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Volume 4, Issue 3

September 1989

DIMENSIONS

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Volume 4, Issue 3

September 1989



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by Karen Dale Wolman



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Dimensions

P.O. Box 856
Lubbock, TX 79408
(806) 797-9647

Office Hrs:
1pm-6pm Mon-Sat



Kelly Chambers
Managing Editor

Tasha Sumner
Advertising & Art Director

Contributing Editors:

Shannon Lacy
Kelly Chambers
Linda Monroe
Cameron Taylor
Judy Smith
Nancy Ford

Shannon Lacy
Production Manager

Suzanna Reilly
Southwest Distribution

Cameron Taylor
Staff Photographer

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Rates,
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Tasha Sumner at:**

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To The Editor

A Legitimate Gripe . . .

Dear Dimensions:

"Yes!" I do have something to get off my chest. Every month I receive certain publications to which I subscribe. No big deal. At my leisure I thumb through them, and pick out what interests me. I scan articles, glance at pictures and promptly place the magazines in a carefully chosen pile, where they collect dust and await disposal.

I have been reading Dimensions from cover to cover since it began. This takes considerably more time than scanning and glancing! Many of my tasks have been put off until later, so that I can become informed and entertained! I actually look forward to receiving Dimensions each month.

I have tried to skip articles, fiction or poetry. No such will power! Each will be well written and interesting. I can't even slide by a quiz without scratching in answers.

It's wonderful to have this intelligent publication directed at women.

Dimensions is just what I need to remind me that there is a place where I can fit in, and relate to others. I have even found that I enjoy keeping and rereading them.

I am breaking a pattern of glancing and

scanning that I have kept for many years. But I feel it is well worth it. Thanks for putting out such quality material.

Keep up the great work,

Sarah Ortiz

Granbury, TX

Ed. Note: I'm afraid to say that we are not sorry for messing up a pattern it took you so many years to develop, I can only hope that we can keep your rapt attention in the future! Thanks for the compliment.

IRS Following Lesbians?

Dear Dimensions:

As a gay it offends me the way the Internal Revenue Service discriminates against us. My lover and I just came back from Mexico and found that we were being followed by a straight IRS female who was stationed in the American embassy. What is the IRS doing nosing around in foreign countries anyway? We should unite and fight the IRS nosing around outside the U.S.!

Opal Bayer

San Antonio, TX

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News

From Around the Region, the Country & the World

6th Annual Texas Freedom Parade

DALLAS, TX - The 6th annual TEXAS FREEDOM PARADE, which is also Dallas' 10th annual lesbian/gay pride parade, will be held on Sunday, September 24, starting at 3:00 p.m. near the Oak Lawn Library on Cedar Springs Road. The parade will end in Lee Park with the traditional CELEBRATION IN LEE PARK on the porch and grounds of Arlington Hall for the presentation of parade trophies, community awards, entertainment and speeches. The Dallas Tavern Guild is the proud sponsor of these two events for the lesbian and gay community.

The theme of this year's parade, "STONEWALL 20: A Generation of Pride," follows the national lesbian/gay theme as we celebrate the twentieth anniversary of Stonewall rebellion in New York City, which began during the evening of June 27, 1969. Participants of the parade will be asked to express the positive and healthy lives, attitudes and images of a community that has shown great strength during the past 8 years with the battle against AIDS. The parade is not a protest march, but rather a time to acknowledge our political and social accomplishments over the past 20 years and to recognize our strengths during a health crisis.

Letters of invitation with the parade guidelines and application will be

mailed to businesses and organizations. They will also be available at the office of the Dallas Tavern Guild, 3900 Lemmon Avenue, Suite #220, Dallas, TX 75219

New Community Assembly To Unite San Antonio

SAN ANTONIO, TX - The San Antonio Lesbian & Gay Assembly (SALGA*) has been formed to unite the numerous and diverse groups and individuals in the San Antonio area. As a community umbrella organization, SALGA would respond to the needs and concerns of the lesbian and gay community which have not been adequately addressed by traditional providers of community services. The goal of the Assembly is to create a mutually supportive community network which would gather & disperse information, promote education & service programs, and develop community facilities.

An Interregnum Board of Directors was elected in June by an Ad-Hoc Community Steering Committee which had been meeting since spring. The Interregnum Board has been charged with developing a governing structure and seating the first permanent Board of Directors. SALGA's first public event will be a "Community Gathering" on Thursday, September 7, 1989 at 411 Bonham

Street. Complimentary wine & buffet at 7:30 p.m. and program at 8:00 p.m.. Interested individuals and representatives from All area lesbian & gay groups are urged to attend this ground-breaking event. The two co-chairs (female & male) will introduce the interregnum directors and briefly review the purpose and current status of SALGA.

Agenda items include:

1. Gay Fiesta, Sunday, October 15th, La Villita Assembly Hall.
2. SALGA Community Directory - For October release.
3. 'Heart Strings' AIDS benefit show, Tuesday, October 10th, Majestic Theatre.

Also, those with announcements or issues to be raised may contact the co-chairs through the Switchboard at 733-7300.

(*In Spanish "Salga" means "Come out")

MAYORS ANNOUNCE AVAILABILITY OF AIDS EDUCATION GRANTS

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The United States Conference of Mayors is releasing today its 8th Request for Proposals (RFP) for funding of community-based AIDS risk-reduction education programs. The targets of the Round 8 RFP include: racial and ethnic minorities; substance abusers (including intravenous drug, crack cocaine and alcohol abusers); HIV antibody positive individuals and people with AIDS; and people who reside in areas with fewer AIDS cases. Approximately 20 grants will be awarded for projects up to 12 months in

duration, in amounts ranging from \$20,000 to \$50,000 each. A total of \$1 million is available for this funding round.

Between January 1981 and August 1989, over 100,000 persons have been diagnosed with AIDS; over 58,000 have died—more Americans than were killed during the Vietnam War. The primary goal of this RFP is to provide education on AIDS and HIV infection through funding community-based, community-service organizations with an emphasis on those organizations which have established ties to racial and ethnic populations, IV drug and substance abusers, people who are HIV positive or have AIDS, and people who reside in areas with fewer AIDS cases. In announcing the availability of funding, Conference of Mayors Executive Director J. Thomas Cochran said that the organization was fully committed to providing funding and technical assistance to those groups which have the best access to people who need HIV/AIDS information the most. "Community-based organizations, especially when working with local government and the local health department, have proven their effectiveness in providing accurate and appropriate information and in ways that are accepted by their audience. This must continue and we are committed to assisting them," Cochran said.

