move would increase scrutiny of their private lives.

"They fear that if it's known they're gay, they'll be rejected, punished and possibly fired," says Joan Brozovich, a San Francisco psychologist who runs corporate workshops to help gays cope with conflicts between their careers and personal lives.

Fears of discovery take their toll in other ways. Research indicates that 20% to 30% of gay men and women are either alcoholic or at high risk of alcoholism, about three times the national average. "It's a result of stress created by being stigmatized," says Dana Finnegan, past coordinator of the Association of Lesbian and Gay Alcoholism Professionals, a 400-member support group for gay professionals.

For many gays, the growing network of business contacts and support groups helps them deal with the stress, alienation and discrimination they encounter at work. "Networking helps you just in terms of your self-esteem -- feeling worthwhile as a gay person whether you ever make a dime out of it," says Edward Nicholas, a real estate broker who heads the gay chamber of commerce in New York. Adds Joseph DiSabato, whose New York-based Rivendell Marketing Co. employs a gay accountant, attorney, printer and photographer: "We all share a common oppression and bond."

Such sentiments gave rise to the Wall Street Lunch Group, whose motto is "You are not alone on Wall Street." The New York group, made up of about 130 gay brokers, traders, and office workers, meets for lunch cruises in the city's harbor and other social and business outings. "Blacks and Jews have been badly abused," says

PRIDE WEEK 1986 JUNE 8 - 14

OUR COMMUNITY'S CULTURAL CELEBRATION!

- Our History
- Survival Kit
- Guest Speaker, Sue Lovell, President of Houston's Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus
- Religion and Spirituality
- Picnic, Jeter's Fun on the Farm, All Day, Free Beer, Games, Information Fair
- Art Exhibit
- Live Play

MAY 86

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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

EVENTS CALENDER

- THU 1 DIGNITY RAP SESSION, 7:30pm, at Elizabeth's, for more information call 254-9812 or 273-8056; GAY AND LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP, 7:30pm, Pathways, 325 East Main St., Morehead, Ky, for more information call 498-2135 or 784-4161; GAYLINE (231-0335), 8:00pm - 11:00pm.
- FRI 2 GAYLINE (231-0335), 6:00pm - 9:00pm; GAY AND LESBIAN AA, 8:00pm, Comprehensive Care Center; CARDS AND GAMES, 7:00pm, GSD office, 431 S. Broadway, Suite 322.
- SUN 4 GSD POST DERBY POTLUCK, 1:30pm, at Jim and John's, for more information call (606) 299-0352; GAY AND LESBIAN AA, 4:00pm, GSD office, 431 S. Broadway, Suite 322; PRIDE WEEK ASSOCIATION MEETING, 7:00pm, GSD Office, 431 S. Broadway, Suite 322, anyone interested in helping organize this years Pride Week Celebration is welcome; PRIDE WEEK 4TH OF JULY FLOAT COMMITTEE MEETING, 8:00pm, GSD office; BLUEGRASS BENEFIT ASSOCIATION, 9:00pm, Circus Disco.
- MON 5 GSD FORUM, 8:00pm - Board Report and Community Input (nominations for board positions will be taken, June is elections), 8:30pm - Program, This month's program will be on the 20/20 report on Homophobia in America. Free food and drink. GSD office, 431 S. Broadway, Suite 322.
- TUE 6 GSD RAINBOW LEAGUE BOWLING, 9:00pm, Joyland Bowl; AUDITIONS FOR PRIDE WEEK PLAY, "Boys in the Band", 7:30pm, Images Modeling Agency, 3517 Lansdowne Drive, need 9 men (one being black).
- WED 7 DIGNITY BOARD MEETING, 6:30pm, and LITURGY, 7:30pm, Newman Center; GAY AND LESBIAN AA, 8:00pm, St. Joseph Office Park, Room 120; GAYLINE (231-0335), 8:00pm - 11:00pm; AUDITIONS FOR PRIDE WEEK PLAY, "Boys in the Band", 7:30pm, Images Modeling Agency, 3517 Lansdowne Drive, need 9 men (one being black).
- THU 8 GAYLINE, (231-0335), 8:00pm - 11:00pm.
- FRI 9 VOLLEYBALL/POTLUCK, 6:30pm, Jacobson Park Shelter #5; GAY AND LESBIAN AA, 8:00pm, Comprehensive Care Center.

