



GLSO NEWS

AUGUST 1996

A PUBLICATION OF THE LEXINGTON GAY AND LESBIAN SERVICES ORGANIZATION

DEFENSE OF MARRIAGE ACT SPONSORS: WE HAVE MET

THE ENEMY AND HE IS

reprinted from the Washington Feminist Faxnet.

Republican presidential nominee Bob Dole dumped wife #1 who nursed him through near-fatal WWII wounds. Rep. Enid Greene (R-UT) is divorcing Joe Waldholtz, who is accused falsifying campaign finance reports and other shenanigans. House Speaker Newt Gingrich (R-GA) asked for a divorce while wife #1 was hospitalized after cancer surgery (has also admitted to having adulterous affairs in the backs of automobiles). Rep Bob Barr (R-GA) has been married three times, was caught licking whipped cream from the chests of two buxom women.

Rep Wes Cooley (R-OR) allegedly concealed his wedding date so his wife could keep collecting benefits as a veteran's widow. Rep Bob Dornan (R-CA) has been the subject of four divorce actions from his wife, claiming spousal abuse.

Herewith a couple of reflections on these data: It's so sad that all of these stalwart defenders of a moral society have had such rotten matrimonial luck. And to think it's all the fault of queers in loving, committed relationships of ten, twenty, thirty or more years! With the current shortage of family values in this country and these gay and lesbian couples consuming the entire available supply, what's a politician to do when there simply are no morals left to buy? Clearly there's a need for a government study to quantify the scope of this problem. Now Mr. Hyde can speculate that when Barney and Herb fell in love it destroyed

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WHAT IS AN ABOMINATION

by Margaret Christopher Cartwright

One of the most popular biblical quotations used to denounce the gay and lesbian lifestyle is Leviticus 18:22 and 20:13. They state "You shall not lie with a male as with a woman; it is an abomination." This quote lies solely in the Holiness Code of Leviticus, a ritual manual for Israel's priests. The meaning can only be interpreted with consideration of the historical and cultural context of the ancient Hebrew people. Israel, chosen as the people of God were to avoid the practices of other peoples and gods.

Hebrew religion remained in competition with the surrounding Canaanites who worshiped the multiple gods of their fertility cults. The Canaanites idol worship featured both female and male prostitution as noted in Deuteronomy 23:17 (you can look this one up... it's worth it!). This repeatedly threatened Israel's loyalty to God. The Hebrew word for a male prostitute is "gadesh" which is mistranslated as "sodomite" in some versions of the Bible.

An abomination is what God found to be unclean, disloyal or unjust. Several Hebrew words were so translated, and the one found in Leviticus "toevah" is usually associated with idolatry as it is in Ezekiel, where it occurs many times. Given the strong association of "tovah" with idolatry and the Canaanite practice of cult prostitution, one can only deduce that the scripture is condemning male prostitution. It does not refer to loving, responsible homosexual relationships.

To conclude, we are not bound by the

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laws given to Israel in the Old Testament. Galatians 3:22-25 says just that. Jesus never said anything condemning homosexual relationships, but said a great deal about love, justice, mercy and faith. Come see us! We talk about things like this at church. ▼

CALENDAR CHANGES

Beginning this month, Peter Taylor, our esteemed editor, is taking over the responsibilities of maintaining the newsletter calendar.

Please look over the listings and make sure they are accurate. If anything needs a change, or if you would like to submit a new listing, contact Peter at 273-5845 or e-mail him at pjtay100@ukcc.uky.edu

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GLSO News

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Submissions are welcome. All submissions become the property of GLSO and must indicate full name and address of the author. The staff reserves the right to edit submissions and ads to meet publishing requirements, as well as the right to reject any submissions.

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from the front page

the established connubial bliss of a dozen other representatives, but does anyone really *know* the exact number? Perhaps it isn't as many as twelve, or possibly the problem is worse than feared and it's twenty? Where is the data? Without any supporting evidence whatsoever, it's far too early to be drafting legislation.

Perhaps Sen. Coats and his cronies are right that our commitments tear the moral fabric of the nation. If this is true, it would seem that we lesbigay people now have a duty to the nation to relinquish our exclusive hold on the national supplies of morality. In short we must surrender our family values and learn to lead dissolute lives so there will be some moral principles left over for those straights who now have none at all and very desperately need them. Once we turn over the regulation of all marriage to Congress, a plan for more equitable distribution of this precious resource can be devised. For example, there might be "morality stamps" which could be issued only to heterosexual couples who pledged to regularly procreate.

