

Grand River Rainbow Historical Project

www.grandriver-rainbowhistory.ca/

celebrating the lives and times of rainbow folk in Grand River country

Outlook Magazine

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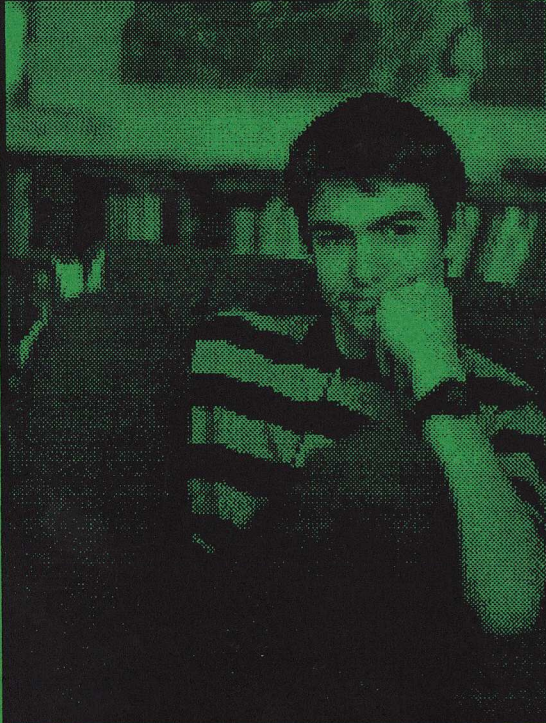
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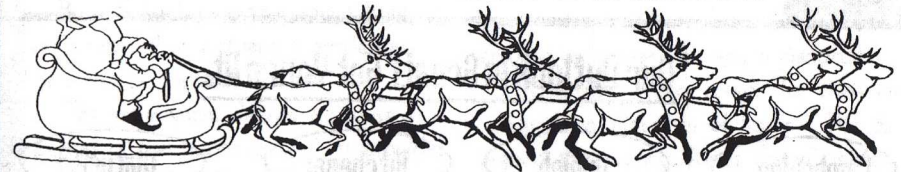


We would like to take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Throughout 1996 you have responded favourably to the changes that have taken place with the design and content of Outlook. Your input is a very valuable part of this magazine and will be into 1997 and beyond.

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UNIONS BACK GAY FIGHT

Ottawa (CP) -- The federal government is discriminating against gay and lesbian couples by defining them as same-sex couples in union agreements, three unions say.

The government should make no distinction between heterosexual and homosexual couples in its labour contracts, say the unions, supporting a complaint by two gay federal workers before the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal.

But a federal spokesman says Ottawa is not prepared to embrace a gender-neutral definition of the term "spouse."

The government defines a spouse as a person of the opposite sex. It provides medical and dental benefits to partners of gays and lesbians, but puts them in a different category as members of "same-sex couples."

"To establish separate regimes continues discrimination in its most explicit and outrageous form," said Andrew Raven, a lawyer for the Public Service Alliance of Canada.

Brian Saunders, a justice department lawyer, said there is no discrimination because gays and lesbians get the same benefits as heterosexuals.

The tribunal reserved its decision.

SCHMITZ CONVICTED OF SECOND DEGREE MURDER

Pontiac, MI -- Jonathan Schmitz, who shot and killed a gay acquaintance who revealed he had a crush on the defendant during an episode of the "Jenny Jones Show", was found guilty November 13 of second-degree murder.

After nearly a day and a half of deliberations, the seven men and five women of the jury decided against convicting Schmitz of first-degree murder, which carries a mandatory life sentence in Michigan. Sentencing was scheduled for early December, but the conviction on second-degree murder charges means it is unlikely he will spend the rest of his life in prison.

A second-degree murder conviction- which does not require premeditation - carries a variable sentence. Most second-degree murder convicts in Michigan serve less than 20 years, according to the state's Department of Corrections, Reuters reports.

Jonathan Schmitz, 26, blinked as the guilty verdict was read but otherwise displayed little emotion as he was led away in handcuffs.

Schmitz's lawyers fought for their client's acquittal on a number of fronts. The defense argued the "Jenny Jones Show" misled and humiliated their defendant when "the woman of his dreams" turned out to be a man. The televised revelation, coupled with Schmitz's history of mental instability and alcoholism, drove him to kill Amedure, the defense argued with apparent success.

The Associated Press reports Prosecutor Roman Kalytiak said in closing arguments that the defense was trying to blame everyone but Schmitz. "This isn't the Jenny Jones case," Kalytiak said. "Somehow, Scott Amedure got lost in the shuffle...."

(out.com)



WOMAN AND FAMILY BARRED FROM CHURCH OF FOUR YEARS

Akron, OH -- The Associated Press reports a lesbian mother of four, married to a man who will soon undergo a sex-change to become a woman, was barred from entering her church of four years and told not to return by church leaders.

Police warned Debi Easterday she could face trespassing charges if she and her family returns to the Medina Church of the Brethern. "I feel they are wrong," Easterday told the Associated Press, "I feel in my own eyes that no one has the right to tell me where I can go to hear God's word."

The church's administrative board issued a statement saying church members want to gather for worship without fear of threats, or what was termed "general chaos." Said the statement: "Despite our initial acceptance, love, generosity and prayers, Debi remains unrepentant and seeks to mock God."

Easterday said she is being banished because of her sexuality and because she married Smith. She said church officials have falsely accused her of being "evil, demonic, and a witch."

(out.com)

GAY COMMUNITY GIVES CLINTON BENEFIT OF THE DOUBT

Washington, DC -- Unlike the jubilant lesbian and gay celebrations held four years ago, President Clinton's victory last November is being digested by the gay community with a mixture of relief and resignation. To most, Clinton represented the only reasonable alternative to the unthinkable: a Dole Administration manned by representatives

of the Christian Right.

Few expect Clinton to tease out of hiding the demons he wrestled with during the gays in the military debacle in 1993. Gay men and lesbians learned then, and again in 1996 when the gay marriage freight train rolled through Washington, that Clinton was not about to stake his presidency "fighting the good fight" for gay Americans. Most expect the President will - from now until the end of his term - do only for gay America what the polls tell him it is safe to do.

Since it was no longer shocking in 1993 to have openly gay people in positions of responsibility, Clinton appointed a number of high-level posts in his administration early in his first term. He later persuaded federal agencies to bar discrimination based on sexual orientation.

For most gay people, that was enough, and certainly more than Dole, Perot, or even Ralph Nader promised. Although his support dipped, exit polls showed Clinton winning 66 percent of the self-identified gay vote last month. Dole picked up 22 percent and Ross Perot 8 percent.

Federal legislation banning employers from firing gay men and women based solely on their sexual orientation almost made it through the Senate in the closing days of the 104th Congress. Gay lobbyists believe they could get the votes in the 105th to pass it. Almost 80 percent of the general public polled in a recent survey said they supported the move. Based on past experience, gay leaders say a firm public stance by Clinton would be enough to push it through.

But the biggest impact Clinton may have over the next four years could be indirect, stemming from the White House judicial appointments. As many as three vacancies, including the chief justice, may open on the U.S. Supreme Court by the year 2000. Clinton will leave a lasting legacy on the nation's highest court, and one that could have a profound effect on gay men and lesbians well into the next century.

(out.com)

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MARRIED GAY AND LESBIAN DANES NOT PRONE TO "7-YEAR-ITCH"

A review of the first seven years of "registered partnerships" for Danish lesbian and gay couples shows that 2083 couples have taken advantage of the ordinary matrimonial rights provided by the 1989 law. The vast majority of them still enjoy wedded bliss.

Only 17 percent of the couples have divorced. 219 marriages, practically all of them between men, ended with the death of one spouse. Nearly twice as many gays got married as lesbians and the divorce rate among lesbians was higher -- 23 percent as compared to 14 percent.

Denmark's same-gender couples are equal to heterosexual counterparts except for access to adoption, artificial insemination technology and church ceremonies. Norway and Sweden have laws that echo Denmark's. Iceland is the same, except for a provision allowing the

adoption of a gay or lesbian partner's biological children. Greenland and the Faeroe Islands are self-governing external territories of Denmark and in 1994 asked the Folketing (Danish Parliament) to extend the 1989 law to Greenlanders.

Also, legislation pending in Finland expands upon the Icelandic legislation to include access to reproductive technologies. Legislation scheduled to be introduced in the Netherlands by August 1997 will extend full marriage rights to same-sex couples.

(NewsPlanet)

GROUP SAYS BOYCOTT REASON FOR DROP IN DISNEY SUBSCRIBERS

Hollywood, CA -- The American Family Association is attempting to take credit for a 37% drop in Disney Channel subscribers since June of 1996. The Hollywood Reporter says the number of subscribers to the Disney Channel has

fallen from a peak of 8,000,000 at summer's start to 5,000,000 today.

"We are dealing with more than a coincidence here," Donald Wildmon, president of the AFA told the Reporter. He linked the fall of paying subscribers directly to Southern Baptist's call for a boycott, which was later joined by the Assemblies of God, the Freewill Baptists, and other secular conservative organizations.

Disney says much of the drop can be explained by the company's decision to convert the pay channel to an advertiser supported, regular pay channel service in many parts of the country.

The Southern Baptists called for a boycott of the entertainment giant soon after Disney began offering health benefits to the partners of its gay and lesbian employees. The AFA applauded the boycott and said that the company's "encouragement" of the annual "Gay Day at Walt Disney World" amounted to an abandonment of traditional pro-family policies.

(out.com)

NEW BBC RULES SAY GAY AND LESBIAN SEX GIVES OFFENSE

The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) on November 13 published what it's touting as the "most comprehensive code of ethics in broadcasting," the third edition and first update in three years of the BBC Producer Guidelines. The new guidelines acknowledge that, "gay and lesbian people make up a significant minority, entitled to be served and treated fairly by the BBC," but that recognition does not come without a cautionary note.

Although the leading public concern of the moment to which the BBC has been asked to respond is the depiction of violence, depictions of sex are still an issue. In fact the BBC is particularly proud of its guidelines on "Taste and Decency," which grew out of a seminar last year by the BBC's Board of Governors. Television

programming is expected to be kept entirely suitable for children until 9 PM (the "Watershed"), but sex is never to be gratuitously portrayed and always "signposted" by warnings to viewers.

"We must draw the line well short of anything that might be labelled obscene or pornographic. The test to apply is one of intention and judgement: are we illuminating or demeaning?" asks the guide. The guidelines say, "For each of us, sexual activity happens after moral decisions have been made: treatment is expected for male and female nudity, and "depiction of sex should not be linked solely or inevitably to the physical attractiveness of the characters involved."

With regard to lesbian and gay sexuality, the guidelines remind producers that they "should be mindful that a significant part of the audience is critical of any depiction of homosexual acts."

(PlanetOut)

ENGLISH BISHOP CALLS CHURCH TREATMENT OF GAYS "WICKED"

London, ENG -- A senior bishop in the Church of England has condemned the church's attitude toward gay men and lesbians as "wicked" but cautioned the church couldn't "produce an answer out of a hat."

