



GAY and *The*
LESBIAN
SERVICE
ORGANIZATION
Lexington, Kentucky

GLSO NEWS

September 2002

A publication of the Lexington Gay and Lesbian Service Organization

Volume 17 Number 9

Dining Out for Life

Moveable Feast invites you to their fourth annual Dining Out for Life on Thursday, September 19th. Eat dinner at one of your favorite restaurants and 20% of the cost will help Moveable Feast provide meals for people with HIV/AIDS. A list of participating restaurants can be found on their web site www.feastlex.org.

This is the major fundraiser of the year for Moveable Feast and an easy and fun way to support their important work in our community. Spread the word to your coworkers, church friends, and neighbors; help make this night an event for all of Lexington.

Men's Chorus "Cabaret" New Downtown Arts Center

Lexington has a fabulous new venue for performances groups in the Downtown Arts Center (across from the Public Library). LMC has scheduled a Sept. 6th performance to help the town celebrate. "One Sweet Night at the Cabaret" is a Lexington Men's Chorus fundraiser which combines great singing with great food—who could resist the combination?

Members of LMC will perform cabaret style musical selections and a desert buffet will be offered by Phil Dunn's Cookshop along with coffee and teas. Tickets are only \$15 and are available by calling 859-269-9739 (weekdays 8:30 am to 5:30 pm) or by e-mailing friends@lmcky.org. Don't miss this opportunity to support the chorus and see the new Downtown Arts Center.

Art Show Opening

GLSO is proud to announce the opening of the Pride Gallery on September 12 from 6 until 9 pm at the Pride Center. Our first artist is Frank Leake and this display of his work, "Paper Quilt", is dedicated in the memory of Ray Fields 1957-2002.

Frank Leake was born in Lebanon, KY in 1960 and now resides in Lexington. Mr. Leake received his Bachelors in Studio Arts from UK in 1985. He has been making sound-image collages in Lexington for the past 10 years. His self titled "Paper Quilt" series of collages is an ongoing body of work comprised of over 150 finished images. Most recently, his compositions explore the separation of the modern man from his spirituality.

Many of the prints on display are for sale; 20% of all sales will benefit GLSO. Keeping the Pride Center open is our largest expense so this is a fitting and exciting way to help artists and the GLBT community as a whole. We are interested in displaying the work of a variety of artists in our space. Contact the office if you are interested 253-3233

Sponsor of the Month

Windy Knoll Farm
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**Riding Lessons,
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See ad page 5



The GLSO NEWS

Volume 17 Issue 9

**published monthly by
The Lexington Gay
Lesbian
Service Organization
389 Waller Ave.**

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**GLSO Annual Dues &
Newsletter.**

**Individual - \$15
Couple - \$25**

Opinions expressed in the GLSO News are those of the authors and don't necessarily represent those of the GLSO Board. Submissions are welcome and staff reserves the right to edit submissions and advertisements as well as the right to reject submissions or advertisements.

Volunteer Awards Banquet

GLSO is planning the Eleventh Annual Volunteer Awards Banquet to be held Sunday, October 13th. Every LGBT group is asked to choose their own volunteer of the year to be honored at the Banquet and to present them with an award of your choosing. We are soliciting nominations for the Wasson Award and for the Rainbow Community Service Award. See details on page 22 at the back of the newsletter.

Graphic Design

Jackie is volunteering to do Graphic Design work at the Pride Center. We are asking for a donation of \$8 an hour or \$15 per design. All proceeds will go to the Pride Center. In the future she will be able to do printing jobs as well. We hope that this service will help support purchasing our own community center. She can do the following design work:

Business Cards	Brochures	Greeting Cards
Letterhead Design		Resumes
Event Flyers		Business Forms

Call or come by to see if we have the service you need. Let us help each other and our community. Call 253-3233 between 10am and 3pm or 971-3315 after 5. Please allow 1 to 2 weeks for the work to be done.

Fenton Johnson

Fenton Johnson will be the next speaker at the Unitarian Universalist Republican Meeting House, on October 19 at 7 pm. In his forthcoming book, Keeping Faith: A Skeptic's Journey (Houghton Mifflin, March, 2003), Johnson draws upon six years of research and much time spent at American Buddhist and Christian monasteries. At the UU Church, he will be addressing the role of Eastern thought in influencing the West in general and, specifically Eastern influence on Unitarianism, which through Emerson and Thoreau has strong connections with Buddhism's first appearances in America. Please join us.

Community News

Fairness Fundraiser

The Bluegrass Chapter of the Kentucky Fairness Alliance cordially invites you to an evening of cocktails and fine dining at its fall fundraiser on Sunday Sept. 22, at Portofino Restaurant, East Main Street. A cocktail reception and silent art auction begins at 6:30 (cash bar). Dinner with special guest speaker Jim Gray will be at 7:30.

Lexington Mayoral Candidates Scott Crosbie and Teresa Isaac are also invited. Proceeds benefit the on going work of Kentucky Fairness and our Bluegrass Chapter. A donation of \$50 per person is asked. Seating is limited, so reservations are strongly suggested but not required.

