



## Viewpoint

by Robin Hardy

In the last FYI column, Big John outlines the steps that TLGA's Ad Hoc Oversight Committee will take to ensure that donors to AIDS charities "get value for their dollar." I'm disturbed by the proposed remedies. The TLGA has adopted a kind of hierarchical "top down" approach to the problem, for instance, assuming an oversight role in regard to all AIDS fund raising in the community, and putting the TLGA "seal of approval" on efforts like the Share Bears that dot our bars. This seems like adding another layer of bureaucracy in a situation where we need action, not words. I've also noted that the phrase "for direct patient services" now dot the fund raising and benefit advertisements in the Observer's pages. Yet has anyone asked what this really means?

As someone who is involved with PACT's Early Intervention Center (EIC), as well as treatment activism directly with PWAs, I have to point out that these issues are far more complicated than money paid for organizing the AIDS Walk, or the proportion of the TAP budget spent on salaries. I want to illustrate this by two specific examples:

EIC services, subsidized medical and psychological support nutritional advice, etc., are provided by El Rio Healthcare Center and paid for by federal Ryan White funds allocated to Tucson. Consistently since the program has begun, PWAs have had serious problems with the El Rio pharmacy: lost prescriptions, inadequate inventories to fill prescriptions, inadequate inventories to fill prescriptions, etc. Often, sick individuals must make several trips to El Rio to properly fill a single prescription. Most recently, El Rio pharmacy filled a prescription for Dapsone, to prevent pneumonia, with an anti-fungal agent, Diflucan, instead. The mistake was only inadvertently noticed, when the patient was about to take one of the pills. And it's a serious error, it could have resulted in illness, or even death.

A formal complaint was filed at El Rio, and the complainant was assured the matter would be treated with urgency and great seriousness. Instead, several weeks later, the chief pharmacist sent a letter thanking the complainer for drawing his attention to a "possible problem."

In other words, the complaint was shrugged off.

The underlying issue here involves malpractice, or iatrogenic illness, that is, disease caused by doctors and hospitals in the course of treating another medical condition. The prestigious New England Journal of Medicine has estimated that up to 37% of all treated illness are iatrogenic. This, then, is a major issue for people who are fighting a life threatening illness, and not to be taken lightly by those professionals who provide treatment

to people in our community. Many Observer readers know someone who died here two weeks ago; not from AIDS which had ravaged his body, but because he bled to death during a medical procedure.

The problems with the El Rio pharmacy seem to be ongoing, with little indication that they'll be remedied from within. There might have been a solution to the Chief Pharmacist's stonewalling: PACT could threaten to withdraw the pharmaceutical component of the EIC from El Rio until that institution addresses the potentially murderous incompetence there. But wait! Although PACT wrote the grant proposal that obtained the Ryan White funds for the EIC program, the grant was applied for in El Rio's name, and El Rio administers it. And the good, trusting homosexuals at PACT, despite warnings from some PWAs, failed to obtain adequate safeguards in the contract drawn up between PACT and El Rio to provide EIC services.

This latter detail has other serious ramifications for "direct patient services." El Rio administrators have informed PACT that because of rising costs, several EIC jobs must be eliminated. The jobs targeted are ones that can be characterized as providing "direct patient services." Dismissals have already taken place. You can be sure that administrative positions at El Rio remain untouched. PACT has utterly no say in this, despite the fact that PACT wrote the grant proposal that made the program possible in the first place. Indeed, El Rio could close down or radically alter the entire EIC if it so chooses, and PACT would be out of their spacious quarters on West Congress and back into a squalid three room office suite. So much for advocacy for PWAs.

Although malpractice and iatrogenic illness may seem indirectly related to funding issues, they are intimately bound up together. Control over funding means control over treatment, and what is more of a "direct patient service" than treatment. This is yet another example of how we in the Gay and Lesbian community have given authority over to an outside organization that hardly has the best interests of our community at heart. We have been left with no bargaining power whatsoever.

A second issue of current and critical concern to people living with HIV in Tucson regards a clinical trial for Diflucan as a prophylaxis for valley fever, just starting up at the Veteran's Administration Hospital. Candidates are told that the trial will be a double-blinded and placebo controlled. In other words, the investigators will watch from their ivory tower while some human beings in the control group on placebo get sick with Valley Fever, and all the diminished quali-

CONTINUED ON PAGE SIXTEEN

## Colorado Shrugs Off Boycott Except For Convention Loss

DENVER, Colo., (AP) - Colorado has shrugged off most of the effects of a boycott called by Gay activists following passage of Amendment 2 a year ago, but the state was stung by convention losses resulting from the boycott, officials say.

The boycott was called after voters last November approved the anti-Gay-rights amendment, which bars governments from passing laws protecting homosexuals from discrimination. Amendment 2 was never implemented, however, because Denver District Judge Jeffrey Bayless said it might be unconstitutional.

"Certainly there were some small effects at the margin, but I have not been able to discern any noticeable impact of the boycott," said Tucker Hart Adams, a private economist.

Tourism officials accept boycott organizers' claims that a travel ban to Colorado cost the state at least \$70 million to \$80 million. Denver was hit hardest by the boycott, officials acknowledged, losing \$38 million as a result of canceled meeting at city facilities.

"This thing hurt," said Rich Grant, spokesperson for the Denver Metro Convention and Visitors Bureau. "If nothing else, it hurt our image out there."

"We never viewed straight-out cancellations as the biggest threat of this thing," Grant said. "That's the hardest thing to measure, how do you measure when the phone doesn't ring?"

Adams, however, said that the economic effects cited by boycott proponents include convention losses spread over a half-dozen years through 1999.

She said the numbers are relatively insignificant when compared to the state's \$6 billion annual tourism industry.

Colorado economic indicators show that while some individual businesses might have suffered because of the boycott, the boycott's impact has been blunted by statewide job and spending growth.