The London Observer reports the Right Reverend John Gladwin, Bishop of Guildford, in Surrey, said it is time for the Church of England to engage in open and honest debate regarding sexual relationships outside of marriage.

Bishop Gladwin's remarks, though disavowed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, George Carey, as not being representative of a change in the church's position on gay and lesbian issues, may be an attempt to quell an increasingly rebellious Reform wing in the

church.

The Reform group is demanding that gay clergy be treated the same as straight clergy, who are allowed to have sexual relations within marriage. Hundreds of churches affiliated with the Reform group are threatening to withdraw payments to the Church of England's central fund if the matter is not resolved. More than 500 protest services were held throughout the country says the group.

Bishop Gladwin told the London Observer recently that it was time Conservatives owned up to the wickedness of the way gay men and lesbians have been treated in the church. "My heart is broken," he said, "that large numbers of gay and lesbian people have not found themselves welcome and have had to find values and spirituality elsewhere."

(out.com)

SCHOOL BOOKS IN PROTEST IN PENNSYLVANIA AND MARYLAND

Discussions of homosexuality in books used in schools continue to draw fire from would-be censors.

The autobiography of one of the most famous AIDS activists in the U.S., Ryan White - for whom the primary federal AIDS care funding legislation is named - was returned to the library of Pennsylvania's Stroudsburg Middle School, where students will now be required to have permission from their parents in order to read it. The previous week, the book had been banned from the school library because of its references to smoking tobacco, condom use and gay male sex. White was infected as a boy via a blood transfusion but refused to stand apart from other people with AIDS as a so-called "innocent victim," and became a national symbol until dying at the age of 18 in 1990.

In Montgomery County, Maryland (a suburb of Washington, DC) it's a high school textbook, Schaefer & Lamm's "Sociology," that's under fire. Anti-gay activist Bunny Galladora told the school

board that the text "promotes homosexuality" in violation of the school system's human relations policy and in opposition to her own religious beliefs, and so is not appropriate for her 12th grade daughter. She claimed it described "tearoom" encounters between gay men as well as showing photos of same-gender couples, one with two children. The text is currently being reviewed by a committee of specialists who should be making their recommendations shortly. Meanwhile, the book is still being used in classes, although Galladora's daughter is not attending those sessions.

(PlanetOut)

MORE TO SEX THAN X & Y CHROMOSOMES

Just about everyone was taught that having an X and a Y chromosome makes a male and having two X's makes a female, but recent research is finding that some of the other chromosomes (except for the X and Y "sex" chromosomes, all the other chromosome pairs are known as "autosomes") seem to make a contribution to determining genital sex as well. The actual studies have been done with mice, but since mice and humans are substantially similar in their genetic construction, the results are strongly suggestive for humans as well. These findings suggest a way to account for those rare individuals who are genitally female even though genetically XX or are genitally male even though genetically XY.

A number of years ago at the Jackson Laboratory in Maine, Dr. Eva Eicher and her associate Linda Washburn noticed a disproportionate number of females occurring as they cross-bred certain wild male mice with females of an inbred strain known as Black 6. On a closer study, they found that a number of the females had XY chromosomes and that what they'd thought were males were hermaphrodites. The situation wasn't caused by a mutation of the wild male's Y's, because the anomalies occurred only

when they were bred with the Black 6 strain. The explanation seemed to lie in the interactions between the gene on the Y chromosome that caused development of testes (a gene named SRY in humans and Sry in mice) and proteins coded on one or more of the autosomes. Early research pointed to one mouse autosome in particular as being involved.

Now, new techniques that have made gene mapping possible have been applied to this question in a joint effort between Eicher and Dr. David Page of the Whitehead Institute in Cambridge whose results appear in the new edition of the journal "Nature Genetics." That research has clearly identified another mouse autosome as carrying a gene involved in the sex determination process and suggested further study should eventually be able to locate exactly which genes on those autosomes are contributing to the process of sex determination.

Although sex is determined by genetics in all mammals, that is not the case for a number of other species.

(NewsPlanet)

LIFE CONVICT GETS LEGAL AID FOR GENDER REASSIGNMENT

It's been more than twenty years since Doug Wakefield was sentenced to life in prison for the murder of his uncle, but "Dee" Wakefield has spent the last 16 of them trying to obtain gender reassignment surgery, something no other British prisoner has ever done. Now Wakefield will have the free legal aid s/he needs - thousands of pounds worth - to find out if there's a basis in law for suing the Prison Service for this unprecedented treatment. Wakefield is also hoping to be transferred from Frankland Prison in Durham, northern England to a women's facility.

Wakefield's lawyer, Maddy Rees, believes the state is obligated to provide Wakefield at least with hormones, and possibly for gender reassignment surgery as well. Rees also believes

that Wakefield's crimes were directly related to the gender identity issues, in that the uncle s/he killed was taunting Wakefield about transsexualism when s/he killed him. Wakefield was also convicted of manslaughter for killing another inmate 4 years later while incarcerated in a prison psychiatric wing.

(PlanetOut)

ROBERT GALLO OPENS NEW INSTITUTE

The Institute of Human Virology officially opened in Baltimore, Maryland November 18, as a setting for further work by retrovirus pioneer Robert C. Gallo, generally (although not without controversy) recognized as a co-identifier of HIV as the cause of AIDS.

The institute is also a hopeful investment in the area's economic future for the city and state, with \$12 million worth of investment committed from public funds for a three-year period. The grand opening featured not only Maryland Governor Parris Glendening and Baltimore Mayor Kurt Schmoke, but also no less than 4 Nobel laureates appearing as part of a 2-day conference attended by 600 scientists. The Institute is part of the University of Maryland, but is expected to lend prestige not only to the school, but also to the area's biomedical industry.

(NewsPlanet)

RELIGIOUS RIGHT DISRUPTS P-FLAG MEETING IN OKLAHOMA

Tulsa, OK -- The Gayly Oklahoman reports a meeting held last October by a local chapter of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG) in Norman, Oklahoma, was angrily disrupted by a small group of religious extremists.

Kay Holiday, who co-founded the Norman chapter a year and a half ago, told the Oklahoman that four religious right members crashed the

October meeting at the city's public library. A prominent Oklahoma psychologist, Shirley Hunter, was addressing the group on the coming out process.

Holiday said in the days leading up to the meeting, she received a number of hostile phone calls. Fearing violence, she asked for and received a small detail of local policemen. Three attended the meeting as a precautionary security measure.

Mick Shirron, who was present at the meeting, said Dr. Hunter was unable to speak over the near constant disruptions coming from the four protestors. Shirron told the Oklahoman they were "trying to draw Hunter into some kind of confrontation, but...she didn't rise to the bait and was actually very calm and collected."

Dr. Hunter laughed away the experience, saying it tied in nicely with the topic of discussion. "I just kind of wove the incident right into my discussion," she said, "showing parents about how this kind of hatred makes it so hard for people to come out."

(out.com)

LESBIANS KICKED OFF MEXICANA FLIGHT GIVE UP

Two Oakland, California lesbians who were removed from a Mexicana Airlines flight in Guadalajara this summer for holding hands have given up their fight for compensation.

After Mexicana refused to do anything about their complaint, Livit Callentine and Holly Babe Faust filed a complaint with the U.S. Department of Transportation.

"DOT investigated by talking to officials at Mexicana, who lied about the sequence of events that occurred on the airplane and on the ground in Guadalajara," Callentine said. "DOT did not interview us at all. Their only correspondence to us states that even if events had transpired as we described, their investigation into Mexicana's history showed no pattern of discrimination against gays and lesbians, which would be necessary for them to take further action.

"Perhaps we should be celebrating this absence, if it is real," Callentine said. "All we know for

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sure is that we were treated with utmost disrespect by Mexicana Airlines, and that when we fought back we were blamed."

In Mexicana's written response to the couple, Customer Services Manager Reni Soukup said the captain had a "responsibility to secure the aircraft and assure the comfort and security of all the passengers" after one passenger complained that the "intimacy shown was not appropriate for public conveyance."

(Wockner Int'l News)

BISHOP BANS GAY WEDDINGS

The Anglican bishop of Ottawa has banned diocesan priests from performing gay weddings after Rev. Garth Bulmer of St. John's Anglican Church married two men this summer, reported Capital Xtra.

Bishop John Baycroft sent a letter to every priest in the diocese stating: "It is clearly impossible for a priest in this diocese to preside at or celebrate...a same-sex union. If a priest were to

do so, the priest would be subject to discipline and dismissal."

1,000 GAYS PROTEST IN BARCELONA

About 1,000 gays demonstrated in Barcelona, Spain's Plaza Sant Jaume - site of City Hall and the Catalonia state capitol - October 19 to protest several matters, including:

* The refusal of the Mayor of nearby Sitges to accept the resignation of town governor Ignasi Deo, who masterminded a controversial police operation in which officers demanded identification of gays in cruising areas and kept a list of their names. The list has since been destroyed.

* The dropping of homosexuals from a state domestic partnership proposal.

The demonstrators presented a manifesto and unfurled a 1,600-square-meter rainbow banner across the plaza as "Over The Rainbow" played on a public-address system.

An earlier protest march by 250 gays in Sitges

was disrupted by several hundred youths who shouted insults and threats and threw eggs, rocks and buckets of water at the marchers. Sitges is one of Europe's best-known gay resorts.

(Wockner Int'l News)



AUSRAIAN RETAILER STANDS BY GAY BRIDAL REGISTRY

Sydney, AU --A major Australian retailer has become the focus of a nasty anti-gay letter writing campaign over the introduction of a same-sex bridal registry, Brother Sister Magazine reports. Myer-Grace Brothers began offering its bridal registry service to gay and lesbian couples planning commitment ceremonies more than a year ago.

Brother Sister spoke to Cheryl Johnson, Public Affairs Manager at Myers-Grace who said the service was introduced in response to customer requests and was now available nationally. Johnson told the magazine that she usually tells those angry at the company's decision that "not to provide the service would be discriminatory."

Macy's department stores in California and elsewhere on the West Coast encountered similar resistance, when it decided to replace "bride" and "groom" in its bridal registry with the genderless term "partner."

Lesbian and gay activists in the U.S. and Australia ascribe that the Macy's/Myer's decision to purely economic motives. Julie Peters, a transgender activist who spoke with Brother Sister said Myer's decision "makes commercial sense" and was due largely to the "commercial perception that gays...are a niche market worth hooking into."

Brother Sister says that Myer's decision to hold firm in the face of objections from religious right groups have encouraged other department stores to follow suit.

(out.com)

SOUTHERN BAPTISTS IN TWO STATES PRESS BOYCOTT

Orlando, FL -- Southern Baptist Conventions in both Florida and California have voted to redouble their efforts to force the Walt Disney Company to restore its "historic commitment to family values" and, among other demands, repeal benefits the entertainment giant recently granted to partners of its lesbian and gay employees.

The Orlando Sentinel reports the 1,400 delegates to the Florida Baptist Convention voted unanimously to expand on its drive to shame and embarrass the company into reversing gay-friendly corporate policy. The resolution, however, fell short of an economic boycott of Disney products and theme parks. The delegates represent an estimated 1 million Florida Baptists.

