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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

For Advertising
Information &
Rates,
Call or Write
Tasha Sumner at:

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# We Need Writers:

Dimensions needs writers of short stories and feature articles.

Articles and stories must be between 1500-2000 words in length, typed, double-spaced. Subject matter should relate to lesbians and/or women's concerns. Explicit erotica and profanity is discouraged.

Send your submission along with SASE to:

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#### To The Editor

Letters and Comments From Our Readers

#### Nancy Ford Expresses Thanks

RE: AUGUST 14 MID-LIFE CRISIS FUNDRAISER FOR AIDS FOUNDATION-HOUSTON WITH JULIA "PAT" SWEENEY

#### Dear Ones,

What a Birthday, What a Birthday....! Picture it. There we were at The Ranch—capacity crowd, the best entertainers in Houston, latex flying through the air, hundreds of dollars' worth of raffle prizes flying out the door...honey, we ate, drank and were exceedingly merry. And when all was said and done, \$3,200 and change was raised for AIDS Foundation-Houston for the purchase and distribution of safer sex supplies and literature for lesbians.

Big time thanks go to Betsy Worden and Janice Sickles and the family at Plaza 9200, Clay Howell, Lori Herzog at Advance Damron Vacations, Gerri Frasier at Alvin Guggenheim & Associates, Alice Tomasello and Gayle

Hux at JAG Residential Mortgage, Beau Cain, all the entertainers, all the technicians, all the sponsors, all the contributors, and all you crazy people who were stuffing money into my bustier all

evening. And, muchas muchas gracias to the patrons who sent those jello shots to Julia "Pat" Sweeney and I. Whatever you had in mind, let's just say it worked... Hope you'll join us again in august '95, for Nancy Ford's Second Annual Mid-Life Crisis, when I revert to 39.

Again, thanks to everyone involved for making this event the success that it was. Happy Birthday to us all,

XXX, Nancy Ford Houston, TX



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# THE NEWS

FROM AROUND THE REGION, THE COUNTRY & THE WORLD

#### HOMOPHOBIA STOPS HERE

SAN FRANCISCO - A dramatic new tape produced in response to the video wars launched by the Radical Right has been released by noted lesbian activist Dee Mosbacher and Frances Reid. The tape comes at a time of increasing hate crimes and initiatives proposed to codify discrimination against lesbians and gays. The 24 minute video movingly confronts the lies and distortions of the "Agenda" videos churned out by the multi million dollar political machine of the Radical Right. "Straight From The Heart," a project eight months in development, profiles parents who have come to a new understanding of their gay and lesbian children, and now courageously wish to share their stories. The filmmakers produced the video with a broad target audience in mind, hoping that the simple truth would be a powerful opponent to the lies and propaganda found in anti-gay/lesbian videos. It will be circulated in states that are facing anti-gay/lesbian videos. It will be circulated in states that are facing antilesbian/gay ballot initiatives, and will be shown to legislators, educators, church members, and anyone who has been left confused and misinformed by the hateful rhetoric of the Radical Right. "This video is about saving lives lives that may otherwise be lost to the brutality of homophobia," says Mosbacher. "I hope that somehow it can be seen by all parents who have

turned their backs on their gay and lesbian children."

Dee Mosbacher is the daughter of Robert Mosbacher, former Secretary of Commerce in the Bush Administration and chief fundraiser for Bush's 1992 reelection campaign. Although she has been an activist all of her adult life, her commitment to fighting the Radical Right became a central theme after watching the "gay bashing" of the Republican National Convention. Mosbacher states, "I feel a tremendous sense of urgency as we face the dangerous and well-funded Radical Right. For some of us, this may be a matter of life or death."

"Straight From the Heart" can be purchased for \$39.95 by writing to Woman Vision at 3145 Geary Boulevard, Box 421, San Francisco, CA 94118.

# GAY RIGHTS COMMERCIAL FILMED IN DALLAS

DALLAS, TX - The Dallas-based nonprofit organization, Alliance For Progress (AFP), in conjunction with WPI Productions, shot its first television commercial entitled Sunday Morning in various Dallas locations, including the home of Human Rights Campaign Fund board member, Lory Masters.

Sunday Morning is similar in design to Roger Ailes' 1984 Presidential commercial entitled Morning in America. The commercial depicts the daily lives of lesbians and gay through a series of vignettes. These images pointedly show that the lesbian/gay community shares the same values of family, religion, patriotism, and economic success as the heterosexual community.

"It's important that the lesbian/gay community educate parents. grandparents, friends, co-workers, and neighbors to the fact that the majority of lesbians and gays live normal, everyday lives, except with a same-gender partner. The most cost-effective way to inform them is through 30-second television commercials aired into their homes," stated co-founder Christopher Parman. "It's a simple message to counteract the Radical Right's propaganda to heterosexuals that lesbians and gays are sexual deviants out to spread AIDS and molest children."

"If the lesbian/gay community intends to achieve equal rights and protection," stated co-founder Jon Etienne Mourot, "it must send its message to the people who elect our country's leaders. Until a proper foundation is laid, our lobbying efforts will not succeed."

"These commercials have been designed with three goals in mind," according to Parman. "First, educate the heterosexual community that like it, the lesbian/gay community is mostly mainstream, so that the negative stereotypes spread by the Radical Right will be negated. Second, show that the harsh reality of discrimination, hatred, and violence against lesbians and gays necessitates legal protection. Finally, to cut the alarming rate of teen suicides we must provide positive role models

proclaiming that it is OK to be gay." AFP plans to air Sunday Morning before September in a Midwestern state which is home to a Radical Right fanatic known for his attacks upon the lesbian/gay community. Soon thereafter, AFP will air Sunday morning and other education commercials throughout the Heartland. AFP needs the financial support of the lesbian/gay community to effectively implement its advertising campaign. To inquire about obtaining videotapes of the commercial, hosting community fundraisers or to make a financial donation, contact Jon Etienne Mourot at Alliance for Progress, The Centrum, Suite 700, 3102 Oak Lawn Ave., Dallas, TX 75219-4272. For more information, call 1-800-520-4237 or 214-520-2205 in Dallas. AFP may also be reached by electronic mail AFProgress@aol.com.