But wait a minute! What if moral behavior is not a limited commodity as these politicians believe, but a "choice"? If so, then there really need be no rationing of virtue; it's actually not our marital fidelity to our partners that forces the sponsors of DOMA to embrace lifestyles of infidelity and cruelty to theirs; it's really not our steadfast support of one another in the face of persecution and prejudice that compels the thrice-married Mr. Barr to lick whip cream from an entertainer's soubouche.

And who knows? If these politicians sincerely worked at it, with enough practice at choosing, might they not develop sufficient morality themselves to elect not to be bigots? (Then again, that might be genetic. W.S. Gilbert once remarked, "Some people are born sneering." I can name a few of that kind, and so can you.)

What an Excellent comeback! However,

you must also remember Our Beloved President, who can't seem to keep his pants zipped, either. I mean, it's obvious that gay/lesbian couples that stay together in committed relationships for 10, 20, even 30 years or longer have simply used up all the morality there is, and it is also obvious that politicians are the last on the list for getting what's left over.

Carbon copies to my room mate, who thinks the sun rises and sets on Bill Clinton, and my lover, who is so far to the right he makes Rush Limbaugh look liberal.

Signed,

Rick Drown aka Sink@bbs.yab.com ▼

1996 STONEWALL AWARD WINNER - HARRY HAY

Before there was Stonewall, there was Harry Hay.

In 1950, when just being suspected of being homosexual could cost you your job, your home, your insurance, Henry "Harry" Hay gathered four of his friends in great secrecy to form the Mattachine Society, "to discover who homosexuals were, where they had come from, how they served species survival, and to transform their self-image from a negative to a positive one." It would be another 19 years before the Stonewall Rebellion in New York would drive the gay rights movement forward and into the national consciousness but the idea of gay organizing had taken root.

The new group named after European dance rituals known as "les Mattachines" performed in Medieval and Renaissance France by fraternities of masked clerics for peasant communities. Hay, a long-time radical labor organizer - as well as a sometime actor, labor-school teacher and wartime systems engineer - had the talent and compelling rhetoric to inspire the formation of Mattachine societies

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POP, CANDY, AND SCUM - IT'S THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF WARHOL

contributed by John Shelton

Bang! Bang! Bang! Daylight. A leather-clad Mickey lies writhing on the floor in pain from gunshot wounds. The camera pans up to show Goofy, in drag, holding a smoking gun. A voice from off-frame is heard pleading, "Goofy, there's the elevator. Take it. Just take it!" Moments later, the goofy gunslinger is out on the street confessing to reporters. No, this isn't a review of the latest Disney cartoon, it's the opening scene of the a new bio-pic called I SHOT ANDY WARHOL - which is only slightly less animated.

In real life, the shootist in this stranger-than-pulp-fiction scenario is the notorious lesbian/feminist Valerie Solanis. Her victim: Famed pop artist Andy Warhol. The setting is New York City, 1968. Dick Nixon is about to become president whilst psychedelics are the candy of choice to a generation of so called "kids" protesting the Vietnam War.

In the midst of this wonderful time, one of the nation's foremost pop icons, Andy Warhol, is nearly assassinated by one of the country's most radical feminists, Valerie Solanis.

Given the era, one may be prompted to ask Solanis: Why Andy and not Dick? Then the movie might have been called SEE DICK RUN (not to be confused with the popular children's book of the same name). While the film never clearly explains Solanis' motive, it does offer a compelling insight into the lives of two of the twentieth century's most fascinating figures.

To better understand Solanis' motives, a brief history lesson may be in order (Take notes, a pop-quiz may follow). Solanis is an angry woman with angst towards men. Her feeling may have stemmed from her father's

abuse of her when she was a child. By high school age, she was an admitted lesbian. At the University of Maryland she was a student in psychology. Her main focus as a graduate student was proving that women are naturally superior to men. She claimed "men are a biological accident. The Y chromosome is simply an incomplete X.." She went on to say that while the female of the species (a term which she despised) is unable to reproduce itself, science must work to find a way to make this possible.

The result of this research produced the SCUM Manifesto. SCUM stands for the Society for Cutting Up Men. Valerie began peddling her Manifesto on the streets of New York City in 1966, supporting herself with prostitution and panhandling. She stumbled across Andy Warhol's studio, the Factory almost by accident. Then, she began to harass the artist about producing a play she'd written called UP YOUR ASS.

