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February 2004

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Double Standard?

**Wayves Ad Goes
Too Far
For Some,
Not Far Enough
For Others**



Where You Can Find wayves

(updated 2003/10/19):

New Brunswick...**Bathurst:** Gaie-es nor gays**Fredericton:** AIDS New Brunswick; Boldon's Bookmart; Campus "Smoke" Shoppe, UNB; Molly's Coffee House; Student Resource Centre, St. Thomas University; UNB/STU Spectrum; Westminster Books, King Street; X-Citement Video, Queen Street**Moncton:** Reid's Newstand; Rainbow Pride Store; Triangles; United Books, Martin Road; X-Citement Video**Sackville:** Bridge Street Café; Mount Allison; Tidewater Books**Saint John:** AIDS Saint John; Club Lynx; Club Montreal; Mahogany Manor**Newfoundland...****Corner Brook:** Corner Brook Status of Women**Gander:** Gander Public Library**St. John's:** Bennington Gate; LBG T M.U.N.; Newfoundland & Labrador AIDS Comm.; Newfoundland Gays and Lesbians for Equality; Our Pleasures; Shopper's Drug Mart, Le Marchant Road; St. John's Public Library; Word Play; Zone 216**Nova Scotia...****Amherst:** Carvel Upholstery and Draperies; Cumberland County Family Planning**Annapolis Royal:** The King George Inn**Antigonish:** Antigonish Women's Centre; Student Union Resource Centre; Webb's Superstore**Bedford:** Bedford Library**Bridgewater:** Second Story Women's Centre**Canning:** Canning Library**Dartmouth:** Alderney Library; Dartmouth North Library; Healing Our Nations; Jake's Video & Variety; Nova Scotia Government Employees Union; Wolfgang Leathers; Woodlawn Library; X-Citement Video, Main Street**Halifax:** AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia; Alteregos Café; AND Café; Atlantic News Stand; Blowers Street Paperchase; Bookmark; Buy the Book and More; CD Plus; CKDU Radio; Captain William Spry Library; Ceilidh Connection; Counseling and Community Support Services; DALOUT; Dal-Tech; Daily Grind; Diamond; Fresh Start B&B; Grad House (Dal); HMV; Hairdressers' Market; Halifax Backpackers Hostel; Halifax North Library; Halifax Library - Spring Garden Road; Jacob Steven Salon & Spa; Kashen Goodman Library; Killiam Library; Khyber Club; Mount St. Vincent University - Rosaria Centre; Night Magic Fashions; Nooks and Crannies; NSCAD - supply store; N.S. Advisory Council - Status of Women; NRG; Planned Parenthood Clinic; Random Play; Read All About it; Robyn's Grocery; Seadogs Spa; Second Cup - Spring Garden Road; Shoe Shop; SUB, Dal and St. Mary's; Tool Box; Venus Envy; Video Difference; Weldon Law Library; X-Citement Video, Quinpool Road; Youth Project**Kentville:** Annapolis Valley Regional Library - Kentville Division; R.J.'s Home Brewing; The Red Door**Lower Sackville:** Halifax Public Library; Sackville Library; X-Citement Video**Middleton:** Emma Tigerheart, R.S.W.**New Glasgow:** Pictou County Women's Centre**Pictou:** Pictou Library**Port Williams:** Port Williams Library**Sydney:** Harrison Society; AIDS Coalition**Tantallon:** Tantallon Library**Truro:** Central Nova Women's Resource Centre; MacQuarries Pharmasave - The Esplanade; Maggie's Place; Northern Aids Connection; Colchester Sexual Assault Centre**Windsor:** The Hants Youth Health and Resource Centre**Wolfville:** Acadia Women's Centre; The Atheneum, Acadia;

The Coffee Merchant; The Odd Book; Wolfville Public Library

Yarmouth: TQOTS; Western Counties Regional Library**Prince Edward Island...****Charlottetown:** AIDS PEI; Afternoon Delight; Reading Well Bookstore; That's Entertainment!**British Columbia...****Vancouver:** Little Sisters**Ontario...****Ottawa:** After Stonewall; One-in-Ten**Toronto:** Glad Day Bookshop; Out on the Street**Quebec...****Montreal:** L'Androgyne

Wayves Changes

How Wayves Goes Together

We are hunting for a way to do our layout electronically. We do not at the moment have any volunteers to do the layout in Quark (or possibly PageMaker) and so our layout is done in the "traditional" (some would say antique) style of using wax, knives and layout sheets. This will become a problem at some point because printers are switching to making printing plates directly from file, and are getting rid of the giant process cameras which can handle layout sheets. Also, our financial situation doesn't allow us to pay a service bureau to create the magazine.

We're constantly getting suggestions that we should go to electronic layout. Everyone agrees this would be a good thing and will soon be a necessary thing. If you have any suggestions about how we can actually do this, we'd like to hear them! Write to submissions@wayves.ca or come to our February meeting, on the 9th! Write, or call 499-0488 for directions to the meeting.

As always, our deadline and meeting schedule for the whole year is online at wayves.ca.

Your Ad Rep

We have good news and bad news. The sad news is, that our fabulous ad sales agent and tireless local arts news contributor since November, 2001, Michael Wile, has been lured away to the big evil city. Thanks very much, Michael, for

Letters

Dear Wayves:

I liked Christopher Vaughan's "Where to spend Christmas? (Dec 03/Jan 04, 2, 11), particularly the options outlined. I add a reflection, from the point of view of a straight parent of a gay son and a lesbian daughter.

I'm happy - now - that in the past my gay children were somehow okay with me being less than comfortable. Admittedly, it is normally, in retrospect, that I appreciate being embarrassed, unsure, ill at ease.

I paraphrase what another straight parent wrote recently: "There is hope. Tuned-in modern parents may be the first in history to openly acknowledge without fear or disgust: My son or daughter is gay. It's a start. If pretending to be happy with my gay

all your work over the last many years.

The good news is, that Michael has gracefully passed the torch for the advertising work. In early December, Wayves put out a call on our contributors email list, for a new ad rep, and on December 12th, several members of the Wayves team had lunch with Jim Bain at the Mediterraneo, and we decided that we could have a mutually satisfying relationship.

Jim is currently co-owner of Wolfgang Leathers with his partner and has just come off a five-year stint as the Advertising Manager for Pride Guide Publications.

Jim brings a wealth of experience to Wayves. He holds a diploma in journalism from Holland College in Charlottetown and has done work for a huge number of newspaper, magazine, and radio outlets in the Maritimes.

In the community, Jim was a past vice-chair of the AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia and is currently an executive board member of the Mr. Atlantic Canada Leather Society.

If you'd like to get a message to the g/l/b/t/etc community in Atlantic Canada, you should contact Jim at ads@wayves.ca or (902) 463-0942.

Contact us at

wayves

PO Box 34090
Scotia Square
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3S1
Wayves@fox.nstn.ca

Groups & Services

The other big change is to our Groups and Services section on Page 15. Previously this section was laboriously hand-maintained.

One of the Wayves team, Daniel MacKay, has built an online database, put the G&S information into it, and invited groups to update their own information via a webpage - contact information, meeting times, places, a brief description of the organization. This month's G&S page is generated out of that database, so you'll see some formatting differences. Yes, the spaces in email addresses and URLs are intentional to make the page format more beautifully, and take up less room - they appear on the page but not in the database. It's currently much larger as many organizations add more descriptive text, but it may shrink again as we discover that many of the groups are defunkt. We have 116 groups in the listing, and have received updates from half of them.

The G&S info will also be available online as soon as we get some electronic publishing formats designed.

The renewed attention to G&S is part of a project of outreach to queer communities all over Atlantic Canada. Please check out Page 15; if you notice an organization missing from G&S, please let us know! If you see an organization there that you know is defunkt, please let us know! If you would like to update your organization's information - well, you get the idea.

son's partner at Christmas is what it takes, so be it. Perhaps our better nature will soon become our second nature' (Barbara Kay, National Post, 3 Dec 2003).

Gay Couples' Retreat

Greetings!

Recently there has been mounting interest in having a gay couple retreat. This retreat would be for gay monogamous couples who are interested in rediscovering their relationship and further affirming their love to each other. Some of the ideas that have been touched on are as follows; spirituality and the gay couple, intimacy and the gay couple, trust and the gay couple, forgiveness and the gay couple, the gay couple and the 21st century, history of the gay couple,

To be its best, Christmas time need not always be comfortable. It probably never was.

Eldon Hay, Sackville, 35 Union, 506-536-0599

defining love and the gay couple, appreciation of each other, relaxation with your partner. Currently, this retreat is in the preliminary planning stage, nothing is set in stone. We need lots of folks to make this retreat a reality! Therefore, we are looking for couples who are interested in helping organize such a retreat. If this interests you and your partner, please send an email to gayretreat@hotmail.com and someone will get back to you. Discretion assured and expected. Many thanks!



Atlantic News

Out And About Womyn

2003 has come to a close, and it's been another great, fun-filled year for Out And About Womyn (OAAW). This Halifax-based lesbian social group (almost 2 years old) continues to grow in leaps and bounds, and fondly looks back to 2003, while looking forward to another great year. Last summer's OAAW camping weekends at "The Mermaid & The Cow" were enormously successful, and plans for even bigger and better outings are in the planning stages for 2004.

The annual Hallowe'en Murder Mystery party was an incredible evening, from the costumes to the outstanding performances and so much laughter, that for next year's mystery everyone in attendance will be asked to wear "Depends". (See last month's cover/issue of Wayves.) What makes an event a lesbian event? Why, a potluck of course! OAAW's annual christmas potluck banquet had such great homemade dishes that a book of favourite potluck recipes is now in the works. In addition to these annual events, OAAW members hosted kitchen (guitar/singing) parties, outdoor

bbq's, beach outings, kayaking/canoeing, various outings, etc. The weekly coffee and chat continues to be popular, and with the colder weather upon us, billiards, dinner and movie nights are warm and cosy ways to stay social and warm. For more info on Out And About Womyn, visit www.geocities.com/outandaboutwomyn or email oaaw@eastlink.ca

M.A.C. Leather

Xmas Basket Winner! Congratulations to Tony Drew of Halifax; the winner of this year's M.A.C. Leather holiday basket raffle. A total of \$542 was raised with 50% going to the Health Fund of the AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia.

Volunteer Coordinator Needed! The M.A.C. Leather Society is seeking an Halifax / central Nova Scotia based individual to coordinate volunteers for society event and projects of varying sizes. For more info contact the Society at info@macleather.net or phone 902-423-6999.

Computer Literate Graphic Design Volunteer Needed! The

M.A.C. Leather Society is seeking a Halifax / central Nova Scotia based volunteer to do some regular design work (one poster a month) as well as other potential design projects from time to time. For more info contact the Society at info@macleather.net or phone 902-423-6999.

Closet Chat in Saint John

Jason Burns and Daniel Jardine, co-founders and co-facilitators of Closet Chat—a weekly discussion forum—are proud to celebrate Closet Chat's first year anniversary. This national award winning support group opens its doors every Tuesday evening at 8 pm, to GLBTQ and questioning people, and their family and friends.

Each week, a different topic is hosted. Guest speakers are often scheduled to attend and present important information. During 2003, topics ranged from: "How Do I Know I'm Gay?" to "Legal Issues Specific To GLBTQ People" to "Lesbian and Gay Health-Related Issues" to "Issues and Concerns Amongst GLBTQ Youth in Schools."

Important Notice: We recognize that public outreach and support is important, and thus, Closet Chat will be "going on the road" during 2004.

First and Last Tuesday of Each Month: Centenary Queen-Square United Church, 215 Wentworth Street (our usual location).

Second and Third Tuesday of each month: Various areas, including: Quispamsis, Sussex, and St. Andrews.

Closet Chat will soon be emailing out information regarding our 2004 Winter/Spring Schedule (discussion topics and specific locations) to all of its contacts. If you are currently not on this mailing list, and you would like to receive information, please email clstcht@nbnet.nb.ca

As always, Closet Chat will continue to provide a safe and comfortable atmosphere. Anonymity assured.

Couples Social Group

Is there an interest for a social group for same gender couples? There are a number of these social clubs in the States (examples below) and I thought it would be fun if we could start one in the Halifax and surrounding areas.

The focus would be to foster a safe and supportive environment for same gender couples in com-

mitted relationships who want to socialize with other gay and lesbian couples. Activities could include brunches, potlucks, outings/excursions, bowling nights, movie/theatre nights, dinner clubs, shopping trips, (the list is endless). How often, once a month/twice a month? (couples would decide). If you're interested in helping to get this underway or to participate, please email committed_couples@yahoo.com or contact Ron at 443-3747 and share your ideas. All names and contact information will be kept confidential.

Truro Pride

by Wayne Davidson
After a break for the Christmas Season, we held a meeting Jan. 7/04 at our favorite haunt, the Calico Café, on Prince Street. We must thank Jim for allowing us to use his restaurant for our meetings and for the coffee and treats provided after hours. Attendance at our meetings is steadily increasing, meaning the word is being spread to the GLBT community of Colchester County.

Our last dance in Nov. was not as successful as we hoped, probably due to the time of year, coinciding with the Festival of Lights in town and other activities occurring on the same weekend. Perhaps the great success of our first two dances led us into complacency, which means we will work that much harder to promote our next venture. Tagged as our 'Cabin Fever Dance', that event will be held on April 17/04 at the Lions Club Hall 1100 Prince St. from 9:00 pm till 12:00 am. We hope you can attend after a long, cold winter. Please note that there will be an open bar and attendance is restricted to those 19 and older.

We are working with a group in Halifax to explore a workshop in Truro for early in the year. With recent changes in the marriage laws, as well as those in the income tax requirements, we felt that a weekend workshop to discuss how these will affect us, along with other topics, such as being gay in a rural community, would benefit the community as a whole. Stay tuned for more information..

We are trying to make being GLBT in Truro as normal as we are. Events planned include pool at Dooley's on Saturday afternoons, bowling and movie nights and anything else we can think of. Please contact us and let us know what you might be interested in.

If you want further information, call Wayne at (902) 897-6654 or Gina at (902) 895-8363, or email us at truropride@hotmail.com

Have a great new year and a prosperous 2004 from all of us at Truro Pride. Continued on Page 4

wayves

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

wayves is an independent publication, published 10 times a year, by a non-profit collective. Anyone who contributes to wayves is automatically considered to be a member of the collective and is welcome to participate in all meetings and discussions. wayves reserves the right to refuse material that might be reasonably considered heterosexism, racism, sexism or an attack on individuals or communities. Opinions expressed in wayves are not necessarily those of the editorial collective. The article submission deadlines are posted in the calendar of the Community Events page. Articles should be a maximum of 1,000 words and might be edited for length. Submissions should be e-mailed - in plain text - to the address noted below.