State sales tax collections through the summer were up more than 10 percent over last year. Denver hotel occupancy in August was 81 percent, up from 77.5 percent in 1992 before Amendment 2 and the boycott.

Skier visits surpassed 11 million for the first time last season, up 6 percent from the pre-boycott 1991-92 season.

The worst of the boycott appears long past.

Convention bookings made this year for future Denver meetings are down, but no major cancellations of previously booked meetings have been logged since March, officials said.

Gay activists say they will formally call off the boycott if Bayless rules Amendment 2 unconstitutional. Bayless last month presided over a court challenge of the amendment and has yet to issue a ruling.

"Up to this point, the boycott has been a real good strategy to send the message out," said Terry Schleder, who launched Boycott Colorado on the steps of the state capitol last November 19. "But the problem with boycotts is, if you do a good job, you work yourself out of a job."

## Dahmer May Sell Story To Aid Victim's Kin

MILWAUKEE, Wis., - Serial killer Jeffrey Dahmer is considering the sale of his story for the financial benefit of his victims' families, said a lawyer representing eight of the families.

"The pain is still there, and we may not like it morally, but the real world is such that the only thing left for the families is some money," said Thomas Jacobson, an attorney who visited Dahmer recently.

Jacobson, won judgements of more than \$10 million for each of the families he represents, suggest a book and movie sale in an effort to develop assets that could satisfy the judgements.

In the past, victims' family members have spoken out bitterly against any proposed media projects about Dahmer, saying it was immoral for others to profit

from such horrible acts, and that such publicity would only force them to relive the pain suffered by their dead sons and brothers.

Dahmer, who confessed to killing and dismembering 17 young men, is serving consecutive life sentences for 15 of the murders.

In September, a Milwaukee County circuit court judge gave Jacobson permission to question Dahmer about his assets, reversing a decision made last year by another judge, who termed the lawyer's pursuit as pointless and vindictive.



# UPDATE

## Lambda Democratic Caucus Meeting December 2

TUCSON - The next meeting of the Lambda Democratic Caucus will take place on Thursday, December 2, at 6 p.m., at the Cactus Gallery, 621 N. 4th Avenue.

The Caucus is taking names of persons interested in becoming officers. The following offices are open for nominations: Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.

The Caucus is also looking for people who want to help form a Fund Raising Committee. Nominations also are being accepting for a Chair for this Committee. To be eligible to run for a Lambda office or to vote in the January 1994 elections, you must be a paid member of the Caucus.

Memberships in the Lambda Democratic Caucus start at \$2.00 annually for Low Income/Student or \$5.00 annually for General Membership. Any donation above these amounts will be accepted and greatly appreciated.

You can pay your membership dues or join Lambda at the meeting. Call 791-7000 for information. The Caucus will be accepting nominations over the phone.

## Arizona Networking Caucus Holds First Meeting

TEMPE - Approximately thirty activists and participants from around the state gathered at Arizona State University on Saturday, November 20, for the first meeting of the Arizona Networking Caucus (ANC). ANC grew out of the "FIGHT THE RIGHT" conference hosted by the Arizona Human Rights Fund and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. While not intended as a new organization, ANC is seen as an attempt to

coordinate already existing efforts throughout the state against a "Colorado style" anti Lesbian/Gay/Bi amendment to the state constitution.

The initial concerns for statewide networking are legal affairs (contact Diane Post (602) 258-7985), rural organizing (contact Denise Heap (602) 898-9021), coalition research (contact Kathi Mayer (602) 795-0364), and unions/labor organizations (contact any of above).

The next ANC meeting will be hosted by the Tucson Human Rights Coalition on January 29, 1994 in Tucson.

## Louisiana Man Charged In Murder Of Man Mistaken As Gay

NEW ORLEANS, La., (AP) - Three men were charged with murder in the stabbing death of a man police say was victimized because his attackers mistakenly thought he was homosexual.

Joseph Balog, was walking through the French Quarter with a friend when the two men were attacked by men shouting anti-homosexual jeers.

Police said the victims were not Gay. Booked on murder charges were Grant Wayne Gunderson, Ronald Graves; and Mingo Graham.

There may be more arrests. Balog and his unidentified friend were attacked by four or five people on November 11.

The city's homosexual community responded with a rally and a candlelight march to the intersection where Balog died.



## Four New Members Join Burroughs Wellcome Co.'s HIV Community Board

RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, N.C. Burroughs Wellcome Co. has named four new members to its 1993/94 HIV Community Advisory Board. The board will serve as representatives for their communities on issues related to HIV disease and help guide and advise the company in developing strategies that address the medical, service and educational needs of people affected by HIV. The four new members, Marina Alvarez of Bronx, N.Y., John Manzon of New York City, Angela Shiloh-Cryer of New Orleans, and John-Peter Wilhite of Austin, TX, will join six returning members on the board.

"We look forward to the input of our new members and the continued contributions of our Community Advisory Board," said Fred Gregg, Senior Manager, HIV Community Relations. "Their varied experiences and geographic diversity will help enable us to understand and address the needs of the many populations affected by HIV disease."

"The profound social, psychological, policy and health care implications of HIV disease present a real challenge to any corporation choosing to work in this field," noted Gregg. "Our experience in working with the Community Advisory Board over the last several years has shown us that a partnership with community representatives can help us meet those challenges. Burroughs Wellcome has benefitted greatly from this partnership."

The Burroughs Wellcome HIV Community Advisory Board consists of individuals who have extensive knowledge of HIV disease, experience with AIDS service organizations and expertise on issues and trends within HIV-impacted communities. Some members also bring their personal experience as people living with AIDS and HIV infection. First formed in 1990, the multi-ethnic board has a membership which reflects the demographic and geographic impact of HIV infection.

