

Waynes

August 2007



Gay No More?
Former Queer Youth Activist's Blurred Vision

WGALES

for atlantic canadians

Mike Glatze: Dazed And Confused



2005: Michael Glatze at the John F. Kennedy School's Institute of Politics forum. "Come out," Matthew Shepard's mother told the young gays in the audience. "You have to be role models and show them that we're everywhere. We should be all telling our stories." From left to right: Cheryl A. Giles, Harvard Divinity School professor, moderates a panel with Judy Shepard, Michael Glatze, Maya Keyes, and Chris Medeiros.

On July 3, Michael Glatze, co-founder with Halifax native Benjie Nycum of YGA Magazine, and a recognized leader in the gay youth movement, rocked the queer world by announcing on World Net Daily,

a right-wing American website, that he had rejected homosexuality and was henceforth pursuing life as a straight Christian. "Homosexuality came easy to me, because I was already weak," his article begins. He briefly recounts the history of

his involvement with the LGBT community, including co-producing with PBS the moving documentary film, *Jim in Bold*, which dealt with gay teen suicide. Of YGA he writes, "[We] launched YGA Magazine in 2004, to pretend to provide a 'virtuous counterpart' to the other newsstand media aimed at gay youth. I say 'pretend' because the truth was, YGA was as damaging as anything else out there, just not overtly pornographic, so it was more 'respected.' It took me almost 16 years to discover that homosexuality itself is not exactly 'virtuous.'" Michael goes much further, not just renouncing homosexuality for himself, but condemning it as dangerous, even deadly, for others. "Homosexuality, delivered to young minds, is by its very nature pornographic. It destroys impressionable minds and confuses their developing sexuality; I did not realize this, however, until I was 30 years old. ... Knowing no

one who I could approach with my questions and my doubts, I turned to God; I'd developed a growing relationship with God, thanks to a debilitating bout with intestinal cramps caused by the upset stomach-inducing behav-

Homosexuality came easy to me because I was already weak

iors I'd been engaged in. Soon, I began to understand things I'd never known could possibly be real, such as the fact that I was leading a movement of sin and corruption ... It became clear to me, as I really thought about it - and really prayed about it - that homosexuality prevents us from finding our true self within. We cannot see the truth when

we're blinded by homosexuality."

There's no doubt that Michael has been through a profound personal and spiritual crisis. What strikes one as tragic is that this talented, well educated and well connected young man felt he knew no one he could approach with his "questions and doubts." There are many deeply spiritual, philosophical and even Christian role models that have found within the Gay movement. He might have begun by reading Mark Thompson's excellent trilogy, *Gay Spirit*, *Gay Soul* & *Gay Body* or he might have delved into the novels and autobiographies of Christopher Isherwood or the poetry of Walt Whitman. He might have taken a couple of hours to watch one of the few good movies about

Cont'd to Glatze, p. 7

Saint John's Pride Parade Marshal



by SarahRose Werner

The Honourary Marshall for Saint John's 2007 Pride parade will be Judith Meindert-Thomas. Judith has long been an outspoken combatant in the fight for respect and equal rights for LGBTTIQ folk in Saint John. She got off to a somewhat rocky start when her own son came out to her more than two decades ago, and freely admits that at first she was "the mother from hell." But as she learned more about issues con-

cerning sexual orientation, not only did she come to turn her own attitude around, but she also realized that other people needed to travel the same path of learning that she had.

Together with Wayne Harrison, Judith co-founded the PFLAG Canada chapter in Saint John in 1996. Saint Johner Mack MacKenzie commented, "I knew Judith before [I knew] anyone else in the LGBT community or PFLAG Canada, Saint John Chapter. She was in the papers, the CBC, etc. and took a lot of heat when many of the rest of us were hanging out in our respective closets."

Judith not only took the heat, she also gave it. A devout Catholic and lay associate of the Sisters of Charity of the Immaculate Conception, she openly challenged former

Bishop Faber McDonald on same-sex marriage and related issues.

Judith also played a key role in the birth of Saint John's first Pride parade in 2003, as Wayne Harrison explains, "Judith was the catalyst for many LGBT initiatives in Saint John, including the organizing of our first Pride parade. Judith was the one who was out (literally) in front of the Saint John public making our community more accepting of LGBT people and issues. It was her idea which she brought to one of our PFLAG Canada Saint John meetings. She clearly stated 'I don't care if it is just the three of us (Judith, Ross and me) marching down the street, but Saint John needs a Pride parade.' Judith was the inspiration when many said it wouldn't happen - her vision made it so."

As Honourary Marshall for 2007, Judith joins Kevin Bourassa and Joe Varnell (2003), Benjie Nycum and Michael Glatze (2004), Eldon Hay (2005) and Wayne Harrison (2006).

Rainbow Community New Year's Eve Dinner and Dance

When it comes to planning a special event, you can never start too early. There are rooms to book, chefs to hire, and music to arrange. That's what has been keeping the folks at Safe Harbour Metropolitan Community Church busy this spring - putting together a premium event for the whole community to enjoy this coming New Year's Eve.

When asked why Safe Harbour was putting together a dinner and dance this year, church board member Nicky Perkins said, "We were looking around for a GLBTQ event at New Year's that will be as elegant and fun as anything the straight crowd will enjoy, but we didn't see it out there. So we decided that Safe Harbour would sponsor this event, and offer it to the whole community - a real New Year's Eve celebration with all the trimmings, and at \$85 a ticket,

still affordable for as many people as possible."

And because this is Safe Harbour putting on the event, you can feel good about more than just going to a great party - you can take pride in helping support others in the community. That's because any profits from the ticket sales will go towards Manna for Health, the special needs referral food program for those living with HIV and other life threatening illnesses.

So if you're looking for Halifax's premium GLBTQ New Year's Eve event, you'll want to attend the Rainbow Community New Year's Eve Dinner and Dance at the Halifax Harbourfront Marriott. If you didn't get your tickets at Pride, you can call (902) 453-9249 and order them now. Because it's never too late to plan early for New Year's Eve!

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Atlantic News

Impulsive Move

By D. S. Mack MacKenzie
Impulse is the name of the new gay bar that recently opened in Saint John, filling the void left by the closing of Club Montréal. The owner is Eric Eliassen, a familiar name in the community and in the high rolling world of real-estate. He is a man who clearly has his finger on the pulse of the nocturnal members of the gay community. Impulse is located at 14-16 Charlotte Street, less than two blocks away from the former watering hole. Eliassen is known to many as a successful Royal LePage real-estate broker with a warm smile and convivial disposition. For the past five years, he worked for and managed Club Montréal.

Asked why he decided to front the capital for the new bar, Eliassen responded, "There is a need for our people to have a safe space to play, dance and imbibe. Two months without a bar showed that people missed it." Word of mouth and Facebook were the main ways Impulse was promoted, according to Eliassen. Demand was high and he had to turn people away on opening night due to the overflowing crowd.

Impulse is a fresher and more intimate bar. With just over 2000 square feet of music, lights and entertainment, the bar holds 144 people. It has a small outdoor patio for those wishing to have a beer and some clean air, or a smoke, and there is plenty of free parking. In the bar, poles have been added

for those adventurous dancers who feel the impulse to dance on the bar. DJ Cronk, DJ Guido, and DJ Fred will be there to spin the discs. They'll provide house music on Saturday nights and eighties and nineties music through the week.

Though the bar is only open from Wednesday to Saturday nights, it is available free of charge to the LGBT community for special events, said Eliassen. He is looking forward to working more closely with organisations such as Port City Rainbow Pride, the UNBSJ Q-Collective and the local chapters of PFLAG Canada to have fundraisers, dances, dinners and other events. He said the young people of Saint John are feeling left out of events put on by the local pride committee known as Port City Rainbow Pride Inc. "Many of the events are catering to an older more established crowd or are not promoted in a timely manner. This is what I have been hearing for years from my clientele," said the vibrant fifty-something year old from his office on Paradise Row.

The Impulse Dance Bar and Lounge will be picking up and building on the past efforts and successes of former bars like J.J.s., Bogarts, Spy Bar and Club Mon-



tréal. Eliassen is working with former Spy Bar co-owner Michelle Petite for karaoke nights. He has great admiration for those who came before him in the gay bar scene in Saint John. "I think the world of Jim [Crooks] and Carl [Trickey] who ran Bogarts for years and provided a fun and safe haven for many who lived here or visited the city on weekends," said Eliassen. "I want to take it to the next level and provide a welcoming spot that is at street level, in a lively part of Saint John, and is open to all who want to drop in." He chuckled about the sign he is having made for the entrance to the new bar, which reads, "The Management of this bar is not responsible for anyone turning gay who passes through these doors."

Hours of operation are: 9:00 pm to 1:00 am on Wednesdays and Thursdays, 9:00 pm to 2:00 am on Fridays and 10:00 pm to 2:00 am on Saturdays. Impulse will be open on Sundays only on long weekends and for special events.

City of Halifax Invites Tourists

Destination Halifax is going "live" in its campaign to welcome gay travellers and put the Halifax Regional Municipality on the map as a gay-friendly locale. After in-depth strategic consultation with Community Marketing Inc., a global leader in gay tourism marketing, and stand out representatives from the local gay community, Destination Halifax has developed a website specifically tailored with the interests of LGBT (lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, and transgender) consumers in mind.

Rainbowhalifax.com is the next step in a larger initiative to connect LGBT meeting planners, tour operators, travel agents, and consumers with gay-welcoming services and suppliers. The site will provide a forum for businesses to become more aware of the interests of the gay traveller and to post their product/service for those who are seeking it.

Part of the initiative has included meeting with local service providers and product suppliers to educate them about best practices and opportunities for outreach, such as becoming TAG-approved properties. The official designation identifies these accommodations as genuinely welcoming and non-discriminatory.

"We hope that this effort will encourage more local businesses to better address the unique preferences of this community," says Pat Lyall, President and CEO of Destination Halifax. "Our ultimate

goal is to help gay consumers to discover the exceptional travel experience this city has to offer. We consider Rainbowhalifax.com our official invitation to gay travellers everywhere."