800 Southern Baptist delegates gathering in Pasadena, California, meanwhile, urged their 430,000 members to actively refrain from attending Disney theme parks or purchasing any product made by the company.


Both state conventions passed resolutions that call on the National Southern Baptist Convention to take the boycott drive national. The Rev. Jim Henry, who heads the national convention, told the Los Angeles Times that he expected such an action. The Southern Baptists boast 16 million members nationwide.

The Southern Baptists were joined this year by the 2.5-million-member Assemblies of God and the more than 700,000 members of the American Family Association.

(out.com)

JERSEY BAILIFF HERALDS GAY RIGHTS

U.K. -- Step forward the Bailiff of Jersey, who might be thought the least likely candidate for hero of the week. Not so... let's hear it for Phillip Balash. He intervened after one of the island's nightclubs, Yesterday's advertised a

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"straight only" night - when it had become a popular venue for the local gay population.

Landlord Brian Miller, said too many gay people were putting off his straight customers and put posters up advertising his straight only nights only to be told to remove them when Balash got wind of it. Miller was told his notices were discriminatory and he was forced to remove them. Mr. Miller has now apologized and Sir Phillip's office has published new guidelines banning such discrimination in bars and clubs.

(Graham Underhill)

FAMILY GROUP TARGETS SPONSORS OF ABC'S "ELLEN"

Denver, CO -- The American Family Association is launching a new attack on Disney and ABC over the television sitcom "Ellen" and the now-inevitable coming out of the lead character played by Ellen DeGeneres.

In a mass-mailing to its 750,000 members nationwide, the AFA is asking its members to register their displeasure with the show's new course by contacting two main sponsors: VISA and Pepsi.

The AFA explains its position by saying, "While we feel homosexuals and lesbians have dignity and worth as fellow human beings, we don't feel homosexuality/lesbianism should be promoted on television as a normal, alternative life-style. It is not natural and it is not healthy."

Many critics and commentators have noted that the "kinder and gentler" rhetoric of the AFA (noting the common humanity of gay people) is groundbreaking for this organization. It's inclusion had stirred almost as much debate as its call for VISA and Pepsi to reconsider their sponsorship of "Ellen."

In fact, many people are saying it is proof the AFA - and similar groups - are losing the hearts and minds of their supporters. Arthur Settlet, an advocate in New York said recently, "As gay men and lesbians move into even broader spheres of public life, stereotypes are crumbling...Fanning fears that are no longer part of people's core beliefs is becoming less effective."

(out.com)

HUMAN RIGHTS GROUP LOSES TEST CASE AFTER GAY DISSIDENT WITHDRAWS

An international campaign backing a test case challenging Botswana's homosexuality laws has collapsed following revelations that the subject of the case has withdrawn his complaint. The London-based 'Eighth of May' group had to reconsider its financial support for 22-year-old Utjiwa Kanane, arrested for having gay sex, when it was discovered that he has a history of mental illness and has denied he is gay.

The Eighth of May group - named after the day the new South African constitution guaranteed lesbian and gay equality - had raised over three thousand pounds, including two thousand pledged by Amnesty International. The cash would have been used to send a leading Queen's Council to Southern Africa next month to defend the man, who is now in a mental institution.

Ian Lees, group spokesman, told Radio Five Live's Out This Week that the money will not be wasted. "It is a bit unfortunate that not all the information came out earlier on but, I have to say, if this case is not the appropriate one then the money that we've raised will be used for the next challenge to the laws in Botswana or Zimbabwe," Lees said.

(Out This Week)

LESBIAN APPOINTED NORWEGIAN JUSTICE MINISTER

Norwegian Prime Minister Thorbjørn Jørgensen has appointed lesbian author Ann Holt, 38, as minister of justice and immigration.

Holt has written several successful detective novels. She is also a lawyer specializing in child and family rights.

There was some debate among Scandinavian gays on whether Holt is openly gay, but John Voss, editor of the Nordic gay newspaper QX, had the final say: Holt once mentioned her female companion in an interview with his publication.

(Rex Wockner Int'l News)

SEXUAL ORIENTATION ASYLUM IS NOW COMMON

There are now 10 countries that have granted asylum to homosexuals who feared anti-gay persecution in their native lands, according to the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission.

They are Australia, Belgium, Canada, Finland,

Germany, Ireland, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States.

The countries from which the refugees have come include Albania, Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Honduras, Iran, Ivory Coast, Jordan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Romania, Russia, Singapore, Syria, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine, Venezuela, Yemen and Zimbabwe.

IGLHRC is based in San Francisco. Its e-mail address is iglhc@iglhc.org.

(RWIN)

GAY STUDENT CLUB COMES UNDER HEAVY FIRE IN ALASKA

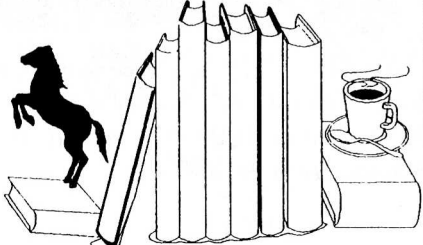
Anchorage, AK -- The Anchorage Daily News reports that another debate over gay student clubs is brewing again, this time at Diamond High School in Alaska. The club has the qualified support of school officials who say it is clearly allowed under current district policies, but the issue has already become hotly confrontational.

Parents are calling principal Pat McDowell to accuse her of being lesbian and to slam school officials for sponsoring what they call a gay teen dating service. The issue seems to have similarly divided the student body. "There's been a visceral reaction," McDowell told the Daily News. "We are all being assaulted over this thing."

The principal says that the Diamond High Gay/Straight Alliance has followed standard school criteria and conforms to both district and federal guidelines. The federal Equal Access Act, drafted to allow the creation of Bible clubs, prohibits schools from banning clubs for their religious, political or philosophical beliefs.

"If you allow one noncurriculum club, you have to allow them all in," one school official told the Daily News. "You can't pick and choose groups based on your own personal biases. (out.com)

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Hawaiian Judge Upholds Same-Sex Marriage

Honolulu (CNN) -- A Hawaiian state court upheld the right of same-sex couples to be legally wed December 3, five years after a gay couple first filed suit against Hawaii for denying them a marriage license.

The ruling makes Hawaii the first state to recognize that gay and lesbian couples are entitled to the same privileges as heterosexual married couples.

In his ruling, Judge Kevin Chang found that the Hawaiian state government had failed to establish a "compelling state interest" to justify the prohibition against same-sex marriages, said Dan Foley, a lawyer for three same-sex couples who sued the state in a landmark case.

Joe Melillo and Patrick Lagon joined two lesbian couples in filing suit against Hawaii in 1991. All three couples were denied marriage licenses by the state. They say that the state's refusal to let them marry amounts to gender discrimination, violating the state constitution's Equal Rights Amendment.

A trial court ruled against the group, but the couples appealed to the state Supreme Court, which in 1993 overturned the trial court's ruling.

Court observers had expected Chang to find in favour of the couples. However, the case is far from over since both sides promised to appeal if the verdict was against them.

The case has been closely watched, as it could set a landmark precedent throughout the United States. However, as Hawaii has battled this issue out in court, 37 states have taken up efforts to outlaw same-sex marriages, and 16 have actually passed laws banning such marriages.

Congress also got in the act, passing the Defense of Marriage Act in September, just one day before the latest trial in the Hawaii case began. The measure would not bar states from legalizing same-sex marriages, but states would not be obligated to recognize such marriages performed in another state.

Gay Marriage Ruling Stirs Emotional Reactions

Washington (Reuter) -- Gay rights groups hailed a decision by a Hawaii judge legalizing same-sex marriages, but the ruling prompted an outburst of emotional reactions from conservative groups.

Judge Kevin Chang ruled that same-sex marriages are legal, making the state the first in America to recognize that gay and lesbian couples are entitled to the same privileges as heterosexual married couples.

"This decision is one small but crucial step in a long march toward civil equality

for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people," said Kerry Lobel, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

It proves what our community has said all along: there are no intelligent reasons why same-gender couples should be denied the right to marry," Lobel said.

But Robert Knight, director of cultural studies at Family Research Council, criticized the ruling and said Chang should be removed from office.

"This is part of a continuing pattern in America in which activist judges, with the sweep of a pen, overturn laws and initiatives that have the support of the people. It's judicial arrogance and tyranny," Knight said.

Knight said homosexuality was "unhealthy and destructive." That's why society discourages its practice...just as drug use and alcohol abuse are discouraged." His organization "exists to reaffirm and promote...the traditional family unit and the Judeo-Christian value system," according to its web site.

"The Hawaii decision is an outrage. We're extremely disappointed that Hawaii chose to unravel a 6,000-year-old institution of marriage consisting of a man and a woman," said Jay Sekulow, chief council of the American Center for Law and Justice.

Sekulow, whose group represented eight Hawaii state legislators who opposed same-sex marriages in the case, predicted many further legal battles on the issue. ACLJ describes itself as a pro-family, pro-life organization founded in 1990 by Pat Robertson.

"The issue of same-sex marriage has become the championship bout of legal battles

**"This decision is one small but crucial step
in a long march toward civil equality for lesbian,
gay, bisexual and transgendered people."**

involving the family," he said. "This issue - and the Hawaii decision - strike at the core of who we are as a people in this country."

Evan Wolfson of the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, Inc., which represented the plaintiffs in the Hawaii case, said the decision marked a historic moment.

"This case made a major breakthrough toward ending second-class status for gay families. This decision marks the beginning of the end to sex discrimination in marriage," Wolfson said in a statement.

EGALE Calls On PM To Affirm Hawaii Same-Sex Marriage Ruling

Ottawa (EGALE) -- The National lesbian and gay rights organization EGALE (Equality for Gays and Lesbians Everywhere) called on Prime Minister Jean Chretien

-Same-Sex Marriage continued....

to affirm that Canada will recognize same-sex marriages validly performed in Hawaii.

The Prime Minister recently (on October 16) told students in Manitoba that he "is not personally very comfortable with" same-sex marriage and that he "doesn't know how that works in a society."

"We expect the Prime Minister to put aside his personal discomfort when dealing with issues that affect the human rights of Canadians", said John Fisher, EGALE's Executive Director. "If he 'doesn't know how that works in a society' we will be very happy to meet with him and explain why same-sex relationships deserve equal treatment. The Hawaii Court had no difficulty finding that the State had no rational basis for perpetuating discrimination against gays and lesbians. Canada also has a Charter of Rights which guarantees equality for lesbians and gays."

EGALE today (Dec. 4) requested a meeting with the Prime Minister to address his professed personal discomfort and lack of understanding about how same-sex relationships work in a society.

"The Prime Minister has a responsibility to inform himself about the reality of same-sex relationships in Canadian society." said Fisher. "We therefore believe it is essential that he meet with us so that he may better understand these issues. If the Prime Minister still refuses to treat same-sex relationships equally here in Canada, we at least call upon him to affirm that Canada will recognize same-sex marriages legally performed in Hawaii."

