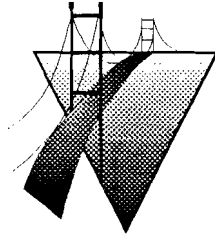


# Erie Gay Community Newsletter

Published by BRIDGES



February, 1994

Celebrating the goodness & diversity of Erie area's lesbian, gay & bisexual community

## Allegheny College Celebrates Stonewall 25

MEADVILLE, PA — A series of events in celebration of the 25th anniversary of Stonewall will be held at Allegheny College. The rebellion at Stonewall in New York City in 1969 is recognized as the birthplace of the modern lesbian and gay human rights movement. Allegheny's campus commemoration of this historical event will be held on March 6 - 16.

The **Stonewall 25 Celebration** is a project of the Allegheny College Committee in Support of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual People. Highlighting the series will be a lecture by noted author Martin Duberman and a concert by the gay a capella group *The Flirtations*. In addition, other events including a timeline display, lecture, workshop, video showings, and a performance of the musical *Cabaret* are scheduled during the eleven day period.



**Martin Duberman** will speak on "Reclaiming the Gay and Lesbian Past" on Sunday, March 6th at 8 p.m. in Ford Chapel. Duberman, a renowned historian, playwright and activist, is the author of 15 books, including the recently published *Stonewall*. In *Stonewall*, Duberman traces the lives of six people who were drawn into the struggle for gay and lesbian rights as

a result of the upheaval at the Stonewall Inn and the events that followed. He is also the author of the acclaimed biography *Paul Robeson: Cures: A Gay Man's*

*Odyssey*, and (as co-editor) the Lambda Award-winning *Hidden from History*. He is currently distinguished professor of history at Lehman College and the CUNY Graduate Center, and the founder and director of the Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies (CLAGS) at CUNY. Numerous vendors will offer lesbian and gay literature, including Duberman's works, and Stonewall 25 and other merchandise for sale following the lecture. Admission is free.



**The Flirtations** will appear in concert at Ford Chapel on Tuesday, March 15 at 8 pm. The Flirts began singing on the streets of New York's Greenwich Village in 1988. Recently, they've been seen and heard on *Good Morning America*, *Donahue*, *MTV News*, *Nightwatch*, the 1993 March on Washington, National Public Radio, and HBO's documentary, *Why*

Allegheny - turn to page 3

## Statement of Purpose

The purpose of *Erie Gay Community Newsletter* is to serve as a voice for lesbians, bisexuals, gay men and our friends & families in the Erie area. We wish this newsletter to be a source of information, support and affirmation. We also see *EGCN* as a vehicle for celebration of the goodness and diversity of the lesbian, gay and bisexual communities. *EGCN* is a cooperative effort between lesbigay groups and individuals to help our community develop and thrive.

## Ad Rates

Businesses and Sponsors! Show your support and reach Erie's lesbigay community directly! Advertising space is now available in all issues for just \$20 for an eighth page ad, \$35 for a quarter page ad, and \$65 for a half page ad. Write the address above or call our Advertising Director at (814) 455-0549 for further details!

Thanks to Paula King  
for groundhog artwork!

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## Editorial Policy

We will consider for publication any material which broadens our understanding of our lifestyles and each other. Views and opinions appearing in this newsletter do not necessarily represent those of the staff nor those of the component groups.

We will not publish any material which promotes hatred or discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, race, gender, religion, age, class, physical ability or any other reason. We do not support exploitation of minors.

All materials submitted must be signed so we can contact the authors should we need to consider editorial revisions. However, within the pages of the newsletter, articles may appear anonymously, upon request, and strict confidentiality will be observed. If you wish to have your full name published, you must send a written and signed note that gives us permission to do so. This publication will not "out" anyone.

We welcome and encourage all readers to submit news for publication and to share your comments, criticisms, and positive feelings with us.

Materials should be sent to: EGCN; PO Box 3063; Erie, PA 16508-3063. Call (814) 456-9833 for more information. Email: CompuServe: 70431, 1622.

Before submitting, please send SASE for writer's guidelines.

*Am I Gay?* They appear in Jonathan Demme's film, *Philadelphia*, and will soon be performing at Carnegie Hall. They are known as the world's most famous openly gay, politically active, multi-cultural a cappella singing group. As their name suggests, The Flirtations are mostly about fun. Audiences have to listen closely because they like nothing more than taking doo-wop classics and bending the words to suit their purposes — "Mr. Sandman, send me a dream. Make him the cutest boy that I've ever seen." Their music includes songs from the Fifties, ballads, rock, folk songs, gay anthems, salsa, and even a lullaby. A "Flirt with the Flirts" reception will follow their Allegheny appearance. General seating concert tickets are \$10, \$5 with any student ID. A special package which includes reserved seating and the reception is \$20, \$10 with any student ID.

Additional events scheduled throughout the celebration include:

**Sunday, March 6—*Timeline: A Look at 25 Years of Lesbian History*.** A large-scale timeline display outlining significant lesbian events since the Stonewall riots. Campus Center Lobby daily through Wednesday, March 16. Free event.

**Monday, March 7—*Cabaret*.** What lesbian celebration would be complete without a Broadway musical? The characters at the risqué Kit Kat Club are so busy enjoying the decadence of life in 1929 Berlin that they hardly notice the impending doom of the Third Reich. Performed by 3D-2 International. Shafer Auditorium, 8 p.m. Tickets: \$10, \$7.50 for children 14 & under.

**Tuesday, March 8—*Last Call at Maud's*.** This video focuses on the closing of the world's oldest lesbian bar, Maud's in San Francisco. Tracking history beginning with the WWII lesbian bar scene, the film documents the lives and histories of major figures in the lesbian community. Brooks Alumni Lounge, 7:30 pm. Free event.

**Thursday, March 10—*Lucy Park Byrd: The Dynamics of Gender and Race in Early Virginia*.** An exploration of the intense combination of sexuality and power in early American history. Humanities lecture with Associate Professor of History Paula Treckel. Brooks Alumni Lounge, 7:30 pm. Free event.

**Sunday, March 13—*Before Stonewall: The Making of a Gay and Lesbian Community*.**

This award-winning video presents a unique portrait laced with humor and irony of the history of homosexual experience in America. Campus Center Walker Room, 7:30 pm. Free event.

**Wednesday, March 16—*Coming Out with The Flirts*.**

A workshop and discussion about the difficult process of "coming out" as an openly gay man or lesbian. Each member of The Flirtations shares their insights and personal stories. Campus Center Walker Room, noon - 1:30 pm. Free event.

**Tickets**

Tickets may be purchased by phone with Visa and Mastercard at (814) 332-2838. To order by mail, send a check or money order, payable to Allegheny College, to: *Allegheny College, Stonewall 25 Celebration*, Box 186, Meadville, PA 16335. Tickets are also available at Cocoon, 1164 W. 10th Street, Erie, telephone (814) 459-6608. For additional information on the **Stonewall 25 Celebration**, call (814) 332-2838.

**even productions**

PRESENTS

The 19th Annual  
**Womyn's  
Variety Show**



Womyn Only Event

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12th, 1994**

**8:00 p.m.** (doors open at 6:30 p.m.)

The Great Hall, The Civic, 3130 Mayfield Rd., Cleveland Hts.  
followed by the Fabulous Variety Show Party

Tickets: \$16.00 - in advance or at the door  
(more if you can, less if you can't)

Available in advance at the Bookstore on West 25th and  
Gifts of Athena Bookstore, 2199 Lee Rd.

Refreshments, drinks and music available when the doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Sober Support - Womyn only, 18 years or older please

Childcare available by advanced reservation only by February 5

Interpreted for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

To volunteer or for work exchange call 321-7799

For information call 321-7799

☛ = New or Modified Group/Event this issue

## Calendar

**Important Note:** Events listed here are specifically gay or of interest to a lot of lesbian/gay people. If you know of an event that should be listed here, please get the info to us by the 20th of the month. For out of town events, call a day or two before to confirm that it is still on; mistakes can occur and circumstances can change at the last moment. Also, please note our e-mail address! From CompuServe, 70431.1622 or from Internet 70431.1622@compuserve.com

**Jan 27-Feb 20—Bent (Pittsburgh)** Martin Sherman's highly-acclaimed play about Nazi persecution of gays. At Upstairs Theatre, 4809 Penn Avenue (412)361-5443.

**Feb 6—Teacher TV: Teaching the Diverse Classroom** On The Learning Channel at 6 p.m.

☛ **Feb 8—Joan Baez in Concert (Buffalo)** Marquee at the Tralf (716)852-0522.

☛ **Feb 11—Men's Coffeehouse Potluck & Discussion on "Friends with AIDS"** Join us for a potluck at the Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie (7180 New Perry Highway) for a potluck dinner at 7:00 pm, to be followed by a discussion on friends with AIDS at 7:45 pm. Come to talk or just to listen!

☛ **Feb 11—Nefertiti: For Whom the Sun Shines** A&E 10 p.m. and 2 a.m.

**Feb 12—Womyn's Variety Show (Cleveland)** At the Great Hall—the Civic, 3130 Mayfield Road, Cleveland Heights. All-lesbian show, followed by the Fabulous Variety Show Pary. Tickets \$16 advance/at door. Here's a tip: doors open at 6:30 p.m., and since the event is all general seating, early arrival will help you get a good seat. Put your stuff on your seat (nothing

valuable, of course), and head out to where the vendors are to check out all the lesbian/women's stuff available there. Although they don't sell out, you can get advance tickets from Gifts of Athena Books (216) 371-1937.

☛ **Feb 12—Leather & Lace Ball (Buffalo)** Benefits Buffalo's Benedict House. Put on by the Imperial Court of Buffalo, Inc. Tickets are \$20 per person, and gives you 4 hours of open bar (10 p.m.-2 a.m.), hors d'oeuvres, fantasies, entertainment, vendors; "creative attire encouraged." Doors open at 9 p.m. At Hamlin House, 423 Franklin Street.

**Feb 12—Womyn's Valentine Dance (Buffalo)** Unitarian Church 695 Elmwood, 8:30 p.m.-1 a.m., with DJ Cindi Eveleigh. \$5 (more if you can, less if you can't).

☛ **Feb 12—Tuskegee Airmen** First black fighter pilots. WGN 7 p.m.

☛ **Feb 12—Bee Gees: Going Home** Disney 9 p.m.

☛ **Feb 12—Integrity Meets** 133 W. 6th, Erie 7 p.m.

☛ **Feb 14—Guess Who's Coming to Dinner (1967)** On TNT 8 p.m. Comedy/drama about a white family who's having trouble dealing with her daughter's decision to marry a black man.

☛ **Feb 14—Sex in the '90s** On MTV at 8:30 p.m. Looks at issues like homosexuality, love, relationships, AIDS and STDs, contraception, abortion, etc.

**Feb 14-21—National Condom Week** Info: (415)332-4066.

☛ **Feb 15—Rainbow Connection Meeting (Warren PA)** For info call Denny (814)757-8583.



