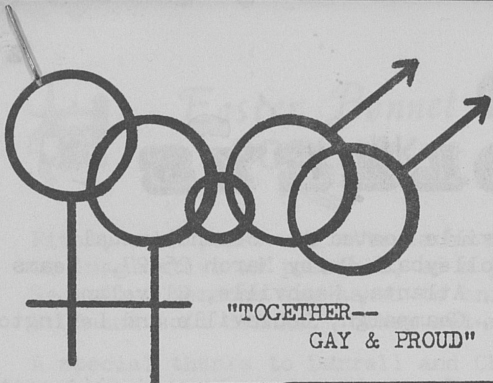


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GSO NEWSLETTER

LEXINGTON GAY SERVICES ORGANIZATION
POST OFFICE BOX 11471
LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY 40511

APRIL 1983

Presidential Message

Keith Elston, President Gay Services Organization

Discrimination. This could be the most important word in gay vocabulary. Gays face discrimination in one form or another and we have to cope with it.

Webster's defines discrimination as "the act, practice or an instance of discriminating categorically rather than individually" and "prejudicial outlook, action, or treatment". Discrimination can be as subtle as not getting a job promotion when due or blatant as "queer-bashing"; it can be a thoughtless comment by a well-meaning friend or as intentional as being asked to leave a disco or restaurant. Discrimination is based on ignorance, intolerance, fear and often--hatred.

How many of us have been at work or other public places and heard someone telling a "fag" joke? What feelings did you have? Did you speak up or just smile weakly and remain silent? All too often, we are guilty of the latter. By not challenging that sort of discrimination we are, in effect, making a statement of our own, and that statement is that it's okay to tell degrading jokes and use offensive terms. Our silence implies social tolerance for negative behavior.

There is a more threatening form of discrimination that affects us directly. Some months ago, I was asked to speak to sociology classes at EKV. A student of one of the classes was a member of the church where I was employed as music director. He made it clear that if I didn't tell my church that I was gay, he would.

I called my minister and saw him the next day and told him I was gay. He was very supportive and had a genuine interest in learning more about the subject. The minister felt it was important to tell the governing body of the church. Soon the entire church knew.

The members of the choir which I directed stuck stubbornly at my side; some called for the church to fire me; some countered that it didn't matter that I was gay, as long as I did my job. Most people kept silent. The pressure was too much. Threatened with physical violence by one man and the likelihood that this issue was going to split the church, I was forced to resign.

It has been over a month since my last Sunday as music director there. I still keep in touch with the minister and others in the congregation. Ironically, many people who kept silent told me they had no idea it was such a serious matter and that they were sorry about my resignation. Some were embarrassed for the closed mindedness of others in the church. Some cried, some hugged me, some avoided me in the halls. Some couldn't or wouldn't look me in the eye.

Through the ordeal, I held my head high. I let them know I was proud of being gay, and in the end I believe I gained more respect from that congregation than is now given to those few who were so prejudiced against the fact that I was gay.

In A Disturbed Peace, author Brian McNaught says there is a price to pay for our freedom from oppression. This was the price I had to pay. I have yet to find another job, but I'll survive. Some have called me a fool for taking such a risk, but I have to face myself in the mirror each morning.

I like what I see.

I will continue this topic next month. If you have personal experiences that deal with discrimination and would like to share them or if you would like to make comments, please let me hear from you.

EDITORS SPACE...

I am a great believer in luck and I find that the harder I work, the more I have of it. Well, we've worked hard and what luck we've had!

The NEWSLETTER has grown in size and distribution, the quality and style has dramatically changed, and above all, we have brought a comprehensive gay publication to Lexington and Central Kentucky, a publication which you all deserve and have made possible. Congratulations!

To the many people who've provided story contributions, to the many who've volunteered their time, interest, and resources and especially to our growing number of advertisers, I offer the greatest thanks. You make it come together.

For the many positive comments and letters of support, I pledge continued enthusiasm and dedication. You make this worthwhile.

We want to continue mailing each of you a first class gay publication. It's expensive and without monetary support . . .

We're counting on you.

1983 . . . It's Time!
Tim Banks, Editor

GSO VOLLEYS

Lambda/Louisville hosted the Second Annual Louisville Volleyball Derby March 25-27. Teams from Chicago, Atlanta, Nashville, Cleveland, Indianapolis, Champaign, Louisville and Lexington competed.