Every Monday from 9:30 'till 10:30 pm get



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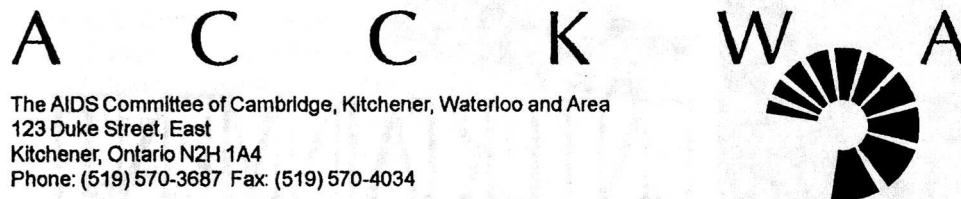
Dave Callander and Alan Fraser

Tune in for our last show of 1996 on Monday, December 16 at 9:30 pm!
Starting Monday January 6, 1996 Out & About will air weekly.

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A Message From



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Chairs for Charity - Join us at the Rotunda Gallery on the 8th of February for ACCKWA's 3rd Annual Chairs for Charity Art Auction. Dozens of regional artists have created and donated one-of-a-kind works of art using a chair as their canvas or inspiration. Their art will be auctioned at a gala fundraising auction also featuring a delicious buffet, a cash bar and musical entertainment. This year's auction will be expanded to include theatre tickets, accommodations, antiques and more!

Saturday, February 8, 1997
7pm - Preview 8:30 - Auction
Rotunda Gallery, Kitchener City Hall
Artwork on exhibit February 3-8 at the Rotunda
Tickets are \$15.00 - Order yours today!



Interested in Volunteering at ACCKWA? ACCKWA is always welcoming new volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering with our agency, please contact Tracey to discuss how you can get involved. This fall, we have been blessed with the addition of many new volunteers. We would be honoured to have you join our team!

Bingo Update Our weekly Bingo sessions at UpTown Bingo in Waterloo are as important as ever, and we still require your assistance to ensure their success. Three volunteers are needed for each Bingo session, so please sign up and help if any of the following time slots suit your schedule. You will be fully trained for your role when you arrive at the Bingo hall. Come on down! Upcoming Bingo dates are as follows:

- Wednesday, December 18, 3-6pm -Saturday, December 28, 6-9pm
 - Wednesday, January 1, 12-3pm -Saturday, January 4, 6-9pm
 - Tuesday, January 7, 6-9pm -Friday, January 17, 12-3pm
- *February dates will be listed in next month's Outlook.

SEASONS GREETINGS

On behalf of ACCKWA, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and an enjoyable holiday season!

Bill's Story.....Page 22

This story is in honour of one of my two sons, Bill Clayton. Bill was openly bisexual. In April of 1995, he was assaulted in a hate crime. On May 8, 1995 Bill committed suicide, despite loving support from his family, friends and many wonderful people in our community. Bill was 17 years old. He was a bright, warm and creative young man. He is greatly missed.

Please remember him, and speak out to end discrimination, hate speech and violence against people who are gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered.

If you would like to know more about what happened to Bill, please read "Bill's Story".

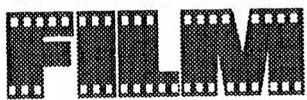
-Gabi Clayton



That's ENTERTAINMENT!

Wynonna Slapped With Sexual Harassment Charge

(Eonline) Country music star Wynonna Judd and her husband, Arch Kelley, are being sued for \$80,000 on charges of sexual harassment and discrimination. The couple's former farm manager, Andria Surles, claims Judd made advances toward her and that Kelley measured her rear with a tape measure. Surles, who was fired from the job last May, also claims she wasn't paid as much as the previous farm manager, who was a man. ...and the saga continues..



Caravaggio, directed by Derek Jarman. The painter-director's account of the last of the great Renaissance artist's and gay icons is as much autobiographical as it is historical. Starring Nigel Terry with Robbie Coltrane

as Cardinal Borghese. U.K. 1986 (Showcase, Channel 39 Monday, December 16 at 11 p.m.)

Pigalle, directed by Karim Dridi. A love story between a stripper Vera (Vera Briole), and a small time crook, Fifi (Francis Renaud), set around a story about prostitutes, transvestites, drug dens and gangsters. Also starring Raymond Gil and Philippe Ambrosini. France/Sweden, 1994. (Showcase, Channel 39, Monday, December 23 at 11 p.m.)

Law of Desire, directed by Pedro Almodovar. Mixed up crazy sex romp by the outrageous Spanish director, featuring gays, transsexuals, transvestites and straights, all sharing an apartment. Features an early performance by 'Philadelphia's' Antonio Banderas, plus Almodovar favourite Carmen Maura.

Spain, 1987, Monday, December 30 at 11 p.m.



MUSIC

Spotlight on MuchMusic airs daily at 7:30 and 11:30 p.m. and features **Ashley MacIsaac** December 19 and **Annie Lennox** on December 24.

BareNaked Ladies: Born on a Pirate Ship - Recorded in Montreal in April 1996, this concert is part of MuchMusic's 'Big Ticket' series and airs Monday, December 18 at 8pm and midnight. **George Michael: Unplugged** recorded October 1996 in London is also a part of the series, airing Saturday, December 21 at 9:30pm and 1:30am.

Rita Chiarelli, yes the same entertainer who played several times at **The Other Side Club**, is part of 'Bluesman', a ten part performance-profile series

featuring Canada's hottest blues musicians airing on Bravo, Channel 40. Check out "Canada's blues queen Rita Chiarelli December 31 at 7:30 p.m.



The Judy Garland Christmas Show

A classic 1963 show featuring Garland's family (including Liza Minelli,

Lorna and Joey Luft) and special guests Mel Torme and Jack Jones. Bravo Television Network, December 21 at 9:30 p.m. and December 24 at 11 p.m.

Dame Edna's Christmas Special

Megastar Dame Edna Everage welcomes Roger Moore, Lulu, Denis Healey and Sir Les Patterson for a Yuletide extravaganza. December 21 at 11 p.m., December 24 at 1 a.m. and

December 28 at 11 p.m. on Bravo.



Torvill & Dean: Face the Music

Shot at Wembley, London in June 1995, this performance documentary captures the famed ice dance duo in their spectacular farewell show. December 30 at 10 p.m. on Bravo.

Gift Ideas for Lovers, Family and Friends

by Catherine

It's that time of year again when we begin thinking about Christmas and we're faced with the trials and tribulations of giving gifts to our loved ones.

The key to giving a great gift is to personalize it! One of the best ideas is still the gift basket. The pre-made gift baskets you see in the stores often contain items that you really don't want or need. Putting together your own gift basket not only personalizes it, but allows for a lot of creativity.

The basket itself can be:

- .left plain
- .decorated with colour or design themes that match the person's taste or home interior.
- .decorated festively with garlands, mistletoe, bows, holly, ornaments, etc.

Here are a few gift basket ideas that make great gifts:

- 1) For the avid reader :
 - a new book or subscription to a magazine
 - a blanket/afghan to curl up in or a bulky sweater to relax in (Don we now our gay apparel!)
 - a mug with flavoured coffees or herbal teas
- 2) For that special someone:
 - a gift certificate for a body massage (could be from a professional, but better if it's from you!)

- a towel, perhaps monogrammed with their initials
 - massage body rollers
 - body lotion/massage oils
 - candles or incense
 - 3) For the movie buff:
 - a favourite movie video (a classic, or something newer like Priscilla: Queen of the Desert, Jeffrey, Bar Girls, Go Fish, etc.
 - gift certificates from their favourite video rental store or maybe a membership to the Princess Cinema
 - a decorative bowl filled with a selection of microwave popcorn
 - a bottle of their favourite liquid refreshment
 - 4) For the romantic:
 - jewellery; a ring (maybe a commitment band), bracelet, necklace, watch, earrings, etc.
 - two glasses and a bottle of wine
 - scented candles and holders (beeswax candles are easily made and very decorative)
 - 5) For the stressed out:
 - CD or tape for relaxation and meditation
 - crystals/pendulums
 - affirmation, inspiration or self-help book
 - a journal
 - incense/candles
- The possibilities are endless - just pick a theme and the ideas will start flowing!

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!

Merry Christmas

Club Renaissance is having a very special
CHRISTMAS PARTY
Saturday, December 21, 1996
9:00 p.m - 3:00 a.m.

WITH SPECIAL GUEST



ELVIRA KURT

This is our way of extending a heart felt "thank-you"
to everyone who has given us such great support.

This is your night so come out and let us celebrate
the *Spirit of Christmas* with you.

Complimentary Dessert Bar
\$2.00 Cover Charge

Christmas Hours

Wednesday, December 25th - closed
Back to regular hours commencing Thursday, December 26th.

Scot



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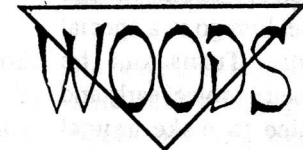
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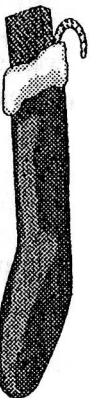


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Bill's Story

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Coming Out The Kid I Knew and Loved

Bill came out to us as bisexual when he was 14. He was afraid to tell us, because he knew that other kids had told their parents and that their parents had disowned them or reacted in other ways that were frightening. He had read the book I had loaned him "Changing Bodies, Changing Lives," and there were coming out stories in the book. Finally he worked up the courage to tell us and we assured him that we loved him and accepted him. He was so happy that he wanted to tell the whole world. We recommended a support group out at the college which I had just graduated from. Bill went to that group three times and stopped - he said he really liked it but that he was fine and didn't need to go anymore.

Bill was the child who came home from school the first week in first grade SO excited because his teacher had let him go to a special room! Turns out he finished a project early and decided to make animal noises to entertain the other children. As discipline he was sent to the coat room off the classroom. He enjoyed swinging on the closet bar so much that he wondered if the teacher would let him do it again the next day.

He was a gifted student who didn't always get the best of grades because he was always doing twenty things at the same time - and homework wasn't always on the top of the list.

Shy? Well, he told me that he was shy, but it was really hard to tell. His friends always loved him - when he

wasn't driving them crazy.

He wanted to be a sculptor, a teacher, an architect, a counselor...

An Assault

So, he told us he went to that support group three times, and we didn't question it. Over the next year he had a hard time in school, but seemed basically OK -- sometimes somewhat withdrawn or moody. We were worried, but thought it was just typical teen emotional ups and downs. We were wrong.

On the way to the third support group meeting, he had met a man from the group who was 20 years old and who told Bill he was a member of another support group for gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgendered youth. He talked Bill into getting off the bus to go to his house

"to borrow a book". When they got there, he made Bill have sex with him. Bill was only a 14 year old kid who didn't expect this, didn't know what to do, and he was unable to stop it. He came home that day and pretended he had gone to that meeting because he didn't want to admit to anyone - especially himself - what had happened. Ironically perhaps, at the time I was doing a graduate internship at a counselling center that specializes in sexual abuse.