Halifax received international recognition as a gay-friendly destination when Rosie O'Donnell's gay family cruise visited in 2005. The historic harbourfront city is an appealing locale with a vibrant gay community, multi-faceted culture, exquisite architectural and natural beauty, and down-home hospitality in a safe environment.

Destination Halifax is the dedicated tourism marketing organization of the Halifax Regional Municipality. Created in April 2002, Destination Halifax is an exciting partnership of the Hotel Association of Nova Scotia, Nova Scotia Tourism, Culture & Heritage, the Halifax Regional Municipality, and the World Trade and Convention Centre. Destination Halifax promotes the Halifax Regional Municipality as a year-round destination of choice for business and leisure.

For more information, visit: www.rainbowhalifax.com or www.destinationhalifax.com.



Blair LeBlanc

Friends and family are mourning Blair's sudden and unexpected passing on Sunday, 10 June at age 36.

Born in North Sydney, Blair was an easygoing, clean-cut, and loving individual who was active in the community and a very loyal friend. He was an English major, and by his own admission, could appreciate good drama. In 2005, he wrote: "Life should be a constant upgrade, don't try and drag me to your level. I want enrichment in my life. I am open and honest about everything."

Blair was known for his work to try and dispel the stigma associated with HIV/AIDS. He never let his status get in the way of a good argument!

Besides his parents, he is survived by his sister Marsha (Darryl) MacQuarrie, Port Hawkesbury; brother Paul, Red Deer Alta.; niece Cailin; nephew Colton, and long-time friend Darryl



Beaman.

Donations in memory of Blair may be made to St. Joseph's Parish. Messages to the family may be sent to: greensfuneralhm@ns.sympatico.ca.

"I cannot begin to say how I feel. He was a wonderful man, though I never met him in person - he was known online as lambswhite, recently as 'newlambs' or 'Lambchops' - but I could feel the wonderful compassion he had for life. I just cannot believe it - such a great soul. I will miss you so, so much, Lambchops." Michael, "MIC_PEI" xoxoxo

Robert Byers

On June 8, Robert Byers died. People knew Robert in many different ways. He was a photographer, a founder of Safe Harbour Church, a volunteer patient at the Dalhousie Medical School, a master hair stylist, an admirer and collector of images of the black male nude, a past president of GALA and a loving, kind friend.

As a tribute to Robert and as a means of recording his involvement with the queer community of Halifax, I was asked to help gather reminiscences and information about Robert for the Halifax Gay History Project (<http://gay.hfxns.org>). As the stories and memories of Robert began to arrive and were added to his page on the History Project, a vivid picture of the man began to emerge, and I regretted not knowing Robert until after he was gone. As I said to Dan

MacKay, the guiding force of the Halifax Gay History Project, when our elders (in the tribal sense - the wise ones, the experienced ones) pass on, not only do we lose the person but we also lose the connection to people and events that they experienced firsthand.

To see Robert's page go to <http://gay.hfxns.org/RobertByers> and say good-bye or perhaps, hello to an important member of the queer community. And while you're there take time to visit other sections of the History Project. You can add comments and information directly to the pages already existing or start a new one - like your own biography. It is remarkably easy, impossible to mess up (all changes are verified before being saved), doesn't have to be correct or grammatical or literary, and your input is truly important. Friends, bars, places you

travelled, cruising areas, organizations - especially informal ones like pot lucks or house parties - past or present. Make it a project with friends; put aside shyness and false modesty. Think of it as queer Facebook.

There was a time not so long ago when it was essential for us to maintain a low profile, to be as invisible, as quiet as possible - survival tactics. It becomes doubly important now to speak and write and record, not only our present lives and accomplishments, but also to be a voice for those who did not or could not speak openly for themselves.

Bookmark <http://gay.hfxns.org> or send notes, photos, and questions to daniel@bonmot.ca.



Review: rainbowhalifax.com

By Curtis Cartmill

It is really exciting to see Halifax put together a set of resources to help attract and bring together LGBT travellers. It shows our city's progression toward cultural acceptance of our diversity. These webpages are a really good start to establishing the context which attracts GLBT travellers.

I was really pleased to see the level of detail included in the "Events" section— even the Dead of Winter Music Festival made the content cut, and many of these cultural events are well supported by members of the LGBT community.

I also liked the "Activities" page, and printed it to show others who complain that there is nothing to do in this city!

On the flip side, as I went through I also found myself drawn to make some serious suggestions for content changes on a few areas of the website, to bring it more in

line with some of my LGBT experiences here in Halifax.

The "Culinary" page mentions some great restaurants and provides LGBT suggestions for dining, but where are the links to the LGBT-recommended restaurants?

On the "Nightlife" page, I really wanted to make some additions to the four LGBT bars: Menz, Mollyz, Blue Moon and Reflections. There are other bars and pubs, like Tribeca and The Bitter End (to name a few) which I believe draw their fair share of the LGBT crowd. In terms of "Nightlife," the bars draw late-night crowds, with the possible exception of Mollyz Diner.

Frankly, the coffee shop scene in Halifax provides a refreshing and welcome alternative to the bars, and think it should be added to this Nightlife page. For the 9-5 crowd that likes to go hang out

with friends after dinner, the coffee shops are the place to go. In my opinion, the LGBT-friendly coffee shops where one would most likely run into friends include the Starbucks and Second Cup coffee shops on Queen/Spring Garden, the Wired Monk on Morris/Hollis, and the Paperchase on Blowers.

And as some of my sporty and cultured colleagues would comment, there could be a few more resources on the "Resources" page, like Get Out Halifax, or gay.hfxns.org, which are good ways the average LGBT traveller can find out about many things going on in our community.

All in all, while I hope my suggestions are taken, I am literally tickled pink that our local tourism group has recognized the importance of LGBT travellers to the economic sustainability of our region, and look forward to seeing what they have next in mind!

MAC Leather 9: Pirates!



As you get ready for camp, make sure to include some leather and boot polish so you can take part in MAC Leather IX in Petit-Rocher, New Brunswick. For the first time GNG Pride Weekend (August 31–September 3) will include the Ms & Mr Atlantic Canada Leather Competition on Sunday, September 2, at 6:00pm. With the spectacular Baie de Chaleur as a backdrop, contestants from all across Atlantic

Canada will take the stage. The show will include entertainment, prize draws and a victory party and BBQ! Venture on up to Camp Ectus for the contest, the day, the night, or better still, the weekend! Check out www.gngnb.ca for more information. If you are interested in being a contestant or a sponsor, contact Paul at (506) 854-3081 or email chinman52@hotmail.com.

2007 Halifax AIDS Walk

In 2007, the AIDS Walk for Life decided to redesign the creative look and feel of this incredible event. Many ideas were discussed, but one concept stood out from the crowd, a concept that fit perfectly

into both the history and the mission of the AIDS Walk for Life. Each year, the AIDS Walk for Life will select a piece of artwork from a different Canadian HIV+ artist to grace all of our national promotional materials. This artwork will serve as a link between the AIDS Walk for Life and the very people we are trying to help, and will help the general public relate to the event in an intimate and meaningful way.

HIV/AIDS affects us all. There is no cure and no vaccine. We Walk for those who are no longer with us. We Walk to support those living with and affected by HIV/AIDS. We Walk to stop the spread of HIV/AIDS in our own communities. We all have our reasons. We hope that one day we won't need to Walk any longer. Until then, the Walk will do us good.

Whatever your reason, join the fight against HIV/AIDS in your community and Walk. When you Walk and collect pledges for the AIDS Walk for Life, you are making a difference in the lives of those living with and affected by HIV/AIDS in your community. We

encourage you to Walk, form a team, fundraise, donate, volunteer, or all of the above!



My Thinking Cap (Life with And re-HIV), by Canadian HIV+ member, artist joe average

Walk for Life proceeds support direct services for people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS in your community!

Find your Nova Scotia AIDS Walk for Life at www.aidswalkforlife.ca/FindYourWalk.htm.

Register Today at www.acns.ns.ca or (902)-425-4882 x.228.

Our Cover

Cover design as always by Cam MacLeod. Original photo courtesy of Google.

Important WAYVES Dates!

Issue Content Deadlines:

Aug 3, Sep 7, Oct 5, Nov 2, Dec 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):

Tuesday Aug 7, Sep 10, Tuesday Oct 9, Nov 5, Dec 10

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

Layout Parties (Halifax):

Aug 12, Sep 16, Oct 14, Nov 11, Dec 16

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!

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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.

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Transgender Diaries XVI

by Denise Holliday

As with everything else in life people like to have titles and in the same vein of thought, many have little understanding of their statements. Others are confused because the meanings of words are so often abused and even completely reversed.

Transphobia in its most basic sense for our purposes is a fear/hatred of people who identify or appear to be transgendered/transsexual and/or in transition. Because most people include transgendered as part of the feared group, sometimes an obvious but often overlooked transphobic group is often missed.

People who are not acquainted with the rainbow community often include more than one group under one name assuming that they are all the same. While it is true that a transsexual is usually considered a transgendered person, it is not true that a transgendered person is always a transsexual. The largest portion of the transgendered community is made up of cross-dressers who for the most part claim to be 80% heterosexual males, and also not transsexuals.

This is a group of largely het-

erosexual male cross-dressers, who have a formidable percentage of their community who suffer greatly from transphobia. Many cross-dresser groups insist that anyone found to be transsexual be asked to leave the group.

Just like in gay communities this often creates more levels of transphobia from people struggling for acceptance. As the gay community has striven at times to separate itself from the transgender community in the hope of receiving legal protections, cross-dressers often separate themselves from transsexuals. The intersexed are so wide and varied that it is almost impossible to build a consensus even within their own numbers; with some this is so, even to the point of denying even belonging to any rainbow group.

Even within the transsexual community there is a division based on surgery. Post-ops often consider themselves the cream of the crop, and post-op MtoF often use the term "complete women." While I am post-op I find that term to be as offensive as a transphobic

statement. It places your gender identity on the basis of surgery and financial options. These are luxuries that many transsexuals can not afford.

On a personal note, my mother

We so soon forget the early immature struggles most of us went through, and often we fail to have patience with those who follow

knew I was different when I was three. I am no more female in my gender identity today than I was at three years old. I simply have more awareness and understanding of my identity. With more awareness, I have managed to make renovations to improve the accommodations.