## Black History Month

In observance of Black History Month, our calendar and "Entertainment Notes" will include black history listings that, while they are not gay per se, will be of interest to our readers. The history and struggles of African-Americans is inspiring and educational for all people who care about human rights and human dignity. Because of that, this month's Black History programs and events very much belong in the EGCN calendar.

☛ **Feb 15—Erie Co. AIDS Task Force Meets** For youth AIDS education. Meets at American Red Cross Chapter House, 4961 Pittsburgh Ave. at 6 p.m.

☛ **Feb 15—For the Boys (1991)** Musical comedy/drama with Bette Midler. HBO 12:30 a.m.

☛ **Feb 16—Open For Series at Behrend: "Race and Racial Issues" (Erie)** 8 p.m. Reed Lecture Hall, Penn State Behrend.

☛ **Feb 17—Assignment Discovery: Toni Morrison** On the Discovery Channel at 9 a.m. Profiles the African-American author Toni Morrison.

☛ **Feb 17—A Night of Theater and Community (Cleveland)** 6th Annual *Gay People's Chronicle* Community Service Awards and performance of *Walking the Dead*. For info call (216)621-5280.

☛ **Feb 18—Concert for Life (Buffalo)** Benefits Life Memorial Park Foundation (AIDS memorial park in Buffalo). Holy Angels Church, corner of Porter and Fargo Avenues. Performances by The Queen City Chorus, Leah Zicari, Madeline Davis, Michael J. Maffei, Anne Marie Szpakowska, and very special guests. (716)298-4313.

☛ **Feb 19—"Erie-sistible Illusions" at Leeward Lounge (Ashtabula)** Show by Erie drag performers, hosted by Theresa Jean and featuring Destiny Divine. Showtime is "11-ish".

☛ **Feb 19—Show at Silver Slipper?** At this writing, the show's organizers weren't sure if they would go through with this date or change it to Feb. 26. Check at bar.

☛ **Feb 19—2 Girls Alone! at Cup-a-Ccino's** 18 N. Park Row, 9 p.m.-midnight.

☛ **Feb 20—Kids in the Hall Marathon** On Comedy Central noon-7 p.m. Major couch potato warning!

☛ **Feb 20—Out There** On Comedy Central at 11:30 p.m. Repeat of the wildly-successful all-gay comedy hour first broadcast in December. Pomo Afro Homos (black gay male comics), Lea DeLaria, others.

☛ **Feb 20—Sweet Honey in the Rock in Concert (Cleveland)** African-American women's acappella group will perform in Oberlin (just outside Cleveland). For ticket information call (216)775-8121.

☛ **Feb 20—Mimi & Mark's "Mardi Gras Madness" (Buffalo)** Benefits Buffalo's AIDS Alliance Easter Dinner. At Club Heat, 158 Delaware Avenue. Free Buffet, 50/50, go-go dancers.

☛ **Feb 22—First Meeting of HIV/AIDS Support Groups at St. Mark's Catholic Center** From 7:30 to 9:30 pm at St. Mark's Catholic Center, 429 East Grandview Blvd. Subsequent meetings to be held on

2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month. One support group for Persons with HIV/AIDS, another for families and loved ones. Wheelchair accessible. For more info, contact Barbara J. Nitkiewicz at Catholic Charities at (814)824-1250.

☛ **Feb 23—PFLAG-Erie** Meets at Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway. Info: Kathy at 838-6020.

☛ **Feb 24—Erie Co. AIDS Network (Coalition)** 5-7 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 134 W. 7th. Anyone concerned about or involved with HIV/AIDS is invited to participate. The group has not named itself yet, but they seem to feel more comfortable being called a "network" instead of "coalition." The first meeting was postponed for a week because of weather. For more information call Stephen Brockwell at 833-0942.

☛ **Feb 24—Sheila Tobias Speaks at Behrend: "They're Not Dumb, They're Different: Stalking the Second Tier" (Erie)** Spring Feminist Scholars Series at Penn State Behrend. Tobias pioneered the formation of women's studies programs in the U.S. Among her many publications are two books on overcoming math anxiety and women, militarism and war. 7:30 p.m. Reed Lectur., Erie.

The Erie Musical Premiere

# NINE

IS DAZZLING

—Gene Shalit, WNBC-TV

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Feb 24—**Assignment Discovery—In Black and White: Alice Walker** Profile of the African-American "womanist" author who wrote *The Color Purple*. On Discovery at 9 p.m.

Feb 24—**Sylvia Scarlett (1935)** AMC 9 p.m. and 1 a.m. Katherine Hepburn plays a young woman outlaw who disguises herself as a man. Directed by gay director George Cukor, the film appealed to lesbians of the thirties with its sensibility of "sexual ambiguity," even though Hepburn's character is played as a heterosexual. The film was originally to have had Sylvia cross-dressing to get by in a man's world, but Hollywood didn't go for it.

Feb 24—**Boys from Brazil (1992)** Grim documentary about Rio de Janeiro's transvestites, who prostitute themselves to get by. On Cinemax 3:40 a.m.

Feb 25-28—**Lake Erie Adventurous Dykes (LEAD) Ski Holiday (Allegheny State Park NY)** Cleveland-based outdoors group will be doing downhill and cross-country skiing. You're welcome to come along, but Clare at LEAD asks you to call her ahead of time so they can plan for how many women will be there. For info and to RSVP, call Clare (216)228-5269.

Feb 26—**10% Network Party & Silent Auction for Cause for Celebration! (Jamestown)** 7 p.m. at Unitarian Church, 1255 Prendergast. "Please bring something to drink and an appetizer or dessert to share. We will be having a silent auction at this party to benefit AIDS Community Services of Western NY." Donations are welcomed and encouraged, but you needn't make a donation to attend the party or auction. Donations can be a service, gift certificates, a book, a product of a talent that you may have, etc. For more info call John (716)484-7285.

Feb 26—**Show at Silver Slipper?** At this writing, there was some question about whether they'd have the show on Feb. 19 or Feb. 26. Check at bar.

Feb 26—**Cause for Celebration! (Buffalo)** It's a two-part event: From 7 p.m. - 10 p.m., fundraising parties are held throughout Buffalo and western NY. From 10 p.m. to 2 a.m., guests from all of the parties gather together at the Main Place Mall, downtown Buffalo, for a gala celebration, featuring a Silent Auction, Casino gambling, Dance (live music), Cash Bar, and Fine Desserts. Admission is \$15. We're told this event empties the Buffalo bars while it's going on, so it's definitely the place to be in Buffalo that night! For info or to make a donation: AIDS Community Services, 121 West Tupper Street, Buffalo NY 14201 (716)847-0212 (checks payable to AIDS Community Services).

Feb 26—**Little Big Man (1970)** Within this story of the last survivor of Custer's last stand, there is a very brief portrayal of a Native American *berdache*. (androgynous men who did not relate as heterosexual males, and were treated with respect within their culture). Dustin Hoffman. On TBS 10:50 p.m.

Feb 26—**American Muscle Magazine** ESPN 10 p.m.

Feb 26—**Human Rights Campaign Fund Dinner/Dance (Cleveland)** 6:30 p.m. at Sammy's Metropolitan. For info call (216)321-4450. The Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) is the largest lesbian/gay rights advocacy organization in the United States.

Feb 26—**Summit '94 A Black History Month Special** TBS 9:50 p.m. Roundtable discussion about violence in America.

Feb 27—**Teacher TV: Student Health and Well-Being** AIDS education in the schools. On The Learning Channel 6 p.m.

Feb 27—**Assault at West Point: Court-Martial of Whitaker (1994)** Showtime at 8 p.m. A black cadet runs up against racial prejudice in a military school in the 1880s.

Feb 27—**Mr. & Ms. Gay Buffalo Paramount Pageant (Buffalo)** At Hamlin House, 432 Franklin St. Showtime 8 p.m., doors open at 7 p.m., Tickets 7 advance, \$10 at door, reserve tables \$10 per table. For information (716)854-5713.

Feb 28—**Bob Roberts (1992)** Satire about a right-wing folk singer running for U.S. Senate. Tim Robbins, who wrote, directed, and acted in this movie, wouldn't let the soundtrack be released for fear that it would be used by

real right-wingers for their own causes! On HBO at 8 p.m.

✦ **Feb 28—*Lucy and Desi: Before the Laughter (1991)*** Bio-pic about the famous comedy couple. Lifetime at 10 a.m.

✦ **Mar 3—Peter, Paul and Mary in Concert (Cleveland)** Palace Theater. Info and tickets 1-800-766-6048.

✦ **Mar 6—Peter, Paul and Mary in Concert (Pittsburgh)** Benedum Center, (412)456-6666.

✦ **Mar 6-9—Stonewall 25 Celebration at Allegheny College (Meadville)** Allegheny College will be celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Stonewall riots of 1969, commonly regarded as the beginning of the modern gay/lesbian rights movement. There will be a number of events during the month of March. See the article on cover page for more details.

✦ **Mar 6—Martin Duberman Speaks on "Reclaiming the Gay and Lesbian Past" (Meadville, PA)** 8:30 p.m. in Ford Chapel at Allegheny College. Duberman is a gay historian and author, who has written 15 books, including *Stonewall*. See article, cover page.

✦ **Mar 7—Cabaret (Meadville PA)** Allegheny College. See details on page 3.

✦ **Mar 8—Last Call at Maud's (Meadville PA)** Video about the closing of the world's oldest lesbian bar. 7:30 p.m. at Brooks Alumni Lounge, Allegheny College. See details page 3. Free event.

✦ **Mar 8—Rescheduled: The Flirtations Concert, now scheduled for Mar 15**

✦ **Mar 10—"Lucy Park Byrd: The Dynamics of Gender and Race in Early Virginia" (Meadville PA)** Lecture on combination of sexuality and power in early American history, Brooks Alumni Lounge, Allegheny College. Free event.

✦ **Mar 13—Before Stonewall: The Making of a Gay and Lesbian Community (Meadville PA)** Award-winning video looks at gay and lesbian history in America. Free event at Allegheny College, 7:30 p.m. Campus Center Walker Room. Details pg 3.

✦ **Mar 14—LGLV Skating Party at Skateway Roller Rink** 4646 Buffalo Road, Erie from 7:30-10pm. Cost: \$5 Adult, \$4 Student and low income, \$3 children skate rental additional \$1. No alcohol or roller blades, please. The rink has been reserved and the only people attending will be those for the LGLV skating party, so feel free to relax and be yourself. Even if you don't skate, there'll be good music, great people, and lot's of fun! Try something new and support the LGLV too!

✦ **Mar 15—The Flirtations in Concert (Meadville PA)** 8 p.m. in Ford Chapel at Allegheny College. Internationally renowned, multi-racial gay male acappella singing group. Ladyslipper says the Flirts are "a terrific mixture of pleasure and politics." See article, cover page.

✦ **Mar 16—Workshop & Discussion: "Coming Out with the Flirts" (Meadville PA)** Noon-1:30 p.m. Workshop and discussion with the members of the Flirtations. Campus Center Walker Room, Allegheny College. Free. Details page 3.