#### Amarillo Men Charged With Hate Crime

AMARILLO, TX - Wayne Blodgett, a guard at the Clements unit of the Texas Department of Corrections now faces charges of terroristic threat in connection with an incident in which three men terrorized a group of campers at McBride Canyon on May 21, 1994. The campers were members of the Amarillo Lesbian Gay Alliance (ALGA)

Potter County, TX Attorney Sonya Letson also confirmed that two 20-yearold Fritch, TX residents each face six month pretrial diversions in which they must meet the terms of a voluntary probation. Although the charges filed against Blodgett are normally a Class B misdemeanor, a hate-crimes enhancement used in the State of Texas increased the charges against him to a Class A misdemeanor. The prison guard was charged, booked and arraigned in mid-July with his bond set at \$1,000. Blodgett's next court appearance is scheduled for October 5, 1994.

The two other men will both report to a probation officer just as if the probation were court-ordered instead of voluntary.

Terms include financial restitution for damages, counseling as directed by the probation department and community service.

The community service portion of the voluntary probation agreement involves speaking engagements with local groups focusing on violence and discrimination against gays and lesbians. ALGA will be working with court officials in scheduling and arranging those public meetings.

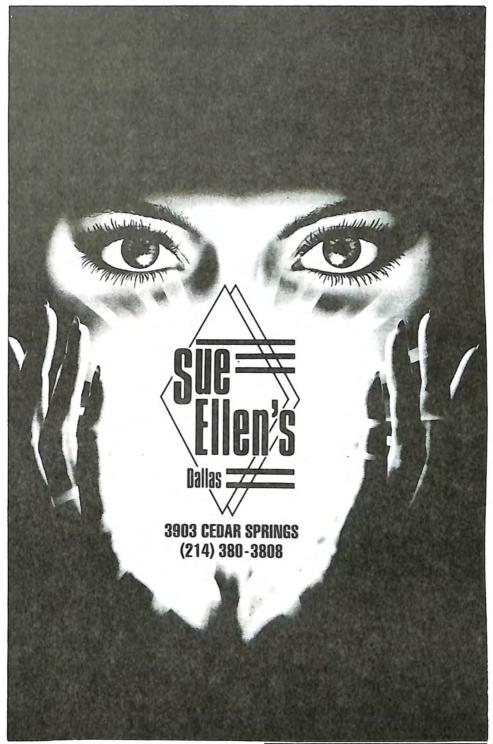
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# WHAT'S GOIN' ON

A MONTHLY LISTING OF SPECIAL EVENTS ALL AROUND THE AREA

TEXAS - The Eleventh Annual Texas Gay Rodeo Association (TGRA) Rodeo will happen November 11-13 in Austin, TX at the Travis County Exposition Center. In addition to the rodeo on Saturday and Sunday, there will be a dance both nights. Individual tickets are \$12.50 for each day's rodeo and \$5 for each night's dance. The package ticket price for all events is available for \$25 (a \$10 savings) if you purchase your tickets by November 1st. Hotel accommodations are available at the Doubletree Hotel (1-800-222-TREE or 512-454-3737) and at the Red Lion Hotel (1-800-547-8010 or 512-323-5466). Ask for the TGRA rate when making reservations. For information about vendor spaces, volunteering or about the rodeo itself, call 214-720-6051 or 512-835-5314. To order your tickets, send your check, along with your name, address and phone number to: TGRA Rodeo Director, PO Box 116863, Carrollton, TX 75011-6863, ATTN: Tickets.

FORT WORTH - Pleiades Productions is proud to present the "diva of comedy," Karen Williams on Friday, September 23rd at 8pm at the Agape MCC Auditorium (4615 S.E. California Parkway). Tickets are \$12 in advance or \$15 at the door and are available at Connections Bookstore, Collections Antique Gallery and Agape MCC in Fort Worth or at Crossroads Market in Dallas. For more info, call (817) 923-4625.

HOUSTON - Lesbians In Business (LIB) will hold a Pool Party & Dance on Sunday, September 4th from 7-11pm. Tickets are \$6 in advance and \$8 at the door and are available at Inklings Bookshop. The regular LIB meeting will be held on Friday, September 16th at 6pm at 20 Greenway Plaza. For more info, call (713) 529-0077.

AUSTIN - Sapphfire, a social/support group for lesbians meets every 2nd and 4th Friday of each month from 7-9pm at the Metropolitan Community Church at 425 Woodward St., across from St. Edwards University. All events are smoke and chemical free. For more info, call (512) 450-0659.

HOUSTON - The Bar Association for Human Rights (BAHR) is hosting a Law Student Mixer on Thursday, September 22nd from 6-8pm at Toopee's Coffee House (1830 West Alabama). Law students and legal professionals are invited to mix, mingle and network. Law students will receive their first drink free, courtesy of BAHR and student membership fees for 1994 have been waived for students joining by September 30th. for more info or to join BAHR, call Barry at (713) 247-9500.

AMARILLO - All lesbian, gay and bisexual people and their friends are invited to join the Queer Dinner Club (QDC). The club meets on the first and third Thursday of every month at 7:30pm at Italian Delights (10th &

Georgia) in the side dining room. QDC is sponsored by the Amarillo Lesbian & Gay Alliance (ALGA). For more information on QDC, other ALGA events or Amarillo area gay-friendly business and organizations, call the ALGA information line at (806) 373-5725.

SAN ANTONIO - A new organization has formed for Lesbian Mothers, called LEMOSA (Lesbian Moms of San Antonio). The group will hold monthly meetings for lesbian parents, co-parents, grandparents or mom wannabes. At press time, the meeting date for September had not been announced, but you can learn more about the organization and when and where they will meet this month by calling LEMOSA at (210) 684-3145 or (210) 690-2481.

#### OF INTEREST TO ALL

Lesbianas Latinas de Tuscon and National Latino/a Lesbian Gay Organization (LLEGO) will cosponsor the First National Leadership and Self Empowerment Conference for Latina Lesbians in Tuscon Arizona September 16-18. If you would like more information on the conference, call Carmen Chavez (of National LLEGO) at (202) 544-0092 or Alicia Lopez (co-chair of San Antonio's ELLAS) at (210) 531-9874.



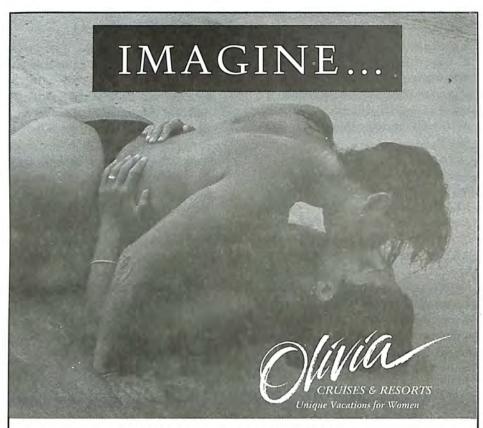
If you have information for What's Goin' On, please send it to us!

Deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month before publication.

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## DEAR AGNES

Answers to your questions about love, relationships & personal problems

#### Dear Agnes,

My problem is long and drawn out, but here's a shorter version. My lover and I have been together on and off for four years.

She messed around on me with one of my friends (now ex-friend). I forgave her for that and all the other things she had done and went back to her. She told me once that I was stupid for running back to her without even thinking about it

In March, I met a woman I thought was a good friend. My lover and I were trying to get back together and I told my friend about it. While I was taking my time thinking about the situation with my lover and I, I told all my thoughts to this friend.

She, in turn, was telling my lover that I was confused because I wanted both of them and to leave me alone. My lover decided to believe her and not me and has built up alot of anger towards me. Last week, for the first time, My lover and I compared notes and found out what this woman had done. My lover is so angry that she wants to end everything.

I am losing the only woman I want because we couldn't communicate and she is blaming me. What should I do?

HURTING Austin, TX

#### Dear Hurting,

Communication is definitely not the strong point in this relationship. I suspect that your lover is upset that you confided in someone else about the problems in your relationship with her. You should talk to her about this and see if you can reach some kind of understanding. Friends like this are always a big "help" to a couple having problems.

If you stay together, go to a counselor and learn to talk with one another. Your relationship will much richer and much more stable for it.

#### Dear Agnes,

I've never seen this problem addressed in your column before, but hopefully you can help.

My lover has gone gambling crazy. If we stop a a convenience store to buy a coke, she will spend five dollars on lottery tickets. If she has twenty dollars in her pocket, she'll spend all of it on scratch-offs.

We went to a gambling resort recently and she lost a thousand dollars at the table games and slot machines.

We don't have that kind of money to lose. A little savings, yes; but we can't drop a thousand dollars or afford twenty dollars a shot on scratch off tickets.

My lover is sure the "big win" is just around the corner. I've tried and tried to tell her that is a how the casinos have built all those fancy hotels.

I don't know what to do with her anymore. Maybe she will listen to someone else's advice.

Lottomania Arlington, TX

#### Dear Lotto,

Gambling can definitely be addicting. She may truly believe she can win big, but more than likely all she will do is end up spending all your hard-earned savings. Twelve-step Gambling programs (similar to Alcoholics Anonymous) are available in most large cities.

Gambling should only be looked at as recreation. You should never gamble with money you can't afford to lose. This means setting aside a specific amount of money to gamble with and when it is gone — you're gone.

Base your gambling on your take home pay, not on your savings. If you only take home a thousand dollars a month, you can't afford to gamble much even if you have \$100,000 in the bank. The long term trend on any type of gambling,

whether it's the lottery, the horses or casino gambling, is that you lose. A very lucky few will win big, but most of us won't fall in that category.

There are many good books on gambling and money management. Get one of these books, study it and have your lover read it. If you can't get her to stop gambling, maybe you can at least improve her odds a little.

Gambling, win or lose, is emotional. You must either learn to control those emotions or you risk losing everything.

9

WRITE TO "AGNES"
WITH YOUR PROBLEMS AT:
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LUBBOCK, TX 79408



# Taking Care Of Your Car

Next to a house, a car is one of the biggest investments you'll ever make. Mechanics say that any car can run well over a hundred-thousand miles if it is properly maintained. The first step in taking care of your car is to read the owner's manual and follow the maintenance schedule provided. The following article will give you some recommendations on regular maintenance. A checklist of maintenance items will help you remember what needs to be done and when.

#### OIL

The single most important thing you can do to prolong the life of your car is change the oil and filter on a regular basis. Your owner's manual will give you the guidelines for when to change it and what type of oil and filter to use. Although the best general guideline is to change your oil every three months or 3,000 miles, this can vary depending on what kind of driving you do. If your car is used mainly for short drives of less than seven miles, you should change you oil more often (every 2,000-2,500 miles). If you commute great distances or regularly drive your car more than fifteen miles at a time, you can wait a little longer (every 3,500-4,000 miles). If you drive long distances every day, you might also consider changing to a synthetic oil. Synthetics are more expensive, but they only have to be changed every 7,000-7,500 miles. Synthetic oil withstands much higher temperatures and burns cleaner, longer than petroleum-based oils.

#### GAS

Unless you owner's manual specifically recommends premium gasoline, don't buy it. Premium gas does not provide more power or better fuel economy unless you have a high-performance, unless you have a high-performance, turbo-charged car. The only reason to use premium instead of regular unleaded is if you hear a "ping" in the engine. If this is the case, one fill-up with premium every month or two will usually eliminate the problem.

#### OTHER FLUIDS

Brake fluid, power steering fluid,

transmission fluid and rear axle fluid should be checked every six months and changed at least every two years (check your owner's manual). You should check anti-freeze level at least once a month and have your radiator flushed and new anti-freeze put in every two years. Anti-freeze/coolant strength should also be checked in late spring and fall to be sure that there is enough

CAR MAINTENANCE CHECKLIST WHEN FILLING UP Check Oil Level Check Coolant Level
MONTHLY (or Before a Long Trip)  Check tire pressure and examine for wear or damage.  Check to be sure all lights are working.  Check underneath car for fluid leaks
EVERY THREE MONTHS  Change Oil & Filter.
EVERY SIX MONTHS(Usually Spring & Fall)  ☐ Check power-steering, brake and transmission fluid levels. ☐ Check temperature protection level of coolant. ☐ Check hoses and belts for wear or cracks. ☐ Check air filter & replace if dirty
YEARLY
☐ Lubricate locks with graphite (never use oil). ☐ Lubricate door hinges, hood, trunk and other hinges with oil. ☐ Have tires rotated and wheels aligned.
EVERY TWO YEARS
<ul> <li>☐ Have radiator flushed and replace anti-freeze.</li> <li>☐ Change brake, transmission, power-steering and rear-axle fluids</li> </ul>
EVERY FOUR YEARS
Replace Spark Plugs, belts, hoses and PCV Valve.

anti-freeze to protect your car from freezing and boiling over. You can get a inexpensive tester that will let you check your protection level at an auto parts store.

#### **FILTERS**

Once again - check your owner's manual. You'll need to check your air filter every six months and change it if it's dirty. Do this more often if you live in a dusty area. If your car is fuel injected, you'll need to change the fuel filter on a regular basis. Most people wait until the car has problems to change the fuel filter, but replacing these filters at regular intervals can save you a big repair bill. If you wait until the fuel filter is clogged to change it, you could end up having to replace your fuel injectors as well.