Funding for the AIDS grants was made available to the Conference of Mayors by the federal Centers for Disease Control. With this latest round of funding, the Conference of Mayors will have awarded \$3.54 million to fund 113 projects across the nation.

Lesbian/Gay Leaders Sponsor National Coming Out Day

Santa Fe, NM - The 2nd annual National Coming Out Day, October 11, is being co-sponsored by a broad base of highly respected community leaders and organizations. The goal of NCOD is to increase the visibility of the more than 20 million gay people in the United States. Last year's activities received positive media coverage throughout the country, including coverage in USA TODAY, CNN, NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO, THIS WAY OUT, and the OPRAH WINFREY SHOW.

October 11, the day of this annual event, commemorates the 1987 March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. "This is a grassroots campaign, and its success depends on the willingness of local groups to plan and carry out events that support people to

take their next step in coming out" says NCOD co-chair, Dr. Rob Eichberg.

As coming out is a process and not a singular event, individuals are being asked to "take the next step" in their coming out process — a step which may be very personal for some and very public for others. "Our power is awesome, and it's time we use it." says NCOD co-chair Jean O'Leary, Executive Director of National Gay Rights Advocates.

Joining the growing list of NCOD sponsors are, among others: Jeff Levy and Urvashi Vaid with the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force; Boston City Councillor, David Scondras; writer Harvey Fierstein, comedian Robin Tyler, and veteran activists Virginia Apuzzo, Vivian Shapiro, and Cleve Jones.

For more information, or to contribute to NCOD, write to NCOD, P.O. Box 15524, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87506, or call (505) 982-2558.



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What's Goin' On

A Monthly Listing of Special Events All Around Texas, Oklahoma & New Mexico

DALLAS - Lynn Lavner's coming to Texas! The short, left-handed, Jewish lesbian from New York will be in Dallas on Saturday, September 30, for one-performance only at **Sammons Center for the Arts**. The event is co-sponsored by **Lesbian Visionaries** and **Little Feather Productions**. Lavner will be in San Antonio Sunday, October 1 at **THE CIRCLE**.

Lavner's act might be described as unconventional. Her songs and humor are drawn, she says, from her experiences, "which are considerably different than the experiences of an average person from, let's say Columbus, Nebraska." And, the quick-witted Lavner, who stands only five feet tall, performs in black leather.

Don't forget to mark your calendars! Dallas, September 30 and San Antonio October 1. Tickets for the Dallas performance are \$10 and are available at **CURIOUS TIMES**. Please contact **THE CIRCLE** for ticket info in San Antonio.

SAN ANTONIO - It's may sound a little early, but next summer's **Third Annual Texas Lesbian Conference** will be held in San Antonio! The planning starts now and if you'd like to be a part of it, show up at the **Esperanca Peace & Justice Center**, Thursday, September 21st at 7pm. The center is located at 1305 N. Flores. If you aren't able to attend but would still like to be involved, call the center at (512) 228-0201 or the **LISA** line and leave your name and number. Also, a party of several Lesbian & Gay Organizations under the umbrella of the **Esperanca Peace & Justice Center** are holding a fundraising brunch for the center on September 16th. Last, but not least, get ready for the **Human Rights Campaign**

Fund Committee Dinner on November 11th. It will be black tie, \$100 a plate, and the theme will be "Blazing A Trail".

DALLAS - Ride your bike, run or **Walk For Life** on Saturday, September 16th at **White Rock Lake** in Dallas. Start collecting pledges now and get ready to get involved in the fight against AIDS. All money will go to benefit the **AIDS Resource Center**, **PWA Coalition**, **Nelson-Tebedo AIDS Clinic**, **Community Outreach Center of Ft. Worth**, the **Pentamidine Mist Program** and **The Food Bank**. **Walk For Life** is being sponsored by **98-KZEW** (The Zoo) and you can get more information from the **Walkline** at (214) 484-0990.

DENMARK - Okay - this is really exciting! On October 1, 1989 Denmark will become the first country to legalize gay and lesbian marriages! This will grant these marriages full and equal rights under the law. We can make it happen here if we try hard enough.

AUSTIN - If you are looking for live music, you'll find it this month at **NEXUS & PETTICOAT JUNCTION!** On the 1st it's **Denise Fawcett**, on the 13th **His Boy Elroy** hits the stage, **Lara Linette** plays on the 15th, the 22nd brings **Allison Goodgame**, and on the 27th catch the **Julie Burrell Band**. But, of course, there's more than music! **Lisa Bryson** (former Ms. Gay Dallas) will bring her "One Woman Show" to **NEXUS** on the 8th. **Who's Those Girls**, an all-female review from Dallas, will entertain you on the 17th and **Nancy Ford** will strut her stuff on the 8th!

HOUSTON - The Country Express Band will be playing at the RANCH on Tuesday the 17th. There won't be any cover because (Shhhhh... I'm not supposed to tell you this...) it's **Betsy's Birthday!** Wish her a good one when you pass her on the dance floor! Also be sure to check out the RANCH's new frozen drink machine, from what I've heard, it's pretty amazing and can even make frozen white russian's, Mmmmm, sounds good.

DALLAS - Okay girls... you've just got to get on out to SUE ELLEN's and check out the "Super, Spectacular, Sunday Show"! There's all manner of great performers and with MC **Kathy Jack**, you can't go wrong. Also be sure you don't miss **Happy Hour** at SUE ELLEN's. It happens everyday from 3pm till 8pm and Fridays until 9pm. Plus, there's all kinds of other drink specials so, get on out there and have some fun!

HOUSTON - We heard from a reliable source that **KEYSTROKE** is moving to a new and improved location! Keep your eyes open for date, time and address info for September! And, ladies, if you like **KEYSTROKE**, you'll love **KEYSTROKE 2** - it will be an every week affair in a cozier, more intimate setting. If you want more info on either **KEYSTROKE** or **KEYSTROKE 2**, call the **Keystroke Hotline** at (713) 785-9258.

DALLAS - If you are a golfer, sign up now for the **1st Annual DESERT MOON Golf Classic!** The date hadn't been set at press time but it will happen in October so get your golf clubs out now and polish up your putting skills! Check at the bar for date, location and tee-off time!

SAN ANTONIO - Ping Pong is the name of the game, \$50 is first prize and **THE CIRCLE** is the place! Yes, the **Ping Pong Tournament** is on and it happens September 3rd at 2pm so get ready! Tuesday Night Topics at **THE CIRCLE** this month are "Body Image" on the 5th and "Beyond Shame" with a guest speaker on the 19th. Be sure to check out Thursday night steak night and nightly drink specials - you're sure to find something to suit your fancy!