✦ **Mar 17—St. Patrick's Day Party at Leeward Lounge (Ashtabula)** Green beer, Irish drinks, and corned beef and cabbage.

✦ **Mar 23—Penn State Behrend Open Fora Series "Gender Relations and Male Bashing"** 8 p.m. Reed Lecture Hall, Penn State Behrend, Erie.

✦ **Mar 26—Silver Slipper Benefit for AIDS Food Pantry** More details next month.

✦ **Apr 10—Spaghetti Dinner by Integrity & AIDS Ministry of the Cathedral of St Paul (Episcopal)** Fundraiser at the Cathedral to raise funds for the AIDS Food Pantry. Details later.

✦ **April 23—2nd Annual Pageant for the Bar Title of "Miss Newtown" at Silver Slipper** Deadline for entry is Feb. 28, fee \$25. Forms at bar. \$200 cash prize, and more.

✦ **April 23—Coronation 1994: "Light the Lights, A Trip Down Broadway" (Buffalo)** The Coronation Ball is "A night full of festivities, fun, and entertainment." Put on by The Imperial Court of Buffalo, Inc. ("House of Unity and Strength, Court of Song and Dance") to benefit HIV/AIDS organizations. For more info (on event or accomodations) call David Carr or Guido Tomassi at (716)884-8871.

## Festivals & Conferences

✦ **Feb 17-21—Black Lesbians and Gays: From Silence to Celebration (in Secaucus, NJ)** Seventh annual conference of Black Gay and Lesbian Forum. Even years they hold their conferences on the east coast, odd years they hold them on the west coast, and they pretty much schedule around President's Day weekend. For official airline and hotel rates 1-800-543-2719. For info on conference itself: (213) 964-7864 or write NBGLC, 1219 South LaBrea Ave., Los Angeles CA 90019.

✦ **April 16-17—The First Gay & Lesbian Business Expo (in Secaucus NJ)** Sponsored by The

Advocate, Gay Games IVm and Lincoln Center Productions. To reserve your space call (800)243-9774 or (201)330-7773-0

July 16-24—National Association of Black and White Men Together Convention 94 (Arlington VA) Theme for this year is "Breaking the Chains of Isms." Planned events include culturally enriching tours of nearby Washington DC, talent show, pool party, new and different workshops, powerful guest speakers. Info: Convention 94, NABWMT, 1747 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Washington DC 20009-1108 or call (800)NA4-BWMT.

Unity '94 International Pride Celebration in New York City June 18-26, 1994: For an information/registration packet, contact Unity 94, 19 West 21st Street, Suite 1202, New York NY 10010 or call (212)633-9494.

June 18-25, 1994—Gay Games IV

June 26, 1994—Stonewall 25

June 18-26—Cultural Festival

## Oops!

We at EGCN very much wish to apologize for having inadvertently clipped off Larry Savody's article, "Jewish Reform Congregation Adopt Gay Positive Resolutions" that appeared on page 11 of our January 1994 edition. For a copy of the complete resolution, contact us here at EGCN. The final paragraph should have read:

2. Call upon our congregations, the Central Conference of American Rabbis and the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion to join with us in seeking to extend the same benefits extended to the spouses of staff members and employees to the partners of all staff members and employees living in committed lesbian and gay partnerships. ▼

## Places to get EGCN...

### Ashtabula

Leeward Lounge, 1022 Bridge St.

### Erie

Cocoon, 1164 W. 10th

Cup-a-ccino's, 18 N. Park Row

Lizzie Bordon's, 3412 W. 12th

Perceptions, 328 W. 6th

Silver Slipper, 1317 State Street

### Edinboro

Book Shelf, 200 Plum

Earthshine, 131 Meadville Street

EGO meetings

### Jamestown NY & Warren PA

Nite Spot, 201 Winsor, Jamestown

Rainbow Connection, Warren 723-1719

Sneakers, 100 Harrison, Jamestown

Want to make newsletters available in your group, community, or business? Call us at (814)456-9833!



## INTEGRITY

A Christian-based spiritual and support group sponsored by the Episcopal Church that welcomes people of all faiths. Meetings are held the 2nd Sunday of the month at 6 pm at St. Paul's Cathedral, 133 W 6th St. Erie, PA. Our mailing address is: Integrity-NWPA, PO Box 1782, Erie, PA 16507-1782. For more information, call (814) 774-0903

## Wills, Living Wills, Closings & Criminal Law

**John E. Cooper, Esq**  
227 W. 5th Street  
Erie, PA 16507  
(814) 455-3436



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## In Review:

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*Philadelphia* (TriStar Pictures 1993)

*Tales of the City* (PBS)

Hello everyone! As you know, gays and lesbians made significant strides toward being a more visible force in 1993, especially in the media. It looks as though our efforts are paying off on the big and small screens. 1994 is only a month old, but we have already seen two very distinctive—and very different—films depicting gays and lesbians in a non-judgmental, positive light.

The more high-profile of the two is, of course, the film *Philadelphia*, directed by Jonathon Demme. Demme, you'll recall, directed the Oscar-winning *Silence of the Lambs*, a film that, while well-done, presented a transvestite/transsexual as its horrific killer. Perhaps in response to the protest from the lesbian community, Demme has crafted a film with an HIV-positive gay man as its main character. Tom Hanks is wonderful beyond words as Andrew Beckett, the lawyer who, along with battling KS and lowered T-Cell counts, hauls his phobic bosses into court because they fired him on the basis of his HIV status. Denzel Washington plays Joe Miller, a TV-cartoon lawyer ("If you've been hurt in an accident..."). Miller is African-American, married, and a new father. He is also homophobic.

Although Andrew has a partner, Miguel (played by the gorgeous Antonio Banderas), the main relationship in the movie is, in a sense, Beckett vs. Miller—how they come to work together, and how Miller learns what Andrew's life is really about. I won't spoil any surprises, but the interplay between Hanks and Washington is captivating. I've heard protest that this is a sanitized Hollywood take on the lesbian lifestyle and, indeed, this is not a be-all, end-all story of our struggle. Those who expect that will be disappointed. What it is is a wonderful story about justice, and one scene—with Andrew dancing with his lover and Joe with his wife—says it perfectly without words: We are all the same.

Balancing out the intense seriousness of *Philadelphia*'s subject matter is the breezy, witty PBS production of Armistead Maupin's *Tales of the City*.

Based on a series of books written by Maupin, the miniseries begins in 1976 San Francisco, at the mythical 28 Barbary Lane, headed by eccentric landlady Anna Madrigal (Olympia Dukakis).

Although it is described as a film, what it really plays as is a very witty and well-written soap opera. Maupin's plotting is as tight as any daytime drama, and he leaves the viewer with several unforgettable images—the towering headdresses, the roller skating drag queens in nun's habits, the classic clothes and hairstyles of the 1970s. I loved the character of Anna Madrigal (her secret is a huge surprise) but most of us reading this will relate to the three twentysomething characters: Michael "Mouse" Tolliver (Marcus D'Amico) a fresh-faced gay emigre from Florida; Mona Ramsey (Chloe Webb), Michael's bisexual roommate with Drucilla locks; and Mary Ann Singleton (Laura Linney), the 4-H type from Cleveland who lands in the middle of Oz—and soon learns she's definitely not in Kansas anymore. I must add that I loved *Tales of the City* more simply because it was so slice-of-life and so many strong gay references weren't compromised. In the end, *Tales of the City* was also more satisfying.

For those of you who are interested, both of these films will soon be on videocassette. *Tales* should be easier to watch its six hours in that format.

One final word: If you liked *Philadelphia* or *Tales of the City* and want to see more of the subject matter, write the movie studio (TriStar)! Write WQLN, WNED or whatever your PBS affiliate is, and thank them for presenting it. You can do things on a local level. Plays with gay themes or subthemes have been presented by both the Erie Playhouse (*The Sum of Us*) and the Roadhouse Theater (*Cabaret*) in the last year. Write them and tell them you'd like to see more. Or most importantly, if you don't wish to vote with your pen, then vote with something even more powerful—your wallet!

Cheers until next time...

—PATRICK CHRISTIAN

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**Entertainment Notes**


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☆ **IT PAYS TO BE GAY(-THEMED):** *Out* magazine reports that the all-gay comedy special **Out There** gave Comedy Central Channel a 0.8 rating, which was the biggest rating the network ever had for any show...Also, **Newsweek's** biggest-selling issue of 1993 was their June 21 "Lesbians" issue which sported an "intentionally wholesome" lesbian couple...And **Philadelphia** shot to the top of the box office charts on its first week of national release.

☆ **BUFFALO THEATER:** Two plays going on:

**Some of My Best Friends are...**

This is called "A gay and lesbian revue for people of all preferences." The review, which consists of songs and sketches, runs a little under two hours, including intermission. Highlights include the ongoing saga of a heterosexual couple in a predominately homosexual world, a field trip to a gay bar by Mildred Mead of the School for Preferential Study, a lesbian fashion show, and a boot camp for femininity taught by a drag queen." The

award-winning play is put on by Buffalo United Artists, and features **Leah Zicari**, David Butler, and others. Runs Jan. 28 through Feb. 12 Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. at the Franklin Street Theater. Tickets cost \$10. Call (716)832-7320.

**Last Summer at Bluefish Cove** is a favorite lesbian play, centering around what happens to some grown-up women friends one summer. Also put on by Buffalo United Artists, it stars singer/author Madeline Davis, and others. At

Compton's After Dark, 1239 Niagara St. Playing Sundays and Mondays at 7:30 p.m. February 13 through February 21. Tickets at the door \$8, Advanced tickets from Compton's for \$6. Info: (716)832-7320.



☆ **CLEVELAND THEATER:**

The Cleveland Public Theater will present the play **Walking the Dead**, written by New York Playwright Keith Curran. It's described as "A funny and provocative play about the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities." The play runs Feb. 18 through March 12, Thursdays through Sundays. Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays the show starts at 8 p.m.; Sundays at 7 p.m. For info and reservations call (216)631-2727. Tickets are \$6 regular, \$4 students and seniors. Cleveland Public Theater is at 6415 Detroit Ave.

☆ **PENN STATE BEHREND THEATER PRESENTATION:**

**Jane Martin** will perform **Vital Signs**, an evening of monologues which explores the range of contemporary experience through the stories of over 30 varied (and mostly female) characters, from jazz drummer to a corporate executive to

carnival sharpshooter, to a woman rescued from a burning building. The play will be at Behrend's Student Theater Feb 18, 19, 24, 25, and 26 at 8 p.m. and Feb. 20 and 27 at 2:30 p.m. Tickets \$4, \$3 for students. Free student preview Thursday Feb. 17 at 8 p.m. Ticket info (814)898-6016.

☆ **DO YOU GET IT?** A lot of *EGCN* readers have been unnecessarily missing some of the TV shows we list because they don't know they can get certain stations. The Comedy Central Channel is a case in point. That channel carries a lot of good

stuff, and yet many people who can get it don't know they can. Some TV listings contribute to this, since they sometimes don't include all the channels available through a community's cable company. Get a list from your cable company and make sure you know what you get!

