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Dallas/Fort Worth - SEEKING MATE: Rena, 28, single black female, lesbian, enjoy quiet times, laughing, singing, having fun. Seek masculine females any race or age. **mb48727**

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VOLUME 9, ISSUE 1

JULY 1995



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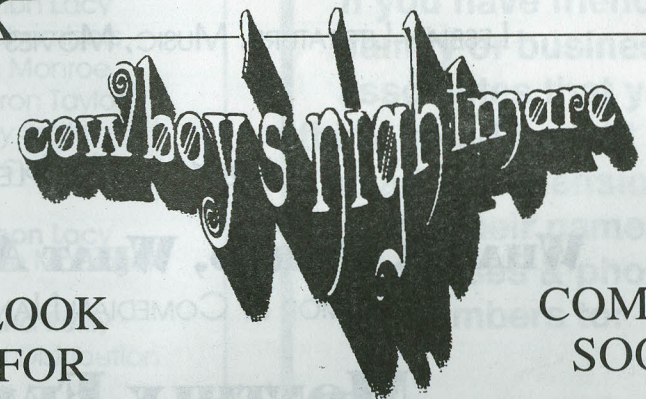
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THE NEWS

FROM AROUND THE REGION, THE COUNTRY & THE WORLD

NGLTF DENOUNCES SPORTSCASTER'S COMMENTS

WASHINGTON, D.C. — CBS sportscaster Ben Wright, who is covering the McDonald's Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) Championship in Delaware told a local newspaper that "lesbians in the sport hurt women's golf." Wright added in his interview with the Wilmington News-Journal, "When it gets to the corporate level, that's not going to fly. They're going to a butch game and that furthers the bad image of the game." He then went on to say that "women are handicapped by having boobs...it's not easy for them to keep their left arm straight, and that's one of the tenets of the game. Their boobs get in the way." Wright denies making any of the comments attributed to him and Valerie Helmbreck of the Wilmington News-Journal stands by her story.

"Lesbians don't hurt women's golf — Ben Wright hurts women's golf, and his own profession as well," said Robin Kane, spokesperson for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF). "Such outrageous and demeaning comments certainly raise questions about Wright's ability to cover women's sports fairly."

"This is just one more example of how homophobia in sports hurts all women athletes, whether lesbian or

heterosexual," said Dr. Dee Mosbacher, NGLTF board member and producer of the documentary film "Out For A Change: Addressing Homophobia in Women's Sports." "Wright's comments clearly identify the connection between homophobia and sexism that women athletes face."

"The professional sports world is perhaps the most anti-gay workplace in America," Kane added. "We've seen fewer gay and lesbian people come out in professional sports than in the military, where there is an explicit anti-gay policy. That indicates the level of homophobia, fear and bigotry that pervades the profession. Wright's comments only add to that atmosphere."

LPGA officials denied seeing any "evidence of lesbian activity," and one official also wondered why Wright hadn't mentioned "Male players who fool around on their wives," implying that lesbianism and infidelity were equatable "wrongs."

The NGLTF Activist Alert says that "The LPGA missed an opportunity to publicly support women golfers and female athletes everywhere against lesbian-baiting and sexism that pervades women's sports. Instead, the LPGA validated homophobia and sexism, further alienating women athletes and fans of all sexual orientations."

DALLAS GAY ALLIANCE PRODUCE VIDEO

DALLAS — The Dallas Lesbian and Gay Alliance (DGLA), in a direct challenge to the rhetoric of "The Gay Agenda" and "Gay Rights/Special Rights," has produced a video entitled "In Our Own Words: Dispelling the Stereotypes." Featuring more than two dozen gay and lesbian individuals, this video refutes the stereotypes being promoted by the far right. It provides an accurate, positive, and hopeful message of better understanding.

John E. Wimberly, Chair of DGLA's Police Project and a member of its Board of Directors, organized the production of this video after recognizing the need for a training video for the Dallas Police Department. After much effort by Wimberly and Susan Gore, a diversity training specialist, the department agreed to include it in their training programs for all current personnel and new recruits.

"While the catalyst to produce this video was the need at the Dallas Police Department, the video was made with a broader audience in mind," said Wimberly. "It can be very useful in any sensitivity or diversity training program, because it presents a far more accurate image of who we really are, in all our diversity, rather than the negative stereotypes that the far right continues to promote."

DGLA is marketing this video to corporations, human resources personnel, government agencies, churches and all other groups interested

in promoting better understanding by providing truthful information about gay and lesbian people."

The eight minute video features 28 different gay and lesbian individuals, ranging in age from their teens to their seventies, who represent a broad spectrum of races, religions and ethnic groups. Also included are a deaf woman speaking in sign, a gay man in a wheelchair, and a lesbian mother with her daughter. They address a number of issues, including teen suicide, hate crimes, family values, and AIDS.

"In Our Own Words: Dispelling the Stereotypes" is available by sending \$13.00 per video (including shipping and handling) to: Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance, P.O. Box 190712, Dallas, TX 75219, or by contacting DGLA at (214) 528-4233 or at e-mail address dgla@aol.com.

ATTN: TECHNO-QUEERS WORLDWIDE

In conjunction with this month's article about lesbians on the Internet, we offer the following information:

The newly updated "Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Internet Resource Guide" is a comprehensive listing that covers everything from newsgroups to WWW pages. For details, contact: Phillip Mason, 403 Stringtown Road, Williamsburg, KY 40769-9727, e-mail phillip@iglou.com.

The Queer Resources Directory can be reached at qrd@vector.casti.com.

Lesbian Avengers of Berlin has established a World Wide Web site.

Internet users can access the site at <http://www.cs.ucl.ac.uk/students/zcacsst/LA.html>.

You can subscribe to the GayNet-Digest by sending e-mail to: majordomo@queernet.org. Message should consist of: subscribe gaynet-digest.

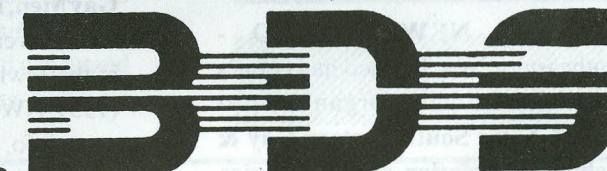
The Center for Democracy and Technology (CDT) is a non-profit, public interest organization advocating public policies that "advance

constitutional liberties and democratic values in new computer and communications technologies." Contact: CDT, tel. 202-637-9800, e-mail info@cdt.org. CDT also has World Wide Web site at <http://www.cdt.org/>. The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force can be e-mailed at nlgltf@aol.com.