The reception is sponsored by Scott Ackerman, Paul Semonin Realtors. Art for the silent auction is being donated by David Hance, Louise Stone and others. For more information or to make reservations e-mail to fundraiser@bluegrassfairness.org or call 859-296-7812.

Dress and Gender Alliance

The Lexington Dress and Gender Alliance is a peer social support group for all transgendered people, including cross dressers, transsexuals, androgynous folks, gender queer individuals, allies and friends. We socialize and discuss issues related to how gender expectations have affected our lives. Our next meeting will be Sat. Sept. 7th at 8 pm, call 433-8388 for place.

Planet Salon

Planet Salon and AVOL are having a "Cut-A-Thon" Sun, Sept. 8, 11am to 7pm. The Artistic Team at Planet Salon is donating their commissions to AVOL. There will be food, music, games and a raffle.

Men's Chorus 13th Season

The Lexington Men's Chorus will begin rehearsals for its 13th Concert Season on Sunday, Sept. 8th. Registration starts at 5pm at St Michael's Episcopal Church 2025 Bellefonte Drive. Call 859-277-7511 for directions. Rehearsals are Sunday from 5:30-7:45 and dues are \$25 per semester. The chorus is open to all who love to sing --no audition required.

We are always in need of men and women who want to volunteer with the Auxiliary--Sustenuto. Questions about the chorus? e-mail Kenneth@lmcky.org. or visit the web site at www.lmcky.org.

Mr. Kentucky Bear Contest

The Fourth Annual Mr Kentucky Bear contest will be held at Crossing over the weekend of the 13th and 14th. On Friday night at 10 pm, there will be a 'meet and greet the contestants" with Sal Bruno performing. A vendor fair will be held in the loft on Friday night and Saturday

On Saturday at 2 pm there will be a beer bust and cookout on Crossing's patio. The contest will start at 10 pm, hosted by Scott Perry, Mr. KY Bear 2000 and Mr. International Bear 2001. There will be a major prize raffle during the evening.

United We Stand

The Imperial Court invites you to a evening of special tribute to the men and women whoes lives will be forever touched by the tragedy of September 11, 2001. On Wednesday, September 11, 2002, at Club 141 we will have a "Tribute to Heros-United We stand."m m Please join us for this special evening. **more** →

Mr. Bluegrass Leather

The Lexington Lyons will present Mr. Bluegrass Leather at the Limestone Club on Sat. September 7. For information contact Thomas Smith at 272-0408

MOVEABLE FEAST BENEFIT

Tiffany & Co. invites everyone to Crossings on Wednesday, September 18, 2002 for our monthly benefit for Moveable Feast! Come and enjoy performances by Tiffany Andrews, Mescha, Miss Sheena, Val E. Sheridan, Stacey Bryant, Rayna Starr and our very special guest this month Roxanne Cole! \$5 donation at the door with a 50/50 raffle to be held later in the evening. Show begins at 10pm.

SOULFORCE

Soulforce in Kentucky is an interfaith movement that studies the nonviolent methods of Gandhi and Martin Luther King and applies them in efforts to dialogue with various religious organizations that continue negative teachings about GLBT people.

The group meets on the second and fourth Thursday of each month. For meeting place and info contact Jamie McDaniel at www.SoulforceInKentucky.org or call 273-2746. See the article on page 14.

Miss KY at Large Benefit

Help send Sundae DeLaRouge to compete for Miss National at Large 2003. There will be a fundraiser on Wed, Oct. 2, at Club 141, 9pm. Entertainers include, Sundae DeLaRouge representing Miss KY National at Large, Monica Van Pelt, Miss National at Large 2002, LaToya BaCall, Ms National at Large 2001, Tuesday DelaRouge, Janelle Claiborne, Jennifer Grant, Lady Marmalade and others. Come and watch an entertaining show as some of Lexington's Larger Ladies (and not so large, also) perform.

Rainbow Bowling League

Rainbow League is moving back to Wednesdays at 9 p.m and moving back to Southland lanes. The bowling season will start with a fun bowl and registration on September 11. Join us as we take back our lives doing something totally American, bowling. Regular bowling will start the next week on Sept. 18 and will run through December 18. For info call 268-8541 or rainbowleague@aol.com

DISCUSSION GROUP

The GLSO Discussion/Support Group meets every Wednesday night from 7-8:30 at the Pride Center (389 Waller Ave, Suite 100). The group provides a welcoming and safe place to express your feelings about living as a GLBT person in Kentucky. The group respects our differences and seeks to help by sharing our common experiences. If you need some time to be yourself, join us. For info call the Center at 253-3233.

READING

In honor of Coming Out Month, the Pride Center will sponsor a reading by LBGT people and friends. If you have written short fiction, non-fiction, or poetry, or if you sing or play a musical instrument, we would love for you to take part in the evening. Please call Davina at 338-5402.



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PRIDE CENTER NEWS

389 Waller Ave. 859-253-3233 Mon-Sat 10 - 3

LESBIAN VIDEO NIGHT

After last month's Gay Film 101, *The Celluloid Closet*, we begin our journey into lesbian cinema. During the next few months, we will examine the depiction of lesbian teens in film on the second Friday night of the month at 7 p.m. at the Pride Center. Join us this month September 13 for *Lost and Delirious*, a 2001 Canadian film about lesbian love at a boarding school.