SAT 10 DIGNITY YARD SALE, 330 Lafayette Ave.

SUN 11 MOTHER'S DAY!!; GAY AND LESBIAN AA, 4:00pm, GSD office, 431 S. Broadway, Suite 322; MCC (Metropolitan Community Church) worship, prayer, and fellowship, 3:00pm, call 252-5452, or write PO Box 11686, Lexington, Ky. 40577, for further information; MCC WORSHIP/PRAYER/FELLOWSHIP, 4:30pm, call 299-0800 or 252-5452 for details and directions; PRIDE WEEK ASSOCIATION MEETING, 7:00pm, GSD office; PRIDE WEEK 4TH OF JULY FLOAT COMMITTEE MEETING, 8:00pm, GSD office; VAUGHN PRODUCTIONS, 9:00pm, Circus Disco.

MON 12 PROGRAM COMMITTEE PLANNING MEETING, 7:30pm, for more information call Keith K. at 273-8056

TUE 13 GSD RAINBOW LEAGUE BOWLING, 9:00pm, Joyland Bowl.

WED 14 GAYLINE (231-0335), 8:00pm - 11:00pm; GAY AND LESBIAN AA, 8:00pm, St. Joseph Office Park, Room 120.

THU 15 GAYLINE (231-0335), 8:00pm - 11:00pm

FRI 16 GAY AND LESBIAN AA, 8:00pm, Comprehensive Care Center; CARDS AND GAMES, 7:00pm, GSD office, 431 S. Broadway, Suite 322.

SAT 17 MCC POTLUCK, 7:00pm, at Mike's, call 299-0800 or 252-5452 for details and directions.

SUN 18 LESBIAN POTLUCK BRUNCH, 2:00pm, at Cathleen's, this will be a special barbecue, for more information call 266-9698; GAY PARENTING PICNIC, 2:00pm, Jacobson Park, Shelter #5; SPEAKER'S BUREAU MEETING, 5:30pm, GSD office; PRIDE WEEK ASSOCIATION MEETING, everyone welcome, please come and share ideas, GSD office 431 S. Broadway, Suite 322; GAY AND LESBIAN AA, 4:00pm, GSD office, 431 S. Broadway, Suite 322; PRIDE WEEK 4TH OF JULY FLOAT COMMITTEE MEETING, 8:00pm, GSD office; BLUEGRASS BENEFIT ASSOCIATION, 9:00pm, Circus Disco.

MON 19 INTERWEAVE MEETING, 7:30pm, Unitarian Universalist Church, call Keith K at 273-8056.

TUE 20 GSD RAINBOW LEAGUE BOWLING BANQUET, 7:00pm Cocktails, 8:00pm Dinner, A La Lucie's, everyone welcome, reservations required call 278-0048 or 277-4640