DALLAS - Attention Beer Drinkers! **JUGS** has got great specials all week long. You can get **75¢ Draft** on Mondays and Thursdays, **25¢ Draft** on Tuesdays, Fridays and all day and night on Sundays and **free draft** Saturdays from 10pm-Midnight! In addition to all that, there's also a Cookout on Mondays, **\$1.50 "Swirls"** on Wednesdays, **\$1 Frozen Margaritas** and a **Pool Tourney** on Thursdays and **\$1 Bloody Mary's and Screwdrivers** from noon-4pm on Sundays. Can't beat a deal like that!



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Dear Agnes

Answers to your questions about love,
relationships & personal problems

Dear Agnes,

I am a SWF, I have a boyfriend whom I care about very much. But recently I have been thinking more and more about having an affair with another woman (mind you, I haven't gone looking and I have no-one in mind). But these curiosities have led me to start doing things I never would have done before.

I bought a vibrator! Although this has been somewhat satisfying I still have these urges. I do not know any lesbians and would never go to a bar with the threat of AIDS at every corner. Although I am straight, I still have this fantasy of being with a woman.

Are there any books I can order to get more fulfillment from my vibrator? Is one vibrator better than the other? What is my next step?

Desperately waiting for your advice!

Dear Desperately Waiting,

With AIDS "around every corner", I certainly hope you are having "safe sex" with your boyfriend! You will not contract it sitting on a toilet seat in a bar-gay or straight.

The experts I contacted on vibrators assure me that there are some that are more satisfying than others, but after consulting two or three, I am convinced it is a matter of personal taste. I suggest going to your local sex shop or book store for a little shopping spree. If you are too shy, take your boyfriend. You can mail order books and vibrators.

I guess the next step is up to you. Your letter leaves me with one question, where did you pick up a Dimensions....

Dear Agnes,

I have a problem that is driving me up the wall, my lover. We have been together for five years and up until the last four or five months everything was fine. We worked, came home, and had a fairly quite life except for an occasional wild party. We have some friends but don't see them except weekends.

All of a sudden about five months ago Ann started a night class. Suddenly she was moody, preoccupied, gone alot and when she did come home, she ignored me. This describes our existence from then until now. She has brought a woman home to "study" with a couple of times and that has been the only time I have seen her in a good mood for all these months. Weekends she's gone to study or to the library, and she doesn't come home till after dark most nights. Our sex life is dead, we don't talk to each other any more, and if I didn't know better, I would swear she wants out of this relationship.

What do you think? I've tried talking to her and it's like talking to a brick wall. She glares at me like I am nuts and refuses to talk. I feel like I am going crazy. What can I do? I really don't want to leave her, but this is like living in hell!

Help! Tulsa

Dear Help,

Tell her your preception of what is happening. Try to explain in terms of, "I feel like you are constantly in a bad mood" or "I feel.....". Try not to make her defensive, but do try to get her to talk. Suggest couples counseling and see if you get a response. If she is willing to go, by all means go. If she

isn't receptive to the idea, you might consider talking to a counselor to help sort through your feeling right now.

You can not make her talk! But the most important asset in a relationship is communication. Refusing to talk about a problem does not fix it, nor does it make the problem go away.

Take steps to maintain your self-esteem which is difficult when problems arise, especially relationship problems. Get out of the house, make plans with friends, go to the library, join an exercise class, don't sit home and wait for your lover to come home in a bad mood ever night. Her attitude and behavior are not your fault. So whatever you do, don't lay a guilt trip on yourself.

Dear Agnes,

Activist Seeking Direction in last month's column hit the nail on the head. I am 27 years old and when I got out of high school, I never worried about equal pay, my right to an abortion or anything else. I guess I thought it was all settled and that it would never go backwards.

Boy, was I wrong! I'm learning now that you don't just have to fight to get your rights, you have to fight to keep them too. I

have always voted but I'm afraid I voted for the wrong people for the wrong reasons. I didn't realize that you can't just get rid of a president in four years if you don't like him — his legacy remains in the Supreme Court for years to come.

Believe me, I know better now and I, for one, am following your advice. After all, if we can't get and keep our rights as women, how will we ever get our rights as gays?

A New Believer

Dear Believer,

I think we have all learned that sitting on the sidelines is a dangerous occupation that does not pay. Enough said!



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Love With An Early Riser

by Karen Dale Wolman



Over the years, I've heard countless tales of love affairs that were doomed from the start. There is the case of the health food freak with the junk food junkie, the quiet intellectual with the party animal and the hopeless slob with the neat freak. But no relationship has as many strikes against it as the one with the mismatched circadian rhythms. Try and visualize the scenario when a bonafide night person hooks up with the strangest of human beings: **THE MORNING PERSON**. The relationship is destined for failure before the pair is even introduced. A few words of warning are called for here. Although the morning person is

not too difficult to recognize, here are a few clues to tip you off in case she catches you off guard: she awakens without being blasted out of bed by an alarm clock with more decibels than an AC/DC concert, greets sparrows by name, becomes verbal before an intravenous infusion of thick, Columbian brew and makes the bed before taking a shower. As a wise man once said, "don't trust anyone who's alert before eleven in the morning."¹ Now, match this strange bird up with a genuine night owl and feathers are sure to fly. As all of us late rising creatures have known since pre-embryonic stage, the alarm clock is a medieval

instrument of torture invented by a sadistic madman who makes Attila the Hun appear benevolent. As for the button that allows a few extra minutes of sleep, don't be fooled. It's just a tease engineered by someone on the payroll of Phyllis Schafly.

Things are innocent enough when you first meet this morning person. She's attractive, friendly without being

offer of a cocktail; she doesn't want to stay out too late. You wouldn't mind turning in early with her.

You start to get nervous as her eyelids droop and the conversation falters. It takes you all to convince this creature to go to that cute little cappuccino and cannoli place after the meal. When you leave the dessert shop, she walks with

. . . the alarm clock is a medieval instrument of torture invented by a sadistic madman who makes Attila the Hun appear benevolent.

pushy, and has no interest whatsoever in your astrological sign. She seems to be genuinely interested in you and asks intelligent questions about your work — without trying to discover your salary or whether you can sneak a tryst to Maui onto your expense account. After you've been chatting for awhile and she hasn't mentioned a psychotic ex-girlfriend or an obsession with cats, you figure you've caught a live one. Just as you're about to offer your phone number, she asks if she may take you to dinner later in the week. As it's still early, you have no clue as to her true nature.

