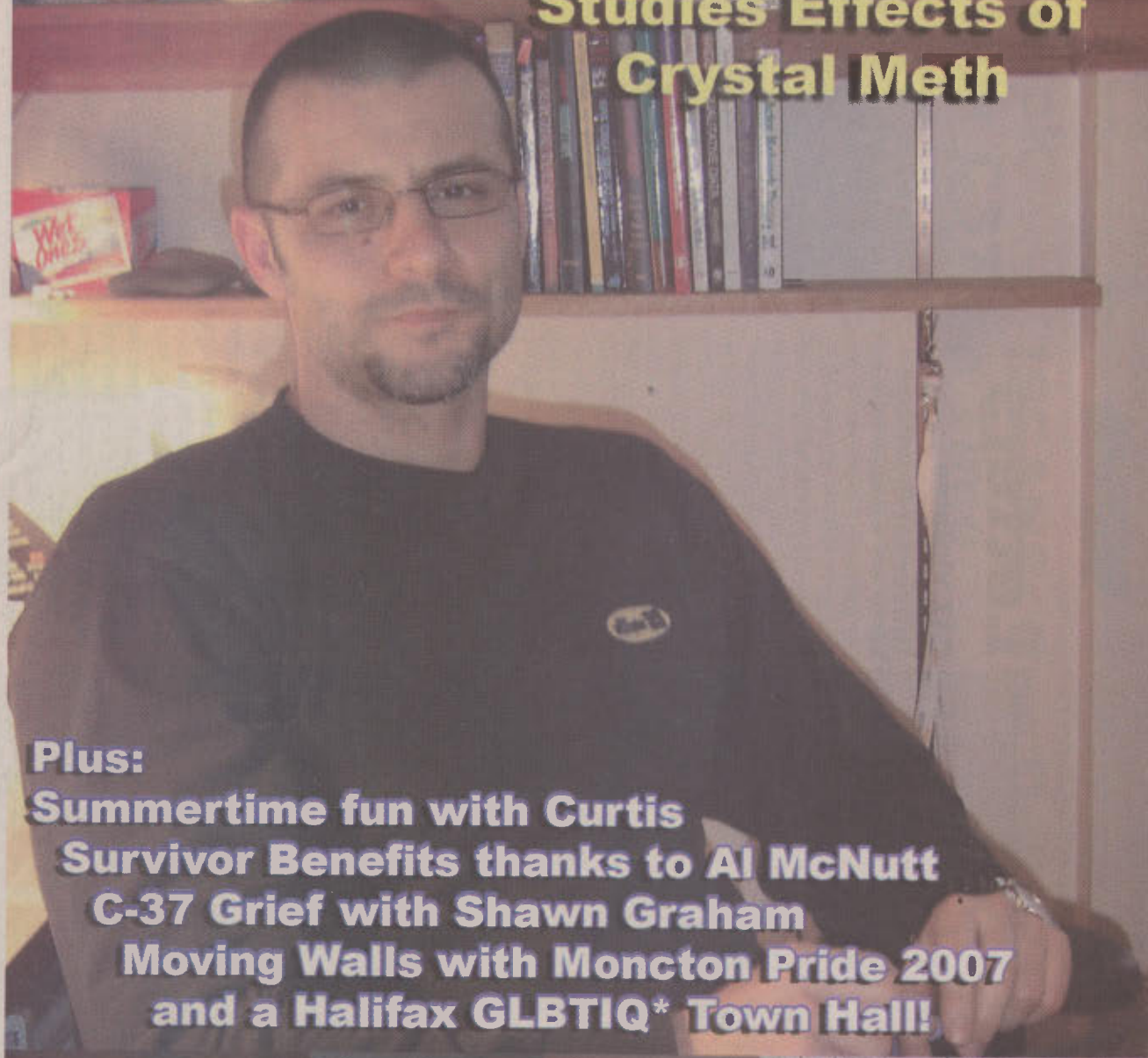


WAYNES

April 2007

for atlantic canadians

Russel Westhaver Studies Effects of Crystal Meth



Plus:

Summertime fun with Curtis

Survivor Benefits thanks to Al McNutt

C-37 Grief with Shawn Graham

Moving Walls with Moncton Pride 2007

and a Halifax GLBTIQ* Town Hall!



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FIERTE '07

Where You Can Find wayves

New Brunswick...

Bathurst: Gais.es Nor Gays
Durham Bridge: Rivers Edge Campground
Fredericton: AIDS New Brunswick; Boldon's Bookmart; Campus "Smoke" Shoppe, UNB; Molly's Coffee House / Cargo Bay; Student Resource Centre, St. Thomas University; UNB/STU Spectrum; Westminster Books, King Street; X-Citement Video, Queen Street
Moncton: Curwin News; Joe Moka Café; Reid's Newstand; SIDA/AIDS Moncton; Timothy's World Coffee; Triangles; United Book Exchange, Mountain Road; X-Citement Video
Riverview: Reid's - Riverview
Sackville: Mount Allison - Student Services & Sexual Harassment Advisor
Saint John: AIDS Saint John; Club Montreal; Feel Good Store; Hair Station; Mahogany Manor; UNBSJ Bookstore

Newfoundland...

Corner Brook: Corner Brook Status of Women
Gander: Gander Public Library
St. John's: AIDS - Newfoundland and Labrador; Bennington Gate; LGBT M.U.N.; Our Pleasures; Shopper's Drug Mart, Le Marchant Road; St. John's Public Library; Zone 216

Nova Scotia...

Amherst: Carvel Upholstery and Draperies; The Hojo Café; Sexual Health Centre - Cumberland County
Annapolis Royal: The King George Inn
Antigonish: Antigonish Women's Centre; Student Union Resource Centre; Webb's Superstore
Bedford: Bedford Library
Bridgewater: Sexual Health Centre - Lunenburg County
Canning: Canning Library
Dartmouth: Adult Cash & Carry; CD Heaven; Healing Our Nations; Jake's Video & Variety; Libraries - Alderney Gate, Cole Harbour, Dartmouth, Woodlawn; Nova Scotia Government Employees Union; Novel Tease; X-Citement Video, Main Street
Halifax: AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia; Accent Gallery; Altaregos Café; Atlantic News Stand; Blowers Street Paperchase; Blue Moon Bistro; Bookmark; CD Plus; CKDU Radio; Counseling and Community Support Services; DALOUT; Dal-Tech; Daily Grind; Diamond; Fenwick Place; FRED; Fresh Start B&B; Gerrard Hall; Grad House (Dal); HMV; Halifax Backpackers Hostel; Libraries: Captain William Spry, Halifax North, Keshen Goodman, Killiam, Spring Garden Road, Weldon Law; Menz Bar; Mount St. Vincent University - Rosaria & Sexton; Newsbreak; Night Magic Fashions; Nooks and Crannies; NSCAD - supply store; N.S. Advisory Council - Status of Women; One World Café; Outside The Lines; Planned Parenthood Clinic; Reflections; Room2Move Fitness; Sahe Harbour; Seadogs Spa; Second Cup - Spring Garden; Shoe Shop; SUB, Dal and St. Mary's; Sweet Jane's; Venus Envy; Video Difference; X-Citement Video, Quinpool Road; Youth Project
Kentville: Annapolis Valley Regional Library - Kentville Division; The Red Door
Lower Sackville: Halifax Public Library; Sackville Library; X-Citement Video
Lunenburg: Elizabeth's Books; Second Story Women's Centre
Middleton: Mark Rutherford; 92 Balcom Crescent, Nictaux
Musquodoboit: wayves, 1030 Ostrea Lake Road; J&J's Restaurant
New Glasgow: Pictou County Women's Centre
Pictou: Pictou Library
Port Williams: Port Williams Public Library
Sydney: AIDS Coalition; Cape Breton Pride Committee; Family Service of Eastern Nova Scotia; Harrison Society; Sexual Diversity Centre, CBU
Tantallon: Tantallon Library
Truro: Central Nova Women's Resource Centre; Colchester Sexual Assault Centre; MacQuarries Pharmasave - The Esplanade; NSCC Truro Campus; Northern Aids Connection
Windsor: Readers Haven
Wolfville: Acadia Pride; The Atheneum, Acadia; The Coffee Merchant; The Odd Book; Wolfville Public Library
Yarmouth: TOOTS; Tri-County Women's Centre; Western Counties Regional Library

Prince Edward Island...

Charlottetown: AIDS PEI; Afternoon Delight; Reading Well Bookstore; That's Entertainment!

Alberta...

Edmonton: Buddy's / Woody's / Steamworks

British Columbia...

Prince George: GALA-North Society
Vancouver: Little Sisters

Manitoba...

Winnipeg: Rainbow Resource Centre

Ontario...

Guelph: Out on the Shelf
Ottawa: After Stonewall; One-in-Ten
Toronto: Glad Day Bookshop; Out on the Street

Saskatchewan...

Regina: LGBT2A Centre, University of Regina

Letters

C37 Violates

Universal Privilege

Bill 37 is a re-hashed version of the previous, Conservative government's Bill 76, whereas clergy persons and provincial clerks shall not be forced to perform marriages against their religious principles.

Clergy are already protected as they can choose who in their Church they will marry, that is, in accordance with their values. Those they choose to marry have the privilege of marrying legally during the religious ceremony. This is not discrimination, as their privilege is based on marrying their parishioners.

Clerks, however, are paid by our tax dollars to carry out a job and should never be allowed to discriminate against any group. They have been hired to ensure equal access to marriage, as is the province's responsibility. Should they also have the right to refuse to marry people who do not share their personal values? Should any of us in our work environments be allowed to refuse service to groups that do not share our core beliefs? The answer is unequivocally: No!

As human beings, we have the right to have love in our lives and to pledge that love to another person. Marriage has far-reaching hopes and ideals that go beyond simple legalization. It gives a means to realize and look forward to a lifelong partnership. I am appalled at the attempts of the Conservative Party to take away these fundamental rights. To quote Gerard Veldhoven, "This total absurdity is in violation of equal opportunity and equal access to marriage. It is not only a tragedy for the gay and lesbian community, but also a violation of the Human Rights Act."

Mea Culpa

The stunning photograph of LuLu LaRude on the cover of our March 2007 issue was provided to Wayves by kelly clark photography : typicalgirl.com. A special thanks and apology from Wayves for the mistake!

Wayves runs almost exclusively reader-submitted photos. Do you have photos you'd like to see in Wayves? Send them anytime to submissions@wayves.ca!

Important WAYVES Dates!

Issue Content Deadlines:

Apr 6, May 4, Jun 1, Jul 6, Aug 3, Sept 7 (the first Friday of each month)

Send your news, ideas, comments, criticisms, columns, cartoons and more to submissions@wayves.ca any time!

Production Meetings (Halifax) Apr 9, May 7, Jun 4, Jul 9, Aug 6

Help decide what goes in the next issue, 7:30 PM, CEF, 5443 Rainnie (above Century Computers), all welcome!

Layout Parties (Halifax)

Apr 15, May 13, Jun 10, Jul 15, Aug 12
 Help build the paper - no special skills required, just enthusiasm, and helping even once or for a few hours helps a LOT! 9:30 AM, CEF, 5443 Rainnie (above Century Computers), all welcome!

On The Stands and In The Mail:

Mar 24, Apr 28, May 26, Jun 23, Jul 27

I urge New Brunswick citizens to write to their representatives in protest that this or any other similar bill is discriminatory. We need to remind the Liberal Government that they assured us that they would not allow discriminatory policies to pass, that we voted for them, in confidence of these promises. New Brunswick should never be seen as a province that does not respect all human rights. I urge other provinces to support us as we should support them, if this comes to pass in their province. Mario Bourgeois Leduc
 Moncton, NB

Respect, Tolerance

Recent events solidly established the equal marriage rights of gays and lesbians in Canada. Parliamentarians soundly defeated the efforts by the religious right and others. Respect and tolerance at times seems unattainable in the gay and lesbian world. I remain greatly concerned, especially with the leaders of the Roman Catholic Church who do not hesitate to continue to promote intolerance. Leaders such as Archbishop Terrence Pendergast and others remain very vocal in their opposition to equal rights for gays and lesbians.

Church leaders demand respect from their parishioners and those who do not adhere to the Christian faith. Everything being equal, one imagines the feeling to be mutual as far as gays and lesbians are con-

cerned. This is not the case. The constant struggles to obtain respect and tolerance, has been a long and very difficult process.

One country where respect for one another is of the utmost importance is in The Netherlands. The following is quoted from the text of the Christmas and New Year's message to the Dutch people from Queen Beatrix.

The queen calls on the Dutch public to "Show respect for one another. Treat your neighbor the way you want to be treated yourself." She goes on to say, "Clashing beliefs create tension but that open discussion and debate should not be avoided. In discussions, nobody may dictate their opinions to others." According to the monarch, "Tolerance starts with the admission that the truth of one person never can be the truth for everyone. Religious freedom may not be used to offend others or promote hate." In closing, she maintains, "A right to insult does not exist. Those who ridicule others, undermine their own credibility."

The Dutch again demonstrate the extent of the tolerance exhibited in that country. Everyone is entitled to be treated equally, regardless of the interference by some religious leaders. Hopefully, the Dutch queen's message will resonate in other parts of this world.

Gerald Veldhoven
 Amherst, NB

Nova Scotia CAN!

The Nova Scotia Cultural Action Network was launched on February 22. The network formed because of serious concerns raised by sector activists about the state of cultural development in NS. Nova Scotia CAN is therefore dedicated to the progressive development of the province's arts and culture for

the benefit of all NS residents. The potential to be a thriving province for arts and culture must be realized in its entirety; energizing Nova Scotia's diverse creative communities is an important starting point. To find out more about the organization's visions and goals, go to www.novascotiacan.ca.



Last Month: Why would you come to Atlantic Canada?

On a fiercely cold morning in February, Destination Halifax gathered tourism officials and industry leaders to learn about how Nova Scotia might increase its share of the billion dollar Lesbian & Gay travel market. This prompted Wayves to ask you, gentle reader, "Why would you come to Atlantic Canada?" One person wrote to comment on the excellent social scene in Halifax, and in both Moncton and Fredericton.

Another saw Atlantic Canada as great escape "from the big city life."

Another reader offered that Maritimers are open-minded and tolerant. "We have the most beautiful sunsets in Canada, we are friendly and we love the gay community! Come visit this amazing place!" Elsewhere in this issue, you can read an article by Curtis Cartmill that offers a host of ideas on how to take advantage of the beauty and summer fun our region has to offer.

While we're thinking about fun in the summer sunshine, Wayves would like to hear from you about the issue of nudity.

This Month's Question: Should the law in Nova Scotia be changed so that women can go bare chested?

You Tell Us! visit <http://www.wayves.ca>.

New Brunswick Activists Stalk C37

By Sarah Rose-Werner with contributions by Eldon Haye & Gerald Veldhoven

On Friday, March 2, Conservative MLA David Alward, from the riding of Woodstock, introduced a private member's bill in the Legislative Assembly that would allow a civil marriage official (in New Brunswick, a provincial court clerk) to refuse to marry any couple based on the official's personal religious beliefs. Bill 37 would amend the Marriage Act so that "Notwithstanding any other Act, a person who is authorized to solemnize marriage under this Act may refuse to solemnize a marriage that is not in accordance with that person's religious beliefs."

The bill is an exact duplicate of Bill 76, which was put forward by the Tory government in 2005 just before they broke for the summer, stonewalled by NDP MLA Elizabeth Weir and then allowed to die. A resistance movement to Bill 76 was active in the summer and fall of 2005, consisting of Eldon Hay, Greg Daborn, Gerard Veldhoven, Mario Bourgeois Leduc and myself.

By Friday evening, the same day Bill 37 was introduced, a response

was already in full swing. Greg Daborn, from Moncton, learned there was to be a rally on Saturday morning for the Moncton East by-election, and that Premier Shawn Graham would be there. Greg, Cherie MacLeod, Marla Kavalak and Mario Bourgeois Leduc attended the rally and spoke to Premier Graham and to candidate Chris Collin re: Bill 37. Graham told the group that the bill would die on the second reading. He phoned Eldon Hay personally and told him the bill would "never see the light of day. I gave you my promise that we won't introduce it. And we won't."

However, Saturday morning was also the day that the newspaper coverage of the situation hit the streets. Attorney General and Justice Minister T. J. Burke was quoted in the *Telegraph-Journal*, as saying that the Liberal government would not oppose Bill 37, calling it an "extension of the 'status quo.'"

"We're not going to oppose the bill. The bill provides preference in choice for individuals who wish to perform same-sex marriages and who wish to decline. There's nothing really that's going to change with respect to the amendment."

Well, with a public statement

cont'd to C37 pg12

ISCANS: One Dollar at a Time

The Imperial and Sovereign Court of Atlantic Nova Society (ISCANS) has been busier than ever, presenting an array of events that just about everybody will truly enjoy. In January, members of ISCANS traveled to Antigonish to present their "Priscilla: Queen Of The Highlands" show, thoroughly entertaining students and staff of St. FX University as well as Antigonish's greater community. In early February, ISCANS held its annual Investiture at Reflections Cabaret. This event is part of a series of ongoing fundraisers for four Halifax-based charities: the Aids Coalition Emergency Fund, Manna For Health, Byrony House For Battered Women and Children, and the Metro Turning Point shelter.

Under the organization of Emperor and Empress VII Cousin Cletus and Natassha N! and the ISCANS executive, Halifax's Court has been working hard on a variety of fundraising events, including the

3rd Annual Christmas Diva Balls Auction, Drag Queen Survivor and the 6th annual King and Queen of Diamonds Pageant. Upcoming events include an April Fools Day Impersonation Show, date TBA, where Halifax's best gay entertainers will impersonate each other on stage, as well as potential upcoming visits to both Prince Edward Island and South Shore Nova Scotia.

The goal of this year's fundraising efforts has been a "back to basics" approach to raising money, one dollar at a time, and success to date has been great, with hundreds of dollars already earmarked for Reign VII's chosen charities and Court morale and enthusiasm at an all time high with more money being raised virtually every week. New and returning memberships are always welcomed, with the \$10 membership fee adding to the growing pot of charity cash. For more membership and events information visit www.imperial-courtns.com.



Doug Melanson with new edition of the Chamber of Commerce Business Directory with "Gay Businesses" category.

Batters up!

Play softball, or think it might be fun to try this summer? We are looking for GLBT people around Halifax to join our team, or if we have enough - a league for this summer. Please contact Ashley and Curtis at halifax.glbt.softball@gmail.com.

PFLAG Canada Kicks Off its National Membership Drive

Randy Thompson, Editor of PFLAG Canada's newsletter; Connections sat down recently with Executive Director, Cherie MacLeod to talk about PFLAG Canada's latest drive to increase membership.

"How many members do you have?"

Cherie MacLeod, executive director of PFLAG Canada is asked this question all the time. Over the years, thousands of people needing support and information on issues of sexual orientation and gender identity have connected with the organization, but until recently, their official membership included just their chapters and contacts - not the individual people the group serves. How do we compare to our neighbours to the south?

PFLAG in the United States boasts 200,000 members; an impressive showing that likely helps attract sponsors to their well-funded organization. While membership numbers alone do not convey strength and value, they are often counted as one indicator of an organization's effectiveness. What is the aim of the current

membership drive?