Advertising: Jim Bain, Advertising Manager; e-mail at ads@wayves.ca or call (902)463-0942. Responsibility for errors in advertisements is limited to the value of the space.

Circulation: Jim McMillan; e-mail at wayves or call 902-826-7356. Subscriptions, per year, are in Canadian dollars: \$20 in Canada, \$30 in the United States and \$35 elsewhere. Mail in your subscription request.

How to reach us...

wayves
P.O. Box 34090, Scotia Square
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3S1
wayves@fox.nstn.ca
www.chebucto.ns.ca/CommunitySupport/Wayves

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Next Wayves

March 2004

Deadline: February 6th

Theme: Women's Issues Issue!
Does Wayves speak to you?
What's missing? Tell us about female life in Atlantic Canada!
Plus: Valentine's Day smarminess and love—tell us about that too!

brought to you by...

Daniel MacKay	Norval Collins	Will Murray
Jeremy Godfrey	Chris Aucoin	Sharon Stewart
Jim Bain	Michael Wile	A. William Cox
Ralph Higgins	Sylvia Tremblay	Saleem Malik
Cam MacLeod	Christopher Vaughan	Your Name Here

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More Letters

Dear Friends,
Many thanks to all who attended the community dance in Halifax on Saturday, November 15. Because of your support, \$1500 was raised to benefit Rainbow Spirit, Canada's first summer camp for the children of bisexual, gay, transgender, and lesbian children. Monies raised go toward the costs of operating the camp, which helps keep the camp fees affordable for families. We also wish to thank all the volunteers who helped make the dance happen, and especially our fabulous DJ, Renee Hartleib.

Yours in Pride,
Fundraising Committee
Family Pride Camping Association (Rainbow Spirit)

Dear Editor

The Mr. Atlantic Canada Leather Society would like to congratulate Tony Drew of Halifax as the winner of our annual Holiday Basket Raffle drawn in December. \$542 was raised with 50% of the proceeds being donated to the AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia's Health Fund. We would also like to thank all those businesses that donated contents for the basket as well as all those who purchased tickets.

Have a great new year!
Chris Aucoin
Secretary, M.A.C. Leather Society

Continued from Page 3

East Coast Bears

The East Coast Bears will host the largest bear party in Canada July 29th to August 2nd in Fredericton, NB.

FurFest is a relatively small event with 175 - 200 guys expected this year.

Registration fee is \$60, and includes the Thursday night "Early Welcome Bears Party", Friday night Meet & Greet at Charlie's Backyard Pool Patio at the Wandlyn Inn, Saturday Pool Party and Picnic with hot dogs, burgers, salad and beverages, Private Dance, Sunday night Bear Luau, run t-shirt & goodies, and a chance to win prizes. But probably the one activity that makes the whole weekend so pleasant, is the chance for friendly bears to meet other friendly bears. Relaxing by the pool always leads to conversations being struck up and new friendships formed. Making those personal contacts adds to the enjoyment of the whole gathering.

Again this year you must pre-pay for your meals when you register. The meals must be purchased in advance if you plan to attend. Meal tickets can NOT be purchased at the event. Walk-ins are NOT accepted. You MUST register in advance.

New for 2004... a day-trip to King's Landing Historical Settlement including bus transportation to the site.

The host hotel is the Wandlyn Inn, 958 Prospect St., Fredericton. Rooms are \$79 plus tax, based on single or double occupancy, and are on a first come first served basis. There is an additional charge of \$10/night for each additional person sharing a room. Call (506) 462-4444 to book a room and re-

quest the FurFest special group rate! If you do not mention FurFest, you will not get a room.

Air Canada & Delta Airlines are the official airlines for FurFest. Avis is the official car rental company. They all offer special rates.

Check out the East Coast Bears web site for full details www.eastcoastbears.com/furfest.html or call Larry or Jason at (506) 455-2856.

South Shore Pride

South Shore Pride on New Year's Eve South Shore Pride Social Club held its first New Year's Dance with over sixty in attendance. The Pride Committee was a bit fearful that members might want to go to a larger setting in Halifax so we were pleased with the numbers. We have already booked the hall for next New Year's. Comments like the following made the effort worthwhile: "I'm not sure if I've said it enough, but thank you to all who go out of their way to organize a social activity on the South Shore. It is appreciated and enjoyed. Let me know if I can be of any help sometime." Dances are held monthly, every third Saturday, at the Wileville Firehall, so come along and get practiced up for the next New Year's shindig. With pride in South Shore Pride, Dean White kikyko@bwr.eastlink.ca

Safe Harbour Pastor calls for Resignations

News

On Saturday December 13th, the Pastor of Safe Harbour Metropolitan Community Church in Halifax demanded the resignation of two of the Church's democratically elected Board Members over an issue of music at their annual Xmas Dinner. David Sheppard and Shawn Adams were called to an emergency meeting of Board Members just prior to the beginning of the popular Safe Harbour Annual Community Christmas Dinner. It was during this meeting that Darlene Young insisted that these men resign.

Ms. Young has been the paid Pastor of the predominately gay-male church for over ten years and she has repeatedly found herself at the centre of divisive issues within the church. Over those years the church has experienced a high turnover in its attendance and little growth. Mr. Sheppard has been involved with Safe Harbour for the last ten years, including volunteering on the elected Church Board for six years and on the Xmas Dinner Committee for ten years. Mr. Adams has been involved with Safe Harbour for the last two years and is the church's paid pianist/organist.

Neither of the two men has responded to her request. When asked if there will be a press release regarding the call for resignations,

Ross Boutiler, representative for Safe Harbour, stated "there will be no comment of any kind from Safe Harbour on this matter."

Commentary

Past issues at Safe Harbour were never covered in Wayves. It is my opinion that because past issues were not made public, Safe Harbour did not feel the need to revisit their mechanisms for dealing with situations; situations that needlessly evolved into conflicts such as this. By bringing knowledge of the existence of this and past issues into the public eye, my hope is that the people of Safe Harbour will seriously invest more time and energy in finding a better way to interact with each other when disagreements arise.

As a Christian and as former adherent of Safe Harbour MCC, it interests me greatly that numerous people inside and outside of this church have tried to prevent the knowledge of this call for resignations by the Pastor from being reported in Wayves. I find this somewhat frightening and feel it needs to be commented on. It is my opinion that Safe Harbour is no different than any other GLBT organization in this city and as such it is certainly not above public criticism and reproach. But in

addition to that, as a Christian organization it is accountable to the entire Christian population as to how its actions model Jesus Christ to the larger community. No organization, including Safe Harbour, should expect special treatment because it is a 'church'. It must be open to and welcoming of public scrutiny. Churches no longer have a reserved 'special place at the table' in our society where they and their actions (or inactions) cannot be publicly called into question. Quite often it is only when information becomes public that individuals and organizations are willing to honestly acknowledge and address inherent problems.

Safe Harbour does good work. It is not perfect, it never will be, and that is how it should be. But it is my opinion that there is much room for improvement if the will is there.

Safe Harbour's Vision Statement: "Safe Harbour seeks to be an open and inviting church committed to growth and diversity in a non-judgemental environment which encourages people to learn and grow in their spiritual journey with Christ."

Terry Parker
Founder of Safe Harbour Community Church

The
Family Pride Camping Association presents

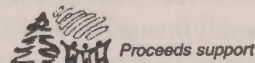
Let's Dance!

International Women's Day Dance
at "The Church," Halifax
(Corner of North and Fuller Terrace)

D.J.'d by Renée Hartleib

Saturday, March 6th
8pm

Tickets \$8 advance; \$10 at door
Available at Venus Envy



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lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender
parents...right here in Nova Scotia

wayves Wants Volunteers!

We have positions for:

Writers - talk to strangers on the phone or in person, go undercover to social events, stir up gossip, and then write about it!

Layout Team - get trained by masters and then get covered in wax one day a month. Ahhhhh!

Photographers/Graphics Geeks - draw kinky pictures, take kinky pictures or solicit kinky pictures....all completely legal and on the up-and-up...we promise!

Proof Readers - spick out melling pistakes, fix up the worstest grammar ever, and generally make the words in the paper speak loveliness!

Queer Retirement

By Gordon F. Davies, The VIVAT Group, Toronto

It's been the talk around kitchen tables and at dinner parties for years. How are we going to live as we get older? Are there any gay old-age homes or retirement communities? Will we have to go back in the closet in some facility for the aged? We talk but nobody seems to do anything.

The VIVAT Group is one organization that's taking the conversation a step forward. Gay-run, VIVAT recognizes a significant gap in our housing market, the need for well-designed, environmentally friendly, urban, affordable housing built with older LGBT people in mind.

They've decided not to construct a classic "retirement home" for "old folks". Instead they will offer condominiums ideal for the LGBT community over 45 years of age. A lot of the people who have shown interest are not retired or old by any standard. They are still active socially and maybe professionally. But they are looking for a place to live that has a welcoming, neighbourhood feel, a secure environment that is adapted for their needs and lifestyle, where they can eventually slow down among friends.

The VIVAT Group is partnering with developers to build its branded buildings, starting in Toronto but with other buildings to follow in other Canadian cities. Many of the people who have registered now live outside Toronto and are thinking of retiring to the city. They are looking for a place where they will feel at home immediately as they begin to settle into the big city. Others want to buy a unit now as an investment and move into it in the future when they are ready. (The VIVAT Group will make the sub-letting easy by coordinating these investor-owners with LGBT persons on VIVAT's rental waiting list.). There will be a limited number of three- and four-bedroom units where people can live inexpensively and semi-independently with a shared kitchen and living room.

The first building will not have licensed medical facilities on-site, but it may offer a consulting room for visiting health-care practitioners, a workout room adapted for older people, and a committee of residents willing to help out if a neighbour is under the weather or needs a lift. The units will be

adapted for grab-bars and wheelchairs. Of course, typical for our community, a bar, restaurant or common area for get-togethers is on the top of everyone's list of desired amenities!

The VIVAT Group is also negotiating with financial institutions to secure discounts and special services for its members. This reflects the growing realization among Canadian companies that the older LGBT market has been overlooked, although Statistics Canada reports that there are over 600,000 LGBT people over 45 in the country.

Check out the web site (<http://www.vivatgroup.com>) for details on the VIVAT Group. Sign on to receive their newsletter Dorothy! or become a member by filling in the confidential survey and being placed on the waiting list.

The gay and lesbian community has been at the forefront of so many social changes. Now we're pioneers in finding new arrangements and places to age actively – the way we want!

Cruiseline Advertisement Causes Ripples, Excitement

By Cam MacLeod

The November issue of Wayves had a small delay in hitting the newsstands, due to several concerns regarding an advertisement that appeared on the back cover. Surprisingly, the majority of the complaints came from gay men!

Wayves Magazine, like many volunteer-run non-profit newspapers, relies on advertisers to help pay the bills. Longtime advertiser Cruiseline often uses racy photos and situations to help sell their product, but the November ad crossed the line for some readers. It depicted two men, naked, one seated and the other with his head near the crotch of the first -- suggesting oral sex, but not showing anything other than one bare ass. Very suggestive, but completely legal.

Response from readers and Wayves volunteers was quite varied. The first complaint was from a person who we believe runs a distribution point for the newspaper, who stated in quite shocked terms her dismay at the ad, and suggested her store would no longer be stocking the paper. The second complaint came from a staffmember who works on the actual distribution, saying that he was not completely comfortable presenting this full-colour suggestive ad to small-town distribution



One was an ad in Wayves, the other a calendar at a mall. Guess which! Which photo offends you the most? Vote at submissions@wayves.ca

points, and even some Halifax stores.

Simultaneously, several men and women who work on Wayves or with some Wayves volunteers were polled, and almost all saw nothing wrong with the ad, though most agreed it was nearing the edge of acceptable. A quick survey of other free and for-pay publications found many ads with similar levels of naughtiness, suggesting to some that homophobia might be playing a role.

The Wayves Collective discussed the ad extensively, agreeing that perhaps some were taken aback by such an ad in Wayves, which is

normally a bit tamer -- especially on the outside covers. One ad last year provided similar worries, as it featured a large dildo as the main graphic in the ad, though it was a much smaller ad, and featured on an inside page.

The December/January double issue was laid out and completed in mid-November, and several volunteers sighed little tiny sighs of relief when the Cruiseline ad featured no nudity, but rather just a cutie in a Santa hat.

What do you think? Is Wayves too dirty? Too squeaky-clean? Whine and opine at submissions@wayves.ca any time!

www.mortgagecentre.com/user/mmo

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Photo: Falcon Studios • Filippo Romano in Drenched

Crawford Hastie's...

KIBITZ AND BITCH

Hey Tom -

Another laundromat Sunday morning for me, watching the mesmerizing tumbling of my briefs in the dryer. Interesting how much of our time is spent with clothes - buying them, washing them, ironing them, deciding what to wear. The latter can be quite complicated nowadays in this more democratic age where the dress codes have become so flexible as to be almost nonexistent. Black velvet and fake diamonds sit quite companionably next to blue jeans and leather jackets at symphony concerts, and even the well-to-do show up dressed in the sorts of clothing they would once have reproved their cleaning lady for wearing to work.

While I approve, in principle, of this egalitarianism, I must also note that this trend has resulted in a certain loss of glamour. We now must look to drag queens (once again!) for the kind of glitz, style and panache that once was the reserve of high society.

For a recent company function I agonized over whether to "dress up" - basic black and a tasteful glint of jewellery - or "dress down" - corduroys and cotton button-down shirt. I needn't have worried since when I arrived (having opted for the black) one part of the room dazzled with sequins while another looked like the fashion remnants of the Survivor series. I headed for the bar to regain my equilibrium. There once were rules to avoid this kind of awkward situation.

And perhaps it is time for some rules for language usage too. For example, Mr. Clean the other day at work said he thought the word "gay" should be reserved nowadays for things relating to homosexuals. He was referring to a recent radio interview in which a young woman stated that she collected toys because doing so made her feel gay. She obviously meant happy (unless she was talking about strap-on toys) but it was rather startling and confusing. Maybe we need something like the French Academy, which regulates these kinds of issues. We would not of course change phrases with historical and cultural associations. The Flintstones would continue to have "a gay old time" and at Christmas we would still carol about donning "our gay apparel" but otherwise "gay" would mean those of us at the top of the Kinsey scale.

Especially egregious is the way some twenty-somethings use the word "gay" in a pejorative, although non-sexual sense, as in this overheard conversation in front of a cinema:

"Did you like the movie?" "Not really. The ending was pretty gay." Sigh.