Warhol liked some of the play's dialog and considered using some of it in one of his movies, but he was discouraged by his entourage. He did give her a screen test and then a part in one of his movies I, A MAN (the title of which could have incited her to violence). Incredibly, she was offered a publishing deal for her manifesto. Valerie Solanis had achieved her 15-minutes of fame, but she wasn't satisfied. Next she appeared on a talk show on which the host verbally attacked her for her lesbianism,

which prompted her to physically attack him.

She also realized that in her excitement over the publishing deal, she had signed away all the European rights to her work. Convinced by her own paranoia that Warhol had set her up in both the TV fiasco and the publishing deal, she went to his office and shot him.

While Solanis' paranoia and narcissism are pushed to the surface in the movie, her lesbianism is seemingly played down. She does come on to a female coed early on in the film, is referred to as a lesbian, and even refers to herself as "a butch dyke", but that's about it. Her behavior indicates the contrary. She spends most of her time turning tricks for men she despises. She has no female friends. Most of her friends are drag queens, transvestites and transgendered males. In fact of one can take her SCUM philosophy to an extreme, these are men trying to make up for nature's mistake: the fact that they are incomplete females.

What makes I SAW a must-see is its performances. Lili Taylor's portrayal of Valeria Solanis is always over the top and it tends to be a bit overbearing. There are times when you'd swear it's really Gilbert Gottfried in drag! Jarred Harris on the other hand, *is* Andy Warhol.

Nearly every book, movie or

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THE '96 SPONSORS

The GLSO Board decided that in order to achieve true financial stability, it would seek a sponsor for the costs of the newsletter for one month, and use its other advertising income for a number of other ongoing projects.

For more information, please call Mary at 266-5904.

The GLSO News is proud to announce our supporters so far for 1996:

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AUGUST 1996

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 8:00 p.m. HIV/AIDS Support Group	2 7:30 p.m. Gay/Lesbian AA	3 9:00 a.m. Frontrunners 4:00 p.m. Ebony Male Meeting
4 11:30 a.m. Metropolitan Comm Church 4:00 p.m. Kentucky Wranglers Mtg. 7:00 p.m. Gay/Lesbian AA	5 8:00 p.m. Race for the Cure Meeting (Palomar Clubhouse)	6 12:00 p.m. Gay/Lesbian AA 7:30 p.m. Gay/Lesbian AA	7 HIV/AIDS Support Group 6:00 p.m. Frontrunners(Woodland Park) 7:00 p.m. Metropolitan Comm Church 8:00 p.m. Gay/Lesbian AA	8 8:00 p.m. HIV/AIDS Support Group	9 7:30 p.m. Gay/Lesbian AA	10 9:00 a.m. Frontrunners(Woodland Park)
11 Imperial Court Meeting 11:30 a.m. Metropolitan Comm Church 7:00 p.m. Gay/Lesbian AA	12	13 12:00 p.m. Gay/Lesbian AA 7:30 p.m. Gay/Lesbian AA	14 HIV/AIDS Support Group 6:00 p.m. Frontrunners(Woodland Park) 7:00 p.m. Metropolitan Comm Church 8:00 p.m. Gay/Lesbian AA	15 8:00 p.m. HIV/AIDS Support Group	16 7:30 p.m. Gay/Lesbian AA	17 9:00 a.m. Frontrunners(Woodland Park) <i>GLSO News Deadline</i>
18 11:30 a.m. Metropolitan Comm Church 7:00 p.m. Gay/Lesbian AA 7:00 p.m. Dignity	19	20 12:00 p.m. Gay/Lesbian AA 7:00 p.m. Gay/Lesbian Parenting Group 7:30 p.m. Gay/Lesbian AA 8:30 p.m. Rainbow Bowling League (Southland Lanes)	21 HIV/AIDS Support Group 6:00 p.m. Frontrunners(Woodland Park) 7:00 p.m. Metropolitan Comm Church 8:00 p.m. Gay/Lesbian AA	22 8:00 p.m. HIV/AIDS Support Group	23 7:30 p.m. Gay/Lesbian AA	24 9:00 a.m. Frontrunners(Woodland Park)
25 Imperial Court Meeting 11:30 a.m. Metropolitan Comm Church 7:00 p.m. Gay/Lesbian AA	26	27 12:00 p.m. Gay/Lesbian AA 7:30 p.m. Gay/Lesbian AA 8:30 p.m. Rainbow Bowling League (Southland Lanes)	28 HIV/AIDS Support Group 6:00 p.m. Frontrunners(Woodland Park) 7:00 p.m. Metropolitan Comm Church 8:00 p.m. Gay/Lesbian AA	29 8:00 p.m. HIV/AIDS Support Group	30 7:30 p.m. Gay/Lesbian AA	31 9:00 a.m. Frontrunners(Woodland Park)

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from page 4

documentary on the artist shows that he really was the subdued, soft-spoken, shy, kind- in a word cool -persona that Harris recreates. What Valerie doesn't understand is that the same genuine interest that Andy shows in her is the same that he showed to everyone.