#### **AC & HEATER**

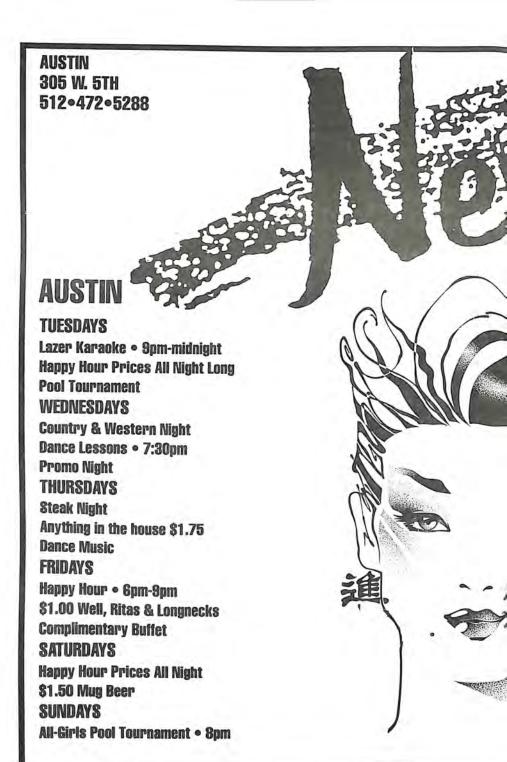
To keep your car's air conditioner running well, you need to run it in the winter. Turning on the AC for at least five minutes, once a month throughout the cold months keep your AC lubricated and helps insure that you'll be cool next summer. The same theory applies to you heater, turn it on for a few minutes once a month in the summer to keep your heater valves from sticking.

#### TIRES

The best thing you can do to lengthen the life of your tires is to maintain them at the proper pressure. Check the pressure every two or three weeks when the tires are cold. If the car has been driven more than five miles, add 4 pounds to the recommended pressure.

continued on page 30





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# WHAT A WORLD, WHAT A WORLD WHAT IS "NORMAL"ANYWAY?

BY NANCY FORD

Get this.

SWISH, an apparently well-moneyed group of transvestite and transsexual investors have collaborated with Taiwanese toymakers to produce *Dragdoll*.

Dragdoll is, according to its creators, "anatomically correct, and comes with short hair, just like normal males. But they're dressed in flouncy frocks and sexy skirts and blouses and they come equipped with long blonde wigs, padded bras and things. Some of them even have makeup and false eyelashes."

By the way, this scoop comes to us courtesy of Weekly World News, so you know it's true. You remember — WWN is the source that broke the news of that bat child found in that cave not long ago, match-made two people possessing the world's longest tongues (16 collective inches, unless he's exaggerating) and the original I-saw-Elvis-in-a-Burger-King story. So, you see, this story must be true, Dragdoll ain't that big a stretch.

Is Dragdoll's timely introduction a coincidence, a brilliant stroke of movie merchandising genius, or another support group waiting to happen? Apparently, Robert Crodent, head of an organization called Concerned Parents for Normal Toys (CPNT), believes it's one more plot to undermine our country's family values. WWN quoted him as saying, "What these disgusting

dolls teach is that there are all kinds of perverts and weirdoes in the world. That's a lesson that unfortunately our kids will learn soon enough."

My town has no active chapter of CPNT; at least, not one with a listed phone number. Too bad. It might be enlightening to learn what toys Crodent's cohorts consider "normal." Gumby? Innocent, but by no means normal. Betsy Wetsy? Nothing normal about a urinating plaything. No need to dredge up the war toy debate — we hear that carol every Christmas.

It is my supreme hope that Crodent will one day have the opportunity to, with an open mind, view The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert. A very new film presented by Polygram Filmed Entertainment, Priscilla is "the story of three drag queens who leave Sydney and travel halfway across Australia to put on a show at a resort." That's production notes lingo. In you-and-me speak, it's La Cage Aux La Mancha a lot like a Hope and Crosby road picture, with Dorothy Lamour playing all the characters. The fem imps change costumes with more inexplicable frequency than the castaways of Gilligan's Island. But that 's a drag queen for you - accessorize, accessorize, assecorize!

Though I'm sure Mr. Crodent would disagree, in a sense this film is very normal. It is a tale of good triumphing

over evil, decision triumphing over doubt, Bernadette, Mitzi and Felicia one transsexual, one gay, one gayer come of age, more spiritually than emotionally, as they realize and conquer their fears, fondest wishes and themselves as they traverse Australia's brutal, yet transforming, outback. In the course of their two week journey. they survive the elements of nature as well as abuses of the most enduring kind, test the limits of their physical and psychological endurance, and find love - all without breaking a nail.

Here's what I find abnormal: I fear that the it's-how-you-look-not-what-youfeel advocates of "normalcy" will see little more to this story that the ostrich plumes and bugle beads. I pray that the inexplicable, yet "normal" violent response of some, when confronted with something different than themselves. will be recognized as archaic instead of embraced as Divine Right. It is not "normal" in 1994 for people to judge and hate and hurt each other on the basis of appearance. Or genealogy. Or spirituality. Or taste in playthings.

Perhaps, not too many more years from now, in a family room somewhere in suburban America, children will play a new version of "Barbies." Dragdoll is invited by Earring Magic Ken to a little bash Barbie is throwing at her Malibu Beach House. Suddenly G.I. Joe storms in, performing a reenactment of the Normandy Invasion. In a Busby Berkeley-esque display of humanitarian show-womanship, Dragdoll swings into a USO number, all fall in love and live happily ever after.

It all sound pretty normal to me.



Nancy Ford performs her one woman improvisational show on Thursdays, Sept. 8 & 22 from 8:30 to midnight at Ms. B's (9200 Buffalo Speedway). Call 713-666-3464 for reservations. Open mic is also available for singers, comics, musicians, poets, etc. Also, a Safer Sex Seminar for Lesbians will be presented in confunction with AIDS Foundation-Houston during the Sept. 22 show.



# Who was the first gay pope? What was the earliest lesbian novel? Where was the first gay civil rights law passed? When was the biggest lesbian and gay demonstration?

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# Ing Furst (147) Pape 2 other reso

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# New!