- ☆ **RUSH ROAST:** In December, talk show host **Rush Limbaugh** was being honored by a broadcasters association. For some reason, feminist TV talk show host **Sally Jesse Raphael** was chosen to deliver the introduction. She did, but nobody expected her to get to that podium and let go with just what she thought of him. *A Current Affair* was at the event, and caught Limbaugh on camera—visibly horrified at being skewered in public. Well, what goes around comes around, you know?
- ☆ **GOOD NEWS, LUCY-LOVERS:** Starting this month, Nickelodeon will be airing *I Love Lucy* every weeknight at 9 p.m. They kick it off by showing seven episodes a night between Feb. 14 and 18.
- ☆ **KIDS IN THE HALL, AGAIN** In the January issue we included a mention of the *Kids in the Hall* showing on Comedy Central Channel, but in the air times we listed we left out the time that most people would be likely to watch it: 9 p.m. Enjoy!
- ☆ **ON CABLE**
- ☆ **Body of Evidence (1992)** Madonna mystery. On TMC Feb. 21. On Showtime Feb. 13, 18, 22.
- ☆ **Elizabeth the Queen (1939)** With Bette Davis as Queen Elizabeth and gay actor Errol Flynn as her lover, with whom she engages in a power struggle. On Cinemax Feb. 11 at 9 a.m. On Showtime Feb. 7 at 8 a.m. and Feb. 25 at 1:30 p.m.
- ☆ **Elizabeth Taylor: An Intimate Portrait** On A&E Feb. 8 at 8 p.m. and midnight, and Feb. 12 at noon. Profile of the woman who counts many gay men as her friends and who has done so much to raise funds for AIDS.

☆ **Judy Cariana in Concert: Music from the Movies**

On Disney Channel. Feb 13 at 9 p.m., 17 at 1 a.m., 28 at 11 p.m.

- ☆ **Making of For the Boys** Behind-the-scenes look at Bette Midler's comedy drama *For the Boys*. On HBO Feb. 2, 5, 9, 24.

- ☆ **Malcolm X (1992)** Biographical drama about the black Muslim leader who worked for human rights for African-Americans. On HBO Feb. 19, 22, 25, 27.

- ☆ **Mo' Funny: Black Comedy in America** A celebration of the traditions of black comedy. On HBO Feb 10, 20 and 25.

- ☆ **Real Sex** On HBO, will feature a segment of lesbian drag. On Feb. 14, exact time slot not known.

☆ **LOVE STORIES AT MOVIE STOP**

You can get these gay, lesbian, and bisexual love stories at the Movie Stop 13th and State.

**Claire of the Moon ♀♀**

**Desert Hearts ♀♀**

**A Different Story Bi ♂/♀**

**Henry & June Bi ♀**

**Lianna ♀♀**

**Longtime Companion ♂♂** (AIDS Drama)

**Making Love ♂♂**

**Maurice ♂♂**

**Three of Hearts Bi ♀**

**Torch Song Trilogy ♂♂**

Also on order at the Movie Stop is **Salmonberries**, the film debut of **k.d. lang**, who plays a half-white/half-Eskimo living in an Alaskan mining community.



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## Notes from Lynne

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Hiya! I'm back again. (If you enjoy or don't enjoy my articles, tell the ECGN.) The other day somebody said "I was so bored last night". I couldn't really recall the last time I was bored, and since the weather has been so crisp-bitter-nasty-cold, I thought I'd share some of my ideas with y'all (y'uns) about...

### What to Do When There's Nothing to Do:

I just recently had reason to go back through all my old photo albums, and it was not only fun, but it helped me think through some things about myself and my life. This is perfect weather for snuggling (fireplace optional). Ever have somebody bring you home baked cookies - still warm? Having a good tickling or wrestling match can be good exercise and it makes you laugh! How long has it been since you did a jigsaw puzzle, crossword puzzle, played monopoly, backgammon, solitaire, scrabble... As long as you're in the kitchen making those cookies (hint-hint), how about some pasta (use the pasta making machine your mom has)? Nobody really wants to start working on their taxes, but I guess it's time. Join the Y and play inside - or play inside at home!

How about having some good friends over for a really good meal? Then they could help you put plastic over your windows!! Or you could help them with that house project, or you could drag out the Yearbooks and relive those days. Don't believe any of the bad things they tell you about Winter camping - just get a cabin with a fireplace and a hot shower! A quiet stroll in the snow by moonlight may be just the thing to clear your head. Or maybe a loud snowball fight in the middle of the day! How many people do you owe letters? Maybe take your clothes off (careful!) the exercise bike or the weight bench and use it?? Then you'd be good and strong at pulling those sleds back up the hill, or skating around the ice rink or the roller skating rink. Speaking of ice - how about an Erie Panthers hockey game? Speaking of sports, how about a college hoops game? Volleyball? We could wallpaper the bathroom..or meditate..or wax the floors..or nap..or (ugh) iron.. or go bowling Tuesday night at Presque Isle ..or go to

Wegman's and card shop.. or shop for a waterbed.. or take a road trip.. or just lay around and read, or feed the birds.

The *Showcase* is usually good for a few ideas. This newsletter is always full of ideas!! Make your own list of things you'd like to do and put it on the fridge - then when you get cranky cause 'there's nothin to do', check the list. If you want to go South where it's warm - buy the tickets, pack, and go!!! Or, if reality isn't possible, rent a travel video, crank up the heat, put on your shorts, and go in your living room!! On the subject of fantasy, rent *GHOST* or Walt Disney's *Fantasia* (don't forget the popcorn, please!)... or make up some new fantasies of your own...

Take a class, volunteer somewhere, sit and stare, enjoy doing nothing (that's tough for me), start a journal, GO LINE DANCIN' at Lizzie's Wed nights, go see what's at the Erie Art Museum, Playhouse, Library, who's speaking at Behrend...go see your relatives and friends...invite them over (make more cookies!). I used to like making candles - I still like watching them burn. Pretend you run the world and fix all of our problems (rumor has it that a good wine helps). Take out the bat (soccer ball, golf club, tennis racket...) and THINK SPRING! Drive around a part of the city you don't know well. Put 1993 away. Give/get (both?) a hot oil body massage. Reading Calvin and Hobbes has always been great therapy. Then again, so is cable-surfing, a Crayola box of 96 crayons, playing with stuffed animals, petting or playing with a pet (human or non).

A therapist friend of mine says sometimes we should "Do the choose-to's, not the have-to's". Sounds like pretty good advice to me. Although, now that we have this newsletter, it's hard to believe that anybody is bored - c'mon out and play/work with us - we'd love to have you! And if you have some ideas of your own, get in touch with the newsletter folks and let's make your idea happen!! Gotta go now - may we all have peace and happiness ... ▼

## Other Voices: Valentine's Day

By Lou

Valentine's day is fast approaching and this fifty year old's fancy heartfully turns to love! However, in the midst of my maturing, I must admit that my musings on this matter tend toward the more serious side. As companion to me on this matter I have invited the spirit of a long time friend and wisdom-weaver, Thomas Merton—a Trappist monk who died tragically in the late sixties. Among his renowned writings is found the following statement: "Love is our true destiny. We do not find the meaning of life by ourselves alone—we find it with one another...The meaning of our life is a secret that has to be revealed to us in love, by the one we love."

As I ponder Merton's provocative words, I am drawn into an honest assessment of my own quest for companioning, my own sacred search for the tender beauty of bondedness. I remember that this longing is a holy gift placed within me by none other than the Giver of Life. Truly, it is a gift which draws me toward union with myself, with others and with the very Source of Being. And yet, it is a gift which releases such powerful energy within me that I am, indeed, afire, shaken to the core.

If I am to embrace this holy gift, this "destiny," I must seek to bring into one my bodyself and my spiritself. I must learn to hold as sacred my sexual being as well as my spiritual being, trusting that both are equally beautiful and to be treasured in the fully alive human being. Only when I risk discovering these powerful dimensions of my personhood will I be able to dare the dance of freedom.

Yes, I am afire and giving thanks for this life-force that wells up within me. Yes, I will risk being truly alive and awakened by vibrant movements of love within my being. Yes, I tremble within, but this is not a fearful trembling; rather it feels like joy rippling through my body as I begin to dance, and then, oh yes, to fly!

Words, as beautiful and rich as they can be, cannot hold the fullness of the love that empowers my life. This gift of heart seems to grow by cosmic dimensions with every passing day, drawing me ever more truly

into the depth of life, expanding my heart's horizons and giving living water to my thirsting spirit.

Now, having shared my somewhat ethereal thoughts, let me turn to the earthy everyday struggles and strivings that we encounter as we live with love's agony and ecstasy. I am deeply aware of the energy that is essential for venturing into true vulnerability in relationships. I am painfully aware of the energy that is expended when a person chooses to challenge her or his own compulsions which possess the potential to destroy the possibility of meaningful encounter with another. I am profoundly aware of the care that any substantial relationship requires if it is to be love over time. And I am sadly aware of how limited we have become in our understanding of the gift of the erotic in our lives, which I believe encompasses not solely the genital aspect of intimacy, but which reaches also to our soul-connections. If I am to find the meaning of my life in love, and pursue my deepest destiny, I must have the courage to address such issues as these with openness and honesty.

In closing, I offer a Valentine's wish for each of us: May our love abound with wisdom, understanding, truth and tenderness. May all that we share with one another be cause for hope and healing as we journey hand in hand to wholeness. May we hold the gift of each other in ever-deepening reverence, rejoicing in the wonder of one another's being. And finally, may gratitude and greatness of spirit grace all our encounters as we weave our life's patterns into a fabric of freedom and peace. ▼

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## Celebrating Our Relationships

by Dale Allgeier

*Dale Allgeier is a psychotherapist in practice at South Shore Counseling Group in North East, PA.*

Well, it's February and that means the sighting of cupids, hearts and flowers just about everywhere in commemoration of romantic love. Perhaps there is no better time than this to think about how we, as lesbians and gay men, acknowledge and celebrate our lives, loves and relationships. Let's take a minute to reflect upon what rituals and traditions and celebrations we have established in our loving partnerships. It is through these that our relationships gain a sense of history, meaning in the present and direction for the future.

When two heterosexual persons decide to enter into marriage, there is usually much tradition that is followed that helps the couple gain family, society and legal support and affirmation. There are the engagement rings, parties, showers, bachelor parties and the wedding ceremony itself. After the wedding, there's the honeymoon, and of course, yearly anniversaries. Perhaps, it is these rituals that enable straight couples to approach marriage with the expectation that it will be permanent. While most gay couples enter relationships with hopes that it will be long lasting.

Rituals, traditions and celebrations are an integral part of life. It is through them that we are able to see and experience the emotional ties that connect us to our families, lovers, children and friends. Rituals, traditions and celebrations give us a way to be playful, thoughtful, and to explore the meaning of our lives. They provide us the place and experience to build and

honor intimate relationships, as well as a channel to rebuild and/or rework important interpersonal relationships.