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WHAT'S GOIN' ON

A MONTHLY LISTING OF SPECIAL EVENTS ALL AROUND THE AREA

HOUSTON - Twenty Something is a group of young adults ages 20-29 who meet each Thursday to discuss issues concerning lesbians, gays and bisexuals. For meeting location and more information, call (713) 531-9396.

DALLAS - Oak Lawn Community Services (OLCS) will hold **Buddy Project Training** on July 21 & 22. If you would like to be a buddy to someone with AIDS/HIV, call (214) 520-8108, extension 153. OLCS's **Candy Marcum Institute** will hold its **Fourth Wednesday Speaker Series** on the 26th, call De'An Olson at (214) 520-8108, extension 132 for more information. And, last but not least, OLCS will hold a **Tropicana Party** on the 29th. For this one, call Jeannie Parent at (214) 520-8108, extension 121.

EASTERN NEW MEXICO - Southeastern New Mexico has got its own lesbian/gay organization! **SEGALA**, the **South Eastern Gay & Lesbian Association of New Mexico** is a small (but growing) organization and is looking for new members. For more information, write to: **SEGALA**, P.O. Box 1192, Lovington, NM 88260.

HOUSTON - Team Houston is already preparing for the **1998 Gay Games V** to be held in Amsterdam. Membership in **Team Houston** is \$25 and is good through **Gay Games V**. One big

advantage to joining now is that **Uniglobe First Choice Travel** is offering a great incentive plan to get team members to the Netherlands. Between now and August 1988, you can earn dollar credits each time you and your friends travel and make arrangements through Uniglobe. At the end of this time, you will be able to apply your credits toward the cost of your ticket to Amsterdam. You will also be able to offset part of the expense for **Gay Games V** by participating in **Team Houston** activities. You can earn points that will be applied to travel costs. If you want more info on **Team Houston** or the travel incentive plans, call the **Team Houston Hotline** at (713) 935-1060.

SAN ANTONIO - A support group for **Gay Men, Lesbians and their Families** is held every 2nd Monday from 7-9pm at the Jewish Family Service building (1931 NW Military Hwy. #202). For more info, call (210) 349-5481.

HOUSTON - Lesbian and Gay Voices, a radio show featuring community activists who produce a magazine format radio show happens every Friday from 6pm-8pm on **KPFT 90.1 FM**. The show features many segments including interviews with community and national leaders, news from **This Way Out**, womyn's music and reviews of lesbian and gay cultural


events. For more info, call (713) 526-KPFT or FAX (713) 529-1223.

OF INTEREST TO ALL

A **Poetry/Short Story contest** is being sponsored by **Southern Women's Words Quarterly**. A \$100 prize and publication will be awarded in each category. Authors will retain copyrights. Stories should be a maximum of 1500 words and may be on any topic relating to women.. Enclose a \$5 fee for each entry. Deadline for entries is July 31, 1995. Send entries and SASE for winners list to: **Southern Women's Words Quarterly**, Attn: Dianne Tait, Box 32294, Raleigh, NC 27622. Qualified non-winners will also be published.

The **First International Gathering By and For Old Lesbians** is being planned for August 1996 in Minnesota (exact time and place to be announced). **Old Lesbians Organizing For Change (OLOC)** defines "old" as women 60 and older. If your partner is under 60, she is invited and can attend special "under 60" sessions. For more information on **OLOC** or the Conference, write to: **OLOC**, P.O. Box 980422, Houston, TX 77098

The **Fifth Annual San Francisco Bay Area Festival of the Babes (FOB)** will be held Labor

Day weekend, September 2&3. This is the only soccer tournament for lesbians (and anyone willing to be mistaken for one) in the world. In addition to the soccer games, **FOB** features a variety of daytime activities and events as well as evening entertainment, dance parties and an awards ceremony. For more info, call **Tara** at (510) 428-1489 

If you have information for **What's Goin' On**, please send it to us! **Deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month.**

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DEAR AGNES

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Dear Agnes,

I need help! Three years ago I had an affair with a woman I'll call Jane who worked in my office. It lasted about three months and then we went our separate ways. I haven't cheated on my lover before or since (we've been together almost seven years).

The problem is that Jane recently went to work for the same company my lover works for and the two of them have become friends. I am quite sure that Jane doesn't realize that this woman is my lover since they never met when Jane and I were seeing each other.

Now, my lover has been talking about inviting Jane and her new lover over for dinner and I don't know what to do. I think I should warn Jane before she just shows up on our doorstep and discovers me there, but I don't know how to go about it. I've managed to postpone this dinner for awhile, but I think it is inevitable at this point.

What should I do? Jane has an unlisted home phone number (I know because I've already tried calling information) and I'm afraid to call her at work since the receptionist in my lover's office knows my voice.

Do you have any suggestions about how to handle this? I'm at a complete loss.

FEELING TRAPPED FT. WORTH, TX

Dear Trapped,

Although I usually don't advocate lying,

I believe in the old saying that "What you don't know won't hurt you." If you are telling the truth about this being the only affair and it having ended three years ago, I see no reason why you should hurt your lover by telling her now.

Your only options are to have a friend you trust (or your secretary if you have one) call your lover's office and ask for Jane and then transfer the call to you — or look in your lover's address book and see if she has Jane's home phone number. Otherwise, you'll just have to take your chances.

There is one other possibility to consider — that your lover has already mentioned your name to Jane and she is just as concerned about this dinner as you are. She may think you don't know which "Jane" she is and may be as afraid to show up on your doorstep as you are to have her there.

Dear Agnes,

I have a big question that I don't know how to handle. I just came out to myself about a year ago. I was married for twelve years and have custody of our three children (ages 6, 8 & 11). Although my ex-husband is being very understanding about the reasons for our divorce, I haven't told my children the real reason behind it all.

I am not now and have never been in a relationship with a woman. I did have a brief affair with a friend/neighbor in the year before my divorce, but my children

never knew about it.

So here's my question — should I tell my children I'm a lesbian? I'm not sure at what age they will be able to handle this information. Should I wait until I have a lover or will that only make it more traumatic? Please help. I don't want to harm my kids by not telling them, but I'm just not sure how or when to go about it.

**NEWLY GAY
DALLAS, TX**

Dear Gay,

There is no one answer to your questions. There are many things to take into consideration, including their ages and temperaments, your personal situation with your parents, friends, etc., and societal prejudices. You must weigh

all this against your need to be honest and the fact that your children may be blaming themselves for your divorce. Take into consideration that your kids may already suspect and be relieved when it is finally out in the open.