It is easy for people to take advantage of his generosity or mistake his withdrawn manner as snobbery. This is what makes him vulnerable, especially to a high-strung personality like Solanis. During Valerie's campaign of harassing Warhol, she is told second hand, that she is no longer welcome at the Factory; she has been "excommunicated" she is told. This proves to be hearsay, when Andy sees her later, just minutes before the near-fatal shooting, he is a cordial and trusting of her as ever.

He never felt threatened by the crazy, drugged-out people with whom he surrounded himself. He filmed them as they were and made them "stars" This wasn't exploitation, it was Andy's accurate ability to capture people as they are, as straightforwardly as he might capture a bottle of ketchup or a can of soup on a silkscreen. He had an uncanny ability to make the ordinary seem extraordinary and vice versa.

The most memorable character to come out of the Factory ensemble is Candy Darling. Candy was a beautiful boy who worked hard at being a Chelsea Girl. She is played by Stephen Dorff. Candy is a character who will haunt you after seeing the film. By the end of the film we learn that Candy died in 1975 from cancer, caused by illegal hormone injections used to try and change his sex.

According to various sources, Warhol was never the same after the shooting. He understandably became less trusting of others.

Thus ended an era of a generation whose influence on popular culture simply

cannot be ignored. Mary Harron, director and co-writer of the film has faithfully recaptured that era. Her's is a film that transcends time. It's issues ring as true today as they did then. Pop-quiz tomorrow. Class dismissed! ▼

LEXINGTON MEN'S CHORUS PERFORMS AT WORLD ARTS FESTIVAL

The Lexington Men's Chorus recently returned from Tampa, Florida where they participated in the World's Largest Lesbian and Gay Performing Arts Festival. The festival was produced by Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses (GALA Choruses). Singers from North America, Europe and Australia representing 110 choruses appeared during the week long event, which lasted from July 7-14.

The week started off with a Pride march through downtown Tampa, followed by the opening ceremonies. Harvey Fierstein was the master of ceremonies and the keynote speaker was Maya Angelou, the poet and author. The mayor of Tampa welcomed everyone despite the actions of several anti-gay organizations that tried to sabotage the event.

The Lexington Chorus was represented by thirty voices and twenty support staff. Two concerts were performed on Monday afternoon to a very appreciative audience. High points of the performance included "My Old Kentucky Home", "Down in the Valley" (written in Harlan County) and an original work written, composed

and arranged by chorus member Brian Throckmorton, "What If."

Concerts were held in the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center to packed houses all week long. Over 5000 chorus members, including several area choruses from Louisville, Cincinnati and Indianapolis performed music ranging from opera, to gospel to contemporary.

Several Lexingtonians were surprised to find pictures of themselves on the front page of the Tampa Times on Monday morning having a "gay old time" during the pride march. ▼

Quote of the month

Movie mogul Samuel Goldwyn, debating whether to buy *The Children's Hour* by Lillian Hellman.

Samuel Goldwyn: Maybe we should buy it?

Merritt Hulburd: Forget it, Mr. Goldwyn. It's about lesbians.

Samuel Goldwyn: Don't worry about that. We'll make them Americans

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276-5383

COMMUNITY NEWS

GAY AND LESBIAN PARENTING GROUP

Parenting group to start meeting August 20th at 7:00 p.m. Group is open to both gay and lesbian parents and parents-to-be. Call for directions. Michelle 255-7206 or Laura 276-2685. ▼

RACE FOR THE CURE MEETING

A meeting to plan the benefit for the Race for the Cure, a fundraising event that benefits breast cancer research, will be held at the Palomar Clubhouse on August 5th, at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. For more information, call 253-7722. ▼

BOWLING LEAGUE

Rainbow Bowling League will be organizing its Fall/Winter League on Tuesday August 20th at 8:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at Southland Lanes, 205 Southland Drive. Bowling will start at 8:45 p.m. Call Sean at 255-7379 for more information.