As members of the so called rainbow community we need to learn more tolerance and acceptance of ourselves before we demand it from others. Homophobia is a beast that often raises its head even in the transgender/trans-

sexual community, though often it is more a lack of understanding ourselves rather than hating someone else; and the transsexual adjusts his or her comfort zones according to personal growth and understanding.

I find it very interesting that we so soon forget the early immature struggles most of us went through, and often we fail to have patience with those who follow. I realized the other day that it has probably been over five years since I was on a chat site for transsexuals. I no longer need that support, and have failed to realize that others still do. Some of the misinformed chatter I receive from Google emphasized that to me over the last few months. Once I attended a dance where two socially unrelated women turned up wearing the same dress. It was assumed by many that they would end up in a royal battle; but instead they talked, and then moved their groups tables together and formed one larger friendlier group—a lesson we could all learn from.

Not everyone in the rainbow community is simply gay. There are lesbian, transsexual, transgendered, intersexed, heterosexual

or what ever people? Many are actually a combination of two or more, and some are religious while

others have no set beliefs. But, like it or not, we all belong to the human race/rainbow community.

Labels, while sometimes needed for communication purposes, often unfortunately accomplish two things: 1. Separation leading to isolation and/or domination by larger groups. 2. A recognized way to make oneself feel superior to another human being. Macho gays often look down on effeminate gays; and post-op TS often are derogatory to un-transitioned or pre-op TS people. The presence of cross-dressers is often simply a sufferance from all other parties. Phobias, like the rainbow, come in all colours and go in all directions. Let us try and clean our house daily, in the same way we ask of the world.

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



Review

Transamerica Screenplay
Duncan Tucker

Review by Daniel MacKay

I really love reading scripts. From my collection of 1920s-edition clothbound back-pocket-size Shakespeare, to the dogeared copy of local gay black playwright and actor Walter Borden's Twelve Apostles I treasure them more than seeing the play itself. To me, it's a chance to see the malleable piece of dramatic art before the director and actors crush it into their standard molds.

The script for the 2006 movie, *Transamerica* is no exception. I didn't really like the movie at all. I found Felicity Huffman's per-

formance stilted to the point of absurdity. The only saving grace was watching the beautiful Kevin Zegers playing a trashy "pansexual" teenager, and the beautifully weathered Graham Greene as Calvin Manygoats, a character annoyingly similar to Bob The Mechanic from Priscilla, Queen Of The Desert.

With the *Transamerica* script we also get a big bonus: the "making of" book wraps around the script like a starfish pulling open a mussel. "It's like the extraneous

scenes they tack onto a DVD," said a friend. There's an informative introduction to several dozen pages of stills from the movie (sorry,

Sydney: This is so bizarre. I can still see Stanley in you, but it's like you put yourself through a strainer and got rid of all the boy pulp.

no full frontal of Zegers during the swimming scene) we learn the difficult, painful particulars of this production adventure. There was a pearl of wisdom just for waiting

inside: Huffman's performance was supposed to be stilted, or "brittle" as casting director Eve Battaglia says. And, I learned that the lowlife director who had crushed this particular script by Duncan Tucker onto the big flat silver screen was - the playwright.

And lastly, one of the real gems is a "Trans glossary" with a couple dozen definitions, for example, of gender dysphoria, G.G., Genetically Gifted, and tucking, concluding with "Normal: A concept largely irrelevant to anyone's life."

At under \$20, this book is a great value for any fan of the movie — or of scripts.



Angela MacKay, M.Sc.

Psychologist

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Senior Gays and Lesbians Marvel at Phenomenal Gains

By Gerard Veldhoven

If one lives long enough, one is privileged to have been part of tremendous changes during the past number of years in a world where we, as gays and lesbians, were treated in horrific manners of all sorts. In retrospect, going back some forty years or more, I have witnessed huge challenges that were part of growing up as a gay person. These changes seem very slow indeed for a young person. As one reads and listens to the mountains of wrongs against us, we must also realize it takes years to accomplish even a token change.

As a young gay person growing up in the Netherlands, I never contemplated the arduous work I would be involved with in Canada many years thence. It is not until one is older and realizes the brutal and discriminatory ways of government and other organizations, not to mention countless ordinary citizens, that one must be actively involved in fighting for equality.

Positive minds went to work across this country in order to secure the rights and opportunities that lay at our feet, but not in our grasp. Patience is a virtue. However, patience also tends to run very thin. I realize this fact, as over the years many battles have been fought, but not without some

success. Contemplating the years that have passed, I can safely say, my hunch that some day we could have equal rights would only be a dream.

During my teens, growing up in Holland and then in Canada, I had no idea where this would lead. This was the late 1940s and 1950s and no one spoke about this issue very often, as it seemed impossible to even hope that one day I would be married to another man. The only news item would be a sexual

1980: my former wife and sons moved to Yarmouth, in order to keep me away from the boys. The start of anger and disappointment set in almost immediately.

assault case in the far corner of a newspaper. Even though Western Europe was more tolerant than North America, a young gay or lesbian would not even consider an open "lifestyle."

Then we flow into the 1960s. Not that much of a change, really, and I was to be married, which seemed the "normal" thing to do. Knowing I was gay since my early teens was not to be acknowledged. As well, I could not be vocal about

my feelings in fear of extreme consequences. I never heard of many gays and lesbians in the Halifax area where I lived for many years. Of course, I became acquainted with a few men, but never to be found out. My wife had a cousin who was gay, but deeply in the closet. She was quite aware of him.

Now we are in the 1970s, two sons later and a separation in 1974. Now I hear rumblings of gays and lesbians becoming more vocal in this country; a very welcome occurrence for a 34 year old gay person who is itching to come out. Well, this was about to become fact. I met my

man, who also was divorced and the father of two daughters. My world was changing in a fairly fast manner. Norman and I became the "talk of the town." It was almost a rewarding experience, however new and unpredictable. We set up housekeeping in Amherst and ran our own business.

1980 and my former wife and sons moved to Yarmouth, in order to keep me away from the boys. The start of anger and disappoint-

ment set in almost immediately. I began to think about how and when I would be able to become vocal as an activist.

Not until 1990 was I able to conclude that I must begin work on some of the issues. In the mid 90's I started to write and talk about how I could be of assistance in bringing even a little improvement in the lives of my gay brothers and sisters - not an easy task! Family life, (Norman's two daughters lived with us until they married), and running a business did not allow for much time. Eventually, I found time and started to get in touch with my local Member of Parliament, provincial justice ministers and other provincial politicians, as well as the archbishop. So, now I was involved and loving it. Perhaps now I could contribute to the betterment of members of our community.

October 16, 2004, I married Norman Carter after a 30-year relationship. It was a grand affair in a very public venue in front of television cameras and newspapers. Finally it has all come together. I am now 66 years of age and I have witnessed so many positive changes. However, the past few years have also been a downer in the gay and lesbian population in



Elmer Lokkins, left, 84, and Gustavo Archilla, 88, who hid their sexual orientation for 58 years, were wed in Canada.

New Brunswick. That seems now resolved to a certain extent. I was proud to have been part of the activism in that province in order to gain some equal marriage and adoption problems.

Since I was born, in 1940, the gains have indeed been phenomenal. Younger members of our community must realize equal rights issues take time and hard work. I urge everyone to get involved, as many attitudes still need to be talked about. It is indeed extremely satisfying to have been witness to so many accomplishments, such as recognized relationships, legal marriage, pension benefits and protection enshrined in the laws of this land. I never could have envisioned this in my teens!

More Atlantic News

ISCANS Awards In August

By HMISM Empress VII Of Halifax And All Of Nova Scotia Natasha N!

The summer months have allowed for more opportunities than ever to get out in our and fundraise for our four local charities, all of which are based within the Halifax Regional Municipality: Metro Turning Point Shelter, AIDS Coalition Of Nova Scotia Emergency Fund, Manna For Health, and Byrony House For Battered Women And Children.

Our Pride Week events included a Matinee Drag Show/BBQ at Blue Moon immediately following the 4th Annual Dykes vs. Divas Baseball Game; Monica Lewinsky Dress Show 2: The Stain Returns; and our twist on a Mock Jail, the Fashion Police. Buck A Suck (where we tour Halifax's gay bars and sell suckers for charity) a charity car wash and several drag shows rounded out our July calendar.

Please join us for one of our premiere events of the year, the 7th Annual Studio X. LeNoir Community Achievement Awards, to be held in August at Blue Moon. Please see our website at <http://www.imperialcourtns.com> for more information about our weekly fundraising events and this event as well. On behalf of HMISM Empress VII Of Halifax And All Of Nova Scotia Cousin Cletus and myself, we would like to thank our Court and Community for their continued support as we look for-

ward to our Coronation festivities in early November, where we will have the opportunity to disburse the funds raised all year to our chosen charities.

Halifax Health Care Survey

In an effort to assess and improve the health care needs of the rainbow community, the Capital Health and IWK Health Centre GLBTI Initiative has developed a questionnaire, available online until September 30, 2007. Our plan is to use this information to inform the new model of care we're working on. The results of this survey will make a difference for everyone in our community, our success will mean better health care for us all. Our aim is to ensure that every community is our community. Please fill out the survey

by visiting: <http://gay.hfxns.org/HealthCareSurvey>. We thank you for your time.



SeaDogs Sauna Reno

In July, customers in Halifax's Sea Dogs Sauna saw some major renovations at Atlantic Canada's only bath. The updates included a sling area, glory holes, many more lockers, six more rooms, a dark prison maze and darkroom, and a public jackoff bed. Sea Dogs is at 2199 Gottingen St, and their web page is seadogs.ca.