Bill finally told Sam, his best friend. He told Sam that the memories of that sexual assault were overwhelming him and that he was suicidal. He asked Sam not to tell anyone, but Sam put the friendship on the line and told me, because he didn't want to lose his friend. Bill was relieved once we knew, and we reported it to the police and got Bill started with a therapist.

It took the police a long time to find the man. When they finally questioned him he confessed to exactly what Bill had said. Then he got a lawyer, plead not guilty at his arraignment, and managed to avoid jail and court until a month

after Bill died. (He finally went to prison for 13 months.) So, Bill would see him around town - which aggravated the post-traumatic stress he was in counselling for. There were times when Bill would suddenly take a nose dive into severe depression for no apparent reason. Later we would find out that it was because he had seen this man on the bus or at the movies. Bill was so depressed and suicidal at one point that he spent some time in the hospital.

He stayed in counselling, and finally was getting back to being his old, impish self again. His mental health improved tremendously. He had a summer job doing computer and office stuff, and he loved it. He started looking forward to school again (after two rough years), and he felt like he had a future. Yes, he was back! He and his counselor agreed that he was done with therapy, and she closed his case with Crime Victims Compensation - on April 5th, 1995.

The Beginning of the End

The Activist Club at Olympia High School had

invited Colonel Margarethe Cammermeyer to speak at a school assembly in honour of Women's History Month. (She is the highest ranking person to have challenged the military's ban of gays, and was the subject of the TV movie "Serving in Silence".)

Controversy erupted when a group of homophobic parents and community members - mostly people who object to homosexuality on "religious grounds" - found out that she had accepted the invitation and that the assembly was scheduled. We (supporters) found out that there was going to be a hullabaloo at the next school board meeting, and that these people were going to attend in large numbers to complain and ask the school board to cancel the assembly. Bill was out at school, and he was one of a group of kids who put up flyers about the assembly and promoted people attending the school board meeting to support the speech.

Catherine (our housemate and our kid's second mom) and I and Bill and many others attended. All in all there were about three hundred people there and

the meeting lasted for about two and a half hours. I think there were a few more supporters than objectors who spoke - I was one of them. The school board decided to remain firm in their decision to let her speak, and she did - on March 21, 1995. But the climate in the community was not good during this time. There were some awful, hateful letters to the editor in our daily newspaper, and in general a lot of anti-gay feelings were stirred up.

April 6, 1995

On April 6, 1995, Sam and his girlfriend, Jenny, were walking with Bill near their high school to Jenny's house to watch a video they had rented. Four guys - one of whom knew Bill and Sam because he was in the same high school (and had gone to their middle school before that) - followed them in a car and yelled things I will not repeat related to sexual orientation. Bill and his friends ignored them and decided to walk through the high school campus, thinking it would be safer because the gate was closed. The four guys drove off, but they parked the car nearby, because the

next thing Bill and his friends knew, they came up on foot and surrounded them. They said "You wanna fight?" Bill, Sam and Jenny tried to walk away - they didn't want to fight at all.

The four of them brutally assaulted Bill and Sam, kicking and beating them both into unconsciousness while Jenny screamed at them to stop. It was broad daylight during Spring break.

When they regained consciousness a minute after the attackers left, Bill, Sam and Jenny ran to the school custodian's office and called the police and then their families. They were taken to the emergency room where we met them. Bill had abrasions and bruises. They thought he might have kidney damage, but he didn't. Sam was a mess too, with a broken nose and many bruises.

While we were in the emergency room, one of the guys who did the assault came casually walking through with two other friends, to visit a friend who had just had a baby. Sam saw him and Sam's parents called the police.

When they found him he confessed and told the police who the other guys were - they were all under 18 years old. The police treated it as a hate crime from the very beginning.

A Rally Against Hate

A lot of wonderful people in Olympia responded quickly and supported Bill (and us all) and held an incredible anti-hate crime rally on April 14th, a few days after the assault. Many people spoke there, including Colonel Cammermeyer, who returned to support the kids.

At the rally, Bill spoke from his heart. He said:

"In all likelihood, my friends Sam and Jenny will never have to tolerate this - or never have to endure this type of hate crime or any other type in their lives - and I hope that's true. But as an openly bisexual person in Olympia, I'm probably - or may be - the victim of this sort of thing again. Hate crimes - especially those against homosexuals and bisexuals and transgendered people are on the rise in this area. And that is why now - more than ever - we, the gay community need to come

out and band together and fight for our civil rights and our right to be safe in our homes and on the streets. Thank you for coming."

I spoke to Bill - and to all the people that were there in Sylvester Park that day. I stood at the microphone (voice and hands shaking - I am not comfortable with making speeches) and I said:

"First of all I felt it was important as Bill's mom for me to stand up here and tell Bill how very much I love him and how incredibly proud I am of him. And I'm incredibly proud of him not just for the courage he's showing tonight and since this happened, but because of who he is as a person - and that means every bit of him including the fact that he is bisexual. I think it's important for parents to do that..."

"My father was a German Jewish refugee, and the hate he faced as a child in Germany is the same hate that my son and these kids faced on the street by that school. And hate doesn't grow in a vacuum. It can't grow unless we allow it to. It grows on fear and it grows on silence."

Alec (my husband and Bill's dad, who had always

been the one of us who handled public speaking with more ease) stepped up to the microphone and said: "I had a speech planned - but this outpouring of sympathy and support has got me all choked up. I can't talk - thank you for coming." Alec was in tears as he left the podium.

Bill's older brother Noel was in college and was unable to come home until after the rally in Sylvester Park. But he sent this letter to the editor of the *Olympian* (our daily newspaper). It was published on April 22.

"My name is Noel Clayton. On April 6 my brother, Bill, and his friends were assaulted at Olympia High School.

I just wanted to write to extend my thanks to a number of people whose support has been invaluable in this crisis.

Not least among these is the *Olympian* staff members who have treated the victims with dignity and respect despite those in the area who would like to silence or ignore gay-bashing as a problem.

I would like to thank the Olympia Police Department and the prosecutor's office who

have worked hard and carefully to make sure that the boys who were responsible are brought to justice.

Also I would like to thank the 200 to 300 people who showed up at the rally to support Bill and Sam, as well as those, like myself who were not able to make it but were there in spirit.

Finally I would like to remind everyone that this is not over.

Our families will be dealing with the effects of this assault for years to come, if not for the rest of our lives.

I will never forget the events of these past weeks. I intend to fight, and I ask you all to join me, until no one has to walk the streets afraid, until no one has to live in fear of persecution or assault no matter what their race, religion or sexuality."

The Consequences of Hate

We thought he was going to make it - he seemed to handle things really well until after the rally, and then he crashed back into depression. He was suicidal again - it was too much. The assault sent him right back into the place he had fought so hard to get

out of. He suddenly became depressed and suicidal, and we had to put him in the hospital again. While he was in the hospital he heard that a friend of his was gay-bashed at school in a nearby town.

After about ten days he came home. We and his doctors in the hospital thought he had gotten past being suicidal. But Bill took a massive overdose on May 8th. Alec found him unconscious on the kitchen floor and had him rushed to the hospital, but they couldn't save him.

He didn't leave a suicide note, but he had said to me before he was hospitalized after the rally that he was just tired of coping. It was the constant knowledge that at any time he could be attacked again simply because of who he was, that at any time his friends could be attacked for the same reason, that despite the love of his family and friends all he could see ahead was a lifetime of facing a world filled with hate and violence, going from one assault to another. He was 17 years old - an age when kids are supposed to be excited about moving out into the world as adults.

The only place he felt safe was at home. He saw no hope, so he chose to end his life.

The memorial service we held for Bill was an incredible part of our healing process. It was a big job to put it all together. We felt it had to be something Bill would have wanted - and he had considered himself a pagan. We felt so strongly that he had to be respected in this last thing. It was an incredible ceremony - so many people helped, and so many friends and strangers came - we had let it be known that anyone in the community who wanted to come was invited. There was music and drumming and ceremony and people who wished to were given a chance to speak...

Everyone there had been asked to bring a candle, and was given a prayer stick (a small twig) to hold during the memorial and asked to think of good wishes for Bill. After the ceremony we stood at the door and lit each person's candle. Each person took their candle over to Sylvester Park (which was just across the street) in silent vigil, and there we collected the

sticks. Later that night family and a few close friends took the basket of sticks to the land behind Sam's house and placed each stick in a beautiful bonfire to release the wishes for Bill so that they would travel with him. It was wonderful. Not at all "traditional" - but then we have never been known for being that.

Pouring Salt into the Wound

Right after Bill died, a coroner talked to us - and asked us if we would allow him to be an organ donor. We said yes, and she talked to us for awhile and asked some questions. She already knew about the hate crime. When she indicated there might be a problem and she would get back to us, we thought it was because of the overdose.

Then - I can't remember how long later - time was a mess those days, we got a call from her. Bill could not be an organ donor - the Lions Eye Bank had turned down the donation because of his sexual orientation - he was in a high risk group!!!! I couldn't believe it. I told the coroner how angry and upset this made me.

After that I received a letter from the Lions, explaining that they were "not able to honor the donation of tissue from any member of this high risk population because of the possibility of transmitting HIV to a recipient." and "Although Bill was probably HIV negative, the possibility does exist that he could have been exposed but would not test positive. I hope you understand that such a risk is too large for us to take."

And I wrote back on June 12, 1995:

["It has taken me some time to respond to your letter. In it you explained that the Lions Eye Bank would not accept my son as a donor because he was openly bisexual, and therefore a member of a high risk population. It is somehow ironic that Bill had an eye operation when he was younger which was paid for by the Lions Club in Mississippi.

Bill committed suicide at age 17, after being assaulted in a hate crime because he was bisexual. Frankly, reading your rejection and justification was one of the most difficult things I have had to face since his death. In your words I saw what my

son decided he could not face in the world every day - all the homophobia, hatred and fear of who he was as a person.

Just who is it you believe is safe? Heterosexuals? Married persons? Children? In my work as a mental health therapist, I work with young children who are at risk of HIV from sexual abuse. WHO IS SAFE? Open your eyes. You are in total denial if you believe you are protecting people with this policy.

If the reason you rejected Bill's corneal tissue was because of the sexual assault which I had discussed with the coroner, it happened when he was 14 years old. He was tested for HIV over a year later - much later than the six month window you mentioned. But no one took the time to find out the particulars - just a flat denial based on his being bisexual.

I am also shocked that a group who is using the facilities at a state funded hospital is able to do so with such blatantly discriminatory policies.

I am assuming that you were not stating your own personal beliefs in the letter, but the policy of the Lions Eye Bank. This

makes it no easier. Institutional intolerance and discrimination are VERY personal. And institutions are made up of individual persons. If you do not agree with this policy, I urge you to help change it.

Silence is where hate grows that killed my son."]

At the end of July I received another letter from them, explaining that as a certified member of the EBAA they must adhere to medical standards established by a national medical advisory committee, with recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). They hoped I would understand that they had no choice but to decline the donation because the decision was based on national regulations...

There was a phone call later to see if I was still upset. They tried to get me to "understand" and I just wouldn't. Wrong is wrong.