So, how can we begin to celebrate our gay and lesbian relationships? For those in committed relationships or considering entering into one, why not have a ceremony. It need not be a large, expensive gay counterpart to a heterosexual marriage. It can be a small, quiet affair with a few friends and family, just friends, or with just the couple. Whatever form it takes, the important thing is that it must have meaning to both people involved. Take the time to remember and honor yearly anniversaries and important dates of your relationship. As a couple, establish your own traditions for holidays and special dates, yet give yourselves permission to stop or modify old traditions when they become tiresome, lose meaning or create stress or conflict. Spend time with your partner identifying and discussing what household rituals are enjoyable, meaningful and desired. In my home, long Sunday mornings drinking coffee and reading newspapers followed by afternoons of antique hunting are a tradition I wouldn't give up easily, and one that I look forward to all week long. However, household rituals that become restrictive, expected, and cause pain need to be changed or eliminated.

One way to celebrate our loving relationships, and one that is not that easily available in the Erie area, is talking and sharing stories with other lesbian and gay couples. In sharing the joys, hurts, struggles and rewards of being in a relationship couples can gain support and validation. Might there be a need for a couples group in Erie which would provide support and social opportunities? I believe there is, and I would be interested in starting such a group. If you and your partner are interested in discussing the possibility of being part of a group like this, give me a call at my office, 725-8504.

Maybe cupids, hearts and flowers isn't your particular style of celebrating your relationship, so find one that is. Spend sometime today and everyday recognizing what is unique and special about yourself, your partner and your relationship and celebrate! ▼

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## Local HIV/AIDS News

### AIDS Council Disbands; Will Distribute Funds

At a mid-January meeting, the now-defunct AIDS Council of Erie County, Inc. agreed to dissolve the Board of Directors and distribute assets to area organizations involved in the fight against AIDS.

The Council is currently awaiting final distributions from the Northwest Regional Alliance to pay outstanding debts; any leftover will be added to the \$5,300 Direct Client Service (DCS) fund and divided between agencies requesting funding.

The DCS fund, always a point of contention within the lesbian community, will not be used to pay any debts.

Jim Molczan, a Board member, stated that the Council is soliciting AIDS organizations to apply for the remaining money, which will be distributed by early March. Your group must be active and located in Erie County. Contact Carolyn Beck at the Erie County Health Department, (814)451-6700.

The *Erie Gay Community Newsletter* will announce to which organizations the funds are distributed when this information is made available.

### Episcopal Outreach Ministry

The following is a message from Sue B. Kuebler, from the HIV/AIDS Outreach Ministry of the Cathedral of St. Paul (Episcopal):

"Individuals who had taken advantage of the AIDS Council of Erie County's food pantry should keep in touch with their case managers for information regarding these services.

"The HIV/AIDS Outreach Ministry of the Cathedral of St. Paul, 134 W. 7th St., Erie, is in the process of expanding their existing food pantry to include those individuals who had been receiving groceries from the Council.

"All case managers have been contacted and, as was the practice of the AIDS Council, referrals from case managers determining eligibility will be required. All volunteers of the food pantry are required to sign

STATEMENTS OF CONFIDENTIALITY. Look

for operations to begin in February (assuming the weather cooperates).

"The HIV/AIDS Outreach Ministry began in 1989.

"We currently offer educational programs to church and secular organizations. Instructors are American Red Cross-certified.


"Healing services are offered at the Cathedral following the 10 a.m. services every Sunday. In addition, special services of healing for those infected and affected by HIV/AIDS are provided several times a year. The local chapter of Integrity meets on a monthly basis at the Cathedral as well.

"It is the Mission of this ministry to provide a Christian response to the pandemic of HIV/AIDS. For more information contact the Cathedral of St. Paul (located directly across the street from the Erie County on W. 6th Street). Call 452-3779."

### World AIDS Day Corrections

In last month's reporting of World AIDS Day activities in Erie we made two omissions of important information:

The HIV/AIDS Outreach Ministry of the Episcopal Church *co-organized* the activities *with* the AIDS Council of Erie County. Our reporting gave the mistaken impression that the AIDS Council was the sole organizer of the activities; while the Council did do a lot of organizing around the event, it is important to note that the Outreach Ministry did a lot of work as well.



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Also, emcee at the event in the park was Carolyn Beck, President of the AIDS Council, who also read the proclamation of World AIDS Day.

### Friends From the Heart Going Full Tilt

The newly formed AIDS organization **Friends from the Heart** has picked up steam and is rapidly gaining the support of Erie's lesbian community.

At the January 15 meeting, Friends discussed the structure of the organization and quickly agreed to limit the Board of Directors to three. Deb Gabler-Monohon, area AIDS case manager and unofficial leader of the group, stressed "This will be a working board." Although the Friends agreed that a consumer, a health care professional, and perhaps an individual with a public relations background would be sought for the positions, Gabler-Monohon emphasized that capable, caring individuals would not be excluded simply because they lack professional qualifications. She noted that Friends was not interested in people looking to procure "another feather in their cap."

Area professionals have pledged to work on the Articles of Incorporation and accounting. The group is seeking individuals with experience in By-Laws.

The atmosphere at the meeting was incredibly upbeat. With the announcement that almost \$2000 had been raised before even having had an official fund-raiser, Friends debated the merits of making a major purchase of a new nutritional supplement. These compassionate individuals, while understanding the grim reality of their work, were obviously grateful to

even be in the position to discuss helping the HIV-affected community.

"Harry Miller and the people at la bella bistro have been very generous," said Gabler-Monohon. "They raised \$1,000 for us, from First Night Erie, from the red ribbon Christmas tree they had at the restaurant, and one employee donated all the tips he collected one night." She also cited Glass Growers Gallery and the Charles Daley Foundation as donors. And she noted that the 114 pounds of food donated at the Jan. 22 Bridges dance was immediately put to use the day after it was received.

Friends From the Heart formed late last year to provide for the immediate needs of people with HIV infection and AIDS. Envisioned as simply a fund-raising source, the organization quickly developed a mission which offers referrals, support, and therapeutic benefits for both consumers and volunteers.

Anyone wishing to volunteer or contribute should call Deb Gabler-Monohon at Well Being, (814)838-0123.

### HIV+ Support Groups in Erie

Deb Gabler-Monohon runs an HIV+ support group. Call her at Well Being Center 838-0123.

Stephanie O'Neill at Totally One runs a healing meditation group for people with catastrophic illness, including HIV/AIDS. Info 864-8875.

Also, Catholic Charities is forming separate support groups for Persons with HIV/AIDS and for their families and loved ones. The groups will meet begin semimonthly meeting on Tuesday, February 22nd from 7:30-9:30pm at Catholic Charities, St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 East Grandview Blvd. Subsequent meetings will be held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. Support group meetings welcome persons of all faiths and the facilities are wheelchair accessible. For additional information, contact Barbara J. Nitkiewicz at Catholic Charities at 824-1250. ▼



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## Local News

### Skate for a Good Cause

The League of Gay and Lesbian Voters will be holding a skating party at **Skateway Roller Rink** on March 14 from 7:30 to 10:00 pm.

The rink is exclusively ours, so come on OUT and be yourself! If you're feeling a little reluctant to lace on those skates, you can dance and socialize, too! If you don't own skates, you can rent them there. The League held a skating party at Skateway last year, and was impressed by how well the staff there dealt with having a gay/lesbian skating party. The music is good, there will be great people, so venture on out and try a little something different.

LGLV-Erie is seeking sponsors and volunteers for this event. Want to help us? Call Greg at (814)833-3258. All proceeds will benefit the League's activities. See the *Erie Gay Community Newsletter* next month for more details.

### Bridges Gay/Lesbian Book Sale

Mark your calendars for the Bridges book Sale on April 23.

The sale will carry scores of *new* gay and lesbian book titles. There's a big explosion of gay and lesbian publishing going on right now...come on out and sample some of that! There will be lesbian fiction, nonfiction, poetry, romance, self-help, mysteries, short stories, art books, fine literature, sleazy trash, history, travel guides, spirituality, comic books, humor, and more!

The book sale will be held at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway. The Bridges dance will be held there on the same night, but you needn't go to the dance to go to the book sale, though we would love for you to join us for both!

### Bridges Dance

The Bridges "Escape to the Tropics" Dance and Pizza Party was held on Jan. 22.

Although the frigid weather kept some people home, about 100 people did attend, and reports have it that they really enjoyed themselves. DJ Phil Huntley

put together a satisfying mix of music—techno, motown, country, and disco. The country line dancers were out in full force, and they got the attention of the people who weren't dancing with them. Can these people move or what?

The parking lot at the UU was filled to capacity because the snow plow had run out of places to put the snow, so it started taking up room in the parking lot.

The pizza party worked out nicely, and Phil put on some mellow music in the background. Phil and wife Karen joined us for pizza (Karen's eating for two now—the couple's expecting a little Huntley in March).

Some of the Bridges people were talking about how to make the dances more fun for people who don't want to dance or don't know people there. At the June dance there was a TV so people could watch a video of the March on Washington (it was six hours long, so it ran continuously throughout the dance). Also, some games have been suggested. Any ideas? Send them to EGCCN or contact Bridges 456-9833. ▼



# Black & Gay

Here is just a sampling of the books, films, videos, periodicals, and music that are from and about African-American gay/lesbian/bisexual people. They tend to be pretty readily available at gay/lesbian book stores, women's book stores, and alternative book stores, so if you're in a big city, check them out. You can also order them through local book stores or order from these two lesbigay book stores:

A Different Light, 548 Hudson St., New York NY 10014 (212)989-4850.

Lambda Rising, 1625 Connecticut Ave. N.W. Washington DC 20009 (202)462-6969. (Ask for the catalog with the "black history" section).

## Novels

*Captain Swing*, by Larry Duplechan (Alyson, \$15.95) Love life and family life of a black gay jazz musician.

*The Color Purple*, by Alice Walker. This Pulitzer Prize-winning novel is the story of a southern black woman, and her relationship with another woman is a very important part of her book (the movie really diluted this.)

*Gilda Stories*, by Jewell Gomez (Firebrand, \$9.95) Highly-acclaimed novel of a black lesbian who travels across time.

*Visitation of Spirits*, by Randall Kenan (Anchor \$8.95). Four generations of a black southern family. The major character is a young gay black man.

## Collections

*Brother to Brother*, Essex Hemphill, ed. (Alyson, \$8.95). Anthology of fiction, prose and poetry from black gay men.

*Ceremonies*, by Essex Hemphill (Plume/NAL, \$10). Collection of Hemphill's prose and poetry.

*Living As a Lesbian*, by Cheryl Clark (Firebrand, \$7.95). A collection of Clark's black lesbian feminist poetry.

*Piece of My Heart: A Lesbian of Colour Anthology*, Makeda Silvera, ed. (Sister Vision, \$16.95). Interviews, poetry, stories, photos, poetry, all about lesbians of color.

*Road Before Us (100 Black Gay Poets)*, Assotto Saint, ed. (Galiens Press, \$10). The poetry of 100 black gay men.