"The trust and appreciation of those who contact us seeking support, speak to the importance and value of our work. But now, we are asking people to stand with us in support of a more open and accepting Canadian society. We are asking them to become members of PFLAG Canada." How have you addressed issues around privacy and contact information protection?

"We are fiercely protective of the people who contact PFLAG Canada for help. Privacy and anonymity are the hallmark of our support work. Our members can expect no less."

How can people become members of PFLAG Canada?

Registering with PFLAG Canada is fast, simple and best of all, FREE. Full details are available online at www.pflagcanada.ca. "Membership means community and we are certainly one that deserves to be counted!" Thank you Cherie MacLeod, Executive Director; PFLAG Canada for sharing this with our readers.

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- Bill McKinnon
- Cam MacLeod
- Daniel Mackay
- Denise Holliday
- Gerrit Volkmann
- Hugo Dann
- Ian Crowe
- Jim Bain
- Jim McMillan
- Kim Fowlow
- Norval Collins
- Ralph Higgins
- Randall Perry
- Raymond Taavel
- Sarah Stefanko
- Vance Maxwell
- Your Name Here!

wayves

wayves exists to inform Atlantic Canadian lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and transgender people of activities in their communities, to promote those activities and to support their aims and objectives.

wayves is an independent publication, published every month - except January - by a non-profit collective. Anyone who contributes to **wayves** is automatically considered to be a member of the collective and is welcome to participate in all meetings and discussions. **wayves** reserves the right to refuse material that might be reasonably considered heterosexism, racism, sexism or an attack on individuals or communities. Opinions expressed in **wayves** are not necessarily those of the editorial collective. The article submission deadlines are posted in the calendar of the Community Events page. Articles should be a maximum of 1,000 words and might be edited for length. Submissions should be e-mailed - in plain text - to the address noted below. The copyright for all submissions remains the property of the original author/creator.

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Fetish Ball April 28



The Fourth Annual year's Fetish Ball hosted by MacLeather, will be held on April 28, 2007 in the space above Diamonds on Gottingen Street (same location as last year but up stairs). The doors open at 8 p.m. and close at 2:30 a.m. The Show starts at 10 p.m. with the Fetish Wear contest at 12 midnight.

Wear your outfit there or change and leave your street clothes in the coat check until you are ready to leave.

The Fetish Ball is the biggest fundraiser for a number of local fetish groups. The three to four hundred people from all orientations who participate always have a great time and have a chance to win some decent prizes from local sponsors like Venus Envy, Halfway Creations and Wolfgang Leathers.

Our host this year will be Rouge Fatale. The show which includes the Pink Velvet Burlesque Troupe and Wrestling Girls, includes displays involving bondage, flogging, violet wand play, foot worship,

gender bending, play piercing and any other edge play we can find before show time.

The Contest at midnight will be judged by three local celebrities from local fetish clubs. Simple rules - all genitals are covered as well as female nipples and no butt crack is to be showing. The outfit can be spikey, lacey, leathery, rubbery, and/or latexy. You get the idea. We are here to have fun with people who we have grown to know over the years and with new folks of a like minded attitude.

Some of the reasons to come to the Fetish Ball are to support our local fetish groups, check out the latest fetish fashions, connect with the best doms and subs in the Maritimes, see how to join some of the local fetish groups, see the erotic and exotic acts being put together by local groups, to get electrified, tied up or beat upon by the best, and to feel free to be who you really are even if it is only for a night.

First Male/Male Divorce In Canada

It was inevitable. With the granting of same sex marriages in Canada, there eventually would be separation and divorce. Two long-term female partners fell early, and now there has been an official announcement of the first male/male divorce.

Wade and Michael Oulton-Stillman, both of Sackville, New Brunswick (at the time of their marriage and divorce) married amid the initial wave of Canadian same-sex marriages in Ontario, on June 17, 2003. On December 21, 2004, a mere eighteen months later, the couple signed a legal separation. Michael Oulton(-Stillman), now of Moncton, New Brunswick, sought a Petition for Divorce in November of 2005. Uncontested, the divorce was decreed final on March 4, 2006, thus marking the end of the marriage and the first same-sex divorce granted two men in Canada.

In an interview that coincided with this announcement, Wade Stillman said he hopes "this train

wreck of a marriage for one couple will be the exception rather than the rule. The extremely important, albeit long overdue, decision by the Federal Government to recognize gay and lesbian rights and to legitimize our marriages is a social victory for all Canadians and should not be called into question by the failure of a single relationship. Or even of many. Certainly not in a society where the divorce rate among heterosexual couples is between 50-60% currently. It is only natural and normal the GLBT community will suffer its own as yet undetermined share of divorces." "However, because this is a new social and legal right for us, we may make mistakes both in choosing the marriage option because it is available, or conversely by remaining in toxic relationships so as not to become an example to those who remain steadfastly opposed to the GLBT right to equal marriage. An argument Mr. Stillman believes to be patently absurd."

"This (the divorce) is certainly

not what I anticipated upon entering marriage, but that can be said of most of the unpleasant events which marked and eventually necessitated its end. It is without joy that Michael and I assume this particular historical sidebar," Mr. Stillman added. The official reason for the divorce was recorded as irreconcilable differences. Mr. Stillman, an author, plans to write an autobiography that will tell the real story behind those innocuous legal words.

The author believes that having had a relationship so accessible to the public makes it fair that the same public knows and understands what exactly brought about its necessary conclusion. "There is a need for full accountability on the part of both my ex-husband and myself. Not only to examine the good that may have come from our decision to become gay rights advocates and (strangely) role models in certain segments of the GLBT community, to become the faces and names, some might

cont'd to Divorce pg12

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Women in Motion

Superior Travel, Women in Motion evolved from a discussion while on a road trip returning from Provincetown in an RV. The group had such a great time meeting women from all over the country and recognized a void in the marketplace for Lesbian events. So as a result, a small group of entrepreneurial lesbian women formed a new "Travel and productions company" catering exclusively to women.

The aim of Superior Travel, Women in Motion is to provide unique and entertaining opportunities for women to participate in group travel, tours and events organized especially for them by Women who understand the solace of women interacting with each other.

The four business partners of WIM, have a combined skills and knowledge base of 20 years in the full service travel industry, 25 years in the tourism industry, 40 years in event planning, and over 100+ years (that's all they are going to say) of just having FUN.

This year's marketing efforts will be centered on creating awareness for Superior Travel Women in Motion. To that end, WIM has arranged to have three dances at the Holiday Inn in Halifax N.S. May 26, September 28 and a New Years Eve Gala. WIM is also in the process of arranging local golf trips, schooner cruises, wine tours and, of course, "sun destinations." Look for an ad in the May edition

of Wayves for more details. In order to realize the full potential for women centered activities, WIM is also actively working to establish cooperative ventures with

other women owned or women friendly businesses. They encourage such businesses to contact them at STWomeninMotion@ns.sympatico.ca.

Moving Walls/ Mobilisons: Moncton Pride

"Moving Walls/Mobilisons" is the new theme/logo selected by the River of Pride Committee/comité du rivièrte de fierté for this year's Moncton/Riverview/Dieppe pride celebrations.

Congratulations to Mary Martel for her winning entry. She now can enjoy free entrance into Triangles for a year and ride in our annual parade, September 15, with the yet-to-be-announced pride marshalls.

Chapeau also to John Cochrane who won the "best RED dressed" prize package at the February 3 colour party.

On March 3, ORANGE was the dress "du jour" and a great time was had by all. Check next month's

issue for more pictures.

A reminder to get out your "YELLOW" outfit for the April 7 party. Thanks to our sponsors a prize package will again be awarded.

Follow our progress on our website, www.fiertemonctonpride.ca, for all updated information. Volunteers and suggestions are always welcome.



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Summertime Fun

By Curtis Cartmill
Okay, winter finally did catch up to us and some of us. I invited some friends over for martinis, suggested a summertime costume and drink theme, got them liquored up, and then put up a suggestion board for them to write down their favorite summer time activities.

These are the fabulous ideas the group came up with:

- Go to the Halifax Market and pickup a delicious Breakfast Wrap from Just Dressed's stall
- Check out the music scene and go to a concert or a pub
- Beach volleyball tournie on Citadel Hill
- Nude sunbathing at Seaview Lookoff
- Road trip to the Valley ending with a large picnic at the Blomidon Lookoff or after the beautiful hike at Cape Split
- For the beat on the Halifax Gay scene, check out current groups and events listed on: <http://gay.hfxns.org/>
- Participate in the Clam Harbour Sandcastle Contest
- Fitzpatrick Mountain (Pictou Co.) at dusk/night/dawn
- Cabot Trail on motorcycle and party in Margaree
- Join/create a baseball or softball team
- Tidalbore rafting on the Bay of Fundy
- HURL - Halifax Ultimate Frisbee www.halifaxultimate.ca
- Crystal Crescent Nude Beach (Don't forget to put SPF 50 on the "little man")



Curtis and his "sister" Claire. Photo by Gerrit Volkmann

- Watch the Tall Ships Parade in July 2007
 - Watch a play or musical put on by a community theatre group
 - Gay charter of the Bluenose II
 - Bike "Rails to Trails" in PEI
 - Train and complete a Duathlon (run/bike/run) or Triathlon (swim/bike/run) with Triathlon NS, even try-a-tri (shorter triathlons)
 - Winery tour of the Valley!
 - Have dinner at the Lobster Festival in Shediac, NB
 - Host another martini party!
 - Take a flight to Italy and Lazy on the Beach in Sardinia
- While the list is very Halifax/Nova Scotia-centric, think about it... there are a lot of great ideas about road trips and vacations, sports teams, concerts and special events that could be applicable anywhere. You just need a little imagination, patience to get through the rest of the winter, and then this could be the most thrilling summer ever!

MLA flips for Halifax Pride

Halifax Citadel MLA Leonard Preyra helped Pride volunteers prepare a delicious pancake breakfast with syrup, sausages and coffee at Menz Bar on Saturday, February 17. The attendance was not large - it's so hard to get some LGBT's up early on weekends - but it was a fun event that raised \$86.85 for

Pride. Thanks is due to the wonderful team of volunteers organized by Trent Slaunwhite and to Doug Melanson of Menz Bar/Mollyz who donated the space, the equipment and all of the food.



Leonard "Flipper" Preyra & Michael Davies-Cole



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Va-Va-Va-Voom

By Mary Kathryn Arnold
Cancer, hysterectomy, FGM, rape (date rape, incest, and rape as a weapon of war), domestic violence, international violence against women - Dalhousie University's annual production of Eve Ensler's the Vagina Monologues certainly covered the heavy topics, but it was also laugh-out-loud funny, intelligent, and wise. First performed in 1996, eleven years later, Ensler's play has spawned a worldwide industry of theatre and fundraising to stop violence against women and girls. V-Day, which stands for Victory, Valentine and Vagina, was established in 2001 and is a non-profit organization which has raised over thirty million dollars. Dalhousie's 2007 production of the play, which ran from February 12 to 14, was a fundraiser for Alice Housing, Bryony House and Avalon Sexual Assault Centre.

The director, Joanna Caplan, made the astute decision to open the play with a gorgeous tableau vivant of the entire cast of thirty-five women, including the two hosts Delta and Venus (a nod to Anais Nin's groundbreaking work of erotica Delta of Venus). As each woman, or in some cases, group of women, stepped out of the stylized arrangement, the rest of the

tableau acted as a backdrop representing the multifarious community of women's stories the play voices. Ensler conducted over two hundred interviews with real women before writing her monologues; as a result, the monologues are a brilliant fusion of the personal and political. Dalhousie's version of the play included twenty of the monologues, from the hilarious to the heartrending. The overall theme was the link between violence and vaginas, a connection that was prefigured as I broke in two my Belgian chocolate vulva sucker (all the way from Ontario, the Dalhousie Women's Centre proudly declared) to share it with my companion. The prevalence of violence was also echoed in the selection of monologues, dictated by this year's international V-Day spotlight on "Women in Conflict Zones."

Standouts included Kim Parkhill in "The Vagina Workshop", Nasha Nijhawan in "My Angry Vagina" (my favourite monologue, which



cont'd to Vagina pg12

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Crawford Hastie's KIBITZ AND BITEH

Hey Tom

You know how I feel about reality, don't you, Tom? I mean, it's the kind of thing that tends to come crashing down on one sooner or later so why seek it out? Let it find you. Chekov said "Anyone can face a crisis. It's the day to day living that wears you out." and I couldn't agree more. I prefer to view life as it ought to be rather than be dragged down into the sordid and boring details of balancing chequebooks, eating properly, respecting tradition and reading self-help books. I mean, if you're going to live your life like that you might as well go into politics. Now there's a harsh reality! And getting harsher if the New Brunswick Conservative government has their way with allowing civil servants to be able to choose not to assist gay couples who wish to marry. Gee, I'd prefer not to have to sit next to people with body odour on the bus, or deal with surly sales people in stores or speak to certain family members during the holidays but, guess what? Some realities are avoidable and some are not.

And reality shows! Now there's an oxymoron. What reality is this supposed to reflect? Scientists have discovered that certain subatomic particles (surprise you, sometimes, don't I, Tom?) are affected by the very act of being observed and measured. Now, how many subatomic particles do you think there are in someone like Britney Spears or Brad Pitt? Okay, bad example, but you know what I mean. Do you think that being under the constant scrutiny of paparazzi affects their behaviour? Now, I can think of several activities where I don't mind being watched....even find a certain erotic frisson from being observed... but that is not reality, that is performance, just as porn movies are not documentaries.

It used to be that preparation, training, working, paying one's dues was how one learned a craft. Now everyone wants to jump the queue and head directly to stardom. No more auditioning for Broadway shows or touring comedy clubs refining your material, no more having the opportunity to fall on your face in small clubs or concert halls, and learning from your mistakes, NO. Now, success, or more likely, humiliating failure must happen in front of millions of people - most of them tuned in to laugh at the "losers."

And the judges - and I use the term very loosely - are not looking for talent. They don't want originality or creativity. They want someone with the right look, someone to fit the current fad, the next Justin Timberlake or - God help us! - Mariah Carey. Someone who can be pre-packaged, produced and profitable! And for those who believe that instant gratification takes too long, it is the perfect solution. Why bother with talent and uniqueness when publicity and promotion can

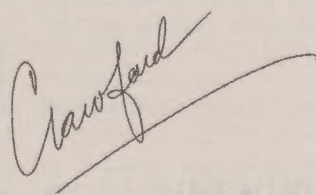
generate stardom...if only briefly. Remember the Asian man who sang She Bangs?

Another road to celebrity, more and more frequently taken, is the artificially generated controversy: Someone like Ann Coulter - who would like to bring back the Spanish Inquisition, except this time they'd have to be Baptists and American... white Americans! - makes headlines by using offensive terms for Muslims, gays, blacks etc. in a public arena, like a Republican convention and everyone wants to condemn her or support her. Why do we care what this woman says? We give far too much attention to this kind of bigotry and hatred. We are being manipulated into accepting her reality as actual fact. People like her are running scared. Homophobia is about fear, is about attacking those who terrify you.

Look what happened after John Amaechi, the former NBA star, came out. We heard a few positive comments from other basketball players but most of the airtime was devoted to an ignorant jock who felt "homosexuals shouldn't be allowed to be in America." Everyone knows about that comment. How many know that Amaechi is now part of the Human Rights Campaign's Coming Out Project? That he is working to make it easier for others to come out and to make children and young people understand the value of accepting yourself and being authentic. I know you probably find it funny to hear me talking about sports or even knowing the names of athletes.... me who used to raise his hands in front of his face and squeal if a ball came hurtling, within twenty feet of me. But, you know, Tom, maybe that was because it didn't seem like sports was meant for people like me. There were no John Amaechis, no Greg Louganis, no David Kopays in those days, no athletes coming out. They, like me, were still hiding.

Sport is still the area where coming out is the most difficult, where homosexuality is the most feared and ridiculed. But there have always been gay athletes, always will. And more will choose to come out....not for publicity or the fame, but because coming out is a matter of survival, a matter of pride. That is our reality.

Love ya!
Crawford



Something About Tina

By Gerrit Volkmann

Crystal methamphetamine, or crystal meth for short, has been given a lot of media attention within the past decade. It emerged as a drug of choice for different demographics, gay men being one of them. According to a study by the Gay & Lesbian Medical Association in the United States, entitled "Breaking the Grip" and released in November 2005, gay and bisexual men are 10 times more likely to use crystal meth than the general population.

As a drug, crystal meth is fairly cheap and easy to make, and gives highs of up to 15 hours. The body reacts to crystal meth by releasing the neurotransmitters dopamine, serotonin and norepinephrine in the brain, creating an overall positive feeling towards oneself and the environment. Along with this goes a decrease in the need to sleep and to eat, making it ideal to party all night through or to easily lose some weight.

The downside of crystal meth - as with natural and synthetic drugs in general - is its addictiveness, which is estimated to be some folds higher than e.g. for crack. Long-term use of crystal meth has been proven to cause irreversible damage to the brain and the blood circulation system, not to mention chronic neurobiological dysfunctions such as paranoia and psychoses.

In the gay communities of large American cities like San Francisco and New York, crystal meth has emerged as a stimulant in the past decade. The drug alters sexual experience in the sense that it strengthens confidence, increases the libido and makes sex much more intense. But crystal meth also seems to reduce inhibitions to have unsafe sex. Rates of sexually transmitted diseases such as syphilis and HIV/AIDS have risen substantially, as statistics between 1998 and 2001 in Chicago and New York indicate. An association between crystal meth use and increased spread of



Professor Russell Westhaver, St. Mary's University, Photo by: Gerrit Volkmann

HIV among gay men due to more unsafe sex is obvious to American researchers.

So much for the United States. But what about the crystal meth situation in Canadian gay communities? As in the United States, crystal meth consumption started in the west and moved to the east. British Columbia was most probably the first province in Canada where crystal meth surfaced in the gay party scene. The 2004 Sex Now Survey revealed that about 9% of gay men surveyed in Vancouver, Victoria and Prince George used crystal meth. In Toronto, about 10% of gay men have tried the drug at some point, according to a statement from the AIDS Committee of Toronto (ACT) in 2006. Several public health projects were established that deal with crystal meth use among gay men, including the Methamphetamine Response Committee (with a subcommittee called Gay Men's Crystal Group) in Vancouver and the Toronto Gay/Bisexual Men's Crystal Meth Task Force, run by ACT, to name a few. Interestingly - and in contrast to the findings made in the US - research conducted in Canada

cont'd to Tina pg14



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Halifax "Town Hall" — Two Views

Bill McKinnon

A Better Understanding of Each Other

The Halifax Pride Committee hosted a community town hall at the Halifax Marriott Harbourfront Hotel on Thursday, March 8, 7-9 p.m. The Committee wanted to find out how healthy Nova Scotia's LGBTTIQ community is, to check its pulse, to learn how folks see our community and say where they would like it to go. It seemed to be a success; people spoke up and told the Committee what they think.