The company often utilizes the board's recommendations in the development of educational and HIV community activities. The group has helped create programs to support AIDS service organizations, and consulted on the design of the company's "Living with HIV" campaign, a program that encourages individuals with HIV to take an active role in the management of their condition. Further, the board has worked with Burroughs Wellcome to develop programs to help financially disadvantaged individuals access the company's prescription products.

Members of Burroughs Wellcome 1993/94 HIV Community Advisory Board include: Moisés Agosti, Washington D.C.; Marina Alvarez, New York City; Chuck Frutchey, San Francisco, California; John Manzon, New York City; Robert Remien, PhD., New York City; Suzi Rodriguez, Los Angeles, California; Angela Shiloh-Cryer, New Orleans, Louisiana; Mike Shriver, San Francisco, California; John-Peter Wilhite, Austin, Texas; Phill Wilson, Los Angeles, California.

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# Unrealistic Expectations

[This was an editorial piece that recently ran in the publication Bay Windows.]

Suppose 33 million people wanted something from Capitol Hill lawmakers, and 115,000 with a completely different agenda came along and said, "Wait a minute! Our issues are important, too." Which group do you think would get the fastest and fairest hearing?

Of course, those 33 million people would have the red carpet rolled out for them while the latter group waited in line. And if the 115,000 people hitched about being ignored, you'd probably tell them to go take a few political science courses and come back when they understood politics a little better.

The above scenario represents what is happening to Lesbian and Gay men and their issues in Washington. That 33 million figure is the number of dues paying members in the American Association of Retired Persons. The 115,000 figure is how many dues paying members belong to our national Gay political groups, the Human Rights Campaign Fund

and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. That's 115,000 members between both groups. This represents only about 10 percent of the number of people who were in D.C. for the march last April.

If you need more figures to understand why we are where we are, consider the following: the National Rifle Association, 3 million members; the Knights of Columbus, 1.5 million members and Greenpeace, 1.5 million members. And we wonder why whales get more congressional hearings than Gay issues.

Many of us in this community are angry over our political defeat on the military ban against Lesbians and Gay men, and many of these unhappy individuals aren't quite sure where they should direct that anger. Others have made up their minds that the culprits lie within our own national political organizations in Washington, HRCF and NGLTF.

A small group of less than ten individuals in the nation's capital even took out a full page advertisement in that city's Gay weekly, The Washington Blade,

tasking HRCF to task for, among other things, not having more of a "grassroots" organization and not dealing more directly with activists in the District of Columbia.

Some critics of our political groups seem to operate under the assumption that simply being on the side of justice, and being able to scream loudly enough, is enough to win in Congress. This ignores not only the fact that people define justice differently, but also that politics is full of people whose agendas have little to do with what is right. Once the military ban issue spiraled out of control in the media and on Capitol Hill, the only thing that would have helped us is numbers: people and money. We are losing on both counts.

A related problem is that some people in this community seem to feel that if they do not agree with every nuance of a particular Gay organization's agenda, the organization is not worth supporting. Such thinking ignores the fact that NGLTF and HRCF are ultimately working for the same broad goal: equal rights for Lesbians and Gay men. Members of other groups seem to understand this notion of

common ground.

Said Tom Otwell, spokesperson for AARP: "Not all of our 33 million members are going to follow the same common thread. With that many people, everyone is not going to agree with how you handle each issue. But our members understand that we're an advocacy organization for all Americans 55 years old and older. It's that broad umbrella which most people join and remain members of AARP."

Even with 33 million members, AARP does not get its way all the time. But you can bet that when AARP is talking, people in Washington listen.

Now the question remains: Are Lesbians and gay men going to make sure that our political groups have enough ammunition to wage this war effectively before we start berating them for not fighting every battle the way we would?

[For information about joining one of our national Gay and Lesbian political groups, call HRCF at 202-628-4160, and NGLTF at 202-332-6483. The yearly cost is \$15 and \$35 respectively.]

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### WHAT'S UP DOC???



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Also, take a minute to give a blessing to all of our friends who will be sitting down at that big table above for their dinner. Finally, say a little prayer that hopefully the cure for AIDS can and will be found in the coming year.

Myself, I begin the simple task of packing a bag to be carried to Phoenix for 4 days of friendship, brotherhood/sisterhood, and a party or two. Have you ever tried to pack a bag, knowing you have 4 different days that (heavens to mergatroy) you can not appear in the same outfit. Then you face the problem, what is the weather going to be like? Do I need a bunch of warm clothing, or can I get by with something lighter? Decisions, decisions, just something more to confuse a level headed person as myself.

The summer runs are a lot better because, how much room in a bag do you need for t-shirts? But, what with the different semi-formal sit down dinners, you do try to dress a tad bit better than normal. Don't ask me what I mean by normal, hell I have enough trouble just getting to the table on time, let alone deciding which shirt to wear.

Then I will have yet a minor other problem on Friday. With Walkman in hand, will I be able to hear the Wildcats beat the shit out of those Sundevils? And, you can bet as to where my skinny but will be parked if the game is televised.

This will be happening while 75+ people travel from bar to bar in the afternoon, and playing one of those highly creative games one of the hosting clubs has dreamed up for everyone's enjoyment. Those games, played at every run any club ever has, is proof that as adults, we can still have fun acting as children, and

sometimes making fools of ourselves. Regardless, everyone knows its all done in fun and we can laugh at ourselves, and others.

Since I'm carrying a stack of this weeks Observer to Phoenix with me, and they will be available for reading at the registration table, let me extend a "What's Up Doc" welcome to everyone joining in on this years "Arizona Fellowship Run #7". This is especially going out to those who have traveled to Phoenix from other than Tucson. Everyone (the hosting clubs) hopes you visit to Arizona and Phoenix will be very memorable and upon departure, you carry many fond memories back with you, and possibly a trophy or two.

With that, I'll close for this week and leave everyone with the following quote I came across that, in my way of thinking, fits perfectly with the overall theme of this run:

"Friendship is like a bank account. You can't continue to draw on it without making deposits."

