GLSONEWS DECEMBER + 1994

A PUBLICATION OF THE LEXINGTON GAY AND LESBIAN SERVICES ORGANIZATION

COMING OUT: INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP

Coming out is considered a developmental process where individuals become more public regarding their sexual orientation. The process can be viewed as moving from a private level to a more public level. We often begin by coming out to ourselves, as we become accustomed to this, we come out to other lesbigays and finally, we become comfortable enough with our sexual identities to come out to non-lesbigays.

During the first step, at the private level of coming out to ourselves, individuals question their own sexual identity and often begin to question common ideas about sexuality held by family, friends, community, church, government and society in general. As a result of this questioning, a new non-exclusively heterosexual label may be accepted or denied.

The second stage involves coming out to other lesbigays. Individuals begin to venture out from their private world to into the "gay" world, searching for support, recreation, socialization, sex and relationships.

The third step involves coming out to non-lesbigays. This step is considered the most difficult and risky. The risks can include the loss of basic human needs (i.e. family, friends, housing and employment as well as the love, belonging, and the safety these things represent). On the positive side, this process of moving from the private level to the public level can also include important gains (i.e. a stronger sense of self, positive self image and a sense of authenticity -a

National Gay/Lesbian Crisis Line (800) 247-4283 Teenage Gay/Lesbian Support (800) 347-TEEN Thurs. - Sun. 7pm-Midnight

FAIRNESS SURVEYS LOCAL ELECTION RESULTS: FASTEN YOUR SEATBELTS!

According to Fairness Committee member Linda West, this year's local elections results will not benefit the lesbigay community. Here in Fayette County, only two of the candidates that were endorsed by Fairness, Judge Gary Payne and Jerry Devine, were elected. Three of our new state senators, constituting half of our representation in the state legislature are members of the "Radical Right" and are on record as opposing the current decriminalization of sodomy as well as equal rights for lesbigays. According to Ms. West, there are now enough legislative votes statewide to put a new sodomy law on the ballot for the 1996 election.. This could mean trouble for Kentucky's lesbians, bisexuals, and gays.

Fairness surveyed all the local candidates for their opinions on Lesbigay issues and shared the results in their newsletter, that was mailed to 1700 people. The night before the election, Fairness volunteers called approximately 750 people to remind them to vote. Fairness also volunteered 800 hours from 130 volunteers in support of Don Todd, who ran against Tim Philpot's one of the area's most vocal opponents of equal rights for gays and lesbians. Fairness members have already met to plan

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GLSO News

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GLSO LOOKING FOR EDITOR

If you are interested in the position, please contact Peter 273-5845 or Mary 266-5904

"AND, ON THE OTHER HAND..."

Apart from the fact that Oliver North did NOT get elected, there are also a few advances issuing from the latest elections:

A record number of openly gay officials were elected across the nation.

Seventy-five percent of Victory Fund Candidates won nationwide.

see page 10 for details

LETTERS TO GLSO NEWS

Recently I attended a meeting sponsored by the Family Foundation at which Dr. joseph Nicolosi, a psychiatrist from California whose specialty is "healing homosexuals", lectured at some length. His thesis was that a boy becomes a homosexual because of an indifferent father's failure to establish a masculine relationship with his son. Also present were representatives from Crossover Ministries, whose purpose is the same as Dr. Nicolosi's. Untruths were the order of the evening, but it was obvious that a rather large audience believed all of them.

I came away feeling angry and frustrated at listening to so much false information. I was forcefully gripped anew by the enormity of the hostility out there. We can struggle with some success against discrimination in housing, church, jobs, and homophobic politicians, but when we face a vast, unyielding wall of cold hostility, how do we fight back? I don't know how to totally win over this enemy, but I do hopefully believe that all of the big and little events of our resistance will add up to strength that will overcome.

I could have come away feeling too overwhelmed to continue the fight. Instead, I stealthily placed on their literature table a pile of our attractive lavender P-FLAG brochures and walked away encouraged and ready for the next battle. So there!

Rev. Ruth Fiscella Chair, P-Flag of Lexington

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strategies for the 1996 legislative session. If a new sodomy law is approved and put on the fall election ballot, it is feared that the situation could be similar to recent conflicts over lesbigay rights in Oregon and Colorado. The debate about lesbigay rights in those states was targeted by national Radical Right groups who provided money and manpower in the efforts to stop lesbigay rights. As a result, members of the lesbigay community who lived in these states became the targets of the homophobia generated by the Radical Right which led to a marked increase in violence against lesbigay's and cost lesbigay businesses hundreds of thousands of dollars in lost business and damages.