The 65 or so people who attended included: individuals speaking for themselves, representatives from many organizations (AIDS Coalition of NS, BLT Womyn of Halifax, Capital Health, CKDU, DalOut, Gay Halifax: Queer Encyclopedia for Halifax, Halifax Pride, King's Pride, LGB Youth Project, NS Rainbow Action Project, Pride of Pictou County, Safe Harbour (MCC) and Wayves), and Halifax-Citadel MLA Leonard Preyra. The participants were from a wide spectrum of employment and avocation involvement, including: academia, activism, civil service, education, health care, hospitality, politics, sports and tourism. There was a broad cross-section of interests, identities, gender (40% female) and age (18-68). Most participants had plenty to say and if we were all listening as well as talking, we came away with many ideas and insights which give us a better understanding of each other, our differences and problems, and our common interests and aspirations.

As the meeting was held so close to Wayves' layout date, we can provide only limited information on what was said, but for more information on the Round Table check out <http://www.halifaxpride.com>, or email webinfo@halifaxpride.com. If you would like to contact someone who attended the meeting, email Daniel MacKay at av231@chebucto.ca.

The topics discussed included (in no particular order): the state of cooperation among groups, recreation and its importance for the health of the community, common space possibilities (e.g. a community centre), tourism, gay businesses, networking - How can we communicate better?, diverse identities, marginalization, barriers, the need for outreach to sub-groups, labeling of us and by us, aging in our community - Where do we go when we're old?, the possibility of a summit or queer council, prospects for a regular gay radio broadcast, initiatives which help LGB youth, suicides,

the prevalence of light faces at the meeting and lack of PFLAG representation, the decline of the gay camping group, integration with the mainstream world versus hiding out in the gay community, and terminology problems. If we were listening as well as talking, it was a great experience.

One interesting fact that was clear from the meeting was that many of us do not know much about each other and it seems to me we all have a need and responsibility to get to know each other better. This can be achieved by our getting together more often and by reading about each other's interests and activities in Wayves and in Gay Halifax.

There was a lot of interest in sports; so sign-up sheets were set up for badminton, baseball, cycling, running, volleyball and ultimate frisbee. To get on the lists contact Halifax Pride.

This town hall's success was due to many people and especially those who put so much into making it happen: Chuck Hsuen from CKDU, Halifax Marriott Harbourfront Hotel, the Halifax media, Hugo Dann who so ably chaired the event, and a truly amazing team of people from the Halifax Pride Committee including the two co-chairs, and other members of the board of directors.

In the organization and running of this town hall, it could have been better but it seems to me that all-in-all the evening was a worthwhile undertaking. For sure, there yet remains much more to be done by the Pride Committee and everyone who attended the discussions. The Committee wants and needs feedback from people on the meeting, so let them know: What did you like about it? What did you not like about it? What would you suggest be improved? Should we do this again? Once a year? Twice a year? What do you see as "our" next step?

Denise Holliday

Not Enough Inclusion

The meeting scheduled for 7pm was a little slow starting thanks to so many participants. Something like 60 people attended. While the Daily News was present most politicians and other mainstream media were more noticeable by their absence.

Initial reaction and basic one liner would be that the event was a resounding success. The real question is how do "YOU" measure success.

The first emails that went out were vague and not very inclusive but had the great effect of causing people to become curious. It was unfortunate that it was planned on the same day as IWD as that prevented many key figures from the female population from being there. The ones who attended were

certainly a wide assortment of age gender, sexuality and political/non partisan backgrounds.

While I sensed euphoria at the turn out; there were clearly frustrations in the room that showed throughout the night. The gay titles were an issue with me as a TS person and also several women at the meeting. More inclusive language was discussed. At the same time, using more inclusive language was making some gay Men uncomfortable and feeling their identity was being somehow masked. Some lesbians indicated they felt the same thing applied when using the strict "gay" term, so much work on inclusion and self identification is needed and that was acknowledged at the meeting. The transgender/transsexual community was under represented as less than 4% (2) of the attendees openly identified in this category. While some people had concerns of sports, health and retirement others had concerns of basic rights, marginalization, social acceptance, suicide rates and internal homophobia/transphobia. One person commented on the amount of queer email they receive but felt more networking was needed. The frustration there was possibly that some people confuse Chats and blogs with networking. Gossip is never networking.

One big consensus was that an overall collective was needed that could speak for us all. Great idea but who has the funds, time and charisma to run such a monster. No one group could or should have that responsibility. All the groups present deserve praise for what

they do and for being there; however a council idea can only work if it is open ended.

A follow up of representatives from groups and interested individuals is needed to consider the council perspective ASAP and so open a door for a unified voice.

The meeting was, and I repeat myself, a success; so why was I left feeling drained, empty and like I just went through the fight of my life "again" with no more hope in sight than there was before.



Charles Hsuen participates, runs the soundsystem, and records for CKDU.

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Making A Difference

PFLAG PEI - Melanie

By Bill Kendrick

Many gays and lesbians in Prince Edward Island are still not comfortable being completely out of the closet. Many, like Melanie (not her real name) live openly gay lives, but still feel a need to protect their families from becoming targets of homophobia. Here is Melanie's story:

I didn't know I was a lesbian until I moved away and eclipsed small-town high school life with big-city university adventure. Even then, I sauntered through my first year more or less unsuspecting of my 'alternative' sexuality. I came back to Summerside for summer break, like many of my peers, and started into a life-altering chain of events that would leave supportive friends, apprehensive parents and the wrath of a homophobic society in my wake.

Growing up in Summerside, I tended to blend in with the woodwork, or at least I tried to. Never fully fitting in anywhere and yet never fully excluded, I was able to maintain a low profile. I played on the school athletic teams and in the concert band, had some good friends, an average number of boy-friends and relatively few enemies. Outwardly, I was as 'normal' as they come. Inwardly, however, I was raging. Hindsight is a wise and humble teacher and, looking back, I can see clearly some of the reasons for my internal conflict, my mood swings, my hyper-sensitivity. It could be argued that most teenagers have good reason (read:

hormones) to be a little moody. I certainly agree. However, there are also those of us who use moodiness as a socially acceptable means to express a confused (and oft tormented) self. I was one of those.

Maybe it was my subconscious telling me that things weren't quite right or that there was more, something I wasn't yet seeing. Maybe it was suppressed desire. Likely, it was all of these things and more. I suspect my troubled teenage years were troubled differently to those of my straight peers.

I came out (as an openly gay person) in my second year of university, first to myself, then to friends and strangers, and finally, to my family. It was a whirlwind. Between leaving Summerside in September and returning the following April, I had significantly altered my hair, my dress and most importantly, my beliefs. Granted, this was only one step in a long walk towards becoming a more open, accepting and politically-minded person. But it was a big step. Growing up in Summerside, I heard a lot of homophobic remarks, witnessed homophobic behaviour and, in turn, repeated it. That's what people do: we are products of the world around us and if we aren't taught to think critically, to think for ourselves and to be accepting of the world's diversity, we can easily fall into a pattern of mimicking the behaviour of others. And the behaviour of others, unfortunately,

has been wrought with intolerance and homophobia. The good people of Summerside are by no means exempt.

I was never a hateful person. I can't recall teasing anyone or calling names. Mostly, I was homophobic in my head, my thoughts and my beliefs. In part, this was due to my Catholic upbringing. I said my prayers every night before bed until I was 20; I came out when I

Most commonly, insults would come by way of someone leaning out their car window as they drove by me, yelling "Dyke!" or "Lesbo!"

was 19. That's a year lived as both a devout Catholic and a lesbian. That's a year I spent dealing with copious amounts of guilt and shame. I'm not saying that lesbians can't be devout Catholics or that some people don't live both of those identities very comfortably without any guilt or shame. But I am saying that it was quite hard for me and undoubtedly remains hard for many others around the world. But the Catholic church and its membership are indeed responding to societal change; perhaps it will soon be easier for members of the queer community to exist openly within the Church.

When I first came out, I did so in the safety of another city, in

another province than that

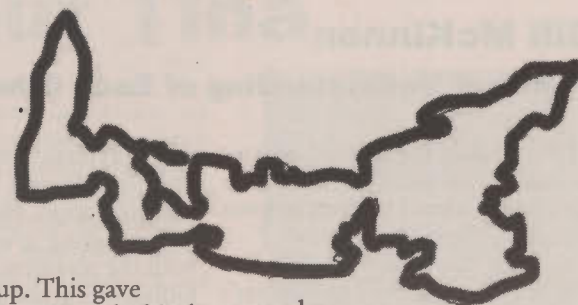
in which I grew up. This gave me anonymity. It gave me the kind of confidence that comes with anonymity—if no one knows me then no one can judge me. Also, in the city I was exposed to other cultures, subcultures and ways of living that I had simply not seen in Summerside. I silently observed people around me existing comfortably and openly as gays and lesbians, as the alternative minority, as radical dressers and as bold individuals. And it was here, in the presence of accepting strangers, that I began to leave

the safety of the woodwork.

At the end of my second year of university, having only recently resolved serious internal conflict and accepted myself as a lesbian, I headed back to Summerside. With my newly shaved head and boyish attire, I got a lot of looks. I was bold about it; after years of wanting not to be noticed I was suddenly screaming for attention. I was proud of my newly accepted identity and my own sense of confidence. I felt it was important to be completely open, obvious and out. Perhaps this was to make up for years of not wanting anyone to see who I was.

I received mixed reactions in and around Summerside. My friends and peers were generally supportive, almost to the point that being out was a non-issue. I like that; I don't think it needs to be an issue. My parents were more or less accepting. I think my father wasn't as concerned with my sexuality as he was with my wardrobe. My mother took a long time to be okay with things. There were many conversations, a lot of questions and answers. My sister was great. I can remember getting a lot of looks around town from acquaintances and people I might have recognized but not necessarily known. I had to deal with a lot of disturbing comments and hurtful, threatening words from men, especially when I went out to the local bars. I dressed as I wanted to dress; I danced without inhibition. This upset some people and they let me know about it.

I know there were a lot of rumours about me. I know my extended family talked and gossiped. I know the people I went to high school with talked and gossiped—"Did you hear...?" I didn't care. I was content with having finally found a sense of self and more inner peace than I had ever known. Rarely did anyone insult me right to my face. Most commonly, insults would come by way of someone leaning out their car window as they drove by me, yelling "Dyke!" or "Lesbo!" Admittedly, that's not



exactly an ideal situation to be in and it can seem threatening, but more so, it makes me feel sad for the people who feel pressured to be the kind of cool that belittles others. I feel sad for those who are so shut off from acceptance that they feel the need to blurt out their intolerances, as if to prove themselves, their straight orientation, their hatred. Half the time (or more) it's not even hatred but just plain ignorance.

Summerside is a small town. I'm sure that most of the people who know me there know that I'm not straight. As I said, I broadcast the fact when I needed to, when I was a young lesbian doing my part to feel good about a piece of me which I had been taught was bad and wrong. Also, having found inner pride and acceptance, I felt it was my duty to be out and proud so as to be a role model to other young girls who might still be closeted and ashamed. I never had any role models. There were no out lesbians I knew and looked up to as I was growing up in Summerside.

I would like to put my name at the bottom of this article but I won't, but not because I'm shy and embarrassed to do so. Like I said, I feel it is a responsibility to be out and be a potential role model for others. I gave up the flamboyant wardrobe years ago. My hair is long again and although I am openly gay, many people would pass me on the street and never know the fact. I simply don't care anymore. It's a part of me but there are lots of other parts. It's settled nicely into being just a part of the whole me, a non-issue, the way it is. I would like to sign off by telling those who can't guess who wrote this what my name is, but I won't. I have grandparents who read this paper and I love them dearly and they love me dearly and I'm sure my name at the bottom would not change that basic fact. But, it could make things uncomfortable and I don't want that right now. I'll wait until the time is right to tell them. Maybe there will never be a right time because maybe they will never understand. They are a product of their generation as I am of mine. That's the way it is. We live our lives as people who are LGBT-TIQ (big acronym encompassing all alternative sexualities, usually I just say "queer") and we need to tread carefully at times, even if we don't agree with that. So, I am treading carefully, telling all of you who read this paper that I am just another woman from your town, telling all young people who live here that it's okay to be whoever you want to be and telling my grandparents, who may or may not recognize me in this article, that I love them.

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Dawn's Early Light

Wayves is pleased to introduce a new womyn's column. For the next several months you can look forward to a rotating series of articles starting with Dawn Archambeault's advice column.

Dear Dawn,

My partner and I have been together for 14 years. We are monogamous, well established and settled into a very comfortable life in a small town on the southwest shore of NS. Although we love each other very much and are the best of friends, over the past few years our sex life has diminished to almost nothing at all. I've heard the term "Lesbian Bed Death" before and I am just wondering what it is and if we are suffering from it. What can we do to fix this?

Sexless on the Southwest Shore

Dear Sexless,

First off, congratulations on making it through 14 years; for any couple that's no small task. Before I make any suggestions though, I want to debunk the phrase "Lesbian Bed Death." I can't begin to imagine where this misogynistic phrase even began; to me it smells of sexism and homophobia and really shouldn't be used to describe the love experienced between two women. Lesbian long-term relationships are no different than any other long-term liaison, when it comes to the relationship cycles we experience.

The beginning of a relationship is filled with excitement, passion, everything is new and our bodies produce intoxicating hormones when we fall in love. We are usually on our best behaviour and work

towards establishing connection and some form of commitment with our partners.

As the relationship matures and we commit ourselves to each other, sometimes we begin to take each other for granted or we take the relationship for granted. We tend to get wrapped up in our everyday routines: working, paying bills, looking after the family (if you have one) and somewhere along the way the "work" we did, at the beginning of the relationship, gets neglected or left behind. Relationships take work, romance, passion - even connecting with our partners intimately doesn't just happen; we have to be willing to do the little things that make all the difference. There are many, many ways to rekindle the romance; half the fun is discovering what works for each

of you.

Now having said that, in some cases it's more than just a lack of romance; sometimes there can be more serious issues like abuse, betrayal, lack of trust, communication break down, or behaviours that have threatened the relationship. In these situations, you must first decide if saving the relationship is what you truly want or even if it's healthy or safe to do so. If so, then I strongly recommend individual and/or couples counseling to help you work through the issues together and individually. But one word of caution, do your homework - not all counselors are open to our relationships or even know the issues we deal with.

The point is that you and your partner need to be clear on what

you want individually and as a couple. People grow and people change - as do relationships. To keep them spicy we have to be willing to do what ever it takes to get them there.

Best of luck to you both,
Dawn

Check out Dawn's next column in May's issue of Wayves when she helps Jake deal with his meth-addicted partner who is breaking all the rules in their polyamorous relationship.

If you have a question, concern or problem that you would like some help with, feel free to email Dawn at diversityinc2@yahoo.ca.

Boisclair, MacIsaac: Lightning Rods

By Gerard Veldhoven

Here we are, pretending to be a country void of intolerance. However, within a week two stories emerge in the news definitely worthy of great concern to our community. We may pretend all is well with the acquisition of equal marriage rights and yesterday's Supreme Court's positive ruling on pension benefits. We are justified to be jubilant about those gains. What then is the problem?

Last week we learn Ashley MacIsaac and Andrew Stokes tied the knot in Halifax. It seems there are many in the straight community who remain uptight about gay and lesbian relationships. A photo depicting a gentle, loving kiss exchanged by these two lovebirds prompted immediate responses from an irate public. The Daily News was full of nasty, discriminatory letters to the editor. Most of us are not naïve and know exactly the circumstances that bring about these intolerant comments. This is due to parental influence as offspring have been taught to eradicate

any feelings of accepting gays and lesbians as equals. As a matter of fact, many comments in the Daily News bordered on hatred. Some were so hideous that it makes one wonder if some court cases could result. One writer even went so far as to call the picture "soft-core porn." If this is considered tolerance, then we would do well to continue our attempt to educate the general public. As one reads these letters, it suddenly occurs to me that we have a long way to go yet. Perhaps, in some instances, we must fight in the courts again to stop the hatred presently allowed to flourish.

Last night we learn about a radio host in Quebec "dragging" homosexuality into the provincial election. PQ leader André Boisclair is openly gay and the program's host, Louis Champagne, suggested the Parti Québécois will look like "a club of fags." This is indicative of what I would refer to as an attempt to bolster support for an already divisive attitude, with an additive

known as "hatred." This has been instilled in many, especially in the rural areas of our nation. The owner of this radio station has promised to "review" the matter. This may, or may not be resolved in a fair manner. Time will tell. I have a hunch it may just be conveniently overlooked.

Intolerance is the gravest error of our times. Therefore, it demands a long-term plan to educate those who are so belligerent and homophobic. This is very serious business and there is a need to evaluate how we may best begin positive steps to eradicate this on-going problem. Freedom of Speech should not be a vehicle for expressing hatred. There must be limits, so the hurt does not continue for years to come. One article suggested the pension benefit issue is "the last great battle for equal rights." I totally disagree with that assertion. The reality of hatred must be addressed, as it affects our equal right to co-exist with our straight members of society in a peaceful manner.

Trans Workplace Solutions

By Denise Holliday

While developing my transgendered workplace solutions workshops, I developed a presentation that meet basic needs. I have now upgraded it with additional slides depicting transgender and transsexual people from backgrounds not previously included.

Some changes are presentation techniques and no description is required. Other changes are about individuals, including: Billy Tip-ton, Hijras, Mary Rose Dee, and Michelle Dumaresq. These add different elements to the presentation.

The history of these individuals comes in a disk that I hand out at workshops.

With so much information on

GLBT history, I decided to organize it in a database. I share my information freely at workshops in person and by disk. The database allows the user to search the names and sort by several different methods and as information is gathered. Almost anyone could add their own information or send the information to me to be added.

Today transgendered people are getting involved in many new aspects of society. Even in the USA a transsexual male to female has been appointed to the Bench in California while there are MP's in Australia and Italy. In Canada many transsexuals, have attained heights of achievement but have not made it known.

We have politicians, professors, doctors and surgeons who are transsexuals but over 60% of the transgendered community suffer from marginalization and it is estimated that 20% of those between age 14 and 25 are or will be involved in the sex trade and will experience a HIV infection rate 10% higher than genetic females. While Canada has no set figures, in the US the odds of being violently killed are 16 times the normal national average.

That is why this type of presentation and workshop is needed; so transsexuals can have the freedom to live their lives without shame or harassment and in safety.

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Portraits of a Diamond Diva '07

CARA Help Line Fundraiser

Capitol Theatre Moncton



MC - Steve Laviolette & Savannah

By Joe Black

It was 1 p.m. February 17, the backstage doors open to the Capitol Theatre in Moncton, NB.

Enter Executive Producer Wayne Richard with Producer & Master of Ceremonies for the 7th Annual Diamond Divas Revue, Steve Laviolette. With them is a group of dedicated volunteers for this benefit to assist "Ligne Téléphonique CARA Helpline Inc." (Crisis And Referral Agency).

The stage crew begins their tasks and as the performers arrive, they take their stations in the dressing room before rehearsals commence.

Steve and Wayne start dealing with each performer's rehearsal individually to ensure that the lighting, music, sound and stage directions are in place with the technicians. After each performer has completed their rehearsal, they are free to leave the theatre and arrive back in time to prepare themselves for the evening's gala event.

It's now one hour before show-time. There's a very high energetic feeling taking form in the dressing rooms and Green Room. Final make-up checks are being done, the wigs are getting a final primping and each of the performers look to each other for reassurance that everything is in place and that they're not only looking fabulous, but flawless too.