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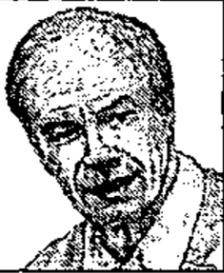


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FYI

by Big John

## Update, Update, Update

I had lunch this Tuesday with two other TLGA Ad Hoc committee members and three TAP Board Members. I had the worst French Fries on earth, but the conversation was enlightening, to say the least. There does seem to be a desire for dialogue between our two groups, and the TAP Board Members were very cordial and apologetic about our treatment at their last Board meeting. We discussed a desire to evaluate the needs of our community's AIDS population versus the TAP goals of case management and educational outreach - and the dollars allocated to these three areas. We were told that henceforth we should make any requests for information from TAP directly to the Board and not to staff members, such as Craig Snow, Executive Director, or Tim Janes, Director of Development.

We also had very constructive dialogue about Jim Toevs and the AIDS Walk '93, both past and future. We were told that some of the TAP Board's animosity towards us may have been due to the fact that some anti-AIDS Walk flyers were placed on vehicles in certain parking lots on the day of the Walk. It was incorrectly assumed by the TAP Board that I and my friends may have been responsible for this reprehensible activity. I deny all knowledge of this action with the flyers, and was shocked to hear about it. If anyone in our community knows who the perpetrators of this action were, please let me know in care of the Observer.

There was also mention about a TLGA member possibly sitting on the TAP Board as a full voting member, and as a community liaison. I think this would be a very positive move towards "openness" and in reducing the perception that TAP's Board does not care about the concerns of the Lesbian/Gay community.

Now, to my other friends at TAP...

I just found Craig's upcoming solicitation letter dated November 29th, where he starts his letter with the word "Help!" (...meaning that he needs more money). Then he goes on to say AIDS funding is at a critical crossroads in this state, so TAP is facing the worst financial crisis in its nine year history. He speaks of financial setbacks this year, including the AIDS Walk '93 shortfall; ADHS reallocation of prevention money to Maricopa County; and Federal funds being spent on direct medical care of PWAs rather than for case managers (yea!).

Could it possibly be that many, many people, including the previously mentioned funding agencies, are questioning your use of much of the money in your bloated budget? I personally have been asking questions for several months about details of AIDS Walk '93... like who initiated the agreement with Jim Toevs, and whether it was approved by your Board?... but have gotten no response, not to mention Tim Janes printed assurance in the Observer to "just ask us" if you want accurate information about TAP. It seems to me that you are not true to your word, so how seriously should we believe all this stuff in your forthcoming fund raising letter?

I certainly could make suggestions where you might make significant program cuts to help alleviate your \$200,000 shortfall, but it might involve letting many of your agency "coordinators" and "support staff" go, and instead cause you to rely on

many of your dedicated volunteers to fill in. For instance, it seems that your Development (fund raising) budget is around \$90,000 (or more) for staff, printing and postage. And then there's the \$56,000 budget item for "space" that you still have not responded to since my request on Oct. 26th. Also, there's your own salary of \$43,000 plus (rounded, with benefits). You don't appear to be a very frugal agency, and I might guess that others would agree with me.

When it comes to the numbers of clients at TAP, I have major problems in trying to reconcile your fund letter statement that TAP case managers handle 405 ongoing clients with HIV/AIDS, but in your recent newsletter On TAP for October and November Christina Rosetti discusses a client survey conducted in May where she says she surveyed 200 clients and got 77 responses. Why didn't you break down the type of clients surveyed (i.e. AIDS, HIV+, parents, partners, phone contacts, etc.) along with your demographics? Most of my friends really question whether you could possibly be actively case managing 400 or more persons with AIDS.

I personally know that most people living with HIV only need periodic assistance with SSI forms, referrals, etc. So how many cases of symptomatic AIDS do you have under case management, as compared to persons with HIV who manage quite well in their day-to-day living skills? I was also told that a willing volunteer was turned away from your doors last week was told that TAP didn't need volunteers now. Is this because you have no client needs? What you at TAP seem to forget is that we persons living with HIV meet regularly in many different places, and we "chew the fat" and compare notes, and the statistics that you quote just do not seem to hold water...

I also find it interesting that at the end of 1993 you are still quoting from last fiscal year's IRS form 990 where you may have had an 11% administrative expense. But this fiscal year just finished on June 30th, Jim Toevs must have put a big "dent" in that expense. Anyhow, why don't you have an IRS form 990 done for the recent fiscal year ready, since that form was due at the IRS on November 15th (last week)?

Finally, I think you need to remember that you have a responsibility to full accountability and open access to your books and records, which you have not yet done very responsibly. You have tried to engage in "damage control" but that is not the same as open accountability to your members, and yes, that includes me, a full member of TAP. So if you expect a check from me or any of my friends to help you out of the \$200,000 hole you're in, you better start playing by the rules of conduct expected of you - or things might get worse before they start getting better.

On another note...

I was especially impressed to have been at a PACT Board meeting last week, where there were more than enough chairs for at least fifteen visitors, and we were treated with respect rather than contempt. By comparison, you'll remember that the TAP Board gave a dozen of us who attended their last meeting on Nov. 5th no

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# FESTIVAL OF LIFE

A Holiday Benefit  
for People Living with AIDS  
SUNDAY, November 28 th  
AUCTION & PARTY  
at St. Philips Plaza & Windmill Inn.

Many professionally - designed trees, wreaths, menorahs and celebrity items will be auctioned, along with raffles worth up to \$10,000. Special appearances by **Mary Wilson & Rita Coolidge.** Items will be on display November 26th, 27th and 28th at St. Philips Plaza in the courtyard and in the stores.