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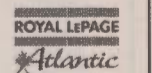
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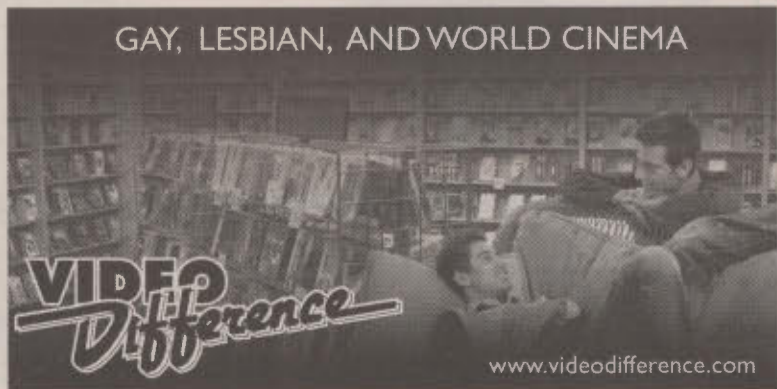
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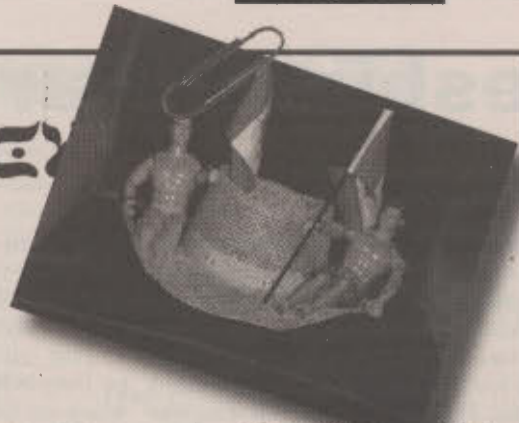
Hi Tom

Whoever said a change is as good as a rest, was not talking about losing one's job. Restful it ain't! Yes, Tomato, after 20 years with the same company, my position is gone, pfft, done. New owners and reorganization... yadda yadda yadda, you get the picture.

When I left my office on the final day, I did what any sensible, recently unemployed person would do - I went shopping! Bought underwear (I find the squeeze of snug new briefs gives me confidence), a new ring (it was on sale and I'm like a crow when it comes to shiny objects. You should see my reaction to a rodeo rider's big gleaming belt buckle!), hair gel (I discovered after the purchase that it makes me smell like movie theatre popcorn with extra butter - weird, eh?), gin of course and then came home and curled up with a favourite porn movie. My choice of film was not entirely frivolous however as the story concerned a young man applying for jobs. I will admit the interview process seemed rather unusual and the young man's curriculum vitae was one of the longest I've seen. Still, inspirational in its way.

The weather hasn't helped the mood much either. Cloudy followed by periods of rain seems to be the constant forecast although we got a bit of a break for the Canada Day weekend. A huge garden party was planned - fireworks, live band, tons of food. I wore a special hat with two Ken dolls holding Maple Leaf flags. Aside from the nation's birthday, it was also a celebration of the return of the Anthill's son from Afghanistan. I noticed that she kept glancing at him all evening long as if to reassure herself that he was really here, safe and sound. So many of us were relieved that day not to have to continue to scan news reports for a name we hoped not to find. A relief not everyone in Canada was enjoying that day. He looks wonderful - fit and healthy and yet ..., in his eyes one sees a change. He knows something about the world now that he didn't know before and that most of us are lucky never to have to learn. I even forgave him for not finding me an Afghanistan Ken doll.

That evening as I was dancing with the hostess, both of us humming along with the band, stars blazing in the sky, noisy chatter of partiers spilling down the steps and under the trees, I felt suddenly content. It may just have been the overload of carbs and alcohol in my system - the lasagna alone would have been enough to induce bliss - but for a moment I felt like I was in exactly the right place, with exactly the right people at exactly the right time. Ever have that sensation? No? Like I said, probably just the booze and food but it seemed to me that it is precisely when things are not completely right in the world (earwigs,



Stephen Harper, reality television) celebrations like this have the most significance. Easy to be upbeat when everything is going smoothly - but more important to act with optimism when things are not.

Or maybe age is making me mawkishly sentimental since I had a similar feeling at Dr. Martini's recently. He had invited me to go sailing but a driving wind and torrents of rain early in the day put the kibosh to that plan. Instead we sprawled on the deck eating veggies and chicken hot from the barbecue and imbibing an endless procession of cosmopolitans while observing the fog - both meteorological and mental - creep up on us. Horatio was off tooting his horn for the red-haired girl on PEI but B. and Milosh were able to join us. They are back from Italy - still a bit wonky from culture shock - and so we had a very pleasant time reconnecting, with our feet stretched out, chatting and laughing together.

Great to have people you can be silly with, which is really the only thing I truly miss about my former workplace - some of the people. However, life is a journey, as they say, so maybe it was just time for me to take an off ramp. Some of the previous roads have led to some interesting places. By the way, did you notice the stamp on the envelope of this letter? I'm not a philatelist (which sounds like something obscene that one does with the tongue) but I was happy to see that Canada Post has issued a new series of stamps call Canadian Recording Artists. Paul Anka (his appeal has always eluded me), Gordon Lightfoot, Anne Murray (for my lesbian pen pals) and most importantly for me, Joni Mitchell, are all represented.

That reminds me, I haven't listened to Joni's Blue album for quite a while. Think I'll go put it on, find a dry spot to sit in the yard, sip my icy cold drink and sing along. "I am on a lonely road and I am travelling..."

Love ya!

Northern AIDS Connection

The mission statement of NACS is to promote the health and well being of persons living with and those affected by HIV/AIDS and to assist in reducing the spread of HIV through education, support and advocacy in northern Nova Scotia (Colchester, East Hants, Pictou and Cumberland Counties). NACS offers emotional support, information, and referrals to other appropriate community resources. It also provides education and prevention programs to the community through workshops, presentations, student placements and other related activities.

Northern AIDS Connection Society is hosting three walks this year in conjunction with Walk For Life, a campaign to raise funds and awareness of HIV/AIDS on a national level. The walks are taking place in Truro and New Glasgow on September 23 and Amherst on September 22, 2007. There will be a BBQ and entertainment for participants on the days of the events. The NACS is a non-profit, community-based AIDS organization that receives no operational funding, therefore relying entirely on the support from volunteers and sponsors to raise funds for HIV/AIDS education and prevention. The AIDS Walk is the main fundraising event to provide the funds needed for NACS to continue the work they do. NACS realizes that



they alone cannot fight the battle; HIV/AIDS is truly a community concern.

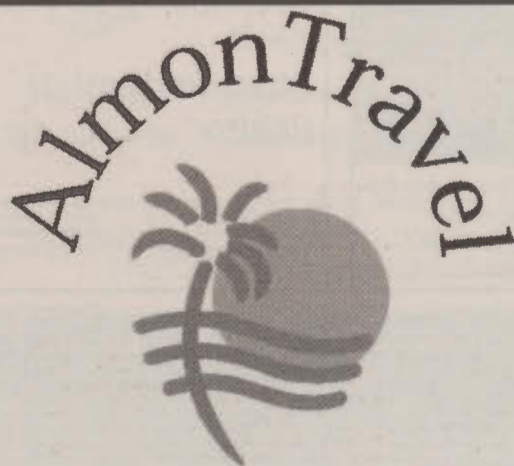
The NACS encourages community organizations or agencies to form a team to raise funds by allowing each team to keep 50% of the funds they raise to go towards an HIV/AIDS related program of their choice, such as internal capacity building.

The AIDS walk is so important because it brings awareness to the community by bringing attention to HIV/AIDS which may reduce the spread of the disease. Every 52 days a person in Canada dies from AIDS. Even though there is no cure it is 100% preventable through knowledge, education and safer practices. We need your help. Remember, if we join forces, we can put an end to AIDS before AIDS puts an end to us; because HIV/AIDS truly does affect us all. If you would like to register a team, get pledge sheets, or want more information, please contact Jackie Archibald at (902) 895-0931 or email nacsns@ns.aliantzinc.ca.



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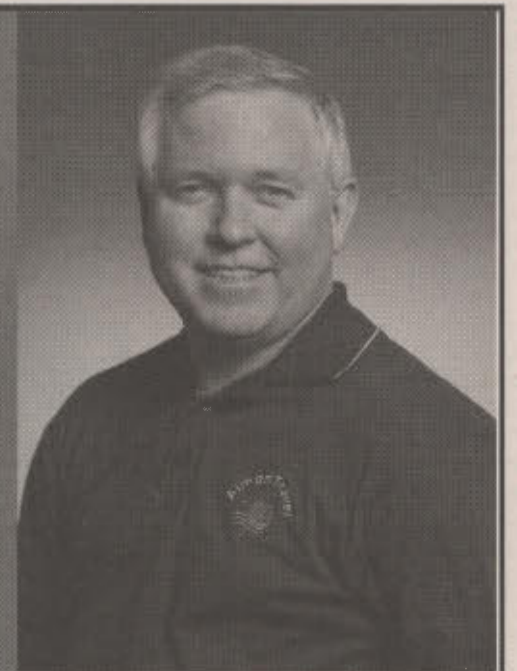
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Dawn's Early Light

Dear Dawn, I'm 16, I live in a small town and I think I am gay. My family and I are very close to God. I am so confused. I haven't told anyone how I feel, I can't. I have no one to talk to. For a while, I've been reading this magazine called Young Guy America and the man who I think of as a mentor said I am "leading a movement of sin and corruption." I don't know what to think or do.

Signed, "C"

Dear C, You are neither ill nor a sinner! You are a young, possibly gay male living in an extremely homophobic world. Michael Glatze is not a sinner, but it sounds like he has a mental health issue. Internalized homophobia can cause us to get depressed, confused, sometimes

Michael Glatze is not a sinner, but it sounds like he has a mental health issue.

even suicidal. The good news is that there is support. The very faith community that Michael sites as the reason for his "spontaneous-conversion" is the same community where you will find us and we are openly welcomed and celebrated. You can also find support online but be

careful with the Internet. You may even have some support in your community depending on where you live. The best place to start is your closest PFLAG Chapter (www.pflag.org). They should be able to let you know about local supports.

You need to take care of yourself, C. You need to find your allies and learn more about yourself without letting others' interpretations of their religion have the

power to hurt you.

Keep in contact and let us know how you are doing.

Signed, "D"

Come To The Light!

Dawn wants to hear from you. Let Dawn shed some light on your personal problems. Contact her at dawn@wayves.ca.