It's 8 p.m. The theme music starts and it's now show time. The buzz, butterflies and the nerves start up backstage, as the performers do their final pre-stage preps before stepping in front of the 600+



Cerina Romanoff-Blake

people in the audience. Backstage the performers are able to watch each other on a giant flat screen TV in the Green Room or from the stage wings. The talent this year gave it 110% with hugs, kisses and congrats flowing as each act returned to the Green Room from their performance on stage.

Special thanks to this year's performers: Ms. Vicki, Nina Diamonds, Boom-Boom, Jamie, Savannah, Dyna Might, Cerina Romanoff - Blake, "Empress 7 - Natassha NI", and Deva Station delighted us as Jessica Rabbit with the movie playing behind her and her "BOOBS" tribute to the late LuLu LaRude.

Each year, the CARA Helpline presents the "Florence Eaton Memorial Award" to its "Volunteer of the Year". Executive Director of CARA - Karen Eustace and Executive Producer of DDR7 - Wayne Richard and all in attendance gave a standing ovation when the award was presented to "AMBER - BABY". Congratulations to Amber-Baby for all the hard work and time you've put into the Diamond Divas Revue over the past seven years.

Besides "Female Impersonators," it was also a year for three grand and outstanding group acts. Gilbert & The T-Birds did a great job with "Greased Lightning." Ms. Cecile Ouellette made history by being the first "Male Impersonator" and wowed the crowd with her "ELVIS" impersonation which



Mz Vicki DeKnight



DynaMight & NB Village People Cop Rejean LeClerc



Boom-Boom Lubalicious



Cerina Romanoff-Blake



Gilbert & The T-Birds



ISCANs Empress VII Natassha NI



DevaStation



Nina Diamonds

included musicians and back-up singers. BUT, after a four-year absence, it was the return of the New Brunswick Village People in their final performance that got the Capitol Theatre on its feet and rocking.

Amore Passion held its Fifth Annual Gourmet Supper fundraiser, at which owners Mario and Jacky Bourgeois Leduc presented a cheque to Karen Eustace of CARA in the amount of \$1,000 from the proceeds of their event.

To top the night off, the "Diamond Ring" winner donated it back for immediate auction which raised an additional \$230 for CARA. In total, \$5,500 was raised for this necessary agency in the City of Moncton.

When all was complete, congratulations went on backstage for another amazing show executed by this dedicated group of individuals, performers and volunteers before heading to Triangles to celebrate.

Next year's Diamond Divas fundraiser will be on February 24, 2008. Tickets will be available in December 2007 and will make a great stocking stuffer to help us help others.



Irl Washburn - NB Village People



MAC Leather 2007 Rob Myers & Amber Baby



DevaStation

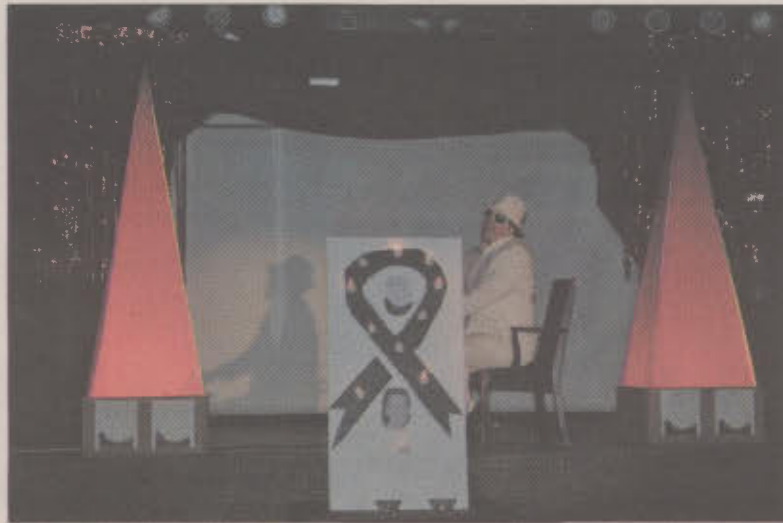
Layout/Design:
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Gerrit Volkmann

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Richard
a.k.a. Brianna DeKnight

Feb 18 Fundraiser at Reflections Cabaret

Eureka Love and April Showers hosted a wonderful evening where the drag community, family, friends and fans could celebrate the life of Lulu LaRude. There were many touching moments, laughs to remember the good times, and a few tears as well. We were able to raise a lot of money thanks to generous donations, auction items and the cover charge donation.

It was also announced that in Lulu's memory Stephen Filek has established The Lulu LaRude Foundation. This will be a foundation to raise money for a yearly scholarship for a student in the performing arts. Hopefully, with the help of this scholarship program other people will be able to "take the stage" with as much spirit as Lulu did. "The community really came together for this great event. Lulu touched all of us, and we will have a place for her in our hearts forever." says Filek.



Layout/Design:
Raymond Taavel
Gerrit Volkmann

Photo Credits:
Wade Swinimer
Raymond Taavel

Thanks, Al and George

You won CPP survivor benefits for us

By Bill McKinnon

For the victory that has been won in achieving Canada Pension Plan survivor benefits for same-sex couples, the Rainbow World is indebted to Albert McNutt of Truro, the late George Hislop, and other GLBT activists who fought so valiantly.

As you have likely learned from the mainstream media, on March 1, the Supreme Court ruled that denying same-sex survivor benefits in the Canada Pension Plan is unconstitutional under the equality provisions of the Canadian Charter of Rights. This is a major step forward; for now when a same-sex partner dies, benefits from the deceased spouse's CPP will be available to the surviving partner. This pension may be not a lot of money for some but it makes a big difference for others. Now gays and lesbians will get what has long been available only to heterosexual couples.

This triumph goes a long way toward our reaching equality with the heterosexual community, but not far enough. The benefits now available to same-sex survivors are limited in their retroactive entitlement, which the Supreme Court set as only one year. The Charter came into force in 1985, so retroactive benefits should be due from 1985 onward. In Quebec that is what happened; so pension survivor benefits are available to Quebeckers from the date the Charter came into effect.

We do not have to let this injustice go. Let's continue the struggle until the government repays all that is due. You contribute to the CPP the same as straights do, so your benefits should also be the same. You can take action by complaining to the politicians and the media - demanding action.

E-mail Stephen Harper (pm@pm.gc.ca) and your MP using the wording suggested by NDP MP Bill Siksay. You will find your MP's address at http://canada.gc.ca/directories/direct_e.html#mp. The following draft is a suggestion; you may be able to compose a better ultimatum. Just do it, and ask your friends to write, too.

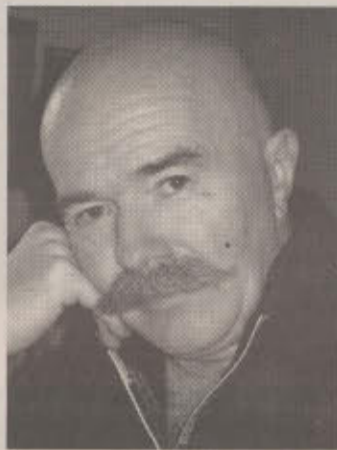
"I challenge the Conservative government to go above and beyond the Supreme Court ruling on same-sex couples' survivor benefits and extend full CPP benefits retroactive to 1985, when the equality provisions of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms took effect."

George Hislop (1927-2005) was one of Canada's most influential gay activists. He was the first openly gay candidate for municipal office and first for any political office in Ontario, was a key figure in the early development of Toronto's gay community, and was widely regarded as its unofficial mayor. In 1971, George co-founded the Community Homophile Association of Toronto, and also organized the first Canadian gay rights demonstration on Parliament Hill.

(Source: Wikipedia)

Al McNutt is said to be "a model of tenacious and courageous AIDS activism based on human rights." In 1994, Al founded Truro AIDS Outreach, which has since evolved into the Northern AIDS Connection, where he remains a driving force. He and his colleagues have, without remuneration, travelled throughout Atlantic Canada promoting voluntary and confidential HIV testing where it did not exist, educating young people and those such as prisoners who are highly vulnerable to HIV/AIDS, and fighting stigma and discrimination against those living with HIV/AIDS. (Source Cdn HIV/AIDS Legal Network)

George made a difference in our lives; Al has too, and continues to do so.



Al McNutt
Photo by Jane Kansas, 2004

Transgender Diaries XIV



By Denise Holliday

With most of my ducks in a row, I foolishly thought I could restart my life, reinstate my self-respect

and once again make plans for my life. While some things went well enough; others did not go so well.

Perhaps the story of applying for my driving license gender change and what followed will give you an example of the height of emotions and mental stresses that we often suffer. Please understand, that at this point, I had been living as Denise full-time for over a year with only a letter from my doctor that stated I was a transsexual and dressing and living as a woman, and even using the female wash-room was a part of the transition process.

At all and anytime I was in a place where gender was an issue, I was totally at the mercy of the social elements. Car gets stopped and documents are produced. It is up to the officer how much of a problem I have. Shopping or in a restaurant and someone sees me using the washroom and calls security, and once again I am exposed to whatever comes. While for me this was never a problem during this period, it was later after transition, that I was to have my one-and-only incident regarding washrooms. But the fear of attack is real, for all of us, and for some it remains even after official transition.

It was with forethought that I chose to call into a remote motor vehicle-department in the Annapolis Valley in order to request a gender change. A friend came with me and we approached the counter and as I had hoped, it was a quiet place and so I was able to discuss a little more privately my gender issues. The lady who did the paperwork was a little taken aback and saying this was the first time this had ever happened in this branch, she wanted to check the paperwork with her boss.

She came back quickly with a great attitude and proceeded to change the information and as she typed; she stopped and inquired if she could say something without offending me? I looked at my friend and told the lady no problem. Smiling, she said "I think you

make a far better looking woman than you did a man." "Why yes of course," I grinned from ear to ear; "wouldn't you?"

She took great pains to make sure my driving picture was the best she could get for me and with an obvious sense of achievement handed me the final product for which I was so grateful, tears started to fill my eyes. She wished me the best for the future and I somehow got out of the building without walking into a wall.

It was decided we should go to Tim Hortons for lunch to celebrate and for this I needed cash. We stopped at a local branch of my bank and I went in alone. At the counter I requested a small amount of cash and with what I am sure was a little bit of pride, placed my bank card and new driving licence on the counter. I had never been in this bank in my life and despite the small amount requested, the lady was uneasy regarding my personal appearance? Go figure.

Gathering all my documents she went to her supervisor and I tried to appear to be at ease while they examined my documentation between furtive glances in my direction. They were obviously discussing what she felt were differences in who I was and who my ID said I was.

Finally after what seemed like an eternity she came back and despite all my photo ID and signatures, she decided she needed to ask me some personal questions. That was fine, I know my birth date, spouse's name, etc. Oops, I am sorry what was that question, which town or city is my home bank located? Oh grief, no kidding folks. I took over two minutes to remember in which town my account is located. Begrudgingly, she gave me my money and I left. I had been so mentally high about getting the license that I was unable to focus on such a simple question. Not a sign of stupidity, Alzheimer's or even depression; just someone so happy they could not think straight.

Next month: I need how much surgery?

Transgendered Diaries is written by Denise Holliday, a freelance writer and public speaker with Maritime Transgendered Workplace Solutions Project.

cont'd from Vagina pg5

closes with the words "I want"), Magan Alisha Polichuck, Nisha Platzer and Shirley Lui in "Smell," Joanna Kolb in "Reclaiming Cunt" (whose expressive performance won me over despite the fact that I don't even like the "c" word), and Serina Parsons and Heather Blom in "The Woman who Loved to Make Vaginas Happy."

The play is replete with orgasm scenes a la Meg Ryan in *When Harry Met Sally*. While I found

these scenes funny, more modest audience members might not have enjoyed them. As well, it's definitely a feel-good play, which might upset some folks (who are these people who don't want to feel good?). And lest anyone out there thinks the play is anti-men, there is "Because He Liked to Look at It," a sweet affirming tale of a woman's positive sexual experience with a man. I got shivers up my spine when Julie Dingwell sang Tracy Chapman's acapella 1988 indict-

ment of domestic abuse "Behind the Wall" (but maybe I'm just a sucker for a song). Kudos should also be given to Lahoma Thomas, who, seductively and powerfully, pointing to her vagina, delivered one of the play's best lines: "Who needs a handgun when you've got a semiautomatic?" (bringing to mind Emily Dickinson's masterful poem "My Life Had Stood - A Loaded Gun"). A loaded gun indeed.

C37 cont'd from pg3



NB Premier Shaun Graham

that the government would not oppose the bill, the shit really hit the fan. At this point we had a core group composed of Allison Brewer, the former anti-76'ers,

along with Cherie MacLeod, Marla Kavalak, Yves Goguen, and Richard Blaquiere - many of us had been trying (unsuccessfully) since December to arrange a meeting with Premier Graham to discuss various issues re: sexual orientation and gender identity. The actions we undertook consisted of: e-mailing the Premier, the Attorney General, the Cabinet and our MLAs; e-mailing letters to newspapers (Wayves, Telegraph-Journal, the Fredericton Gleaner, the Moncton Times-Transcript, the Sackville paper); e-mailing everyone else we thought might want to join in.

On Sunday, we started getting e-mails back from MLAs. Greg Byrne (L, from Fredericton) said flat out the Liberals would not be supporting Bill 37. Ed Doherty (L, Saint John Harbour) merely thanked people for their input. Kelly Lamrock (L, also from Fred-

ericton) said he was against it. Dead silence from T. J. Burke!

Monday was the by-election in Moncton East, which the Liberal candidate - Chris Collins - won. He'd told Greg, Marla, Cherie and Mario that he would oppose Bill 37. His win gives the Liberals a wider margin in the Legislature, 30 seats vs. the Tories' 25, where the balance had been 29-26 before Bernard Lord retired the Moncton East seat.

The bill was scheduled to go before the Legislature for its second reading on Tuesday, March 13.

cont'd from Divorce pg4

say targets and lightning rods, at that pivotal time, but also to acknowledge the specific problems that ended a marriage held in such high hope by others. There is so

much that the world never saw or knew, that we kept hidden for our own reasons."

"It is time we acknowledge the truth of that period of our lives and what it was like to live both within that media bubble and with the many skirmishes we were waging for the cause and the pressures that created. I hope that by adhering to transparency and accountability for our choices and actions, it

might serve as a cautionary tale to other GLBT couples who are considering this very serious step, and possibly save them the unpleasantness we experienced on many fronts due to our questionable decisions. There are many lessons to be taken from this entire episode. Should others profit by our mistakes and successes, that would, at least, be a productive end to the entire unfortunate affair."

An Eloquent Evocation

Friend Darrin Hagen Remembers Chuck and Lulu

Photo Credits:
Wade Swinimer

A standing room only crowd filled the Walker Funeral Home in Spryfield to mark the passing of Charles McDuff Gillis, known across Canada as Lulu LaRude. People had come from all over the Atlantic region to share their sorrow and to offer their support to Chuck's family and his beloved husband, Billy. Prayers were offered and there was music and laughter amid the tears. After the memorial several hundred people gathered at Reflections Cabaret where Lulu had so long held court.

In her final blog entry, Lulu had asked her many friends across Canada to take a moment to focus together in prayer and imagine a miracle of healing. It was difficult to find that miracle in the midst of our grief, although Lulu's life-long friend and fellow drag artist, Darrin Hagen, offered us a way to remember with laughter and joy the inspiration that Lulu had offered to so many. Darrin flew in from Edmonton to attend the service. His eloquent and tender evocation of his friend tells a story that is familiar to all of us in the Rainbow World. We all had to move away to create our identity, to give birth to ourselves and our new families. In that way, the story Darrin tells of Lulu is the story of all of us. We are privileged to offer his eulogy here in Wayves.

"These are my snapshots. Now, if this were my mother's photo album, everything would be blown up to portrait size, mounted under sticky cellophane in chronological order, with little ballpoint labels telling you who's who.

But this is my family album. They're just snapshots, because at the time, I didn't think a full portrait was necessary. They're just snapshots, a little out of focus because it was all moving pretty fast. They're just snapshots, but there's thousands of them... overflowing, spilling out of boxes and basements... shining, perfect moments frozen forever like the river in winter.

I wasn't there when Chuck was born. I am told he was a sweet, fun-loving kid who never said a mean thing about anyone. But I was there when Lulu was born.

Chuck told me that he had wanted to move to a city where he had no relatives. Obviously, like many of us, he had some self-dis-

covery to do. He looked on a map of Canada, and figured Edmonton would work. The first night he

tall, impossibly loud, wild, and had size fourteen shoes. Like gigantic screaming Barbie dolls with no "off" button. Lulu was one year

"If you're gonna do this, we might as well go buy you some real tits," she said. I had "borrowed" hers for my debut, but

as if it were the most natural thing in the world. The saleslady didn't bat an eye. "Certainly," she said efficiently, and led us to the back of the department. She went to a set of small drawers set discreetly into the wall, opened one, took out a decorator box, opened it and removed a velvet bag with a drawstring, opened it and took out something wrapped in bubble plastic. She unwrapped the plastic, and proudly displayed the breast.

"It's only \$450. Top of the line."

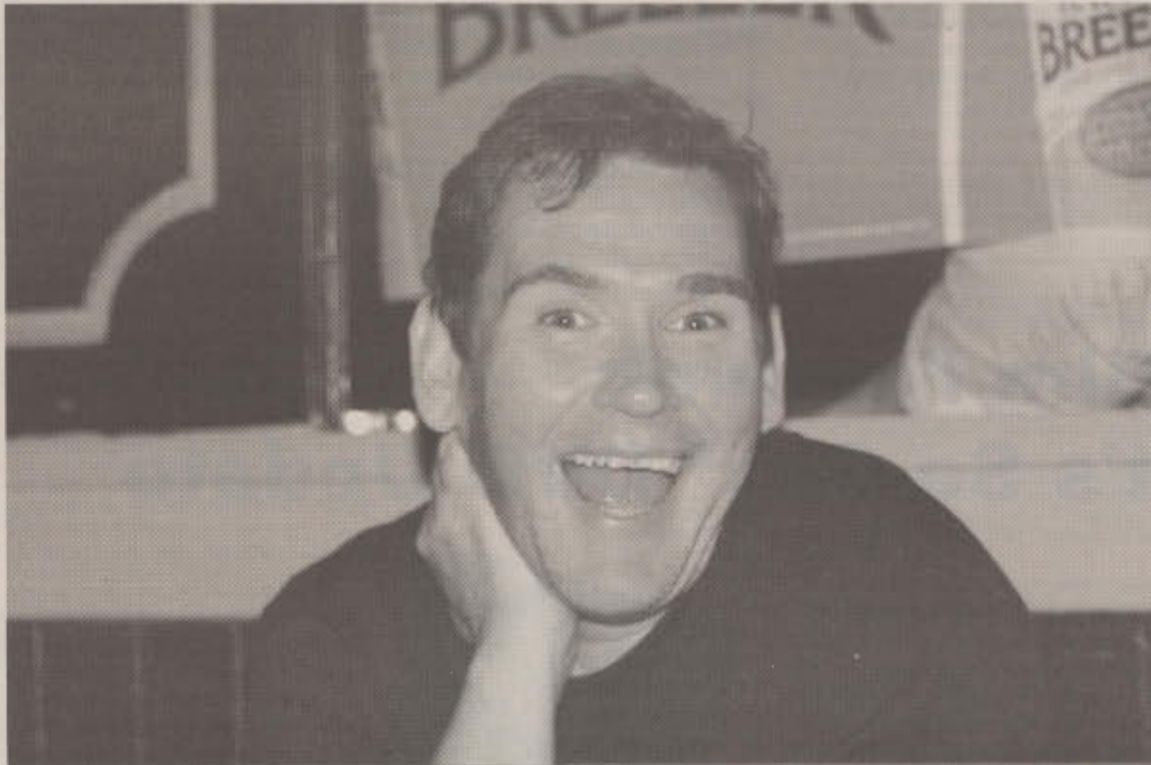
Lulu and I looked at each other, trying not to laugh. The saleslady was only trying to be helpful, but she had clearly misunderstood.