Raffle Tickets - \$2 ea. or 12 for \$20.  
Event Tickets - \$10 ea.  
Silent Auction Party - 5:00pm  
Voice Auction - 7:00pm  
Music - Food - Fun  
For More Info. Contact **PACT for LIFE**  
770-1710



# SKI

*with the boys*  *with the girls*

PARK CITY, UTAH, JANUARY 15 - 22  
WHISTLER, B.C., CANADA, FEBRUARY 16 - 13  
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## At The Closet Door

© 1993

by Frank Hartigan

### What A Drag!

I have two photos of myself on my refrigerator door, amid the pictures of my cat and all the postcards. Both were taken at office Halloween parties. One is of me in my leather jacket, black t-shirt, jeans, boots, and motorcycle helmet. The other shows me in a sensible business dress, white leggings and sneakers, with earrings and handbag to match.

I am the same man in both pictures. The only change is in what I am wearing, but people react to the two photos very differently. Those pictures represent two extremes of queer male apparel, but they are both drag photos. All dress is drag: the gowns, the chaps, and everything in between. Ostrich plumes and leather codpieces are just the extremes, but garment is a costume. Your blue jeans or business suits are worn to make an impression, and are therefore a costume. All clothing is drag. Arguing over drag as if it were important robs our community of energy and power.

Mention drag queens in "polite" queer company and you will get at least one negative reaction. Mention them in at least one queer bar in this town and you'll get dirty looks, if not disdainful comments. Mention them to among the politically correct and you'll get a lecture. Mention them to fundamentalist Christians or Muslims and you'll get an earful of damnation. Mention them to average straight people and you'll see them get very uncomfortable.

An odd sort of hero, the drag queen. Yet they are among my heroes. It takes balls to be a drag queen.

Many Native American societies treasured the berdache, a cross-dressed male who lived as a woman, took one of several husbands, and was considered to be strong medicine for the tribe. Of course, the macho Spanish and Puritan English could not abide the sight of such a person, so they killed them and wiped out their societies. Shamans in many cultures dress in what we would call "gender-bending" fashion. Such persons are seen by their communications as being above any distinctions of gender. They are revered for their wisdom, not ridiculed for what they wear.

In our culture, cross-dressing is basically not allowed. The sexes are rigidly defined by behavior and dress. Despite the sexual revolution and the appearance of "unisex" fashions (which looked equally bad on anybody), we still get nervous around women who are too "dykish" or men who are too "faggy". Look what happened to Joan of Arc and James I; our attitudes haven't really changed. Yet women tend to be patronized when they cross-dress, meaning that their power is ignored by an amused, "tolerant" patriarchy. The idea of a man wanting to (symbolically) give up his penis and the power that goes with it is not seen as funny at all; it's just too threatening to society. Of course, most drag queens aren't transsexual, they are men who like being men. They may even be heterosexual, but try to tell that to Mr. and Mrs. John Q. Public.

Drag is a family tradition: Mom grew up in boots and chaps, flannel shirts and Stetson hats. Daddy loved good lingerie, dresses, and accessories. My big sister was Ms. Oregon Leather 1987 and Prince of the Imperial Sovereign Court of

the Emerald Empire (a performing drag title) in 1990. I wear the leather, the exaggerated mustache, and the flat top haircut. It's all the same.

The mainstream Gay-bar crowd were not the first to rebel at Stonewall. The first to fight back were scary, loud, in-your-face street drag queens. Those queens showed more bravery walking out the door every day than most of us are called on to display in a lifetime. Who else would lead our revolution?

Mention leathermen in "polite" queer company and you will get at least one negative reaction. Mention them in at least one queer bar in this town and you'll get dirty looks, if not disdainful comments. Mention them among the politically correct and you'll get a lecture. Mention them to fundamentalists Christians or Muslims and you'll get an earful of damnation. Mention them to average straight people and you'll see them get very uncomfortable.

Does that paragraph sound familiar? The reactions to drag are the same whether you wear a garter belt or a harness.

Leathermen are derided for their obvious queerness and exaggerated, stylized masculinity. Homophobic queers deny that any Gay men can be masculine; they will tell you things like, "Get her out of that leather and see how fast her legs go in the air!" Of course, masculinity does not equal dominant sexual behavior, but that point is lost on self-hating queers.

Drag queens and leathermen are involved in every fund raising effort to fight AIDS and to defend us against the religious right. They are keeping our community's traditions alive in the face of ever-increasing queer respectability. They are unapologetic, asserting their right to be who they choose. They are the most honest people I know, utterly unafraid to praise or condemn. These are not "ladies" or "gentlemen", nor do they pretend to be. They will let you know exactly what they think in no uncertain terms. It's refreshing, and all too rare.

The most ironic thing I have ever seen is a leatherman sneering at a drag queen, or vice versa; they are the same thing. Both are direct challenges to the social order. Unfortunately, each is socialized to ridicule the other, thereby mutually negating the other's and his own power to effect change. The old guard of both these groups understood their equality and respected each other, though they may not have chosen to mingle. Both groups, by daring to express themselves in extreme ways, made it safer for the rest of the queer society to come out and be accepted.

Now the mainstream queer society has turned on both extremes. If you spend much time among queers, you will hear drag queens and leathermen trashed six ways from Sunday. Both groups are visible, obvious, archetypal rebels. Both are threats to the larger society. Both are reviled by Gay and Lesbian people for rocking the boat, mocking the stereotypes, and refusing to play nice. Yet without the drag queen and the leatherman to pin down the ends of the gender-bender continuum, the comfortable polo-shirt middle ground could not exist.

Drag queens are damned for being  
CONTINUED ON PAGE FOURTEEN

# THINGS WILL NEVER BE THE SAME AGAIN

OUT OF THE CLOSET!



WEDNESDAY, NOV. 24

# FAMILY FEUD

Hosted by two former Miss Gay Tucson's RAVEN and Candi Plastique

9:00 P.M.