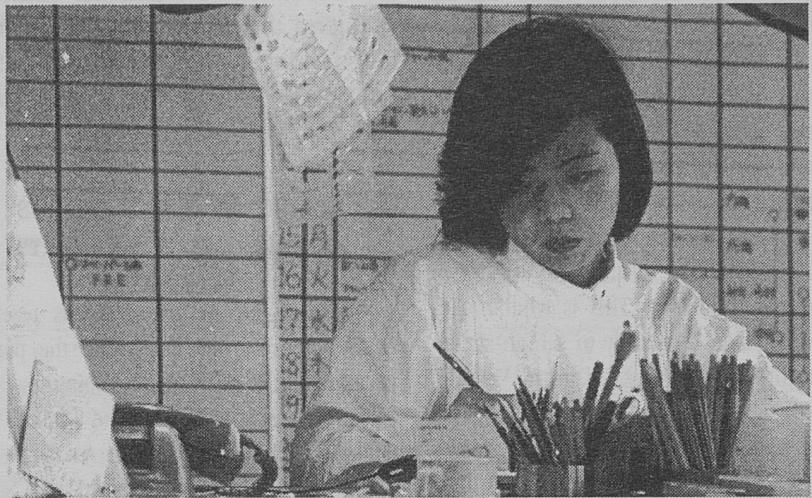
Watch for more information on League kick-off party. ▼

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throughout the United States.

Hay was born in England and came to America at an early age. He had learned Native American survival skills and cowboy crafts as a child in the Western Rangers boy's organization. As an adult, he and his friends found a need to "reappraise homosexuality as a different function of natural forces. . . We say ourselves as spiritually left-handed, as a cultural minority."

In the years following the Stonewall Rebellion, many gay and lesbian groups sprang up; Mattachine societies were superceded. Hay believed gay people have a capacity for newer levels of consciousness and in 1979 he issued a call for "A Spiritual Gathering of Radical Fairies." He invited them to "tear off the ugly green frog skin of conformity you have wrapped yourself in to get by, and find the beautiful Faerie Prince underneath." ▼



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266-5904

Dear Gertie Mae...

Dear Gertie Mae,

Hi! I am writing you today for your opinion in relation to an article I read in the Pride issue of the G.L.S.O. Newsletter, (by the way, not particularly the most appropriate time to run such an article, in my humble opinion, but nevertheless...).

Anyway, this individual seemed very upset with the Lesbigay community and as a matter of fact describes it as being a "failure."

Although I have seen and heard the same petty talk when I've been "out on the town," I don't know that I can agree with labeling the community as being a failure because of it.

What do you think? Have we failed or is there still hope?

Signed,

Ray A. Hope

Dear Hope,

You bet your sweet bippy there's hope. Yours truly has engaged in the petty talk that Mr. Maines describes but more often than not been the object of such derision.

However, I consider it a public service

when they talk about me because if they're talking about me, they're leaving someone else alone.

I've done my damndest for the whole community to keep them talking about *moi* and y'all owe me a great debt of gratitude because over the years a lot of tongues have wagged in this direction.

But more to the point, we were wrongly scastigated in that article. The writer stated, "Tell me, please, how can one expect to be welcomed as an integral part of the 'normal' society if we can't even accept our fellow lesbigay peers."

First, I must question his definition of "normal" society. Normal is a relative term, or better yet there is NO SUCH THING as normal. Has he never been to a straight bar or to church or to any other place where straights (may Gos bless their little hearts) gather?

If he had, he should realize they are just as vicious in their comments about how fat that dress makes Mary look, or do you see that hussy Fred is with.


In this respect, we are "normal"; we learned this behavior from our straight (may

God bless their little hearts) forebearers.

And another thing, just because I may joke about how swishy you are doesn't mean I won't defend your right to be who you are to the rest of the world. It is truly like a family - I can talk about you all I want but God help anyone outside the family who says anything about MY sister.

Lastly, I would address Mr. Maines and all of you that said Amen when they read what he had to say. I have heard your argument for eons and it doesn't hold water. I challenge any of you to tell me you haven't heard the same anywhere else. There are a lot of positive things happening in the community right now. So get over your holier-than-thou selves and become a part of them. We need everyone pulling in the same direction. I may snicker when you wear brown shoes with your tux as you accept the Wasson Award, but I'll be standing and applauding with a tear in my eye just the same.

Love and kisses,
Gertie Mae


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STUDENT GROUPS

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Morehead State (Angela)	783-2950
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	678-5814
Kentucky AIDS HOTLINE	(800) 840-2865
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(Hospice of the Bluegrass)	276-5344

COMMUNITY

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Louisville Youth Group	(502) 635-1302
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The Women's Chorus (Connie)	276-2554

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