Lulu smiled and, without missing a beat, said, "Have you got anything in foam?"

We were very practical girls, in many ways.

A week later, we stood on a tavern stage in front of a grimly silent bunch of straight farmers in Gibbons, Alberta, population 2335. They had all showed up looking for naked female flesh, and were instead presented with two six-foot eight amateur drag queens lip-synching to a loud ghetto-blaster. When some of the drunker patrons began screaming they wanted to see some tits, Lulu pulled out her foams and threw them onto his table. "Here, you can hold onto these. Now shut your hole, honey, 'cause mine's making money." The audience howled. The heckler even laughed. It was my first experience with the power of shock,

cont'd on pg20



Charles Gillis McDuff November 12 1963 - February 8 2007

walked into Flashback, he ran into his cousins Gregg and Colin. But he stayed in Edmonton.

Grandma Hole, AKA Mz. Flashback 5 Tina, remembered the first night that Chuck did drag. He was wearing a white Peter Pan blouse and a black flannel skirt. He didn't have a wig, so of course, he wore his own hair. And - get ready - blue eyeshadow. Lots of it. A librarian on her night out.

Tina and Trash, Mz. Flashback 5 & 6, looked at each other and said, "There's a Lulu." 25 years later, they remember that she reminded them of Lulu from Hee Haw.

Chuck's voyage of self-discovery ended up being a tide of inspiration that swept thousands of us into his stream of humour, creativity and loyalty.

But the Lulu most of you know - the finely polished performer, the amazing wit and skill - had to start somewhere. I feel lucky that I got to be there at the beginning. I was the other queen in Lulu's very first pro gig. It was my second time in drag.

When I first met Lulu, it became immediately obvious that we were of the same mold. Both of us were

old. Around this time, a strip agent that we partied with offered us our first professional gig. She wanted to start booking drag acts in lieu of the strippers that she usually sent to bars. Even though my drag career was less than a week old, Lulu and I said yes and started to put together a show.

we were both in this show, so we needed two sets. We went to the bra department at Woodward's and searched for a saleslady. After standing around being ignored for fifteen minutes, we approached an older, non-threatening, matronly woman.

"Can you show us where your prosthetic breasts are?" asked Lulu



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Chef's Corner



April showers bring May flowers! Until then we may have to wallow in the muck up to our ankles, but if that's the price for seeing longer, warmer days, I'll pay it. On the culinary front, however, not much will change until late May or early June depending on the weather. So until then, I offer you a simply divine classic dessert you may want to try out on your guests for Easter dinner, if that is your inclination, or just as a sinfully decadent treat for yourself.

Chef Darren is Chef and Co-owner of Chives Canadian Bistro, 1537 Barrington Street, Halifax, N.S. For reservation call (902) 420-9626, www.chives.ca

Chocolate Silk Mousse (for 6)

Ingredients

1 1/3 cups dark chocolate (chopped)	1 1/2 cups whipping cream 32%-36%
1 Tbsp unsalted butter (room temperature)	1 cup white sugar
1 Tbsp Bailey's Irish Cream liqueur	1/2 cup extra whipping cream whipped with 1 Tbsp of sugar for garnish
4 eggs (separated)	

Method

1. Whip egg whites for stiff peaks meringue with 1/2 of the sugar. Set aside in fridge. 2. Whip cream with remainder of the sugar and Bailey's. Set aside in fridge. 3. Melt chocolate over double boiler making sure not to get any water in it. Away from the heat, stir in the butter until it melts, and then the egg yolks one at a time. 4. Transfer the chocolate mixture into a large mixing bowl. Alternately fold in whipped cream then meringue into the chocolate mixture until you have a homogenous chocolate mousse. 5. Spoon the mixture into 6 chilled martini glasses, cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate for at least 4 hours.

Serving suggestions

Remove from fridge, remove plastic wrap, top each portion with a mound of more whipped cream and top with shaved chocolate.

Atlantic Film Festival: "That's So Gay" DVD Update

By Bill McKinnon

Some of the gay films you may have seen at the Atlantic Film Festival in September 2006 are now available on DVD, three of the eight GLBT features screened: 20 Centimeters, A Love To Hide, and Loving Annabelle. If you saw them and liked them, or if you are curious, check out



the web. The average critic rating for all three is in the 4 - 5 star range.

You can buy the DVD's from www.amazon.ca or www.chapters.indigo.ca (follow the links for write-ups) or rent (that's cheaper) from Video Difference (VDiff) on

Quinpool in Halifax, in Bedford, or in Charlottetown, or from other video outlets. VDiff has all three; telephone (902) 425-3029 or check out www.videodifference.com.

The film, 20 Centimeters (Spanish with English subtitles) is about "a fantasy-prone transvestite, who is looking to make the leap to transsexual status, imagines that he is the star of a lavish universe punctuated by elaborate musical numbers." If you are interested in what life for transvestites and transsexuals is about, and/or you enjoy great dance numbers performed by beautiful/charming people, you will love this joyfully outrageous musical set in modern-day Spain. It's a lot of fun. Who says musicals are finished?

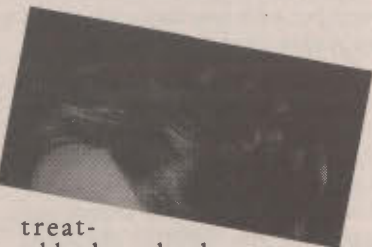
A Love To Hide (French with English subtitles) is "set in Paris 1942. Under German occupation and Vichy persecution of the "third sex", two young gay lovers, Jean and



Philippe must keep their relationship a secret. Into their lives falls Sara, a young Jewish woman and an old friend of Jean's. While Jean and Philippe harbor Sara from the Nazis, Jean's brother Jacques, a black marketeer, returns from prison. As everyone tries clandestinely to keep their secrets, Jacques's jealousy and betrayal threatens them all." What

was being gay like in Nazi-occupied France? Not good, in fact horrible; we are so lucky today and it's a frightening experience to watch this dramatic portrayal of the ghastly way things were for gays back then and even now in some parts of the world. War can bring out the worst and best elements of the human condition and this film tells it all in a well-acted tale of love and hate. For me, this movie gets top marks.

Loving Annabelle "is the controversial story of a Catholic Boarding School teacher, Simone Bradley, who has an affair with her female student." Not long ago, a Nova Scotian woman teacher was falsely accused of inappropriate contact with a female student and subsequently was badly



treated by her school and by fellow teachers. In this film, the accusations are valid for the state does have business in the bedrooms of the nation when one of the parties in sexual activity is a minor and the other is in a position of trust. In the movie we learn interesting insights about life in a residential school of attractive young girls whose sex hormones are raging in overdrive.

cont'd from Tina pg6

does not provide substantial evidence for an association of crystal meth use with increased risky sexual practice.

To get an insight into the crystal meth situation in Atlantic Canada, I met with Dr. Russell Westhaver, an Assistant Professor in the Department of Sociology and Criminology at Saint Mary's University in Halifax. Westhaver conducted research on circuit parties and the links to bodily experience, social recognition and risky sexual practice. His current research stems from this latter analysis of gay dance culture; it focuses on gay men's health, the consumption of crystal meth, and the understanding and response of health care providers to gay men's use of this particular drug.

Westhaver is also involved in the Sex Now Survey, a periodic assessment of gay men's sexual knowledge and health needs. The

survey conducted in Halifax in 2005, together with preliminary data from the current survey, indicates that 4-5% or less of the gay men surveyed in Atlantic Canada use crystal meth. "I'm not sure if crystal meth is really a deal here [for the gay community], if it ever will be in Atlantic Canada", Westhaver says.

Noticeably, there are so far no health organizations particularly dealing with crystal meth use among gay men in Atlantic Canada. During Westhaver's research on circuit parties, crystal meth did not emerge as a great concern. The people he talked to said they themselves did not use crystal meth but knew others who did. "It was kind of a taboo drug [that] people were talking about in other ways that were different from other drugs", Westhaver adds.

The most popular drugs in the gay party scene in his eyes remain ecstasy, pot and ketamine. "If I had to say anything I would say ecstasy is the [party] drug of choice", he

summarizes. What the surveys also show and what we must not forget is the high percentage of gay men who frequently consume alcohol and tobacco. With up to 80% of the surveyed gay men, this number is "through the roof". But no one really worries about these normative drugs, on which the government makes money, right?

So even though crystal meth within the gay community in Atlantic Canada seems to be not as problematic as in BC or Ontario, the media buzz the drug creates and the anxieties around it - i.e. the connection between crystal meth use and increases in HIV transmission - are intriguing to Westhaver. His project deals with the effects of the sudden interest in crystal meth are, especially with regard to how health care providers understand crystal meth use within the gay community. "It's about watching the watchers." Most efforts that deal with crystal meth consumption are situated within the philosophy of harm reduction. In this

approach, the drug user is provided with all the information about the drug, the risks associated with it and how to use the drug accordingly in a responsible manner.

What Westhaver is concerned about is that harm reduction efforts remove the individual drug-taking practice from a broader context. "There are reasons why gay men drink more and reasons why gay men smoke more and reasons why gay men use drugs in the first place." Because of the heterosexist and homophobic population, gay men did not have many public spaces to hang out in. Gay men became a marginalized group struggling with various psychosocial pressures. Bars and subsequently night clubs and bath houses were then the main places of gay socialization, the serving of chemicals going hand-in-hand with it. "We have a very long history in which some form of drug taking has been part of our social fabric. Drugs make sense within gay culture because of that long history," Westhaver ex-

plains. What also lurks underneath is that consumption of drugs - both legal and illegal - by gay men often serves sexual purposes, simply because "broadly gay men's sexual pleasures are problematized". So for Westhaver, when it comes to gay men and drug abuse these are ultimately important things that need to be considered - by health care providers, by the general public, and by gay men nonetheless.

But Westhaver also has a glimmer of hope to offer. He is convinced that gay men's health, with respect to the high rates of chemical intake and the results thereof, will improve dramatically once heterosexism and homophobia are out of the way. "Once we can marry comfortably, [when] it's not a big deal [anymore]. Once we can hold our partners hands in public and once we can explore each other sexually and intimately in ways that aren't about closing the door... We are men for God's sake." He's damn right.

WAYVES GROUPS AND SERVICES

Atlantic Canada

AtlanticCanadianLesbians: For Lesbians from the Atlantic Provinces. web: groups.msn.com/AtlanticCanadianLesbians

AtlanticPoz: A new discussion group is for individuals living with HIV in Atlantic Canada. web: health.groups.yahoo.com/group/atlanticpocz/

Egale President & Atlantic Director, St. John's, NL: (709) 690-5244 email: gemma@egale.ca web: www.egale.ca

Gay Men's Gathering: at PO Box 36054, Halifax, B3J 3S9

GaySpaces: Free postings of GLBT-friendly places to live in Atlantic Canada. email: info@gayspaces.org web: www.gayspaces.org

Gender Expressions Atlantic: Support for transgendered individuals ranging from Crossdressers to Transsexuals. email: gender_expressions@hotmail.com web: www.geocities.com/gender_expressions/ (No scheduled meeting. Occasional social events, by invitation only.)

Halifax Transguys: support group for transmen at any point in transition, locally and in Atlantic Canada. email: halifaxtransguys@yahoo.com at Please write for further information on our upcoming meetings and social events.

Healing Our Nations, Dartmouth: Healing Our Nations is an Aboriginal HIV/AIDS service organization that serves the Atlantic region. (902) 492-4255 email: hon@accesswave.ca web: www.healingournations.ca (Healing Our Nations staff meet once on a weekly basis. Training offered on request at no charge for Aboriginal peoples and/or organizations.) at 45 Alderney Dr., Ste. 607, Dartmouth, NS.

Manitow Transgender Workplace Solutions Project: email: denised@ns.sympatico.ca web: www3.ns.sympatico.ca/winpapers

Mr Atlantic Canada Leather Society, assorted cities: Dedicated to developing gay leather communities in the Atlantic region. email: madeatherinfo@bluewater.anikast.ca, meets 1st Saturday (Monthly Leather Bar Night at Menz Bar (see www.menzbar.ca for themes).) at Menz Bar, 2104 Göttingen St., HFX NS (see www.menzbar.ca for maps).

Names Project (AIDS Memorial Quilt): panels - helping create, and lending. 902-454-5158 email: larrybaxter@ns.sympatico.ca web: www.quilt.ca (Call if interested in volunteering or making a panel) at 3544 Acadia St. Halifax, NS B3K 3P2

Project E: Presentation for youth, on gender expression, myth busters, proper terminology and other facts. web: www.freewebs.com/xprojecte/ at available via web page

Wayves Magazine: Atlantic Canada's queer news and lifestyle magazine. email: submissions@wayves.ca web: wayves.ca (Editorial meeting one Monday night a month; layout one Sunday a month; see the Calendar on our web page) at downtown Halifax - email us for details

New Brunswick (506)

Affirming United Church - Centenary - Queen Square United Church, Saint John: invites you to worship! 634-8288 email: cqsunited@nb.aibn.com web: www.cqsunited.ca, meets every Sunday (10:30am) at 215 Wentworth St., Saint John, NB

AIDS New Brunswick / SIDA Nouveau-Brunswick, Fredericton: committed to facilitating community-based responses to the issues of HIV/AIDS. 459-7518 email: sidaids@nbnet.nb.ca web: www.aidsnb.com (Office Hours: Monday to Friday, 8:30AM to 12:30PM and 1:30PM to 4:30PM)

AIDS Saint John, Saint John: improve quality of life for those infected & affected by HIV, reduce the spread through education 652-2437 email: aidsnj@nb.aibn.com web: www.aidsaintjohn.com

Atlantiques Swim Team, Moncton: Swimming for fitness or participating in Masters swimming competitions. email: info@atlantiques.org web: atlantiques.org (Contact us by email for swim times and social events. LGBT Swimmers from elsewhere in Atlantic Canada are welcome to join the team and go to meets with us.) at the CEPS pool at the Université de Moncton.

East Coast Bears, Fredericton: adult men who are, or like, masculine, hairy men. 506-455-2856 email: info@eastcoastbears.com web: www.eastcoastbears.com, meets 4th saturday (See webpage for schedule.)

Fredericton Lesbians and Gays, Fredericton: Occasional social events and Email listserv. email: jwhitehe@unb.ca web: www.geocities.com/westhollywood/3074

Gais.es Nor Gays Inc. (GNG), Petit-Rocher (Bathurst area): A bilingual volunteer association serving gay men, lesbians and bisexuals of northern New Brunswick. email: info@gngnb.ca web: www.gngnb.ca (Dances are held at GNG club every Saturday night. See www.gngnb.ca for a list of upcoming events.) at 702 rue Principale, Petit-Rocher NB. Look for rainbow flag and/or door with pink triangle at rear of parking lot

Integrity, Fredericton: Supports and encourages Gays and Lesbians in their spiritual lives. web: www.angelicbeads.com/Integrity/ (Watch our website for details of 2007 planned events, (coming soon). Membership in Integrity is not indicative of sexual orientation.) at St John's Anglican Church, 59 Broad Road, Ormococt, New Brunswick.

Moncton Gay Pride, Moncton: Organizes, promotes and produces Moncton's Pride events! 382-5837, meets 1st saturday

Moncton Leather Chapter, Moncton: TheMLC facilitates communication & mutual understanding of Leather within Atlantic Canada. email: themlc@rogers.com, meets last Saturday at

LEATHER NIGHTS: Triangles - LAST Saturday of the month

Moncton Transgender Support Group, Moncton: Transgenders, their allies, families and friends. email: ellisk@nbnet.nb.ca (Meets Monthly, email for time and place.)

PFLAG Canada - Fredericton, Fredericton: all welcome. email: pflagfredericton@yahoo.ca

PFLAG Canada - Moncton, Moncton: GLBTT2IQ persons and their parents, families and friends. (506) 869-8191 email: monctonnb@pflagcanada.ca web: www.pflagcanada.ca/moncton.html, meets 3rd Monday (occasionally on the 2nd Monday - please call) at 7:30-9:30 PM at U. de M. in Rm 302, Adrien J.-Comier Building.

PFLAG Canada - Sackville/Amherst, Sackville NB/ Amherst NS: Support and education for GLBTT2IQ persons, friends & family. 506-536-4245 email: jhammock@mta.ca, meets 2nd Monday (7:30 to 9:30pm) at Meeting location alternates monthly between Sackville: United Church Parlours, 112 Main Street, and Amherst: Maggie's Place, 12 LaPlanche Street

PFLAG Canada - Saint John NB, Saint John: Provides support to anyone dealing with issues of sexual orientation and/or gender identity. 648-9700 email: wandr@nbnet.nb.ca, tigger@nbnet.nb.ca web: www.pflag.ca/saintjohn.htm (1st Friday of each month September - June at 7pm. No meeting in July & August.) at 116 Coburg Street in Saint John, New Brunswick in the Community Health Centre next to St. Joseph's Hospital.

Port City Rainbow Pride, Saint John: Pride Celebrations Committee. email: events@portcityrainbowpride.com web: www.portcityrainbowpride.com

Q-Collective, Saint John: A safe place & event sponsor for UNBSJ students, staff & faculty. 506-648-9227 email: QCollect@UNBSJ.ca at various locations; event particulars will be emailed to anyone who registers with the Q-Collective and/or who gets the UNBSJ weekly "E News".

Safe Spaces Fundy Region, Saint John: Committed to ending discrimination around issues of sexual orientation in youth. email: safespaces@gmail.com web: www.safespacesfundy.ca, meets 2nd Wednesday (See our webpage for schedule of meetings and socials etc @ www.safespacesfundy.com) at Community Health Centre, 116 Coburg Street, Saint John, NB

Safe Spaces Moncton, Moncton: Safe Spaces offers support & counselling to GLBTQ Youth between 14-25. 869-6224 email: safespaces@nb.aibn.com web: www.safespaces.ca

Safe Spaces Moncton Region, Moncton: Support Groups for GLBTQ Youth (14-25 years old). 854-3049 email: safespaces@nb.aibn.com web: www.safespaces.ca

Saint John LGBTQ Lending Library, Saint John: over 300 fiction and non-fiction titles. 634-8288 email: cqsunited@nb.aibn.com (open Monday through Friday, 9AM to noon.) at the office of Centenary Queen Square United Church at 215 Wentworth Street.