You didn't indicate the sexes of your children, but it is important to remember that if you have boys, they may feel that you are rejecting them too. In other words, they may think that since you are a lesbian, you don't want any males around — including them. Be very firm about the fact that just because you are gay doesn't mean you don't love them and want them around.

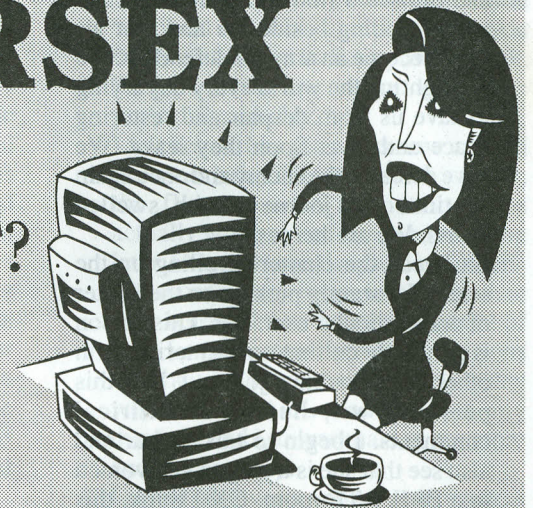
Support from a lesbian mother's group or an open-minded therapist could be beneficial for both you and the kids during this difficult period.



CYBERSEX

WHAT IS IT? WHERE IS IT? & WHY AM I DOING IT?

By Dona.Juan8



I consider myself to be an average All American lesbian. I guess if there is such a thing, I'm it. I have my lover of 15 years, home, dogs, job and the other usual activities going on, work, TV, O.J. trial and bed. No visits to the bars every night, or in the past year for that fact. Happy, contented home life. Nothing overly exciting.

I believed I should buy a computer to become more literate and well-rounded in my job. Bought top of the line hardware with the pre-loaded software for every conceivable connection to On-Line Services. Have it all. America On Line, Prodigy, CompuServe with direct access to the Internet.

So, here I go — onto America On Line — finding that there are tons of chat rooms you can enter and talk with people on an on-going basis. They type and you see it, you answer them back and it all scrolls on the screen in front of you. Amazing, instant communication at your finger tips. A phone call with the world. Instead of 3-way calling, we now have billion-way calling. As I browse the room names, I also see there are an endless number of chat room for Gays & Lesbians ... intriguing. OK, I

figure this would be a good place to find new friends & see what is happening in the American Gay Community.

As I announce my arrival with the usual salutation of "Hello," I see that people send me instant messages (IM's) which flash on my screen and I can answer them back without the people in the "room" seeing it. Great. Private lines. Then soon, I get IM's from User's with such names as Hardlover, Eatup. The messages are gross, explicit and can only be compared to an obscene phone call. Most I ignore by clicking cancel. Then I think, let's have some fun and begin to answer back with witty comments. Now I am rolling. This is fun. I can say all the things I ever wanted to say and have the barrier and cloak of anonymity. No one will ever know who I am. Wonderful.

As I watch the exchanges in the public rooms, I see that anyone can enter seeking their personal desires or expressing their hatred, fears and loves. A virtual coming-together of all types in one small 14" wide screen sitting on my desk. I gallantly take up the sword and begin to fend off the Gay Bashers, saving everyone in the room from cuts

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and bruises. I find I have comrades in arms standing beside me and that we have become an army of defenders. We are fighting the world every day trying to save us from despair and restoring peace and love. Soon they leave. We have defeated the enemy and once again continue our journeys with swelled hearts. We are heroes.

As I read the chatter scrolling up the screen I instantly pick up on the banter of one particular user: Lar. This person is generally cutting up, bantering with others and making jokes. I like this person's wit, humor & satirical comments. I begin to talk to Lar and also see that she is trying to get women in a PRIVATE room. OK I think, this must be where the Cybersex takes place. I begin to try to talk to other women on the screen to get them to go with Lar and we eventually get a couple of users into a Private room. I wonder ... is this OK? I begin to think if I don't like what I read, I can escape with a quick click of the mouse. What could be harmful? Can they come through the screen and grab me around the neck? I don't think so. Only in my mind.

With Lar leading the way, I see that she is exploring and trying to find out about our "private room" visitors. I am struck still be her personality flowing up the screen. I begin to see as well that she is telling our ladies that she is touching them. Describing in detail how and where. I see this is soft and not vulgar in any way. Soon one of our visitors disappears from the screen. I assume she was not interested in our banter. I begin to think I will see what occurs. I sit back and watch to learn the ways of Cybersex. Even as she talk with the User, I can see and feel her coming out of my screen, becoming real to me instead of the anonymous name on the screen. I can also see that she is making every possible effort not to come across as vulgar or dirty. My heart pounds. I let

my imagination run wild. She is becoming real. I can see that she is having fun as well. I join in and lighten the room up with my added comments. I begin to start setting the mood, lighting candles in the room, singing soft love songs, preparing the oils.

As I begin to type, my two new friends begin to respond by telling me what they are doing. Laughing, crying, joking, exploring and feeling lonely. I can feel the power of what I am saying to them by provoking images in their minds of things that are totally imagined. I am soaring and dancing on the phone line like a bird as free as the wind. I am giving them my thoughts, my dreams, my imagination. We begin to conclude our rendezvous and I feel the emptiness that will be left when they are blipped from my screen.

I begin to realize the power they have also exuded onto me. I am left wanting and wondering, as if I have fallen in love, as if a woman who has just breezed past me caught my eye and is gone in a flash, leaving me alone and sad because I will never see or know her again. I feel the emptiness and wonder if I overstepped the boundaries. I try to tell myself I am being foolish and stupid. This was supposed to be fun and different. Instead, I was doubting myself and wondering how this was going to affect me. I now wanted to know the person on the screen. How was my Lover going to take this? I was not hiding because she was beside me all the while. I slept and dreamed of windows flashing before me, anonymous women waling around in my head. I awoke and realized that I needed to get a grip as soon as possible. Having the world at my fingertips was very powerful stuff. This was no ordinary phone call. I decided that I wanted to let this person into my life and to share with her. I signed on again the next night.

It was not long after wandering the rooms that she appeared again. Thank you goddess for delivering her to me. We went private again, this time only the two of us, but with my Lover beside me watching. I began to find out who she was, where she was & what was going on in her life. As we exchanged information, it became obvious that we were somehow connected. Our lives were very similar. We began to mirror each other, thinking the same thoughts and the conversation flew. My lover began to see as well that there was a special person on the other side of the monitor and that a relationship was forthcoming. We again signed off and the emptiness returned.

