

SEPTEMBER NEWS 1987



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

GLSO AND YOU

Lexington's Gay/Lesbian Services Organization (GLSO) is now a little over ten years old. During that time the local gay community has experienced triumphs and troubles, has expanded and deepened. GLSO has been a part of Lexington's gay history and continues to serve gay needs in Central Kentucky.

Communication is the key to success. This includes communication between the various gay organizations in Lexington, among its individuals, and with the straight community.

To facilitate dialogue GLSO established services which can be divided into four areas of endeavor: education, referral, social and recreational services. GLSO News, the monthly Forum, the Gayline, and the many social events all promote one or more of these goals.

GAYLINE

GLSO's Gayline has become a very important tool in providing both educational and referral services. In an average month 300 people call the Gayline. Unfortunately only a fraction of these callers talk directly to a Gayline volunteer because the line is covered just three nights per week.

Some of the calls are fun, such as the conversations with people from California and Alaska. These people are usually moving to our area or are here on a visit. In either case, it's enjoyable telling people about Lexington, comparing notes, and finding out about gay life in cities around the country.

Many of the callers are more serious, in particular those struggling with the anxieties of first dealing with their gayness. Often the Gayline staffer is one of the few persons who the caller has ever talked with about being gay. Almost always this is the only person who has been supportive, non-threatening, and knowledgeable about the realities of gay

life. Calls such as these, when you can hear the pain and loneliness in the caller's voice slowly ease into relief - these are the really rewarding calls.

The Gayline is staffed completely by volunteers. Training is provided on the last Sunday of each month at Comprehensive Care Center at 2 pm. Volunteers are encouraged to sign up for two, three hours shifts each month. Shifts are set up so that incoming calls are forwarded to the staffer's home, creating a convenient, comfortable setting for the volunteer. Presently the line is staffed Wed - Fri, 8 - 11 pm. If more people volunteer the schedule can be expanded; women are particularly needed.

GLSO NEWS

The monthly newsletter is another major effort aimed at providing a link among the gay people of Central Kentucky. Currently 500 names are on the mailing list, which includes addresses throughout the US, Canada and Europe. Another 150 copies are distributed through Joseph-Beth Booksellers, Special Media, Good Foods Co-op, and the Bar. These are available for those who do not enjoy the luxury of being able to have it delivered to their homes without fear.

Many recipients of GLSO News who live in the smaller towns in Central and Eastern Kentucky have written commenting that the newsletter is their only contact with anything gay. Their isolation is particularly painful.

Each month the newsletter staff of 23 people strives to present a variety of informative articles with an emphasis on local concerns. Local, national, and international news is included in the belief we must all be aware of decisions and activities which relate to gay issues. Whether these events occur here in Lexington or on the other side of the globe, somehow, sometime, they will affect our own lives.



Please send me a free introductory issue of the GLSO News and information on GLSO.

I'd like to become a voting Member of GLSO entitling me to free home delivery of the GLSO News and discounts at GLSO functions. My annual Membership fee of \$10 is enclosed.

I don't wish to become a voting Member but please send me the GLSO News each month. The annual charge of \$5 is enclosed.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, St, Zip: _____

Mail to: Newsletter, P.O. Box 11471
Lexington, KY 40575

Most articles report local information in order to inform the community about upcoming events, and as a means of uniting the local organizations and the thousands of gay people who live in the area.

GLSO FORUM

On the first Monday evening of each month GLSO hosts a meeting open to all members of the gay community. These meetings begin with announcements of upcoming events and issues discussed by the GLSO board to keep the community informed. This is usually an excellent opportunity to find out what is going on in gay Lexington, and is an excellent chance to meet new people.

A group discussion follows. Topics range from serious issues such as discrimination, AIDS, and facets of coming out, to lighter concerns such as gay vacation opportunities, gay characters on TV, and gay humorists. Usually, though not always, the discussions center around gay-related issues.

These relaxed meetings are held in the rear first floor conference room at Comprehensive Care Center. The facilities are comfortable with large chairs and sofas. Meetings begin at 8 pm when the building is empty, so there are no interruptions. If the front door is locked, push the button and enter at the buzz.

Newcomers are always welcome and not pressured to take part in the discussion if they prefer, as most new folks do, to just sit and listen. When the meetings conclude around 10 pm, some of us adjourn to Jerry's, The Bar, White Mountain, or Espresso Cafe for more conversation - especially if anyone's met someone of "special" interest at the meeting.

GAY PARENTING SUPPORT GROUP

The Gay Parenting Support Group addresses the special problems of being gay and a parent. Many of the participants' friends are unable to offer the understanding needed, and families and straight friends are not always sympathetic to the added pressures gay parents feel.

For these reasons gay parents turn to each other through the Gay Parenting Support Group for new friends and support. The next meeting is Tuesday, September 15 at 7 pm. Call Barry at 268-3935 for details.



The GLSO News 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. GLSO is a registered non-profit organization which provides support for the Central Kentucky gay and lesbian community through educational, recreational, social, and referral services directly involving or relating to gay/lesbian people.

Views or opinions expressed in the articles, stories, letters, or advertisements are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of the GLSO Board of Directors nor the GLSO News.

Submissions for GLSO News are welcome. All submissions become the property of GLSO. All submissions must indicate the full name and address 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.

SPEAKER'S BUREAU

GLSO's Speaker's Bureau works towards fighting discriminatory attitudes by showing the straight community the truths about gay people and homosexuality. Each year GLSO sends speakers to a great variety of meetings, including college classes, professional conventions, social agencies, and even neighborhood organizations.

In their presentations the speakers stress they are neither appointed nor self-appointed representatives of the gay community, but appear as ordinary individuals who happen to be gay. Responses vary greatly, but the result is usually an increased understanding by those the program reaches.