The boys who assaulted Bill and Sam were finally sentenced to 20 - 30 days in juvenile detention followed by probation and community service and 4 hours of diversity training

focusing on sexual orientation.

Missed He Will Be, But Not Forgotten...

Bill's life and death has touched perhaps thousands of people. There was an outpouring of support for us here - both from friends and from people we had never met. Throughout the time of the hate crime and Bill's suicide I have never felt so supported and connected to a community.

At the memorial service for Bill I was given a letter written by Gery Gerst - Bill's History teacher at Olympia High School that year, who was unable to attend. In his letter he said: ["Bill was such a caring person, a sharer. He gave so much to me during lunch or before school. In class he shared insights that no one else did; what a big heart, gentle man, probing mind...in the time he was to be on this earth he touched so many lives in so many positive ways, especially mine. I want to tell you parents that both your sons have been kind, caring, giving, and considerate to me and I value that so

much. In this world that is a tremendous legacy.

Clearly, as you can see by the turnout of support at Sylvester Park and now, Bill was and is loved. Fear not that he will be forgotten. Missed he will be, but not forgotten...

I'd like to write to Bill, now, what I would have written in his annual:

"Bill, you have impressed me with your keen insights into history, government, and people. Your insight comes from deep caring and feeling, the result of being tested of character and perseverance. The world is lucky to have such as you for your demeanor is gentle and your dedication to truth and learning is exemplary. My class won't be the same without your original additions to discussions and your sharings with me after class. Your brain was always working, and so was your heart. Thanks for help with "the" assembly and for your trust and confidence in me, not to mention your smile that showed you cared. You are going to be missed, but the door's always open...drop by some time and know

your time this year was valued."]

Nothing will bring Bill back. I am sharing this story in the hope that it can help in some way to put an end to the hate and homophobia. This world cannot remain so hard to live in and to have hope in - not for all the "Bill's" who are out there now, and all those yet to come.

Alec read "Bill's Story" and asked me to include this:

"After Bill's death I found in one of his notebooks where he had drawn the gay symbol, a pink triangle. Under it he had written, "I did not choose this. It was not forced upon me. It just is."]

We wanted to create some kind of memorial to Bill, and without making a conscious decision we realized that the best memorial we could create would be our own lives - working towards the elimination of the senseless and destructive hatred that is all too prevalent in our society. Of those who may be touched by Bill's story we ask one thing: join us.

Please be sure to visit Gabi's webpage at: <http://members.tripod.com/~claytoly/index.html>
For responses to Bill's Story visit: http://members.tripod.com/~claytoly/Re_Bills_Story

THE WORLD WIDE WEB

by Joolz

1) The Rainbow Community Centre

<http://www.rainbow.on.ca>

An extensive listing of all things gay or gay positive in Waterloo/Wellington Region. Includes LGBT and Friendly Businesses, Entertainment and Leisure, Services and Social Organizations, LGBT Professionals, Rainbow Friends, and a section dedicated to places outside our immediate area.

2) Candlelight Vigil

<http://www.women.ca/violence/candle.html>

"On December 6th, 7 years ago, 14 women were killed for being "feminists" at the Ecole Polytechnique in Montreal. This tragedy in Canadian History has not been forgotten. The aim of this website is to raise awareness of violence against women across Canada and throughout cyberspace, by presenting a Candlelight Vigil across the Internet.

3) Nerdworld (Gay and Lesbian)

<http://www.nerdworld.com/users/dstein/nw506.html>

An Internet subject index and search engine that covers gay organizations, publications, resources, personal web pages, sexuality, politics, shopping, travel, etc., etc., and the list goes on.

4) The Pink Channel (formerly The Pink Pages)

<http://clix.net/pinkpages/>

Free for all! Gay greeting cards, chat, games, classifieds, erotic stories, reviews, interviews, photo galleries, and more stuff added daily. Located in Amsterdam - the gay capital of the world. This site mostly covers topics of interest for gay men, but it's sister site, <http://clix.net/clix/wwwomen/> will be an interesting find for the women.

5) Joy to the World Wide Web

<http://www.baradv.com/joy/joy4link.html>

If you're in a festive mood, visit this link. You can turn your computer into a Jukebox while visiting "Christmas Stories", take a Christmas Trivia Quiz, and even download the sounds of elves. Christmas designs and illustrations are available for downloading and you can take a worldwide photographic tour to see "Christmas Around The World". There are lots of links to other Christmas sites, and you can even collect recipes and decorating tips for that upcoming holiday party! A Merry Christmas to all...and to all a Good Night!

What's Happening? Community Events

CHURCH SERVICES

M.C.C. RAINBOW CHURCH

Every Sunday at 7 p.m. at St. Matthias Anglican Church. 171 Kortright Street West in Guelph. Services are under the direction of Pastor Sid Bater. Call 519-██████████ for more information.

GAY, LESBIAN & BISEXUAL YOUTH

A discussion group for gay, lesbian and bisexual youth (16-25) is currently running. If you are interested please give Rob a call at 570-3687.

COMING OUT DISCUSSION GROUPS

Waterloo

GLOW Coming Out Discussion Group has the following meetings upcoming:

- January 8 - Welcome Back: What I Did On My Holidays * (ML 104)
- January 15 - Coming Out To Yourself
- January 22 - Coming Out To Others
- January 29 - Coming Out To Parents and Other Family Members

All meetings EXCEPT the first one (Jan. 8) will be held in Hagey Hall (Humanities Bldg) Rm. 378, starting at 7:30 p.m. Only the Jan. 8 meeting will be held in Modern Languages 104. Check out the GLOW website at <http://www.csclub.uwaterloo.ca/clubs/glow/> or call the GLOW Line at ██████████

KW FRONTRUNNERS

KW Frontrunners is a running and walking group for the lesbian, bisexual, transgender and gay community. People of all ages and abilities are welcome.

We meet every Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m. at our new location at the Waterloo Recreation Complex on Father David Bauer Drive. There are usually three groups; walkers, short distance runners (5k / 25 minutes) and longer distance runners (10k / 50 minutes). A few of us even go swimming! Afterwards, we pop over to William's (a local coffee pub) to chat and eat muffins. Hope to see lots of you there. For more information please call Todd, Mark or Lindsay at (519) ██████████

COLAGE

The first Toronto based meeting of COLAGE (Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere) will be on December 17 at 7:00 p.m. at the 519 Church Street Community Centre in Toronto. All interested parties are more than welcome to attend. To contact COLAGE, email us at: ██████████ and don't forget to check out our website at: www.colage.org.

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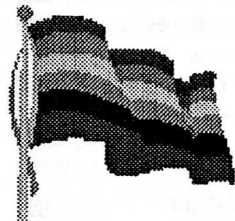
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After practicing Obstetrics and Gynaecology for 20 years at Women's College Hospital in Toronto, Dr. Denise Robb has opted for a slower pace and more time with patients. She received her education at the University of Toronto and held the position of Associate Professor with U of T for 15 years.

Dr. Robb opened her Gynaecology office in Elora in July of 1996. Her practice includes Well Woman Check-ups, and hormone replacement and birth control counselling. Most days there is also stress-relief therapy with her Golden Retriever "Duffin."

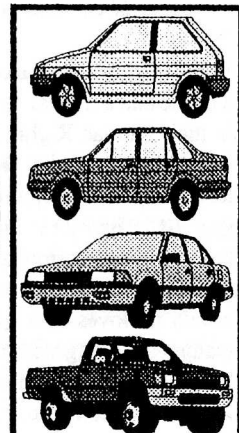
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WORKPLACE DIVERSITY

and

Sexual Orientation

by Errol Semple



Imagine, as an employee, having to hide your true identity every day at work. Imagine having to deny the existence of your partner or pretend that he is a she. Imagine not being able to talk about what you did on the weekend or vacation. Imagine having to listen to derogatory jokes or comments and remain silent.

What effect would this have on your productivity and commitment? Hiding takes a lot of time and energy. Hiding creates barriers between people and is detrimental to teamwork, productivity and profitability. It costs people their sense of self, their self-respect and their self-esteem. I am not an activist but when the Company initiated the Workplace Diversity Program, I felt that it would be negligent not to speak out.

Gay people cannot expect to be accepted or treated equal as long as they remain hidden. I do not know any straight people who hide the fact that they are heterosexual. They feel free to discuss their lives, relationships, experiences and problems. Gay people have to mentally censor everything they say to everyone they know in order not to give themselves away and suffer rejection and alienation. The presumption of heterosexuality is made possible by the invisibility of sexual orientation and this adds to the sense of isolation.

In the past, there was a good reason not to come out. Homosexuality was believed to be a sin, a crime and a mental illness. Today, most provinces or the courts have included sexual orientation in their Human Rights Codes. During the debates on the federal Bill C-33, bigots were shown to be bigots and they were a minority. However, in many ways homophobia appears to be the last acceptable prejudice. Homophobia is the fear, dislike or hatred of people believed to be gay. It is based on ignorance and is supported by myths and stereotypes. It shows itself in harassment, discrimination and violence (gay bashing). The best weapon against homophobia is for gay people to come out. When a homophobic person finds out that a family member whom he loves or a friend whom he respects happens to be gay, homophobia almost always disappears along with fear of the unknown. Individuals are the enemy of stereotypes. As more homosexuals make themselves known to their friends and families in the course of everyday life, myths are destroyed. The myths just can't stand up to reality and the continued bigotry and hatred are less and less tolerable to people who open themselves up to the facts. By coming out, gay people allow straight people to see, experience and appreciate more of the characteristics they have in common and less of what differentiates them. Other than the object of our erotic attraction, which is inherent, we are all human.

In the workplace, gay employees expect a safe work environment, equitable benefits and appropriate support. They expect an environment where they can be themselves free from the

worries of reprisals. They want the same as is expected and granted to heterosexual employees. It is wrong to discriminate against anyone on the basis of an inherent characteristic that has no bearing on performance.

There are several things that an ethical company which values diversity can do to create an inclusive work environment and help its gay employees fit in.

A written and communicated corporate nondiscrimination policy which includes sexual orientation reassures its gay employees and sends a message that homophobic discrimination and harassment are unacceptable. Although they only apply to the particular bargaining unit, nondiscrimination clauses in the collective agreements are also important.

Same sex benefits including drugs, dental, vision, pension, bereavement, life insurance, etc. are necessary to compensate gay employees equally. Under present benefit provisions, a straight employee with a common law spouse and no children doing the same job as the same level performance is being paid approximately 25% more than a gay employee with a lover. The only difference is the sex of his partner. Participation in the pension plan is mandatory but the gay employee's partner is denied survivor rights. A gay employee does not receive time off with pay to attend the funeral of his partner.

Other things an ethical company can do are diversity training (education) which includes sexual orientation, recognition of a gay employee group, gay marketing and sponsorship of community events and organizations such as the AIDS Walk and ACCKWA.