The Lexington team had a stupendous time (despite our win/loss record)! It was the first volleyball tournament GSO entered and we hope to join in many more. Atlanta has invited us to their tourney over Memorial Day Weekend. For more information call Bill at 231-0100.

GSO would like to thank Lambda for providing housing with those sexy, hospitable gents from Louisville, to the many fine bars for the "good times", to Ron's for the excellent catered banquet, and to Trixies Hide-n-Seek for the Marvellous entertainment.

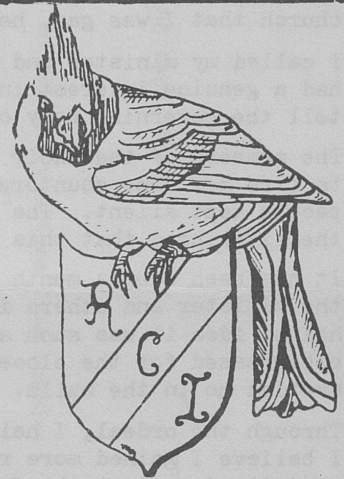
Congratulations Lambda! You did a great job.

We're looking forward to next year and hope that GSO can show you some Lexington hospitality at the Last Chance Campout April 16.

Red Cardinal Inn 521 W. Short Street

Lexington, Kentucky

252-2902



Featuring A Complete Menu Of Traditional Kentucky Food

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Private Party, Group, & Banquet Facilities Available.

BRUNCH

Sunday 10:30 - 2:00

LUNCH

Tues. - Sat. 11:00 - 2:00

DINNER

Fri. & Sat. 5:30 - 9:00

Reservations Accepted



Easter Bonnet POTLUCK

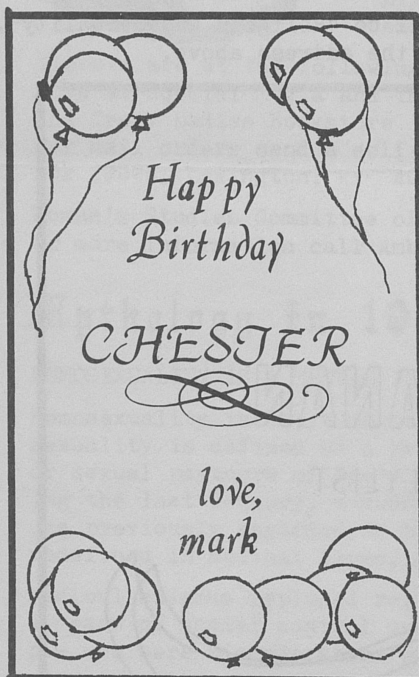


Tony and Paul will host their annual "Easter Bonnet" Party, Sunday, April 3 at 2:00 P.M. It will be a "special" potluck in observance of the holiday.

First, each person in attendance must wear an Easter Bonnet. The head dress is encouraged to be as imaginative as possible, as a prize will be awarded to the person with the best "bonnet". Secondly, persons are asked to bring only "munchies". No cooked dishes are needed. It will be BYOB and soft drinks. Other set-ups will be available.

A special thanks to Darrell and Charlie for hosting last month's potluck. The food, friendship, and films were enjoyed by all.

For more information or directions call Tony or Paul at 254-2207. See you in your Sundays best!



(CLASSIFIED)

LAST CHANCE CAMPOUT PLANNED

Eddie will be the host to the "Last Chance Campout" for GSO and Lambda Louisville on Saturday, April 16.

Eddie has moved to Lexington and this will be the "last chance" to use the farm for the annual campout. An invitation has been extended to members of Lambda Louisville for the occasion and their response has been very positive.

It will be necessary to bring all of your own provisions for the overnight affair. In case of bad weather, a raindate of Saturday, May 14 has been established.

Directions on how to get to the farm are published on the back of the calendar this month.

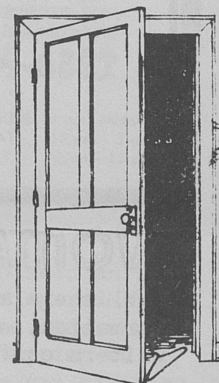
Please plan to attend. It has always been tremendously fun and it's a great way to meet new friends from around the state.

For more information please call Eddie at 259-0878.

Lambda Louisville PRESENTS--

"SPRING FLING", Sunday, April 10, 1983--Belle of Louisville Cruise. It will be 2:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.