Moncton Pride Update

The River of Pride Committee would like to congratulate our sisters and brothers in Charlottetown and Halifax for great Prides and for their usual warm hospitality. We hope to return the same when you join us in Moncton on September 15 for our Pride parade. We plan to be in St. John on August 15.

After six very successful Colour Parties, we are gearing up for the "All Colour Finale" on August 4 at Triangles. As usual, a prize will be awarded for the best outfit. Advance tickets for our September 8 Pride Kickoff BBQ will go on sale that evening.

SOCO Fridays are still happening, culminating with the Party Gras" on September 14. Enjoy those special summer drinks and get your chance to walk away with the grand prize.

As we count down to Pride,

meetings are now held every second Thursday at 8:00pm at Triangle. A special welcome to all who want to lend a hand. We care looking for artists and entertainers for our post-parade rally—check out our website for more info: www.fiertemonctonpride.ca.

Cont'd from NYE, p. 1

The dinner and dance will be held at the Halifax Marriott Harbourfront hotel, on December 31, 2007. A short reception at 7:30 will be followed by a three-course dinner, and then at 10:00 pm the dancing will begin, with music by Daisy M. "We'll even have a midnight toast and party favours to ring in the New Year," says Nicky, "and a late-night Tuscan Antipasto feast to keep the party going till 2am. We want it to be a really fun time!"

Safe Harbour Metropolitan

Prime Timers

Prime Timers is a world-wide organization for older gay or bisexual men and younger men who admire mature men. Two Halifax snowbirds joined the organization in Florida and now hope to form a chapter in Halifax.

This is a non-profit social group. There is no governance by the worldwide organization and there are no universal rules for membership. The organization's purpose is to provide mature gay and bisexual men and their admirers with opportunities to come together in a

supportive atmosphere to enjoy social, educational, and recreational activities.

"We belong to the Fort Lauderdale Prime Timers and find it a great way to meet people who enjoy each other's company," says one of the Halifax snowbirds. "My partner and I joined the bowling league, participated in museum and park visits, potluck dinners, happy hour, beach trips and theatre nights. All in all, it has been a great experience."

A circular canvassing interest from gays in Halifax has been placed in Menz Bar, Safe Harbour and in other locations. If they can interest 10-15 people, the two organizers will proceed with regular meetings.

For more information, call 902-425-8383, e-mail primetimershalifax@hotmail.com, or check out the website at <http://www.primetimersworldwide.org>.

Community Church is a Christian Church with a special welcoming and affirming ministry for the Rainbow Community. Worship is every Sunday at 11am, suite 108 in the Bloomfield Centre at 2786 Agricola Street.

Email: safeharbour@eastlink.ca Phone: 902-453-9249 Fax: 902-404-3776 Mailing Address: PO Box 31108 Halifax NS B3K 5T9

Cont'd from Glatze, p. 1

Christ, The Gospel According To St. Matthew, by the great queer poet of the Italian Cinema, Pier Paolo Pasolini. Michael was clearly very conflicted about how he was expressing his sexual identity, writing about "lust" as if that particular deadly sin were somehow unique to the gay population. He might have benefited from reading Oscar Wilde's De Profundis, the shattering crie de couer he wrote from prison. Wilde also reflected on his own sexual history, describing his liaisons with London's rent boys as "feasting with panthers." He sought refuge from the daily trauma of his prison life by reading the New Testament in its original Greek. His writing about Christ is completely original, challenging and refreshing. For Wilde, Christ was a poet who saw beyond worldly judgments of sin and virtue to the prity of soul inherent in everyone. To this brilliant, compassionate and

unabashedly queer artist, Christ was the great consoler of humanity. One fails to see that aspect of Christ in the Christinity Micheal Glatze has taken up. If Michael had wanted to meet and talk over his "question and doubts" with someone more contemporary, someone very much like himself, he might have connected with Joshua Love, a youth pastor in the Metropolitan Community Church, on his recent visit to Halifax. Joshua seems to have faced many of the same conflicts as Michael. He was heavily involved in drugs and sex with multiple partners, and went through a similar spiritual crisis to Michael's. Joshua however was able to find a relationship with Christianity that affirmed and accepted his gay soul. He was able to use his crisis as a springboard to helping others, and his ministry is directed towards helping gay youth deal with the challenges of

addiction and working in Africa to fight HIV/AIDS.

Michael's conversion has left many queer youth feeling betrayed. Yet if one reads his sad confession carefully, it's clear that he has not yet come through this crisis. There is no joy in his testament, only self-loathing and confusion. It is heartbreaking to watch someone with so much to offer the world take a path that seems to lead only to bitterness and hate, and it seems

inevitable that this new road won't bring him any closer to peace or happiness. Wherever Michael Glatze's spiritual journey is leading him, he's still a long way from reaching his safe harbour.

You can read Mike Glatze's complete article, along with the beautiful and brilliant "Open Letter to Michael" by Daniel DiRito, on the YGA website, ygamag.com/glatze.html.



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First Atlantic Pride Kicks Off On PEI



PEI Pride 2007 Parade Marshall Cynthia Dunsford, MLA District 6, Stratford-Kinlock



Story & photos

by Gerrit Volkmann

The LGBTQ community of Prince Edward Island celebrated their annual pride week this year from July 7-15. Great events were held during the week such as a community church service, a pub crawl, the beloved Pride Variety Show and a Guys vs. Gals softball game.

On Saturday July 14, the PEI

Pride Parade - now in its eighth year - was celebrated in Charlottetown. With more than twelve organizations and dozens of individuals participating, it was the largest Gay Pride Parade ever in Charlottetown, said Robbie Keen, chair of PEI Pride. Hundreds of supportive spectators lined the

streets to watch the parade, which was as colourful and quaint as the island itself.

A few protesters holding up signs against gay marriage could be spotted as well. This year's parade marshall Cynthia Dunsford, MLA for Stratford-Kinlock responded to this by saying that "...everyone's entitled to their own opinions.

And [the protesters] were expressing their opinions just like Gay Pride expresses theirs about rights and equality for all."

The parade ended at Confederation Landing Park with a festival under a perfectly blue sky. Speeches were given by representatives from all three levels of government, including Mayor Clifford Lee and

MP Shawn Murphy, who said that the pride parade speaks to the core principle of every Canadian's right to feel pride in who they are.

The PEI Pride Festival ended with the "Carousel of Colours" Dance. Thanks to everyone who made this year's PEI Pride Festival possible. Happy Pride!



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The Nature of Queer IV - Body Talk

by Gerrit Volkmann

Are you a lesbian woman with masculinized hands and a bone growth differing from heterosexual women? Or a gay man with either hyper-male or female-like hands, who is also left-handed, has a large penis, and a scalp hair-whorl that rotates counterclockwise? If your answer is yes, than you may consider yourself as a homosexual archetype, at least in the eyes of some scientists.

A large number of research studies has been conducted that addresses the question of whether sexual orientation can be linked to certain features of the human body. Some more convincing than others, some highly contradictory, and some just sheer weird.

One of the more believable studies focuses on the hands of homosexuals. Specifically speaking, it is the ratio of the second to fourth finger digit lengths (2D:4D ratio) that interests researchers. The 2D:4D ratio is thought to be determined before birth by the levels of male hormones inside the

womb (see last Wayves issue).

In general, men have lower 2D:4D ratios compared to women; the male index finger is thus usually smaller than the ring finger, whereas for women, there is not that much of a difference. Then it was discovered that lesbian women showed 2D:4D ratios that are lower than those of straight women; since they resemble the ratios of men, lesbians are said to have masculinized hands.

Gay men may have either female-like or hyper-male hands, i.e. the finger lengths of index and ring finger do not differ from each other much, or the index finger is a lot smaller than the ring finger.

Lesbian women can further be viewed as masculinized with regards to their skeleton. The bones of lesbian women seem to grow in a fashion comparable to straight men, giving rise to overall longer bones of arms, legs and hands. The converse was found for gay men, who showed feminized skeleton structures.

One study wants to bring across

evidence that gay men generally have larger penises than straight men. "Yeah, we rock!" I thought, but do we really? Published in 1999, penis measurement data from more than 5000 men were analyzed, obtained through 1938 to 1963 as part of the famous Kinsey studies. For all four penis measurements (flaccid vs. erect penis, circumference of flaccid vs. erect penis) gay men reported greater numbers; for example, the average gay erect penis is 6.46", whereas for straight men it is only 6.14". Not that big of a deal, eh? And while reading the study, I was wondering whether this really holds true or not, more so since these findings were never replicated. I could probably talk to my many old slutty gay friends, but I doubt that they did it with enough straight guys to come to a true comparative conclusion.

Lastly, the rotation of the scalp hair-whorl of men may in some instances be linked to their sexual orientation. Gay men showed more counterclockwise rotation, compared to the scalps of straight men. This feature is believed to be genetically linked to handedness, i.e. more gays are left-handed than straight men.

The significance of these studies (bearing in mind that most findings are still up in the air) is not to reveal any oddities of homosexual bodies but to search for further proof that sexual orientation is determined by our genome. But in light of recent ex-gay Michael Glatze, it is still a long way to go until people give up their beliefs that sexual orientation is a choice.

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Making A Difference

David - Growing up gay in PEI

By Bill Kendrick, PFLAG

Growing up gay in Prince Edward Island can be a traumatic experience. David (not his real name) found it so overwhelming he came very close to taking his own life.

"I am frustrated. I cannot live like this anymore." That is what I was thinking the night of April 2, 2005 as I walked down the stairs to see my mother sitting in front of the TV watching as images of the Pope flickered on the screen.

"Tonight is the night," I thought to myself. I had failed to tell my mother innumerable times before I sat down in the chair beside her.

"Mom, I have something to tell you," I squeaked. I was nothing but a quivering mess. I was so scared and yet I knew I had to tell her.

She turned off the TV and turned to me with a concerned look on her face. "What is it?"

There was a long pause, as I tried to regain my posture and tried to form the words I wanted to say.

"I am gay."

It's funny. In the beginning you have no idea but the feeling is always there. I always liked boys and was rather interested to see what was in their pants. Of course I was aged 3-7 and didn't know any better and was rather innocent. I enjoyed playing with Barbie dolls and absolutely loved to bake. My friend, who is also gay, used to play house all the time and we both rather enjoyed it. Personally, I didn't like sports when I was growing up, with the exception of swimming. Just because I was like that doesn't mean that a person who might have the same interests I did is gay.