Informative, entertaining, and attractively illustrated, here is the lesbian sex guide for the '90s. Dealing with such sex practices as cunnilingus, masturbation, and penetration, as well as related topics such as intimacy, nonmonogamy, health, and political correctness, *The Lesbian Sex Book* offers the reader a potpourri of helpful advice. Never judgmental, this guide is perfect for the newly out and the eternally curious.

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by Wendy Caster

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# THE COFFEE CLUB

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

THIS MONTH, TASHA SUMNER INTRODUCES:

# Deadly Rendezvous by Diane Davidson

# Triple Exposure by Jackie Calhoun

The first book we'll look at this month is **Deadly Rendezvous** by Diane Davidson.

Toni Underwood is a lieutenant in the Riverside California Police Department. Her latest case involves a string of brutal murders. Several women have been murdered and left on the side of the Interstate in the California desert.

The trail leads to an exclusive women's guest ranch in Palm Springs and it's owner, Nicky Clark. All the murder victims were guests at the ranch and frequent visitors to Nicky's bed.

Toni, her lover Megan and Sally (the detective assigned to help her in Palm Springs), come up with a plan to find out what Nick is up to. Megan will pose as a wealthy woman from Oregon and stay at Nicky's guest ranch. What she finds is a web of drugs and police corruption, but no real link to the murders. When Megan disappears from Nicky's ranch, Toni is beside herself with worry.

The end of this novel is a real shocker and totally unexpected. There are a few loose ends left hanging, but a sequel is promised.

Ms. Davidson is a compelling writer

and successful at avoiding the expected lot twists.

Deadly Rendezvous is available at your local bookstore, by mail from Rising Tide Press, 5 Kivy Street, Dept RTP, Huntington, Station, NY 11746 or call 1-800-648-5333. For a complete catalog, please enclose two 29¢ stamps with your order.

Next we'll look at **Triple Exposure** by Jackie Calhoun (author of **Sticks and Stones** and **Friends and Lovers**).

Photographer Nicky Hennessy has more than her share of problems. She is already having a hard time making her mortgage payments when she finds out that the business she works for is being shut down. Her lover, Beth is married and unwilling to leave her husband even though she and Beth have been seeing each other for years. On top of this, her parents have asked her to let her younger sister stay with her for the summer.

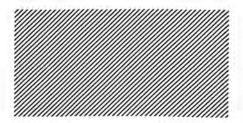
When Nicky meets Meg at a gas station, her life takes a new turn. Meg has a horse she is hiding from her lover Denise. She offers Nicky a hundred dollars a month to board the horse on her property.

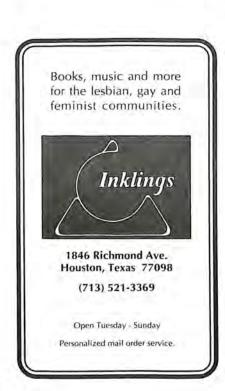
Then, Beth's husband finds out about her lesbian affair with Nicky; and Meg's lover, Denise finds out about the horse. Beth leaves her husband, Meg leaves Denise and Nicky is torn between the two of them. To top it off, Meg's horse disappears under mysterious circumstances.

Oh, what tangled webs we weave. Triple Exposure is a highly entertaining look at one woman's beleaguered life. We've all had at least one year like the one Nicky is trying to get through. A year where things that seem to be right turn out wrong and visa versa. Ms.

Calhoun's talent lies in her ability to take the everyday trials and tribulations of life and turn them into a great book. **Triple Exposure** is available at your local bookstore or by mail for \$9.95 from Naiad Press, Inc., PO Box 10543, Tallahassee, Florida 32302. Please enclose 15% postage and handling. complete catalogs are available upon request.









#### Travis Heights Tonight

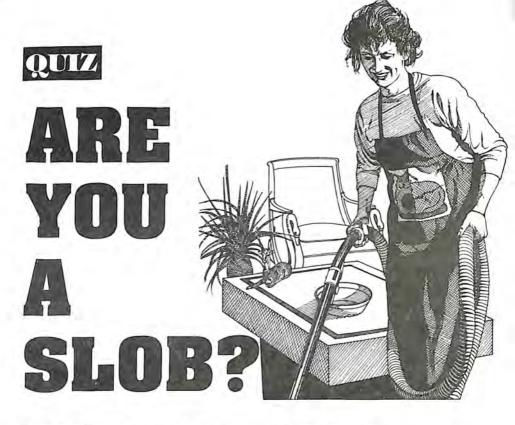
this canopy
Heaven is Smiling
on me
as I
continue to rise
Triumph's Bride
I am alive
in Travis Heights
to-night

I rise to the sky
as the world drowns around my eyes
my foes
lowered to what they suppose
for me
to be
to-night
I claim the prize
I am the victor-wise
and I am alive
in Travis Heights
to-night ...

Destin Ray Smith Austin, 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.



Some people are a little messy, some are total "neatniks" and others are just plain slobs. Where do you fit in? Answer the following questions to find out.

- 1. You let the dishes sit in the sink:
- a. not at all. Dishes should be washed as soon as you are done with them.
- b. sometimes overnight.
- c. until you run out of clean ones.
- When you take your clothes off, you:
- a. either hang them up or put them in the hamper.
- b. hang them over a chair.
- c. leave them on the floor.
- 3. You clean out your car:
- a. once a week

- b. once a month.
- c, when the back floorboard fills up with trash.
- 4. Your refrigerator can be described as:
- a. spotless
- b. unorganized but clean.
- c. green.
- 5. Your bathroom is usually:
- a. clean, with towels hung up and sink and tub scrubbed.
- **b**. messy, but it gets a good scrubbing once a week.
- c. trashed. There is a ring around the tub, piles of clothes and grooming supplies all over the cabinets.
- 6. Your mail is:
- a. neatly divided into stacks: bills,

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junk, person, etc.

b. all stacked up in one pile.
c. all over the house, you have to hunt the bills before you can pay them.

7. When company is coming, you:

a. scrub the entire house.

b. straighten up.

c. do nothing. It's none of their business how you keep house.

8. You make your bed:

a, every morning.

b. on the weekends.

c. never.

9. You clean out the cat box:

a. daily

b. every couple of days.

c. when it stinks up the whole house.

**10.** The window sills in your house are:

a. spotless.

b. dusty.

c. full of dead flies.

#### SCORING

Give yourself points as follows: 10 points for every "A" answer. 6 points for every "B" answer. 4 points for every "C" answer.

#### If you scored: 80-100 points

Slob is not a word that would ever be applied to you. You tend to be neat almost to the point of obsession. It might help to remember that the house won't fall to the ground if you leave a dish in the sink overnight.