BYOB SETUPS AVAILABLE NO COOLERS PLEASE



HIDING
IT IN A
CLOSET
WON'T
HELP!

SHOW YOUR
SUPPORT
IN '83

A Worship Service Focusing on Gay/Lesbian Concerns

"ON THE DANGERS OF CREATING ONE'S OWN MYTH", Dr. David Fisher

Sunday, April 24, 10:45 a.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church
3564 Clays Mill Road (six miles south of downtown, Near Higbee Mill Rd.)

A progress report on Gay/Lesbian Activities: what's going on locally, regionally, nationally (even a mention of British doings).

Some personal reflections; a tie in with UU theologian H.N. Wieman;

a look at the future and how all of us, gay and non-gay,

lesbian and non-lesbian, might interact to our mutual benefit.

(David has been a practitioner of medicine in Ohio, is a "little theater buff", a father of two teenagers, a graduate of theological school, a mental health practitioner and liaison for the Ohio Valley District Unitarian Universalist Gay/Lesbian Concerns.)

"We provide a community where an individual can develop his or her own beliefs, independent of any creed or dogma." ALL WELCOME
(223-1448)

Relationships...Want To Know More?

The Sunday evening discussion group will be focusing their attention on this topic on April 10 from 6 to 8 P.M. The discussion topic is "Forming Relationships".

This very timely and always relevant topic is one in a series of topics of importance to the gay/lesbian community. We always will face the challenge of meeting new people and forming some type of relationship. Perhaps you would like to share and discuss your feelings on this subject. You could possibly learn something that could make your life a little easier.

The purpose of the group is to provide a safe, supportive atmosphere in which people can discuss their concerns, fears, joys and hopes with their peers.

The group will meet at 223 N. Broadway, Apt. 19. For more information please call Charlie Kast at 252-8143 or call the GAYLINE at 231-0335 on Thursdays or Fridays from 7 to 11 P.M.

The group will have a second meeting this month and the topic will be "Religion and Sexuality". The meeting will be held on Sunday, April 24 from 6 to 8 P.M. at the address above.

LADY DIANA

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508 East Main Street
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Tuesday-Saturday
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KEITH BUCHANAN

STYLIST

WOMANWRITES '83

For the fifth consecutive year, lesbian writers, publishers and printers from throughout the Southeast will meet in early June to share information, expertise and works in progress at WOMANWRITES, the annual Southeastern lesbian writers conference.

To be held June 9 thru June 12 in Georgia, WOMANWRITES '83 will feature workshops on different aspects of writing and publishing and group sessions devoted to readings of works by conference participants.

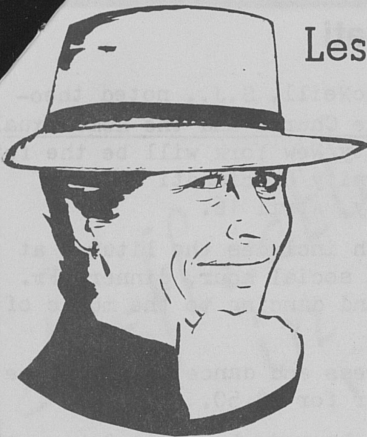
Advance registration fee (those received before May 27) is \$35 per adult, \$10 per child. Lower fees available to economically challenged women. This fee includes workshops and other events, food and camp-style lodging. Since space is limited, early registration is advised. Mothers are welcome to bring their girl children of any age. Limited child care available.

Women of all economic, racial, religious, and ethnic backgrounds are encouraged to attend. For more information and an application send a SELF-ADDRESSED, STAMPED ENVELOPE to:

WOMANWRITES 7134 5th Avenue North St. Petersburg, Florida 33710

The GSO GAYLINE operates on Thursdays and Fridays from 7 to 11 p.m. Call 231-0335.

Lesbian/Feminist humor with KATE CLINTON



"...KATE CLINTON is making it perfectly clear that a promising new lesbian comedienne is coming out of Cazenovia, N.Y."
Barbara Baracks
The Village Voice

Amber Moon Productions
present the third event
in their "83" Spring

Subscription Series. Fumerist Kate Clinton (feminist/humorist) comes to Lexington for an evening of stand up comedy on April 9 at 8 p.m.

Kate will be performing at the UK Center for the Arts Recital Hall, located at the corner of Euclid and Rose Streets

Kate says about her work, "I am a fumerist. You can be one too; that's the beauty of the system. We are equal to the task of "making light". Light enough to see where we are going in these dark times and light enough to move through our heavy issues. She who laughs--lasts."