Imagine your first date with this new woman. She insists on picking you up for dinner at 5:30. Although that's just past your usual lunchtime, you are flattered that she can't wait to see you and do your best to put yourself together before the first commuter train pulls into suburbia. She arrives right on time, armed with candy and flowers. You smile when she turns down you

her arm around your waist. At first you think it's romantic, but you quickly realize she's doing it for support. She has trouble walking when she's half asleep.

Not only is your energy peaking, but the caffeine and sugar have you flying high. You'd invite her in for a nightcap, but you don't think she can stay awake that long. Instead, you get her into a cab, give her address to the driver — she's not coherent enough to do it herself — and head for the nearest nightclub — solo.

Now I'm not saying that a one night stand — started early enough — with a morning person is a bad idea, but do you really want to spend your life with someone who whistles as she gels her hair and considers 9am late morning? Granted, she is the type to serve you breakfast in bed, but it is liable to be oatmeal — and she'll expect you to eat it.

To a person who grunts and growls if spoken to before noon and believes that

7am garbage collections are a communist plot, the early rising specimen is anathema. Envision the scenario: you are miles deep under thick, warm comforters on one rainy Sunday morn. Hazy Technicolor visions of candlelight dinners and white sandy beaches drift through your subconscious when suddenly, Alexander Graham Bell interrupts your ecstasy. You reach for the offending instrument and threaten, "if the building's not on fire, you're dead meat!" It's HER on the phone, merrily chirping, "oh gee, did I wake you? It's already past seven and I thought we could walk around town, hit a few museums, and have an early lunch." You throw the phone against the wall and burrow deeper under the covers.

You waken hours later, way past the time when the sun has passed its zenith in the sky. Your idea of the perfect way to start a lazy Sunday is with a late brunch, as close to dinner time as possible. After some window shopping for things you can't afford, you're dying for a horseback ride through the park, a brisk swim in the pool, or an invigorating game of raquetball. Your adrenaline is high and you are ready to conquer the world. She, unfortunately, can't keep her eyelids open sans toothpicks, or even coordinate her lower extremities to propel herself forward.

You know in your heart this relationship won't work. It's late afternoon by the time you resemble a human being; she's yawning and ready to take a nap. You've got a workout at the gym, a late dinner, and kicking up your heels till dawn on the agenda. Her idea, on the other hand, of a late night is

staying up till nine watching reruns of The Loveboat. Just as you begin to show signs of life, she's got about as much energy as Secretariat after running the Kentucky Derby.

Now don't get me wrong. The relationship won't be all misconnected energy and grief. There is one hour of the day — between about 2 and 3pm — when your biorhythms match and you are both on the upswing. It's only 60 minutes, but that's 3600 seconds of magic. Think hard before you pass that up.

¹ Johnny Carson in an article by Paul Rosenfield, "The Off-Camera Carson," Los Angeles Times Calendar, July 6, 1986, p.4.



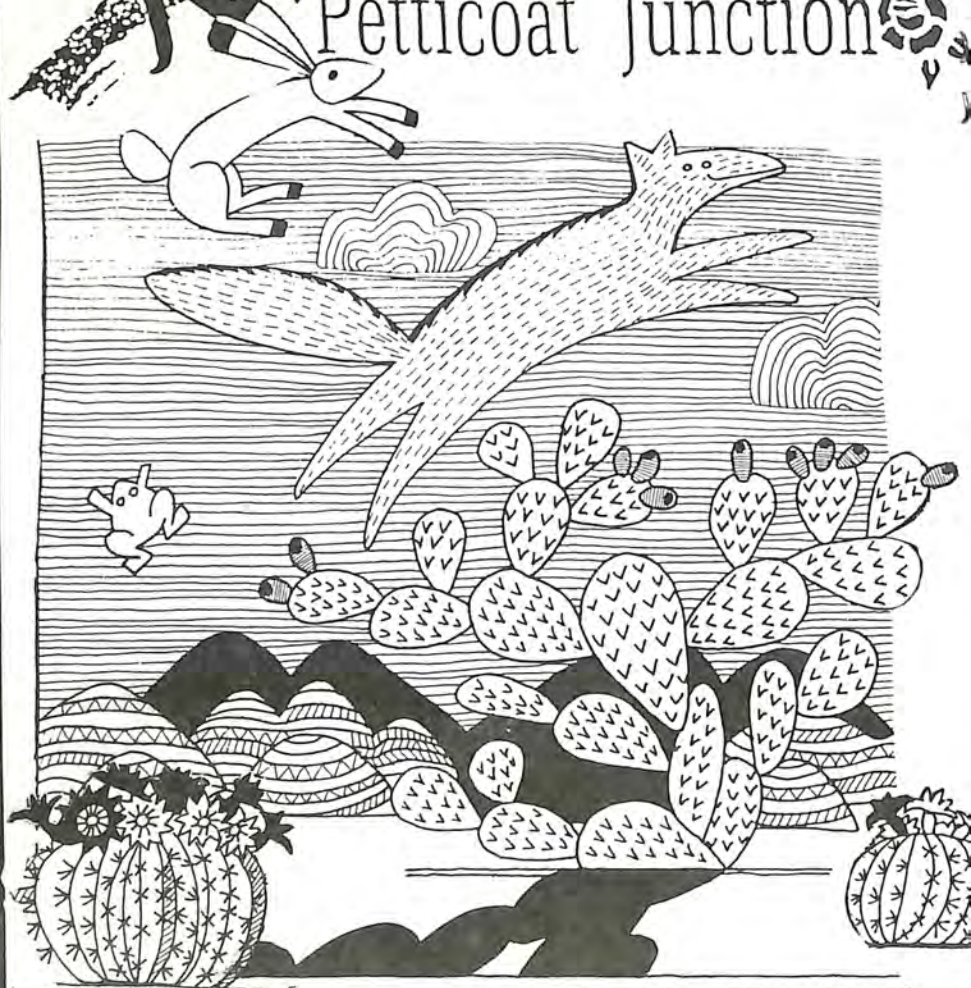
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Nexus

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FIESTA WEEKEND

September 15, 16 & 17 at Nexus & PJ's

Featuring Lara Linette • Friday the 15th • 6pm
Who's Those Girls • All-Female Review From Dallas
Sunday the 17th • 10pm

Friday, September 8th, 9pm
Lisa Bryson of Dallas

"One Woman Show" in Nexus

Wednesday, September 13th, 10pm
His Boy Elroy

Wednesday, September 27th, 10pm
The Julie Burrell Band

Every Wednesday at 9pm
C&W Dance Lessons with Dena in PJ's

"Girl's Night Out"

Thursdays in Nexus
With Brie, Tamara, Trishon & Tatiana

FRIDAY HAPPY HOUR IN NEXUS

September 1st — Denise Fawcett • 6pm
September 8th — Nancy Ford • Comedy & Music • 7pm
September 15th — Lara Linette • 6pm
September 22nd — Alison Goodgame • 6pm
September 29th — Birdie • 6pm

What A World, What A World!