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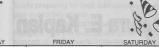
THE RACK
TOYS LEATHER LATEX W-SAT 8:30-1:00



18

December 1994

Happy Holidays from GLSO





				7:30pm UK Lambda 8:00pm HIV/AIDS Sppt.Grp.	8:00pm "Times Sq. Angel"-Actors' Guild	Guild
tel	4:00pm TSGRA-The Fishnet 7:30pm Pride Ctr. Taskforce	7:30pm Gay/Lesbian Al- Anon 8:00pm GUESS (EKU) 8:45pm Rainbow Bowling-Southland	7 AIDS/HIV Sppt Grp. 6:00pm Frontrunners- Woodland Park 8:00pm Gay/Lesbian AA	7:00pm Lex.Men's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30pm UK Lambda 8:00pm "Times Sq.Angel"- Actors' Guild 8:00pm HIV/AIDS Sppt.Grp.	Hanukah Begins 7:30pm Gay/Lesbian AA 8:00pm 'Pierodactyls' @ UK	9:00am Frontrunners 8:00pm "Times Sq. Angel"-Actors' Guild 8:00pm "Pterodactyls" @ UK (UK Lambda)
tel	7:30pm Stonewall Network	7:30pm Gay/Lesbian Al- Anon 8:00pm GUESS (EKU) 8:45pm Rainbow Bowling-Southland	AIDS/HIV Sppt.Grp. 6:00pm Frontrunners- Woodland Park 8:00pm Gay/Lesbian AA	7:00pm Lex.Men's Chorus R 7:30pm P-FLAG 7:30pm UK Lambda 8:00pm "Times Sq.Angel"-A 8:00pm HIV/AIDS Sppt.Grp.	7:00pm Dignity 7:30pm GaylLesbian AA 8:00pm Times Sq.Angel*-A 8:00pm Lex. Mens Chorus	GLSO News Deadline 9:00am Frontrunners 10:00am Meis Network 8:00pm "Times Sq. Angel"-A 8:00pm Lex. Mens Chorus
tel	7:30pm Fairness Meeting -Alfalfa's 7:30pm Pride Ctr. Taskforce	7:30pm Gay/Lesbian Al- Anon 8:00pm GUESS (EKU) 8:45pm Rainbow Bowling-Southland	21 AIDS/HIV Sppt.Grp. Winter begins 6:00pm Frontrunners-Woodland Park 8:00pm Gay/Lesbian AA	7:00pm Lex.Men's Chorus Rehearsal 8:00pm COLTS Mtg. 8:00pm HIV/AIDS Sppt.Grp.	23 7:30pm Gay/Lesbian AA	Christmas Eve 9:00am Frontrunners
1	26	27 7:30pm Gay/Lesbian Al-Anon 8:00pm GUESS (EKU) 8:45pm Rainbow Bowling-So	28 AIDS/HIV Sppt.Grp. 6:00pm Frontrumers-Woodla 8:00pm Gay/Lesbian AA	7:00pm Lex.Men's Chorus Rehearsal 8:00pm HIV/AIDS Sppt.Grp.	7:30pm Gay/Lesbian AA	New Year's Eve 9:00am Frontrunners

	November				1994 -	
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The holidays are a great time for a donation to GLSO!

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Metropolitan Community Church **Christmas Eve Service** 10:00 pm Glenhaven Room, Greenleaf Inn

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from page I

sense of being true to self).

Organizations in the community are made up of individuals going through various stages of lesbigay formation; however individuals at one stage of identity will tend to dominate the group. In this sense, organizations may go through the same stages as individuals in the process of developing from private identity to a more public identity.

In the October 4, 1994 Advocate featured an article on whether gay and lesbian organizations should use the terms "gay" and "lesbian" in their titles, or should they only come out at a more private level. Many organizations in the past few decades began with a private, closeted existence, meeting as ":secret societies".

The stage of the "secret society" is analogous to the coming out to self. Later organizations developed on a more public level, but used non-disclosive names such as The American Association of Physicians for Human Rights or The Human Rights Campaign Fund which is analogous to coming out to other lesbigays.

Are organizations ready to enter the next stage of total public visibility by using the terms "gay" and or "lesbian" in their organizational name? If so, this is the equivalent to the individual coming out to non-lesbigays. Organizations need to be viewed as involved in the coming out process also. Coming out is a process that varies with the individual or organization and the individual or organization can only move so fast. Some organizations may be ready to go public with the name Gay and Lesbian Service Organization, while others choose to remain under a "rainbow" code name.

Organizations are composed of individuals. When enough of the individuals within an organization change, a critical mass forms, and the organization may change and a name change will follow. It is important to respect the bravery, on all levels of living as a "non-exclusively heterosexual with free choice of gender behavior" in this society.

-S. Strong



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LEXINGTON MEN'S CHORUS TO PERFORM ITS FIFTH WINTER CONCERT

The year was 1989. In Germany, the Berlin Wall was being dismantled piece by piece. The Exxon Valdez was spilling crude oil on Alaskan Shores. In the White House, Ron and Nancy were packing their things while George and Barbara were unpacking theirs. And in Lexington, a small group of men were busily preparing for their first concert -the first concert in Kentucky's history to be performed by an openly gay-supportive chorus.