For a very small cost (0.3 percent average), a company can be seen as doing the 'right thing' in terms of workplace diversity. Many companies, banks, universities, churches and cities have done it. Why wait for a Human Rights complaint or an arbitration case? Discrimination is not ethical and it is never profitable. Downsizing or cut backs cannot be used as justification for discrimination. Those employees who remain must still be treated equitably by an ethical company. Gay employees are not asking for new rights and benefits; only the same rights and benefits that other employees already enjoy.

I personally went through elementary and high school thinking I was the only one. I was kicked out of home when I was 18. My relationships have been condemned by the church, school, relatives, friends and co-workers. At work, I have read my name on washroom walls and been falsely accused of sexual harassment. However, I saw my difference as a reason to accomplish something - university, law school, union presidency and company management. Others, unfortunately, have committed suicide or destroyed themselves on drugs to end the pain and isolation. I am what I am. Enough is enough. If someone has a problem with me because of my orientation, the problem rests solely with that person. It is not my problem and I will not assume it. Last, but not least, I expect to be treated equal. ***

References:

Straight Jobs Gay Lives - Gay and Lesbian Professionals / Straight Talk About Gays in the Workplace: Creating an Inclusive, Productive Environment for Everyone in Your Organization / Gay Issues in the Workplace / Out at Work / Sexual Orientation: An Issue of Workforce Diversity / Homophobia: How We All Pay The Price / A Manager's Guide to Sexual Orientation in the Workplace.

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Announcement

On Saturday, September 28, 1996 Brenda Moore and Cindy Butler were married at Club Renaissance in downtown Kitchener.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Cheryl, Fran and Jim for all they did to make our day that much more special. Special thanks go out to our wedding attendants, friends and family, especially our son Jeremy who acted as ring bearer.

We especially thank Lyn Roberts for conducting the service which made our wedding possible.

Thank you;
 Brenda & Cindy Moore-Butler

Outlook is looking for artwork for future covers of our magazine. Anything that can be photocopied and in good taste will be considered. Submissions must be 8-1/2 X 11 and please remember: Do Not Fold!



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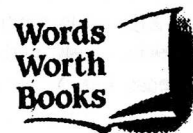
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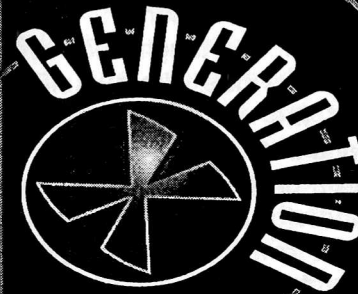
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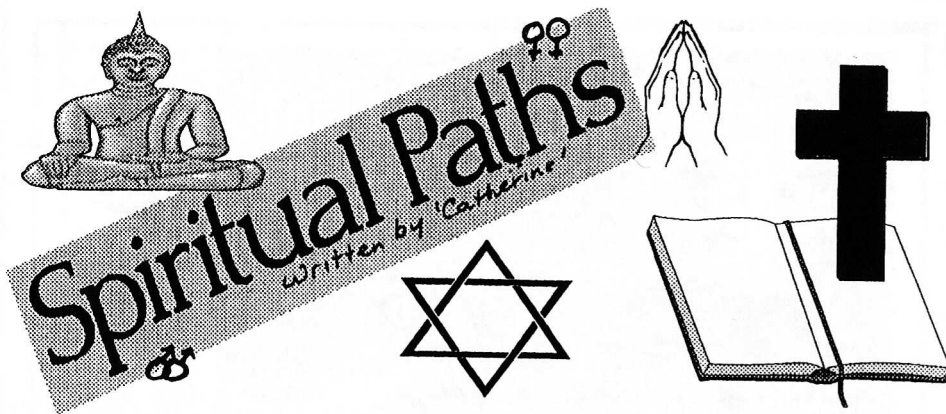
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Part 3: Eastern Religion - Buddhism, Yoga and Krishna Consciousness

It is often generalized that Western religion is rational, pragmatic and outer-directed, while Eastern religion is intuitive, mystic and inner-directed. Despite many exceptions, this statement holds a great deal of truth. Over past years, Western psychology and religious thought have been growing closer to Eastern views. Our inner search for authenticity is based on such insights. Meanwhile, Asians are being infected by our pragmatic materialism. Note the rise of Chinese and Japanese commercialism.

An interesting note is that few religions, outside of those developed from Judaism, do not in some way incorporate the concept of reincarnation. While our scientists have no trouble accepting that matter and energy cannot be created or destroyed (although Einstein postulated that they could be exchanged: $e=mc^2$), the concept of a perpetuating spirit, which might also be beyond creation and destruction,

requires more faith than most Western minds are willing to offer.

Buddhism

Buddhism is based on the teachings of Gotama Siddhartha, a historic figure of India in the sixth century B.C. Born a wealthy nobleman, Gotama explored various disciplines in order to find oneness with the universe. One day, after many years of searching he came out (pardon the pun) of meditation while sitting under a Bodhi tree and achieved "enlightenment". People sensed that he was different. "Are you a god?" they asked. "No", he said. "Are you a saint?" "No". "So then what are you?" they asked. "Awake," said the Buddha.

The Buddha taught that every living creature has within itself the nature of the universal (Buddha-nature) and that all human beings are born with a unique aspect of nature. When individuals actualize their Buddha-nature in time it enables them to transcend from the suffering of this reality (samsara) to an unknown but infinitely better state (nirvana) which they imagine to be beyond, but is

actually present and simultaneous; our so-called reality being far subjective than we have any idea.

The various Buddhist sects have some philosophical differences, but differ principally in the teachings of the most effective techniques to realize and actualize one's Buddha-nature. Among the most popular Buddhist practices in this country are Zen, Tibetan, Nichiren Shoshu and Vipassana.

Zen traces its development through ancient China, where the Indian sage Bodhidharma carried the Buddhist message. Here it made an easy alliance with Taoism, already common in the area. Indian Buddhism was highly intellectual and called for students to drop out of society to become holy men. Taoism was closer to the Chinese mentality - practical, in touch with nature and stressing the spirituality of ordinariness. While Zen flourished in China, it reached its greatest height in Japan from where it was transported to America early in this century.

Zen practice centers around Zazen, a stylized form of meditation, used to tune in with one's Buddha-nature and universal mind. Zen students are encouraged to keep in touch with the world, but by maintaining clarity of mind and transcend subjective thinking to realize a state of natural compassion and intuitive wisdom. The wit of Zen masters is famous, as they use unorthodox techniques to show students the foolishness of believing that things are merely as they appear.

Zen teachings, as with most Buddhism, make no distinction

between gay and straight. Teachings suggest that one should not degrade oneself or others through sexual exploitation and it is suggested that in time, with one's spiritual evolution, passions and desires become less important. Zen teaches that the most important thing is to be true to oneself. As a famous American Zen teacher is quoted as saying, "Anyone still in the closet is not a Zen student."

Tibetan or Tantric Buddhism is a close cousin to Zen, but different in style because of its Tibetan ancestry. A major difference is the addition of tantric yoga (discipline) which works to bring the student's natural sexual energies in line with the process of enlightenment. Kundalini or sexual energy is one of these energies. The bizarre and mysterious art of iconography of Tibetan Buddhism may be a put-off to some. But homosexuality does not seem to put off most Tibetans.

Nichiren Shoshu Buddhism is based on the teachings of the monk Nichiren. Nichiren taught that continuous repetition of the chant "Nam Myoho Renge Kyo" and working to get others to join in the practice will bring chanters whatever they wish. Needless to say, the simplicity raises the eyebrows of other Buddhists, whom the followers of Nichiren, in turn, condemn for making practice unnecessarily joyless and complicated.

To their favour, these contemporary followers of Nichiren welcome gay men and lesbians, even if what they are chanting for is a new Harley, a deco livingroom suite or a hot new lover. As chanters discover through faith, life becomes an affirming

experience, they grow to realize their own worthiness and can approach the Buddha's teachings with a positive, open attitude.

Vipassana meditation derives from Theravadan Buddhism. This is an older Buddhist tradition, still prevalent in Southern Asia, especially in Sri Lanka (Ceylon). The Theravadans practice 40 meditation techniques purportedly taught by the Buddha.

Krishna Consciousness

The International Society for Krishna Consciousness, popularly known as the Hare Krishnas, is a survivor from the hippie days of the late 60's and early 70's. Like Buddhism, this evolved out of what is now practiced as the Hindu faith in India. The Hare Krishnas ground their faith in their interpretation of the Bhagavad-Gita, one of the most respected of the Hindu scriptures.

Their form of worship was developed by Chaitanya, a sixteenth-century follower of the god Vishnu, as personified in his avatar Krishna (an avatar is a god living on earth in the form of a man.) Chaitanya reportedly would dance and chant the familiar "Hare Krishna" chant until he fell unconscious.

Followers of this sect dress in orange robes and put spots of paint on their faces. The men shave their heads except for a single small ponytail. Hare Krishnas usually isolate themselves from non-believers and attempt to dedicate everything in their lives to Krishna so that they can become one with him.

Gay men and women are welcome

in the Krishna movement. However, as one gay follower explains, "...while we accept that people in all states of life and types of lifestyle can make spiritual advancement, one makes the most advancement when one undertakes some austerity on behalf of the Lord. In our movement we may take initiation from a spiritual master when we agree to abstain from meat-eating, illicit sex, intoxication and gambling. Illicit sex refers to sex for purposes other than procreation...I don't think that the issue has ever been heterosexuality vs. homosexuality."

Yoga

Yoga translates to the English word "discipline". Over the years, hundreds of gurus (teachers) have come out of India teaching various meditation and yoga techniques. What we commonly think of as yoga (hatha yoga) is a standard discipline that has been used by many, gay and otherwise, for both physical fitness and spiritual development.

Peter (Purusha) Larkin, a former Catholic seminarian and self-styled tantric yogist, spells out in his book "The Divine Androgyne", concepts for a gay male spiritual cult based on the mind-expanding effects of esoteric sexual activities. While not able to start a movement, he has opened new avenues of thought. There is a reason to believe that such gay esoteric sexual activities may well have been practiced in the monasteries of many faiths.

Next Month: Paganism, Generic Spirituality and Mysticism



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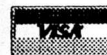
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RE/MAX Twin City Realty Inc.

579-4110 (office 24 hr. paging) 744-6447 (direct line)



"All The Best Throughout The Holiday Season To Our Outlook Readers"



104 KING STREET SOUTH
 WATERLOO, ONTARIO
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Uptown Travel is pleased to be your travel partner for the Ski Party at the #1 ski resort in North America. Deluxe accommodations and fabulous social extravaganzas await with this unbeatable vacation that won't have you reaching for your wallet upon arrival. Check out our flyer with this issue.

** Tune into 'Out & About' on CKWR 98.7 FM Monday, December 16 and get satisfaction from your gay travel specialist!*

JUNGLE QUEEN TOUR

Travel with hundreds of party goers on double-decker boats winding their way along miles of canals in...Fort Lauderdale! Your drag captain will entertain you while pointing out beautiful tropical vegetation and spectacular sights, followed by lunch on a private island surrounded by exotic birds and alligators. It's all part of the fun and games of GAYLA '97 - A winter pride/parade festival. A Beach Bash highlights this event, along with the largest gay and lesbian commitment ceremony since DC! The GAYLA runs from February 14-17 and packages start at \$555 US per person, including taxes. Includes tickets and transportation to all events. Does not include air. This event coincides with President's Day weekend, so space will be limited!