This educational effort aimed at the straight population is obviously worthwhile. More volunteers are needed for the Bureau to be effective; we presently have no women participants and are in need of several volunteers.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Every year GLSO sponsors various social events in the hope of providing a variety of activities for gay and lesbian people to socialize, make new friends, enjoy each other's company, possibly meet someone very special, and just enjoy the freedom of being ourselves without any pressures from the straight world.

These activities include the monthly potlucks which occur on the first Sunday of each month, the monthly Coffeehouse and Dance, summer volleyball at Jacobsen Park and the wintertime Rainbow Bowling League. Check the monthly Calendar on the last page for a complete listing of events sponsored by GLSO and the other gay/lesbian organizations in Lexington.

GLSO
presents
Fourth Monthly

COFFEEHOUSE AND DANCE
Featuring THE GRINDERS
from Cincinnati

Friday
September 18, 1987
8:30pm - 1am

at the
Unitarian Universalist Church
3564 Clays Mill Road

BYOB/Refreshments Provided

NGLTF BOARD MEMBER TO SPEAK IN LEXINGTON

September's monthly meeting topic will be The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), Programs and Directions. An NGLTF Board Member is visiting Lexington as our special guest. Join us Sept 7th, 8 pm, to learn more about this national organization and what is going on around the country.

VOLLEYBALL, FOOD, HOT WOMEN AND HOT MEN

The Volleyball-Potlucks for September will be held on Friday, the 4th, and Friday, the 18th, at 6:30 pm at Jacobsen Park, Shelter #5. Volleyball on the 18th will be "Kiss Off Summer" and our last Volleyball for this season. All you need to do is bring yourself, a dish or drinks, and all your friends. Call Bill or Kenneth for information at 278-0048.

DC OR BURST II

You have decided to attend the March on Washington, October the 11th. What do you do during the evenings since most of the March activities take place daytimes? On Saturday night a concert of Gay & Lesbian Bands is scheduled at DAR Constitution Hall. The National Theater is advertising "Sweet Charity", starring Donna Mackenzie (the original Cassie in Chorus Line). The National Symphony Orchestra is playing a Pops concert with the King Singers, Oct. 9th, at the Kennedy Center. Also playing at the Kennedy Center is a Broadway bound English play called "Breaking Code" with Derek Jacoby.

If none of this interests you, where do you go? First thing - pick up a copy of the Washington Blade, DC's gay weekly newspaper available at most newsstands. Many of the area bars advertise in the paper. Most bars are located away from the National Mall area, requiring car, taxi or subway (the Metro). The best bet is the Dupont Circle area, served by the Metro and home to a wide variety of bars including Badlands (a dance bar) and JR's (a more "social bar"), the bookstore Lambda Rising and many gay or lesbian owned restaurants. The largest dance bar in DC is the Lost & Found in southeast Washington, accessible only by car or taxi. Other bars can be found in the Capital Hill - Georgetown areas. And, please!, wherever you go, whatever you decide to do, remember: if you have sex, make sure it is SAFE SEX!! (Thanks)

dignity

DIGNITY/LEXINGTON
P.O. Box 1984 • Lexington, KY 40593

269-8417

FROM DIGNITY'S PRESIDENT...

The March on Washington is six weeks away! I can't wait.

Social Action is important to me. In addition to being president, I am Social Action Committee chair for Dignity Region.

What a wonderful opportunity we have as lesbian and gay people to show the nation we are good, caring people who are just like most other good, caring people and just as deserving of civil rights as everyone else. It's important for Kentucky to have a good showing at the March. It is with considerable pride I say, "I'm from Kentucky." Kentucky's lesbian and gay people will make an important statement just being there. If you go, you'll be making this statement.

You will say by being there, that we are everywhere - whether we're from San Francisco, New York, Wichita, Lexington, Versailles or Frankfort.

You will also be saying, "I am a person worthy of civil rights. I will not be treated as a second class citizen. I will be heard and respected."

Social Action speaks to our dignity as people. It gives us a chance to educate, learn and achieve. Don't deny yourself that opportunity. Join us in Washington, October 11-13! You will be a part of history! Hope to see you at Dignity soon.

In peace,
Keith

BOARD NOMINATIONS

We're looking for people willing to serve as Board members. You can be that person!

Archbishop Daniel Pilarczyk has barred the Cincinnati chapter of Dignity from using church facilities for meetings.

According to Gaybeat, a Cincinnati gay newspaper, Pilarczyk ousted the group in the wake of last fall's Vatican letter which denounced homosexuality and ordered bishops not to allow church property to be used by

UPCOMING EVENTS

Our Rap Session for September is scheduled for Thursday, September 10th, at 7:30 p.m. at Keith's. The topic for the evening is **Security: What, for you, does this word mean and include?** All are welcome in what should be a fascinating discussion. Call Keith at 269-8417 for directions.

Our Program Meeting is on Wednesday, September 23rd, at 7:30 p.m. at Larry's (254-9812). Nominations for the Board will be taken as well as a program, probably a video.

Our liturgy will be the first of the month at Don's (299-4458), 7:30 p.m.

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 Nregional and national news information and the privilege of saying, "I belong to Dignity." But for \$25.00 is that enough? Ultimately, that question is up to you. But remember your \$25.00 works to make life better for lesbian and gay people. So join! Students can join for \$20.00 and couple for \$45.00.

Come to a meeting and let us know. Nominations will begin at the September program meeting and will be open until the October elections.

groups that do not fully adhere to church policy.

Pilarczyk's position was being closely watched because he is the next scheduled president of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops and is generally regarded as a church moderate. His action could influence other bishops around the country.