I began to wonder (again, if I had overstepped the bounds. It was too late. I now knew this person and she had become a part of my soul. The connection was definite, strong and powerful. I felt she was my soul mate. I was not willing to risk my relationship with my Lover, but I wanted to keep my computer relationships so I could awaken my sleeping brain. These weren't actually real were they? I didn't feel like I was compromising my Lover because she was there with me at all times. Lover and I discussed it and I believe she is seeing this how I see it. I immediately begin to things of what things I could do to spark our relationship and put more excitement into it.

My goodness, I even found Elle MacPherson on-line. I could see her words flying by and I wondered if she was the REAL Elle. It didn't matter. If I let myself believe it, it was real. Janis Ian was on my desk as

well. An on-line program was held and we could ask Janis questions. Can you believe it? Janis Ian sitting on my desk. This is becoming more and more powerful each day.

I felt better. I began to become excited about each day. The trees were greener, the flowers more aromatic. I was actually going to bed later and sleeping later. I wanted to heal myself and others. My words were more important than ever before. I was becoming aware of how I could intensify my impressions on others by a choice of plain, everyday words. The AOL had become my therapist and Lar was making me more aware every day.

Lar and her lover are now regular visitors to my desk every day. We have called each other on the phone nearly every day. We are planning a rendezvous Labor Day in Florida. The possibilities are endless as we plan things we will do and imagine how it will be. There is fear that we can't relate to one another in person, but, if that happens I will go into the next room and pass her notes. And we will be soaring again.

Maybe it is sad that you can find such happiness one-line.

The possibilities are boundless. You can become whatever you want to be for the day. You can reach the stars and come back again. It is people. It is love.



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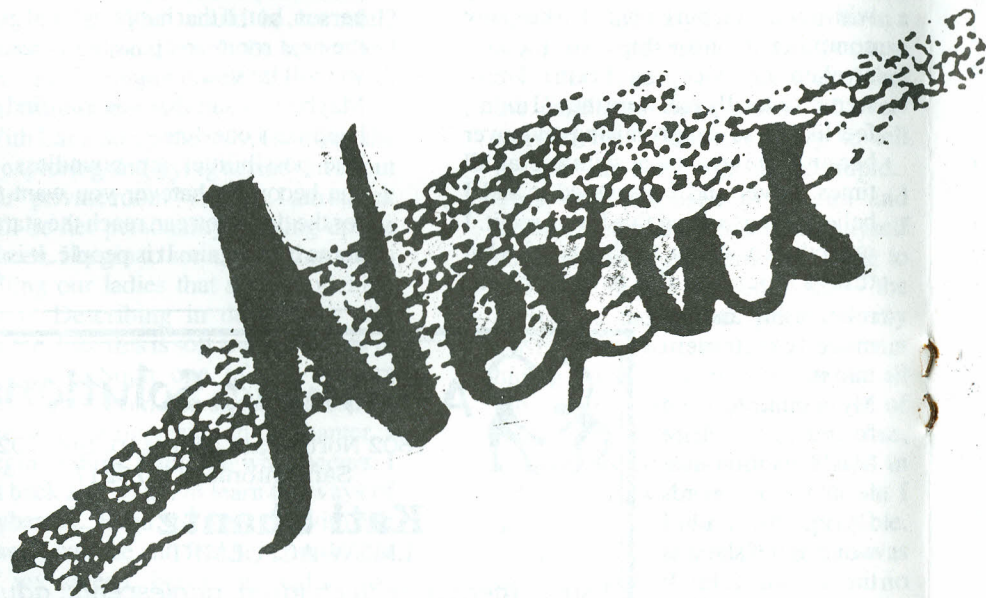
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WHAT A WORLD, WHAT A WORLD DEEP IN THE HEART OF TEXAS

BY NANCY FORD

This summer marks the 14th anniversary of my arrival in Texas. Fourteen years — isn't that the latex anniversary?

A refugee from the economic oppression of the Rust Belt. I joined the thousands and thousands of other hopeful Yankee emigres to the Lone Star State in the late 80's, seeking fame, fortune and good tan. Fourteen years of Houston sun later, I am considered somewhat infamous, appear much too well-fed to perpetuate the starving artist syndrome, and need to moisturize daily.

Texas is famous for a lot of things — big money, big sports teams, big hair: very appealing to one who had previously been known as a lowly Buckeye. What bright, pioneering Ohioan came up with that ego-smashing idea — that a small, hard, round, bitter, inedible nut was an image anyone would want to identify with? That's not a state symbol, that's my job description. Give me a symbol to latch onto that is self-esteem building, like a star, or the legend of Pecos Bill. Then watch me pack my U-Haul....

Fourteen years after my Northern Exodus, Texas has also become legendary as one of the nation's leading gay-bashing states. Hard to believe that our big, somewhat backward state still upholds its sodomy laws, and eight — count 'em, eight — men violently lost their lives here in 1994 specifically because they were gay. The Hate Crimes Bill, which would have increased

penalties to perpetrators of crimes based on ethnicity, religion and sexual orientation, was recently defeated in the Texas Legislature. That same month our friends in Austin, under the direction of our new Governor George Bush Jr. (the Son that Won), passed a law making it okey-dokey to carry a concealed handgun. Somehow, in Texas, this evens things out.

Nonetheless, that doesn't mean I don't love living here, where the stars at night are big and bright. All I had to do was spend 36 hours in Indianapolis last month performing at a Gay Pride gig to be reminded that Texas is truly one of the most entertaining, diverse and breathtakingly beautiful places into the world — lots to see, lots to do.

As you plan your summertime travels, you may want to refer to the following list of recommendations to enhance your vacation expeditions. Clip and keep it in your wallet next to your Triple-A card.

TEXAS DO'S

— Sure, Six Flags Astroworld in Houston is no Disney World. But it is home to the Mayan Mindbender. Not a tequila-based cocktail, this Mayan Mindbender combines the romance of The Tunnel of Love with the thrills of a roller coaster — much like lesbian life itself. It's designed to look damned close to a ruin/pyramid I had climbed in the touristy undergrowth of Chichenitza

a few years ago, sans benefit of cotton candy vendors.

Sight seeing in Austin? After you've checked out the imported aureola-pink tile of the Capitol Dome (the only one of it's kind), head slightly north to Hamilton Pool. Many, many years ago, before the Texas Hill Country became an epicenter for "natural girls" in hiking boots and slouch socks, a gigantic cave imploded upon itself, forming one of the most beautiful natural waterfalls in the state. This area has been preserved as a Wildlife Reserve, and is one of the most romantic sites in the Southwest. Pack a picnic and a poetry book.