SIDA AIDS Moncton, Moncton: offers support to people living with HIV and their families and friends, education and awareness. 859-9616 email: sidaids@nbnet.nb.ca web: www.sida-aidsmoncton.com at 165A Gordon St., Moncton, NB, E1C 1N1

Spectrum, Fredericton: social and support group for students, staff and faculty at UNB and STU. email: spectrum@unb.ca web: www.unb.ca/clubs/spectrum, meets every Tuesday (7 pm) at SUB 203

UN sur DIX - l'Association des étudiant.e.s GLB de l'Université de Moncton, Moncton: vise à éduquer, à sensibiliser et à offrir des ressources dans la langue française. email: unsurdix@unmoncton.ca web: www.unmoncton.ca/unsurdix/ (Visitez le site Web ou appelez un courriel pour en apprendre davantage au sujet du travail que nous accomplissons.)

UNB/STU Women's Collective, Fredericton: Women of all ages and orientations, meets every Monday at 5pm at the University Women's Centre at the SUB

Woodstock LGBT Family OutReach, Woodstock: Books, movies, advice, directions and support etc. for the family. 328-4868 email: richardb@nbnet.nb.ca

Newfoundland & Lab (709)

AIDS Committee of Newfoundland & Labrador, St. John's: HIV/AIDS education and support for male/female/transgendered, all ages, Newfoundland and Labrador 579-8656 email: info@acnl.net web: www.acnl.net

Conception Bay North AIDS Interest Group, Conception Bay: 709-596-4433 email: cbn.aids.intgr@nf.sympatico.ca web: www.cbnaig.org (Taylor Bldg., Carbonar Road, P.O. Box 993, Harbour Grace, Newfoundland, A0A 2M0)

GUYZ Project, St John's: designed to increase HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis C, and STI knowledge and awareness email: chris@acnl.net

LBGT-MUN Resource Centre, St John's: LBGT-MUN is an information/resource, service, and peer support centre staffed by trained volunteers! 737-7619 email: lbgtmun@mun.ca web: www.mun.ca/lbgt/ (weekdays 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM; two-three meetings each month; Coffee-House Fridays from 12-2pm; movie nights and other social events occur at least three times per month) at Smallwood/University Center, UC-6022. Building located on Prince Phillip Drive. Call us! Get involved! LBGT-MUN: "A Positive Place, for Positive People!"

NGALE: Newfoundland and Labrador Gays and Lesbians for Equality. 709-579-8656 email: info@ngale.org web: www.ngale.org

PFLAG Canada - St. John's: Information or referral to one of our parents. email: gemma@egale.ca web: www.pflag.ca

Nova Scotia (902)

Acadia Pride, Wolfville: community at Acadia. 585-2165 web: euler.acadiah.ca/~apride/, meets every Monday (7:30pm (during academic year)) at Beverage Forum (old SUB)

Acadia Women's Centre, Wolfville: 585-2140 email: 057996@acadiah.ca web: axe.acadiah.ca/women-centre (Acadia SUB Second Level Balcony)

Affirm United, Halifax: support, action and worshiping community within the United Church. email: stewardar@gov.ns.ca at Box 33067, Halifax, NS B3L 4T6

AIDS Coalition of Cape Breton, Sydney: Support for those infected/affected by HIV/AIDS, advocacy, and prevention/education free condoms. (902) 567-1766 email: christineporter@accb.ns.ca web: www.accb.ns.ca, meets 1st Wednesday (5:00pm 1st Wednesday of every month is our Regular Board meeting.) at 150 Bentineck St., Sydney, N.S. B1H 6G1

AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia, Halifax: non-profit, community-based AIDS organization, provincially mandated. (902)429-7922 email: acns@acns.ns.ca web: www.acns.ns.ca

Alcoholics Anonymous, Halifax: Live & Let Live AA Group for GLBT community- (902) 463-7895 email: courage449@yahoo.com web: www.rationalnancy.com/cout, meets every Monday (at 8pm) at St Matthews Church, 1479 Barrington St. Halifax (Use side door near Maritime Centre at bottom of stairs)

Anonymous HIV/AIDS Testing, Halifax: 455-9656

Bedford United Church, HRM/Bedford: An Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Canada - ALL welcome. 835-8497 email: bedfordunited@eastlink.ca web: www.bedfordunited.com, meets every Sunday (9 am service - Casual and contemporary service. 11 am service - Quieter and more reverent in tone.) at 1200 Bedford Hwy at Sullivan's Hill, near Atlantic Gardens

BLT-Womyn of Halifax, Halifax: Bi, Lesbian, Transgender Womyn's Discussion Group. 499-0335 email: sueandrews1964@hotmail.com web: ca.groups.yahoo.com/group/blt-womynofhalifax/ (every second Sunday evening 6pm - 7pm) at Dal Women's Centre 6286 South Street (Beside Dalplex Driveway)

Bluenose Bears, Halifax: Club for bears and those who like them. 463-4312 email: bluenosebears@accesswave.ca web: www.geocities.com/bluenosebears, meets 3rd Friday

Cape Breton University Sexual Diversity Centre, Sydney: We provide a welcoming environment for GLBTQ people and their Allies. 902-563-1481 email: sdc@cbusu.com (M-F 9-4pm. Call or drop by for event listings, Ally Training, and Anti-Heterosexism/Homophobia Workshops!) at the Students' Union Building, Cape Breton University.

Colchester Sexual Assault Centre, Truro: 902-897-4366 email: trurosexualassault@hotmail.com (80 Glenwood Drive, Truro, N.S., B2N 1P3)

Cumberland Pride Support Group, Amherst: For gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and transsexual individuals of Cumberland county. 660-5004 email: gaylords_1975@hotmail.com web: available shortly, meets 3rd Thursday (group's first meeting to organize our agenda and purpose) at 7 kent drive, Amherst, n.s. exit 3, victoria st., 3rd street on right.

DalOUT, Halifax: LGBTQ Society at Dalhousie. 494-2190 email: dalout@dal.ca web: societies.dsu.ca/dalout, meets every Thursday (7pm) at Dalhousie University, check OUT our website or contact us for details

Family Pride Camping Association (Rainbow Spirit), Halifax: FPCA plans events for GLBT families with kids of all ages. From Camping weekends to bowling events. (888) 344-FPCA email: info@fpcac.ca web: www.fpcac.ca (Contact us if you are interested in helping out or would like to be contacted when we have events.)

GAY, LESBIAN & BISEXUAL YOUTH GROUP AT Q.E.H.: Jeanie Buffet, Counsellor, at 421-6797

GLB CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE (SUNS): 494-6654 at c/o the Students' Union of NS

Group Harrison Society, Cape Breton: Dances, Socials & Support Group for Cape Bretoners. 564-6939 email: groupharrisonsociety@yahoo.ca web: www.geocities.com/groupharrisonsociety, meets last Saturday (Admission \$6.50 - Best light and sound show around!) at Steel Workers Hall, Sydney

Hal-Gal, Halifax: low-traffic Yahoo group that provides events and information for queer women in the Halifax area. email: hal-gal@yahoo.com

HalGal Mailing List, Halifax: events and information for queer/lesbian/bi/trans women and their allies in Hfx. web: groups.yahoo.com/hal-gal

Halifax Front Runners, Halifax: Running/walking club. 422-7579 email: Bruce.Greenfield@dal.ca web: www.frontrunners.org/clubs/halifax/, meets every Saturday, and every Tuesday, and every Thursday (Sat. 9:30am, Tue: 5:30 pm, Thu: 5:30pm) at Main gates of the Halifax Public Gardens, corner of Spring Garden Road and South Park Street.

Halifax Rainbow Speakers, Halifax: Speakers available, contact us if you are interested in joining also. 494-6662 web: www.thenovascotiapublicinterrestsearchgroup.dal.ca (Call for times & locations)

Imperial and Sovereign Court of Atlantic Nova Society, Halifax: Fundraising. 476-4225 email: info@imperialcourts.com web: www.imperialcourts.com (Meeting times vary)

Intensity Dance, Halifax: non-profit dance collective and presenting organization. email: intensitydance@yahoo.com web: intensitydance.tripod.com

Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Youth Project, Halifax: support and connection across Nova Scotia. 429-5429 email: youthproject@youthproject.ns.ca web: www.youthproject.ns.ca (support and connection across, Week one: Monday - Transgender Discussion group

7-9 pm; Tuesday - 18 & under Discussion group 6-8 pm; Wed. 18 to 25 Discussion group 7-9 pm. Week two: Tues. Drop-in - 6-8 pm; Wed. - Movie Night 7-9 pm. Week three: Mon. Transgender Discussion group - 7-9 pm; Tues - 25 & under guest speaker/discussion; Wed. Activity Night. Week four: Tues. Theme Drop-in - 6-9 pm; Wed. Movie Night - 7-9 pm. A youth food bank and STI testing on site. Please refer to website for times and details.) at 2281 Brunswick Street.

LGB Youth Support Group Lunenburg County, Bridgewater: fun social/support group for under 25 through the Sexual Health Ctr. Bridgewater & LGB Youth Project. 527-2868 email: lunco@nssexualhealth.ca web: www.youthproject.ns.ca (Postponed until further notice: Volunteer facilitators needed)

Manna For Health, Halifax: A special needs referral food bank for those living with life threatening illness. 429-7670

Mount Pride, Halifax: Social group, open to anyone. 902 430-6981 email: mountpride@yahoo.com, meets 1st Tuesday (meetings will start back up in sept when school starts again.) at Diversity Center in Rosaria

Northern AIDS Connection Society, Truro: HIV prevention education initiative serving counties Colchester, Pictou, Cumberland & East Hants. 895-0931 email: nacnsns@hotmail.com web: nacnsns.tripod.com (Our Board of Directors meet bi-monthly on the third Thursday of the month. Annual General Meeting held regularly in June. See webpage for contact numbers in your area of northern Nova Scotia.) at 33 Pleasant Street, Truro, N.S.

Nova Scotia Rainbow Action Project, Halifax: fostering change through networking, education, outreach & community education. 902-444-7887 email: nsrap@nsrap.ca web: www.nsrpa.ca at Bloomfield Centre

Outlaw, Halifax: Queer Law Students Association at Dalhousie Law School. email: dal_outlaw@yahoo.ca (Meetings vary. Please email if interested.) at Dalhousie Law School. 6061 University Avenue. Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Over 30's Club: Socials, usually potluck dinners. 464-8925 email: atlanticoverthirty@hotmail.com (one Saturday evening a month) at members' homes, mostly Halifax but occasionally out of town.

PFLAG Canada - Amherst/Sackville: Support and education for GLBTT2IQ persons, friends & family. 506-536-4245 email: jhammock@mta.ca, meets 2nd Monday (Contact us for meeting details.) at Sackville: 165 Main Street. Amherst: 12 La Planche Street

PFLAG Canada - Halifax, Halifax: support and education to parents, family and friends. (902) 443-3747 email: ab274@chebucto.ns.ca (September-March: 2nd Sunday of the month, 2-4 PM April-June: 2nd Wednesday of the month, 7-9 PM) at individual homes

PFLAG Canada - Middleton, Middleton: Parents & friends. 902-825-0548 email: middletonns@pflagcanada.ca web: www.pflagcanada.ca/middleton.html, meets last Friday (7-9pm) at the Wilnot Community Centre civic address 13972 Highway #1 wilmot. Wilnot is located just between Kingston and Middleton. The hall depending on direction that your coming from. Left if your coming from the East side and Right if your coming from the West direction.

PFLAG Canada - Sydney, Sydney: PFLAG Sydney provides support & education on issues of sexual orientation & gender identity. Celeste Sullivan @ 563-1389. Sexual Diversity Centre 563-1481 and B. Durdle @ 563K-1443 email: sydneysns@pflagcanada.ca, meets last Sunday (7:30-9:30 pm. Sunday May 28th Sunday June 25th break for summer (exception is appearance in Cape Breton Pride Parade, July 29, 2006 and the walk for Homophobia, May 17, 2006) at Family Place Resource Centre 106 Townsend Street, Sydney NS

PFLAG Truro: 662.3774 email: s.r.burns@ns.sympatico.ca

Positive Connections: Teleconferenced support groups for people living with AIDS. email: connections@acns.ns.ca, meets every Monday (evening 7:00pm - 8:00pm) at by phone. No long distance charges. For more info call 425-4882 ext 228 or 1-800-566-2437 ext 228 or e-mail.

Pride Cape Breton Society, Sydney: Dances. web: www.pridecapebreton.com (Dances on the 2nd Saturday of every month.) at Southend community centre. Maps are at our website.

Pride Guide Publishing: publisher of community focused maps, directories, event programs and more. 902-423-6999 email: prideguide@eastlink.ca

Pride of Pictou County, New Glasgow: All GBLT in Pictou County. 695-5222 email: info@prideofpictoucounty.ca web: www.PrideofPictouCounty.ca (see web page for meeting info)

Quakers, Halifax: Quakerism emphasizes that we all manifest the Divine. 429-2904 web: halifax.quaker.ca, meets every Sunday at Library at Atlantic School of Theology, Franklin St. All very welcome.

Queer Play, Halifax: Theatre, drag, performance art. We're bringing queer play to the East Coast. email: queerplay@gmail.com

Rainbow Playtime, Halifax: Food & social meetings for same sex families with tots or couples considering parenthood. 461-9414

Red Door, The, Kentville: Youth health adolescent center counselling, for up to age 30, all ages STD testing. 679-1411 (Monday through Friday, 1pm to 5pm, Wednesday open to 6:00) at 28 Webster Court

RESPECT, Truro: Students Making Healthy Decisions. 902-893-6300 email: respect@nsac.ca (P.O. Box 550, Nova Scotia Agricultural College, Truro, N.S. B2N 5E3)

SAAFE (Supporting An Alternative Friendly Environment), Truro: Social/support group at the NS Agricul-

tural College. 902-893-6300 email: lyoung@nsac.ns.ca (Meeting are as requested.)

Safe Harbour Metropolitan Community Church, Halifax: A Christian Church with an affirming ministry to the GBLT community. Everyone is welcome! 453-9249 email: safeharbour@eastlink.ca web: safeharbourmcc.com (Every Sunday 11:00am, and also a 7:00pm service on the Second Sunday of the month.) at 2786 Agricola St. Bloomfield Centre, Suite #108

Saint Mary's Campus Outreach Society: Second Story Women's Centre, Lunenburg: email: secstory@eastlink.ca web: www.secstory.com

Sexual Health Centre, Lunenburg County: dedicated to promoting healthy and responsible sexuality to the citizens of Lunenburg County. 527-2868 email: lunco@nssexualhealth.ca web: www.lunco.csh.info at 4 Hillcrest Street Unit 8, Bridgewater

Sexual Health Centre for Cumberland County, Cumberland County: We provide sexuality information and education in an environment that respects and supports choice. 667-7500 email: SHCCC@ns.aliantzinc.ca web: cumberlandcounty.csh.info at 12 LaPlanche St., Amherst Monday - Thursday, 9 - 5 (by chance or appt.) Confidential, hassle-free. Free condoms

South Shore Pride Social Club, Bridgewater: for 19 & older. 685-3297 email: info@southshorepride.ca web: www.southshorepride.ca at We hold dances on the third Saturday of each month. In March and possibly April 2007, the times will be from 8:00PM to 12 midnight; other months from 9:00PM to 1:00AM. Call or email for location.

Tatamagouche Centre, Tatamagouche: We are an affirming centre, welcoming all gay, lesbian, and transgendered people. 1.800.218.2220 email: tatacent@tatacentre.ca web: www.tatacentre.ca

Team Halifax, Halifax: All GLBT over 18, athletes and performance artists, as well as anyone willing to help out. 422-9510 web: www.teamhalifax.com (No fixed schedule at this time, look on website for further details.)

The Rainbow - Atlantic Awareness Society, (Cape Breton/Halifax/Annapolis Valley): email: tpineo@hotmail.com web: To be released

Tightrope, Halifax: leather & denim brotherhood. See our monthly events listing at http://gay.hfxns.org/LocalEvents. 455-0623, ask for Don, meets 3rd Saturday

Truro Pride, Truro: Coffee, conversation & support group. 895-0931 email: truropride@hotmail.com, meets every Wednesday at FairTrade Cafe on Prince Street, between Commercial and Dominion Streets

Universalist Unitarian Church, Halifax: an inclusive liberal religious community 429-5500, meets every Sunday (10:30) at 5500 Inglis St

Valley Gay Men's Coffee House, Kingston: socials for gay men; gay & lesbian dances 19+. 902-765-2821 email: menembracingmen@yahoo.ca web: cafeit-withpride.tripod.com (Coffee every Thursday 7-9pm, dances on the first Saturday of the month.) at email or call for locations or special events or themes

Venus Envy Bursary Society: An annual award open to all women studying in NS. web: www.venusenvy.ca/halifax

X-Pride, Antigonish: social & support group at X. 867- 5007 web: www.stfx.ca/people/xpride

Prince Edward Island (902)

Abegweit Rainbow Collective, Charlottetown: Serving GLBTTQ Islanders, their friends and families. 894-5776 email: info@arpei.ca web: www.arpei.ca, meets 2nd Tuesday (of each month) at ARC Offices at 144 Prince Street, 3rd floor

AIDS PEI, Charlottetown: 566-2437 email: info@aidspei.com web: www.aidspei.com at 144 Prince Street

Gay PEI Mailing List, province-wide: Electronic mailing list for all GLBT, questioning and friendly, focus is on PEI. email: gay-pe-owner@yahoo.com web: www.gay-pe-owner.com/group/gay-pe (It's an electronic list, there aren't meetings. You can join and start posting at http://groups.yahoo.com/group/gay-pe at any time. All first posts are moderated to stop spamshots, otherwise, it's an open list.)

GLBT Youth group, Charlottetown: Safe Space Drop-ins. 367-3408 or toll free 1 877 380 5776 email: youth@arpei.ca web: youth.arpei.ca at 144 Prince St. We have a lending library, books, movies, magazines and a place to hang out and chat. Special events planned throughout the year.

Narcotics Anonymous, Charlottetown: a fellowship of recovering drug addicts who meet regularly to help each other stay clean. 566-9733 or 1-800-205-8402 (Mondays & Fridays 8:00pm) at 178 Fitzroy St

PEI Pride, Charlottetown: Organizing The Island Pride Festival. (902)314-0673 or (902)940-3971 email: pridepei@isn.net web: www.peipride.com (every other Tuesday @ 5:30pm - see web site) at 144 Prince Street

PFLAG Canada - PEI, Charlottetown: Parents & Friends. 368-8416, meets 4th Monday at Boys & Girls Club St. Peters Road Charlottetown

PRIZMS, Charlottetown: PEI's first all dance party! Catering to the gay and lesbian community. web: www.prizms.net (see web page for upcoming events and location information) at PRIZMS expose yourself to the high energy-highly social atmosphere. "PRIZMS - Dance in the Light"

UPEI Rainbow Alliance, Charlottetown: Fellowship, information, social events, awareness-raising. All welcome. email: rainbow@upeia.ca web: upeira.ca/index.php at see UPEI Women's Centre for more info

Events >>

Amherst

Second Monday

PFLAG Amherst/Sackville - in Amherst one month, Sackville the next. 506-536-4245 email: jhammock@mta.ca, Sackville: 165 Main Street. Amherst: 12 La Planche Street.