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STARR**

MISS GAY AMERICA 1986-87

FRI. & SAT. SEPT. 4 & 5, 1987 SHERATON INN

LEXINGTON, KY.

TICKETS: \$8.00 (per night) \$15.00 (both nights)

AVAILABLE FROM ANY COUNCIL MEMBER

BORK NOMINATION GLOOMY NEWS FOR GAYS

Three times in the past year the United States Supreme Court has considered cases of import for gays and lesbians, and twice it has ruled 5 to 4 against us. Only in its holding that contagious diseases constitute a "handicap" protected by federal legislation against discrimination has the court held forth the promise of protection for our oppressed minority.

In the Hardwick case, the Court bent over backwards to limit to homosexuals only its holding that sodomy statutes do not violate the Constitution, even though the challenged Georgia statute applied to both gays and straights. Now the court again finds against us: by holding that actions of the United States Olympic Committee do not constitute state action, it approved the arbitrary denial of the use of the "Olympics" to a gay athletic organization.

In both of the last two cases, Justice Lewis Powell, a moderate from Virginia, played a key role. It is rumored that he changed his vote in the sodomy case at the last minute thus providing the majority which found no constitutional protection of privacy in gay bedrooms. Nearly a year later, Justice Powell authored the opinion in the gay olympics case.

Now President Reagan proposes to replace Powell, widely considered to be a moderate on most other issues, with Robert Bork. Currently a Judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, Bork proposes that the United States Constitution contains no protection of individual privacy in any form. The most obviously vulnerable targets of this view are the Courts' abortion rulings, premised on the constitutionally protected privacy right of an expectant mother.

However, it should be obvious that possible reconsideration of the sodomy holding would be doomed if Bork were on the Court. Furthermore, what sway would a Justice Bork have over the court when it considers the privacy issues to be raised by a society dealing with the tension between AIDS and individual rights? Is quarantine more likely? Is the confidentiality of AIDS test results to be left to vagaries of fifty state legislatures and supreme courts?

Judge Bork's commonly perceived approach to constitutional interpretation is that it should be examined in light of the Founders' intent. Sodomy convictions in the 18th century carried far more severe penalties than even today's statutes. Would Justice Bork extend the Hardwick case to allow life

imprisonment if Colorado chose to impose such a penalty as an AIDS prevention measure.

Most people are quite repulsed by such "end of the world" warnings as those raised in this article. The threat to individuals, gay and straight, posed by a future Justice Bork is so great that no warning is too shrill if it prods us into action to oppose his appointment. Confirmation hearings begin September 15. We must begin soon if we are to convince Senators Ford and McConnell to vote against his confirmation.

WRITE YOUR LEGISLATORS

Gay and lesbian rights have certainly taken it on the chin in recent months, particularly from the bastion of our rights, the United States Supreme Court. From issues as seemingly innocent as forbidding us the use of the term "Olympic" for our Gay Games to denial of our very rights to privacy in the Hardwick decision, the Supreme Court has a definite anti-gay slant.

We need to bring to bear our own influence whenever we can. If enough people voice their concern to their legislators, we can make a difference.

Here is a sample letter:

Dear Senator Ford (McConnell):

I am deeply disturbed by the potential for the Supreme Court to be unconcerned about our right to privacy. This potential opens the possibility of the Court reversing itself on many previous rulings, should the topics rise again from the lower courts. I believe this potential danger has arisen in the nomination of Robert Bork for Justice of the Supreme Court.

Bork's opinions and interpretations of law are well known. His insistence that the Constitution be interpreted as the Founding Fathers would have applied it during their lives would prevent the Constitution from continuing as a living document for human rights. Instead, the Constitution would become only historical document with little relevance to 20th century America

The world has changed greatly in the past 200 years and the Constitution must be allowed the flexibility to change in the future. Robert Bork as Justice would not allow this to happen.

President Reagan's nomination of Bork indicates that he does not respect the opinion that the Supreme Court be politically impartial.

Without this impartiality we will lose one of the most important links in the delicate system of checks and balances.

Since the President apparently refuses to concern himself with the impartiality of the Court, I believe it is the responsibility of the Senate to reject his nominee. I urge you to vote against the appointment of Robert Bork.

Thank you for your concern.

Sincerely,

POLICE CRACKDOWN IN LEXINGTON

During July, the GLSO News staff received reports the Urban County Police have stepped up late night patrols of Woodland Park in an attempt to halt men from engaging in homosexual activity.

Three different employees of the police department contacted the newsletter staff. Each time the person declined to identify himself/herself or even indicate whether he/she is a member of the police force, administration, or the department's support staff. All three callers based their insistence on confidentiality and their concern over losing their jobs should their names be linked to the publicizing of the force's actions.

In order to verify these reports, the newsletter staff contacted the police force about this information. Reportedly, in early June several men were arrested in Woodland Park for engaging in homosexual activity. Because of the circumstances surrounding the activity the police decided to increase the frequency of routine surveillance of the park. Since that decision, the number of men arrested in Woodland Park for solicitation, indecent exposure, sodomy, and related charges has been higher than usual.

None of the people who gave GLSO News this information could give specific numbers of people arrested as a result of this crackdown, or what charges were brought. It is not known if any of the other parks in the city are also being patrolled.

ANNUAL CAMPOUT PLANNED

The seventh annual fall campout is scheduled for October 10th and 11th at Eddie's farm. Historically held the second weekend of October, this year's event provides the opportunity to "rough it" for those who cannot attend the March on Washington. Relive your childhood by singing campfire songs and sleeping under the stars on a remote farm in Scott County. Check next month's GLSO News for details and directions.

FREE FOOD!