— At the risk of morbidity, artsy camera-bug types on a budget should visit Glenwood Cemetery, located at 2525 Washington in Houston. Eccentric Texas billionaire Howard Hughes is buried there, and it's also home to some of the most impressive memorials and monuments in the country. Look for the "family" section, including unmarked memorial to "Two Women".

— Both Gallerias in Dallas and Houston and San Antonio's River Center over the River Walk are excellent meccas for shop-a-holics. Not only are these retail havens great places to queer-fashion watch, but they are also some of the safer public places in Texas where you can feel secure about holding your money in your hand as you sip an iced cappuccino.

TEXAS DON'TS —

— Don't visit Vidor or Tyler. These small towns are the queer-bashing capitols of Texas. Spend your hard-earned vacation money someplace

where it will be appreciated.

— Don't ignore speed limits, especially as huge multi-lane interstates trickle down into two-way traffic. These little Bubba Burgs are long on barbecue and religious clogging organizations, but short on hospitality — especially to speed offenders with pink triangle or rainbow bumper stickers.

— Don't spit on the floor. I don't care what you've heard about Lone Star Lesbians — it's simply not done in polite company.



Nancy Ford performs her popular musical comedy improv show each Thursday night, 8:30pm at Ms. B's at Plaza 9200, 9200 Buffalo Speedway in Houston. Call (713) 666-3464 for information and reservation.

SCHOOL'S OUT by Dan Woog

America's schools are filled with gay men and lesbians: students, teachers, principals, coaches and counselors who face enormous challenges each day. Dan Woog interviewed nearly three hundred people in this timely exploration of the people, places and programs that make the '90s such a crucial decade in American

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THE HADRA

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The further adventures of the fiercely proud tribe of women, the Khal Hadera Lossien. Engrossing, sensual, and rich with detail, Rivers's storytelling leaves us truly believing in this fantasy tribe of lesbian warriors.

THE HADRA

by Diana Rivers

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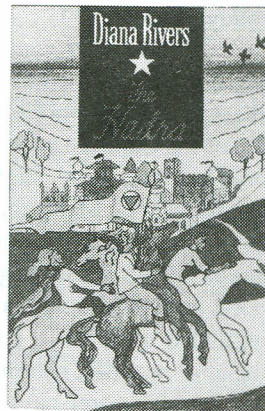
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THE FEMME MYSTIQUE

edited by Lesléa Newman

A fascinating and insightful look at the world of femme identity within the lesbian community, written by femmes, former femmes, femme wanna-bes, femme admirers, and, of course, femmes fatales. Through poetry, essays, short fiction, and photography, *The Femme Mystique* explores what it means to be a femme and a lesbian in a society that often trivializes the feminine.

THE FEMME MYSTIQUE

edited by Lesléa Newman

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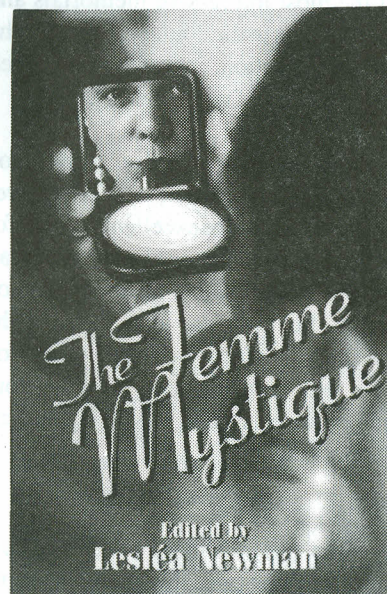
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THE COFFEE CLUB

LESBIANS IN THE ARTS • BOOKS, MUSIC, MOVIES, ETC.

THIS MONTH, TASHA SUMNER INTRODUCES:

Greener Than Grass

by Jennifer Fulton

Someone to Watch

by Jaye Maiman

We'll start this month with **Greener than Grass** by Jennifer Fulton (author of *Passion Bay*, *Saving Grace* and (as Rose Beecham) the Amanda Valentine Mystery Series).

Documentary filmmaker Blair Carroll has come to Melbourne, Australia to work on a new project. She has just broken up with her lover of twenty years and thought a foreign project might be just the thing to help her get over it. She has borrowed a supposedly empty apartment from a friend for a month, but when she arrives she find a young woman asleep in her bed.

Cassie is the niece of the woman who owns the apartment and has come to Melbourne to find a job. Cassie needs to earn money to help her mother through the drought that is devastating their sheep ranch. She has found work booking reservations in the offices of an escort service (although she hasn't told anyone what her job really is). Although there is a major difference in their ages and Blair comes from New York and Cassie from the Australian Outback, they get along remarkably well. Each is attracted to the other but both are sure that the other has no

interest.

Greener Than Grass is one of the best lesbian romances I've read in quite some time. The ending left me grinning to myself for hours and wishing for an immediately available sequel. Jennifer Fulton is one of the best and most entertaining writers on the Naiad Press roster. Her books are always entertaining and often thought provoking. This one definitely deserves two thumbs up.

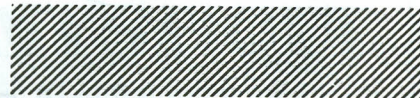
Next we'll look at **Someone to Watch**, the fourth in the Robin Miller Mystery Series by Jaye Maiman.

Robin Miller, a former romance writer turned private detective, is hot on the trail of a singer who has supposedly coned a New York bar owner. While she is trailing the con artist in Provincetown, she gets a frantic call from K.T., her lover. K.T. is asking her to help clear her best friend, Lurlene (who Robin can't stand) of suspicion in the murder of her photographer boyfriend.

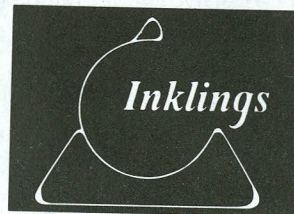
Robin returns to New York and began an investigation into the murder when both K.T. and Lurlene disappear. As Robin looks for K.T., she also discovers some secrets about the murdered man and finds an interesting connection between him, an ultra-right-wing politician and a prominent gay activist. **Someone to Watch** follows in the footsteps of the previous Robin Miller Mysteries. In Robin, Jay Maiman has created a very human heroine. Robin is a headstrong woman with a roving eye and an entire list of human frailties. As for the other characters, Maiman

manages to convey an entire personality in a few, well-chosen words. We tolerate K.T. because Robin loves her, we also can't stand the sniveling, whining Lurlene. I highly recommend **Someone to Watch** even if you haven't read the previous Robin Miller Mysteries.