\$\$\$ CASH PRIZES \$\$\$

Start Forming Your "Family".

fill out your questionnaires

now and receive 50c

off your drink.

Come find out what the community really thinks!

See Disco DJs for details.



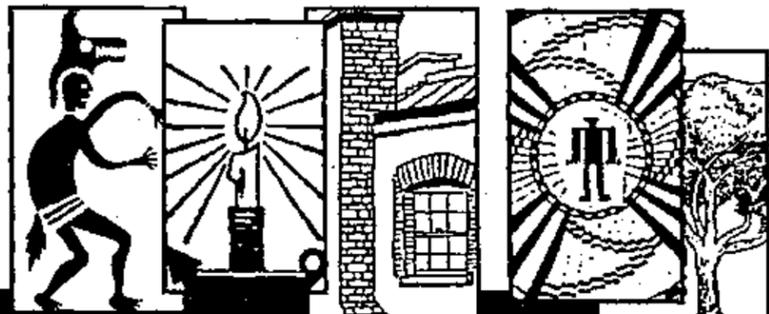
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IN RECOGNITION OF WORLD AIDS DAY  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1993

A BENEFIT FOR THE SHANTI FOUNDATION  
5 TO 7 PM • DINNERWARE GALLERY • 135 E. CONGRESS

WINE & HORS D'OEUVRES WILL BE SERVED

PAPER PRAYERS MAY BE PURCHASED FOR A DONATION OF \$2 EACH

R.S.V.P. 622-7107 • DONATION \$10

ALL FUNDS RAISED WILL BENEFIT SHANTI FOUNDATION, A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION OFFERING SUPPORT SERVICES TO PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS AND OTHER LIFE-THREATENING ILLNESSES, AS WELL AS THEIR LOVED ONES.



POLITICS '93  
by Mark Kerr

Yes, it is the Thanksgiving Holiday and a Happy "T-Day" to you all and boy do I have some turkey to serve!

### A SHORT TALK WITH A TALL MAN

Last week, I had a chance to talk with the current Phoenix Mayor and potential Democratic Gubernatorial wannabee, Paul Johnson. Johnson was in the Old Pueblo trying to garner support for a possible bid in 1994.

I asked him about several topics ranging from the controversy surrounding the Mayor and Council over the Anti-Discrimination Ordinance, his support for Human Rights, the Proposed Hate Initiative by Frank Meliti and his possible run for Governor.

Johnson stated his support for the ordinance, but admitted that the actions taken by the mayor and council (putting the issue on the ballot, publicity by mayor and council), were wrong. He also mentioned that the City Human Relations Committee has been enforcing the ordinance, and he was pleased with their performance.

Johnson stated he believes in "equal" rights for all citizens, but does not believe that citizens should not get special classification in laws or ordinances.

He said that he does not support a "Colorado" style hate initiative that is being proposed for Arizona. He stated he had discussions with Phoenix religious leaders asking them not to support this "hate" initiative.

About his future plans, he plans to make a formal decision in January about a run for higher office.

### DEMO SENATE WANNABEES

Here is the latest update of the scorecard on the Democratic wannabees for the U.S. Senate race next year: Rep. Sam Coppersmith (CD-1); Rep. Ed Pastor (CD-2); St. Sen. Cindy Resnick (LD-14); St. Rep. Kathy Eden (LD-25); State Democratic Party Chair, Steve Owens and Secretary of State Dick Mahoney.

The national feminist fund raising group, EMILY, (Early Money Is Like Yeast) will be meeting in Arizona and making a decision on one of the two above mentioned women to support.

### THE ALAN LANG FOLLIES

Well the show continues! Last week, it was reported that the Chief Deputy Assessor, Tom Naifeh, had allegedly attempted to cover up the devaluations of several businesses he had worked for as a tax consultant.

Also, Lang attempted last week to lay off 42 employees from the Assessor's Office. He stated that this was to be the beginning of his "reorganization". The Pima County Human Resources office stopped the move because Lang had not gone through set down procedures to reorganize the office by attrition.

Sources within the Assessor's office stated that Lang wants to get rid of employees who have been against him, (via lawsuits, etc.), through reclassifying the jobs in the office, thus getting rid of his "opposition."

### TOTAL RECALL OF LANG

The group Total Recall, the National Organization for Women, and the Pima County Green Party, have launched a recall effort against Pima County Assessor, Alan Lang. Any current registered voter of Pima County can sign a recall petition. For more information call 623-1478.

### MEDIA MUSH!

The local television media, on election hemorrhaged the fact that voter turnout was so low at every opportunity they could. But what did channels 4, 9 and 13 do to increase voter participation? Nothing! The week before the primary and the general they put together a quickie candidate profile. (Ooh, what coverage!)

What about the public television station, KUAT-TV, channel 6? On their news program, "Arizona Illustrated", they had debates during the primary and the general election campaign. Plus they also had quality profiles of the candidates. The news directors of the three "commercial stations", should follow the lead of KUAT-TV, and do the same, "in the public interest." Hats off the public television!

### PONDER A WHILE, BUT DON'T FILE!

It seems that an elected official who been in the news a long time, has lost the last inkling of support from the Board of Supervisors. It seems that a judicial official, elected in 1992 and known for "erratic behavior" won't serve out their term. Another electee's "honeymoon" with a developer has ended. Also, a high-ranking party official is in charge of recruiting candidates for 1994, so praise or blame goes to that person. It will be blame!

And so it goes for now!

## Bears of the Old Pueblo

I hope that Thanksgiving was good for everyone. I hope to see a few more huggable pounds on all those Bears out there.

The General Meeting is next Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at the Venture-N. At this meeting we will be voting on new officers for 1994. Everyone is highly encouraged to attend. Among the other things that we will discuss is the Christmas Party on the 11th. That should be fun! We will also talk about the membership dues for 1994.

Hopefully I will be able to make it up to Mt. Lemmon again this weekend. All Bears are invited to join me for a frnic in the woods. Call 579-9175 for details.