*Sojourner: Black Gay Voices in the Age of AIDS*, B. Michael Hunter, ed. (Other Countries, \$10.95)

*Warm December*, Vega Studios, ed. (Vega Press, \$9.95) Collection of illustrations, photography, and prose about love and black gay men.

## Nonfiction

*But Some of Us are Brave: Black Women's Studies*, Gloria T. Hull. (Feminist Press, \$15.95). Included in this anthology are black lesbian writers and issues.

*Malcolm X: In Our Own Image*, Joe Wood, ed. (St. Martin's Press, \$18.95) Included in this collection of essays about Malcolm X is "Sexuality, Television, and Death: A Black Gay Dialogue on Malcolm X," by Marlon Riggs and Ron Simmons

*The Motion of Light in Water*, Samuel Delaney (Arbor House, \$18.95). Autobiography of the black gay writer who has become one of the top writers of science fiction.

*Talking at the Gates: A Life of James Baldwin*, James Campbell (Penguin \$12) Biography of the black gay writer who made a major impact on American writing and politics. Among his books with black gay themes or subthemes are *Just Above My Head*, *Giovanni's Room*, and *Another Country*.

*Zami: A New Spelling of My Name*, Audre Lorde. Autobiography of Audre Lorde, highly-acclaimed black lesbian poet who died of breast cancer a few years ago.

## Films and Video

*Born in Flames* Lesbian film critic Andrea Weiss notes this film is "especially striking for the power and beauty with which it represents black lesbians."

*Diary of a Young Soul Rebel*. Set in London, this is the story of two black DJs, one of whom is dealing with being gay and having a white lover during a period of racial conflict in that city.

*Looking for Langston*. Bio-drama about gay black writer Langston Hughes.

*No Regrets.* Documentary in which eight gay men of color discuss being HIV+.

*Paris is Burning.* Documentary about Harlem's black drag subculture.

*Tongues Untied.* Originally a PBS program, about five black gay male poets. Many PBS affiliates declined to air it because of its language.

### Periodicals

*BLK Publishing.* BLK specializes in publications by and about African-American gay men and lesbians. Kuumba and BLK are just a couple of them (listed below). Send a long SASE for info about other publications. Use the same address and phone number for all of them: Box 83912, Los Angeles CA 90083-0912. Ph. (310)410-0808.

*BLK.* News and features about, and of interest to, the black lesbian and gay community. Published monthly. Subscriptions 1 yr./\$18, 2 yr./\$30. Sample \$1.95 plus \$1.05 postage. Address above.

*Kuumba.* "Poetry journal for black lesbians and gay men." Same address as above.

Other periodicals:

*Ache: A National Journal for Black Lesbians*, P.O. Box 6071, Albany CA 94706.

*NABWMT Journal*, c/o David Lott, 222 E. Ormsby Ave #1, Louisville KY 40203 (502)637-3781. Published by National Association of Black and White Men Together. Includes poetry, art, fiction, and essays.

### Recording Artists

**Deidre McCalla.** Deidra's been popular with lesbian audiences for years. Her albums, all on the Olivia label, include *With a Little Luck*, *Everyday Heroes and Heroines*, and *Don't Doubt it*.

**Faith Nolan.** Faith performs in a variety of musical styles: blues, gospel, jazz, rock, funk, reggae, rock. Look for the albums *Freedom to Love* and *Sistership* for lesbian focus. Her *Africville* focuses on black women, past and present.

**RuPaul.** The transvestite who's made it in the mainstream! (You go, girl!) RuPaul's very danceable music is available everywhere.

**Pam Hall.** Pam's *Honey on My Lips* album includes the lesbian rock anthem "Linda." If you like Joan Armatrading's voice, you'll go for Pam.

**Sylvester.** High-powered and very out disco singer who died of AIDS complications in 1988, after giving so much of himself to AIDS education in the black and minority communities. His music is still triumphant. Albums include *Immortal*, *The 12 by 12 Collection (Double)*, and *Stars*.

**Sweet Honey in the Rock.** This group of five African-American women does songs about Africa, about women, about African-American women, and about social issues and spirituality. They have recorded a number of albums, including *In This Land (EB)*.

**Linda Tillery.** The big woman with the big voice! **The Washington Sisters.** Jazz, blues, funk, swing and country.

**Tracy Chapman.** Yes, she is, but she doesn't sing about it.



Author Nikki Baker has created a black lesbian mystery series published by Naiad Press. They include *The Lavender House Murder*, *In the Game* and *Long Goodbyes*. ▼

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## Michael Dithers

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### by Michael Mahler

Greetings! Have we all made it through the awful weather? Ick-yuck-ptooie!

The January issue of the newsletter had to be published at a different printer, due to circumstances beyond our control. When we got the copies back we went out to distribute them and found, much to our horror, that many copies had pages 2 and 27 blank. Well, we feel wonderful that you can count on help when you really need it because Rita Kilbane and Jen Sutter pitched with Deb and me and helped find the bad copies. Deb, Lynne A (who advertised last month for the housecleaning service and who is straight!), Micheal (aka Snookie Bear) fixed the bad copies. Muchas smooches and huggies all the way around!

Micheal and I have set the date for our wedding/handfasting for Saturday, June 18th at 11:00 am at the Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie. We are making this open to the community because we want everyone to share our joy.

It was a bit scary getting Micheal and my family to meet. We had invited them over for dinner. My mom was showing a lot of apprehension. I tried to tell her that she didn't have to accept my "lifestyle" (whatever that means), just the pot roast. I told her that I really felt that the situation was a lot like kids and aspirins. You know how small kids sometimes feel that swallowing a pill is an almost insurmountable task, and then discover that it really isn't anything at all?

We thought my Mom was probably not coming over, and Micheal took the sink apart to move it across the room. Mom called and asked if the invitation was still open for tomorrow tonight. Micheal said no problem to getting the sink back together. Well, the next day Micheal was frantically trying to fix the sink while talking me through making pot roast. (Did I mention he was incredibly talented?) The house was a mess-dishes out, kitchen cabinet on the floor. I really think it was basically an *I Love Lucy* episode. All we needed was Gale Gordon. However, the house got together, the dinner turned out pretty good and everyone got along just fine. Micheal and I went over to my Mom's for dinner the following Sunday. It may not be

perfect (what is?), but things are altogether pretty good. Nothing happens unless people try.

There are multitudinous thank you's that need to go out for the recent success of the Bridges "Escape to the Tropics" Dance that happened on January 22nd. Thanks first and foremost to all of you who showed up and made it such a success. We saw people from Ohio and Jamestown. The country line dancing folks did all sorts of nifty dances. Because of your support, not only did we raise funds for the newsletter, we also collected 114 pounds of food for Friends From the Heart! Thanks to Greg, who decorated, cleaned up and generally ran himself ragged. Thanks to Deb, who handled security and also helped with setup, clean up and lots of stuff. Many thanks to Jacquelyn and Lynne for helping with decorating, getting ice and much more. Thanks to Micheal/Snookie Bear for making neat-o flyers and helping with cleanup. Many thanks to Laura and Karen who cleaned up after the pizza part of the evening. Thanks to Sue and Clarke for providing the ice. Thanks to Ron, who started plans for the decorating, and Kel who took over when Ron's schedule got changed and did a super job! Thanks to Sally, who did set up & cleanup. Thanks to Sharon, Mary Kay, Dan, Paul, Tim & Pete and everyone who worked the door. An extra special thanks to Pete who took it upon himself to make the 50/50 raffle a roaring success! Thanks to Mark, who helped out with the LGLV information table, and Dan & Dan, who ran the Stonewall 25 information table. Thanks to Jan, who helped us set up all the chairs after the dance and for taking the food down to Friends from the Heart. Thanks to Phil for doing a great job as DJ and also for donating the prize from the 50/50 after he won it back to Bridges. Many thanks to Lynne S for bringing her floor lamps to light the Olympia Brown room. I am certain there are more people we are forgetting about right now, but thanks anyway. As you can see a lot of work goes into an event. Aren't we lucky to have so many nifty people? ▼

# National/World News Bits

Ugly Words in Wilkes-Barre

WILKES-BARRE, Pa.—At a meeting Dec. 21, city councilman Al Boris said that gays should be shot (“At least half of them anyway.”) Shortly after that, he accused gays of molesting children and “recruiting” retarded people for sex.

Boris made the remarks while discussing the issue of gay men having sex in city parks. During a meeting at which he apologized for the remarks, Boris criticized federal spending for AIDS research because gays with HIV/AIDS “are getting what they deserve.”

Civil rights groups and Wilkes-Barre’s gay/lesbian community are concerned about the implications and effects of Boris’ remarks. The furor has helped the gay/lesbian community there to become organized.

## Homophobia and Racism Linked

CINCINNATI—A study of school-age children indicates that anti-gay and racist attitudes go together.

The study was conducted on 369 white middle-class school children from grades 3-11, and was conducted by Janet G. Baker, a psychologist at the University of Cincinnati.

Among the findings:

As they become older, children become less racist, or at least express it less. But as boys grow older they are less interested in having black friends; girls interest in having black friends doesn’t change with their age.

The boys were more prejudiced than girls toward gay males. They both had about the same attitudes toward lesbians.

Children with strong anti-gay attitudes were also very racially prejudiced.

“Maybe it’s a matter of power and looking down on all the people you think are at the bottom,” Baker said in an interview with *USA Today*.

## Inman Denies He’s Gay

WASHINGTON, Jan 18—When Bobby Ray Inman suddenly withdrew as secretary of defense nominee, he denied that rumors of his being gay had anything to do with it.

Inman said that the rumors originated with a 1980 decision he made, while at the National Security Agency, to not revoke the security clearance of a gay employee. “When I made that decision, a very pragmatic one, to keep the gay employee on at NSA there were lots of allegations, whispers, suggesting that I must be of comparable persuasion, else I wouldn’t have made the decision,” said Inman. “All of the law enforcement and security agencies were adverse to the decision.”

Inman cited aversion to media criticism and public scrutiny as reasons for his withdrawal.

President Clinton reportedly nominated the retired admiral as a step toward healing his relationship with the military, which had been damaged during the gays in the military controversy.

## Brit Bits

LONDON, Jan 11—Britain’s Conservative Party, which campaigned last fall on traditional moral values, is being accused of hypocrisy after having been rocked by a number of morality-related scandals within a two-week period. Much was made of one Conservative member of Parliament who revealed that while on vacation he shared a bed

with another male but insisted he didn’t have sex with him. A number of men resigned when certain aspects of their own lives were revealed: A cabinet minister who fathered child out of wedlock, another who had an affair with a party delegate, an aide who profited from a government housing scheme. The transportation minister resigned after it was revealed that his wife killed herself because of an adulterous affair he was having. Another minister is in trouble now since he admitted to having had a number of mistresses.



Gay Games IV

LONDON, Jan 21—The British army's new code of conduct prohibits homosexual activity, adultery, and marriages between officers and noncommissioned ranks.