Make A Wish

by Nancy Ford



The other day on *The Andy Griffith Show*, Barney and Opie found an Aladdin-like lamp and subsequently were granted three wishes, all of which came true. Watching this episode set me to thinkin' (that's Mayberry talk,) about wishes, and reminded me of the time my sister Susan advised me of the correct procedure to follow should I ever be granted three wishes. I was to spend the first two wishes in whatever manner I desired, but must be sure that my third wish was always for three more wishes. Not unlike, lather, rinse, repeat. It could go on forever.

With that in mind I have compiled the following list of wishes should I ever happen to stumble upon a lamp of the wish-granting genre. If it can happen to Barney and Opie, it can happen to any of us, and I want to be ready.

I wish —

- X for world peace
- X an end to hunger.
- X three more wishes. Now on to the good stuff: the wishes that potential

Miss Texas never say out loud but always think.

I further wish —

X that my friends would agree that it is at least a remote possibility that the popular laser-tag game, in which people themselves become human game pieces, is not only futuristic entertainment in the here-and-now, but also a guerilla training program for an army of laser warriors in the there-and-later.

X keys that don't set off metal detectors in airports.

X three more wishes.

X that the French had a name for eggs other than l'oeuf. It makes French breakfast dishes taste like bath sponges.

X that I had not, as a child, decided that old age was determined by whether or not blue, root-like veins were visible on the back of one's hands.

X three more wishes.

X that Jaelyn Smith would realize that we don't believe for one minute that she wears K-Mart clothes in real life.

X that Miss Crump would be my teacher again next year. No, wait, that was Opie's wish.

X an alarm clock that automatically postpones ringing until after I've completed any dream with Kim Bassinger in it. No matter how late it gets.

X three more wishes.

X Endust really did.

X a permanent that really is.

X three more wishes.

X the address of Cher's tattoo parlour.

X the time of her next appointment.

X three more wishes.

(to be continued in another issue.)

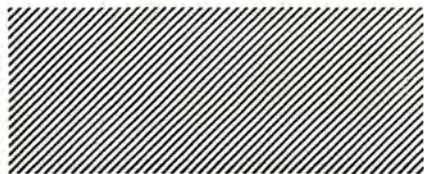


Nancy Ford will be starring as Dorothy Gale Storm in "The Wizard of Montrose" or "Go To Hell, Dorothy Gale", a musical comedy revue examining Houston's 1989 mayoral race. The show will open on September 11th at RiMarks Cabaret, 2715 Waughcrest in Houston, and run Monday and Tuesday nights through November. Reservations are suggested. Call (713) 524-2333.

Nancy will also be appearing at Nexus in Austin on September 8th, at the Laff

Stop in Houston September 12-17, and every Thursday night at RiMarks Cabaret with Randy Jobe in "Performer's Showcase". Anyone interested in auditioning for stage time (singers, musicians, etc.) should call Randy at 522-9485

Nancy Ford's column,
***What A World,
What A World,***
appears every
month right here in
Dimensions!



nancy ford

- comedy •
- residential • commercial •

for booking info
call or write:
You'll See Productions
2990 Richmond #316
Houston, Texas 77098

(713) 721-4125
(713) 520-7237

the *Coffee Club*

A Discussion of Lesbian Literature Both New and Old

This month, T. Sumner Reviews:

Pleasures

by Robbi Sommers

Edgewise

by Camarin Grae

I'll start out this month with Pleasures (Naiad, Inc., \$8.95) by Robbi Sommers. This is a collection of "erotic stories" for lesbians.

Frankly, I was bored. The first two or three were all right, but I found myself skimming through the sex scenes as I read through the rest. They all started to sound alike after awhile. All the women seemed to have "ice-blue eyes" and a "musky scent of womanhood".

Some of the stories would have been very good if it were not for the "gratuitous" sex. By that I mean- that in

many of these stories, the sex did not enhance the plot. It was as if the sex was thrown in as an afterthought so that the stories could be labeled "erotica".

I also did not appreciate the self-promotion of Pleasures in the last story in the book. It was an ending so "cutesy" and condescending that my intelligence was insulted.

Ms. Sommers does have talent, but it is not suited to this format. I probably would have liked these stories if they weren't all together in one book where the flaws are magnified by repetition.

There is a need in lesbian literature for good erotica and there are a few wonderful volumes out there. Unfortunately, this isn't one I would recommend. Many of the stories were wonderful, but the sex only proved to be a distraction.

Now, in a totally different vein, we'll look into Edgewise by Camarin Grae (Naiad, Inc., \$9.95). The story revolves around Jude Alta who returns home to a small town in Colorado to visit her dying friend, Rosalie. The entire town is awaiting word on how Rosalie's vast wealth and property will be distributed. The women of Circle Edge, a mysterious feminist community outside of town is also awaiting Rosalie's death and disposition of her wealth.

The women of Circle Edge have been around as long as Jude can remember, but neither she nor the town folk know much about them. That is until Jude is invited to visit their community.

Soon, Jude finds herself being taken in by the religious beliefs and charismatic

leaders of the Circle Edge community. She also discovers that her arrival in the community has been foretold and that it supposedly signals the beginnings of a world-changing time.

As she gets more and more involved with the women of Circle Edge, Jude's lover and their friends become more and more concerned . . . especially when they learn that her life may be in danger in a symbolic ritual.

Camarin Grae's novels are always intriguing but I found this one especially so! She puts enormous energy into creating situations and personalities that are out of the norm — this is especially true of Edgewise and the Kwo-Amian religion Ms. Grae has invented for it. This book is thoroughly enjoyable and extremely well written. I highly recommend it to any lover of intrigue and good fiction.

Both Pleasures and Edgewise are from Naiad Press, Inc., P.O. Box 10543, Tallahassee, FL 32302. Please enclose 15% postage. Complete catalogs are available upon request.



Curious Times

more than a bookstore

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Dallas

Stephanie Knowland has the power . . .