GLSO's September Potluck will be held at Kenneth's on Sunday, the 6th, at 1:30 pm. This will be a "Back Yard" barbeque. Hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, and soft drinks will be provided. Bring a lawn chair and your best dish. We'll be playing volleyball after we eat. Call Kenneth or Bill for information at 278-0048.

ASK AUNT MARY

Dear Aunt Mary: I'm 18 years old and just beginning to accept my sexuality. I live in a very small town in Western Kentucky. I recently met a man who is very interested in me, but I haven't slept with him yet. I've read a lot about AIDS but find it hard to take it all that seriously, since we are so isolated here. My friend is pressing me to have sex and I guess it is just a matter of time before I give in. In my situation, I don't think I need to worry about "safe sex," do you?

Anxious in Hardinsburg

Dear Anxious: Yes, yes a thousand times yes! You very definitely need to practice safe sex everywhere and at all times. Even people in small towns travel a great deal, so the isolation you claim is quite illusory. Please call the GLSO phoneline for information on safe sex practices. (Wed., Thurs. or Fri., 8:00-11:00 p.m.). The false sense of security you express could be fatal!

And now I will offer some unsolicited advice, which is one of my specialties. You are 18, just accepting your sexual orientation, less than totally informed about AIDS and safe sex, and are being "pressed" to have sex. STOP! Don't let it be just a matter of time before you "give in." Your whole life is in front of you. Sex should be a shared experience by TWO people who wish to give pleasure to one another. Don't settle for less in your first experience, you will know when the time and the person are right.

Aunt Mary

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

WOMEN'S NEWS

AN OPEN LETTER OF INVITATION

When word got around the GLSO NEWS was looking for womyn to write the "Women's News" section of the newsletter, I was excited because of the opportunity to combine local interest with the different formats of other publications I'd seen, thereby presenting Lexington lesbians with an informative, perhaps provocative, upbeat source of news and interconnection. Several ideas came to mind, the first being an open forum that would address the realities we all face - our own "coming out stories", relationships (or lack thereof), politically correct vs. politically incorrect, monogamy vs. non-monogamy, separatism, alcohol/drug/food dependency and recovery, and other personal trials and triumphs. Secondly, a monthly book review and occasional album, concert, movie reviews might provide information about locally accessible possibilities concerning other facets of lesbian culture. Finally, this column could become an opportunity to help network through assistant organizations, political action groups, performances, coffeehouses, dances, sports activities, and support groups.

Well, the editor of the GLSO News and I discussed all of this over coffee at Espresso Cafe, found we had similar goals, and I signed on. Later that evening, while attending the GLSO Coffeehouse and Dance Committee Meeting, I presented these ideas to the women there and they (some of the brightest, warmest, most dynamics wimmin!) chimed in with nearly unbridled enthusiasm and a whole new collection of ideas.

So - - here we are with our very first edition and it begins with an invitation for your opinion. We wish to offer an open forum where letters from our collective and from you can be printed and we can argue or agree, inspire or irritate, but at least talk about issues that are usually kept silent. What is your coming out story? How do you feel about lesbian separatism? How about "wimmin" vs. "women"? How do you feel about non-monogamous relationships? Have they worked for you? Letters can be printed without names so you can feel free to talk openly. There is so much we all experience, someone will be interested in your story. We also would like to print your poetry, prose, lesbian limericks, and reviews (read a good book lately? and I don't mean Sydney Sheldon!). Finally, use these pages as a way to announce meetings, parties, tournaments, etc. Currently the GLSO News mailing list

numbers over 500 and is an excellent opportunity to network with a large number of wimmin.

This month, we have included a cursory list of publication, groups, bookstores, and music outlets that are of interest to women. Not all are lesbian owned/operated, but all are supportive of womyn. This list is by no means complete, and if you know of others please write us. We will continue to add on to the list and after going to the Michigan Music Festival, I'll bring home more information.

Also, this month, we've included our first poetry and reviews. We hope you enjoy them and will send us yours for possible publication in the GLSO News.

That's about it for this edition. Be aware that the subscription policy will change in the next few months, so be sure to return the coupon on page two to let us know you wish to continue receiving the newsletter. Encourage other wimmin to subscribe and become involved with some of the local groups and attend a Coffeehouse and Dance on the third Friday of each month.

We wish to celebrate our commonality and our diversity as women/wimmin/womyn/ladies/girls/dykes and hope you will find within these lines the inspiration to share a bit of yourself with us.

Laura Joans,
Assistant Editor for
Women's Issues

Untitled

Your fantasy
ran into my reality
And there were no survivors

You wanted hearts and flowers
I wanted you

As the glow of new love faded
So too did your ardor
While mine blossomed
as I came to know and
love the person you are

You wanted romance
I was real life

There is no room in fantasy
for reality
And so we could not survive.

WOMEN'S NEWS

RESOURCES OF POSSIBLE INTEREST TO WOMEN

Organizations

GLSO. Offering the GLSO News, Gayline, Speaker's Bureau, Gay Parenting Group, monthly Coffeehouse and Dance, and monthly GLSO meeting (first Monday evening of each month) and other opportunities. Write to GLSO, P.O. Box 11471, Lexington, KY 40575.

Feminist Alliance. UK's Organization for feminist and lesbian women, with monthly meetings. Call 278-7077.

Alternatives for Women. 178 Walnut St., Lexington, KY 40508, phone - 254-9319. Referrals for counseling, support groups, educational series and networking are available.

South Eastern Women's Employment Coalition. 382 Longview Drive, Lexington, KY, phone - 276-1555.

UK Women Studies Office. UK offers a minor in Women's Studies. This office can also be a first step in networking with other feminists at UK.