#### **60-79** points

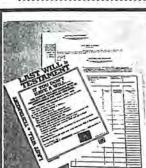
You may feel like a slob sometimes,

but you don't even come close.
Messy? Maybe. Slob? No. Rest
assured that you are perfectly normal
in this regard. Unless your "neat
freak" mom is coming to visit with
her white gloves on, you're in the
clear.

#### **40-59** points

No doubt about it — you are a slob. Bugs, rodents and germs would love to come visit your house. You might be surprised how many more of your friends would come and visit you if you would spend just 10 minutes a day and a couple of hours every week cleaning house.





# WILL

Don't go without a will. Be certain your possessions will be distributed according to your wishes. Valid in all 50

states, our comprehensive will kit has been written by a noted attorney. Included are: a step-by-step 32 page instruction guide, 3 last will & testament forms, 2 personal inventory forms, and 2 statement of wishes forms.

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Send check or money order for \$9.95 plus \$1.50 Shipping & handling to:

> 5822 Gardenwood San Antonio, TX 78233 or call: 210-657-6508

#### CAR MAINTENANCE

conintued from page 19

You should also have your tires rotated and aligned at least once a year or every 6,000-7,000 miles.

#### **WASHING & WAXING**

A regular washing will help your car's paint look better longer. Use a car wash product or liquid laundry detergent. Wash in sections and rinse thoroughly. Dry with an old, soft bath towel or a chamois. After the car is completely dry, use a good quality polish to protect the finish. Avoid waxes with abrasives or those that seal too well. (One note, don't use a polish or wax on a new car for the first 6 to 12 months. The paint needs time to cure completely before you use any type of wax.)

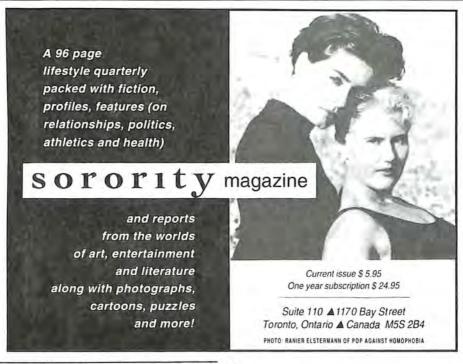
That haze on the inside of your windows is caused by fumes from the plastics in

the interior. To get it off, wash the windows with white vinegar, rinse with water and wipe dry.

#### **CHOOSING A MECHANIC**

For both regular maintenance and repairs, you'll need a good, honest mechanic. The best way to find one is to ask your friends and family (especially those with older cars that run well) for recommendations. If that isn't possible, call around to local used car dealerships and ask which garages they use. Shop around for a mechanic you like *before* you have an emergency.

Although all this sounds like a lot of work, it should only take a few hours each year to keep your car in tip-top condition. Your car will thank you for regular maintenance with years of hassle free driving.



# HOROSCOPE WHAT'S IN THE STARS FOR YOU THIS MONTH?

#### ARIES

A relationship that has been on shaky ground takes a turn for the better during the first part of September. After the 8th you may not be feeling very enthused about your job. But, favorable influences are at work and you could be in line for a raise or promotion if you keep your nose to the grindstone. After the 18th you could be caught off guard by someone from your past. Be careful, their intentions are not good. Your budget could be restricted around the end of the month.

#### TAURUS

Money concerns are finally behind you during the first part of September. You have the time (and money) now to concentrate on goals you set in the past. After the 17th your career could take off when you find a new direction for a stalled project. Don't get cocky! There are still plenty of pitfalls to trip you up. A work vs. home conflict could arise after the 27th. Try to work out a compromise to suit all parties.

#### GEMINI

Although your finances might be somewhat limited, your love life is on a roll during the first part of September. Business travel will offer personal pleasure around the 7th, you may make new friends or meet up with old ones. After the 18th you attract attention everywhere you go. Don't let your popularity go to your head. A relationship could be on shaky ground towards month's end. You may have to compromise to make your partner happy.

#### CANCER

You'll need to support, not criticize, a close friend during the first week of September. After the 9th you'll be able to mix business

and pleasure with ease. Promoting your social image on the job will help you get noticed. A weekend getaway over the 14th could be just what you need to recharge your batteries. Try to be tactful when dealing with a problem in your relationship after the 24th. Your tendency to be outspoken could land you in hot water if you aren't careful.

#### LEO

You'll have to be careful what you say if you want your private affairs to remain private during the first part of September. Work and career matters will be the focus after the 15th. An idea you come up with could get off the ground and bring you favorable attention from higher ups. However, a problem could arise after the 24th that just won't seem to go away. Stay positive and don't lose your cool. Things will work out for the best by month's end.

#### VIRGO

Take care not to come on too strong with someone in authority during the first week of September. Use charm and politeness to get your point across. A new romance could be budding after the 12th. Trust your instincts about another's motives, they may not be as noble as they first appear. Avoid burning the candle at both ends after the 20th. You may need to back off a little before a relationship gets out of control.

#### LIBRA

Opportunity will be knocking during the first part of September, but you may not be ready to open the door. Take a good look at what you really want before you take on a project that's not suited to you. The focus shifts from work to home after the 14th. A new "home-improvement" project could be in the works. Avoid impulsive decisions

and consider your choices carefully before making a major purchase towards month's end.

#### SCORPIO

Your career ambitions move into high gear during the first part of September. Your dedication to moving up the ladder could bring you a raise or promotion by the 17th. Your "career-first" attitude could be playing havoc with an important relationship. Try to take her feelings into account when filling your social calendar for the last two weeks of the month. You may be able to arrange an extra day off work for the two of you to get away together.

#### SAGITTARIUS

Hang on to your pocketbook during the first part of September. You could be in for a big shock when major car or home repairs hit your budget where it hurts. Financial matters smooth out after the 17th, but then you'll have to deal with problems on the romantic front. Actually, the problem may not have anything to do with you. Outside influences may be harming your relationship. Find out what is going on and try to resolve the problem. Take the advice of a friend toward month's end.

#### CAPRICORN

After an upset on the first, your personal affairs will experience a definite upturn during September. Until the 14th your social obligations will keep you close to home. After the 14th your career or business will take up much of your time and may bring some stress. You'll be able to get away and relax around the 23rd, but the race is back on toward's month's end. You'll score a breakthrough on the job on the 30th. Get out and celebrate with friends.