- WED 21 GAY AND LESBIAN AA, 8:00pm, St. Joseph Office Park, Room 120; GAYLINE (231-0335), 8:00pm - 11:00pm.
- THU 22 DIGNITY PROGRAM MEETING AND POTLUCK, 7:30pm, at Larry's, call 254-9812; GAYLINE (231-0335), 8:00pm - 11:00pm.
- FRI 23 GAY AND LESBIAN AA, 8:00pm Comprehensive Care Center; VOLLEYBALL/POTLUCK, 6:30pm, Jacobson Park, Shelter #5.
- SAT 24 MISS GAY KENTUCKY AMERICA PAGEANT, Sheraton Inn.
- SUN 25 GAY AND LESBIAN AA, 4:00pm, GSO office; PRIDE WEEK ASSOCIATION MEETING, 7:00pm, GSO office; PRIDE WEEK 4TH OF JULY FLOAT COMMITTEE MEETING, 8:00pm, GSO office; VAUGHN PRODUCTIONS, 9:00pm, Circus Disco.
- MON 26 MEMORIAL DAY!!
- TUE 27 GSO Board Meeting, 7:00pm.
- WED 28 GAY AND LESBIAN AA, 8:00pm, St. Joseph Office Park, Room 120; GAYLINE (231-0335), 8:00pm - 11:00pm
- THU 29 GAYLINE, (231-0335), 8:00pm - 11:00pm.
- FRI 30 GAY AND LESBIAN AA, 8:00pm, Comprehensive Care Center; CARDS AND GAMES, 7:00pm, GSO office, 431 S. Broadway, Suite 322.

MAJOR UPCOMING GSO EVENTS

JUNE GSO ELECTIONS
JUNE 2
PRIDE WEEK
JUNE 8 - 14

club member Anthony Bucci. "Yet they always had a ghetto to go back to (for) solace and community. We don't. We are isolated from family and friends because we live a dual existence."

Of course, moral support isn't the only benefit that gay professionals seek in networking. Many are also pursuing the profits that are available to individuals who tailor their products and services to the gay market.

Mr. Clarkson, the Oregon real estate agent, has organized a nationwide network of 400 gay real estate agents whose ads read: "They've come out of the closet, so you can get into a home." The agents receive commissions for referring clients to other gay agents, who know better than to raise an eyebrow when two women want a one-bedroom condominium. For Mr. Clarkson, service means ushering gay home buyers to gay neighborhoods, wining them at gay bistros, reassuring them that

the gay church is around the corner and leading them to the best gay bowling leagues.

Says John Ognibene, a gay interior decorator who bought a home through a gay agent when he moved to New Orleans: "You want creative financing, good interest rates and someone who will not look down on you or openly discriminate against you because you are gay."

-FINDING ACCEPTANCE-

Still, finding acceptance in conventional businesses and markets - and not simply catering to the gay community - appears to be the motive behind much gay networking. High Tech Gays, for example, the California group, was formed partly to educate employers that gays hold important positions in high-technology industries.

The image of IBM as a place with a vast number of people who dress and think alike is fundamentally false," says Michael Morris, general counsel of IBM's Rolm Corp. subsidiary in Santa Clara, Calif., and a member of High Tech Gays. But while Mr. Morris is openly gay and has persuaded his employer to adopt an official policy of nondiscrimination against gays, most gays in high-technology industries "remain closeted at work," according to a High Tech Gay brochure. "This builds up stresses, which limit our effectiveness socially and professionally."

Taking the offensive, High Tech Gays is now challenging the Defense Department, which has banned the employment of gays as "security risks" on certain classified government jobs involving defense contractors. The government has long argued that gays are more vulnerable to blackmail if their homosexuality is discovered and thus represent a threat to national security.

The group has filed a class-action suit, scheduled for a hearing next month, against the U.S. government that seeks an end to such "anti-gay" policies and practices. "The impact of the government policy is very serious," says Richard Gayer, a High Tech Gays attorney. "Careers are ruined." A Pentagon spokesman declined to comment.

-NATIONAL SURVEY-

Another gay support group, trying to create a more comfortable and stable working environment for gay engineers and scientists, has surveyed companies across the country to analyze working conditions for gays.

The survey by the Lesbian and Gay Association of Engineers and Scientists was designed to single out companies for what the group considered anti-gay practices. Eastern Airlines, in 1984, for example, was cited for asking job applicants a question about homosexuality on its medical forms. (The carrier has since eliminated the question.) The survey also found that "California is more hospitable to gays," based on the fact that 20% of the California companies had nondiscrimination clauses for gays in their personnel policies compared with only 7% for non-California companies. Additionally, 40% of California's gays were covered by a sexual orientation ordinance compared with 16% of residents in other states.