Brad wants everyone to know that the Bear Surveys are due at the end of the month to him. Contact me if you need another one. Later and plenty of hugs. Rich.

 Play Safe!

**LETTERS LETTERS LETTERS LETTERS LETTERS LETTERS**  
**LETTERS LETTERS LETTERS LETTERS LETTERS LETTERS**

**EDITOR:**

I am writing this letter to the Observer instead of directly to the executive of the Bears of the Old Pueblo because, despite the officers' claims that they are open to suggestions from all members, they are clearly not. On more than one occasion, elected and self-appointed officers have suppressed input from members who disagree with them, so I doubt they will print this opinion in their newsletter.

In the summer of 1992, I helped found the Bears of the Old Pueblo and draft its charter. Last December, I was elected Secretary, and diligently attended virtually every executive meeting until a change in my work schedule interfered. Since then, new members have seized power and made the club a very different entity than what the founders had intended.

They began by drafting a new charter that fundamentally changes the character of the group. For example, the original founders wanted a group that was a "safe place" open to everyone that was interested. The new charter requires new members to find an existing member to sponsor them, and then to perform ill-defined pledge requirements. It also provides a mechanism for removing members who do not agree with the new leaders. Curiously, this new charter emerged immediately after membership inquiry from some women.

The new members distributed a draft of their replacement charter, soliciting comments. I, and others, sent our comments to the newsletter editor, as requested. Curiously, that particular issue of the newsletter was held up until nearly a month after the vote on the new charter, making those opinions moot. Furthermore, the editor that published those letters was never again asked to volunteer, despite the explicit statement that all opinions are welcome.

In the last issue of the Observer, the "Bears of the Old Pueblo" column announces that membership surveys have been fully distributed with the latest newsletter. Curiously, the same people who commented on the new charter did not get surveys. We are all currently members in good standing and paid subscribers to the newsletter. Clearly, the new leadership of the club does not want dissenting opinions.

I write this open letter to the Observer partly because, beginning in January, the Bears of the Old Pueblo will be charging a membership fee. Existing members who are considering paying the fee, as well as others who are interested in becoming members should consider the totalitarian and tyrannical power exercised by leaders who haven't even been elected yet (elections take place next month). Coupled with the fiscal mismanagement I exposed in the newsletter, I expect few people who value their money and their voice will support the new regime. After all, the Bears of the Old Pueblo is clearly not the safe place the founders intended.

Steven Zepp, Soon to be former Bear of the Old Pueblo



**DEAR EDITOR:**

On behalf of all of us at Shanti, I want to thank all who helped raise funds for our clients. It was a wonderful benefit which raised \$377. Shanti will use this money to buy \$20 gift certificates at Fry's or Smith's to go with the holiday boxes we give to our clients.

I would like to give a special thanks to all the performers who themselves raised \$207. Also, thanks to Bob Ellis who donated \$50; Hank at Rumorz who donated \$70 and Peter at Club 2520 who donated \$50. And to Big John who did a fabulous job as the evening's MC.

Your ongoing support of people living with HIV/AIDS is greatly appreciated. Thanks for all you do!

Peace and happiness during this holiday season.

Love, Anne

**EDITOR:**

I am a member of this Gay and Lesbian community and I am a member of this community's HIV+ population. I am so sick of the whine-ass sniveling that I have been reading in this newspaper for the last month and a half that I could just scream.

I don't feel that anyone owes me anything for being HIV+. If there is anyone that I have to be angry at for my HIV status it is me. I do not look for handouts from anyone and I only ask for help when I really need it and have no where else to go. I feel extremely lucky to have four AIDS service organizations in this, my, community that offer a wide array of services to meet my needs. I am incredibly grateful to all of the AIDS service organizations for the financial, emotional and physical assistance that they have provided for me and my family in our times of need.

I have seen the relationships between the four AIDS service organizations change over the years and from what I have seen, it appears that these changes have been good, healthy changes and that now more than ever they are working hard together to meet the growing demands of this community. I am proud of the work that they have done to close the gaps that were there for years and years. It is my wish that the community would work together constructively to support the hard work of these organizations rather than viciously destroy the efforts that have been made.

I have no problems with the salaries of the hard working staff of these organizations. What they do is extremely hard work and often does not stop when they leave the office. I know, I've been there.

Sincerely, Annie

**DEAR SISTERS & BROTHERS:**

The March on Washington was a testament to our community's commitment to ending discrimination and ensuring equality for all. With thousands of volunteers and contributions from across the country, we were able to organize and fund the largest demonstration for equal rights this nation has ever seen.

Now we are all called upon again  
 CONTINUED ON PAGE FOURTEEN

**CLUB 2520 PRESENTS**

**Our Great Cocktail Hour  
 MONDAY - FRIDAY 4 - 8 P.M.**

**99¢ WELL and  
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 BEER**



**JUMBO SHRIMP  
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 Every Friday 5 - 8 p.m.  
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 DART TOURNEY 4:00 P.M.  
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**LEATHER SHOP**  
 Open Wednesday - Saturday Nites  
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**SAY NO TO DRUGS**

# CITY



# SLICKER

# Straight From The Hip

by Kenny Jacobs

myth \ˈmɪθ\ n [Gk mythos] 1: a usu. traditional story of ostensibly historical events that serves to unfold part of the world view of a people or explain a practice, belief, or natural phenomenon 2:

PARABLE, ALLEGORY 3. a: a person or thing having an ill-founded belief held uncritically esp. by an interested group 4. the whole body of myths

November 22, 1963 - My mother (who wasn't a mother yet) had just gone on duty as a relief bank teller while the regular "girl" went to lunch. A local Rolla, Missouri merchant came to get change, and told her President Kennedy was dead. She became numb. My mother shorted him a roll of pennies. Close the curtain, que the house lights. Camelot-fini.