Continuing Education for Women. UK is very supportive of women students, especially "adult" students (over 25) who are anticipating attending UK. Counselors are available to discuss career choices and scholastic strategies.

Interweave. Unitarian Universalist Church, 3564 Clays Mill Road, Lexington, KY 40503. A support group that offers dialog between gay/lesbian/non-gay members of the Unitarian Universalist Church. The UU church is very supportive of its gay and lesbian members. Call 266-8887.

Dignity. P.O. Box 1984, Lexington, KY 40593. Lexington's chapter of the national Catholic gay and lesbian support organization. Dignity's monthly newsletter is included as a section within the GLSO News.

Publications

Womewews. Room 106, Old Student Center, UK, Lexington, KY 40506. UK's **Feminist Alliance** will once again publish a monthly newsletter, beginning this fall. Included will be many items of interest to local women.

Lavender Letter. The Lavender Letter, Inc., 7401-B Fegenbush Lane, Louisville, KY

40228. Louisville's gay and lesbian newsletter includes monthly features an AIDS, local activities, political actions and legal cases.

Lesbian Connection. Helen Diner Memorial Women's Center, P.O. Box 811, East Lansing, MI 48823. This is an informal forum newsletter with thousands of subscribers that also offers nationwide advertisements, a winter gift catalog, and a contact dyke listing.

Lesbian Contradiction. 1007 North 47th Street, Seattle, WA 98103. This periodical presents articles on a broad spectrum of issues from politics to womyn's spirituality.

Books/Music/Video Cassettes

Special Media, 371 South Limestone, Lexington, KY. Phone: 255-4316. This alternative bookstore has recently expanded its selection of lesbian books and music. Crystals, incense, cards, and tarot decks can also be found. The GLSO News is available here during the first days of each month.

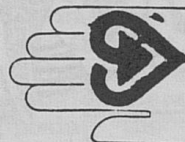
Joseph-Beth Booksellers, at The Mall at Lexington Green. Phone: 273-2911. Lexington's newest bookstore has a good gay literature section, including a shelf of lesbian books, Boston's newspaper the Gay Community News, and the GLSO News.

Lexington Public Library. Several lesbian authors' works can be found here, along with a small selection of women's music.

Cut Corner Records & Video, 377 South Limestone, Lexington, KY. Phone: 255-3964. This unique business offers a selection of womyn's music (look under "folk") and some lesbian video cassettes.

The Crazy Ladies Bookstore, 4112 Hamilton Ave., Cincinnati, Ohio 45223. Phone: (513) 541-4198. Cincinnati's womyn's bookstore has an excellent selection of lesbian material plus a mailing list and a newsletter.

Women Sounds, WEKU-FM Stereo 88.9. Sunday evenings, 8 - 10 pm. This program presents different styles of music women artists.



**Lend a Hand...
VOLUNTEER!**

WOMEN'S NEWS

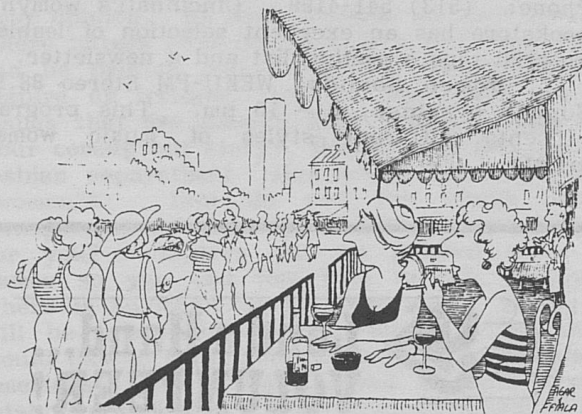
A Review of Soul Snatcher

a novel by Camarin Grae

Many people believe that each of us has a twin somewhere on the face of the earth. This lesbian suspense novel deals with the question in a most intriguing way. What would happen if you were to stumble upon the life of your "twin" while she was away, and you decided that you liked her life better?! The author shows us, in a riveting manner, how a woman can be so tormented and filled with self-hate that she actually convinces herself that someone has "snatched" her soul. As the story develops, Sharla's initial fascination and admiration for her "twin" turns into a warped determination to recover that which she believes is rightfully hers. In turn, Meredith, the "twin", becomes increasingly distressed and confused as her friends and lover tell her of things she has said and done, yet does not remember and simply could not have done. After all, Meredith has been out of town for over two months! Push comes to shove when the two finally meet, and anything can, and does, happen.

This engrossing story is not one to be missed. The characters practically come to life as the author tells her story in a manner which is at times intense, but always interesting. After a certain point, it becomes almost impossible to put the book down, as you are driven to read on and see how the turmoil will be resolved.

Debbie, Teri, and Lisa



"Actually, there are only twenty lesbians in New York. It's all done with mirrors."

The Little Joys of Breaking Up

The sense of freedom,
incomplete,
a mixed blessing,
only partially offsetting
that particular loneliness

The feeling that there will never be
another

The paranoia,
not there before,
that strikes each time,
you meet someone new

The flutter of excitement
when you sense
that someone you like
is attracted to you too

The insecurity of not knowing what to do

The little (and big) jealousies
you must endure
when you see someone
you loved
with another

The big (and little) triumphs
of being seen
with another
by the one you loved

The emotional high of feeling
"I'm handling it"
"I'm doing great"
"I'm over it"

The jolt back to reality
when you see her
and your heart falls
and your eyes tear up
and you have to turn away

Because you still love her

The sad realization that
one day you'll be feeling
"I'm handling it"
"I'm doing great"
"I'm over it"

And you will be.

LOCAL BIGOTRY CHAPTER 2

An article appeared in the last issue of GLSO NEWS which, unfortunately, may have been the first installment of a regular column. Its title, "Local Bigotry" is self-explanatory; the descriptive word "unfortunately" used above is sadly appropriate.