Piper Perabo (*Coyote Ugly*, *Adventures of Rocky and Bullwinkle*) stars as Pauline, the tough-talking rebellious girl who is madly in love with her roommate and the most popular girl in school, Tory. All is well in their secret lesbian love nest until the two girls are discovered.

Reel.com described the film as "A moving and erotic depiction of the pangs of first love." Be sure to bring a box of Kleenex along with your popcorn and Rasinettes. This film is rated R for strong sexuality involving teens and language.

GAMES NIGHT

Do you enjoy playing Scrabble or Boggle? Maybe Trivial Pursuit? What about Catch Phrase? Whatever your game, bring it to the Pride Center Friday, September 27 at 7:00 p.m. for Games Night. Join with others for an evening of playing old favorites or learning new games. Feel free to bring snacks and soft drinks as well. Everyone is welcome to this evening of fun and games. If we have enough interest in games night, we will continue to have it one Friday night a

SCRAPBOOKING CLASS

Furry friends are an important part of many of our lives, and preserving memories of our pets is easy with scrapbooking. Join Davina Warner Tuesday, September 24, from 7 to 9 p.m. for a Pet pages scrapbooking class. In this class, you will complete six scrapbook pages with a cat and/or dog theme. Cost for materials is \$15.00 plus tax. We need to know how many pages to order so please contact Davina at scrapnchick2002@yahoo.com or at 338-5402 to sign up for the class.

On Monday, Oct. 14 we will be making "True Love" pages in honor of coming out month. The cost for these pages will be \$10, call Davina if you would like to attend.

Men's Night Out

After taking Aug off we are starting back in September with a great film "Our Lady of the Assassins." From the director Of Reversal of Fortune comes this powerful, critically acclaimed story about the search for love in a society gone mad.

World-weary author Fernando has returned to his native Columbia to live out his days in peace. But Fernando's once quiet home town

...continued on page 8

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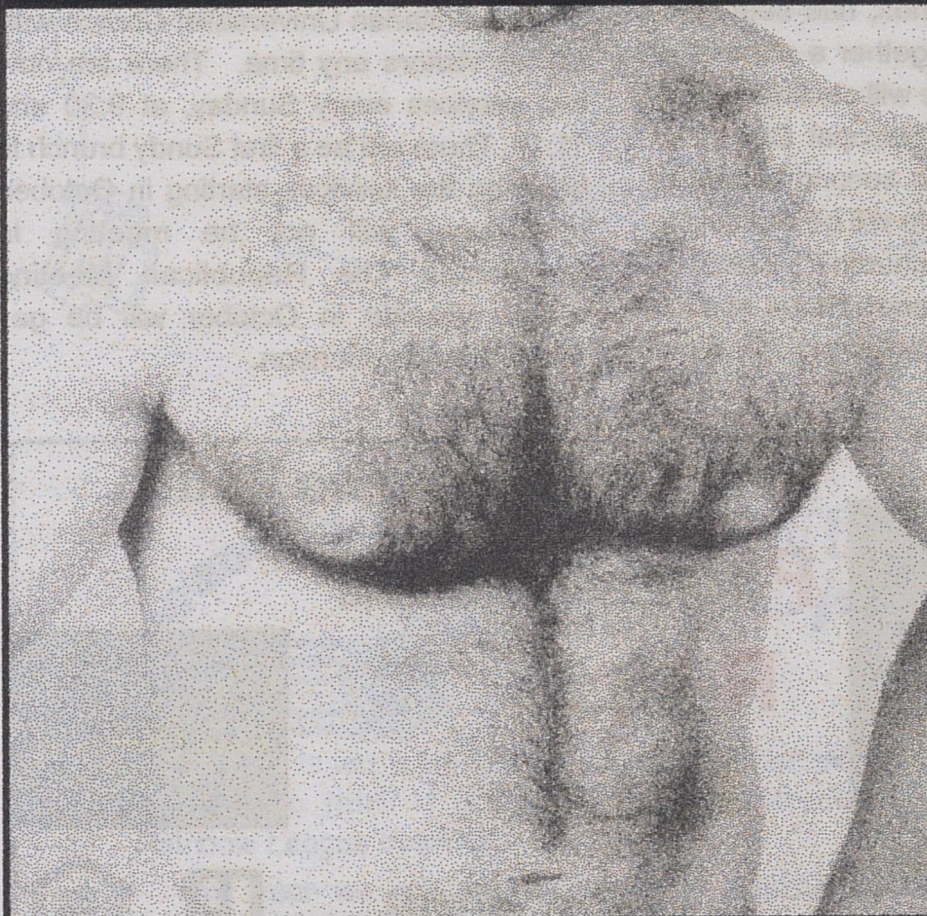
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* FRIDAY

10 pm meet and greet the contestants
special guest star Sal Bruno performing

* SATURDAY

2 pm beer bust and cookout on Crossings patio

10 pm Mr. Kentucky Bear Contest
hosted by Scott Perry, Mr. Kentucky Bear 2000 and Mr. International Bear 2001
major prize raffle

Vendor Fair in the Loft at Crossings

Friday 8 pm to 1 am
Saturday 2 pm to 6 pm - 8 pm to 1 am

winner of Mr. Kentucky Bear will receive round-trip airfare to San Francisco to compete in the Mr. International Bear contest.

interested in competing?
contact the Moonshine Bears at
www.moonshinebears.com
or pick up an application at Crossings

Merchants interested in participating in the Vendor Fair should contact the Moonshine Bears website.