LONDON, Jan 21—A British study says that only one man in 90 is an "active homosexual." According to that study, only 3.5 per cent of men admitted to ever having had a male partner, and only 6.1 percent admitted to any sort of "homosexual experience" (which could include simply touching) at any time in their lives. 1.4 percent said they had had a male partner during the year previous to the report. Of the women surveyed, 1.7 percent admitted to having had a lesbian partner, and 3.4 percent admitted having any sort of "homosexual" experience with another female.

Britons opposed to gay rights point to the study as proof that the gay and lesbian population is much smaller than the one-in-ten figure that has been accepted since the 1948 Kinsey Report. David Smith of the England's *Gay Times* magazine, challenged the study. "If people are asked in their homes whether they are homosexual, they are likely to say 'no,'" he said.

The study is from a book entitled *Sexual Behaviour in Britain*, which has just been released.

LONDON—The above study may affect a debate, now going on in the British House of Commons, on the lowering of age of consent for gays from 21 years of age to 16. Gay rights activists have argued that the law discriminates, because the age of consent for heterosexuals is and has been 16. The issue will go to a vote at the end of January.

### Gay Couples at Divinity School

NEWYORK—Committed same-sex couples may now reside in the seminary housing of a leading Episcopal divinity school.

The board of trustees at the General Theological Seminary approved the policy with the hopes that it would help the church to deal with the issue of homosexuality. The decision was partly a result of a lesbian professor who filed a complaint that she could not live with her female partner because it was against school policy; she had taken her complaint to the New York City Commission on Human Rights.

In 1991, the Episcopal Church General Convention passed a resolution affirming that sexual union is only acceptable within heterosexual marriage. That resolution has created a serious and ongoing controversy within the Episcopal Church. About a dozen Episcopal bishops have ordained gay/lesbian clergy.



This  
Valentine's  
Day, give an  
EGEN  
subscription to  
someone  
you love!



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## Stonewall 25

by Daniel Bauer

*The 25th anniversary of the start of the Gay Liberation movement is next June and celebrations are being planned.*

The March on Washington was a political demonstration for equal rights, reminding the country how far we have yet to go. This June the Gay/Lesbian movement will celebrate its 25th anniversary, remembering how far we have come since drag queens turned on abusive New York City police.

A tiny article in the *New York Times*, dated June 28, 1969, barely noticed the social earthquake. "Hundreds of young men went on a rampage in Greenwich Village shortly after 3am yesterday, after a force of plain-clothes men raided a bar that police said was well-known for its homosexual clientele. Thirteen persons were arrested and four policemen injured. The young men threw bricks, bottles, garbage, pennies and a parking meter at the policemen."

The *New York Post* reported, "A police raid on the Stonewall Inn... triggered a near riot today. As persons seized in the raid were driven away by police, hundreds of passersby shouted 'Gay Power' and 'We Want Freedom' and laid siege to the tavern with an improvised battering ram, garbage cans, bottles and beer cans in a protest demonstration."

Headlines in the next day's newspapers began to recognize something extraordinary was happening. "Homo nest raided, Queen bees are stinging mad," sneered the *Daily News*.

"Last weekend the queens had turned commandos and stood bra strap to bra strap against an invasion of the helmeted Tactical Police Force," the *Daily News* reported. "Queen power reared its bleached blond head in revolt. New York City experienced its first homosexual riot."

The "Gay Liberation" movement had begun.

Nine years in the planning, the Stonewall 25 Celebration will mark the anniversary of the Stonewall riots. Events including a candlelight vigil will be held on Christopher Street where the three days of rioting occurred.

## March on the United Nations

On Sunday, June 26, 1994, more than one million Gays, Lesbians, Bisexuals and Transgender people will march on the United Nations, and a pride rally will be held in Central Park. The march and rally are being designed with a vision equal to that of a Cecil B. DeMille film. The press release from the Stonewall 25 group describes the rally as a "world class, professionally staged event with global implications and an international message. It is a message that will be delivered in principal by a core of speakers, of every color and of every religious, social, and political persuasion, gathered from the far corners of the globe."

Gay and Lesbian speakers and world leaders may make speeches from around the world with their remarks viewed on large screens in Central Park. Famous Gays and Lesbians who helped promote human rights throughout the world will be featured in film clips. Such personalities may include Eleanor Roosevelt, who figured so heavily in the drafting and passage of the Declaration of Human Rights 1948, and Dag Hammarskjold, a Gay man who was Secretary General of the United Nations from 1953 to 1961.

Organizers for the event are currently requesting artistic performances that may be used in the Sunday rally.

The Stonewall 25 Celebration will emphasize the international nature of the movement and make a list of 12 demands of the United Nations.

The Gay Games, Unity 94, will be held in New York the week preceding Stonewall 25. The Games alone are expected to draw as many as 15,000 athletes and 500,000 spectators to New York, more than doubling the Vancouver Gay Games.

Martina Navratilova, former baseball umpire Dave Pallone, and Olympic gold-medal winner Bruce Hayes are members of the host committees, recruiting big name athletes to the games.

Traditionally, Pride parades around the country are held on the last Sunday of June, the Sunday of the riots. In 1994, most Pride parades have been moved up one week, so as to allow people to attend their own local Pride events in addition to Stonewall 25.

## Stonewall 25/Erie Committee

Hello everyone, an Erie area committee has formed to promote Stonewall 25 and other Gay Pride Week events in New York City this June.

Stonewall 25 is the 25th anniversary of the riots at the Stonewall Inn in New York City, when patrons spontaneously resisted "just another night" of police harassment. It was an event that now marks the beginning of the modern Gay and Lesbian civil rights movement.

The purpose of the Stonewall 25 committee is to educate our community about the Stonewall riots, to encourage as many people as possible to attend the anniversary in New York City this June and through fund-raising to supply scholarships to people that need financial assistance to attend.

We have chartered a motorcoach to and from New York City and reserved a block of hotel rooms: the first is a five day four night mini gay vacation leaving Erie June 23, with a return on June 27. This would give one some time to catch the last three days of the Gay Games and Cultural Festival, the Candlelight March on the 25th, the March on the U.N. the 26th, and some time to do whatever you want to do in the New York City such as shop, dine, theatre and hit the club scene if you wish. This package is available for up to 40 people at \$220.00 per person quad accommodation and \$375.00 per person double. Our second package is a two day one night, leaving Erie June 25 and departing New York City late June 26. This would get you maybe some time on the club scene Saturday night or time to rest up before the March on the U.N. Sunday the 26th. This package is available for up to 40 people at \$90 per person quad. If we can fill these buses we would consider putting together more buses. So it is very important to get your reservations and deposits made as soon as possible, so if needed we can make additional accommodations. We can't stress enough, time is of the essence here because there is so much going on in New York City at this time beside the fact that one to two million gay people from all over the world are estimated to attend these events.

Also we would like to put out the call for people to help us organize and make banners, etc. So, if you are interested, please give us a call.

For more information or to make your reservations, call Dan at 476-7926 or DeeDee at 835-2380 or write to the Stonewall 25/Erie Committee, PO Box 3746, Erie, PA 16508-0746



**JUNE 26 1994**

### Our Political Message

In commemorating the Stonewall Riots of 1969, the event that sparked the modern Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Rights movement, we are calling upon the nations and people of the world to affirm the dignity, legitimacy and human rights of lesbian, gay and bisexual people without distinction of any kind.

These basic human rights and freedoms shall not be denied to us, regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, gender identification, religion, ethnicity, language, age, disability, socio-economic status, national or social origin, or HIV/AIDS or health status.

STONEWALL 25  
INTERNATIONAL MARCH AND  
RALLY  
NEW YORK CITY



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## Groups & Organizations

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### **10% Network (Formerly Jamestown Social Group)**

For men & women. Smoke & alcohol-free. Meets 3rd Saturday of the month at 7 pm at First Unitarian Society of Jamestown, 1255 Prendergast. ☎ (716) 484-7285 or (716) 664-5556.

### **AIDS Council of Erie**

*Closed as of December 31, 1993!!!*

### **Bridges**

A coalition of organizations & people which seeks to use networking and communication skills to build a better community. Also publishes *Erie Gay Community Newsletter* and puts on community dances and quarterly potluck dinners/forums. ✍ Bridges, PO Box 3063, Erie, PA 16508-3063. ☎ (814) 455-0549 or (814) 456-9833.

### **Chautauqua Gay Fathers & Lesbian Mothers**

A support group for gay & lesbian parents in Chautauqua County & neighboring counties and a play group for their kids. ☎ (716) 672-6682.

### **Chautauqua Gay Lesbian & Bisexual Youth Group**

Those interested in forming a youth group for Chautauqua county gay, lesbian & bisexual youth, please call Patrick McNamara at (800) 735-2986.

### **Committee in Support of Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual People**

A committee of students, faculty, & administrators who work together to educate, bring speakers, offer films, and address concerns that relate to gay and lesbian issues specific to the Allegheny Community. ✍ CSGLBP, Box 186, Allegheny College, Meadville, PA 16335. ☎ Paula at (814) 332-4356 or Erny at (814) 332-4375.

### **Dignity/Erie Tri-State**

A national organization for lesbian, gay and bisexual Roman Catholics, their families and friends. ✍ Dignity/Erie Tri-State, PO Box 3746, Erie PA 16508-0746 ☎ (814) 864-4627.

### **Edinboro Gay Organization (EGO)**

Student group, meetings include a business hour followed by a social hour. *Meetings:* Thursdays at 8:45 pm at Butterfield, Rm 302 (♿). ☎ Jim MacCluskie MWF 11am-1pm at (814) 732-2590.

### **Erie Sisters**

Non-sexual social support group for TV/TS/CD. Good manners, taste & common sense expected. Monthly

meetings, newsletter, Meetings in even numbered months are social events held at accepting establishments. Changing room provided. Interview with a club officer required before first meeting. ✍ Erie Sisters, 2115 West 8th Street, Suite 261, Erie, PA 16505.

### **Friends from the Heart**

Volunteers helping deliver help with food, rent, transportation, moving and clothing to people with AIDS. Call Deb Monohon at (814) 838-0123 to see how you can help. Donations *greatly* appreciated.

### **Gay and Lesbian Alliance - the Other 10% (GALA 10)**

Support group for gay men and lesbians and friends and family. Open to public. *Meetings:* Call site & time. Confidentiality respected. !GALA-10/Sr. Maria Lucia Serrano, 3409 Garden Avenue, Erie PA 16508 ☎ Sr. Malu at 864-4889 around 7 pm or 824-2290 between 11am and 1 pm.

### **Gay and Lesbian Drug & Alcohol Abuse Support Group (Jamestown, NY)**

*Meetings:* Thursdays at 7:00 pm at Jamestown Community College (in Chautauqua room at the Library). ☎ (716) 664-5556 or (716) 483-0749.

### **Gay Youth Pride of Erie**

☎ Mark at (814) 899-6528.

### **HIV/AIDS Outreach Ministry of St. Paul Cathedral**

Call 452-3779.

### **HUGS East (Mentor, OH)**

Activities, events & groups for the gay and lesbian community of Ashtabula, Lake & Geauga counties. Newsletter published. ✍ HUGS East, PO Box 253, Mentor, OH 44060 ☎ (216) 974-8909.