I always felt different from most of my peers and I was treated quite differently from my peers. I was bullied, called names and sometimes physically harmed, but the worst thing about it was I didn't know why. They eventually started calling me "fag" and other derogatory terms. Then I started to build walls around myself, since I felt they were all against me.

or at least what I thought was a crush. It was a girl in my science and mathematics class. Maybe I thought that it might have proved something but it never felt right. It felt like something was missing, and eventually it wore off.

When I was 13, it finally dawned on me that I was gay. I didn't want to be gay; I wanted to be straight and I kept thinking to myself there was no way that I could be gay, but my feelings towards other males grew stronger. I was absolutely horrified. I felt alone, and I felt that I was evil since that is what most people had told me at the time. I also thought that I instantly had AIDS and was full of other STDs. I wanted to be what I perceived at the time to be normal. I did not want to have another aspect to me that people could make fun of; the fact that they called me gay in such negative terms did not help. Eventually I built walls so high that no one could get through to me and I started to hate the world.

My mother refers to the next couple of years as the "dark years." I went into a really deep depression. I barely smiled, cried or laughed. I barely showed any emotion at all. My marks were dropping in school and I lost most of the few friends that I had. It felt as if the world was against me at this point and I hated it. I considered killing myself quite a few times during that couple of years. I remember standing at a ledge wanting to jump or standing on a chair with a makeshift noose around my neck trying to work up the nerve to step off. I wanted to end it all. After all, wouldn't the world be better off without another "fag"?

I answered that question in grade 10 when I decided finally to accept my sexuality. Of course the world wouldn't be better but I did not dare come out of the closet. Everyone, it seemed, was telling me that being gay is sick and wrong. I remember sitting in grade 11 law class and hearing the teacher bring

the subject up, since most of my class were calling each other "gay" as a joke. The teacher tried to argue that there was nothing wrong with being gay, but not one of my peers sided with him. I wanted to but I was afraid of what my peers would do to me. The subject actually came up several times and each time my peers sided against it, at least the vocal ones. This didn't help my mind-set.

I had quite a few crushes on boys in high school and with each increasing year the feelings grew stronger. At one point, I helped

They eventually started calling me "fag" and other derogatory terms. Then I started to build walls around myself, since I felt they were all against me.

out a guy I had a crush on with his college application. After I finished with the application, he asked what he could do to help me out. You cannot imagine the things that went through my head, but he was a nice guy and we did nothing of the sort.

Once I got out of high school, graduating with honours, I went directly to UPEI and started studying there. In university, people were a lot more open and eventually I felt more and more accepted. People were becoming nicer to me and I became more open. It was near the end of my second year of university when I decided to come out.

Since I loved my parents dearly and they were the only thing that held me back from killing myself during the "dark years," I decided

they should be among the first to know. I was terrified when I sat down by my mother back in early April 2005. But when I said those three words she said, "I never thought of you either way. You're my baby and I will love you no matter what."

I was nearly in tears, but from then on it became easier to tell people about my sexuality and I didn't lose any friends whatsoever. I never received any negative reactions. It was such a relief to be able to say I was gay.

Shortly after I came out to my mother, my brother found out by complete accident. It was on the National Day Against Homophobia, May 17, 2005. I decided to walk down to the rally being held in front of the Confederation Center.

On my way there a car stopped beside me. It was my brother and his girlfriend. He asked me where I was going and I just said "I am going for a walk," trying not to say too much to him. He asked me if I wanted to go with him to the rally, quickly explaining what I already knew. I played dumb and said sure. Once there, people who knew that I was gay were coming up and saying hello. Half-way through the ceremonies, my brother and his girlfriend wanted to leave. That's when I came out to him. He left. Later that night, I was working out in my basement when my brother came down. He was in tears. He basically said to me that he is happy that I finally came out, that he knew for quite awhile and was worried about me.

Next I came out to my sister

rather spontaneously. It was a Saturday and I was sitting at the table eating breakfast with my sister and brother. She and I had this thing where we would poke fun at being gay. For the record, I don't take "gay jokes" personally and am rarely ever offended by them. After fooling around for a bit, I told her that I am gay. She looked at me in disbelief and turned to my mother and brother. They confirmed it to her. She started to cry and hugged me. "Oh my God, I have a gay brother," she exclaimed.

My mother from then on really pressured me to come out to my father. "He needs to know," she explained to me. Finally, it got to me and sometime in mid-July 2005 I decided to come out to my father. He was the last difficult father to come out to. I don't know why, but most gays find it difficult to come out to their fathers, and I was no exception. My mother neglected to tell me one thing: a few of his co-workers are gay. When I was standing at the edge of the bed and recited those infamous words he simply replied, "So what, you're still my son and whatever you do I am proud of you."

I am currently 21, and I have been out of the closet for over a year. I have never felt so happy in my life. I am glad that I came out with such positive reactions, because I do know some people are not as lucky as I am. You never know how people will react, nor should you anticipate that they will take it well. My father at first was a bit iffy on the subject and when I joked about wearing pink, he cringed. People do take time to get used to the idea, especially

continued next page

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Chef's Corner



Now that summer is truly here and a bounty of new young veggies are at hand, it's time to make an old traditional Maritime favourite: summer vegetable hodge podge. It's a perfect accompaniment to any grilled fish, seafood, or even fall-off-the-bone BBQ ribs. This recipe is a twist on the traditional and it is served at Chives every night during the summer season, along with the catch of the day and buttermilk biscuits. The recipe below, which uses a store bought sauce, is a simplified version of what we serve at Chives, but if you would like the original recipe, drop me a line through our web site. Enjoy!!!

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

Young Summer Vegetable Hodge Podge

Ingredients

1 lb baby red potatoes (washed and quartered)
1 lb baby carrots (washed and split)
1/2 lb sugar snap peas (hulled)
1/2 lb wax beans (hulled and cut into 1 inch pieces)
1/2 pint grape tomatoes (multi colored)

zest of 1 lemon
1/4 cup chopped fresh dill and tarragon
2 cups three cheese Alfredo or bechamel sauce (store bought)
Sea salt and fresh cracked pink pepper to taste

Method

1. Par cook the potatoes, carrots and beans in boiling salted water until tender. Drain and set aside. 2. In a large sauce pan over medium heat, add the sauce, zest, and all of the veggies (except the tomatoes). 3. When the sauce starts to boil, lower the heat to medium-low, cover and simmer for 10 min. Remove the cover, turn the heat up and bring to the boil. Allow the sauce to reduce enough to coat the veggies well. Add the tomatoes and herbs, stir, season to taste, and serve on a heated serving platter.

Summer vegetable hodge podge...Mmm...mmm...mmm!!!

Review

Girls Who Are Boys Who Like...

Review by Mary Kathryn Arnold
Virginia Woolf's 1928 work "Orlando," playful, riotous, subversive and fantastical, is one of the original genre and gender-benders. A novel, a biography, a history, and with plenty of poetry to boot, "Orlando" is one Woolf's wittiest and funniest works.

Spanning hundreds of years, the novel tells the story of Orlando, a young man who comes of age as a courtier in the Elizabethan period, only to awake one morning in the 17th century to find he's become a woman. She then joins a women's group not unlike the Bluestockings in the 18th century, and completes her Methuselan journey in the 19th century, which sees Orlando married to a sexually ambiguous man, and giving birth in the novel/biography's creative climax.

"Orlando" is an anarchic take on gender, creativity and history. It was written during one of Woolf's happier periods in tribute to the poet and novelist Vita Sackville-West, with whom she had an affair. The aristocratic ancestry of Sackville-West dated back to William the Conqueror and provided inspiration for Woolf's depiction of the noble (wo)man Orlando.

For those with a passion for literary history, "Orlando" can be read as a roman a clef, with the poet Orlando standing in for Vita Sackville-West, and the Russian Princess Sasha for Vita's lover, the author Violet Trefusis. Interestingly, Woolf's acquaintance with Noel Coward also provided a model for the campy, peacocky Orlando.

To me, "Orlando" is Woolf on vacation. She began it as a joke,

though by the end, like all her works, it was a burden to her. In contrast to her usual project of depicting women's inner lives in a stream-of-consciousness style, she wrote of wanting to create a "fantasy" full of "fun" with "Orlando." Though Woolf herself felt that with "Orlando" she didn't get down to her depths as she had in her other novels, she manages to be both wholly original and completely within the Western tradition; for example, she rewrites two Italian poets, Boiardo (15th century) and Ariosto (16th century), both of whom have inspired other English writers such as Spenser ("The Faerie Queene"), and Shakespeare ("As You Like It").

In reference to the poetic power of Orlando, Woolf wrote one of my favourite quotations on poets and poetry: "A poet is Atlantic and lion



in one. While one drowns us, the other gnaws us. If we survive the teeth, we succumb to the waves." For the more visually inclined, Sally Potter made a lush, painterly movie of "Orlando" in 1992, starring the sexy Tilda Swinton.

Though Virginia Woolf is nev-

er easy, this confounding romp through history, sexuality, and creativity is a joy for anyone interested in androgyny and the fluidity of gender or genre.

continued from David, prev page

when they have spent years believing something else's, so prepare yourself if it turns out badly. Make sure you have someone to fall back on, whether it be friends or other family members. Never come out just to anger your parents because you're mad at them for something. One last piece of advice: don't be scared. Everything always turns out for the best.

I should note that I am not using my real name for this article because I'd rather not attract unnecessary attention to my family. My sister is still fairly young and, as accepting as she is, her friends might not share her views and I'd rather not be responsible for any loss to her flourishing social life. Although I know my parents would want me to put my real name on this, I'd rather not cause them any grief either. Even adults can display childish behaviour at times. I love my family dearly and I'd rather not put them through even a fraction of what I face. Because of them I

am still alive today.

I am glad for what I have been through and I would not change any aspect of my past because it made me better in a lot of ways and I wouldn't be where I am today if it weren't for what happened to me.

My words should be enough to get the point across, not my name.