By the time you get this we will have entered another New Year according to the Chinese calendar, The Year of the Monkey or, as Rusty calls it, The Year of Spanking the Monkey. I forbore from pointing out that for him every year should be called that. While some of us react like Peter Panics fearful of losing our youth, desperately grasping at anyone and anything in the hopes of being coupled - even temporarily - Rusty sails blithely along, avoiding the slightest hint of commitment with slippery ease. One of my (acknowledged) faults is holding onto relationships long past their "best before date". By contrast, Rusty's only intense emotional connection is with the new leather gloves he got for Christmas. Here I thought it was only baseball gloves that needed to be oiled and broken in.

Interesting isn't it how some of us have the urge for relationships and cinnamon roll with the Front-runners. A couple of the men already have children and during the conversation someone asked Reeve White if he had ever considered being a parent. "Oh no," he replied seriously, "I swallowed all my children." This statement was met with grimaces and groans of outrage. Amidst all the uproar and thrown paper napkins Reeve sat serenely smiling with all the self-satisfaction of a cream-sated cat.

Got to fly Tommo. Time to fold my shirts and undies.

Love ya, Crawford

P.S. The federal government, in a move of astonishing gutlessness, now wants to explore the possibility of creating a civil union - available to both straights and queer folk - rather than redefining the legal definition of marriage. Like the two-tiered health plan, this would mean that everyone is able to be a second-class citizen but only a few can hope to reach first-class. Perhaps they hope that those of us riding in the back of the bus will be grateful to have any ride at all. If so, then they are greatly mistaken.

After Christmas

By Christopher Vaughan

After surviving Christmas and New Year's Eve celebrations, you would think that it's time to take a break and relax in the doldrums of winter.

No way honey. Just a few weeks after the turkey dinner, gift giving and drunken family get-togethers, there's Valentine's Day.

Don't get me wrong, I'm not one to gripe about romance. Actually, I thrive on it. Whenever my boyfriend gives me roses (preferably a dozen yellow) or a sexy love note (which tells me what he has planned for later on that night), I cannot help but feel all warm and giddy. It lets me know that our relationship is still important to him and that he still has amorous feelings for me.

Sometimes my better half needs a subtle reminder that romance (like good sex) takes just a bit of effort to get it right. However, it need not be something from a store. Just a simple act like breakfast in bed or a whisper of something naughty while out with friends is all that is needed to make me swoon with love and desire for this man.

Even a nice bottle of wine and some mellow music can make us feel like a brand new couple again. This renewed passion works well for a relationship that somehow loses its spark in the day to day banality of life.

You may think so, but I am not one of those overtly sentimental freaks. Holding hands in public or getting all lovey-dovey in a restaurant is not my style. I am not ashamed or embarrassed of my man, it's just that I do not like signs of private affection played out in public.

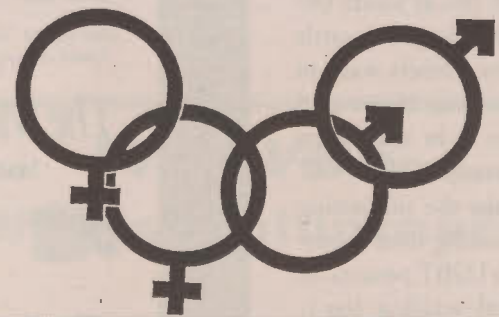
Couples who openly grope and fondle each other for all to witness is not something that I appreciate. Likewise, I would not want anybody to watch while my boyfriend and I have a prod at each other either. I believe that love and affection are things best kept in private.

But do we really need a day in February to tell our significant other how much we appreciate them? I hope not. If you happen to be in a relationship right now, take that one extra second out of your life to say "love ya." Or if you're not inclined to be so direct, you could say something like "your ass looks great in those jeans." Just say something to let the other person know how much they are cared for.

If you really have the inclination to show how much you care, flowers or chocolates are a pretty easy way to do so. May be a tube of designer lube or an erotic storybook could do the same thing while sparking a night of hot sex as well.

All I really want to say is that one day out of the whole year is not enough to let somebody know how much you appreciate them. It may be a good start for those of you who are amorously challenged, but I bet if a few simple gestures or gifts were given every now and then, your relationship would benefit from it. And no matter how blasé you or your lover may be, everybody likes some personal attention every now and then.

And if all else fails, take your cue from Cupid: get naked and poke your man with something long and hard.



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Out at Sixty-Five

Gay retirement communities are catching on fast

By Wendy Cole, Palmetto Nature has it fixed so that women often outlive their husbands. So it's no surprise to find the gender ratio skewed to female at most retirement communities.

Stroll the grounds at one such vibrant development near Fort Myers, Fla., and you're apt never to even see a man. That doesn't stop its 300 female residents from enjoying busy social lives, competing in tennis by day and partying it up at dances in the evenings. That's because these women are part of the first predominantly lesbian retirement community of its size in the U.S. "I still have to pinch myself that this isn't a dream," says Mary Jeanne Walsh, a retired Chase Manhattan bank vice president who moved into her attractive two-bedroom home three years ago. "When I was younger, I never would have imagined a place like this existed."

In a bygone era, places like this didn't exist. Or if they did, they were makeshift and almost mythical — spoken of only in hushed tones, if mentioned at all. But with the steady increase of openly gay baby boomers stampeding for housing, retirement communities catering to their needs are suddenly trendy. A dozen developers are peddling proposals for gay retirement villages from Boston to Santa Fe, N.M. All these firms want to capture a slice of the market of an estimated 2 million gay people over age 65—a population that's expected to double by 2030.

Revved-up demand seems ensured for several reasons. For openers, many lesbians and gay men assume they would be ostracized at mainstream retirement facilities. "There is a great fear of being forced back into the closet," says Peter Lundberg, who is working on a proposal for gay-senior housing in Southern California. Also, since homosexuals often don't have children for support as they age, retirement communities are especially appealing. And then there's the AIDS factor: as more people live longer with the virus, they could further drive the need for these communities.

Six years ago, however, when Gina Razete and Cathy Groene

began developing a community of RVs and prefabricated homes near Fort Myers, the opportunity was not so obvious. Back then, the twosome offered virtually ironclad assurances that the 50-acre property, minutes from the beach, would not be advertised as a women's — let alone gay — community. And nosy journalists were routinely turned away.

The furtive environment was born mostly out of practical concerns. "We have a lot of retired military women and schoolteachers who are afraid of losing their pensions if people outside knew they were gay," Razete explains. Even in their 70s and 80s, some

"There is a great fear of being forced back into the closet."

residents in the predominantly lesbian community have never come out to their children and are afraid of being disowned by their families. Other, newer facilities operate more openly. The Palms of Manasota, in Palmetto, Fla., is a close-knit community of about 35 gay and lesbian residents in 21 quaint, Mediterranean-style homes surrounding a peacefully gurgling pond. Thirty-four additional condominium villas are planned for the 30-acre ungated property, which includes seven acres of protected wetlands.

Retirees Roger Robinson, 62, and Greer North, 61, began living in the Palms part time in 2001 but a year later sold their home in Beaverton, Ore., making their relocation official. The couple, who have been together for 40 years, bought their three-bedroom, two-bath home at the Palms for \$156,000.

The hallmark of both existing communities is the degree to which residents look after one another. "If anyone is sick, someone will bring soup or provide a ride to the doctor or hospital," says Robinson, a retired elementary school principal. When North recently had cataract surgery, at least six neighbors called to see how they could help. At the Fort Myers-area village, 90 miles away, native-Chicagoans Jill Schwartz, 61, and her partner of 29 years

Annie O'Dowd, 74, were drawn by the promise of a good support system as much as the sunshine. "We were never activists," says Schwartz, a retired attorney. "We just find it a comfortable place."

Unfortunately, the communities aren't immune to the prejudices that plague society at large. At the Palms, located on a quiet suburban street near a Baptist church, teenagers on a couple of random occasions have driven by the entrance screaming homophobic epithets. Another time, the decorative concrete seahorses next to the pond were overturned at night. "We have to be careful not to label things automatically as homo-

phobia. The vandalism could just have been mischievous kids," resident Ernie Settanni says.

The good news: a few long-term-care centers are starting to incorporate diversity training that includes discussion of sexual orientation. Rainbow Train, a Seattle-based nonprofit agency, has conducted staff sensitivity training on gay issues at 12 local organizations providing long-term care for the elderly.

As for developers Razete and Groene, they are out to capitalize further on the trend that they helped start. In August 2000, the duo purchased 165 acres in the mountains near Boone, N.C., for a proposed retirement village of 94 homes to be called Carefree Cove. Last summer they started selling one-acre lots for about \$40,000 each. So far, 20 of the 35 have sold.

This time around, however, they have taken a different marketing tack. Gone is the secrecy that enshrouded their first project. Carefree Cove is billed — front and center — as a lesbian and gay community. But its promise of upscale rustic living might be too pricey for some. Homes start at \$200,000. Still, Razete is confident that she has got another hit on her hands. "The country is ready for this now," she says. And so too is a whole new generation of gay adults.

Woodstock Student Anti-Hate Conference

In observation of the March 21st International Day to Eliminate Racial Discrimination, the Woodstock High School Student Council, the school's GSA (Gay/Straight Alliance), and Safe Spaces N.B., is sponsoring a provincial conference for students and teacher-advisers that will address racism, homophobia and anti-Semitism as well as other forms of religious and secular intolerance on Friday and Saturday, March 19-20, 2004.

Among the speakers is Mr. Bill Ryan, who will present a plenary on the topic of homophobia and safe schools for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered students. Also in attendance will be Mr. Leo Adler, National Chair of the Friends of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre who will be presenting a session on "hate on the internet" and relating it to bullying, intimidation and harassment in schools and communities. Child Holocaust survivor, Dr. Israel Unger, will also share his personal experiences in Poland during WW2. In addition a resource person from PRUDE Inc. (Pride of Race, Unity and Dignity through Education) will be conducting a workshop on racism and the effects that racism has on both the victim and the vic-

timizer. Other sessions are still to be finalized.

Other sessions are still to be worked out and a full package with registration forms will be sent out early in the new-year.

For more information contact: Richard Blaquiére, Jaclyn Calhoun or Jeff McCormack @ 506-325-4437 or email Richard.Blaquiére@nbed.nb.ca

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Young and Gay

by Terry Richard

"When you're standing there and both (baseball) teams are arguing over not wanting you on their side, you're pretty much alone". from the Harry Hamlin character Bart in *Making Love*.

I remember being 6 years old and feeling different from the rest of my peers. I knew, even at that young age, the feelings I was experiencing were not that of a typical 6 year old kid. While my male friends had crushes on the pretty and most popular girls, I secretly harboured feelings for some of the cute boys on the neighborhood baseball team. Even my hobbies and interests were different from my male counterparts' as I discovered being able to relate to girls easily. While the boys all played hockey and drove dirt bikes I played school with the girls and loved dressing up their dolls. Every Christmas I hoped to get an Easy

homosexuality was wrong, demented, and strange, and that fairies went to hell. It also made matters worse that I was from a family of Catholics who constantly stated gays and lesbians were not loved by God and were sinners.

Hearing all this talk of damnation and sin was a lot for a 12 year old to take in, especially when I knew I was probably gay. I was still convinced, however, that this was just a phase, and that some day I would wake up the adjusted heterosexual male. Try as I might, every time I thought of girls I would lose my erection, but as soon as a hot guy flashed across my mind I was shooting buckets. I knew something wasn't right. I would pray to God to change me and make me "normal" but those feelings flooded my life. There was no getting over them.

I was also having a hard time at school. Kids are not stupid; al-

importance that no one knew what I was experiencing. My father would have killed me if he ever found out he had a homosexual for a son, and I'm not saying that lightly. I had read of how some gay kids were disowned by their own mothers and fathers, and images of me being homeless and begging for food flashed across my mind. I don't remember ever being so scared in my entire life. It's hard enough for a preteen to deal with all the issues of being a kid, but when his/her problems are compounded with questions and confusion of their sexuality it can be too much. This was the first time I thought about suicide. I was 12 and a half.

The summer I turned 13 was an eventful time. I experienced my first sexual encounter with a boy who was a year older. I knew it was common for boys to experiment with other boys, but I knew this was no experiment. I knew exactly what I was doing. I wanted it. I longed for it and after it was done it reinforced in me the fact that I was indeed gay. Although I liked and enjoyed the sex I still felt this sense of shame and embarrassment associated with who I was. I thought to myself, "If it's so wrong then why does it feel so good?"

I had a lot to think about when I entered high school. I had three years left before I graduated and I couldn't fathom taking another three years of ridicule and harrassment from my classmates. I had to somehow get their attention away from my sexuality and onto something else. I decided I would throw all my energy into becoming an A student. This was no small feat as I had left junior high with a paltry C average. This also served the purpose for me not having to deal with who I really was. I knew I was gay, but I was ashamed of it and terrified if my secret got out. So there I spent my high school years achieving some of the highest marks anyone had ever received at my school, all the while living my life totally in the closet. If anyone asked why I wasn't dating I would say I was too busy and left it at that. All this did divert the attention away from my sexuality, but I felt like the outsider I was with my peers. Looking back on those difficult school years it always amazes me that I pulled through it. They say survival is instinctive.

Next time: my university years, my acceptance of who I was, and coming out.

Terry Richard is an openly gay man living in Minto, New Brunswick, outside of Fredericton. A teacher and counsellor of gay issues, questions and comments can be sent to him at nicksam@nbnet.nb.ca

... as soon as a hot guy flashed across my mind, I was shooting buckets.

Bake Oven and a Barbie doll, but to my disappointment Santa had a pair of skates and a toy car waiting for me under the tree.

By the time I was 12 puberty hit me like a ton of bricks. One day I woke up with these strange feelings that I knew were sexual. I had heard the other boys talk about masturbation and their wild fantasies of bedding the hottest chick, but my fantasies were different. I realized my fantasies were about guys, but couldn't understand why no one else felt the way I did. If other boys had these same emotions and feelings they were not telling me. I remember feeling so alone and isolated. Was I the only one like this?

I was also raised in a very masculine and conservative environment with a father who could be intimidating and abrasive and demanded his sons be a replica of himself. It was enforced by him and other people around me that

though they didn't really know what I was all about they knew I was different and they went out of their way to make me feel inferior and unimportant. Junior high was hell as I heard the words "fag" and "homo" on a daily basis. I was effeminate and the kids did not cotton to someone who was devoid of the average person's lifestyle. I experienced some extreme cases of physical violence as bullies shoved me up against lockers and while sitting at my desk I would get punched in the back by the kid behind me. Growing up in a coal mining town with a bunch of red-necks does have its disadvantages.