Tickets are at the following self-selecting prices: \$5.50, 6.50, and 7.50. They are now available at Special Media and The Good Foods Co-op in Lexington; Carmicles Bookstore in Louisville; and Crazy Ladies Bookstore in Cincinnati. They also are available by mail and at the door. For mail orders send a self addressed, stamped envelope along with a check to Amber Moon, Box 22096, Lexington, KY 40522.

Woman's Studies Committee of UK is a co-sponsor of this event. For FREE childcare reservations or more information call Amber Moon at 252-3110.

Mythology In 1983

HOMOSEXUALITY IS A MENTAL ILLNESS

Homosexuality is not a mental illness. Homosexuality is defined as a preference for love or sexual partners of one's own gender. During the last century, a number of social issues previously regarded as moral problems were redefined in medical terms, as illnesses.

Medical stigmas replaced religious stigmas as a means of social control over groups of people who were misunderstood or feared by society.

Attempts were made to define blacks and women as intellectually or physically inferior to whites or men and civil rights and opportunities were denied them on the basis of this socially defined inferiority.

Research in recent decades has revealed that there is no greater incidence of mental illness among homosexuals than among the population as a whole and in 1973, the American Psychiatric Association voted to remove homosexuality as a mental disorder from its official diagnostic manual.

Since homosexuality is not an illness, it cannot be "cured". There is no scientific evidence to support the claims about changing homosexuals into heterosexuals. An infinite number of gays have been traumatized by this approach. Like many other instances of oppression, the "cure" is a social one rather than a personal one.

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GAY & PROUD"

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277-6155

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MON. - THURS. 11 am - Midnight
FRI. & SAT. 11 am - 2 am
SUNDAY Noon - 11 pm

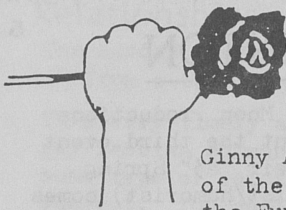
dignity

DIGNITY/LEXINGTON held an organizational meeting on March 1. Five people were in attendance and others have expressed interest. DIGNITY is mapping out strategies to form another viable gay organization to fill the needs of the Lexington gay and lesbian community.

DIGNITY is striving to build a more loving and supportive community for gay people within the Catholic Church and society.

For more information please contact: M. Merimee, P.O. Box 211, Lexington, KY 40584 or call 269-8500 and ask for Mark or leave message.

**SUPPORT OUR
ADVERTISERS**



1983 SEC

Southeastern Conference
For Lesbians & Gay Men

Ginny Apuzzo, executive director of the National Gay Task Force & the Fund for Human Dignity, is slated as keynote speaker for the 1983 SEC for Lesbians and Gay Men to be held in Atlanta April 28 through May 1. Other featured guests include authors Rita Mae Brown and Armistead Maupin.

The Conference will open Thursday evening with a welcome and cash bar at the Hotel York. Friday sessions, held at the Ramada Hotel/Capitol Plaza (formerly the Stadium Hotel), will highlight areas of concern facing the community at large, including an AIDS Symposium and a panel discussion on Substance Abuse. Workshop proposals are being submitted on a variety of issues in response to a broad outreach. Some topics include: Gay Male Culture, the Lesbian/Gay Couple as a Family, Lesbian/Gay Aging, Coming Out in the South, and many others.

For more information call (404) 892-2459. For reservations please send \$30.00 payable to 1983 SEC, P.O. Box 7151, Atlanta, Georgia 30357.

Three people from Lexington, at this time, are planning to attend.

Greater Cincinnati News

Fr. John McNeill, S.J., noted theologian, author of The Church and the Homosexual, and founder of Dignity/New York will be the featured speaker at Dignity/Cincinnati's Tenth Anniversary, Saturday, April 16.

Tickets are \$15 which includes the liturgy at 6 p.m. followed by a social hour, dinner, Fr. McNeill's address, and dancing to the music of the band Chameleon.

Tickets for the address and dance only will be available at the door for \$8.50.

Reservations need to be made by April 2 by calling Jim at (513) 931-8097 or by writing: Dignity/Cincinnati, Anniversary Celebration, P.O. Box 983, Cincinnati, Ohio 45201. Directions for the festivities will be mailed with the reserved tickets. Housing may be provided for out of town guests if requested. Request should accompany reservations.