**Moonshine Bears of Ky.
4th Annual Mr. Kentucky
Bear Contest
September 13th & 14th**

violence, drugs and corruption. On the brink of despair, Fernando meets Alexis, a beautiful but hardened street kid who lived by the rule of the gun. Together, they forge an unlikely relationship.

Join us at the Pride Center, call the office for date, 253-3233. Bring popcorn and a drink and have a great time.

Religious Groups

Integrity

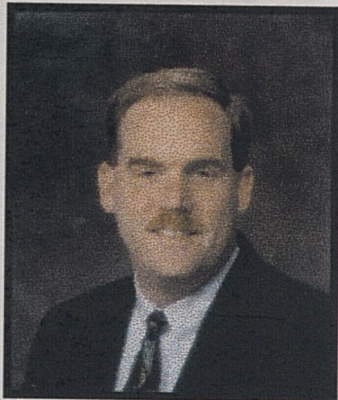
Integrity, a support group for Episcopalians and friends, has been successful in gathering together a number of like minded people. We will continue meeting at St. Michael's Episcopal Church at 2025 Bellefonte on the second Sundy of each month at 4 pm. We will be discussing "Is it safe to return to church?" Call Rev. David Boyd or Rev. Sandy Stone at 277-7511 or JBIntegrity@aol.com. for more information

Jubilee Fellowship

Due to the recent growth in membership, Jubilee Fellowship is meeting at the Pride Center on most Thursday nights at 7pm. The second Thursday of each month is booked, so on that night we will meet at the Pride Center but then go elsewhere - coffee house, bowling, or to see a movie. We are still studying the Gospel of John. If you have any questions call 264-7006 or cwbm121893@aol.com.

Interweave

The Unitarian Universalist Church welcomes visitors any time. There are now two services every Sunday, at 9:30 and 11:15. There will be a first Sundy brunch in between the services starting in October. Interweave will not be meeting in September. The Republican Meeting House speaker in October will be gay author Fenton Johnson.



Scott Ackerman

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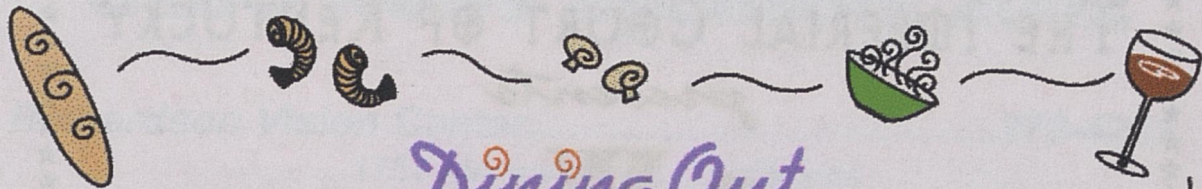
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Dining Out FOR LIFE

Please help make this event the best one yet!

Lexington's Dining Out for Life citywide event will be Thursday, September 19. Nearly 30 local restaurants have generously agreed to donate a percentage of their evening's food and beverage revenues to Moveable Feast, Lexington - the non-profit organization that prepares and delivers hot, nutritious meals to those living with HIV/AIDS in this community.

Restaurant list will be posted on www.feastlex.org



BOWLING ... from the EDGE!

No, this is not a tip from *American Bowler* magazine...! But, we do think it is a great way to introduce the new season of Rainbow League bowling.

This year we are moving **BACK** to Southland Lanes and **BACK** to 9:00pm. We will be bowling on Wednesday nights. Our season will begin the second week in September and end the last week in April.

There will be a fun bowl and registration on Sept. 11 as we Americans take **BACK** our lives doing something totally American ...Bowling!

Important Dates:

Fun Bowl Night.....**Sept 11th**
 First Night of bowling.....**Sept 18th**
 Last Night of bowling.....**Apr 16th**

Important Information:

League Secretary.....**351-4650**
 E-mail.....**RainbowLeague@aol.com**
 LeaguePresident.....**268-8541**