The worst part about all this was that I felt I simply had no one I could talk to. There were teachers who saw the abuse heaped upon me from my fellow classmates, but no one intervened. I had some family and friends I was close to, but I felt I had no one I could trust. It was of the utmost

PFLAG Canada Believes Families are Defined By Love

By Wayne Harrison, Executive Director - PFLAG Canada

In February 2003, PFLAG Canada formed nationally as the support hub for the 45 PFLAG chapters and telephone contacts across Canada. It works at being inclusive of anyone dealing with issues of sexual orientation and/or gender identity.

The many passionate PFLAG volunteers who pioneered the movement have provided support over the years and today PFLAG is represented in every province in Canada. Supporting such a large and geographically spread-out network taxed our volunteer community and it became apparent that a national body needed to be formed. Answering that need, PFLAG Canada was formed to provide a national voice and act as a clearinghouse for information, peer counseling and public education. Its main purpose is to provide PFLAG chapters and contacts with the information and resources they so desperately need to effectively carry out their work and

reach the ever-expanding number of Canadians looking for support.

Our national body, in an effort to more inclusive, has dropped the original words of 'Parents, Families and friends of Lesbians and Gays' and is being incorporated simply as PFLAG Canada. We will be seeking charitable status once incorporation is complete in the very near future. Our head office is in Saint John, NB and our Executive Director, Wayne Harrison reports to the PFLAG Canada Board of Directors made up of individuals representing the PFLAG Chapters and contacts across Canada.

If you are interested in more information, starting a chapter in your area, or becoming more involved, please call our president Eldon Hay at (506) 536-4779 or toll free at 1-888-428-5666 or our Executive Director Wayne Harrison at (506) 648-9700 or toll free at 1-888-530-6777. More information is available at www.pflag.ca.



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New bar for Halifax

Review by Daniel MacKay

Located in the heart of the gay and black Village in Halifax at 2215 Gottingen St. at Cunard, the bar is in the space occupied by the Derby in the '90s and the Misty Moon in the seventies.

Vortex opened on December 11th, 2003, just north of SeaDogsSauna, ClubNrg, and ToolBoxEast. The bar has a dance section and a piano bar/lounge, called Moby's. With a license for 280, the bar is sized to be one of the big players in the city.

In both sections the bartops and table tops are poured concrete with a thick epoxy coating giving an organic feel, enhanced by wrought iron tables in Moby's. Altogether, the decor is coherent if a little

sparse.

On opening night the fumes from the curing epoxy and fresh paint were overwhelming, but have since faded.

On the other hand, the smoking room, a 10x20' "concertorium" fishbowl with a couple windows looking into the two main spaces, was unbearable with a half dozen people in it. Its air exchanger was on and blowing a little air, but the system or hookup is inadequate; even the smokers were complaining.

The very hot Lee has moved from the ToolBoxEast, to Vortex. You'll also see Blaine, managers Dale and Joe, handsome and friendly owner Carl Maxwell, and chef Tim. "We were very happy with the turnout on opening

night, especially considering we hadn't advertised at all," said Blaine, "The bar really came together in forty-five days."

On opening night there were a handful of members of the black community there, a welcome change to the all-whitebread crowd at most Halifax bars, most of the time.

Moby's has a baby upright, and there'll be a piano player regularly. The menu is upscale, at downscale prices. "The salmon is very good" said one of the diners, and another raved about her "Red Cardinal" Raspberry torte. "This may be "the" place of choice for brunch in Halifax," said one patron.

The dance floor is hardwood, elevated a couple inches, with lighted floor strips and a chaser



Here's a sample of the menu:

light surround at floor level. The lightshow includes four servo mirror spots, two more spots with special effects, lots of floods, a strobe and of course the traditional disco ball. There's an elevated dance box / stage behind the dance floor.

The men's room is clean and bright. The urinals are a little too close to the door for fun but one mustn't complain.

Phone number for the bar is 420-1323.

Tapas

- Smoked Chicken & Ancho Chili Soup \$4
- Classic Caesar Salad \$4
- Marinated Mushroom & Artichoke Salad \$5
- Chorizo & Bell Peppers in Spicy Tomato Sauce \$6

Entrees

- Stuffed Chicken Breast \$10
- Cajun Dusted Halibut Fillet \$10



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Canadian News

Research Finds Bis in ON Experience Health Care Barriers

Bisexuals in Ontario report unique health and wellness needs as well as barriers to receiving adequate health care, according to a research paper just released by the Ontario Public Health Association (OPHA).

The Public Health Alliance for LGBTIQ Equity (a workgroup of the OPHA) commissioned the research project to examine the health and wellness experiences of bisexuals in Ontario. While bisexuals share some common concerns with gay men, lesbians and heterosexuals, they also have specific health and wellness needs that need to be researched and addressed.

Cheryl Dobinson, the project's Principal Investigator, interviewed 62 people from across Ontario who identified as bisexual or who have had sexual experiences with men and women. They described a range of negative experiences such as providers equating bisexuality with having multiple partners, not receiving information about safer sex with men and women, and being told that they must be either straight or gay. Barriers to care included not being asked about sex with both men and women and providers' lack of understanding, education and knowledge around bisexuality. Other issues facing bisexuals are the lack of bisexual supports or communities in most areas, the challenges of relationships with non-bisexual partners, and feelings of not belonging in either gay or straight communities.

Equality Forum Names 19 Canadians for Global Gay Event Honouring Canada

Toronto, ON - December 8, 2003 - Equality Forum, the largest international GLBT (gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender) civil rights forum, announced the names of 19 prominent Canadians that will represent Canada at the 2004 event, including Honourable Martin Cauchon, Minister of Justice and Attorney General. Canada is the Featured Nation for Equality Forum 2004.

"Each year we have a different Featured Nation. The choice for 2004 was unanimous," said Malcolm Lazin, Executive Director, Equality Forum. "Canada has led on issues of GLBT civil rights. We salute Canada for recognizing the fundamental human right to marry the life partner of one's choice. Canada exemplifies equality."

Honourable Martin Cauchon has been selected as the recipient of the 9th annual International Role Model Award. "Throughout Minister Cauchon's distinguished career he has supported GLBT civil rights including his important support for gay marriage," said Mr. Lazin. "In Philadelphia, the birthplace of democracy and liberty, we will present him with our most prestigious award."

"This is an exciting opportunity to share Canadian values in over 20 programs at Equality Forum 2004", stated Darrell Schuurman, co-founder, Canadian Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce. "Canada is bringing our best, including political leaders like Member of Parliament Svend Robinson and Winnipeg Mayor Glen Murray, and Kevin Bourassa and Joe Varnell, North America's first gay married couple. Our collaboration includes entertainers, civil rights advocates, journalists, business executives, community activists, religious leaders, among others."

Supporting Canada's participation at Equality Forum is the Canadian Tourism Commission, Tourisme Montréal, the City of Winnipeg, the Government of Ontario, and PrideVision TV. Equality Forum 2004 will be held from Monday, April 26 to Sunday, May 2 in Philadelphia, PA.

Arrest In Gay Psychiatrist's Murder

by Jack Siu, 365Gay.com Newscaster

(Toronto, Ontario) Toronto police have arrested a suspect in the slaying of a well known psychiatrist. 38-year-old Joseph Giuseppe Carnovale is also charged with assaulting and threatening his own parents.

The body of Dr. Henry Durost was found in his midtown apartment after he failed to show up for work at the Toronto Center for Addiction and Mental Health. (story)

Durost, 78, had been clinical director of the Clarke Institute of Psychiatry from 1981 to 1990 and medical director of the Queen Street Mental Health Center from 1971 to 1981. Despite his age he still had an active private practice.

Police say Durost's killer ransacked the apartment and a number of valuable items are missing. An avid art and antique collector friends said Durost's apartment was like a gallery.

The relationship between Carnovale and Durost is not known. The investigation focused on a gay strip bar that Durost is believed to visited the night he died. Police also removed the doctor's computer to search for clues. Tapes from surveillance cameras in the apartment building were also taken for examination.

Police said there was no sign of forced entry and believe that the doctor was targeted.

A Super Parade Story

By Greg Nepean

I am looking at myself in the mirror, undressing hesitating; one thought runs through my mind, it all started out for fun! I had seen the notice about the Parade, Mardi Gras is the theme. Now I need a costume, as a boy from the suburbs of Dartmouth, my only experience with costumes was Halloween. I am thinking superhero, not my idea, I got the idea from an episode of Queer as Folk where Michael speaks to Ben's class about comics and how superheroes are indestructible, just like gays. Batman was out on a caped 'cruise'-ade, so I got Superman.

The costume is at home, ready to go, but amidst all the Pride celebrations I have a job to do, tell my Dad I'm gay. If I don't tell him soon, as Media rep for Pride Week, he'll hear about it somewhere. So my mother phones me one day and says "your father's home." So I rush to the house, all ready to spill my guts, but Dad's gone, he went on an errand and Mom did not stop him. I was pissed and had to sit on my ass for two hours waiting. Dad comes home eventually and I give him the I'm gay speech, which I thought a number of us either have given or thought about giving. Dad reacts as expected, badly, he doesn't get it, but things are calm.

Then he asks me about Pride Week and I tell him what I'm doing and I am going as Superman. I could have dropped a bomb and it would have had less of an impact. My father starts saying, "you are not a flaming fagot, why do you have to dress like one... if you respect your father and family, you will not do this." After all he's done, he says this to me... but I won't go there.

So I am back in front of the mirror, what to do, Superman is

kind of corny, the outfit is a little too big. If I don't wear this outfit though, I will never know if I did it because I didn't want to or because Dad didn't want me to. So determined to be whom I am, I take off for the Parade. When I arrive there is no place to change, so I gave the bushes a thrill and one queen too, who came along and said "shouldn't you do that in a telephone booth." I said "if you find me one, I will". I descend the stairs to the Marshalling area. Two young guys come up to me and say "Oh My God, its Superman, Superman can I give you a hug", so of course I do, then his friend says "Hey I want to hug Superman too." So he gets a hug, now whether they were trying to feel me up, I don't know. But they weren't the only ones. As we were heading out on the Parade march one of the queens yelled "answer me are you showing anything?" (I wasn't, they make the outfit buff).

So we are heading off and it is really cool, kids smiled and waved at me, the adults got the joke, I mean Clark Kent/Superman secret identity, superpowers, could it be anymore gay? Everyone loved it, from the crowds, to the people on the floats, including the Grand Marshals. I really like the kids, and I hope someday they will remember that Superman was in the Pride Parade and if Superman can be gay and be cool, then anyone can. Best of all, I Showed My Colours, and from my Dad on, everyone knows what I am and that I'm damn proud to be it.

That was my Pride story, as Co-Chair this year, I am afraid I won't have the time to do anything but marshal folks, so all of you need to go out and create your own 'super' story, come out to the Parade (and for stuff all week too) and take my place as Superman or another superhero. Show all the folks that it's here, it's indestructible, it's fabulous, it's Superman!!!

Call for Gay Male Writers

Renault Publishing seeks submissions for their first non-fiction anthology *Walking Higher: Gay Men Write About the Deaths of Their Mothers* edited by Alexander Renault.

This anthology will focus strictly on the bond between gay men and their mothers, and the effects that linger following death. We will also accept essays that explore relationships based on the adoptive mother, or the "spiritual mother" and the gay son. We do not seek essays that corroborate the stereotypical mother/gay son relationship. We hope to show a complexity of relationships with a broad emotional range. Essays should provide a wide range of analysis as well as tributes and eulogies. All essays should be written from the gay male perspective.

Accepted essays will be highly personal, yet not overly sentimental. Essays should contain some surprising points of view, and will seek to ask more questions than answer them. We are more interested in honesty than producing a "politically correct" collection.

We welcome new writers as well as those who are published. Previously published work may be considered, but first make sure you hold the copyright, and please indicate proper credits when submitting a previously published piece.

Absolutely no fiction, poetry, or experimental prose. Only hard copy snail-mailed submissions will be accepted. No email submissions will be considered.

Submit a cover letter with your standard, double-spaced manuscript of 1,500 to 8,000 words, all spell-checked and grammar corrected. Please include all your contact information, including phone number and email address with your submission.

Payment is \$75.00 USD upon publication. Writers must provide electronic submissions upon acceptance.

Mail to: Renault Publishing, P.O. Box 70, Bellefonte, PA. 16823. Deadline: March 1, 2004

All queries welcomed at renaultpublishing@earthlink.net. Queries only, do not send an email submission.

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Arty Fruity

Wayves' arts and culture listings gives priority to events with a gay or lesbian theme, but contributions are welcome from all cultural organizations. Send your announcement to wayves@fox.nstn.ca, or by mail to our address in the masthead. Inclusion here does not indicate the person's sexual orientation, as much as they or we may wish.

SYMPHONY NOVA SCOTIA continues its 20th anniversary with Music Director Bernhard Gueller at the lead in a concert featuring flautist Patricia Creighton, Friday, February 6 at 8 p.m. in the Rebecca Cohn Auditorium of the Dalhousie Arts Centre. Later in the month in the Baroque Series Tafelmusik's Jeanne Lamont leads a concert with oboist Suzanne Lemieux, along with trumpets, recorder, flute and all of that other neat baroque stuff.

Symphony Nova Scotia subscriptions and single tickets are available by calling the Dalhousie Arts Centre Box Office at (902) 494-3820 or 1-800-874-1669. The website is at www.symphonynovascotia.ca

SAINT CECILIA SERIES continues its 15th Anniversary season with more notes than the proverbial Peter Piper used to fill his basket. Highlights include pipa player Liu Fang on February 18th (go to see what the heck a pipa is); while the delightful Montreal-based Ensemble Caprice warm-up late winter with a show that promises to enlighten the French influence on the arts of music, the dance and theatre on March 3rd.

The St. Cecilia Box Office number is (902) 420-4085. More info can be found at www.stcecilia.ca Tickets are \$20 for Adults, \$15 for Seniors and \$10 for Students.

PORTIA WHITE, the great Nova Scotia contralto is the subject of Lance Woolaver's new

play, *Portia White, First you dream* opening Eastern Front Theatre's 2004 season February 18th and running until February 29th. Linda Moore directs. Portia White rose to prominence on the operatic and recital stages of Canada and the United States from her humble origins in the black community of Nova Scotia despite huge odds.

Eastern Front Theatre is located at the Alderney Landing Theatre in Dartmouth. *First you dream* opens February 18 and runs until February 29. Call their box office at (902) 463-7529 for details. You can also send an e-mail order to info@easternfront.ns.ca Tickets range from \$15 to \$25.