Even as a child, Stephanie realized that her psychic abilities set her apart from others. Now, a crazed killer whom she helped send to prison is determined to exact his revenge on Stephanie and her lover. Stephanie's power alone is not enough to save them against the psychopath who has decided to play a fiendish cat-and-mouse game with the two women.

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What does your ex-lover mean to you?



Are you best friends? Enemies? Do you provide emotional support for one another . . . or have you lost contact? Through dozens of personal interviews with lesbians and their ex-lovers, Carol Becker has charted the course that a break-up may take. She shows how the end of a relationship can provide a time for important personal growth, and how former lovers can also serve as the foundation for new forms of family and community.

UNBROKEN TIES: Lesbian Ex-Lovers by Carol Becker

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ALYSON PUBLICATIONS

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WHAT IS YOUR NET WORTH?



There is a lot of talk these days about "net worth". *Texas Monthly* recently ran a list of the 100 richest Texans, all had a net worth over one-hundred million dollars. Now, mine wasn't even close to that and yours probably won't be either, but wouldn't you like to know where you stand? The following questions are to help you figure your net worth. Answer all the questions that pertain to you and leave the ones that don't apply blank.

Assets

What is the current balance of your:

Checking Account? \$ _____
Savings Account? \$ _____
IRA or Keough plans? \$ _____

What is the current value of your:

Savings Certificates? \$ _____
Savings Bonds? \$ _____

Retirement or Profit Sharing Plan?	\$ _____
Cash Value of Life Insurance Policy?	\$ _____
Automobile?	\$ _____
Household Furnishings & Appliances?	\$ _____
Jewelry & Furs?	\$ _____
Other Assets?	\$ _____

What Is The Market Value of:

Your Home?	\$ _____
Other Real Estate?	\$ _____
Stocks?	\$ _____
Bonds?	\$ _____
Mutual Funds?	\$ _____
Other Investments (including collectibles)?	\$ _____
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ _____

Liabilities

What is the total of your:

Current Bills - including rent?	\$ _____
Mortgage Balance?	\$ _____
Credit Card Balances?	\$ _____
Auto Loan Balance?	\$ _____
Student Loan Balance?	\$ _____
Other Loan balances or Debts?	\$ _____
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ _____

To figure your current net worth, subtract your total liabilities from your total assets.

Total Assets	\$ _____
- <u>Total Liabilities</u>	\$ _____
= Net Worth	\$ _____



Poetry

Not A Day Goes By . . .

I grant myself ten minutes to bask
in the lime-green, adolescent glow, and
my heart striking xylophone-ribs, but
I help your hand, anyway.

My shower runs like the one
you liked so much in San Antonio,
just in case you surprise me
and come by.

The realist in me shrugs,
takes one last look for the day -
time and distance make dreams ragged
and more remnants drift away.

I share my love with someone, now.
We don't know where we are going, but
she trusts and loves me in ways
I've never known.

And so that's good,
and . . . not a day goes by
that I don't think of you.

-S. Hoffman
McKinney, TX

Would you like to see your poetry or short stories in print? Send us a copy!
Please include your name, address, phone number & signature. All poetry received
will be assumed for publication. Your signature grants Dimensions permission to
publish and verifies that you are the author/owner of said poetry or writings.
Be sure and tell us if you want to use your real name or what pen name you prefer.

Horoscope

What's in the Stars for You this month?

VIRGO

(August 23rd- Sept 22nd)

You may be worried about job security during the **first week of September**. Things will be looking up by week's end and an idea of yours could even lead to extra money. From the **9th thru the 16th** try to control your tendency to be possessive and your love life will be much happier. From the **17th thru the 23rd** everything seems to fall in place and you will be feeling in control again. Problems with a partner will be worked out if both sides make an effort. From the **24th to the 30th** you will be well on your way to working through all your problems and your outlook will be positive.

LIBRA

(Sept 23rd - Oct 23rd)

Your love life is looking up during the **first week of September**. Either your current romance is heating up or a new one is just around the corner! From the **9th thru the 16th** a career decision should be put on hold. Time and perspective could change your mind about a goal you made in the past. From the **17th thru the 23rd** don't let a co-worker get in the way of your success on the job. Someone could be trying to sabotage your work. From the **24th thru the 30th** your social life is back in full swing and you can't wait to jump in! Your energy is high and you're ready to play!

SCORPIO

(Oct 24th -Nov 22nd)

Affairs of the heart are accented during the **first week of September**. Everything is going good at home and at work. From the **9th thru the 16th** a bad situation at work could be getting worse. This could lead to problems in your personal life if you take out your frustrations on loved ones. From the **17th thru the 23rd** positive changes will be on the horizon at work. Things will improve in your relationship and you will be more involved with others. From the **24th thru the 30th** your home life and career may, once again, be competing with each other. You may have to juggle your time and energies to keep everyone happy, but you'll come through all right.

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov 23-Dec 21)

The **first week of September** is a good time for setting goals, both for career and romance. Try to make them reasonable and accessible so that you don't get in over your head. From the **9th thru the 16th** your love life will be in the forefront. Your relationship with that special person will be strong and secure. Keep a conservative view on financial matters. From the **17th thru the 23rd** you will be feeling very laid-back. Keep in mind that curiosity can get you in trouble and mind your own business at work. From the **24th thru**

the 30th you may be feeling nervous and restless. Get out with friends or plan some special activities to get you out of the house.

CAPRICORN

(Dec 22nd - Jan 19th)

Money matters could be taking up all your time during the first week of September. A new, unexpected romance could also heat up this week. From the 9th thru the 16th everything is going your way, as long as you remember to put your career first. Work may seem tedious but the rewards will be plentiful. From the 17th to the 23rd you may be thinking seriously about committing yourself to a relationship. Don't go too fast, you may still have your head in the clouds. From the 24th thru the 30th be sure to keep your emotions under control. A problem in your relationship could have you feeling down but things will be back on track by the last day of the month.

AQUARIUS

(Jan 20th - Feb 18th)

The first week of September may find you re-assessing some personal relationship, either at work or at home. You will be at the center of attention from the 9th thru the 16th. You may be feeling successful in every way, but don't take on too much or you'll find yourself swamped next week. From the 17th thru the 23rd you will be busy planning personal goals and activities. There could also be an exciting new romance in the works. From the 24th thru the 30th you should try to keep your positive attitude no matter what you encounter. Make time this week to

think through important decisions.