WHY FEEL CLOISTERED AT CHRISTMAS?

If Christmas finds you alone or without cause to revel amongst family and friends, there are still a few (if limited) options for you to escape the season. Consider a weekend or week in New York or San Francisco, for example (there are obviously more cities to choose from in North America) during the period between December 24 and 30th. Air space is often wide open, as most of the world is travelling to sun destinations. Upscale downtown hotels are at their emptiest and will offer substantial discounts on rooms and packages. Dining and Nightlife options will be plentiful, and don't forget post-Christmas shopping bargains! Cold or not, Fifth Avenue in New York will look more attractive than ever. Bring a friend and celebrate your escape from it all!

THE GAY GAMES: IT'S SOONER THAN YOU THINK

Although the 1998 Gay Games in Amsterdam are still over a year and a half away, you must remember that this worldwide event is expected to serve visitors in the hundreds of thousands, many of whom have already reserved air and hotel space! Air service may be available up until the final months prior, but unless your connections include a friend or ex-lover living in the Amsterdam city-limits, don't expect to find convenient accommodation anywhere near the Olympic site within the next few months. Amsterdam's suburbs may offer limited space, but keep in mind that this trip-of-a-lifetime could become a nightmare in Mississauga. Don't delay!

THE GAY TRAVEL CALENDAR
 Your Guide to Upcoming Events Worldwide

January

- Naked Cruise: Belize Islands (1/12 - 1/18/97)
- Melbourne Midsumma Festival, Australia (1/19 - 1/27/97)
- Hawaii Cruise (1/18 - 1/27/97)
- Nile Opera Tour (1/24 - 2/2/97)
- Blue Ball (1/25/97)
- Aspen Gay and Lesbian Ski Week (1/25 - 2/1/97)

February:

- Whistler Gay Ski Week (2/2 - 2/9/97)
- Carnival in Las Palmas (2/2 - 2/9/97)
- Thailand - Chang Mai Flower Festival (2/3 - 2/17/97)
- Hong Kong's Final Days (2/4 - 2/12/97)
- Carnival in Rio (2/5 - 2/16/97)
- New Orleans Mardi Gras Cruise (2/8 - 2/15/97)
- Heart's Party - Chicago (2/14/97)
- Gayla '97 - Ft. Lauderdale (2/14 - 2/17/97)
- White Party - NYC (2/15/97)
- Maui Men's Vacation (2/15 - 2/23/97)
- Auckland Heros Party (2/19 - 2/24/97)
- Sydney Mardi Gras (2/20 - 3/7/97)
- Israel and Amsterdam Tour (2/25 - 3/8/97)

Listings are available up until early 1998. Call MARK for details. March and April will be published in the next issue of Outlook.

Get out of this....

And get into this!!!

UNLIMITED TANNING
 \$4.00 / SESSION
 (members)

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 Beside Country Boy @ Fairway/Manitou
call 748-6376

WHERE THE COMMUNITY SHOWS THEIR BUNS!

Community Info

ACCKWA (The AIDS Committee of Cambridge, Kitchener, Waterloo and Area)
123 Duke Street East
Kitchener, Ontario
570-3687

AIDS Clinical Trials Hotline
Information on FDA listed clinical trials accessible from Canada.
1-800-TRIALS-A

AIDS Committee of Guelph and Wellington County
204-85 Norfolk Street
Guelph, Ontario
763-2255

AIDS Hotline
Ontario Ministry of Health
1-800-668-2437

AIDS Information and Education
205 Queen Street East
Fergus, Ontario
843-2460

Brethren Mennonite Council for Gays and Lesbians
P.O. Box 43031
Eastwood Square,
Kitchener, ON. N2H 6S9

Canadian AIDS Society
Ottawa
1-613-230-3580

Community AIDS Treatment Exchange (CATIE)
Toronto
1-416-944-1916

CKWBL (Cambridge, K-W, Bisexual Liberation)
P.O. Box 28002,
Parkdale Postal Outlet
Waterloo, Ontario
N2L 6J8

COLAGE (Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere)
Provides education, support and community on local and international levels.
Contact Sarah at [redacted] or e-mail to: [redacted]

DISTRESS LINE
Kitchener 745-1166

GLLOW (Gay and Lesbian Liberation of Waterloo)
U of W [redacted]

GLOBAL (Gays, Lesbians or Bisexuals at Laurier)
e-mail:
00global@mach1.wlu.ca

website:
www.wlu.ca/~wwwclubs/
www/global.html

GQE (Guelph Queer Equality)
[redacted]
email: gqe@uoguelph.ca

Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Youth Line
1-800-268-YOUTH

Ontario AIDS Network
Toronto
1-416-364-4555

Outline (formerly Gayline) LGBT Information Line
836-4550

PFLAG (Parents, Family and Friends of Lesbians and Gays)
Acton..... [redacted]
Cambridge..... [redacted]
Guelph..... [redacted]

Project Angel
Waterloo Region AIDS Memorial
250 Dundas Street S. #221
Cambridge, Ontario
N1R 8A8

Sexual Assault Centres
KW - 741-8633
Cambridge.....658-0551
Guelph.....823-5806

Substance Abuse Prevention
Kitchener
741-3827

Two Spirited People of First Nations
Toronto
1-416-944-9300

Waterloo Region Alliance for Equal Rights
[redacted]

Women's Centre
U of W
888-4567 extension 3457

WOODS (Women Out Of Doors)
P.O. Box 13,
Student Life Centre P.O.
Waterloo, Ontario
N2L 3G0

Support Local Gay Radio!

Monday- Out & About with your hosts Dave Callandar and Alan Fraser airs every Monday from 9:30 - 10:30pm on CKWR 98.7 FM. Woman Made Collective Show airs Mondays from 6-7 pm on CFRU 93.3 Fingers, Flists and KY is brought to you in part by The Lesbian Avengers and airs Mondays from 10pm - 12am on CFRU 93.3. Tuesday- Girls Taste Good with your host Kristyn airs Tuesdays at 2pm on CFRU 93.3. Wednesday- Nowhere To Hide airs Wednesdays from 8-9pm on CKMS 100.3 FM. Womenspin on CKMS 100.3 FM airs Wednesdays from 6-8pm. Thursday- Thursdays listen in for Leaping Lesbians on CKMS 100.3 FM from 6-8pm. The Rainbow Radio Network can be heard Thursdays on CHRW 94.7 FM at 10:15pm. Fag Factory with your host Adam airs at 2pm on Thursdays on CFRU 93.3 FM.

-Happy Listening-

Happy New Year!

1997

Club Renaissance

hosts a

New Year's Eve Party

Tuesday, December 31, 1996
9:00 p.m. till 3:00 a.m.
24 Charles Street West
Downtown Kitchener

\$10.00 per person
at the door



INCLUDE'S:

- ◆ DJ.
- ◆ Midnight Buffet
- ◆ Complimentary Champagne
- ◆ Party Favours
- ◆ Door Prizes



Community Health
Department
AIDS/STD Program

I'd like an HIV test! What are my options?

The only way you can know for sure if you are infected with HIV is to have a specific blood test. In Waterloo Region, you can be tested for HIV at the following places:


1. You can be tested by your family doctor.

2. **Anonymous Testing:** available only from the Community Health Department

Waterloo 99 Regina St. South

Kitchener 123 Duke St. East

HIV Clinic - 2nd Floor

Duke St Clinic - 

ACCKWA

- ▶ by appointment only
- ▶ ☎ 883-2251

- ▶ walk-in: first come, first served
- ▶ Thursday 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.

3. Confidential HIV testing:

Cambridge 150 Main St.

Waterloo 99 Regina St. South

STD Clinic - 2nd Floor

STD Clinic - 2nd Floor

- ▶ walk-in: first come, first served
- ▶ Tuesday 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.

- ▶ walk-in: first come, first served
- ▶ Monday & Thursday 3 pm - 6 pm

These clinics offer a service that is positive towards gays, lesbians, straights and bisexuals. "Working" girls and guys are welcome.

for more information: ☎ 883-2251
AIDS/STD Program



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*Call Linda To Be Put On Her Mailing List For A
Free Lesbian Travel Newsletter

International Gay Travel Association
IGTA

ALTITUDE '97 - WHISTLER, B.C.

by UpTown Travel

**5TH ANNUAL
GAY & LESBIAN
SKI WEEK**

FEB. 2 - 9, 1997

YOUR SKI PACKAGE INCLUDES:

**7 NIGHTS ACCOMMODATION AT
PINNACLE RESORT OR
THE ASPENS**

ON

BLACKCOMB MOUNTAIN

ALL TRANSFERS

5 DAY DUAL LIFT TICKETS

PORTERAGE

EVENT

REGISTRATION*



IGTA

February 2 - 9, 1997 !!

**IT'S TIME FOR ANOTHER FUN-FILLED
GAY & LESBIAN SKI WEEK
at WHISTLER RESORT,
BRITISH COLUMBIA!**



UpTown Travel is pleased to be your travel partner for this Annual Ski Party at the Number 1 Resort in North America!

Your stay at the Whistler Resort will be in your choice of studio residences at the *Pinnacle International Resort* in Whistler Village or at *The Aspens*, one of Radisson's deluxe ski-in, ski-out condominium properties!



EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Are always part of the fun !

YOUR BASIC EVENT REGISTRATION PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- Registration with Photo I.D.
- Entry to Whistler Welcome Party
- Entry to all apres ski events
- Entry to Snow Ball Party
- Free T-Shirt or Baseball Cap
- Reduced admission to all other events
- Discounts on ski instruction; ski rentals and at various stores at Whistler/Blackcomb



TOUR COST:

Single occupancy from \$2,127.00 p.p.
Double occupancy from \$1,390.00 P.P.
Triple occupancy from \$1,218.00 P.P.
Quad occupancy from \$1,149.00 p.p.

This price *includes* all applicable taxes.

DOES NOT INCLUDE AIR - (UpTown Travel would be pleased to arrange your air requirements)

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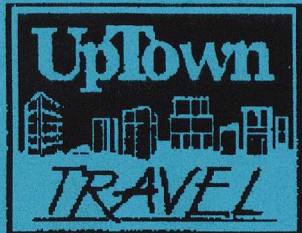
VANCOUVER OPTION:

Saturday, Feb. 1, 1997 -- Complete your stay with an extra night *in exciting Vancouver!* The Vancouver option includes one-night's accommodation at The Renaissance Vancouver Hotel-Harbourside *-AND-* Admission to the *Welcome Reception and Avalanche Party!!*

FROM \$61.00 p.p. (quad)

RESERVE YOUR SPOT ON THE SLOPES TODAY!

-call MARK at UpTown Travel-



104 King St. South
Waterloo, Ontario. N2J 1P5
(519) 886-3320, Fax (519) 886-8328
1-800-667-0803, E-Mail
Uptown@Sympatico.ca

International Gay Travel Association

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