Note: If you are struggling with issues related to gender identity and sexual orientation or know someone in Prince Edward Island who is you can call PFLAG Canada-PEI at 902-367-9081 or visit www.pflagcanada.ca. If your business or organization is interested in a presentation related to Creating Safe Communities, contact Mary or Bill Kendrick at 902-887-3620. Creating Safe Communities is funded by the National Crime Prevention Strategy. You can also contact Abegweit Rainbow Collective or the GLBTQ Youth Project toll-free at 1-877-380-5776.

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Events >>

Amherst

Second Monday

PFLAG Amherst/Sackville - in Amherst one month, Sackville the next. 506-536-4245 email: jhammock@mra.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. lgbyy_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

August 26

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.

Groups & Services Cont'd

PEI Pride, Charlottetown: Organizing The Island Pride Festival July 7th -14th, 2007. (902) 388-0969 email: pridepei@isn.net web: www.peipride.com (See webpage for meetings www.peipride.com) at 286 Fitzroy Street, Charlottetown, PE or phone (902) 388-0969

PFLAG Canada - PEI, Island wide: Providing support, education and advocacy for GLBT persons, their families and friends in PEI. 902-887-3620 email: pflagpei@eastlink.ca web: www.pflagcanada.ca, meets 3rd Tuesday at Ferry Road Centre, 24 Ferry Road, Cornwall, PE

PRIZMS, Charlottetown: PEI's first all dance party! Catering to the gay and lesbian community. email: PRIZMS@canada.com (please email for upcoming events and location information) at PRIZMS expose yourself to the high energy-highly social atmosphere. "PRIZMS - Dance in the Light" Email for upcoming events dates and places

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

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.

Cape Breton Pride

Aug 11th

with Midnight Bowling at Sydney's Heather Lanes beginning at 9:30pm. This event has proven to be a great way to bring both the gay and straight communities together for a fun-filled evening. In the past, this has also proven to be a great fundraiser. Tickets are \$10 each, and tickets will be sold during the night for a chance at the prize wheel. Free pizza is also on the menu!

Aug 12th

Our annual Pride Parade takes place at 1pm. The parade will travel through the downtown area ending at Louisa Field in Sydney's northend for our post-parade party. A free bar-b-que and games for children will highlight the afternoon. Any organizations wishing to take part in our parade, or set up a kiosk at Louisa Field is asked to be in touch with us.

Aug 13

Monday night, August 13th will see Miss Onya Inya back by popular demand as she hosts this year's instalment of Gay Bingo at the Southend Community Centre. For a night of hilarity and great prizes, this event is not to be missed. Bingo cards are just \$1 each, and the games begin at 9pm.

Aug 14

On Tuesday, August 14th we host our Movie Night at the Southend Community Centre. Three movies will be offered for screening beginning at 6:30pm. Admission is free, and our first movie will be for all ages, with the final two for those 19 years and older.

Aug 15

Annual MusicFest and Pub Night at the Southend Community Centre. Come out and enjoy the sounds and talents of some of Cape Breton Island's most talented performers. Admission is by donation.

Aug 16

The Southend Community Centre will be the center for an afternoon and evening of Family Fun. There'll be games, prizes, refreshments and entertainment for the whole family.

Aug 17

Annual Beach Party beginning at 2pm. This year's gathering will take place at Morrison Beach near Framboise. Bring your beach chairs and your sun screen, and we'll supply the marshmallows! Maybe we can even help apply that sun screen for you!

Aug 18

We wrap up the week's events with our annual Pride Dance at the Horizon Achievement Centre in Sydney. Beginning at 9pm and running until 2pm, admission is just \$6, and door prizes will be given out throughout the night.

Please check out our website, www.pridecapreton.com for more details of our events, including maps to the various venues. Be sure to check our site regularly to see what we're up to throughout the year. While you're there, check out our message board; your comments are always welcomed!

Charlottetown

...see Prince Edward Island

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

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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 & More Reverent in tone) Starting June 24-Sept. 9, one 10 am service. For more info, call 835-8497.

Every Sunday

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, meets at 11 am at 2786 Agricola St. Bloomfield Centre, Suite #108

Last Friday of each month

Bedford United Church **New group for members of the Rainbow Community** You are invited to try out a group for fellowship and support of spiritually

inclined members of the Rainbow Community! The group will gather on the last Friday of each month beginning September 28, 2007 from 7:30 - 9:00 pm in the church parlour (closest door off Sullivan's Hill). Bedford United is an Affirming Congregation and located at 1200 Bedford Hwy in Bedford. Meetings will be of a casual, informal nature with the group determining the agenda that they'd like the meetings to follow. Please call the church at 835-8497, e-mail affirmingcongregation@bedfordunited.com or visit http://bedfordunited.com/affirm.php for more information.

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 Mondays

Young people's group, at Safe Harbour, at 7 pm, Bloomfield Centre 2786 Agricola Street, Suite 108. The group watches an LGBT movie with some spiritual or other worthwhile value, eats some pizza and discusses the movie. Everyone age 30 and under is welcome.

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.

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 DISCUSSION GROUP! This is a Bisexual, Lesbian, Transgendered womyn's Only! -Free Group, NO Dues, NO Fee's-MEETINGS are every second SUNDAY. @6pm - 7:30pm (Please remember when applying to this group, send full name and a contact number or call sue at 499-0335, everthing is kept PRIVATE!)

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Events

LOCATION: DALHOUSIE WOMEN'S CENTRE 6286 South Street (Beside Dalplex Driveway) HOW TO JOIN THIS GROUP: Come to a discussion night or send us your e-mail address or call a moderator (Sue @ 499-0335). If you have any questions. A discussion group for Bi-sexual, Lesbian, Transgendered 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 Sundays. <http://ca.groups.yahoo.com/group/blt-womynofhalifax/> or sueandrews1964@hotmail.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.

Aug 2, 16, 30, Sept 13, 27, Oct 11, 25
Anonymous HIV Testing, AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia 1657 Barrington St, Suite 321, 5-8pm. 425-4882 for an appointment.

Aug 5, 19, Sept 2, 16, 30, Oct 14, 28
Koinonia Ecumenical Church - Meaning 'community'. Services bi-weekly at 12:30pm at Halifax Feast downtown. Pastor Elaine, 876-8771 or koinonia@ns.sympatico.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. 6-8 pm, 2281 Brunswick St.

Wednesday - Discussion Group (ages 18-25) 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

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Monday - August 13th 2007
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August LINE UP
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Wednesdayz 9:30pm -1:30pm Karaoke with Bear777 - Sing the Mystery Song & Win up to \$300!

Fridayz 5pm-10pm TGIF (Thank God I'm Fabulous) COCKTAIL Party - U Want It, We'll Shake IT!
Fridayz & Saturdayz DANCE PARTIES with our House DJ's from 10pm-2am
Sundayz: BRUNCH 8am-3pm & CAESAR TIME on the MOOSE DECK Noon Till Close!
Saturday Aug. 4 - Leather Night with DJ Needles
Friday Aug. 10 - Beach Party - Dress for the Occasion!
Saturday Aug. 11 - NO SHIRTS Party! - Don't Dress for the Occasion!
Saturday Aug. 18 - *Skivvies Party (Undies)
Sunday Aug 19 - Annual Corn Boil in Support of DalOUT! 4pm -7pm
Saturday Aug. 25 - Blue Collar Night

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Tuesdayz - MOLLYZ YOU PICK - PASTA & WINE Comboz
Wednesdayz - WINGS & MOOSE Draught
Thursdayz - All U Can Eat Mussel & MOOSE Night!
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Sundayz - FREE 30 Minute CruiseLine Pass from 6pm till Close

Moncton

Every Thursday
LGBT AND FRIENDS VOLLEY BALL, resumes September 13th! École carrefour de l'acadie gym. No experience required. Info: Rodge 383-1410 or Oscar 855-1328. \$5.00 / player includes refreshments.

Tous les jeudis

VOLLEY BALL POUR LGBT et AMI-E-S, recommence 13 septembre. École carrefour de l'acadie. Aucune experience requise. Infos : Rodge 383-1410 ou Oscar 855-1328. \$5.00 / joueur (rafraichissements inclus)

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.
Sept 23

AIDS Walk for Life Moncton. Funds raised by individuals or teams will be used to provide HIV prevention programs and services in Southeast New Brunswick. For further information or to register, contact Judy at SIDA/AIDS Moncton at (506) 859-9616 or e-mail sidaidsm@sidaidsmoncton.com

Moncton Bar & Business Calendar

TRIANGLES

234 St. George St, open Tues-Sun 8pm-2am
Tuesday & Wednesday: Free Pool, Beer / Bar Shots / Shooters \$3 all night
Wednesday: Learn to Line Dance - no charge!
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 blue party, coming up June 2. Check our website for upcoming Colour Party dates.

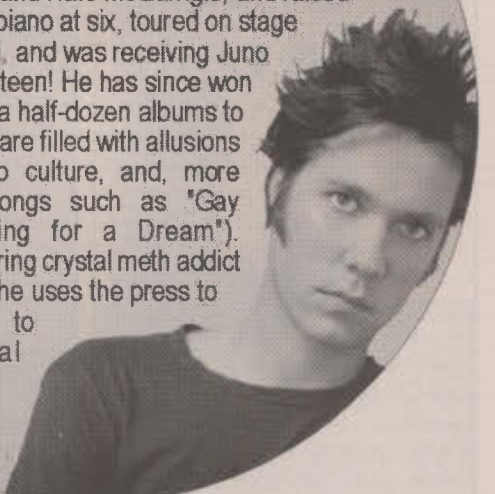
Petit-Rocher

Aug 31 - Sept 3

Gais.es Nor Gays (GNG) Pride Weekend, including the Ms and Mr Atlantic Canada Leather at 6pm Sunday. For information and applications forms contact wayne richard, waydo7@hotmail.com, 506 388 1755 or your local watering hole. The show will also include a bbq,

Queerly Canadian Rufus Wainwright

Although he strongly identifies with Canada, Rufus Wainwright was born in the United States, to folk singers Loudon Wainwright III and Kate McGarrigle, and raised in Montréal. He played piano at six, toured on stage with his family at thirteen, and was receiving Juno Award nominations at sixteen! He has since won two Junos, and released a half-dozen albums to critical acclaim. His lyrics are filled with allusions to opera, literature, pop culture, and, more recently, politics (in songs such as "Gay Messiah" and "Waiting for a Dream"). Wainwright is a recovering crystal meth addict and a rape survivor; he uses the press to bring awareness to these societal problems.