The following article appeared in several local church newsletters, one of which was The Voice of Southland Christian from Southland Christian Church. Each newsletter published the article exactly as appears below, indicating that this was a coordinated effort on the part of very active, homophobic bigots, and not just an isolated incident.

SEX HOTLINE

On July 6, the Herald-Leader reported the establishment of a new hotline in town for the purpose of fighting misinformation about sex. Our Urban County Council provided a \$3,500 grant to start this line and Planned Parenthood is underwriting the operation of our 252-SURE service.

Since this report, several of our members and a minister in town have called this number to monitor the type of information being given. It is documented that the line is making referrals for abortion and to "gay groups" who will assist one with identifying and being comfortable with his/her homosexual tendencies.

It is our belief that:

1. Our Council was unaware that the grant would be used to give this type of information.
2. That you, as a tax-paying citizen, do not want your funds promoting abortion clinics and homosexual groups.
3. Planned Parenthood has developed another deceptive means of getting poor advice into our homes.

You can do something about your money being used in this way. Write your councilman and Mayor Baesler, enlightening them on this matter and opposing public providing free advertising for abortionists and homosexual groups.

Some members of the central Kentucky gay and lesbian community will question the need for a column such as this, with its evidence of anti-gay prejudices which all of us would prefer not to have to confront. It is the firm belief of the staff of GLSO News, however, that every member of our community must be aware of the prevailing attitudes which our fellow Kentuckians hold against us. None of us, either individuals or organizations, can ever afford to forget that the closet door is not made of steel, but, more often than not, seems to be made of glass, and the glass is very, very fragile.

This hotline service which the Urban County Council has funded is a surprisingly unbiased service. The service is one of the very few resources in Lexington for matter-of-fact, unprejudiced referrals leading to factual information concerning AIDS and safe sex. Pressure from the dissenting religious community in Lexington can easily halt this effort by our local government. Their efforts will be successful unless those of us who see the value in such a hotline service exercise our rights, too, by writing our council members and the Mayor thanking them for their admirable, worthwhile work and encouraging them to spend our tax dollars on this program.

Chapter 3

In July Ronald Hacker, an environmental safety officer with the Kentucky Dept. of Facilities Management, distributed a memo among the state Finance and Administration Cabinet suggesting employees be "questioned for homosexuality and be required to take an AIDS test". Furthermore, the memo stated that "should any employee be found to practice homosexuality, an immediate suspension from work (should) be invoked until an AIDS test proves that they are not a carrier of the virus" and "during the past seven years, rumors of homosexuality existing in our workplace have become a concern. The concern is the spread of the deadly AIDS virus or even contact with those possibly infected".

Hacker's supervisor, Danny Shearer, told him he considered his suggestions illegal. Shearer then posted the memo in departmental bulletin boards.

Officials in the Finance Cabinet have rejected the memo on civil rights grounds. The Lexington Herald Leader published an editorial opposing the need for Hacker's suggestions and called for the development of a policy to handle AIDS cases among state employees.

AIDS UPDATE

SHOULD I TAKE THE TEST?

At present the HIV anti-body test (the so-called "AIDS Test") is the one single procedure the CDC and health officials advocate for those who are worried about their AIDS status. Whether to take the test or not, what it means, and who knows the results, are highly controversial questions both personally and politically. Those who insist on the right to privacy are opposed by those who focus on the duty to protect the public with identification of or even restrictions on carriers.

Recent articles in the gay press have cautioned about taking the test without careful thought about risk and benefits. Anyone deciding to take the test should seek pretest counseling, usually available at alternative test sites, or call the GLSO Gayline for numbers to call in other cities for information. Accurate information is a must in order to make informed decisions about the test.

OUTLINE OF BENEFITS AND RISKS:

The benefits of anti-body testing include: 1)protecting the blood supply by testing donors; 2)ensuring that organ donations are safe; 3)helping support medical diagnosis in individuals who exhibit unexplained symptoms that may be related to HIV infection; 4)helping women at high risk to decide whether to become pregnant or give birth; 5)helping women with a risk history decide whether to breast feed or have an infant inoculated; 6)reducing anxiety in those who are at low risk for HIV infection yet who have extremely high anxiety about it; 7)motivating individuals who continue to practice high risk behavior and who feel that a positive test result may help them reduce these behaviors; 8)helping researchers design experimental treatments and helping subjects decide whether to participate; 9)helping scientists determine the extent of HIV infection in the population, and by following seropositive individuals, understanding the natural history of HIV infection.

The risks of anti-body testing include: 1)severe psychological reactions, including anxiety, nightmares, sleep disturbance, depression, and suicidal behavior; 2)disrupted interpersonal relations, including potential for rage reactions and their extreme forms, such as homicidal behavior; 3)social ostracism and self-imposed social withdrawal;

4)relationship problems (blaming partners, sexual dysfunction, disrupted ability to make plans as a couple); 5)stigmatization and discrimination if a positive anti-body status is made known to others outside of guarantees of confidentiality; 6)problems with employment or insurance; 7)preoccupations with bodily symptoms; 8)a false sense of security if the test proves negative (believing one is immune to infection and continuing unsafe sex, for example).

Remember, get clear information about test results and confidentiality, seek pretest counseling and ask for the results to be kept separate from your medical records for insurance purposes, if you get a result, NEVER take it over the phone alone; seek counseling.

HIV VACCINE TRIALS ANNOUNCED

It was announced on August 18 that testing of an AIDS vaccine on humans will begin this October. Researchers have tested the vaccine in test tubes and rhesus monkeys and received favorable results. They caution that these successes do not mean that the vaccine will necessarily produce desired results in humans. Should this vaccine prove to satisfy even the most idealistic dreams it will probably not be available for several years.