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\$5 Donation

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September

2002

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 7 pm GSA	3 7 pm Sistahs in the Life Pride Center	4 7 pm Discussion Group Pride Center 7 pm Gay/Lesbian AA (Call for place) 9 pm Rainbow Bowling Southland Lanes	5 7 pm Jubilee Fellowship Pride Center	6 8 pm Lex. Men's Chorus Cabaret at Downtown Arts Center 7 pm Gay/Lesbian AA (Call for place) 7 pm Mens Night Out Pride Center	7 Pride Center Open 10-3 8 pm LDGA (See Article)
8 9:30 & 11:15 UU Church Worship Service 5:30 Men's Chorus Rehearsal, St Michaels 11 am-7 pm Planet Salon "Cut a thon" 7 pm Dignity - Pride Center	9 7 pm P-FLAG Berea Public Library-Berea 8 pm AA Step Study (Call for place)	10 7 pm GSA (call for place)	11 7 pm Discussion Group Pride Center 7 pm Gay/Lesbian AA (Call for place) 9 pm Rainbow Bowling Southland Lanes	12 6-9 pm Art Show Opening Pride Center	13 7 pm Lesbian Movie Night 7 pm Gay/Lesbian AA (Call for place)	14 Pride Center Open 10-3
15 9:30 & 11:15 UU Church Worship Service 5:30 Men's Chorus Rehearsal, St Michaels 7 pm HUGS (Call for location) 7 pm Dignity Pride Center	16 7 pm GLSO Board Meeting 8 pm AA Step Study (Call for place)	17 7 pm GSA (Call for place)	18 7 pm Discussion Group Pride Center 7 pm Gay/Lesbian AA (Call for place) 10 pm Tiffany and Co. Benefit Crossings 9 pm Rainbow Bowling Southland Lanes	19 7 pm Jubilee Fellowship 6 pm on- Dining Out for Life Your Favorite Restaurant	20 7 pm Gay/Lesbian AA (Call for place)	21 Pride Center Open 10-12
22 9:30 & 11:15 UU Church Worship Service 5:30 Men's Chorus Rehearsal, St Michaels 6 pm Imperial Court- Pride Center 7 pm HUGS (Call for location)	23 8 pm AA Step Study (Call for place)	24 7 pm GSA (Call for place) 7 PM Scrapbooking Workshop Pride Center	25 7 pm Discussion Group Pride Center 7 pm Gay/Lesbian AA (Call for place) 9 pm Rainbow Bowling Southland Lanes	26 7 pm Jubilee Fellowship	27 7 pm Gay/Lesbian AA (Call for place)	28 Pride Center Open 10-3 10 am Writing Practice Pride Center
29 9:30 & 11:15 UU Church Worship Service 5:30 Men's Chorus Rehearsal, St Michaels 7 pm HUGS (Call for location)	30 8 pm AA Step Study					

Handwritten signature: Harvey

We Should Not Settle for a Negative Peace

by Jamie McDaniel

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. often spoke of the difference between a negative peace and a positive peace. Negative peace is the absence of tension whereas positive peace is the presence of justice.

During King's life, there existed a crisis of race relations in the United States. If black people would have just continued to accept the practice of segregation and "stayed in their place" there would have been no crisis - but neither would there have been justice.

The system of segregation, which supported a false sense of superiority in one group of people and a false sense of inferiority in another group of people, would have gone unchallenged. I sometimes wonder where we, the people of the United States of America, would be today if the black community had not risen up with a new sense of dignity and pride in themselves and saw that the wall of segregation could be torn down with love and nonviolent protest.

There exists a crisis in the United States today with regard to relations between the gay community and the heterosexual community. Though there are many courageous heterosexual allies who see the oppression and are working alongside us for justice, and though there have been victories for our freedom, America is still a land where GLBT people are not seen as being completely equal. Rights that could be ours if we lied and pretended to be heterosexual people are denied for the simple reason that we want to live with honesty and integrity and be open about who we are as gay people.

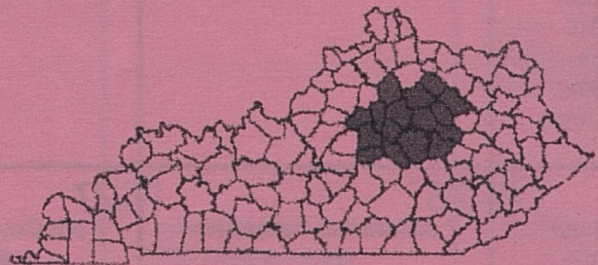
The gay community could continue to

accept the mindset and attitude of "Don't ask - Don't tell" that is so prevalent in our country. This mindset perpetuates a false sense of superiority for the heterosexual person, who is encouraged on everything from job applications to everyday conversation to share information relating to his or her sexual orientation, and it perpetuates a false sense of inferiority in the GLBT person who is made to feel shame for revealing anything that would give away the fact that he or she is homosexual. Worse still, many of us fall into the trap of buying into such a system by shrugging our shoulders at the injustice and whispering to ourselves, "Well, I suppose it's nobody's business anyway." In doing so, negative peace is sustained and positive peace is forfeited.

The only solution is for our heterosexual brothers and sisters to accept gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people as

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Kentucky Bluegrass Fairness Bluegrass Chapter



Fairness works with legislators and other decision-makers to ensure equal treatment of LGBT people in the Bluegrass and around the state. Contact us to help in the fight and to stay informed on important issues.

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equal human beings. Those of us who are gay have been taught for too long that we are "less than." That is coming to an end. It is coming to an end not because the heterosexual community is voluntarily giving us our freedom but because the gay community is rising up with a new sense of self worth and demanding justice.

Dr. King, in his address before the annual meeting of the Fellowship of the Concerned in 1961, said, "...history reveals to us that once oppressed people rise up against that oppression, there is no stopping point short of full freedom. On the other hand, history reveals to us that those who oppose the movement for freedom are those who are in privileged positions who very seldom give up their privileges without strong resistance."