NEPTUNE THEATRE'S big season closer is *Cats*, which runs for five weeks beginning April 13 and advance tickets are now on sale. Until February 22nd Neptune's Fountain Hall stage features David Auburn's *Proof*. William Christopher, best known as Father Mulcahey in the TV Series, M*A*S*H stars. The publicity says *Proof* '...explores the unknowability of love as much as it does the mysteries of mathematics.' (Well, I did have this fling once with a math prof!).

You can order Neptune Theatre's tickets on-line at www.neptunetheatre.ca. The Box Office phone number is (902) 429-7070, or toll-free at 1-800-565-7345.

Review

RANDOM ACTS OF HATRED by George K. Illsley published by Arsenal Pulp Press www.arsenalpulp.com ISBN 1-55152-152-0 review by Ralph Higgins
If, as Thomas Wolfe wrote, you can't go home again, then this knowledge would be a source of

consolation for many of the characters in George K. Illsley's collection of short stories, *Random Acts of Hatred*. The home life of most of the boys and young men found in these pages is considerably below what one would consider to be ideal. But, do not be put off—as I was initially—by the title and front cover image. These are not stories of helplessness or despair. While some of the tales will evoke pity and anger, they will also arouse in the reader admiration for the courage and strength of the characters to survive such harsh beginnings. And, for those who win through to freedom, scarred perhaps but not defeated, we celebrate with them their tight grasp on physical enjoyment and desire.

As anyone who has ever written a paragraph will know, it takes a great deal of work to create the easy reading of these stories. Nova Scotia native George K. Illsley writes with power and skill about the shadowy land that lies between hate and desire, between abuse and acceptance. The tales he tells are uncompromising, stark and forceful reminders of where we came from and where some of us still live.



Right wing Ideology

By Norman Carter

The new Conservative Party of Canada, is demonstrating again how right wing it really is, as the public was made aware of the people appointed to lead the party on an interim basis. Dr. Grant Hill as interim leader, for example, is well known to undermine the existence of a gay society in Canada. Elsie Wayne, the woman who stood up in the House of Commons and made it abundantly clear where she stood on the issue, as she made hateful and homophobic remarks about a great number of Canadians. The fact she serves as interim deputy leader, demonstrates the direction this party intends to take on this issue. Bill Casey, the MP from Cumberland - Colchester, voted against inclusion of sexual orientation in the hate crimes bill, as well as voting with the Alliance to protect the marriage law. It makes one wonder if these people agree with crimes committed against gays and lesbians, and that it is just fine. There is no other thought to be taken from that. I must add, the inclusion of sexual orientation was passed and also, the Alliance motion failed, although it was a close call.

This is an indication, if this party ever came to power in Canada, a large number of its citizens will lose whatever they have gained in the past few years. Canada will be known as a country that stifled equality for all, has intolerant government policies and a promoter of hate, as indicated by a negative vote from these MP's and others.

Scott Brison, as an openly gay MP, could not possibly be a part of this conservative party. We all know, that this man, could not by any stretch of the imagination, guide this party in a different direction. He is a centrist politician, therefore, he did what he had to do, and cross the floor. Anyone who does not understand this exit, is obviously not in favour of equality. The hate will continue if this

party, in particular, is ever voted into power. It certainly would discredit Canada as a tolerant and just society.

We live in a great country, a beautiful country, where perhaps social issues could create a Canada as a place intolerant of people who just happen to dance to a little different tune. I think people generally tend to believe that gays and lesbians are only found in certain areas of the population. The reality is that your doctor, your lawyer, your teacher, your sales clerk, your MP, and yes, your sons or daughters, brothers and sisters, may also be in that group of people. What would you do? Well, if the conservative party came to power your loved ones may have a very difficult time living in a society whose government denies them their equal rights. We should expect to be equally represented in Parliament and be treated with respect. Anything less is just not acceptable. I urge voters to be careful and think about what kind of society they prefer; tolerant or intolerant, equal or unequal, fair or unfair. It really is very simple.

We are in a relationship for twenty nine years now, and live as a normal, fully functional family. Between us we have two sons, two daughters, three grandchildren and one great grandchild. The Nova Scotia government brought in legislation three years ago granting Domestic Partnership to same-sex couples. It is of substantial benefit, but not on equal footing with the rest of Canadian society. It is time to grant gay and lesbian couples the equality they so richly deserve and let us live on par with other married couples. A great number of gay couples have proven their worth and are demanding their rightful place in this country. Hopefully, we will put a government in Ottawa which will grant the complete rights to all Canadians. It would certainly not be granted by an intolerant party consisting of hateful, homophobic members.

Lesbians Needed!

For a research study: "Caregiver Portraits" led by an out lesbian (Dr. Brenda Beagan, Dalhousie)

We are looking for lesbians who will share their experiences of giving unpaid care to someone in their family or in their home.

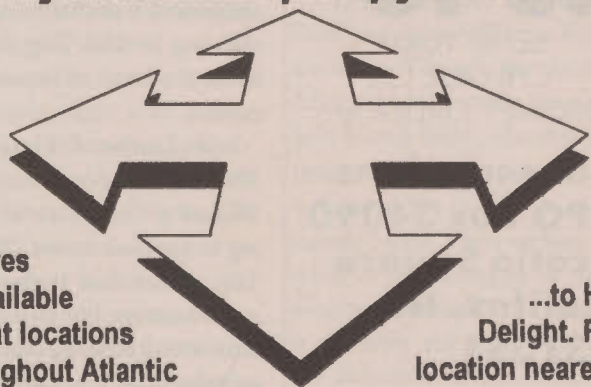
- ◆ If you self-identify as lesbian and are over 19 years old
- ◆ If you regularly provide special care to someone, other than regular childcare for who has no disabilities

Participants will receive a \$100 honorarium.

If you may be interested in participating and want more information, please contact Jen Davis at 222-9697 jadavis@dal.ca or Brenda Beagan 494-6555 bbeagan@dal.ca

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International News

Homophobia strong in gay capital

IT'S the gay capital of Australia and hosts hundreds of thousands revelers at an annual Mardi Gras parade that celebrates homosexuality. However, a government study released on Tuesday says many of Sydney's gays are victims of violence and abuse - a finding that challenges the city's image as a tolerant community. Eighty-five percent of more than 600 homosexuals interviewed for the study said they had experienced some form of abuse because of their sexuality in their lives.

About 56 percent said they had been subjected to harassment or violence during the year before the survey was conducted for New South Wales state Attorney General's department between May and August.

Abuse took the form of spitting, offensive gestures, stalking and threats. Around half said they'd been physically assaulted with or without a weapon, including sexual assault, in their lives.

Lesbian rumours reportedly spur call for Peru's leader to quit

LIMA, Peru — President Alejandro Toledo yesterday asked for the resignation of Peru's first-ever female prime minister and her 15-minister Cabinet after rumors circulated that she is a lesbian. Prime Minister Beatriz Merino, 56, reportedly lost Toledo's confidence when she went public in an attempt to refute what she called lies about her personal life.

Merino said a political rival told the head of Peru's Catholic Church she is a lesbian, a taboo in Lima's conservative society. Evidence presented was a property deed of a house she owns and shares with a long-time female friend.

"We must be mature and not turn politics into infantile acts," Toledo said. "Sometimes keeping your mouth shut is worth more than a thousand words."

Merino has been a popular member of Toledo's government since coming on board in June.

Pakistani Christians reject gay bishop

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan's Christian community on Monday slammed the appointment of an openly gay bishop by the Anglican Church in the United States as an unacceptable act.

"We don't like it, we don't approve of it," Sadiq Daniel, Bishop of Karachi and Balochistan diocese, Church of Pakistan, told AFP by telephone.

On Sunday the Episcopal Church in the United States confirmed the appointment of Gene Robinson, who is openly homosexual, as bishop of New Hampshire, despite global warnings the move could split the church.

Bishop Daniel said the appointment may be accepted in the Western world but was "objectionable" to developing countries. "We cannot stop (the West) but we can disapprove," the Pakistani Bishop said. —AFP

Gay Bangladeshis win visa ruling

Two Bangladeshi men have won a High Court appeal against a ruling they would not be persecuted in their home country for being homosexual.

The pair claims a fundamentalist religious group had issued a fatwah against them.

On their arrival to Australia in 1999, the men applied for protection visas, claiming they would be persecuted if they returned to Bangladesh, where homosexuality is not accepted.

The Refugee Review Tribunal found if the men were discreet, they would avoid problems.

But in a four-three decision the High Court has ruled the tribunal had not considered the issue of persecution correctly and had split the so-called "genus of homosexuality" into those who were discreet and those who were not.

Justices Michael McHugh and Michael Kirby noted in their judgment the perils faced by the men were not necessarily confined to their own conduct, discreet or otherwise.

The case will be returned to the Refugee Review Tribunal.

Orthodox rabbis break ground in discussion on homosexuality

By Amiram Barkat Fear and denial have always characterized the relationship of the Orthodox and ultra-Orthodox community toward homosexuals within their midst. However, during the past two years, there have been signs that the communities are more willing to recognize and come to terms with the phenomenon. One of these signs is that for the first time, Orthodox rabbis convened in Jerusalem in January to discuss their attitude to homosexuality. The discussion took place as part of an international conference marking the 20th anniversary of the Amiel Institute for rabbinic training.

Citations IV: I dub thee 'Lord Tunderin' Jesus.

By Raymond Taavel

Have you ever harboured a secret desire to cavort with royalty? Will you perhaps become a Lord or Lady? Duke or Duchess? Well, if you are a volunteer or member of the fundraising organization ISCANS will get the opportunity to be bestowed their very own unique title on February 1 at Reflections Cabaret.

The fourth annual event co-hosted this year by ISCANS' very own Queen Mother Nine of Diamonds Ultima will be an "opportunity to have some fun amidst the pomp and circumstance of the Court and put the 'fun' back into 'fundraiser'" explains HMIGE Baroness Boomboom Lubalicious.

Citation's lineup includes Star69, Shayda Black, Miss Vickie, Studio X Lenoir, Ms NRG (Annie Cockadoo) and special Toronto court guests Empress of Toronto XVIII Candice and Empress XVII 1/2 Jennifer Donaldson.

While this is an opportunity to come out and have some fun there

is a serious side to the whole affair. Volunteers and members of the organization — some of which comprise the court's upper house will be recognized for their volunteerism by the titles they are bestowed. And it is not restricted



to individuals either. Businesses who have supported the LGBT community in the city will also be honoured. It is all in an effort to reward and encourage volunteer participation in the fundraising organization.

Last year ISCANS successfully raised over \$15K for several chari-

ties in the city and hope to surpass that by aiming for \$20K this year. Proceeds of ISCANS' fundraising effort will in its entirety be shared amongst this year's four chosen charities: ACNS Emergency Fund, Harrison Foundation (Cape Breton GLBT Rights Organization), Brainchild (an IWK charity for children with brain tumors) and Kids Help Line.

So what kind of titles will be doled out? Most of them are admittedly pretty campy — Sister of the Soapbox, Diva of Decorations, Lady in Distress in that Dress and Leather Clad Knight have been past titles bestowed on volunteers. This year will be no different in terms of creative campy and fun titles — but will there be a Lord Tunderin' Jesus this year? You will have to attend to find out.

Citations IV will be held at Reflections, Feb 1, 10 pm. The \$5 cover will be donated to ISCANS charities.

Review- The Trip

THE TRIP

written and directed by Miles Swain

available through TLA Releasing www.tlareleasing.com

review by Ralph Higgins

There is a wonderful scene near the beginning of *The Trip* where we get to watch two men fall in love. Alan and Tommy, who have met only briefly, are having dinner, along with Alan's girlfriend, when a subtle shift of energies occurs. It is a moment that anyone who has ever been in love will recognize: that moment when a glance becomes a meaningful look, a remark becomes a declaration, when two individuals suddenly become *we*.

During that dinner in 1973 a bond is formed that will hold for the next two decades.

True, there are problems - Alan (Larry Sullivan) is a closeted Republican who is writing a book criticizing the homosexual lifestyle while Tommy (Canadian Steve Braun) is a longhaired political activist deeply involved in the burgeoning gay movement. Alan has a powerful friend who is deeply jealous of Tommy and wants Alan for himself. Alan's mother (Jill St. John) is supportive but an unhappy kleptomaniac with her own problems. Plus there are Anita Bryant and the Reagan years to get through. Even those with only the



vaguest notion of gay history will know that it's not going to be an easy trip.

Miles Swain, the writer and director of *The Trip*, gives us dialogue which is witty, clever and which—rare these days—does not talk down to the audience.

Special praise for the two leads, Larry Sullivan and Steve Braun, who give brave, inventive, fully fleshed performances as Alan and

Tommy. The faces of both men may be familiar from guest appearances on TV shows but with their showing in *The Trip* they could be on the brink of important film careers.

Like Scarlett O'Hara in *Gone With The Wind* or Dorothy in *The Wizard of Oz*, we are all just trying to get back home. What *The Trip* makes clear is that home is not a location but that profound satisfaction of being exactly where we belong. In the case of Alan and Tommy, that place is being with each other.

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Television's Finest Hour: "Queer As Folk"

by Terry Richard

"Some of us are meant to eat pussy and some of us are meant to suck cock" -Emmett Honeycutt, episode #14, Queer as Folk

When I first heard an American cable network was producing a series with homosexuality as its main theme I must confess I was less than enthusiastic. After all television has portrayed gays as either dying of AIDS, flamboyant hairdressers, or as sexual deviants. Certainly, these issues must be tackled with because they are a part of our culture but we are so much more than television is willing to admit.

"Queer as Folk" made its television debut in December of 2000 and the following month Canada's Showcase network began airing the program. Based on the British TV series of the same name the series dealt with the lives of a group of gay men and women living in Pittsburgh.

During that first season I didn't watch a single episode of "Queer as Folk." I wasn't ready to devote another hour of myself to a mere TV show and I didn't want to get my hopes up in praying that a TV series would realistically portray us in a human manner. And besides I swore when they cancelled "Dynasty" and sent Joan Collins back into the unemployment lines that I would never watch another prime time soap opera.

So there I spent that first season basically being seen as an alien by my friends as I was the only one not watching this show with the strange little title. I heard that some of the sex scenes were hot and the soundtrack was good, but I was still not buying into the fact that this was a show worth watching. I guess I can be a little hard headed.

Finally in June 2001 "Queer as Folk" had its final episode of the season after airing 22 shows. A friend of mine was having a "Season Ending Queer as Folk" party and I was instructed to attend or he was going to disown me. So there I went, under duress, on that faithful Monday night with a bottle of red wine in hand to my buddy's house to socialize with others to discuss everyone's favorite TV show and to see what happens to all the characters in this most important episode of the season.

The opening started and the show's logo imposed itself onto the little 20 inch tv screen before me.