Both **Greener Than Grass** and **Someone to Watch** are available at your local bookstore or by mail for \$10.95 from Naiad Press Inc., P.O. Box 10543, Tallahassee, FL 32302. Please include 15% postage and handling. Complete catalogs are available upon request.



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POETRY

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COMMITMENT

**Commitment. Something we, at first,
Swore to.**

**We were going to be together even
in death.**

You 95. Me 91.

Then, you broke our commitment.

Said you couldn't handle the intensity.

You wanted to be free.

You became free.

**You now have another who wears
a matching commitment ring
on her finger.**

You became free to make another commitment.

I wonder when my freedom will come.

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QUIZ

Are You A People Person?

You've seen them—they are the women that always seem to be surrounded with people. They love social activities and make new friends with ease. Are you one of them? Or, do you find it difficult to keep old friends, much less make new ones? Answer the questions below to find out if you are a "people person".

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS TRUE OR FALSE

1. I think there is some good in everyone, no matter how bad they may appear at first.
2. I am not comfortable at big, crowded parties.
3. I am a very dependable person. I

don't like to shock or disappoint anyone.

4. I believe in honesty at all costs. The truth, no matter how much it hurts, is always better than a lie.
5. I like to play "hard to get" with lovers and friends.
6. I have a lot of friends I can call on in time of need.
7. When I have to tell someone "No", I try to be as nice as possible.
8. People with strong opinions make me nervous.
9. I know I've got faults, I know what

they are, and I don't mind admitting them.

10. I don't like to do favors, no matter how small, for people I am not close to.
11. I have a very hard time choosing a gift for anybody.
12. I think my life has been a lot of fun and very educational, even the bad parts.
13. I can always impress someone when I want to.
14. I don't care for people who talk too much.
15. If I meet someone I want for a friend or lover, I don't give up until I've "got" them.

SCORING

Give yourself two points for each correct answer.

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. T | 9. F |
| 2. F | 10. F |
| 3. F | 11. F |
| 4. F | 12. F |
| 5. T | 13. F |
| 6. F | 13. F |
| 7. T | 15. T |
| 8. F | |

IF YOU SCORED:

0-10 points

You can be a difficult person to get to know. You may appear to be a bit of a snob at times. You have a very strong

will and you are rarely willing to put yourself out for anyone. Your best asset in dealing with people is your ability to find and keep friends. Although it is difficult to get to know you, and even harder to win you over, it is well worth the effort. You are a devoted friend.

11-20 points

You are very good at making new friends, but you tend to be very selective. You may seem "standoffish" until you are comfortable, and may keep an emotional distance even with close friend. You can be charming and charismatic, but generally will not go out of your way to impress others or find friends. You wait for them to come to you.

21-30 points

You are truly great at making friends. People love to be around you. You have a knack for making people feel important and good about themselves. You are warm and affectionate. There are few people that you truly dislike, and as a result, there are very few people who dislike you!



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HOROSCOPE

WHAT'S IN THE STARS FOR YOU THIS MONTH?

ARIES

Your work life and home life could be at odds during the first part of July. Give equal time to both to avoid problems. After the 10th you'll have time for social outings that give you the opportunity to meet new friends. Stay in the background at work around the 17th. Co-workers can be touchy right now and it won't take much to set off a confrontation. Someone you consider a friend could be hinting at a more serious relationship toward month's end.

TAURUS

Avoid arguing over who's to blame for a problem during the first part of July. Set your sights on solving it instead of finger-pointing. Someone in power is watching you around the 16th. A bold career move could pay off now. Pay attention to the advice of a loved one towards month's end. It could mean the difference between success and failure. If you need help handling a situation don't hesitate to ask for it.

GEMINI

Although practical matters are at the forefront during July, it won't hurt to let your hair down a bit and get away for a short vacation. After the 17th you may have put your personal concerns aside and concentrate on taking care of conflicts that arise in your family. Don't put your trust in someone you met recently — trust your old friends to steer you in the right direction on an important decision towards month's end.

CANCER

You may be feeling a bit restless during the first part of July. A change of scenery could be just the ticket to lift your spirits. After the

15th someone you were kind to in the past could repay you by giving you a boost up the career ladder. Towards month's end you may find that money just slips through your fingers. Leave your checkbook at home to keep your spending in check.

LEO

A long-term goal you've been working towards for some time can be reached during July. The secret is to relax and let things follow their own course. An argument with a loved one after the 17th could be cleared up in no time if you are willing to compromise. Your personal appeal is at a peak towards month's end. Use it to further career interests and make new friends.

VIRGO

A promotion or an increase in pay could be in the works during the first part of July. Added responsibilities may wear you down at first, but you'll bounce back soon enough. After the 17th a long-standing family feud could erupt into fireworks. Try to stay out of the way and don't pass judgement. Your involvement will only make things worse. To avoid conflict, try to divide your time evenly between work and home towards month's end.

LIBRA

You may have to give in on an ongoing argument to maintain a relationship during the first part of July. After the 9th you'll have a chance to prove your worth to the higher-ups at work. A good impression now could put your career on the fast track! Your social life also picks up after mid-month, but don't overdo it. You'll need all your energy to take care of a dispute at home towards month's end.

SCORPIO

Romance is in the air and a serious commitment could result during the first two weeks of July. After the 14th the focus will switch to career matters. It will pay for you to keep a watchful eye on a competitive co-worker who may be undermining your efforts. Towards month's end you may have to put career on the back burner once again as you focus on a family problem that needs resolving.

SAGITTARIUS

Money and partnership matters could be under stress during the first part of July. Take your partner's wishes into consideration before you act to avoid emotional upset. Plans you've had in the making for some time could come to fruition if you play your cards right. After the 15th you should start "tooting your own horn" at work. Your boss may not notice what great work you've been doing if you don't point it out!

CAPRICORN

Although the focus will be on home and family during the first week of July, you may find yourself away from home more than you'd like due to business and social activities. Things will settle down after the 14th and allow you to (finally) focus on problems that need your attention at home. You'll be itching to get out of town during the last part of the month, but it isn't in the cards. Tend to personal obligations now so that you can get away early next month.

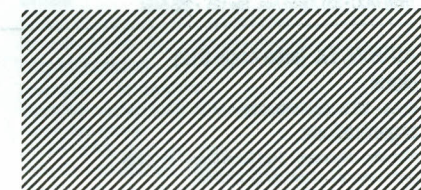
AQUARIUS

Your finances could be a bit tricky early in July. You'll need a lot of planning and a little luck to smooth out money matters this month. Job demands will keep you close to home all month, but you can find time to get away for fun and relaxation if you will put your nose to the grindstone during working hours. Don't let all this work stress you out,

you could get emotional and say things you don't mean to someone close to you.