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.com. Email menread@gay.com or contact 454-9111 for more information.

family

South Shore lesbian couple looking for male couple or single gay male to assist with pregnancy. Open to co-parenting. Must be willing to relocate or travel. Serious inquiries only please. Respond in confidence to: greenfarm41@yahoo.ca

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spiritual

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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, nsprig@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.com. groups.ca for further info on our upcoming meetings and social events.

HOW TO PLACE ADS

CLASSIFIEDS: 25 words for \$9, 25 more for \$6, 10% off if you run the ad 3+ issues.
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All paying ads must be pre-paid. Send to submissions@wayves.ca or Wayves, P.O. Box 34090 Scotia Square, Halifax, NS, B3J 3S1. See www.wayves.ca for insertion deadlines and graphical advertisement rates.

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

Events, Cont'd

entertainment, prize draws and a victory party. Venture on up for the event, the day, the night or better still the weekend, check out www.gngnb.ca for more information.

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 - 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

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.

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Opinion

Glatze: Midlife Crisis?

Dear Wayves:

While I was checking on a few facts for the article celebrating the naming of Judith Meinert-Thomas as Honourary Marshal for Saint John's 2007 Pride parade, I tripped over an interesting bit of news. Michael Glatze, one of the two co-marshals for our 2004 parade, had come out as "ex-gay."

My first thought was, "Oh, no, I hope that Saint John didn't do that to him!"

Further investigation reassured me on this point. Glatze did not reveal his re-orientation until July 3, 2007, in a statement published by WorldNetDaily. In this statement, Glatze writes, "I was asked to speak on the prestigious JFK Jr. Forum at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government in 2005. It was, after viewing my words on a videotape of that 'performance,' that I began to seriously doubt what I was doing with my life and influence."

The panel discussion at the JFK Jr. Forum took place on September 27, 2005. Now here's Glatze as quoted in a Time magazine article published five days later: "Today so many kids who are gay, they don't like Cher. They aren't part of the whole subculture... They feel like they belong in their faith, in their families... I don't think the gay movement understands the extent to which the next generation just wants to be normal kids. The people who are getting that are the Christian right."

Glatze's words in Time sound almost prophetic of the changes in his own life. At the time, he was 30. At 22, he had become an editor of what he describes as "the first magazine aimed at a young, gay male audience." This started him on a path he followed for the next eight years, leading to Young Gay

America, the documentary "Jim in Bold," awards, media attention and eventually, that supposedly fateful appearance at the JFK Jr. Forum.

Myself, I was 31 when I quit the job I'd been working at for five years because I was bored and

... nothing is changed by Glatze's July 3 statement. Our community still faces the same challenges it did on July 2.

wanted time to figure out where I was going. I bummed around Europe with a backpack for a year. It's also at about this time that I began to come out to myself as a lesbian. However, change was easier for me than for Glatze because no one was really paying attention to what I was doing. I had no spotlight.

Did Glatze feel that in order to make any changes in his life at

all, he had to swing it around 180 degrees? And did he feel that only the Christian right understood the extent to which he "just wants to be normal"? I'm struck by how much of his July 3 statement has to do with lust. Obviously, trying to live a life centred around lust is like trying to live on a diet centred around chocolate bars - fun for the short term, disastrous for the long term. It doesn't take an intelligent person eight years to figure that out. Did Glatze believe

for eight years that there's nothing to "gay culture" beyond Cher and lust? Or does he now believe that in order to gain anything new, anything more in his life, he has to throw away everything he'd been working for and claim it was all worth nothing?

Only Michael Glatze knows the answers. In the meantime, the Christian right will surely attempt

to make hay out of his "redemption." They will continue to argue that children should be given inadequate education on matters of sex and gender, that the problem of homophobic and transphobic bullying in schools can be solved by telling the victims not to "act gay," that individuals and families should be denied equal rights under the law and that "freedom of expression" means the freedom to disseminate hate propaganda. If Glatze had not presented himself as a tool, the Christian right would have found others. Glatze is just one more screwdriver in their set.

In the end, nothing is changed by Glatze's July 3 statement. Our community still faces the same challenges it did on July 2. The only difference is that we will now meet these challenges without Glatze.

SarahRose Werner,
Saint John, New Brunswick

Call to Action

In May 2006, human rights defenders from four continents, and from diverse social backgrounds, met in Montreal to explore ways of strengthening the movement to eradicate extreme poverty. They reviewed the results of a wide consultation with NGOs, trade unions, United Nations Member States and specialized agencies, which had been mandated by a UN General Assembly Resolution. At the end of the meeting, they launched an appeal to all those striving for peace and justice to support efforts to widen the impact of October 17, International Day for the Eradication of Poverty.

My name is James LeBlanc. I live in Moncton, and I was one of nine from Canada to go to the International Seminar on the Impact of the World Day to Overcome Extreme Poverty. It was an honour to be chosen as the only member from Atlantic Canada to sit on this seminar. I have been volunteering with the Southeast Chapter of The Common Front for Social Justice since 2005, and I attended a seminar in January of 2006 in Montreal to do the evaluation on October 17 and to set up for the summit that would take place in May 2006. The obvious reason for doing this is because I have a front row seat; being in the social system myself I know how it feels to be impoverished. But a secondary reason is to prove to the world that Homosexuals can champion causes other than being accepted for who we are. I think that if we can get hold of a cause and work hard at improving the lives of other people, we in turn can earn the respect of our peers and the general public making our voices heard in many ways. While at the summit we looked at the following:

What kinds of changes, mobilisations, and shifts in mentality did

17th of October bring about? What creative energy was stirred? What can be seen in terms of progress that allows us to think that we have contributed to the decline of poverty? Has this day allowed a change of outlook and an increasing participation of people living in extreme poverty? Are there any changes to make?

An International Pilot Committee, co-chaired by the International

there are ways other than shouting "I'm Queer and I'm Proud"

Movement ATD Fourth World and the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, oversaw the process. Competent scientific advisors assisted us in relying on objective data, thus ensuring a stringent process.

Eight countries (including Canada throughout its provinces and particularly Quebec), from five continents, made for a more comprehensive study by the various partners taking part in the process.

The conclusions of the studies conducted by those involved in this process were presented during an International Seminar that took place in Montreal, May 22 to 26, 2006 at Villa St. Martin.

This seminar was organised by ATD Fourth World Movement Canada and its partners, bringing together approximately sixty nine participants for five days, involving the strong participation of people living in extreme poverty.

The outcome inspired the General Assembly of the United Nations to follow up the Decade for the Eradication of Poverty in December 2006 with such actions as a public event which was organised in the United Nations building in New York to communicate the

outcome of this Seminar and to encourage the wide adoption of the measures discussed. By bringing about new commitments, this will intensify the fight against poverty.

By being involved with this movement I have gained a lot of respect from my peers, the persons I work with who also know I am gay and accept me for who I am, and also I have gained the respect of the community for championing a cause that is close to their hearts, the poor and homeless in our community. Standing up for homosexuality is great and it is needed very much — we have to be heard as a community — but there are ways other than shouting "I'm queer and I'm proud" perhaps it should be said, "I'm queer, I'm involved in my community and I'm proud."

To take part in the Call to Action visit www.oct17.org.

The Thirty-Something Man

By Jack Halifax

The thirty-something single gay man is an elusive creature. He's too old to run with the twenty-somethings in the bars on a regular basis. He's too young and too proud to prowling the parks with the pensioners claiming to be 47. His only habitat left is the stuffy dinner parties with all eyes and pity pointed at him. There's always the straight girl friend's hook up, with the only other gay man she knows, to look forward to. When he finds himself checking out gay cruise brochures, he wonders whether these ships are really filled with all these gorgeous single gay men or is he a more vulnerable advertising target to a telemarketer than a senior.

* When the loneliness sets in, he hits the Internet hunting sites, and

when he turned thirty-one he started to become insecure about whether or not he is in a game of old maid

when he realizes that a discreet big guy isn't going to hit the spot, he feels like he's been sent to bed with no supper. There are always the long hours at work and the extra holiday shifts, picked up for the girls that want to watch their kids open their gifts or hunt col-

oured eggs on the lawn, to help him fill the empty side of his queen size bed. When his boss finally makes him take a vacation, the best thing he can think of to do is a week at his sister's seaside cottage making love to the tall pile of books stacked on the dining room table that he's been meaning to read.

He turned thirty and became more secure with himself and his sexuality, but when he turned thirty-one he started to become insecure about whether or not he is in a game of old maid. He starts to wonder: if he finds a partner will they fit into his life? The answer is easy and obvious: a cat or a dog. It means unconditional love and an easy adjustment period. It also gives him a reason not to stay too late at work, and his Saturday morning routine of vacuuming the couch. This does make him easier to spot, he's either got a poodle size pup in tow or is covered in cat hair.

These elusive men are also continuously migrating from downtown to the suburbs and eventually to rural areas, where they become a local curiosity. The neighbor waves when he's in his garden and thinks what a shame he's not married with children, because he seems so nice. It is there that the elusive thirty-something single gay man puts in his time until he becomes either pensionable or partnered.



Last Month's question:

To last month's question, which was roughly "What GLBT thing are you going to be involved with next year?" we got eight responses. Seven of them were positive, naming things as general as the Gay/Bi-male Community and Cape Breton, to as specific as PFLAG, CUPE's Pink Triangle Committee, History, Pride, and most gratifying to us, Wayves. The reasons given were sparse: one person said that it was time, most of the others were going to continue what they were already doing. The one No answer was: "Aaah, guilty as charged. We all sit around and complain about the lack of community in Atlantic Canada, but actually get involved?? Probably not." Guilty, but obviously not guilty enough—here at Wayves we obviously need to work on our Jewish-mother skills.

This Month's question:

This month, gentle reader, we ask you: Is there a need for a LGBT Community Centre in your area? How would you make use of such a thing, or what would you like to see it doing? You tell Us! at www.wayves.ca.

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