Then I couldn't believe what I saw. My mouth virtually fell open. A guy was actually making out with other men. This is the episode when Brian turns 30 and as his friends are worried about his mental health he spends the afternoon having sex with multiple partners.

*"Queer As Folk" presents
gays and lesbians as real
people with real emotions.*

I had never seen gay sex so graphically depicted and portrayed before on television and I must say I was then interested. Looking back this was the show's way of getting the viewer hooked to the program and it worked for me. I could not leave the tv set. In the next hour I was treated to the best hour of television programming I had seen in years. The show was well acted, gloriously produced, excellently directed, and most importantly extremely well written.

I managed to catch the show that summer when it was in reruns and I taped every show. There were weekends, and they still exist, when I would watch some episodes over and over. I became hooked on these characters and their storylines.

"Queer as Folk" presents gays and lesbians as real people with real emotions. I have known people like these characters in real life and if some people say these types of gays and lesbians don't exist then they are lying. The show is not afraid to tackle something and it doesn't apologize for its frankness. Most importantly the show has dealt with some great gay social issues like drug abuse, teen prostitution, and the rights of lesbian mothers.

The characters on "Queer as Folk" are also so different from one another. There's the laid-back Michael who secretly pines for his best friend Brian, the show's resident heart-throb, who is secretly in love with a much younger guy named Justin. Then we have comic relief in the character of Emmett who says and does as he pleases and is probably the most proud of all the characters of his sexual orientation. Lindsay and Melanie are

portrayed as realistic lesbians trying to make a home with their new baby. Sharon Gless as Debbie is a scream as the outgoing and foul mouthed mother of Michael who plays a waitress and is most proud to have a gay son. Ahhh, if we could all have moms like that.

My favorite character by far is Brian. Here's a guy every gay man wants to be: successful career, money in the bank, great loft, nice body, good looking, and he doesn't care what you think of him. He's regarded as a sexual predator whose main goal in life is banging as many guys as he can. I know there's a lot of guys who would argue with me on this comment, but it is true; wouldn't you want to be a Brian Kinney for a day?

The best story the show has ever tackled was with the character of Ted, a former accountant and porn producer, during the 3rd season. Here's a guy that had it all then lost it. At the end of the season Ted turned to drugs to make himself feel better as his self esteem and integrity dropped to an all-time low. In one of the final scenes to air Ted woke up after a two-day drug binge only to see that he was videotaped being gangbanged while stoned. Seeing this scene and the look on Ted's face when he realizes he has hit rock bottom was disturbing, yet truthful and shows how the writers excel in their work.

The sets are fabulously furnished and the disco "Babylon" looks like a real dance club. Rumor has it this set cost the producers a lot of money. The music is terrific and all three season's soundtracks are best sellers.

Oh, and did I add that the simulated sex scenes are amazing. When you see the guys making out it looks real. The portrayal of a bathhouse was realistically shown with raw intensity and the casual sexual encounters were depicted honestly. I had friends who have never been to a bath before say that it was a little disturbing to see this on episodic television. However,

this is what makes "Queer as Folk" unique; its honesty in its dramatizations.

Hands down "Queer as Folk" is my favorite show. They have just completed their third season and are now in production in Toronto working on their fourth. The show is one of Showcase's highest rated programs and it's the number one series on its mother station in the U.S., Showtime.

The program is also highly rated among the straight community who, for the first time, are seeing homosexuals portrayed positively and honestly. Some have criticized the show saying it's not the way we really are. One of the opponents of the show is Cher who says "she would be really offended if she were gay as the program portrays homosexuals as sex maniacs and drug users." My argument is that the show is simply portraying the lives of these gay people, not all gay people. And as some have said, if you don't like the show then don't watch. But you will miss television history in the making.

The first two seasons of "Queer as Folk" are available on video and DVD and trust me the DVD version is worth the one hundred or so bucks that you'll pay for it. There's the wide screen versions of the episodes, interviews with the cast and creators, and bloopers from the show, plus other great stuff.


Twenty years from now "Queer as Folk" will be a classic as nothing like it has never been seen on television before. If you're not a viewer of the show start watching. The storylines are really easy to get into with a small cast of characters and I promise, it's addictive.

"Queer as Folk" currently airs on Showcase Monday nights at 11pm and reruns are being shown on Pridevision TV on digital cable or satellite.

Welcome to the gay "Melrose Place."

Terry Richard is an openly gay man living in Minto, New Brunswick, outside of Fredericton. A teacher and counsellor of gay issues any comments and questions can be sent to him at nicksam@nbnet.nb.ca

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- Atlantic Canada Events Calendar -

Classifieds

Amherst

First and Third Wednesdays
Amherst and Area Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Youth Group Meeting, 79pm 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
PFLAG Meeting 7:30-9:30pm at Maggie's Place La Planche St. Amherst Parents friends family & allies of GLBT community

Annapolis Valley

Every Thursday
Valley Gay Mens Coffee House Meets every Thursday evening from 7-9 pm and also on the first Saturday of every month hosts a Gay/Lesbian dance from 9pm-1am. If you need more information please contact 1-902-825-3197 or menembracingmen@yahoo.ca

Bridgewater

Every Monday
The South Shore Pride Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Club holds meetings in Bridgewater every Monday night from 7-9. Call 685-3297 or email thoron_ca@yahoo.ca for details. www.geocities.com/Westhollywood/village/2384

Fredericton

July 29 - Aug 2
FurFest 2004! Don't miss the BIGGEST summer party hosted by New Brunswick's East Coast Bears! For registration and information visit www.eastcoastbears.com

First Monday of each month
GLBTQ Drop-In Initiative, 33 Dneen Dr, MacLaggan Hall, UNB. Rachel Lavigne, 454-5147, piers792000@yahoo.ca

Feb 28
The Queer & Other Folks Dance Committee presents Shake off the February Blues! Lord Beaverbrook Hotel, Petitcodiac Room, in Fredericton, NB. Doors open at 9 PM and dancing goes until 1 AM. Tickets are \$5 and will be available at the door. This is a non-smoking event with proceeds going to the development of a gay men's health web site. For more info contact Haley at AIDS New Brunswick at sidaids@nbnet.nb.ca (506) 459-7518 or 1800-561-4009. Shake off those winter blues!

Halifax

Feb 12, 26, Mar 11, 25, Apr 8, 22
Anonymous HIV Testing, AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia 1657 Barrington St, Suite 321, 5-8pm 425-4882 for an appointment.

First Thursday of each month
GAY FATHERS OF HALIFAX is a peer support group that meet from 7pm - 9pm. For info on location and other events, contact GayFathersHalifax@hotmail.com, Bruce at 469-5490, Doug at 832-7002

Feb 1

Gay Fathers Of Halifax Social Brunch Buffet at Club Vortex at noon, \$10. More events coming for March and April, for more info contact gayfathershalifax@hotmail.com

Feb 8, 22, Mar 7, 21, Apr 4, 18
Koinonia Ecumenical Church - Meaning 'community'. Services bi-weekly at 12:30pm at Halifax Feast downtown. Pastor Elaine, 876-8771 or koinonia@ns.sympatico.ca

Feb 3, 17, Mar 2, 16, 30, Apr 13, 27
Lesbian Gay Bisexual Youth Project Men's Meetings, 7-9pm, 2281 Brunswick

Feb 10, 24, Mar 9, 23, Apr 6, 20
Lesbian Gay Bisexual Youth Project Women's Meetings, 7-9pm, 2281 Brunswick

Feb 7

Uniform Night (M.A.C. Leather Bar Night) Toolbox East - 2104 Gottingen St. Whether it's dress whites, or grimy camo, or dusty olive drab, or just dogs tags and a smile... wear your military gear to the next M.A.C. Leather night (cops, firemen and other uniforms welcome too). Don't have a uniform? Leather is always welcome - or just come to inspect the troops! Dress code: Uniforms (duh!) and leather's always OK too. Prize for hottest uniform and other promotional (check at the bar for details). NEW: Coat / clothing check available at this function!!!

Mar 6

Leather Harness Night (M.A.C. Leather Bar Night) Toolbox East - 2104 Gottingen St. Time to show off that harness hangin in your closet (and whatever other cowhide you've got to cover your hide). Contest for best chest plus other fun to be had! Dress code: Leather, leather, and leather's OK too. Promotional (check at the bar for details). NEW: Coat / clothing check available at this function!!!

Every Sunday

Safe Harbour Metropolitan Community Church, 7:00 pm (new time!), at the Universalist Unitarian Church, 5500 Inglis St

2nd 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.

Halifax Bar Calendar

TOOLBOX Happy Hour all night long every night of the week!

Mondays	Queer as Folk
Fridays	Kirk & Oz
Sundays	Six Feet Under
Sat 7 th	Uniform Night w/M.A.C. Leather
Fri 13 th	Bluenose Bears party
Sat 21 st	Tightrope Leather Party
Sat 28 th	Boi's Night Out Party

NRG www.clubnrgHalifax.com Happy Hour all night long every night of the week!

Monday s Retronite w/DJ Face
Tuesday s Karaoke & Wing Night hosted by Troy 20 cent wings with a \$100 prize

Wednesday s - Studio hosts Open Drag - \$75.00 prize

Thursday s Karaoke & Wing Night hosted by Justin. 20 cent wings with a \$100 prize

Friday s & Saturday s - Dancing all night w/DJ Troy

Sun. 1st Drag Show hosted by ISCANS
Sun. 8th Stand Up Comedy Starring Sunny Knight

Sun. 15th The Boom-Boom and Joseph Show

Sun. 22nd Winter Carnival Drag with Boom-Boom

Sun. 29th The King & Queen of Diamonds Pageant

Kentville

Feb 12, 26, Mar 11, 25, Apr 8, 22
LGB YOUTH AT RED DOOR Support Group at the Red Door Adolescent Health and Support Centre, 28 Webster Ct, in Kentville, 6-8pm facilitated by the LGB Youth Project from Halifax. 679-1411

Moncton

Second Tuesday of each month
GLBT Support, 7:30pm at 245 Lutz St in Moncton. We discuss the realities of life within the GLBT community, share stories and gain support from others. Meetings are confidential, and new people are always welcome. For more info, call 506-863-1888

Third Monday of each month

PFLAG Moncton has monthly support meetings from 7:30-9:30 in room 339 of the Taillon bldg at U.deM. 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

Moncton Bar Calendar

TRIANGLES
Moncton Pride Colour Parties! If you are dressed in the appropriate colour, you will get a free draft, and a ballot for a chance to win free entrance to Triangles for a year. Also Molson products on Happy Hour prices all night. And each one bought get a chance to win a Molson jacket.
February 21 Yellow
March 20 Green
April 17 Blue
May 15 Purple
June 12 All colours!

Sackville

Feb 13
Holding Hands Day! People all over campus and on other campuses will be holding hands with a member of the same sex to stand up for GLBT rights - join in the fun!

Tatamagouche

Sept 27-29
Rainbow Weekend at Tatamagouche Centre has had a DATE CHANGE, it will be warmer in September than in November, for information contact Rev. Robert L. Bob Johnson (506) 529-3527 robertj100@hotmail.com

Truro

Apr 17
Cabin Fever Dance! Lions Club Hall 1100 Prince St. from 9:00 pm till 12:00 am. We hope you can attend after a long cold winter. Please note that there will be an open bar and attendance is restricted to those 19 and older. For more info call Wayne at (902) 897-6654 or Gina at (902) 895-8363, or email truropride@hotmail.com

Feb 4, 18, Mar 3, 17, 31, Apr 14, 28
Truro Pride meets every second Wednesday at 80 Glenwood Drive. 902-897-6654 or 902-897-4366

Wileville

Feb 21
Dance 9:00PM to 1:00PM. Smoke Free. Contact Gary at 685-3297 or email thoron_ca@yahoo.ca for more details

Third Saturday of each month

Dance 9:00PM to 1:00AM. Smoke Free. Contact Gary at 685-3297 or email thoron_ca@yahoo.ca for more details.

Woodstock

March 19-20
Woodstock High School Student Council is sponsoring a provincial conference for students and teacher-advisers that will address racism, homophobia and anti-Semitism as well as other forms of religious and secular intolerance. This conference, which has the support of the N.B. Department of Education, will be held at Woodstock High School. For more information contact Richard Blaquiere, Jacyln Calhoun or Jeff McCormack @ 506-325-4437 or Richard.Blaquiere@nbed.nb.ca

Wayves Dates!

Content Deadlines:
Feb 6, Mar 12, Apr 9

Production Meetings (Halifax):

Feb 9, Mar 15, Apr 12 - Help us decide what goes in the next issue, 7:30 PM, CEF, 5443 Rainnie (above Century Computers), all welcome!

Layout Parties (Halifax):

Feb 15, Mar 21, Apr 18 - Help build the paper - no special skills required, just enthusiasm, and helping even once helps a LOT! 9:30 AM, CEF, 5443 Rainnie (above Century Computers), all welcome!

relationships

GWM. bottom. single. seeks BMs. 22-45yo. for penpals. I speak English. Discretion assured. gayman2003@gay-lasvegas.com

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 all provided. Let your rainbow shine! Call Ramona at NSPIRG, 902-494-6662 or nspirig@is2.dal.ca

GAY DISABLED: Anyone who is, or anyone interested in the gay disabled, and would like information on being both gay and disabled, or if you are and simply would like to chat, please feel free to contact me at: cemetery@hotmail.com or leave your name and telephone number, daytime only before 4 p.m. at 1-902-852-0453 and I'll try to return your call ASAP.

GAY FATHERS OF HALIFAX is a peer support group that meets on the 1st Thursday of every month from 7-9pm. For more info on location and other events email GayFathersHalifax@hotmail.com or call Bruce 469-5490 or Doug 446-2705

PEER SUPPORT GROUP FACILITATORS NEEDED: The Eating Disorders Action Group offers peer support groups for men and women who experience disordered eating and body image concerns. The peer Support Groups are facilitated by individuals who have experienced and recovered from disordered eating or have experience in facilitating groups. We are now looking for volunteers to facilitate our groups. If you: Are interested in a fulfilling experience; Have experience with facilitating groups; Have recovered from disordered eating; Can volunteer two evenings a month; Wish to expand your facilitating skills. The Eating Disorders Action Group would love to talk to you. 443-9944

YOUTH PRIDE GROUP Bridgewater. Contact through Second Story Women's Centre, at 543-1315 or seestory@auracom.com

housing

Furnished room in 3 brd townhouse in Bedford. Non smoker, No pets, parking, on bus route, close to amenities \$425 all incl. Doug 446-2705

groups

MARITIME GAY WOMEN starting group in Moncton to meet 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

OUT AND ABOUT WOMYN is a social group for lesbians in greater-Halifax. Visit their website at www.geocities.com/outandaboutwomyn for detailed information, or email oaaw@hfx.eastlink.ca

Sappho Above 30 (S.A.T.) Established in 1998, a get-together / talk group for lesbians over 30, in a private home setting, to meet, talk, discuss life issues, relationship problems, or just want a good conversation in a safe environment? Email: cmdrphc@hfx.andara.com or call 455-6041. A real chatroom, not a virtual one!