PISCES

Home and family responsibilities may be weighing you down during the first week of July. Make time to get away, if only for a night, to lift your spirits. A creative project begun around the first of July could pay off big later in the month. Your timing is great and your ideas are on target. Take advantage of this to boost your career, improve your finances and put some "zing" in your love life.



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A LISTING OF SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS, BUSINESSES & CLUBS

ALBUQUERQUE, NM (area code 505)

organizations

Sister Source Cooperative & Lesbian Resource Line
144 Harvard SE • 268-2116

AMARILLO, TX (area code 806)

organizations

Lesbian/Gay Alliance • PO Box 9361 79105 • 359-4219
MCC of Amarillo • PO Box 1276 • 372-4557

ARLINGTON, TX (area code 817)

organizations

Gay/Lesbian Association of UTA
P.O. Box 19348-77, UTA St. 76019 • 794-5140
Trinity MCC • 331 Aaron Ave., Ste 125 • 265-5454

AUSTIN, TX (area code 512)

clubs

Nexus • 305 W. 5th • 472-5288

organizations

Affirmation (Methodist) • 7403 Shoal Creek • 451-2329
Austin Latino/a Lesbian/Gay Organization
PO Box 1350 78787 • 280-6107
Austin Lesbian/Gay Political Caucus • P.O. Box 822 78767 • 474-0750
Center for Battered Women • (Lesbian Group)
385-5181 or 928-9070 (hotline)
Gay/Lesbian Student Association at UT Austin
458-3971 • Box 275 Texas Union 78712-7338
Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby • PO Box 2579 78768 • 474-5475
Lesbian Mothers - Karen • 339-8508
Live Wire Productions • PO Box 141202 78714
Metropolitan Community Church • 1100 Springdale Rd. • 929-3660
Oasis Ministry • 5555 N. Lamar Blvd. #L101 • 441-9191
P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 331-8445
Sapphires! • Lesbian Social Group • 450-0659
Meeting Address • 825 E. 53 1/2 St., Ste E103
Mailing Address • 201 W. Stassney, Ste. #321 78745-3156
Waterloo Counseling Center • 507 Powell 78703 • 322-9654
Texas Human Rights Foundation • P.O. Box 49740 78765 • 479-8473
AIDS Legal Assistance 1-800-828-6417
The Treehouse (Lesbian Mothers Support Group)
607 Nueces St. 78701 • 477-5822

ATHENS, TX (area code 903)

organizations

P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 675-8326

BANDERA, TX (area code 210)

accommodations

Desert Hearts Cowgirl Club • Women's Guest Ranch
HC 3, Box 650 78003 • 796-7446

DALLAS, TX (area code 214)

businesses

Business Delivery Systems • 14902 Preston Rd. 75240 • 733-1108
CJ Publication Co. • 1209 NW Hwy., Ste 265 • Garland 75041

clubs

Sue Ellen's • 3903 Cedar Springs • 559-0707

organizations

Affirmation • PO Box 225831 75222 • 948-1546
AIDS Resource Center • P.O. Box 190712 75219
Asians & Friends • PO Box 9142 75209 • 392-3339
Cathedral of Hope MCC • 5910 Cedar Springs Rd. • 351-1901
Community Church & College of Divine Metaphysics
4001 Live Oak #401 • 826-7110, Ext. 401
Congregation Beth El Binah • P.O. Box 191188 75219 • 497-1591
Couples Metro Dallas • PO Box 803156 75380 • 504-6775
Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance
P.O. Box 190712 75219 • 528-4233 • FAX 522-4604
Dallas Gay/Lesbian Historic Archives • P.O. Box 190712 75219 • 821-1653
Dallas Gay Youth Group • 300 Turtle Creek Plaza #116 • 307-7203
Dallas Outdoors • P.O. Box 35474 75235 • 276-5270
Dallas Tavern Guild • 3900 Lemmon Ave. #220 • 526-5292
Dignity/Dallas • PO Box 190133 75219 • 226-4101
Foundation for Human Understanding • 528-4233
Gay/Lesbian Gardeners • PO Box 190552 75219 • 339-0787
GLAAD/Dallas • P.O. Box 190712 75219 • 526-GLAD
Grace Fellowship in Christ Jesus • 2727 Oak Lawn • 528-2811
Lesbian/Gay Democrats of Texas • 521-5342 ext. 229
Lesbian/Gay Political Coalition • P.O. Box 224424 75222 • 828-9882
Lesbian Resource Center • 1315 Skiles • 821-3999
Lesbian Visionaries • PO Box 191443 75219 • 521-5342 X 844
LIL (Lesbian Info Line • 521-5342 ext. 298
SPROUTS (coming out group) • 521-5342 ext. 256
TWIGS (the wynn in gay society) • 521-5342 ext. 269
The New Vision (newsjournal) • 521-5342 ext. 255
Metropolitan Republicans • P.O. Box 191033 75219 • 941-8114
Oak Lawn Community Services 4300 MacArthur • 520-8108
Oak Lawn Symphonic Band • P.O. Box 190973 75219 • 986-1751
PFLAG/Dallas • Helpline 556-6640
Imperial Sovereign Royal Court of Dallas
P.O. Box 190464 75245 • 521-8446
Seventh-Day Adventist Kinship • 416-1358
Wormyn Together • 3920 Cedar Springs • 528-4233

DENTON, TX (area code 817)

organizations

COURAGE, Lesbian Gay Student Org.
P.O. Box 5067 76203 • 382-3813
Harvest MCC • 5900 S. Stemmons 76205 • 1-800-497-HMCC
P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 387-1491

DRIPPING SPRINGS, TX (area code 512)

accommodations

Recreation Plantation • Campground • HCO1 box 40-A 78620 • 894-0567

EL PASO, TX (area code 915)

organizations

Lambda Services • PO Box 31321 79931-0321 • 24 hour line 562-GAYS
MCC El Paso • 916 Yandell • 542-1227
P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • Spanish & English • 591-4664

FT. WORTH (area code 817)

organizations

Agape MCC • 4615 SE Loop 820 • 535-6002
Affirmation (Methodist) • 478-7837
Imperial Court de Fort Worth/Arlington • 870-1555 or 535-7188
Lesbian/Gay Political Coalition of Tarrant County • 263-9006 or 860-0326
P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 498-5607/498-4855
RESPECT • 828 Hardwood Rd. • Hurst, TX 76054
Tarrant County LG Alliance • 3327 Winthrop, Suite 243 76116 • 763-5544