#### **AQUARIUS**

Love is in the air during the first part of September. This could be the "real thing" if you play your cards right. After the 14th try your best to be gentle when dealing with a sensitive issue that has clouded a friendship. Around the 24th you may be forced to choose between work and play. See if you can reach a compromise. Towards month's end an excess of money may allow you to go on that shopping spree you've been wishing for all month. Enjoy!

#### PISCES

Don't blow your money trying to impress someone during the first week of September. Not only will it ruin your budget, it won't help the relationship. After the 16th changes on the job could be happening too fast to suit you. Take your time to sort things out or you could get behind. "Vacationitis" could hit you hard towards month's end. A weekend getaway could be just the ticket to get you back on track.



## THE DIRECTORY

A LISTING OF SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS, BUSINESSES & CLUBS

#### ALBUQUERQUE, NM (area code 505)

organizations

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

#### AMARILLO, TX (area code 806)

organizations

Lesban/Gay Aliance • PO Box 9361 79105 • 359-4219 MCC of Amarilio • PO Box 1276 • 372-4557

#### ARLINGTON, TX (area code 817)

clubs

Ropers · 2023 South Cooper · 265-5574

organizations

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

#### AUSTIN, TX (area code 512)

clubs

Hollywood • 113 San Jacinto • 480-9627 Nexus • 305 W. 5th • 472-5288

organizations

Affirmation (Methodist) • 7403 Shoal Creek • 451-2329 Austin Latinola Letisian/Gay Organization PO Box 1350 78787 • 280-6107 Austin Lesbian/Gay Political Caucus • P.O. Box 822 78767 • 462-9888

Center for Battered Women • (Lesbian Group) 385-5181 or 928-9070 (notline) Gay/Lesbian Student Association at UT Austin

458-3971 • Box 275 Texas Union 78712-7338. Lesbian/Gay Rights Lobby • PO Box 2579 78768 • 474-5475 Lesbian Mothers • Karen • 339-8508

Live Wire Productions • PO Box 141202 78714

Metropolitan Community Church • 1100 Springdale Rd. • 929-3660 Oasis Ministry • 5555 N. Lamar Bivd. #L101 • 441-9191

P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 331-8445 Sapphfrel • Lesbian Social Group • 450-0659 Meeting Address • 825 E. 53 1/2 St., Ste E103

Mailing Address • 201 W. Stassney, Ste. # 321 78745-3156 Waterloo Counseling Center • 507 Powell 78703 • 322-9654

Texas Human Rights Foundation • P.O. Box 49740 78765 • 479-8473

AIDS Legal Assistance 1-800-828-6417 The Treehouse (Lesbian Mothers Support Group)

607 Nueces St. 78701 • 477-5822

#### ATHENS, TX (area code 903) organizations

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

#### BANDERA, TX (area code 210) accommodations

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

#### DALLAS, TX (area code 214) businesses

Alternative Visions • Dating Service • 747-2033

Business Delivery Systems • 14902 Preston Rd. 75240 • 733-1108 Crossroads Market • 3930 Cedar Springs • 521-8919 Clubs

#### Juna

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

#### organizations

Affirmation • PO Box 225831 75222 • 948-1546 AIDS Resource Center + P.O. Box 190712 75219 Asians & Friends • PO Box 9142 75209 -392-3339 Cathedral of Hope MCC • 5910 Cedar Springs Rd. • 351-1901 Community Church & College of Divine Metaphysics 4001 Live Oak #401 - 826-7110, Ext. 401 Congregation Beth El Bingh • P.O. Box 191188 75219 • 497-1591 Couples Metro Dallas · PO Box 803156 75380 · 504-6775 Dallas Gav and Lesbian Alliance P.O. Box 190712 75219 · 528-4233 · FAX 522-4604 Dallas Gay/Lesbian Historic Archives • P.O. Box 190712 75219 • 821-1653 Dallas Gay Youth Group • 300 Turtle Creek Plaza #116 • 307-7203 Dallas Outdoors • P.O. Box 35474 75235 • 276-5270 Dallas Tavem Guild • 3900 Lemmon Ave. #220 • 526-5292 Dignity/Dallas • PO Box 190133 75219 • 226-4101 Foundation for Human Understanding • 528-4233 Gay/Lesbian Gardeners • PO Box 190552 75219 • 339-0787 GLAAD/Dallas • P.O. Box 190712 75219 • 526-GLAD Grace Fellowship in Christ Jesus • 2727 Oak Lawn • 528-2811. Lesbian Information Line (UL) • 528-2426 Lesbian/Gay Political Coalition • P.O. Box 224424 75222 • 828-9882 Lesbian Resource Center • 1315 Skiles • 821-3999 Lesbian Visionaries • PO Box 191443 75219 •521-5342 X 844 Metroplex Republicans . P.O. Box 191033 75219 . 941-8114 Oak Lawn Community Services 4300 MacArthur + 520-8108 Oak Lawn Symphonic Band • P.O. Box 190973 75219 • 986-1751 PFLAG/Dallas · Helpline 556-6640 Imperial Sovereign Royal Court of Dallas P.O. Box 190464 75245 • 521-8446 Seventh-Day Adventist Kinship • 416-1358 Womyn Together · 3920 Cedar Springs · 528-4233

#### DENTON, TX (area code 817) organizations

COURAGE, Lesbian Gay Student Org. P.O. Box 5067 76203 - 382-3813 Harvest MCC - 5900 S. Stemmons 76206 - 1-800-497-HMCC P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) - 387-1491

#### DRIPPING SPRINGS, TX (area code 512) accommodations

Recreation Plantation • Campground • HOO1 box 40-A 78620 • 894-0567

#### EL PASO, TX (area code 915) organizations

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

#### FT. WORTH (area code 817) organizations

Agapa MCC • 4615 SE Loop 820 • 535-5002 Affirmáton (Methodist) • 478-7837 P-Flag (Parents/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 498-5607/498-4855 RESPECT • 828 Hardwood Rd, • Hurst, TX 76054 Tarrant County L/G Alliance • 3327 Winflitrop, Suite 243 761 16 • 769-5544

#### HOUSTON, TX (area code 713)

#### businesses

Inklings Bookshop • 1846 Richmond • 521-3369

#### clubs

Ranch • 9218 Buffalo Spdwy. • 666-3464 Ms. Bs • 9208 Buffalo Spdwy. • 666-3356 XTC • 9212 Buffalo Spdwy. • 666-3356