READING DISCUSSION GROUPS are meeting - Join! Meet interesting people! Stretch your mind! Contact Wayne Bernath, 423-5314 for meeting locations, dates, and times.

spiritual

CALLING ALL ANGLICANS There is a group for support for gay and lesbian Anglicans in the Maritimes. Call Peter 416-487-7406 (evenings).

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

wanted

WANTED TO BUY used XXX Gay Videos and Magazines. 430-3214.

HOW TO PLACE ADS

25 words for \$9, 25 more for \$6, 10% off if you run the ad 3+ issues. Ads for non-profits are free AFTER the first paid insertion. All ads must be pre-paid, but **EVENT LISTINGS ARE FREE!** submissions@wayves.ca or Wayves, P.O. Box 34090 Scotia Square, Halifax, NS, B3J 3S1

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Contact mary@travelconnection.ca to receive periodic gay travel updates



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New Time!
7:00pm
Starting October 2003

Safe Harbour Celebrating 12 years Oct 12
Every Sunday, 7:00pm
Metropolitan Community Church
5500 Inglis Street, Halifax
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Sports Briefs

Everyone is welcome to contribute brief articles on upcoming gay and lesbian sporting events, experiences as a gay/lesbian athlete, or any other sports-related activity. Send your contributions to any Wayves magazine address. The sports news was compiled by Mark Mutrie.

The Revolution

In the last issue, I reported that the Federation of Gay Games (FGG) and Montréal 2006, the organizers of the Gay Games® for Montréal, had failed to reach an agreement and sign a contract that would allow Montréal to actually hold *the Gay Games*. The issues that seemed to prevent an agreement are related to who has control over how the event is organized and who accepts the financial risks and benefits from the Games.

A communiqué on January 15 from Montréal 2006 states, "Montréal refused to give in to the Federation's demands to exercise financial control of public and private Canadian and Québec funds, and rejected the Federation's retrograde vision with regards to the number of participants." The last three Gay Games, while very successful from an athletic point of view, have ended in with the organizing groups filing for bankruptcy. The FGG wanted to exert significant control over how the Games would be organized to prevent another financially unsuccessful Gay Games. However, the FGG doesn't appear to have been willing to accept any financial responsibility if the Games that they controlled ended with a deficit. For use of their name and logo, the FGG also requires a payment in the million dollar range. Consequently, the rupture between Montréal 2006 and the FGG seems to be much like the American Revolution. The Americans revolted against the British because they wouldn't accept taxation without representation. In other words, they believed those who provided the money should have control over how it was spent.

Montréal 2006 has obtained unprecedented support from federal, provincial and municipal levels of government and from the private sector and the preparations were well underway to present a successful Gay Games. With its public and private partners, the Montréal 2006 Board of Directors has decided to go ahead with its plans to host a gay- and lesbian-friendly Games as originally planned for 2006.

The "Think Tank"

As a result of the failure of Montréal 2006 to reach an agree-

ment with the FGG, Montréal 2006 will hold a rendez-vous of gay and lesbian sports representatives from around the world to discuss how to move forward. The rendez-vous is really a think tank that will allow open discussion "among academics, representatives of the gay and lesbian sporting movement and the sporting community in general, as well as individuals recognized for their experience and expertise." Interestingly enough, the American Revolution resulted in the establishment a flourishing democracy and one of the items on the agenda for the think tank is how to create a democratic, representative international sporting association for gay and lesbian athletes. This is, of course, not the only issue to be discussed. The representatives will also discuss how local gay and lesbian athletes can obtain recognition for their sporting activities, how to create visibility for international events, and other issues related to the needs of gay and lesbian athletes around the world. (sources: Tom Czerniecki, Marketing Communications Director, Montréal 2006,)

La «révolution»

Le 11 novembre 2003 la «Federation of Gay Games» (FGG) retira à Montréal le droit d'utiliser son logo et son nom. Quant même, avec ses partenaires privés et publics, le Conseil d'administration de Montréal 2006 maintenait des Jeux aux dates initialement prévues en 2006. Comme toujours, tout le monde peut participer, mais les athlètes gais et lesbiens sont particulièrement encouragés à participer.

Montréal 2006 refusa de se plier aux diverses demandes de la FGG. Au fond du problème est deux point de désaccord. Premièrement, la FGG voulait un contrôle financier sur l'attribution des fonds publics et privés canadiens et québécois. La FGG exige ce contrôle et environ un million dollars pour utilisation de leur nom et logo, mais n'accepte aucune responsabilité financière. La FGG voulait aussi limiter le nombre de participants aux jeux. Les études de Montréal 2006 montraient qu'il faut augmenter le nombre de participants par comparaison avec le nombre aux Gay Games précédents.

C'est vraiment un peu comme la révolution américaine. En 1776, les américaines n'ont pas accepté la taxation sans représentation. En 2004, Montréal n'accepte pas que la FGG prend contrôle et Montréal 2006 paie les factures.

L'avenir

Une trentaine de représentants du mouvement sportif gai et lesbien international se réuniront en janvier à Montréal, sur invitation du Comité organisateur Rendez-Vous Montréal 2006. Ce groupe de réflexion permettra à «des représentants des milieux universitaires, du mouvement sportif gai et lesbien ou autres milieux sportifs, ainsi qu'à des individus reconnus pour leur expérience et leur expertise, d'avoir une discussion ouverte et constructive» sur l'avenir du mouvement sportif gai et lesbien. C'est intéressant que le résultat de la révolution américaine est l'établissement d'un gouvernement démocratique et représentatif; le groupe de réflexion à Montréal se pencheront sur l'opportunité de créer une association internationale démocratique et représentative. Le groupe discuteront aussi, parmi d'autres sujets, la reconnaissance des activités des athlètes gais et lesbiennes à travers le monde et la visibilité des événements internationaux qu'organisent divers regroupements.

(sources: Tom Czerniecki, Directeur marketing et des communications, Montréal 2006, tomcz@montreal2006.org)

Chicago or LA?

It appears that the FGG is set to pick another city to hold the 2006 Gay Games in March. Chicago and Los Angeles have both sent letters of intent to the FGG indicating that they will bid for the 2006 Gay Games. If these Gay Games are held in 2006, the chosen city will have less than 2 years to do all the work required to gather financial sponsors, find suitable venues and organize the individual events in this massive undertaking. Further, both Rendez-Vous 2006 and the Gay Games® will suffer because gay- and lesbian-friendly athletes will undoubtedly only be able to attend one of the events such that both will be hurt financially. Disaccord will also appear within sporting organizations and within sports teams as athletes choose which event to attend.

Play Sports, Not War

Some athletes and athletic organizations would rather play sports (and perhaps make love) than make war. Team Toronto, Team New York and the International Gay and Lesbian Ice Hockey Association have issued statements urging Montréal 2006 and the FGG to reconsider their hard positions and either find a reasonable compromise or accept arbitration to overcome their differences. It seems that many gay and lesbian athletes would prefer that there only be one games in 2006, that those games be the Gay Games® and that they be held in Montréal.

I have used the American Revolution as an analogy to the discord between the FGG and Montréal 2006. While that seems to paint the FGG as the bad guy, it has valid concerns and a body of experience to draw upon from previous events. The gay and lesbian sports world would do much better if both organizations could come to an agreement.

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Welcome to Baby Dyke Country

By Tara Hurlburt

Is anyone sick of hearing those "I always knew I was different" stories? Toss the realization period bullshit and take a heads up at what may become future story telling material, now. At least take mental notes and keep your head turned in the right direction. I came out at 16 and am sick of explaining the spiel already. I turned 18 recently and felt inclined to rent porn simply because I could! I was disappointed, finding nothing but straight porn, fake lesbian porn made for old men to whack off to, and something called 'Titty Mania!' That didn't exactly tickle me pink.

Now, don't get me wrong, I'm not porn hungry, but it's all a babydyke has in small town it seems. For example, the cable guy came and took Showcase away because I was getting it for free for way too long. I'll be lucky if I have enough money for a recess snack let alone my precious queer-mentality-showing television station. *Queer As Folk* is great, mostly guys but still good and still gay. No complaints from me because the short lesbian scenes on *QAF* are all I get to see, ever.

So every once in awhile when I happen to scrape up enough money or get my allowance I buy

myself a little treat and drive 25 minutes to get my dose of gay, my only exposure to homosexuality ... *heavenly light shines down* ... a queer magazine! It keeps me content for a while. My parents caught onto this and last Christmas I got lots of goodies, some of which were queer oriented. Ahh, there is nothing like stumbling out of bed and ripping open a present to find K.D. Lang staring you in the face on the cover of *Girlfriends*, on Christmas morn! Maybe that should have been saved for later in the day.

My mother most likely grabbed something gay and just bought it at Venus Envy all the while having a lovely yet embarrassing conversation about her lesbian daughter and how much she loves her. I do love her for that. Because of this, I in turn got an eye-opening bunch of gay boy magazines (I guess she wanted to cover all areas). Most of the pages are now stuck to my straight female friend's walls which is fine by me, it being the season of giving and all, but there was no giving or receiving for Tara.

Fuck, around here if I smell something fishy or musky, I am probably standing on a wharf. I find myself unnerved around other

queers when I happen to meet some. They are foreign to me. No wonder I was questioning for so long, I think I am homophobic. Not in the gay bashing, hateful sense of the word but the intimidation around my own kind. All I have ever known is straight, except I'm queer. It has become a comfortable realm for me. There is no competition at least but also no one to compete for.

So, let's recap. No queers, little diversity, and it's exactly like every small town around. I can't complain I guess. I'm not getting beat up but it's pretty bad when that can be stated as a positive thing and not sound out of place, even though the possibility should not even be crossing my mind. On the positive side, at least I have plenty of time to feel alone and get to know myself. Oh yeah, it's real cozy here.

Although this may scream of teenage angst every word of it is true, but it's the usual babydyke rant. There it is laid out for all to see. I may be the underdog now but in the future I'll find my place and it might just be the same place I spent time writing and bitching about years before. Then I will have a different type of realization. Until then I am here, living it.

Groups and Services

Atlantic Canada

AtlanticCanadianLesbians: email: <http://groups.msn.com/AtlanticCanadianLesbians> web: groups.msn.com/AtlanticCanadianLesbians
East Coast Bears: adult men who are, or like, masculine, hairy men. 506-455-2856 email: info@eastcoastbears.com web: www.eastcoastbears.com. meets 4th Sunday (www.eastcoastbears.com/schedule.html)
GAY MEN'S GATHERING: at PO Box 36054, Halifax. B3J 3S9
Gender Expressions Atlantic: peer support online. email: gender_expressions@hotmail.com web: www.geocities.com/gender_expressions/
HEALING OUR NATIONS: HIV/AIDS prevention in a manner respectful of our native way of life. 1-800-565-4255 email: hon@accesswave.ca web: www.healingournations.ca at 45 Alderney Dr., Ste. 607, Dartmouth, NS.
MARITIME LESBIANS: Online info for all maritime lesbians. web: www.maritimelesbians.com
Mr. Atlantic Canada Leather Society: dedicated to developing gay men's leather communities in the Atlantic region. email: info@macleather.net web: www.macleather.net, meets 1st Saturday (See webpage for event schedule. location and other details)
NAMES PROJECT - CANADA (AIDS Memorial Quilt): panels - helping create, and lending. 902-454-5158 email: larrybaxter@ns.sympatico.ca web: www.quilt.ca (Call if interested in volunteering) at 3544 Acadia St. Halifax, NS B3K 3P2
PFLAG Sackville/Amherst, Sackville & Amherst: Our chapter welcomes parents, families & friends of GLBT persons, as well as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, transsexual, two-spirited and questioning persons themselves. We are committed to giving support to each other. 506-536-4245 email: jhammock@mta.ca web: www.maritimelesbians.com/, meets 2nd Monday (Please see calendar on our web page.) at Sackville: 165 Main Street. Amherst: 12 La Planche Street
Pride Guide Publishing: publisher of community focused maps, directories, event programs and more. 902-423-6999, fax: 902-429-8605 email: prideguide@hfx.eastlink.ca
Wayves Magazine: Atlantic Canada's queer news and lifestyle magazine!. email: submissions@wayves.ca web: www.wayves.ca (Editorial meeting one Monday night a month; layout one Sunday a month; see the Calendar on our web page) at downtown Halifax - email us for details. For advertising, contact ads@wayves.ca

New Brunswick (506)

AIDS New Brunswick / SIDA Nouveau-Brunswick, Fredericton: committed to facilitating community-based responses to the issues of HIV/AIDS. 459-7518 email: sidaids@nbnet.nb.ca web: www.aidsnb.com (Office Hours: Monday to Friday. 8:30AM to 12:30PM and 1:30PM to 4:30PM)
AIDS Saint John, Saint John: improve quality of life, reduce the spread. 652-2437 email: aidsj@nb.aibn.com web: www.geocities.com/aidsj
Catalyst, Mount Allison U, Sackville: support & information for Mount A students, occasional social activities. 364-2255 email: ktrotter@mta.ca (Email for meeting info. Catalyst is not active during the summer.)
Closest Chat, Saint John: Discussion space & guest speakers. 693-1145 email: clstcht@nbnet.nb.ca, meets every Tuesday (8:00 PM) at Centenary-Queen Square United Church 215 Wentworth Street. Saint John. N.B.
Disco-bar l'Arc-en-ciel, Dégelis, PQ: (418) 853-3945 (G/L/B on Sundays 10 pm - 4 am Atlantic.) at Chemin de l'arc-en-ciel, which intersects the TCH 5.5 km west of the Quebec border, about 25 km from Edmundston.
Fredericton Lesbians and Gays, Fredericton: library & occasional social events. email: jwhiteh@unb.ca web: www.geocities.com/westhollywood/3074
Gaies.es Nor Gays Inc.: une association d'hommes et de femmes gais, lesbiennes et bisexuelles. de la rA@gion de la A Baie des Chaleurs et du Nord-Est de la Province du Nouveau-Brunswick, Canada. 783-7440 email: info@gngnb.ca web: www.gngnb.ca
INTERWEAVE FREDERICTON: Support group 451-0919, at 874 York St.
Man-to-Man Peer Counselling: for men who have sex with men about HIV and AIDS. Toll-free in New Brunswick, anonymous, bilingual, confidential. Tuesdays from 6:30-8:30pm. (800) 561-4009
Moncton Atlantiques: swimming for fitness or participating in Masters swimming competitions. email: swimming@monctongay.com web: monctongay.com/swimming.html (a few times a week) at the CEPS pool at the Université de Moncton.
Moncton Drag Association: (English-speaking) For all drags old and new. Meetings every week. For more info, contact Jeff.