I am the coordinator for a local Soulforce group in Lexington. Soulforce is on the front lines of this movement for justice for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people. We are committed to nonvi-

gender people. We are committed to non-violence and the process of respectful protest. We recognize that religious establishments are the primary source of misinformation about GLBT people. Religious anti-gay teachings and policies are used to sustain the injustice that exists in the United States. Therefore, we work to relentlessly bring the truth about God's gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender children to our adversaries. I invite you to join us as we work towards making positive peace a reality in Lexington, in Kentucky, and in the United States.

Soulforce recently protested at the Southern Baptist Convention in St. Louis and are always preparing for future nonviolent protests. They have plans to meet with Jerry Falwell in Lynchburg, Virginia next month. They will be studying Martin Luther King Jr. and the civil rights movement's use of nonviolent protest in coming meetings. For information call 273-2746 or www.SoulforceInKentucky.org.

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Queer Kentucky History Sweet Evening Breeze by Jeff Jones

While it might be easy to idealize James Herndon as some type of good-hearted, gender-bending eunuch, interviewees also say he had a complex sexuality. To the knowledge of interviewees, Herndon never had one great love or even a long-term relationship. He did have many close friends and lovers. For example, his friend Hugh Sterling, an African American gay man, helped care for Sweets as he got older. The two were never lovers according to Herndon friends Joyce Cruse and Leigh Angelique. In fact, Leigh Angelique recounts that Sweets did not have sex with black men.

Sweets' sexuality and his relation to society are of note for reasons other than curiosity. In many regards Sweets' sexuality paralleled that of the New York fairies described by George Chauncey in Gay New York. Chauncey argues that homosexuality in the late Nineteenth and early Twentieth centuries were not defined around the gender of one's sexual partner as today. Instead, homosexuality involved gender presentation: effeminate men who had sex with other men were queer while their butch partners often identified as strays. Much like the berdache among American Indians, this definition of homosexuality still holds sway in parts of Latin America and the Middle East.

Although not the only way that homosexuality was lived in Lexington, a similar type of gender variant construction can be recognized within the life of Sweet Evening Breeze. It has been reported that stray-identified butch men sought out Sweets and other effeminate queer men as sexual outlets. In fact, several interviewees discuss a link between Sweets, other male

queers, and University of Kentucky athletes. Both a 1985 Lexington Herald-Leader article by Don Edwards and a scandal novel by O. O'Banion discuss UK athletes attending parties at the homes of local queer men. O'Banion's book asserts that one UK All American basketball player was involved sexually with Rock Hudson.

During the 1950s, perhaps before and after, Sweets would regularly entertain UK athletes at his Prall Street home. He was very proud of a number of sets of silver he received from the UK football team. Coffman Knight, Joyce Cruse, and Leigh Angelique knew Sweets personally. They assert he and several other African-American queer men in Sweets' circle sexually serviced a number of athletes with the tacit approval of their coach.

"He entertained the football team all the time. He and Miss Henry. And Bear Bryant would rather his boys go there than messing around with women and get a little relief there. It was not looked down upon but better to get a quick relief than hang out all night with some girl." (Coffman Knight 2001)

"Sweets had a lover: the football team...I imagine the basketball team too." (Joyce Cruse, 2001)

"From my understanding it was you had to be initiated by Sweets to play basketball at UK. ...This initiation involved sex. UK had a football player named [name removed] and Sweets married him in a mock wedding at the church for charity....The coaches knew about it. We used to have to sign a statement to prove that the boys were there. They did all that shit back then." (Leigh Angelique 2001)

The claims that a group of gender-bending African-American queer men were regularly sexually servicing high profile white athletes in segregated Lexington are extraordinary. Several interviewees sepa-

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rately have recounted these stories.

Sweets' sexual secrets and his ability to cut across class and race lines also reportedly gave him an unusual degree of power. He would greet even powerful politicians at times with his familiar greeting of "hey whore, ..." and cajole shopkeepers out of free merchandise. In February 1969 or 1970 he is reported to have testified in a case before Judge Amato over the arrest of several young drag queens. A law at the time banned drag at any time other than Halloween. Pointing to a woman wearing cosmetics in the audience, Sweets argued that allowing one sex to wear makeup and not another was discriminatory. Amato agreed and ruled for the queens. Thus ended the ban on drag in Lexington. For years afterwards, Leigh Angelique, the other young queens, and friends would celebrate the day as "Bastille Day" when Sweets stormed the court to free the drag queens.

During his lifetime and after there was a common rumor that Sweets was actually a hermaphrodite. This condition was used to explain his transgender presentation and the reason for his abandonment by his family. Sweets did not try to dispel this myth or at least was not directly asked by most friends. Perhaps it provided an amount of protection for his transgender presentation.

His friend Joyce Cruse relates that a former renter of hers, a nurse, told her that the nursing staff at Good Samaritan set up a bet on the matter at a time when Sweets was scheduled for surgery. The nurses betting that Sweets was not a hermaphrodite were the winners of that bet. Having once given Sweets a bath when caring for him, Leigh Angelique also confirms that Sweets was not a hermaphrodite.