Fewer than 20% of major U.S. corporations questioned in a survey said they have policies to help employees with AIDS. In the survey of 151 companies conducted by Strategic Resources Corp., 33% reported cases of AIDS among their workers with another 50% expecting to encounter the disease in the work place in the future.

But only 40% of the firms surveyed have instituted AIDS information programs for their employees. Of the 20% of firms that reported operating programs to help workers with AIDS, most said they rely on extended medical benefits and counseling for those stricken.

The majority of firms surveyed indicated that they have decided to treat AIDS as any other disability by affirming an employee's right to work.

AIDS UPDATE

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear GLSO,

This letter is written so I may address the gay community of Lexington on the subject of AIDS and what action the community is not taking on the matter. This letter is only designed to help Lexington's gay community. All the advice I give has come from first hand experience because I am a local PWA (Person With AIDS). I will feel better knowing that I have written because it contains the truth and information to help the gay community.

I had a lover who died of AIDS; I was exposed to the virus before anyone knew what safe sex was or what caused AIDS. I have become a self-proclaimed expert on the subject through research and reading of any material that contained information about AIDS.

The ONLY hope that we have to curb the AIDS epidemic is EDUCATION. However, the Lexington community is not even trying to effectively educate the public. ACT Lexington is the one organization that is specifically designed not only to help people with AIDS but also to educate. Their one big attempt at community education was to pass out condoms on Valentine's Day at a local gay bar. Do not tell me that ACT did other things and I simply did not hear about them; because if you can not reach the gay community then you are not doing your job.

ACT does not welcome new members into its ranks. I called and asked three times when a meeting was so that I could join and contribute. Twice the meeting was canceled, once I do not know what happened. Their phone lines are rarely staffed and their mail is rarely answered on a timely basis. When a person wants information on a fatal illness they do not want the run around - they want the information. ACT Lexington needs to become an organization open to the public, not an organization with a condescending attitude. ACT Lexington was designed to help the community and it is time they started doing so.

Another place that a person may turn in their search for help and information is the Fayette County Health Dept. The information that the staff provides is usually truthful and accurate but it follows the realm of acceptable modern medical science (this is not a criticism, I know that this is their job.) However, the staff is very hard to talk to or communicate

with because they are not readily available. Over a period of a week I placed 24 phone calls and left one message. I was unable to contact the staff.

A decision as to whether one should be tested for exposure to the virus is a personal one that should not be made without much consideration. My concern is for the confidentiality of a person's test results. I have been warned by friends in Atlanta, AidAtlanta, and the San Francisco Aids Foundation that confidentiality can not be assured in Louisville or Lexington, including the UK Medical Center. The testing that is being done in Ohio is definitely confidential.

My last concern is for GLSO and its inability to communicate with and reach the gay community. GLSO does not want to communicate with the gay people of Lexington. Their phone lines are rarely staffed and it is difficult to communicate with this organization.

Also of major concern is the information they are putting in the GLSO newsletter. The facts they present about AIDS are quite slanted and one-sided. Some of the information reported in the newsletter has been taken out of its original context and is simply not true.

I am writing these complaints only to help the gay community of Lexington deal with the AIDS crisis. The gay community of Lexington and the organizations that serve them need to work together to help one another during this crisis, to educate the people of Lexington.

Name Withheld by Request

GET INVOLVED

GAY AMERICA

SACRAMENTO, CA

Three computers containing the names of people with AIDS were stolen from the State Department of Health's AIDS office on July 6. Health officials said it was not clear whether the theft was to get the computers or the names. A spokesman for the agency noted that access to the names was restricted by secret passwords. Still, the theft alarmed AIDS activists who are concerned about maintaining confidentiality of the records. "If extremely sensitive information is going to be gathered about people, it has to be protected with the utmost care", asserted Bruce Decker, chair of the California AIDS Advisory Committee.

REHOBOTH BEACH, DE

The Delaware Board of Medical Practice, in a statement issued 10 days after a surgeon refused to treat a man he considered to be gay, said such behavior is "unethical." The July 8 statement came after an orthopedic surgeon, Dr. Robert Spicer, refused to operate on Rod Miller, a Washington, D.C. resident who had suffered a severe cut on his foot on a jetty at Rehoboth Beach. According to an AP report, Spicer asserted that he suspected Miller was gay because of his "demeanor" and because of T-shirts worn by two friends who accompanied Miller to the hospital.

In its statement, the Board of Medical Practice said, "It is unethical for a physician, utilizing appropriate safeguards, to withhold emergency care to any individual due to a co-existing condition or disease or the suspicion of a co-existing condition or disease." But the board added that "it is essential that all patients make available to the treating physician any pertinent history or laboratory results..."

BATON ROUGE, LA

Louisiana has become the first state to require HIV antibody testing of couples seeking marriage licenses. UPI reported that on July 9 Gov. Edwin Edwards (D) signed a measure that forces couples not only to submit to the test, but also to undergo mandatory counseling in the case of a positive result. The new law, however, does not prohibit those who test positive from marrying.

Edwards also signed two other AIDS-related bills. One makes it a crime for an HIV-positive person to deliberately expose a person to the virus; the other permits the use of federal funds for AIDS education in public schools.

AUSTIN, TX

The State Department of Highways and Public Transportation has pulled the plug on its popular Adopt-A-Highway anti-litter program after the Austin based Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus asked to participate. Under the program, civic groups pledge to adopt and maintain a stretch of highway near the city. A sign along the highway displays the name of the group responsible for its care.