Fr. McNeill is currently working with Dignity, Inc. to publish his second book on the topic of homosexuality. Mr. Frank Scheuren, president of Dignity, Inc. will also be a special guest.

CORONATION II - A SPRING COTILLION

The Imperial Court of the Bluegrass Empire will hold "Coronation II--A Spring Cotillion", Sunday, April 10, 1983 at the Sheraton Inn South at 6:00 p.m.

This will be the culmination of a long list of activities including shows at the Circus Disco April 3, an Imperial Roast and Awards Dinner April 6, a Louisville bar tour and show April 8, a Keeneland/Lexington tour and show April 9, a champagne brunch April 10 and the coronation Sunday night.

Empress I Julie Vaughn and Emperor I Ray Allen will step down as new royalty will be elected at the coronation.

Reserved seating is available for \$8, 10, 12 & \$15. For more information concerning all events contact any member of The Court or write: The Imperial Court of the Bluegrass Empire, P.O. Box 1419, Lexington, Kentucky 40591.

Congratulations to The Court and best of luck in the coming year.

SUNDAY APRIL 3 9:30 P.M. ONLY!

There's more to love than

MAKING LOVE[®]



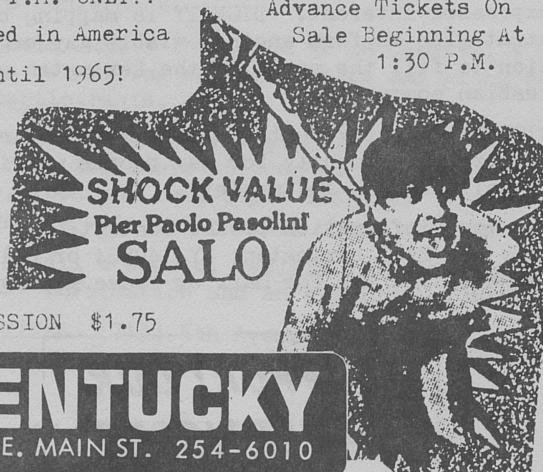
MICHAEL ONTKEAN • KATE JACKSON • HARRY HAMLIN

FIRST LEXINGTON SHOWING!!! Based on the Marquis De Sade's "120 Days of Sodom"

SUNDAY APRIL 17 9:30 P.M. ONLY!!

Banned in America Until 1965!

Advance Tickets On Sale Beginning At 1:30 P.M.



ADMISSION \$1.75

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CLASSIFIED

FOR SALE: Maroon 1980 CM 400 Honda Motorcycle. Windshield, road bars, and luggage rack. Low mileage. Excellent condition. \$1100.00

Please Call 255-8084

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Enjoy Complete Comfort & Privacy

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255-3325

The Publisher's Page by *Stanley E. Berg*
Boredom and Untimely Irrelevance (JOKESY-THE WORKS)

As some of our readers have probably surmised by now, this publisher really holds no ideological or philosophical leanings concerning gays. In truth, I find such topics to be boring if not downright idiotic, especially in light of the actual problem of coping with the straight world and its homophobia.

What I am saying then is simply that there are enough overwhelming problems to deal with concerning the relationship of gays to the rest of the heterosexual world without involving ourselves with the problems some gays have with other gays. There are problems which need solving that just about all gays can agree upon without a discussion of those relatively minor problems that gays have with each other. Unfortunately, gay groups and organizations, both past and present, have been guilty of petty internal quarrels (euphemistically called discussions) which have ultimately dissolved those groups. It seems at some point, nearly all these groups lose sight of the original problem (crisis) that has brought them together, and end up discussing internal ideology and philosophy, thereby bringing about their demise. Being gay in today's straight world is a continuing crisis and should be treated as such by these gay groups and organizations. Until our crisis with the straight world is resolved, we cannot hope to solve our internal differences.

Unanimity for gays comes only when the discussion concerns specific problems in dealing with the straight world. Leave the ideology to the future after the straight world recognizes us as a legitimate minority with legitimate problems and grievances. Then we can better afford the luxury of having only to cope with internal differences and internal ideology and philosophy.

NOTICE!!