First and Third Wednesdays

Amherst and Area, Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Youth Group Meeting, 7-9pm. Anyone who is GLBT or questioning their sexuality in the Amherst, Oxford, Springhill, Pugwash and Parrsboro areas is welcome, this is a safe space where anyone can come and feel safe in talking about their sexuality and just being themselves without fear of ridicule or harassment. lgbyp_amherst@hotmail.com, all emails confidential.

Third Thursday of each month

Cumberland Pride Support Group: Social and support group for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and transsexual individuals in Amherst, Nova Scotia. Meets the third Thursday of each month. Contact information: Gerard Veldhoven at 902-660-5004 or E-mail: gaylords_1975@hotmail.com

Annapolis Valley

Every Thursday

Valley Gay Men's Coffee House Meets every

Thursday evening from 7-9pm and also on the first Saturday of every month hosts a Gay/Lesbian dance for ages 19 and up from 9pm-1am. If you need more information concerning themes or other events that may take place call 902-765-2821 or email menembracingmen@yahoo.ca

Every Sunday

Valley Girls is a social group for lesbians in the Annapolis Valley. Coffee Group on Sundays. For more information e-mail the group at Valley_Girls@yahoo.com.

Bridgewater

Third Saturday of each month

Wileville Dance. Smoke free. For more details call 685-3297 or email info@southshorepride.ca or www.southshorepride.ca

Cape Breton

Apr 29, May 27, June 24

Meetings will be in the same place (Family Place Resource Centre), same day (Sundays) and same time (7:30 - 9:30 pm). All are welcome. If you know of anyone who would benefit from our meetings - they can contact us at sydneys@pflagcanada.ca, sexual diversity centre 563-1481, Celeste 563-1389 or B. Durdle 563-1443.

Every 2nd Saturday

Pride Cape Breton Society hosts community dances at the Southend Community Centre in Sydney; admission just \$5., and open to those 19 yrs. of age and older.

Charlottetown

What's coming up on the island? If you don't tell Wayves, who will?

Fredericton

Every Tuesday

Spectrum, UNB and STU's social and support group for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, queer, questioning, etc. students. As a group, our aim is to create a safe and supportive space for those who are questioning or discovering their sexuality, as well as providing a social outlet for members of the campus LGBTQ community. While our membership is primarily composed of UNB and STU students, everyone is welcome to attend our meetings. 7 pm, Top floor of SUB 203 (in the Sexuality Centre, across from the Ballroom) Everyone is welcome! For more information please contact us at spectrum@unb.ca

Every Wednesday

UNB/STU Women's Collective, at the University Women's Centre in the SUB, 5pm. Contact Lyndsey Gallant at gvnkr@stu.ca or call 450-3870.

Third Sunday of each month

GLB ANGLICANS AND FRIENDS Integrity is a non profit organization of Gay and Lesbian Anglicans and Friends. Membership in Integrity is not indicative of sexual orientation. Integrity Fredericton was formed in October 2004 and supports and encourages Gay Men and Lesbians in their spiritual lives. A Eucharist followed by a coffee hour discussion is held at 4:00 PM on the third Sunday of each month at St. John's, 58 Broad Road, Oromocto. For more details check out website: www.anglicanbeads.com/Integrity

Fourth Wednesday of each month

PFLAG Fredericton meets at 7 PM at the Unitarian Fellowship, 874 York Street. Everyone welcome. Discussion, guest speakers, support and special events. For more information email pflagfredericton@yahoo.ca. Confidentiality assured.

Fredericton Bar & Business Calendar

BOOM! NIGHTCLUB

www.boomnightclub.ca, 463-Boom! (2666) 474 Queen Street

Thursdays - Retro night - 70s, 80s, 90s... All dance mixes from a different decade each week. Open 4-1.

Fridays and Saturdays - Happy hour 4-9, All-extended-mix mainstream club music 9-2.

Sundays - New Brunswick's one and only T-dance! All-anthem dance music, 4-7.

Halifax

Every Sunday

Bedford United Church. 1200 Bedford Highway, Bedford. We are an Affirming Congregation and welcome everyone. Services at 9 am (Casual & Contemporary) and 11 am (Quieter & Traditional). June 25-Sept. 10, 10 am service. For more info, call 835-8497.

Every Sunday

Safe Harbour Metropolitan Community Church, Services are Sunday 7:00pm, except the last Sunday of the month at 11:00am, Bloomfield Centre, 2786 Agricola Street, Suite 108.

Second Sunday of each month

Play Group for Queer Families! 3-5pm Board Room (Play Room) at Needham Community Recreation Centre, 3372 Devonshire St (north end Halifax, near intersection of Duffus & Novalea, bus routes 7 & 9) Bring a snack for your child(ren). We will be collecting money from each family to cover the cost of the room rental, likely \$2-4 per week. For info, call 422-8780 or email lynnmacdonald@hfx.eastlink.ca

First and Third Tuesdays

Formerly known as the Queer/Straight Alliance, Mount Pride in the GLBTQ group at Mount Saint Vincent University. We are an active and online group that meets bi-weekly on tuesdays at 12 noon in the diversity center in Roseria on campus, and online at mountpride@yahoo.com. Possible events that are being planned for the winter semester include sexuality awareness week, movies nights, potlucks, guest speakers, and many more. There are always spontaneous meals and events that are always fun. This group is open to anyone who would like to join.

First and Third Tuesdays

LGB Youth Project Social Drop-in Nights. This is an unstructured event. It's a chance to hang out with old friends, make some new ones, and just talk about whatever, 6-9pm, 25 and under, 2281 Brunswick Street. Contact 429-5429, youthproject@youthproject.ns.ca, www.youthproject.ns.ca

Second and Fourth Tuesdays

LGB Youth Project 18 and under Support meetings. This is a structured environment, with facilitators present to keep discussions on track, while at the same time helping to lead the discussion in the directions that the youth wish to go, as well as making sure the group guidelines are enforced. The discussions focus on the youth present having a say, rather than the facilitators lecturing about whatever topic is being discussed, 6-8pm, 2281 Brunswick Street. Contact 429-5429, youthproject@youthproject.ns.ca, www.youthproject.ns.ca

First and Third Sundays

BLT-WOMYN OF HALIFAX. This is a Bi-sexual, Lesbian, Transgender Womyn's GROUP! 6pm - 7pm, at DALHOUSIE WOMEN'S CENTRE, 6286 South Street (Beside Dalplex Driveway) Come to a discussion night or send us your e-mail address or call a moderator (Sue @ 499-0335). If you have any questions or concerns. A discussion group for Bi-sexual, Lesbian, Transgender women, who will meet to have open discussions, in a positive environment. To discuss topics concerning ourselves and our community. This is a bi-weekly meeting on Sunday evening at 6pm - 7pm (1st and the 3rd. week of every month) and an online discussion/chat group (every 2nd and 4th week at 6pm - 7pm on line) - We are working on, an Online Chat at this time. http://ca.groups.yahoo.com/group/blt-womynofhalifax/ or blt-womynofhalifax-subscribe@yahoo.com

First and Third Wednesdays

LGB Youth Project Movie Night, 25 and under, starting at 7pm. 2281 Brunswick Street. Contact 429-5429, youthproject@youthproject.ns.ca, www.youthproject.ns.ca

Second and Fourth Wednesdays

LGB Youth Project ages 18-25 Support meetings. This is a structured environment, with facilitators present to keep discussions on track, while at the same time helping to lead the discussion in the directions that the youth wish to go, as well as making sure the group guidelines are enforced. The discussions focus on the youth present having a say, rather than the facilitators lecturing about whatever topic is being discussed, 7-9pm, 2281 Brunswick Street. Contact 429-5429, youthproject@youthproject.ns.ca, www.youthproject.ns.ca

Second Wednesday of each month

Spirituality for Lesbians, 7:30-9PM. We seek to deepen our relationship with God, knowing that God loves us and calls us into life just as he has created us. Persons of every or no denomination are welcome. For info about the place of the next meeting call 459-2649 and leave name and number. Personal mailbox: confidentiality assured.

Apr 12, 26, May 10, 24

Anonymous HIV Testing, AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia 1657 Barrington St, Suite 321, 5-8pm. 425-4882 for an appointment.

Apr 1, 15, 29, May 13, 27

Koinonia Ecumenical Church - Meaning 'community'. Services bi-weekly at 12:30pm at Halifax Feast downtown. Pastor Elaine, 876-8771 or koinonia@ns.sympatico.ca

Apr 2, 19, 30

Halifax Pride, Committee meetings are held at the LGB Youth Project, 2281 Brunswick St. at 6:30 PM. Everyone is welcome; so get involved. To learn more about Pride, check out www.halifaxpride.com

April 28

Fetish Ball in the Space above Diamonds at 2215 Gottingen St from 9 - 2ish. It is a fundraiser for the MacLeather Society & Tightrope Leather Brotherhood Society Travel Funds and three other alternative lifestyle organizations in need of funding. Travel Funds help contest winners and

MENZ BAR

GI Joe & Ken Coming Out Party
Saturday, April 21st
Dress Up & Win!

In the Heart of Halifax's Gay Village

Open 2 am • 902-446-6969 • 2104 Gottingen Street, Halifax • www.menzbar.ca

SEADOG'S
SAUNA & SPA

Mon - Thu: 4pm - 1am
Fri: 4pm - Mon: 1am (24hr weekend)

2199 Gottingen St., Halifax / www.SeaDogs.ca
1-888-837-1388 / 902-444-DOGS

Send your events to submissions@wayves.ca now! Event listings are free!

New Owners
James Noxell & John Dickinson

New Atmosphere

New Fun

at **Blue Moon**
2099B Gottingen Street
446-3644

Events

members to get to other contests and conventions in other parts of the country to represent the Maritimes which they could not afford to pay for by themselves. Any questions let me know Don -455-0623

April 30

The Live & Let Live AA Group will celebrate its 25th anniversary at 8.00 pm on Monday, April 30, at St Mathews Church, 1479 Barrington Street, in Halifax. It is an open meeting on this occasion and everyone is welcome. Use side door near Maritime Centre at bottom of stairs. For more information, phone 902 463 7895 or email LylandCal@eastlink.ca.

Halifax Youth Project Calendar

Youth Project events operate in a 4-week schedule. To find out what week we're operating in, please see our website or contact us! www.youthproject.ns.ca, youthproject@youthproject.ns.ca, 429-5429

Week 1

Monday - Transgender Discussion Group: A structured environment with facilitators present to keep discussion on track, while at the same time helping to lead discussion in the direction that the youth wish to go. The discussions focus on what trans youth have to say, rather than the facilitators lecturing about whatever topic is being discussed. A place to talk about trans issues and make new friends! 7-9 pm, 2281 Brunswick St.

Tuesday - Discussion Group (ages 18 and under) A structured environment with facilitators present to keep discussion on track, while at the same time helping to lead discussion in the direction that the youth wish to go. The discussions focus on what the youth present have to say, rather than the facilitators lecturing about whatever topic is being discussed. 7-9 pm, 2281 Brunswick St

Week 2

Tuesday - Social Drop-in Nights (ages 25 and under) This is a facilitated but less structured event. It's a chance to hang out with old friends, make some new ones, and just talk about whatever. 6-8 pm, 2281 Brunswick street

Wednesday - LBG Youth Project Movie Night (ages 25 & under) come out for a movie & popcorn! 7 pm, 2281 Brunswick St

Week 3

Tuesday - Guest Speaker & Discussion night (ages 25 & under) A new speaker every week to educate & spark discussion. This is a structured environment. 7-9pm, 2281 Brunswick street

Wednesday - Activity night (ages 25 & under) A

chance to have fun and perhaps learn something new. Activities will be on this night lasting two and a half months. First activity class IMPROV classes. 6-8pm, 2281 Brunswick St

Week 4

Tuesday - Social Drop-in Themed Nights (ages 25 and under) This is a facilitated but less structured event with a fun & exciting theme. It's a chance to hang out with old friends, make some new ones, and just talk about whatever. 6-8 pm, 2281 Brunswick street

Wednesday - LBG Youth Project Movie Night (ages 25 & under) come out for a movie & popcorn! 7 pm, 2281 Brunswick St

Halifax Bar & Business Calendar

BLUE MOON BISTRO/BACK BAR
2099B Gottingen St., Halifax, (902) 446-3644
5 pm-2 am, 7 days a week
Weekly Events:
Sundays - A variety of drag shows and fundraisers, including many ISCANs - Reign VII fundraisers.
Mondays - Poor Student Night. A variety of fundraisers with food and prize giveaways, hosted by Mz. Vicki.
Tuesdays - Karaoke with Troy. Cash prizes.
Wednesdays - 7 PM-11 PM. Swing dancing with the Dalhousie Swing Dance Society.
Thursdays - Karaoke with Candace. Cash prizes.
Fridays And Saturdays - Dance the weekend away with DJ Geo, DJ Special Tee, DJ Atmosphere and other guest DJs.

MENZ BAR

2104 Gottingen St, Halifax's Gay Village, 902-446-6969, www.MENZBAR.ca
FREE INTERNET & WI-FI 7 DAYS A WEEK
CHECK OUT OUR NEW 2007 MENU!
The PARTZ Dept with Pool Table & Moose Deck on Level III
April LINE UP
Mondayz 9:30pm-1:30pm GUESS WHO'S Back! Karaoke with Kara - Sing the Mystery Song & Win up to \$300!
Wednesdayz 9:30pm -1:30pm Karaoke with Bear777 - Sing the Mystery Song & Win up to \$300!
Fridayz 5pm-10pm TGIF COCKTAIL Party - U Want It, He'll Shake IT!
Fridayz & Saturdayz Dance Party with our House DJ's from 10pm-2am
Sundayz: BRUNCH 10am-3pm & Caesar TIME from 10am-7pm!
SAT. Apr. 7th - Leather Night with DJ NEEDLES
FRI Apr. 13th - Retro Night with DJ NEEDLES
SAT. Apr. 14th - Collar Night with DJ Electro
FRI. Apr. 20th - Party on with DJ Electro
SAT. Apr. 21st - GI JOE & KEN's Coming OUT Party - Dress Up NIGHT! With DJ Needles
Fri. Apr. 27th - Bringin' Down the HOUSE with DJ Needles
SAT. Apr. 28th - Touch a TEXAS! CALLIN' ALL COWBOYZ & GALZ with DJ Electro - BBQ Specials @ MOLLYZ DINER!

Mollyz DINER & Bar

Licensed Caterer "Mollyz Hitz the Spot"
HFV-The Daily News in the Heart of Halifax's Gay Village, 2104 Gottingen St., BOOK YOUR PRIVATE PARTY NOW! 902-405-3376 FREE WiFi 7 DAYS A WEEK
Hours: MON. - THUR: 11am till 9pm
FRI: 11am till 10pm - BAR till 2am
SAT & SUN 8am till 10pm
Check Out our New Daily Specials
MEXICAN Mondayz -You choose! MUCHO MACHO NACHOZ; MEXICAN MUSSELZ OLE! Or TEX MEX QUESADILLAZ
Tuesdayz - MOLLYZ YOU PICK - PASTA & WINE Combo
Wednesdayz - WINGS & Draught
Thursdayz - All U Can Eat Mussel Night & with your favorite Moose!
FISHY Fridayz - YOU Choose Mollyz BEER BATTERED Fish & Chips & Draught Or Mollyz Famous Mexican Musselz
Saturday & Sunday - Week End BRUNCH Menu 8am till 3pm
Sundayz - All You Can Eat BRUNCH BUFFET 10AM till 3PM \$10.96
SATURDAY April 14th, Matchmaker Mollyz SPEED DATING DINNER FOR WOMEN! Limited Seating; BOOK NOW!
WEDNESDAY April 18th, Starting @ 8pm,

An Evening with the Halifax Poets Society!

SATURDAY April 28TH, TOUCH OF TEXAS BBQ SPECIALS!

THURSDAY April 16th, @ 8pm "Café DaPoPo"
- Theatrical Teasers Tailored to Taste! Reserve NOW!

FRIDAY April 28th, Matchmaker Mollyz' SPEED DATING DINNER FOR MEN! Limited Seating; BOOK NOW!

REFLECTIONS

5184 Sackville Street
(902) 422-2957, toll free (877)422-2957
Fax (902) 422-2970
mail@reflectionscairet.com
www.reflectionscairet.com
Open 7 days a week, Mon-Sat 1pm to 4am, Sun 4pm to 4am, Manager: Stephen Filek

Monday \$Rockin for Dollar\$-open mic contest. We supply the gear, you supply the band. Compete for a chance to win lot's of cash, possibly up to \$1000!! This runs from 10-2 with a \$2 cover followed by great dance music till 3:45 with DJ HedFones

Tuesday Karaoke with Troy Ward. \$100 Cash Prize every Tuesday. DJ HedFones follows with great dance music till 3:45 am no cover

Wednesday - Great live bands on stage till 1am followed by Retro night with DJ Electro and DJ Sapho till 3:45am

Thursday - Lulu LaRude hosts 5 Minutes of Fame - The anything goes Talent Show where we give away \$200 cash every Thursday. 10pm \$3. DJ HedFones till 3:45am.

Friday BUMP Fridays with Halifax's Premiere House DJ Sonny D. We continue to define the underground with the best house, techno, and breaks around! \$5 10pm to 3:45am

Saturday - Squirt Saturdaze with DJ HedFones. The Ultimate dance night in the City of Halifax with Dance, Top 40, Pop, Retro, R & B, and more! 10pm to 3:45am \$5

Sunday - We feature either great dance music or drag shows, special events, etc.. 10pm start. Cover varies.

SEADOG'S SAUNA & SPA

VOTED 4th Top Cruising Spots in the WORLD by Squirt.com NOW FULLY LICENSED! Come for the MEN, Stay for the BEER! 2199 Gottingen Street. Hours: Mon-Thu 4pm-1am & 24 Hour Week Ends We accept VISA, M/C & Debit. In & Out Privileges with 12 or 24 Hour Stays. 902-444-3647 - www.SeaDogs.ca. In the HEART of Halifax's Gay Village

Mondays - Student Night, FREE Lockers with Valid Student I.D.

Tuesdays - TOONIE NIGHT - \$2 Bucks OFF Lockers

Wednesdays - HUMP NIGHT - 1/2 price pass for your next visit with purchase of a Room or Locker

Thursdays - It's NAKED Night! Towels Optional

SAT. & SUN. - Early Bird Special 6am till Noon, Rooms are \$15 & Lockers are \$7.50 & Beverage Specials till 6PM!

Sundayz - FREE 30 Minute Cruiseline Pass from 6pm till Close

Moncton

Third Monday of each month

PFLAG Moncton has monthly support meeting from 7:30-9:30 in room 302 of the Adrien-J.-Cormier bldg at U de M campus. Everyone is welcome at our meetings.

Second and Fourth Mondays

SAFE SPACES MEETING, 7pm. Support group for GLB youth, 14-25. For more info, 869-6224 or safespaces@nb.aibn.com

Last Saturday

Moncton Leather Chapter Leather Nights at Triangles! With the interest and number of people that have started wearing Leather in Moncton, it only seems natural to have a monthly Leather Night so that any man or woman can wear their Leather and know that they will not be alone in

doing so when they go to Triangles.