Mark Ball, public affairs officer for the department, explained that the group's request was turned down because the organization "had the word 'political' in its name," rather than because of the words "gay" or "lesbian". Ball said the department could not be involved in political issues.

INTERNATIONAL

COLOGNE, WEST GERMANY

Eighty delegates from 46 lesbian and gay organizations in 20 countries gathered here from June 29-July 4 for the 9th International Lesbian and Gay Association Conference.

One of the most heatedly debated decisions was the suspension from the ALGA of the Gay Association of Southern Africa, on charges of collaboration with the authorities of South Africa's apartheid regime. In a related development, several organizations from Denmark, Norway and Sweden agreed to help several South African progressive multiracial groups finance a lesbian/gay community center in Soweto. The conference also agreed to coordinate a day of worldwide fundraising for ILGA on December 10, International Human Rights Day.

Participants took time to march in the annual lesbian & gay pride demonstration in Cologne. Some bystanders openly praised Hitler's extermination of homosexuals. A gay pride celebration party held afterwards was also disrupted by a bomb threat and telephone warning that lesbian and gay men attending would be killed. Police refused to search for explosives so members of ILGA and other pride celebrants were forced to stand for hours outside the building.

Countries represented at the conference were Austria, Belgium, Spain, Canada, Denmark, England, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Poland, Scotland, Sweden, Switzerland, South Africa, the United States and West Germany.

INTO THE FUTURE

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.

October 11, 1987. March on Washington for Gay and Lesbian Rights. Washington, D.C.

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

**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

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 Leaguecall 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



SEPTEMBER EVENTS CALENDAR



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

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|--------|--|----------|--|
| TUE 1 | Rainbow Bowling League , 9 pm, Joyland Lanes; LAGPAC , 7 pm, Comp Care Center, 201 Mechanic St. | SUN 13 | Gay/Lesbian AA , 4 pm, Comp Care Center, 201 Mechanic St. |
| WED 2 | Gay/Lesbian AA , 8 pm, St. Joseph Office Pk., Rm. 120; Gayline , 231-0335, 8 - 11 pm | MON 14 | Interweave , 8 pm, Unitarian Universalist Church; GLSO Speaker's Bureau , Topic: Homosexuality - What Is the Cause? Is There a Cure? And If So, Who Needs It?, 7 pm |
| THU 3 | Gayline , 231-0335, 8 - 11 pm | TUE 15 | Rainbow Bowling League , 9 pm, Joyland Lanes; GLSO Gay Parenting Group , 7 pm; GLSO News Deadline for Submissions |
| FRI 4 | GLSO Volleyball/Picnic , 6:30 pm, Jacobsen Park, Shelter #5; Gay/Lesbian AA , 8 pm, Comp Care Center, 201 Mechanic St.; Gayline , 231-0335, 8 - 11 pm; ICBE Presents Miss Gay North America Pagaent , Sheraton Inn | WED 16 | Gay/Lesbian AA , 8 pm, St. Joseph Office Pk., Rm. 120; Gayline , 231-0335, 8 - 11 pm |
| SAT 5 | ICBE Presents Miss Gay North America Pagaent , Sheraton Inn | THU 17 | Gayline , 231-0335, 8 - 11 pm |
| SUN 6 | GLSO Potluck , 1:30 pm, at Kenneth's (see article); Gay/Lesbian AA , 4 pm, Comp Care Center, 201 Mechanic St. | FRI 18 | GLSO "Kiss Off Summer" Picnic & Volleyball , 6:30 pm, Jacobsen Park, Shelter #5; Gay/Lesbian AA , 8 pm, Comp Care Center, 201 Mechanic St.; Gayline , 231-0335, 8 - 11 pm; GLSO Coffeehouse & Dance , 8:30 pm, Unitarian Universalist Church |
| MON 7 | GLSO Forum , 8 pm, Comp Care Center, 201 Mechanic St. | FRI 18 - | SUN 20 Interweave Fall Retreat |
| TUE 8 | Rainbow Bowling League , 9 pm, Joyland Lanes; Dignity Liturgy , 7:30 | SUN 20 | Gay/Lesbian AA , 4 pm, Comp Care Center, 201 Mechanic St. |
| WED 9 | Gay/Lesbian AA , 8 pm, St. Joseph Office Pk., Rm. 120; Gayline , 231-0335, 8 - 11 pm | TUE 22 | Rainbow Bowling League , 9 pm, Joyland Lanes |
| THU 10 | Gayline , 231-0335, 8 - 11 pm | WED 23 | Gay/Lesbian AA , 8 pm, St. Joseph Office Pk., Rm. 120; Dignity Program Meeting , 7:30 pm, (see article) |
| FRI 11 | Dignity Rap Session , 7:30 pm | THU 24 | Gayline , 231-0335, 8 - 11 pm; GLSO News Layout , 7:30 pm |
| | Gay/Lesbian AA , 8 pm, Comp Care Center, 201 Mechanic St.; Gayline , 231-0335, 8 - 11 pm; GLSO Cards & Games , 7 pm | FRI 25 | Gay/Lesbian AA , 8 pm, Comp Care Center, 201 Mechanic St.; Gayline , 231-0335, 8 - 11 pm |
| | | SUN 27 | GLSO Movie Night , 7 pm |
| | | TUE 29 | Gayline Training Session , 1 pm, Comp Care Center, 201 Mechanic St.; Gay/Lesbian AA , 4 pm, Comp Care Center, 201 Mechanic St. |
| | | WED 30 | Rainbow Bowling League , 9 pm, Joyland Lanes |
| | | | Gay/Lesbian AA , 8 pm, St. Joseph Office Pk., Rm. 120; Gayline , 231-0335, 8 - 11 pm |