GSO NEEDS YOUR HELP! While we always appreciate your donations and those who volunteer for our services, we would be eternally grateful for donations (tax deductible) for the following items:

FILE CABINETS (any size, shape, condition), OFFICE SUPPLIES (envelopes, typing paper, postage stamps, file folders, bulletin boards, etc.), OFFICE EQUIPMENT (typewriters, adding machines, desks, bookcases, free standing shelving units), and if there is some way to manage it--GSO would love to get a COPIER capable of printing the NEWSLETTER. Please call the GAYLINE for information on how to get these items to the appropriate place.

GAY LEADER SUES BANK

Lambda-Louisville

THANK YOU

Samuel Dorr, who was fired from his job at First National Bank of Louisville after 19 years because of his appointment to the presidency of Dignity/Integrity, has filed a \$2.25 million lawsuit against the bank in U.S. District Court. The suit, which is the largest known gay-related case in Kentucky history, charges that bank officials conspired to deprive Dorr of his constitutional rights.

The charges arise from an ultimatum issued against Dorr in November 1981 by V.K. Timberlake, director of personnel, and Jack O'Reilly, director of administration. Timberlake and O'Reilly asked Dorr to take a lesser position at the bank, resign as president of Dignity/Integrity, and avoid any public connection with the group, or else he would be asked to resign.

Because of religious convictions, Dorr claims, he "decided he had been given no choice except to involuntarily resign." The suit claims that Dorr was deprived of freedom of religion, expression, association, and his right to equal employment in violation of Constitutional Amendments. Dorr is asking for \$1.5 million in compensatory damages and \$750,000 in punitive damages.

Since publicity broke over the story, local gays have withdrawn funds from the bank and returned charge cards in an informal boycott which has been joined by a few parents of gays.

HAVE YOU BEEN THE VICTIM OF:

- PHYSICAL ATTACK
- SEXUAL ASSAULT
- VERBAL ABUSE
- VANDALISM, ROBBERY, ARSON
- POLICE HARASSMENT OR BRUTALITY

BECAUSE YOU ARE GAY?
(OR HAVE YOU WITNESSED ANY SUCH INCIDENTS?)

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Your call will help NGTF to document, publicize and combat violence against lesbians and gay males nationwide.

• • •

The Crisisline also provides info and referrals on Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (A.I.D.S.), a serious impairment of the body's immune system and a growing health problem facing the gay male community.

NGTF

NGTF CRISISLINE

Call toll-free 800-221-7044
In N.Y. State (212) 807-6016

- * To report anti-gay violence
- * To obtain A.I.D.S. referrals



GSO Needs You!



APRIL

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Happy <u>II</u>th Anniversary!! Chuck & Jim Darrell & Charlie Love, Tim					231-0335 1 GAYLINE 7-11pm GSO BRIDGE 273-4218	2
3 252-0264 GSO Potluck GSO Bowling 4pm SOUTHLAND LADIES Circus Disco Shows 8-12pm	4 GSO BUSINESS MEETING 8pm-OFFICE	5	6 Gay AA-8pm Office	7 GAYLINE 7-11pm 231-0335	8 GAYLINE 7-11PM Walleyball-North 7pm PARK 299-0352	"Concert" 9 KATE CLINTON-8pm UK CENTER for Arts
10 Gayline Meeting 4pm Office GSO Discussion Group 6-8pm 252-8143 Circus Disco Shows 8-12pm Imperial Coronation 10pm	11	12	13 Gay AA-8pm-Office	14 GAYLINE 7-11pm	15 GAYLINE 7-11pm GSO BRIDGE	16 GSO + Lambda Louisville "LAST CHANCE CAMPOUT" 259-0878
17 GSO Bowling 4pm SOUTHLAND LADIES Circus Disco Shows 8-12pm	18	19 Newsletter Mtg. 223-4598	20 Gay AA-8pm-Office	21 Gayline 7-11pm	22 GAYLINE 7-11pm Walleyball-N.Park	23
24 GSO Discussion Group 6-8pm 252-8143 Circus Disco Shows 8-12pm	25	26	27 Gay AA Office-8pm	28 Gayline 7-11pm	29 GAYLINE 7-11pm GSO BRIDGE "SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE FOR MEN" (thru May 1) Atlanta, GA.	30 Lesbians & Gay 404-892-2459

GSO NEWSLETTER

A monthly publication dealing with matters of interest to the Gay Community of Lexington and Fayette County, Kentucky, the GSO NEWSLETTER is distributed free of charge. To be placed on the mailing list, send your name or initials and address (which will be kept confidential) to GSO at P.O. Box 11471, Lexington, Kentucky 40511.