#### organizations

AIDS Foundation • 3927 Essex Lane • 623-6796
AIDS HOTLINE • c/o Switchboard • 529-3211
Gay/Lesbran Students University of Houston • 4800 Calhoun • 529-3211
Gay/Lesbran Switchboard • PO Box 66591 77266 • 529-3211
Houston Gay 8 Lesbran Parents • 980-7995
Houston Gay Political Caucus • P.O. Box 66664 77266 • 521-1000
Integrity • P.O. Box 66008 77266-6008 • 432-0414
Kingdom Community Church • 614 E. 19th • 862-7533
Lambda ALANON • 1214 Joanne • 521-9772
Lesbran Gay Students-Univ. Houston Clear Lake • 2700 Bay Area 77058
LTN Houston • Lesbran Teacher Network

PO Box 1835 • Bellaire, TX 77402 • 529-3211 Metropolitan Community Church Of The Resurrection 1919 Decatur • 861-9149

Montrose Counseling Center • 900 Lovett #203 77006 • 529-0037
Montrose Pool League/Billiards • PJ 963-8482
P-Flag (Parénts/Friends Lesbians/Gays) • 867-9020
PWA Coalibon • Houston • 1475 W. Gray #163 • 522-5428
SORA (Sex or Relationship Addicts Anonymous)
support group for lesbians • 523-9398
Wornynspace • P.O. Box 980601 77098-0601

#### LUBBOCK, TX (area code 806)

Women's Softball League • 6431 Pineshade • 868-6256

#### businesses

Distinct Travel • 793-8374

#### organizations

Lubbook Leshan Gay Alliance & Wild Wilde West Prod.
P.O. Box 64746 79464 • 791-4499
Community Outreach Centler & Outreach AA: (Tues. & Thurs. @ Epm) • 102.
N. Ave. S. • 762-1019
MCC Lubbook • 5502 34th St. • 792-5562
P-Plag (Parents Friends Lesbians (Gays) • 799-6529
South Plans AIDS Resource Center (SPARC)
4204-8 50th St. 73413 • 1-800-627-7079 • 796-7068

#### NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Affirmation: United Methodists for Lesbian Gay Concerns PO Box 1021 · Evanston, IL 60204 AIDS Action Council • 729 Eighth St. S.E. Suite 200 Washington, DC 20003 -(202) 547-3101 AIDS 800 · 1-800-221-7044 Conference For Catholic Lesbians PO Box 436, Planetanum Station • New York, NY 10024 GLAAD/USA · 80 Varick St. #3E · NY. NY 10013 Hate Crime Line • 1-800-347-HATE Gay & Lesbian Parents Coalition International (GLPCI) PO Box 50360, Washington, DC 20091 • (202) 583-8029 Lesbian Mothers' National Defense Fund PO Box 21567 - Seattle, WA 98111 - (206) 325-2643 Lesbian Teachers Network (LTN) PO Box 63B · Solon, IA 52333 National Gay Alliance for Young Adults, Inc. PO Box 190426 - Dallas, TX 75219 - (214) 307-7203 National Gay/Lesbian Clearinghouse 666 Broadway 4th Floor • NY, NY 10012 National Gay/Lesbian Task Force 1517 U Street NW · Washington D.C. 20009 · 202-332-6483 Parents & Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-Flag) • 1-800-4-FAMILY The Fund for Human Dignity 666 Broadway 4th Floor • NY, NY 10012

#### NEW ORLEANS, LA (area code 504) club & accommodations

Charlene's • 940 Elysian Fields • 945-9328

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

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

#### SAN ANGELO, TX (area code 915) organizations

P-Flag (Parents/Fnends Lesbrans/Gays) • 944-4323 Concho Valey Gay/Lesbran Alliance P.O. Box 750 76902 • 653-2956

#### SAN ANTONIO, TX (area code 210) clubs

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

#### organizations

Deaf Rainbow • 804-1904 TTY
Dignity/San Antonio • 202 N. St. Mary's • 349-3632
Integrity/San Antonio • 202 N. St. Mary's • 349-3632
Integrity/San Antonio
PO Box 150006 78212 • 684-4920
P-Flag (Parents/Frends Lestiens/Gays) • 822-4135
River City Living Metropolitan Community Church
202 Holland 78212 • 882-2121
Lambda Students Center • 1140 W. Woodlawin Ave.
LISA (Lestian Information SA) • 828-LISA (5472)
SALGA • San Antonio Lestienr/Gay Assembly • 733-7300
SALSA • San Antonio Lestienr/Gay Assembly • 733-7300
SALSA • San Antonio Lambda Students Alliance
PO Box 12715 78212 • SALSA Line 733-1225
San Antonio AIDS Foundation
PO Box 120113 78212-9313
San Antonio Tavern Guild • 822-2823

#### SHERMAN, TX (area code 903) organizations

Aliance for Life • PO Box 1695 75091 • 892-9049 HIV/AIDS Services • PO Box 1695 75091 • 463-7258

#### WACO, TX (area code 817) organizations

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

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GWF-Mature, responsible, job stability -looking for same to enjoy life, movies, dinner, romance or friendly conversations. I'm caring, sensitive, extroverted, like adventure and travel. Prefer feminine women. Reply to Box #432 or call (713) 941-6946.

MATURE, well-educated GAM, 31, clean-cut, gentle. Seeks a nice lady for social support. Possible marriage arrangement. Reply to Box #445.

# BOOKS & PUBLICATIONS

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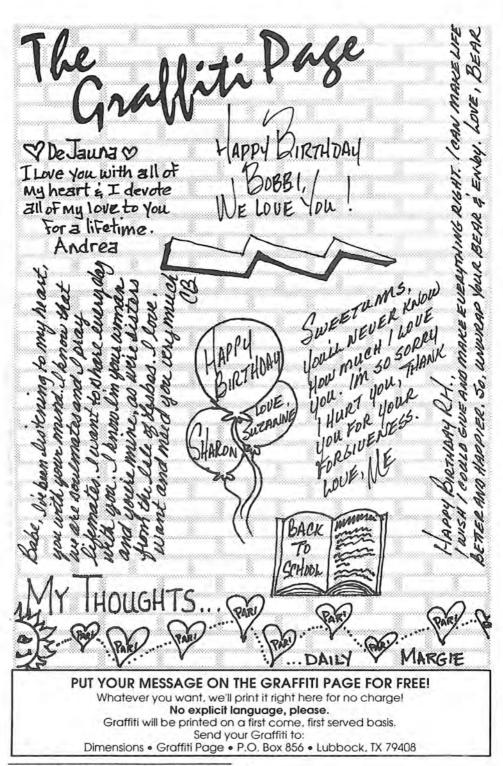




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