### **Integrity**

A Christian-based spiritual and support group, sponsored by the Episcopalian Church that welcomes people of all faiths. *Meetings:* 2nd Sunday of the month (7:00pm) at St. Paul's Cathedral, 133 West 6th Street. ✍ Integrity-NWPA, PO Box 1782, Erie, PA, 16507-1782. ☎ (814) 774-0903.

### **Jamestown HIV Positive Support Group**

☎ Eric Anderson at (716) 664-7855.

### **Jamestown PFLAG**

For parents & friends of lesbians & gays. Meets last Tuesday of the month, call for site. ☎ (716) 488-1264 or (716) 763-1529.

**JCC Support Group**

A support group run by Jamestown Community College for gays and lesbians. Open to all community members. Meets off-campus. Contact: Greg Rabb. ☎ (716)665-5220.

**Lambda Group (formerly Life's Blood)**

Alcoholics Anonymous meetings for Gays and Lesbians. *Meetings:* Sundays at 8:00 pm at Unitarian Universalist Church of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway. ☎

**League of Gay and Lesbian Voters (LGLV)**

Non-partisan voters group. Publishes Voters' Guide for elections, voter registration/education, lobbying. Currently pushing Senate Bill 1218, which provides stiffer penalties for gay bashers. **We urgently need your help!** *Next meeting:* February 6, 5:00 pm at 227 West 5th, 1st Floor, Erie. ☎ Greg at (814) 833-3258. ✉ LGLV-Erie, PO Box 3063, Erie, PA 16508-0063.

**Lesbian Moms Support Group**

Support group for lesbian moms, co-parents and women interested in parenting. Meets 3rd Saturday of each month. ✉ Lucinda Marsh, 214 Walnut Street, Waterford, PA 16441. ☎ (814) 796-3535.

**Men's Coffeehouse**

The Men's Coffeehouse is an alcohol & smoke-free environment with a particular theme, topic or activity for each month. They get together on the 2nd Friday of each month at 7:00 pm. *Meetings:* 2nd Friday of the month at Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway. ☎ (814) 455-9049 for more info.

**NW PA Gay and Lesbian Task Force**

Now forming in Tionesta/Titusville area for political/media advocacy. Write to: PO Box 213, Tionesta, PA 16353-0213.

**Out & Proud**

Support group for media issues, those dealing with coming out. ✉ OP, PO Box 3063, Erie PA 16508-3063 ☎ (814) 456-9833.

**PFLAG-Erie**

Support group for Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays. Meets last Wed. of month. ☎ Kathy Harris at (814) 838-6020 or ✉ PFLAG-Erie c/o Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway, Erie, PA 16508.

**Rainbow Connection (Warren, PA area)**

Warren, PA and surrounding area. Meets 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month at the YWCA. ☎ Denny at (814) 757-8583.

**Stone Wall 25/Erie**

Organizing for June 26. Call now to get involved/make reservations. ✉ Stonewall 25/Erie Committee, PO Box 3746, Erie PA 16508-0746. ☎ Dan at (814)476-7926 or DeeDee at (814)835-2380.

**Support Groups for Persons with HIV/AIDS**

One group for Persons with HIV/AIDS, other for their families and loved ones. Open to people of all faiths. First meetings Tuesday, Feb 22nd. *Meetings:* 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month from 7:30 to 9:30 pm at Catholic Charities, St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 East Grandview Blvd. For more info, call Barbara Nitkiewicz at 824-1250. ☎

**SUNY-Fredonia Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Student Union**

A support group for students at SUNY Fredonia. ☎ (716)673-3424

**Trigon**

Support group for Behrend students, faculty, alumni. For more info, call (814)866-7387 or ✉ College Mailroom, Box 1054, Behrend College, Station Road, Erie, PA 16563.

**Venango-Forest AIDS Support**

All welcome! Meets every Tuesday at 6:30 pm at Christ Episcopal Church, 16 Center Avenue, Oil City, PA For more info, call 800-359-2437 or ✉ PO Box 834, Oil City, PA 16301

**Womynspace Coffeehouse**

The Womyn's Coffeehouse is an alcohol & smoke-free environment for lesbians, with a particular theme, topic or activity for each month. They get together on the 1st Saturday of each month at 7:30 pm. They'll meet at Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie at least until March. Presently looking for/open to new location. Contact Deb at (814)453-2785 or Sally at (814)454-2713.

**A Foundation for the Community****Providing Grants and Scholarships to the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Community.**

For information on applying for grants, scholarships, making donations or simply getting involved contact:

**The Lambda Foundation**

PO Box 5169, Pittsburgh, PA 15206 • 412/ 521-5444

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**Community Directory**


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**24 Hour Counseling:**

Saint Vincent ..... 452-5151  
 Family Crisis ..... 456-2014  
 Hamot ..... 877-6136

**AIDS Organizations & Services:**

AIDS Comm. Svcs (Jamestown) .. (716)664-7855  
 AIDS Council of Erie *Closed till further notice*  
 AIDS Factline ..... 1-800-324-AIDS  
 Ashtabula Co. AIDS Task Force -  
 Call Mary Ellen Coneglio ..... (216)998-1020  
 Ashtabula HIV+ Support Group .. (216)350-2554  
 Erie Co. AIDS Coalition -  
 Call Stephen Brockwell..... 833-0942  
 Erie HIV+ Support Group ..... 838-0123  
 Friends from the Heart..... 838-0123  
 HIV/AIDS Outreach Ministry ..... 452-3779  
 St. Mark Catholic Ctr Support Groups 824-1250  
 Jamestown HIV+ Support Group (716)664-7855  
 National AIDS Hotline ..... 1-800-662-6080  
 Spanish AIDS Hotline ..... 1-800-344-7432  
 Venango-Forest AIDS Support .. 1-800-359-2437

**AIDS & STD Testing:**

Erie Co. Dept. of Health (STD Clinic)  
 ..... 451-6700  
 MHEDS ..... 453-6229 or 453-4728

**Bars:**

*See back page!*

**Community Service Organizations:**

Bridges..... 455-0549  
 Out and Proud (Speakers' Bureau)..... 456-9833

**Counseling:**

South Shore Counseling Group ..... 725-8504  
 For more info, call Greg ..... 833-3258

**E-Mail for EGCN, LGLV, Bridges:**

From CompuServe ..... 70431,1622

**Hotlines/National:**

Hate Crimes (US Justice Dept)..... 800-347-4283

**Political/Advocacy Organizations:**

League of Gay & Lesbian Voters ..... 833-3258

**Publications:**

Erie Gay Community Newsletter ..... 456-9833

**Religious Organizations:**

Dignity ..... 864-4627

Integrity ..... 774-0903  
 Unitarian Universalist Congreg. of Erie 864-9300

**Social Organizations:**

Men's Coffeehouse ..... 455-9049  
 10% Network (Jamestown Social Group)  
 ..... (716)484-7285/664-5556  
 Rainbow Connection (Warren PA) ..... 757-8583  
 Womynspace Coffeehouse ..... 454-2713

**Student Organizations/Youth:**

Comm. in Support of Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual  
 People (Allegheny College, Meadville) .. 332-4368  
 Edinboro Gay Organization (EGO) ..... 732-2574  
 GALA 10 (Mercyhurst College) ..... 824-2572  
 Gay Youth Pride Erie ..... Mark at 899-6528  
 Gay & Lesbian Youth of Buffalo .. (716)855-0221  
 Indianapolis Gay Youth Hotline 1-800-347-8336  
 (Under 21; Available Thu-Sun 7pm to Midnight)  
 Jamestown Comm. College Grp... (716)665-5220  
 National Runaway Switchboard 1-800-621-4000  
 SUNY-Fredonia G/L/B Student U(716)673-3424  
 Teen Hotline ..... (412)771-8336  
 Trigon (Behrend College) ..... 866-7387

**Support Groups**

Chautauqua Gay Fathers & Lesbian Mothers.....  
 ..... (716)672-6682  
 Erie Sisters ..... 2115 W. 8th St., # 261, Erie, PA  
 16505  
 Jamestown Gay/Lesbian Drug & Alcohol Abuse..  
 ..... (716) 483-0749  
 Lesbian Moms Support Group..... 796-3535  
 Lambda Group—Gay AA (formerly Life's Blood)  
 Sundays, 8:00 p.m. Unitarian Universalist  
 Congregation of Erie.  
 PFLAG-Erie ..... Kathy at 838-6020  
 PFLAG-Jamestown . (716) 488-1264 or 763-1529

*All numbers are area code 814 unless  
 otherwise noted. Are you a lesbigay-  
 friendly physician or professional?  
 Please let us know so we can list you!*

**Area Bars and Places**

**Ashtabula**

**Leeward Lounge**, 1022 Bridge Street. Open 7 days, 7 p.m. - 2:30 a.m., food served till 1:30 a.m. (216)964-9935. Fri & Sat - \$1 cover, half goes into a 50-50 drawn at end of the night, other half goes to person taking the cover. Carries *Gay People's Chronicle*. AIDS Food Pantry collection site.

**Erie**

**Cup-a-Ccino's**, 18 North Park Row. Mon-Wed 7:30am-11pm, Thur-Sat 7:30 am-12 mid. A gay-friendly coffeehouse. Poetry every other week.

**Lizzie Bordon's Part II**, 3412 West 12th. Open Mon-Sat. Bowling on Tuesday nights from 9 pm till whenever. Country played on Wednesdays. DJ with dance instruction 9:30 to 11. DJ on Friday & Saturday. Shows on some Fridays. Carries Pittsburgh's *Out*.

**Silver Slipper**, 1317 State Street. Open Mon-Sat. Live DJ music 9 p.m. - 2 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday. On Friday the DJ plays oldies till 10:30 p.m. (50s, 60s and 70s). Food served. Slipper will be expanding as soon as the PA LCB okays it. It will mainly be a seating area, with tables and booths.

**Jamestown & Southwest NY**

**Nite Spot**, 201 Winsor, Jamestown. Open Tues-Sun 7pm-2am. Closed Mon. DJ Fri & Sat 10pm-2am. Sun. Drag show, DJ after 9:30 pm, no cover. Nightly specials.

**Rocking Duck Inn**, 28 Genesee Parkway, Cuba NY. Near Olean, 100 miles from Erie. Gay-owned Bed & Breakfast. Call (716)968-3335 for more info.

**Sneakers**, 100 Harrison, Jamestown. (716)484-8816. Open 7 days a week, 3:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. DJ Fridays and Saturdays 10-2. Sundays vary: country line dancing, karaoke, etc.

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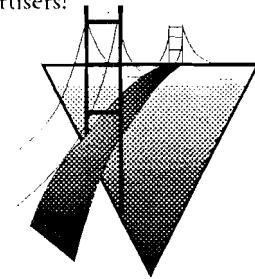
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**Bridges Book Fair!!**

Bridges will have \$4,000-\$5,000 in book titles of interest to the lesbian community at our Spring Informal Dance on April 23. The Dance will be at the Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway from 8 pm to midnight.

*More details next issue!*