Moncton Gay Pride, Moncton: The Moncton GLBT group that organizes events and promotes as well as puts on Moncton's Pride events!. email: info@monctonrainbowalliance.com web: www.monctonrainbowalliance.com, meets 3rd Sunday
Moncton Transgender Support Group: 536-0599 email: eldonhay@nb.sympatico.ca
NB Gay Alliance: uniting individuals and organizations. 863-1888 email: artgenea@nbnet.nb.ca
New Brunswick Drag Queen Society: email: nbdq_society@hotmail.com web: n_b_d_q.tripod.com/thenewbrunswickdragqueensociety/
PFLAG - Moncton (English): Parents, families and friends of gay, lesbian, bisexual, trans (transgender and transsexual), two spirit, queer and questioning persons. 536-0599 email: eldonhay@nb.sympatico.ca, meets 3rd Monday (every 3rd Monday at 7:30 pm at U de M.) at c/o Eldon Hay, 35 Union St., Sackville, NB E4L 4M6.
PFLAG Fredericton, Fredericton: all welcome. Francis @ 454-8349
PFLAG Saint John, Saint John: 652-3995 email: wandr@nbnet.nb.ca, tiggerj@nbnet.nb.ca web: www.pflag.ca/saintjohn.htm (1st Friday of each month September - June at 7pm. No meeting in July & August.) at 116 Coburg Street in Saint John, New Brunswick in the Community Health Centre next to St. Joseph's Hospital.
Port City Rainbow Pride, Saint John: 693-1145 email: dannyj@nbnet.nb.ca web: www.portcityrainbowpride.com
Q-Collective, Saint John: on-campus society at UNBSJ email: gltq_unbsj@hotmail.com web: groups.msn.com/GLBTFriends
Safe Spaces Fundy Region, Saint John: email: safespaces_sj@hotmail.com
Safe Spaces Moncton: email: safespaces@nb.aibn.com
Saint John Lesbian / Bi Support Network, Saint John: for women-loving women. 642-1284 email: sjlesbi@gmail.com web: www.geocities.com/sjlesbi/, meets 3rd Friday
Saint John LGBTQ Lending Library, Saint John: over 300 fiction and non-fiction titles. 634-8288 email: cqsunited@nb.aibn.com (Open weekday mornings & by appointment.) at 215 Wentworth St
SIDA AIDS Moncton, Moncton: offers support to people living with HIV and their families and friends, education and awareness. 859-9616 email: sidaidsm@nbnet.nb.ca web: www.sida-aidsmoncton.com at 165A Gordon St., Moncton, NB, E1C 1N1
Spectrum, Fredericton: social and support group for students, staff and faculty at UNB and STU. email: spectrum@unb.ca web: www.unbf.ca/clubs/spectrum, meets every Wednesday (7 pm) at Tilley 28 (downstairs Arts Common Room)
Woodstock GLBT Family Outreach, Woodstock: Books, movies etc. for the family. 328-4868 email: richardb@nbnet.nb.ca

Newfoundland & Lab (709)

AVALON UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP, St. John's: 895-0478. (Katie Stein Sather, Minister)
GAY/LESBIAN/BISEXUAL SUPPORT & INFO LINE, St. John's: 753-4297 24-hour message service, or speak to a trained volunteer (Tues., Thurs. 7 - 10 pm.)
GLBT Support, Corner Brook: web: www.geocities.com/gltb_cbs/
GLBT SUPPORT, Gander: 256-4395 or 533-2507.
LGBT at MUN Resource Centre, St. John's: student run support group and library. email: lbgtmun@plato.ucs.mun.ca web: www.mun.ca/lbg/ (Weekdays 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM - often until 7:00 PM) at Smallwood University Center, UC-6022.
Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender Support and Info Line, St. John's: live male and female consultation. 753-4297 email: ngale@geocities.com web: www.geocities.com/WestHollywood/4291 (Tuesdays & Thursdays 7-10 pm, message system other times)
NEWFOUNDLAND AMAZON NETWORK (NAN): at PO Box 1104, St. John's. A1C 5M5.
NF Gays & Lesbians for Equality: email: ngale@geocities.com
NGALE (NF Gays & Lesbians for Equality): 753-4297. email: ngale@geocities.com web: www.geocities.com/WestHollywood/4291 (Check site for regular social, support and business meetings.) at Box 6221, St. John's. NF A1C 6J9
PFLAG, St. John's: information or referral to one of our parents. 753-4297 at Box 6221, St. John's. A1C 6J9
Rainbow Radio: queer radio show from MUN. email: michael_rossiter@hotmail.com web: www.mun.ca/chmr.ram, meets every Tuesday ((broadcast) 3 pm (NF

Time, Eastern + 1.5 hours)
The Heterosexism Enquirer: Canada's first online Heterosexism resource. web: www.mun.ca/the/
Zone 2-1-6: Newfoundland's most prominent alternative bar, receptive to all lifestyles. 754-2492 email: egc.jade@thezone.net web: http://ggorman.hypermart.net/zone_216.htm at 216 Water St

Nova Scotia (902)

ACADIA WOMEN'S CENTRE, Wolfville: 542-2287 ext. 2140. email: womens.centre@acadiu.ca web: axe.acadiu.ca/womencentre (Acadia SUB Second Level Balcony)
AFFIRM UNITED: support, action and worshipping community within the United Church. email: stewarar@gov.ns.ca at Box 33067, Halifax, NS B3L 4T6
AIDS COALITION OF CAPE BRETON - ACCB, Sydney: 567-1766 email: jean@acbb.ns.ca web: www.acbb.ns.ca at 150 Bentinck St., Sydney. NS B1P 1G6
AIDS Coalition of Cape Breton Sharp Advice Needle Exchange - ACCB SANE: 539-5556 email: chrisporter@acbb.ns.ca web: www.acbb.ns.ca/sane.html at ACBB rear entrance on Bentinck
AIDS Coalition of Nova Scotia: email: acns@acns.ns.ca
Anonymous HIV/AIDS Testing, Halifax: 455-9656
Bluenose Bears, Halifax: Dinner club for bears and those who like them. 463-4312 email: bluenosebears@yahoo.ca, meets 3rd Friday
Cape Breton Gay & Lesbian Equality Project:
CARAS - Churchmembers Assembled to Respond to AIDS: 473-4055 at c/o Pastoral Care Department, Victoria General Hospital
DalOUT, Halifax: LGBTQ Society at Dalhousie. 494-2190 email: dalout@dal.ca web: is2.dal.ca/~dalout, meets every Thursday at the SUB
Dignity-Canada-Dignite: email: dignity.hfx@ns.sympatico.ca
DIVERSITY SOCIETY (UCCB): Weekly meetings at UCCB. email: sds@hotmail.com
GAY ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS: 461-1119. (every Monday at 8pm.) at St. Mary's Basilica
GAY, LESBIAN & BISEXUAL YOUTH GROUP AT Q.E.H.: Jeanie Buffet, Counsellor, at 421-6797
GAYFATHERSHALIFAX, HRM: for gay, bi, and questioning fathers. 446-2705 or 453-6392 email: gayfathershalifax@hotmail.com web: groups.msn.com/GayFathersHalifax, meets 1st Tuesday (7-9 p.m., a potluck is held on the last Friday of each month.)
GLB CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE (SUNS): 494-6654 at c/o the Students' Union of NS
GLB YOUTH SUPPORT GROUP, Kentville: ages 15 - 19. For info, see Red Door entry.
Halifax Rainbow Speakers, Halifax: Speakers available. contact us. 494-6662 email: nsprig@dal.ca web: is2.dal.ca/~nsprig (Call for times & locations)
HARRISON GROUP SOCIETY, Cape Breton: Dances, socials & support group for Cape Bretoners. 564-6939 at Box 1118, Sydney B1P 6J7
Imperial and Sovereign Court of Atlantic Nova Society, Halifax: Fundraising. 476-4225 email: comm@imperialcourts.com, protocol@imperialcourts.com, info@imperialcourts.com web: www.imperialcourts.com (Meeting times vary)
Intensity Dance, Halifax: non-profit dance collective. email: intensitydance@yahoo.com web: intensity.cjb.net
Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Youth Project, Halifax: support and connection across Nova Scotia. 429-5429 email: youthproject@youthproject.ns.ca web: www.youthproject.ns.ca (1st and 3rd Tuesdays - social/support meeting in Halifax 7-9 pm 2nd and 4th Tuesdays - Drop-in 6-9pm) at 2281 Brunswick St
LGB Youth Support Group, Bridgewater: fun social/support group for 25 and under. 543-1315 email: pplc@auracom.com web: www.youthproject.ns.ca (every second Thursday from 6:30pm to 8:30pm) at Planned Parenthood, 12 Dominion St., Bridgewater. (Second Story Women's Ctr building)
MANNA FOR HEALTH: A special needs food bank for those living with illness. 429-7670
Northern AIDS Connection Society, Truro: HIV prevention education initiative serving counties Colc., Pictou, Cumb. & E Hants. 895-0931 email: uop2000@hotmail.com
Nova Scotia Rainbow Action Project, Halifax: fostering change through networking, education, outreach & community education. 832-9100 email: nsrap@ns.sympatico.ca web: www.nsrp.ns.ca (See Web Page) at 106 - 40 Waterfront Dr. Bedford, NS B4A 4J1
OUT AND ABOUT WOMYN (OAAW), Halifax: Social group for lesbians. email: oaaw@eastlink.ca web: www.geocities.com/outandaboutwomyn at times and locations sent to members via email
Outlaw: email: dal_outlaw@yahoo.ca
OVER 30's CLUB: Socials, usually potluck dinners.

431-3748 (one Saturday evening a month) at members' homes, mostly Halifax but occasionally out of town
PFLAG Halifax: support and education to parents, family and friends. 443-3747 email: ab274@chebucto.ns.ca, meets 3rd Sunday (2:00 pm) at individual homes
PFLAG Truro, Truro: 662.3774 email: s.r.burns@ns.sympatico.ca
QUAKERS: 429-2904
QUEER NEWS: at CKDU FM 97.5, Fri. 12:05 pm
Red Door, The, Kentville: 679-1411 email: reddoor@glinx.com (Monday through Friday, 2pm to 5pm, Tuesday nights also open, 7pm to 9pm. First Saturday of the month, 11am to 2pm) at 28 Webster Court
SAAFE (Supporting An Alternative Friendly Environment), Truro: Social/support group at the NS Agricultural College. email: lyoung@nsac.ns.ca
Safe Harbour Metropolitan Community Church, Halifax: A Christian Church with a positive affirming ministry to the GLBT community. Everyone is welcome!. 453-9249 email: safeharbour@eastlink.ca web: www.geocities.com/WestHollywood/4037/, meets every Sunday (7:00pm) at Unitarian Church 5500 Inglis St
Salaam Halifax Foundation, Halifax: Queer Muslim Community. 429-5429 email: salaamhalifax@yahoo.ca web: www.salaamcanada.com (C/O LGBYP 2281 Brunswick St., Halifax)
Sexual Diversity Society of UCCB: email: diversity@stunion.uccb.ns.ca
SOUTH SHORE HIV/AIDS ASSOCIATION: 667-2285 web: www.ssha.org at P.O. Box 171, Mill Village, NS B0J 2H0
South Shore Pride Social Club, Bridgewater: for 18 & older. 685-3297 email: thoron_ca@yahoo.ca web: www.geocities.com/WestHollywood/Village/2384, meets every Monday (7:30PM - 9:00PM)
Tightrope, Halifax: leather, denim & uniform brotherhood. 461-9164 email: tightropehfx@hotmail.com web: www.geocities.com/tightropehfx/, meets 3rd Saturday
TRURO ADULT GROUP: Wayne at 897-6654 or Gina at 895-8363. (bi-weekly.)
TRURO GAY YOUTH: Vida at 897-4366.
TRURO PRIDE, Truro: GLBT support group in Central NS. 897-6654 or 897-4366 email: truropride@hotmail.com web: www3.ns.sympatico.ca/greenoaks/Home.html (Every second Wednesday at 6:00 PM) at Calico Cafe @ 564 Prince Street, Truro, NS.
UNIVERSALIST UNITARIAN CHURCH, Halifax: an inclusive liberal religious community 429-5500
Valley Gay Men's Coffee House, Kingston: socials for gay men; gay & lesbian dances. 825-6170 or 825-3197 email: menembracingmen@yahoo.ca (Coffee every Thursday 7-9pm, dances on the first Saturday of the month.) at email or call for locations
X-Pride, Antigonish: social & support group at X. 867-5007 email: xpride@stfx.ca web: www.stfx.ca/people/xpride

Prince Edward Island (902)

AFTERNOON DELIGHT, Charlottetown: secure online shopping for novelties, oils, games, lingerie, books and more. 1-877-424-5469. email: afternoon delight@eastlink.ca web: afternoon delight.net/
AIDS PEI, Charlottetown: 566-2437 email: info@aidspei.com web: www.aidspei.com at 10 St. Peter's Rd
Colours Party Planners, Charlottetown: Bar/party once a month. email: colours@colourspei.com web: www.colourspei.com (10:00pm - 2am, one Saturday a month throughout the winter, please check our website for specific dates) at 136 Richmond Street
Gay PEI Mailing List, province-wide: email: gay-pe-owner@yahoo.com web: groups.yahoo.com/group/gay-pe
GLBT Youth group, Charlottetown: discussion get-togethers. 566-2437 email: arcyouth@isn.net web: www.arpei.isn.net youth, meets 1st Saturday (call 566-2437 for drop-in times & places)
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS, Charlottetown: a fellowship of recovering drug addicts who meet regularly to help each other stay clean. 566-9733 or 1-800-205-8402 (Mondays & Fridays 8:00pm) at 178 Fitzroy St
PEI Pride, Charlottetown: Organizing The Island Pride Festival. 894-5776 or 1-888-380-5776 email: pridepei@isn.net web: www.peipride.com (contact us for dates, directions and details)
PFLAG PEI, Souris: Parents & Friends. 687-4520 email: pflagpei@hotmail.com, meets 4th Monday at Ray & Pat Malone's, Bear Shore Rd, RR#2, Souris, PEI. COA 2B0
UPEI Rainbow Collective, Charlottetown: GLBT student organisation at the University of PEI. 566-2437 email: rainbow@upepei.ca

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Ooohh, Cruiseline's getting all romantic and raunchy at Valentine's! Check out these specials!

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