HOUSTON, TX (area code 713)

businesses

Inklings Bookshop • 1846 Richmond • 521-3369
Alternative Visions • 526-8223

clubs

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Ms. Bs • 9208 Buffalo Spdwy. • 666-3356
XTC • 9212 Buffalo Spdwy. • 666-3356

organizations

AIDS Foundation • 3927 Essex Lane • 623-6796
AIDS HOTLINE • c/o Switchboard • 529-3211
Gay/Lesbian Students University of Houston • 4800 Calhoun • 529-3211
Gay/Lesbian Switchboard • PO Box 66591 77266 • 529-3211
Houston Gay & Lesbian Parents • 980-7995
Houston Gay Political Caucus • P.O. Box 66664 77266 • 521-1000
Integrity • P.O. Box 66008 77266-6008 • 432-0414
Kingdom Community Church • 614 E. 19th • 862-7533
Lambda ALANON • 1214 Joanne • 521-9772
Lesbian/Gay Students-Univ. Houston Clear Lake • 2700 Bay Area 77058
LTN Houston • Lesbian Teacher Network
PO Box 1835 • Bellaire, TX 77402 • 529-3211
Metropolitan Community Church Of The Resurrection
1919 Decatur • 861-9149
Montrose Counseling Center • 900 Lovett #203 77006 • 529-0037
Montrose Pool League/Billiards • PJ 863-8482
The Movie Club • 867-9454
P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 867-9020
PWA Coalition - Houston • 1475 W. Gray #163 • 522-5428
SORA (Sex or Relationship Addicts Anonymous) lesbian group • 523-9398
The Women's Group • 529-5871
Womynspace • P.O. Box 980601 77098-0601
Women's Softball League • 6431 Pineshade • 868-6256

LUBBOCK, TX (area code 806)

organizations

Lubbock Lesbian/Gay Alliance & Wild Wide West Prod.
P.O. Box 64746 79464 • 791-4499
Community Outreach Center & Outreach AA (Tues. & Thurs. @ 8pm) • 102
N. Ave. S • 762-1019
MCC Lubbock • 5502 34th St. • 792-5562
P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 799-8529
South Plains AIDS Resource Center (SPARC)
4204-B 50th St. 79413 • 1-800-627-7079 • 796-7068

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Affirmation: United Methodists for Lesbian/Gay Concerns
PO Box 1021 • Evanston, IL 60204
AIDS Action Council • 729 Eighth St. S.E. Suite 200
Washington, DC 20003 (202) 547-3101
AIDS 800 • 1-800-221-7044
Conference For Catholic Lesbians
PO Box 436, Planetarium Station • New York, NY 10024
GLAAD/USA • 80 Varick St. #3E • NY, NY 10013
Hate Crime Line • 1-800-347-HATE
Gay & Lesbian Parents Coalition International (GLPCI)
PO Box 50360, Washington, DC 20091 • (202) 583-8029
Lesbian Mothers' National Defense Fund
PO Box 21567 • Seattle, WA 98111 • (206) 325-2643
Lesbian Teachers Network (LTN)
PO Box 638 • Solon, IA 52333
National Gay Alliance for Young Adults, Inc.
PO Box 190426 • Dallas, TX 75219 • (214) 307-7203
National Gay/Lesbian Clearinghouse
666 Broadway 4th Floor • NY, NY 10012
National Gay/Lesbian Task Force
1517 U Street NW • Washington D.C. 20009 • 202-332-6483
Parents & Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-Flag) • 1-800-4-FAMILY
The Fund for Human Dignity
666 Broadway 4th Floor • NY, NY 10012

NEW ORLEANS, LA (area code 504)

club & accommodations

Charlene's • 940 Elysian Fields • 945-9328

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK (area code 405)

organizations

Oasis the Community Center
2135 NW 39th 73112 • 525-AIDS
Herland Sister Resources, Inc.
2312 NW 39th 73112 • 521-9696

SAN ANGELO, TX (area code 915)

organizations

P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 944-4323
Concho Valley Gay/Lesbian Alliance
P.O. Box 750 76902 • 653-2956

SAN ANTONIO, TX (area code 210)

businesses

Affirming Solutions • 1802 NE Loop 410, Ste. 102 • 828-6486

clubs

Bonham Exchange • 411 Bonham • 224-9219
Nexus San Antonio • 8021 Pinebrook • 341-2818

organizations

Deaf Rainbow • 804-1904 TTY
Dignity/San Antonio • 202 N. St. Mary's • 349-3632
Integrity/San Antonio
PO Box 150006 78212 • 684-4920
P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 822-4135
River City Living Metropolitan Community Church
202 Holland 78212 • 822-1121
Lambda Students Center • 1140 W. Woodlawn Ave.
LISA (Lesbian Information SA) • 828-LISA (5472)
SALGA - San Antonio Lesbian/Gay Assembly • 733-7300
SALSA - San Antonio Lambda Students Alliance
PO Box 12715 78212 • SALSA Line 736-4329
San Antonio AIDS Foundation
PO Box 120113 78212-9313
San Antonio Tavern Guild • 822-2823

SHERMAN, TX (area code 903)

organizations

AIDS Resource Center of Texoma • 813-1272 or 800-525-6381
Alliance for Life • PO Box 1695 75091 • 892-9049
HIV/AIDS Services • PO Box 1695 75091 • 463-7258

WACO, TX (area code 817)

organizations

P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 750-7211

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Santee, CA 92072-3090. OR call (619)
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HOW TO ANSWER A PERSONAL AD

Put your reply in an envelope, seal shut and
put your return address and the Box # on it
as shown.

Place this in another envelope and mail to
the address above. We will then forward
your unopened letter to the person who
placed the ad.

BE SURE TO STAMP BOTH ENVELOPES!

**ATTENTION:
ALL ARTIST/CRAFTS PEOPLE
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Do you want to sell your gay products/
services on a high volume/regular ba-
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The Graffiti Page



*S.L.R. - WHERE ARE YOU?
I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR
A YEAR. IF YOU SEE THIS,
CALL ME! I'M IN THE
BOOK IN CONROE.*

J.C.M.

*HAPPY BIRTHDAY
TO
AN*

*WE LOVE YOU!
C.J., PEPPER & ROO*



*Love, I will love and miss you!
I can't wait to you get back
home. I have big plans for
you and for us. Love, Lisa*

Nani-

For five years I've
loved, cherished and
wanted you. You are
the only one for me
and I'll always be
here. My door and
my heart will always
be open for you to
walk back in.
I love you SPHBLBHL.
Baby You -

-Pami

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