Today, five years later, the Wall is gone, the oil is gone (at least according to Exxon's lawyers!), and the Reagans and the Bushes are gone, but the Lexington Men's Chorus continues to endure! The first of concert of the group's 1994-95 season, THE STARS SEEM CLOSER THIS TIME OF YEAR will be performed on Friday, December 16 and Saturday, December 17 at 8:00pm at the Singletary Center. LMC is performing this year's winter concert twice to accommodate demand; they have sold out ALL of their previous performances.

The group is pleased to be performing its first commissioned piece, "A Winter Cycle" written by Brian Throckmorton. Many other classical and popular favorites including "Ave Maria, Pachebel's Canon in D, White Christmas" and perennial favorite "The Most Wonderful Time of the Year" from the annual television classic, "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" will also be performed.

Tickets for the show are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children and are available by calling the Singletary Center box office at (606) 257-4929. LMC is a proud member of the international Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses.

Congratulations to Rick and George! -Jeff and David



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We are excited about the next annual convention of P-FLAG to be held in Indianapolis in 1995. That means some of us can attend. We are not alone. There are more than 300 chapters of P-Flag internationally. Why not arrange to visit us at our meeting? For more information, call Ruth at 272-7075.

ELECTIONS BRING SOME GOOD NEWS

WASHINGTON, DC — 10 November 1994 — Twelve of the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund's 17 openly gay candidates won their races yesterday, a seventy-five percent success rate. According to Victory Fund Deputy Director Kathleen DeBold, the 12 winners are:

- -Will Fitzpatrick, Rhode Island State Senate
- -Cal Anderson, Washington State Senate
- —Sheila Kuehl, California State Assembly
- -Ken Cheuvront, Arizona House of Reps
- —Tim Van Zandt, Missouri House of Reps
- -George Eighmey, Oregon House of Reps
- -Cynthia Wooten, Oregon House of Reps
- —Susan Leal, San Francisco Board of Supervisors
- —Tom Ammiano, San Francisco Board of Supervisors
- Bonnie Dumanis, San Diego City Court
- Teri Schwartz, Los Angeles Superior Court
- Tom Chiola, Cook County [IL] Court

DeBold notes that this 75 percent success rate for openly gay candidates is especially significant in light of the campaigns of gaybaiting that were waged against them by their opponents and because of the overall conservative swing of the electorate nationwide. "Each of our candidates won TWO races last night," she says, "One against their opponents; the other against the Radical Right's distorted image of gay men and lesbians."

DeBold believes these election results send a clear message that the extremist viewpoints that lead to hate campaigns and gaybaiting are out of step with mainstream America. "Our openly gay candidates won because their personal and community values are consistent with those of the average American family values like hard work, responsibility, and respect for others."

Other results of special note for the Gay and Lesbian Community:

—Following in the 1990 footsteps of Roberta Achtenberg, Harry Britt, and Carole Migden, openly gay candidates Carole Migden, Susan Leal, and Tom Ammiano have all been elected in a second "Lavender Sweep" for the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.

Adding to the good news in San Francisco, openly gay candidates Leslie Katz and Lawrence Wong have won election to the San Francisco Community College Board.

- —Openly gay U.S. Congressman Gerry Studds, Wisconsin State Assembly member Tammy Baldwin, Oregon State Representative Gail Shibley, and Texas State Representative Glen Maxey all won re-election to the seats they won two years ago with Victory Fund support.
- —Other openly gay candidates who won yesterday included Maine State Senator Dale McCormick, and Minnesota State Representative Karen Clark.
- —New York State Attorney General candidate Karen Burstein and California Secretary of State candidate Tony Miller, the first openly gay man and lesbian to run for major statewide office, lost in close races to their GOP opponents. Although Burstein won more votes than defeated three-term Democratic Governor Mario Cuomo, the combination of the Republican sweep and vicious gaybaiting by supporters of her opponent pushed the seat just out of her grasp.

[For more information about these races, please contact Kathleen DeBold at (202) 842-8679 / Victoryf@aol.com]

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Lambda: UK (Julien before 10pm)	272-7232	Meeting Info Line	(800) 633-9650
Lambda: WKU (Larry)(502) 796-9114	Lesbian Potluck (Esmerelda)	231-0335
Phi Omega Epsilon: MSU (David)(502) 783-4729	Lexington Men's Chorus (Shelby)	231-0090
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Jessamine County		P-FLAG (Ruth)	2/2-/0/5
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GLAD [Disciples of Christ] (Jeff)		AIDS Volunteers of Lexington	254 2865
Honesty [Southern Baptist] (Eddie)	(502) 637-7609	AVOL Legal Referral Program	(500) 594 1054
(Dorothy)	(502) 458-5392	HIV/AIDS Legal Project	254-2865
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MCC-Lexington (Rex)	271-1407	(Great)	288-2437
MCC-Louisville	(502) 775-6636	(Greg) Thursday HIV+/AIDS Support Group	0
MCC-Paducah	(502) 441-2307	(KIPWAC - Edwin)	281-2100
Pagan Forum (Pat)	268-1640	Saturday HIV+/AIDS Support Group	
Quaker FLGC (Connie)		(AVOL)	254-2865
Roman Catholic HIV Ministry (John)	231-9955	To Report Hate Crime	

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