A related rumor holds that because of his hermaphroditism, Sweets left his body

to science in his will. Cruse and Leigh Angelique both say this rumor is also false. Whether invented by Sweets himself or by others to explain Herndon's behavior, it is interesting to note the underlying context of this rumor; gender-bending behavior is held to derive from an intersex condition.

It is interesting to consider what effect Sweets produced in Lexington over his long life. Born black in the segregated South and effeminate in a male body, this odd boy was abandoned by his family only to luck into a home and job at a local hospital. He held the hand of the super-rich while they lay sick in Good Samaritan Hospital. The police were his friends and regular taxi service. Did the prominent men who once played sports at UK and were Sweets' bedmates have a greater tolerance for other queerfolk long after they settled into a heterosexual marriage?

Always the outsider in public, he became the intimate friend, guardian, and sometimes conniving showman of queer Lexington. In his scarves and starched white "nurse drag", he paved the way for all that was later to come.

Late in his life Sweets lived in the Homestead Nursing Home on Versailles Road. He died there in December 1983. Because of the holidays, he was not buried until the following January. Joyce Cruse relates details about his funeral. Like equally notorious Lexington character and Sweets' one time contemporary Belle Brezing, few people attended Sweets' funeral. So few in fact that there was a concern there would not be enough people to serve as pall bearers.

Joyce Cruse, Mike McCormick, several Good Samaritan doctors, and Bradley Pickleshimer attended. With his typical flair, Bradley Pickleshimer came to the funeral in a French black suit, four inch heels, and a

...continued on next page

black veil. To friend Cruse's continuing sadness, this most colorful of Lexingtonians was buried in a brown suit with a brown tie in a brown casket. Cruse recalls never having otherwise seen Sweets ever wear brown.

James "Sweet Evening Breeze" Herndon is buried in the far corner of a grave plot in Lexington Cemetery. Almost hidden by large conifer trees, his gravestone lists him as being born on July 3, 1892 and dying on December 16, 1983. If you are ever out in Lexington Cemetery, I urge you all to leave the most colorful flowers you can find for our great first queer, James "Sweets" Herndon.

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Bluegrass Rape Crisis Center Advocacy volunteers Needed

During the last year, the Rape Crisis Centers in Kentucky served 7,000 female and over 1,000 male victims of sexual victimization. To ensure continued service, the Bluegrass Center is in need of crisis line and medical advocacy volunteers.

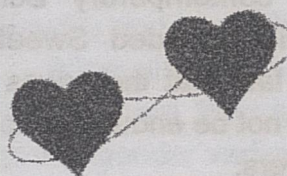
We are offering our free fall training starting on Friday, September 20th from 5:30 to 8:30 and continuing the next three Saturdays, Sept 21st, 28th and Oct 5th. Upon completion of all training sessions, volunteers will answer the crisis line in their homes via call forwarding, shift choice is flexible. Applicants must be 20 years old and willing to give a six month commitment. To apply for this training, please contact Brandy at 253-2615.

Take Back The Night

The Bluegrass Rape Crisis Center presents Take Back The Night on Sunday, Sept 29th from 4 to 9 pm. at Triangle Park. There will be vendors, speakers, and a march through downtown Lexington.

Roots and Heritage Festival

Activities throughout September. Do not miss the Street Fair, Sept. 6-8 on Elm Tree



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DEADLINES:

Articles and Ad
Space:

September 15

put "newsletter" in
the subject line

Ads you have reserved
space for by the 15th

September 20

Young Pride

Eyes

By: Aaron

When you look into my eyes can you see my soul,
or the pain in my heart?
When you look into my eyes can you see my mind
or unscramble my thoughts.
When you look into my eyes can you see my dark past
or predict bright things in my future?
They say the eyes are the windows
are the windows to the soul.
What if those windows are tightly closed shut,
would you take this to open them and
take a look at my soul, to see if
there is peace and serenity in my life?
Would you take the time to love me,
and let me open the windows for you?
When you look into my eyes can you see me?
Do you see a beautiful butterfly,
or do you see a burly beast?
When you look into my eyes do you see me?
Do you see who I really am?

Miss Gay Kentucky At Large

Sundae DeLaRouge

needs your support to compete in Miss National at Large 2003

Benefit Show

Wednesday, October 2, 9 PM

Club 141

Featured Entertainers

Monica Van Pelt, Miss National at Large 2002

LaToya BaCall, Miss National at Large 2001

Tuesday DeLaRouge, Janelle Claiborne, Jennifer Grant, Lady Marmalade



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Nominations are now being taken for the

WASSON AWARD

AND THE

RAINBOW COMMUNITY SERVICE

AWARD

The Eleventh Annual Volunteer Awards Banquet will be held on **Sunday October 13th**. At that time, all community organizations are invited to present their volunteer of the year awards to an individual they select. Each group is responsible for whatever they want to present to their chosen volunteer. We will also be honoring the individual (Wasson Award) and the community group (Rainbow Award) that through volunteerism has done the most for the GLBT Community in and around the Bluegrass Area in the previous year or years. Anyone can nominate a person or a group for these awards. Write a paragraph or two giving reasons for your choice and mail it to GLSO, PO Box 11471, Lexington 40575 or e-mail Terry at Terry_Mullins@msn.com We need to have all nominations by noon on Monday, September 30th. Between October 1 and 5, up to three representatives from each group can come by the Pride Center, read the nominations, and fill out a voting form. The Pride Center is open from 10 am to 3 pm Monday through Saturday, call to be sure there is someone here. You can also come by on Wednesday evening, Oct 2 between 7 and 9 pm. Then come to the Banquet and see who has won!