Moncton Bar & Business Calendar

CLUB CHAMELEON
http://personal.nbnet.nb.ca/garysm/chamel.htm
939 Mountain Road, Moncton.
Hours: 9pm until 2am
Phone: 506-858-5861
Email: gasmith@nb.sympatico.ca
Wacky Wednesday - \$2.00 Beer & Barshots 10 til close
Thursday - Girls Night Out! - no cover for girlz with 2.4.1. drinks til midnight
Friday - After Work BBQ - 4pm on with DJ Roo
Saturday - Moncton Leather Chapter Charity BBQ - 4pm on
Sunday - T-Dance and BBQ 4-7 pm

TRIANGLES

234 St. George St, open Tues-Sun 8pm-2am
Tuesday & Wednesday: Free Pool, Beer / Bar Shots / Shooters \$3 all night
Thursday: Karaoke Mystery Song - \$25 added each week until the correct song is picked! Beer / Bar Shots \$3 until midnight, Shooters \$2.75 all night
Friday & Saturday: Dance Music with DJ daBoss, Summer Special Beer with Shooter \$4 11pm-midnight
Sunday: Request all your favourite songs with DJ daBoss, Beer / Bar Shots / Shooters \$3 all night
Check out our monthly events page at www.trianglesbar.com, and send comments & suggestions to thegirls@nb.sympatico.ca

Our colour parties are back - watch for the yellow party, coming up in April. Check our website for upcoming Colour Party dates

Sackville

Second Monday
PFLAG Sackville / Amherst - in Sackville one month, Amherst the next. 506-536-4245 email: jhammock@mta.ca, Sackville: 165 Main Street. Amherst: 12 La Planche Street.

Saint John

Third Saturday
Gay Men's Supper Club, 220 Germain St. http://www.portcityrainbowpride.com/ for more information.

Saint John Bar & Business Calendar

CLUB MONTREAL
Wednesdays: No cover, free pool
Thursdays: No cover, karaoke with prizes
Fridays: No cover, open turntables
Saturdays: \$5 cover after 10 PM
Sundays: No cover, free pool
Your birthday: no cover, one free drink, just show your ID!

St. John's

July 9-15
Pride 2007 will take place from July 9-15th, 2007. To sit on the planning committee, please contact Mark Hanlon by email at mlhanlon@gmail.com or Danny Smith at dannyontherock@yahoo.ca

St. John's - LGBT-MUN

Every Friday
Coffee House: Every Friday, 12-2 (LBGT Office, 6th Floor UC, 6002) Every Friday we invite anyone and everyone to come to LBGT and enjoy a cup of Coffee or Tea (regular or herbal) with us (members, non-members, etc). It's a great chance to vent, meet some new people, etc. Our office is located in UC-6022.

Every Second Friday
General Meeting every second week. They take place at UC-6022 at 11:00am.

St. John's Bar & Business Calendar

Cont'd next page

MACLeather Society Road Show 101

April 27th
Halifax Menz Bar

Coming soon - Charlottetown... Your town???

M.A.C. LEATHER
for more information
chinman52@hotmail.com

Triangles
ATLANTIC CANADA'S OLDEST GAY BAR

234 ST. GEORGE STREET, MONCTON, NEW BRUNSWICK

Open TUESDAY to SUNDAY from 8PM to 2AM

<p>TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY FREE POOL Beer - Bar Shots - Shooters \$3.25 ALL NIGHT</p>	<p>THURSDAY KARAOKE NIGHT Beer - Bar Shots \$3.25 until 12AM Shooter Special \$2.75 all Night</p>
<p>FRIDAY & SATURDAY DANCE MUSIC WITH DJ DABOSS HAPPY HOUR till 11PM</p>	<p>SUNDAY REQUEST ALL YOUR FAVORITE SONGS WITH DJ DABOSS Beer - Bar Shots - Shooters \$3.25 ALL NIGHT</p>

Check out our monthly "EVENTS" page at www.trianglesbar.com

We welcome your comments and suggestions and please feel free to e-mail us at thegirls@nb.sympatico.ca

Fetish Reviews

Family Jewels –

– A Guide to Male Genital Play and Torment

Every year MACLeather's *Fetish Ball* is one of the highlights of Halifax's queer parties. Even the most vanilla person can take fun in dressing up in a sexy costume and letting loose for a night. Sort of like Hallowe'en in April.

For those of you who might want to dig a little deeper into the night's festivities, one of MACLeather's founding Masters offers up these three book reviews. All three books are available at Venus Envy.

By Hardy Haberman Published by Greenery press 2001

A review by Leatherman
When I first read *Family Jewels*, I was amazed that such a small book was packed with so much valuable information.

The chapter on anatomy of the genital regional would rival something Geoff Mains might put together – very concise and well explained in terms for the lay person, but technical enough for those with that special bit of knowledge to catch the subtleties.

The chapter on safety is well worth the price of the book, It covers the whole gambit of bruising and bumps; cleanliness of your toys

and negotiating a scene; although most of these subjects are covered in SM 101 and other Classics, the degree of detail given to the genital area is very uncommon.

What is in your toy bag is usually determined by what you like to do. Ten different types of stimulation are discussed in this chapter, and it looks at 37 uses of different toys that you can put in one of your toy bags and mark it for Cock & Balls Torture (CBT) play.

In the final chapter, we get to look at how to put everything together in a scene. The anatomy, safety and toys come together in seven very believable scenes – three of which I have already been involved with, and two others I am

setting up for next month.

It is an excellent, concise book that all CBT people must have in their library.

The only scene I felt was missing, which is in common use these days, is the Tens unit, to isolate and stimulate the cock and balls – loved by gay guys more than straight men. Go figure.

I have always used free hands to warm up the cock and ball area at the beginning of most CBT scenes.

Flogging

By Joseph W Bean
Published by Green Press 2000

A review by Leatherman

The first time I read this book I was taken back by the fact that this is not a beginner's book and has so much insight tossed at the reader that only people who were experienced in the field could grasp what the book was truly saying. As I thought about it, most people would not buy this book until after they had been flogged several times or performed the flogging and wanted to check with an expert on whether their technique was correct. In that reference the book made perfect sense otherwise who would understand that "the seduction of consent is job one for the top throughout the interaction including the actual flogging" or if you ever want to repeat this scene you better get it pretty close to perfect the first time.

This book professes that flogging is a complete thing in and of itself. It is not just strokes and reddened body parts. Each scene requires some interaction, some preparation, a warm up session, the main intense session that rises to a peak and an ending. I have professed this for years but I have been shouted down by the 'thumpers' who think it is their god given right to beat you until they are tired and you are battered and bruised.

This book suggests that if you

I have been known to use knife and Wartenburg wheel play to heighten the sensation level, but one must press lightly over stretched skin as it will puncture easily.

I have had forty or so clothespins all over my groin area for various lengths of time and lifted forty pounds with just my balls in one of the games at a local run, and yes I worked up to it. Ten to fifteen pounds is usually enough to get a boy's attention.

accept that sooner or later something will go wrong then you will be ready for scenes that go right. Some of the topics that you should consider are unwanted pain, top errors, checking in, service tops & pushy bottoms, isolated arrogance, mismatched couples, bad circumstances, actual emergencies, psychological barriers, lack of technical expertise and aftercare.

This book states that the elements of flogging are: Networking to find a partner, negotiating to arrange a mutually desirable scene, monitoring the progress of the action by being aware of the feedback loops between partners, selecting the appropriate instruments at the right times to produce the desired effects and seeing the scene comes to a safe and satisfying end.

All the scenes in the book are one on one, this does not necessarily need to be strictly adhered to as I have been in and viewed scenes with multiple bottoms being flogged by multiple tops. This is harder to monitor and should only be done with experienced players who know what to look for in the rapidly changing stimulations.

There is one question that was not clearly answered by the book and that has been on my mind for a while and that is do you keep beating on you bottom after you put that person in "subbie space" or do you stop the scene there because that is the ultimate goal for the top?

Events cont'd from prev page

Zone 216

216 Water St, 754-2492
<http://www.hello.to/zone216>

Winter Hours

Open Fri&Sat Nights 10pm-late

No cover before 12 Friday

No Cover before 11 Saturday

Sydney

...see Cape Breton

Truro

Every Wednesday

Truro Pride: GLBT support group in Colchester County, Nova Scotia. (Coffee hour at the Fair Trade Café on 535 Prince Street in Truro, every Wednesday evening at 6:00pm. For information call Northern AIDS Connection Society at 902-895-0931 or email truropride@hotmail.com

WAYVES DATES!

Check out the front of the magazine for Wayves deadlines and meeting dates – all are welcome!

Wileville

...see Bridgewater

Wolfville

Every Second Tuesday

Kings County Prostate Cancer Support Group, 7-9 pm in the East Kings Memorial Public Health Centre on Earncliffe Ave in Wolfville. You can ask questions you forgot to ask the doctor or nurse and you can think aloud to help you make your decisions. There is growing evidence that your participation in a group of people who have gone through the processes you are now facing is mentally beneficial and may well contribute to your recovery from prostate cancer interventions. We are an easy-going informal group of 12 men, some of whom bring their spouses/partners to our monthly meetings. Know that you are truly welcome to join us and if you need more information please get in touch with me by e mail dickgroot2003@yahoo.ca or by phone 542 6125. Our correspondence address is the same as my home address: 210 Main Street, Wolfville NS B4P 1C4.

the
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International Women's Day Thursday March 8 2007



Women held a mock trial for Prime Minister Harper at the Olympic Gardens in Halifax - for his dismal record with respect to the impact federal cutbacks have had on women's equality and child care strategy. Photo Credit: Anita Martinez

Leather Folk


By Mark Thompson
Published by Alyson Publications
1991

A review by Leatherman
The book encompasses radical sex, radical people, radical politics and radical practices. The voices you hear in this book are the Leather Gods of the 1980's and 1990's - philosophers of the Queer Leather Nation. Many are gone now, like John Preston and Geoff Mains, but many still hold true to the beliefs that they wrote twenty years ago and the philosophy still rings true for those who are still practicing like myself.

In the 1980's and 1990's, leather folk consisted of any and all who were interested in exploring the taboo realms and intense erotic experiences associated with sado-masochism and the surrounding subculture. The subculture is still shrouded in shadows, when it is not out-rightly condemned by those who fear the unknown. Leather folk have persisted and are always on the crest of the newest wave or reinventing the world they live in, because there are now places you can go to learn from experts in the many and diverse aspects of S/M - SM University, Inferno, and Delta Runs and many more.

This book is an anthology of stories told by individuals who have experienced the leather subculture first hand and wished to relate the truth to you. It is an excellent read, even on the third time through. There are a lot of subtleties you may have missed the first time, and as you journey through the subculture yourself, come back to this book and you will see even more insight in the text written so long ago.

These days I have to agree with John Preston's friend in that I think the Leather life I knew and loved has been taken over by sightseers and tourists and it may be time to go underground again to find the magical sexuality and spirituality that were once the sole goal of the members of the Leather Tribe.



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Classifieds

groups

MARITIME GAY WOMEN starting group in Moncton to make friends. Hope to meet people who ski, play cards, like nature, Maritime travel, golf, whatever you're interested in. If you're alone, or would like to meet new people, email makefriends@mail.com

Men's Reading Group meets regularly in Halifax. Come meet interesting people and discuss gay literature. Check our webpage at www.menread.50mgs.com. Email menread@gay.com or contact 454-9111 for more information.

research

Étude -- LGBT & Canadian Military -- Study: Were you discharged for homosexuality? Are/Were you a LGBT soldier? Or their Partner? Congédié(e) dû à votre homosexualité? Êtes/Étiez-vous militaire LGBT? Ou leur conjoint(e)? <http://tinyurl.com/yab8yy> May07

spiritual

CALLING ALL ANGLICANS An Integrity chapter has been formed in Nova Scotia. Call George 902-757-1706. For Propitiation (traditionalist Anglicans) call Peter 416-487-7406 (evenings).

LESBIANS, GAY MEN, BISEXUALS will find themselves welcome by Quakers, who recognize that there is "that of God in every person." Call (902) 429-2904 for more info.

support

HALIFAX RAINBOW SPEAKERS: Project Proud Lesbian, bisexual, gay, transgendered, two-spirited and queer volunteers wanted to participate in public education workshops. No special knowledge or experience necessary--training, practice and support provided. Let your rainbow shine! Ramona 902-494-6662, nspirg@is2.dal.ca

HALIFAX TRANSGUYS is a support group for transmen at any point in transition, locally and in Atlantic Canada. Please write: halifaxtransguys@yahoo.groups.ca for further info on our upcoming meetings and social events.

wanted

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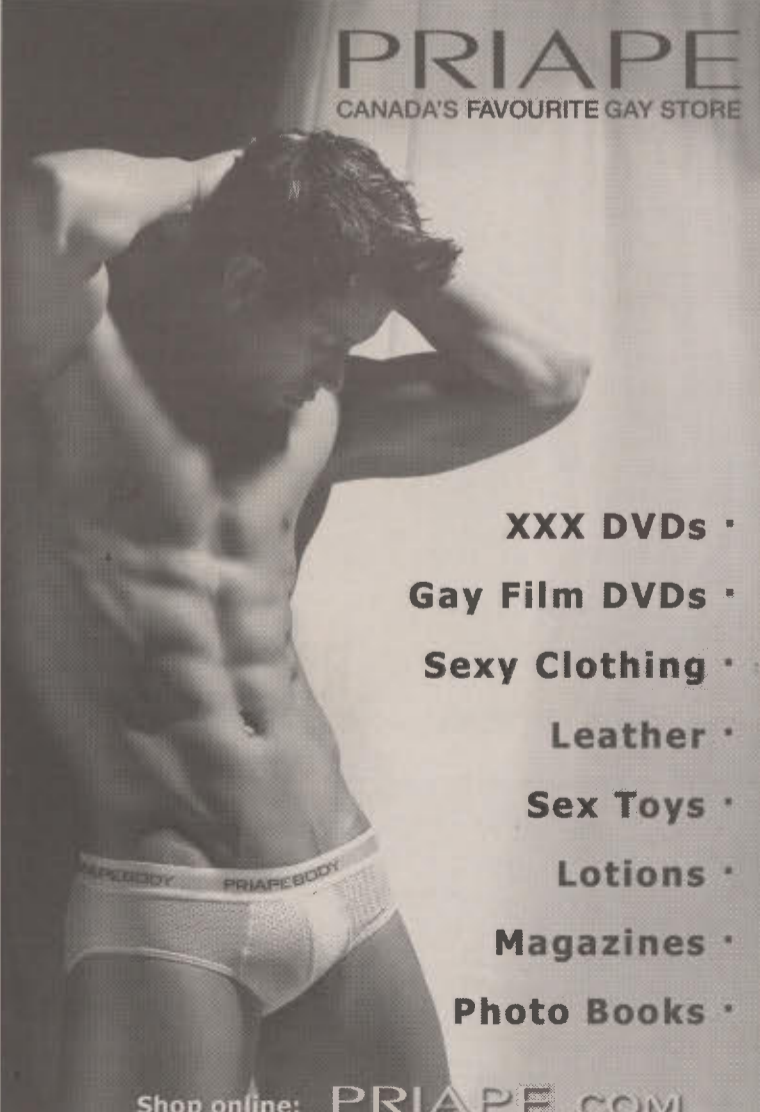
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Deadlines: page 2! (hint: always the first Friday of the month!)



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Darrin Hagen's Lulu Eulogy continued from Pg 13



of turning the tables and making your freak status into a weapon. Gradually the mood shifted from hostility to mild amusement, and by the end of the show, they were even clapping. We each made fifty bucks. It was the first time either of us had gotten paid for doing drag. On the way home, Lulu said, "We have to tell everybody how fabulous it was, or they'll never let us hear the end of it." We got to the club and boasted of our triumph, and suddenly we were professional queens.

Lulu rapidly scaled the heights of Edmonton's drag world, winning the titles of Empress IX and Entertainer of the Year. Lulu was always the consummate performer, even in the early years. But what Lulu did onstage was more than just proficiency or good lipsynch. Lulu had charisma...and a way of reaching out to the audience that was very special. And a versatility that stretched from wicked one-liners to the best big drag ballads money can buy.

He moved to Toronto in 1989, and began working with the legendary Great Imposters under the wing of Rusty Ryan.

Through it all, Chuck and Lulu attracted talent like a magnet. His life was full of people who took their artistic baby-steps under his watchful eye. He was not only a mentor to many, but a muse. With Chuck, no idea seemed too outlandish, no dream impossible. I can honestly say that the years I spent

by his side prepared me for almost every challenge I've ever faced. Not only did he save my life (twice), but he made life worth living.

Every life is a work of art. Every piece of art changes the world. Every Queen knows that the secret to a good drag number is the big finish.

That's what we're seeing now... Lulu's big finish. The last long note. The kickline. The stunning pose before the spotlight fades to black.

When I called Christopher Peterson in Florida to tell him the news about Lulu, he chastened me for being sad. "Girl, she was the Queen of Halifax. She got a farewell tour, a final show in her old home town. She got months of people telling her how much they loved

her. She found Prince Charming and married him. There will be hundreds at her funeral." Then he paused. "WE aren't gonna get that!"

In the February snow in Edmonton, I think back to the warm September I was in Halifax. Lulu was so excited...she had managed to get her hands on a piano. She had wanted to keep it a surprise, but couldn't, and had sent me an e-mail with a picture of it sitting in their living room.

When I got to his place, I sat down and started playing. Day after day, Chuck would putter around, tidying, cleaning, going about his life while I re-learned songs that used to be the sound-

track of our early years. Gradually, the songs come back: the Kate, the Rickie, the Babs, the Bach. My fingers, a bit hesitant at first, eventually remember where to go. And one day, with the sun streaming in, I feel transported back in time. I hear Chuck humming behind me. The ringing of the piano hangs in the air. I hear him say, "I love that song." "I know," I reply. And we are nineteen again. And the whole history of the world is before us again. All the possibilities, all the laughs, all the heartbreak...all of it is just beginning again. As complicated as our lives became, it was always simple moments like that one that made me love my time with him. Those moments, and the air of potential that always hovered over us.

And always returning to square one. Never being afraid to start over.

"Their names are all now legend Underground. The land they ruled over churns on and on without them. You can't stop time. Crowns get passed around like rhinestone cookie cutters. Prizes for being the most...whatever it is at the moment.

But here on earth, there's just big empty spaces where they used to be.

Every time I hear one of their old drag numbers, a snapshot pops into view—sculpted hair, lips quivering, arms stretched out at the standup mike, the brilliant spotlight cascading down, then breaking like a million mirrors, refracted by jewels into shattering beams until we were blinded, their eyes gazing upwards, sparkling with life and emotion and passion for their separateness, their existence, that moment, like their whole life culminated on that stage in that moment, that shining, perfect moment...

The Applause. The Lucky Ones. Everyone should feel that before they die."

Parts of the eulogy are excerpted from "The Edmonton Queen" originally published in 1997. A new edition, "The Edmonton Queen: The Final Voyage" will include new material that deals with some of Hagen's final experiences with Chuck.



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Casual Encounters:

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