PISCES

(Feb 19th-Mar 20th)

During the first week of September, it is hard for anything to go wrong. Love, money, career, and social life are all positive. The 9th thru the 16th will prove to be a most productive week for you, both at work and in your love life. Your self-confidence will bring positive reactions from those around you. From the 17th to the 23rd you may be feeling irresponsible and irritated; but the latter part of the week will find you more responsible, caring, and playful. The 24th thru the 30th may be full of emotional ups and downs. You will come to realize how important another person is to you. But, at the same time, you may discover some deception in a close personal relationship. Try to rely on your intuition. It won't steer you wrong.

ARIES

(Mar 21st - April 19)

The first week of September will find you planning your career and how to move ahead. Don't expect too much, you may have to return to the drawing board several times to get everything squared away. The 9th thru the 16th could see your plans take off, don't be afraid to push for what you want. Things may not be what they appear in a new romance. From the 17th to the 23rd you may be more concerned with domestic affairs. Now is a fine time to let those you love know how you feel. The 24th to the 30th may be emotionally trying, but don't let it get you down. The last three days of the month will bring both luck and love.

TAURUS

(April 20th-May 20th)

You may not find time for travel during the **first week of September**, but that will not make the urge go away! Your career is taking an upward turn thanks to the attention of a higher-up and it will keep you firmly attached to your desk. From the **9th thru the 16th** romance and social activities will have to be cut back due to extra stress at work. From the **17th thru the 23rd**, your social and romantic life will come back into play and the feeling of isolation you have been experiencing will go away. From the **24th thru the 30th** you may find you do not share the same romantic feelings as someone you have been seeing. The love and support of friends may be more satisfying than that of a lover.

GEMINI

(May 21st - June 21st)

Confidence and control are your key assets during the **first week of September**. Calm and poise will be your ticket to success. You will succeed as long as you keep the eccentric side of your nature under control. The **9th thru the 16th** will find you with a full social calendar and the prospect of a new and exciting romance. Control the urge to overspend. You may have some decisions to make about a relationship from the **17th to the 23rd**. You could find yourself pulled between the carefree single life and an intense romantic involvement. From the **24th thru the 30th** you will have a tendency to overreact both emotionally and physically. Keep a short rein on your temper.

CANCER

(June 22th - July 22th)

Social activities seem especially attractive during the **first week of September**. Romance will also spice up your life. It may seem like all fun and games but remember your commitments and responsibilities. From the **9th thru the 16th** you may feel like you are on a roller-coaster. Maintain your charm and poise and it will see you through these trying times. Be cautious with your money now. From the **17th thru the 23rd** it will be best to stay home and relax. A full social calendar can leave you emotionally drained. The week of the **24th thru the 30th** will be exciting and rewarding. Your charm and charisma could put you in the role of trendsetter as well as filling your social calendar!

LEO

(July 23rd - August 22nd)

The **first week of September** could find you moving ahead and making plans for your future. Be cautious with your money - do not take any unnecessary financial risks. The **9th to the 16th** will bring high energy, romance, and a full social calendar. This can be fun but you'll have to watch your temper and not insist on having everything your way. From the **17th to the 23rd** your thoughts will be torn between your past and future. Don't let a friend slip away because she will prove to be very important to you later on. From the **24th thru the 30th** your career may seem to be going downhill, but be patient, everything will work out. This is a good time to relax with loved ones.



Directory

A Listing of Service Organizations, Businesses & Clubs

ARLINGTON, TX (area code 817)

clubs

Britches & Bloomers

809 N. Collins • 860-8717

organizations

Gay/Lesbian Association of UTA

P.O. Box 19348-77, UTA St. 76019
794-5140

AUSTIN, TX (area code 512)

clubs

Nexus/Petticoat Junction

401 & 401-B E. 2nd • 495-9553

organizations

Affirmation (Methodist)

7403 Shoal Creek • 451-2329

Austin Lambda

P.O. Box 5455 78763

Gay/Lesbian Student

Association at UT Austin • 458-3971

Box 275 Texas Union 78712-7338

Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby

P.O. Box 2505 78768

Metropolitan Community Church

1100 Springdale Rd. • 929-3660

Oasis Ministry

5555 N. Lamar Blvd. #L101 • 441-9191

Waterloo Counseling Center

507 Powell 78703 • 322-9654

Texas Human Rights Foundation

2201 N. Lamar # 203 78705 • 479-8473

AIDS Legal Assistance 1-800-828-6417

DALLAS, TX (area code 214)

businesses

Business Delivery Systems

14902 Preston Rd. 75240 • 733-1108

Crossroads Market

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521-8919 or 1-800-992-6404

Curious Times - Women's Books etc.

4008-D Cedar Springs 75219 • 528-4087

clubs

Jugs • 3810 Congress

Sue Ellen's

3903 Cedar Springs • 559-0707

Desert Moon • 5903 Willis • 828-4471

organizations

Affirmation (Methodist)

P.O. Box 225831 75222 • 948-1546

AIDS Resource Center

3920 Cedar Springs 75219

Dallas Gay Alliance

P.O. Box 190712 75219 • 528-4233

Dallas Gay/Lesbian Historic Archives

3930 Cedar Springs • 821-1653

Dallas Gay Youth Group

300 Turtle Creek Plaza #116 • 307-7203

Dallas Outdoors

P.O. Box 35474 75235 • 276-5270

Dallas Tavern Guild

3900 Lemmon Ave. #220 • 526-5292

Foundation for Human Understanding

528-4233

Gay/Lesbian Young Adults

528-4233

Grace Fellowship in Christ Jesus

2727 Oak Lawn 75219 • 528-2811

Lesbian Information Line (LIL)

P.O. Box 191443 75219 • 528-2426

Lesbia/Gay Political Coalition

P.O. Box 224424 75222 • 828-9882

Lesbian/Gay Rights Advocates

528-4233

Lesbian Visionaries

P.O. Box 191443 75219 • 521-9642

Metroplex Republicans

P.O. Box 191033 75219 • 941-8114

Oak Lawn Community Services

3000 Turtle Creek Plaza, Suite 116

75219-5311 • 520-8108

Oak Lawn Symphonic Band

P.O. Box 190973 75219 • 986-1751

Womyn Together

3920 Cedar Springs • 528-4233

DENTON, TX (area code 817)

organizations

COURAGE, Lesbian Gay Student Org. •

c/o Student Activities Center

P.O. Box 5067 76203 • 382-3813

FT. WORTH (area code 817)