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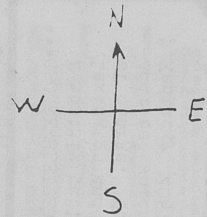
"TOGETHER-GAY AND PROUD"

LAST CHANCE CAMPOUT DIRECTIONS

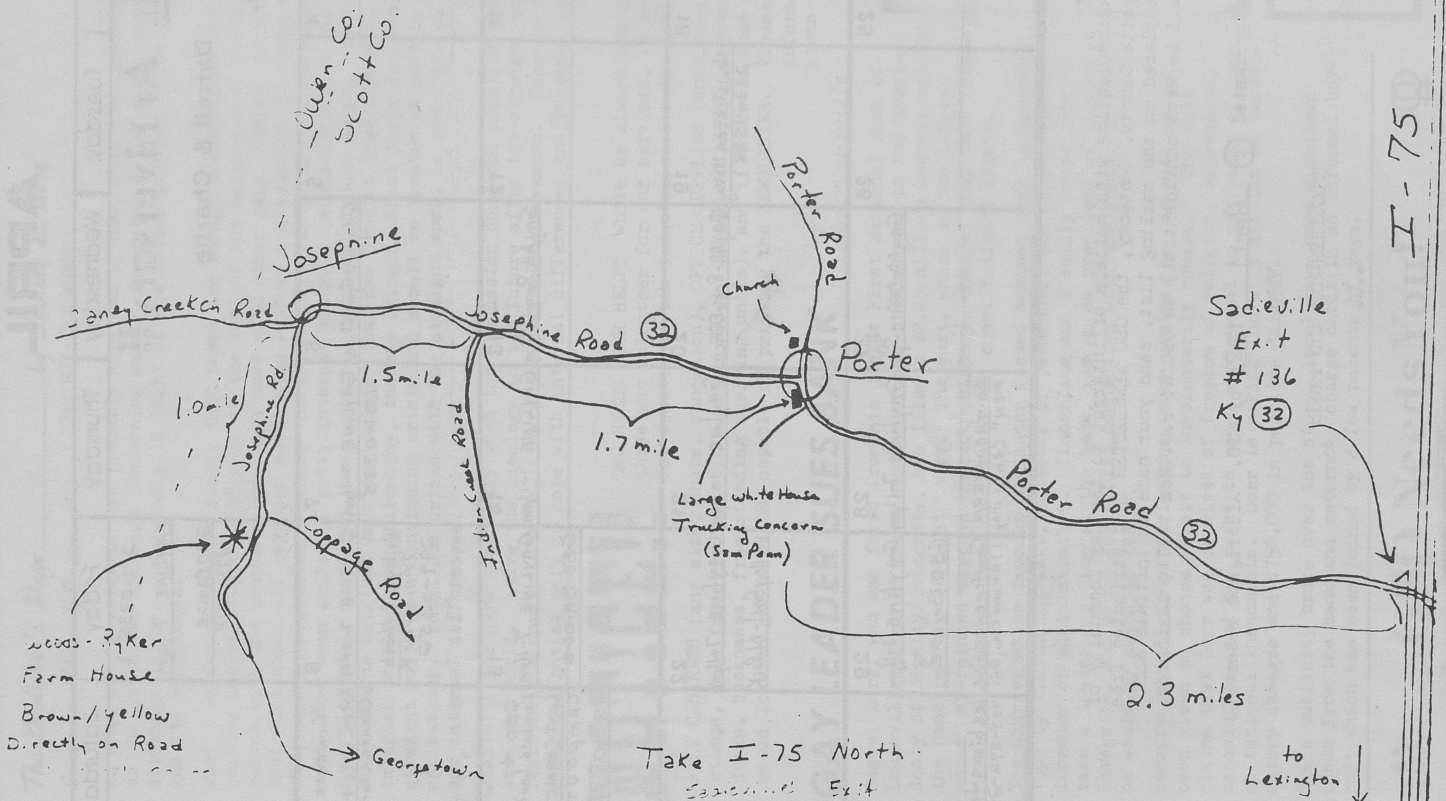
Saturday, April 16 (MAIN DATE) TO BE SATURDAY, MAY 14)

Please bring all necessary equipment. (i.e. tents, sleeping bags, food)
Stereos, hairdryers, and candleabras are optional.

This promises to be a great time. We're looking forward to all the visitors from Lambda.



to Cincinnati ↑



I-75