Name _____

Phone # _____

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City, State, Zip _____

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_____ **\$20 Couple membership and newsletter**

_____ **\$25 Two year membership and newsletter**

_____ **I would like the newsletter at this reduced rate**

_____ **Additional contribution**



Mail to GLSO News PO Box 11471 Lexington, KY 40575



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GLSO Directory

GLSO Board

GLSO Pride Center253-3233
 GLSO Board (Terry)252-2867
 GLSO Discussion Group (Ginger) ...253-3233
 GLSO News (Mary)266-5904
 Subscriptions (Ginger)253-3233
 Ad Design (Dan)494-1832
 GLSO Speakers Bureau (Mary)266-5904
 Youth Gay Straight Alliance (Mary) .266-5904
 GLSO on Linelexingtonglso@yahoo.com
 www.bluegrasspride.org

Student Groups

Morehead State University (Ned) 606-783-2294
 UK Lambda (Sara & Dave) .info@uklambda.com
 Berea College ACE League (Dale) .859-985-3633
 Centre College (BGLAD-Mykol)238-5332

Anonymous HIV Testing

Jessamine County885-4149
 Lexington-Fayette County288-2437
 Madison County859-723-7312
 Woodford County873-4541
 U.K. Adolescent Medicine323-5643

HIV/AIDS Info/Services

AIDS Volunteers, Inc225-3000
 Lexington Health Department (Julie) ...288-2362
 HIV/AIDS Legal Project502-584-1254
 HIV Education Youth Group278-7494
 HIV Support (Somerset) ..679-7478 or 678-5814
 Cumberland Region (SEKY-Pat) ..606-864-3776
 or 888-425-7282
 Barren River Region800-559-4448
 Louisville Region (Geri)502-574-0161
 Northern Kentucky Region859-341-4264
 Purchase Region800-522-8289
 Moveable Feast252-2867
 VOA (Mark)254-3469

Community

Alcoholics Anonymous (Brian)245-7471
 Office276-2917
 AL-Anon (Office)277-1877
 Bluegrass Belles (Marjorie)278-2608
 (Ann)502-672-8673
 Bluegrass C.O.L.T.S. (Morris)225-9169
 Bluegrass Fairness296-7812
 Council for Peace and Justice
 (Richard)277-6101
 DOJ Pride (Robin)231-8526
 Fairness of Louisville502-893-0788
 First Link (was Ask-Us)313-5465
 GLSEN-KY (Gina)606-677-9010
 G/L Defense Fund502-589-2896
 International Gay Bowling (Steve) ...276-3058

Imperial Court of KY

bluegrassempire@hotmail.com
 KY Leather Productions (Larry)253-0185
 Kyians for the Commonwealth
 jlynjenks@msn.com
 Lexington Lyons Leather/Levi Club
 (George)885-7777
 (Greggers)792-6117
 Lake Cumberland Gay Alliance
 roger@hyperaction.net
 Lexington Dress & Gender Alliance .433-8388
 Lexington Human Rights Commission 252-4931
 Lexington Men's Chorus (Milton) ...253-4816
 Louisville Youth Group502-894-9787
 Moonshine Bears of KY (Bobby) ...494-2625
 Pride Alliance of Central KY
 (Gary)859-236-4547
 (Shane)859-854-0596
 ridealliance@yahoo.com

PFLAG (Jim)266-3934
 (Dottie)489-4791
 PFLAG Berea (Ed)582-0933
 Pegasus Travel253-1644
 Rainbow Bowling League (Steve) ..276-3058
 Richmond Q Club (Larry)859-623-7720
 Sistersound (Patti)243-0243
 Sistahs in the Life (Joan)252-2657
 24 hr. Crisis Line1-800-928-8000
 24 hr. Teen Crisis Line1-800-999-9999

Religious Groups

Dignity (Catholic-Richard)268-1351
 HUGS257-7880
 Interweave (Unitarian-Davina)253-3233
 Integrity (Episcopal-Rev. Stone)277-7511
 Jubilee Fellowship (Beverly & Corina) 264-7006
 CWBM121893@aol.com
 MCC-Elizabethtown (Rev.Cathy) ..888-340-6223
 MCC-Louisville (Rev. Dee)502-587-6225
 MCC-Paducah (Rev. Lillian) ...270-443-3339
 Norse Pagan Community (Rev. Pat) ...268-1640
 KY Pagan Forum ..http://go.to/kypaganforum/
 RainbowWind (Pagan-Sarah).....273-2455
 Soulforce (Jamie).....273-2746
 www.SoulforceInKentucky.org
 St. Augustine's Chapel
 (Episcopal-Rev. Chris) ..254-3726
 Open Door (Christian-Rev. Pam) ...396-7636

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Articles and Ad Space: Sept. 15
 Ads we know are coming: Sept. 20
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