clubs

Partners

1612 Park Place • 924-2519

organizations

Affirmation (Methodist) • 478-7837

HOUSTON, TX (area code 713)**clubs****Keystroke**

Keystroke Hotline 785-9258
Ranch • 9125 S. Main • 666-3464

organizations

AIDS Foundation
3400 Montrose #700 • 524-AIDS

AIDS HOTLINE

c/o Switchboard • 529-3211

Gay/Lesbian Students**University of Houston**

4800 Calhoun • 529-3211

Gay & Lesbian Switchboard

P.O. Box 66591 77266 • 529-3211

Houston Gay Political Caucus

P.O. Box 66664 77266 • 521-1000

Kingdom Community Church

614 E. 19th • 862-7533

Lambda ALANON

Lambda Center for Alcoholics

1214 Joanne • 521-9772

Lesbian/Gay Students

University of Houston - Clear Lake

2700 Bay Area 77058

Montrose Pool League/Billiards

PJ 863-8482

PWA Coalition - Houston

3327 Essex Lane • 623-4436

Womynspace

P.O. Box 980601 77098-0601

880-9517 or 521-0780

Women's Softball League

6431 Pineshade • 868-6256

LUBBOCK, TX (area code 806)**organizations**

Lubbock Lesbian/Gay Alliance

P.O. Box 64746 79464 • 796-2403

Names Project/Lubbock

796-1800 or 744-1957

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

**Affirmation: United Methodists for
Lesbian/Gay Concerns**

P.O. Box 1021 • Evanston, IL 60204

AIDS Action Council

729 Eighth St. S.E. Suite 200

Washington, DC 20003 • (202) 547-3101

AIDS 800 • 1-800-221-7044

Conference For Catholic Lesbians

P.O. Box 436, Planetarium Station

New York, New York 10024

NH Gay Alliance for Young Adults,

Inc.P.O. Box 190426

Dallas, TX 75219-0426 • (214) 307-7203

National Gay/Lesbian Clearinghouse

666 Broadway 4th Floor

NY, NY 10012

National Gay/Lesbian Crisisline

1-800-SOS-GAYS

National Gay/Lesbian Task Force

1517 U Street NW

Washington D.C. 20009 • 202-332-6483

The Fund for Human Dignity

666 Broadway 4th Floor

NY, NY 10012

NORMAN, OK (area code 405)**organizations**

Women's Resource Center

P.O. Box 5089 73070

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK**(area code 405)****organizations**

Oasis the Community Center

2135 NW 39th 73112 • 525-AIDS

Herland Sister Resources, Inc.

2312 NW 39th 73112 • 794-7464

SAN ANTONIO, TX**(area code 512)****clubs****The Circle**

8021 Pinebrook • 341-2818

Memories

6402 Callaghan Road

organizations**Dignity/San Antonio**

202 N. St. Mary's • 349-3632

Integrity/San Antonio

P.O. Box 150006 78212 • 684-4920

River City Living Metropolitan**Community Church**

202 Holland 78212 • 822-1121

LISA (Lesbian Information SA)

828-LISA (5472)

San Antonio AIDS Foundation

P.O. Box 120113 78212-9313

San Antonio Tavern Guild • 822-2823

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND, TX**(area code 512)****accomodations**

Lyle's Deck • 120 E. Atol St.

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3. Figure the cost of the ad by multiplying the number of words times 25¢ (50¢ per word for business and commercial ads) and multiply the cost of the ad by the number of months you would like it to run.
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5. Box numbers for personal ads will be assigned and should not be counted.
6. All classified ads must be paid in advance. Please enclose a check or money order for the total amount of the ad.

AD INFO

All personal information will be held in strictest confidence

Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____ Phone () _____

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Personals | <input type="checkbox"/> Roommates | <input type="checkbox"/> Work Wanted |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Messages | <input type="checkbox"/> For Rent/Lease | <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Books/Publications | <input type="checkbox"/> For Sale | <input type="checkbox"/> Investments |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Travel | <input type="checkbox"/> Help Wanted | <input type="checkbox"/> Miscellaneous |

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Complete form and mail to:

DIMENSIONS • P.O. Box 856 • Lubbock, TX 79408 • (806) 797-9647

HOW TO ANSWER A #'d PERSONAL AD

Put Your reply in an envelope, seal shut and put your return address and the Box # on it as shown. **Be sure to stamp this envelope as well as the one you send to us!**

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

Your Return Address	<input type="checkbox"/>
Box #XXX	
Your Return Address	<input type="checkbox"/>
DIMENSIONS P.O. Box 856 Lubbock, TX 79408	

CLASSIFIED ADS

2" X 1 1/2"
Display Ad
With Border
& Bold Headline
\$25 per Month

RATES:
25¢ Per Word
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Personal

GWF, attractive, teacher/entertainer, enjoys sports, wanting to meet: professional 35-40's, non-drinker, non-smoker, no drugs, I have western interests, artistic, musical, gentle, creative. Reply to Box #200.

GWF, professional, career-oriented executive, 32, who is an avid sports fan, enjoys movies and quiet quality time, seeks 30-40 GWF who desires the same. Please no smokers, drinkers or drugs. HOUSTON. Reply to box #203.

BABY — Stable and loving gay male couple in Texas want to become parents; searching for surrogate mother for legal arrangement. Call (713) 999-4933.

FT. WORTH/DALLAS: GWF, 25, seeks mature, feminine woman (22-32) who is sensitive, honest, affectionate, and believes in monogamy. No drugs. Reply to Box #204.

SAN ANTONIO GWF, 33, moving to the area in January. Technical, Sensitive, Romantic, Caring, Honest, Monogamous. Seeking friendship in San Antonio/Austin area. Possible relationship. I enjoy running, hiking, RB, romantic dinners, movies and quiet evenings at home. No drinking, drugs or smoking. Reply to Box #205.

DALLAS GWF Couple, 44 and 59, seeks friends for laughter, conversation, eating out and card games. P.O. Box 227361, Dallas, TX 75222.

MCR, Nine years, loveliest of friends, friendliest of lovers, honour me with your hand in marriage. Ruth; 16:17. SD

HOUSTON GWF - Seeks fun-loving, spiritual, creative, attractive, professional woman to share the wild, quiet, and reflective times. Reply to Box #207.

ADVENTUROUS LESBIAN - Desires Friend/Lover to explore life's possibilities.

Maybe share a dream or two. It's up to you.
Dallas. Reply to Box #208.

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Messages

SAN ANTONIO, Please tell SIC that KED
will be moving home in November
---Just-U-N-I.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY HONEY

*Not like aging wine, my dear,
for you are the Nectar of the gods.*

*Keats said, "A thing of
beauty is a joy forever."*

So say I, Love.

Sandy

OLA, Be Happy Moja Malenka! Kocham
Cie, Twoja Myszka.

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY
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