The Arthur, Guenivere, and Lancelot we know are the product of mythology. Thirty years later we learn JFK was a myth. Allegedly, Kennedy was a pill popping, Marilyn-hopping, mafia-hopping master politician. 1963 is said to be the year America lost its' innocence. I think it lost its naivete, and that is much different. 1963 America got a myth, 1993 America got its' man.

Forty five percent of America wasn't alive in 1963. I grew up with Nixon-Ford-Carter, not Roosevelt-Truman-Eisenhower. Americans hurt after 1963 are less gullible, yet less engaged. Advertisers have discovered we as a generation are less susceptible to pressure advertising, almost to the point of revulsion.

The cold reality is this, we wouldn't elect JFK without seeing the warts. We want the warts. "Clinton had an affair?" Cool, me too! We want to know and revel in the imperfections of those around us.

"Where have you gone Joe Di-Maggio? A nation turns its lonely eyes to you," has been translated to ask, where are our heroes? My guesses would be Betty Ford, book tour, or dead. Take your pick. We really don't believe in heroes anymore. We don't want to be hurt again.

[Comments, rebuttals, and/or pithy remarks are welcome: Kenny Jacobs, c/o The Observer, P.O. Box 50733, Tucson, Arizona 85703.]

## ARIZONA TRAVEL CENTER

SOME OF OUR 1993 EXCLUSIVELY GAY OFFERINGS

- Nov 20-27 .....Olivia Thanksgiving Women's Cruise
- Dec 4-12.....Whales & Males in Maui
- Dec 19-26 .....RSVP-Florida Keys
- Dec 31 - Jan 2 .....New Years Eve - NYC Cruise
- Feb 20-27 .....RSVP - Panama Canal Cruise
- Feb 27 - Mar 10.....Australia - Mardi Gras

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For more information call 323-3250 Before 5:00 PM or 323-3250 OR

FACT at 770-1710

# Disneyland

## "GAY NIGHT"

### PRIVATE PARTY

\$125

Per Person, Round Trip

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17

A benefit for Aid for AIDS

Come enjoy a fun-filled evening at magical DISNEYLAND!! The park will be closed to the general public at 6:00 p.m. and open again at 7:00 p.m. to the GAY and LESBIAN community only! \*FAMILY travelers from all over the world come to this once-a-year event. This is NOT to be missed!

GAY NIGHT AT DISNEYLAND this year costs only \$125.00 per person. This includes park tickets, hotel room and your round-trip bus fare from Tucson to Disneyland and return! You could not do this cheaper on your own!! There is limited space left, so act now! For more information contact: D.J. Enterprises at (602) 321-4125.

A \$50.00 non-refundable deposit will be required to be paid on or before Nov. 30. The remaining \$75.00 must be paid by Tuesday, December 7.

#### TRIP ORDER FORM

Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ tickets to GAY DISNEYLAND NIGHT. I have enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ deposits in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_. I have enclosed the full amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ trips.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

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MISS GAY TUCSON • MADAME X  
GILDA FATALE, ANGELICA WEST,  
BLAZE AND A  
SPOTLIGHT GUEST!

THANKSGIVING DAY  
OPEN AT 5 PM  
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DANCING, PRIZES & SURPRISES  
\$1.25 WELL AND DOMESTIC BEER  
FOR ANYONE IN THEIR UNDERWEAR!

SUNDAY • 4 TO 7 PM  
A BENEFIT FOR THE  
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MAMA X'S WORLD FAMOUS  
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DANCE PARTY  
WEEKEND WITH  
DJ DAVID Z  
AND GO-GO DANCERS

MONDAY NITE • JOIN PETE &  
OUR NEW DJ KLEE FOR A MELLOW  
EVENING OF JAZZ & CONVERSATION



MALE STRIPPERS  
THIS SUNDAY  
9:30 PM

ENJOY HOT SOUP EVERY WEDNESDAY  
DURING HAPPY HOUR • 4 TO 7 PM

616 N. FOURTH AVENUE  
882-3053

# CALENDAR

*of upcoming events*

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24

**CLUB 2520** - "Family" Feud begins here at 9 p.m. tonight with hostesses Raven and Candi Plastique. Cash prizes. Fill out your questionnaire and get 50¢ off your drink. Start forming your "family" now.

**IBT'S** - Those lovely Glamazons will present a special Thanksgiving show here beginning at 9:00 p.m. and starring Madame X, the reigning Miss Gay Tucson, Gilda Fatale, Angelica West and Blaze; Also a spotlight guest. It's gonna be a good one!

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25 - THANKSGIVING GRADUATE** - Grad will open at regular time today for all you revelers who want to celebrate T-Day liquidly!

**IBT'S** - Opens at 5:00 p.m. today so the employees can celebrate Turkey Day with their loved ones. Underwear night from 9 to closing \$1.25 well and domestic beer for anyone in their underwear.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27

**GRADUATE** - Tucson Arizona Levi/Leathermen (TALL) hold their monthly Beer Bust and Dinner here from 2 to 6 p.m. Dinner will be homemade chili, salad and corn bread.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28

**IBT'S** - Mama X's world famous spaghetti will be served to you by those amazing Glamazons from 4 to 7 p.m. All proceeds will benefit the Tucson Human Rights Coalition, who are leading the way in the fight against the proposed Hate Initiative in Arizona. Here's a good chance to get involved and help an excellent cause which is in need of funds to continue their uphill battle, but also have some of that wonderful New York Italian Spaghetti as only Madame X can do it up! Male strippers at 9 p.m.



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## Non-Bar

# CALENDAR

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21

Dignity Mass and Renewal 6:00 p.m. Lesbian and Gay Catholics and their friends will celebrate their lives at Picture Rocks Retreat with renewed acquaintanceship and to discuss widening their outreach to each other. For directions, call Picture Rocks Retreat, 744-3400.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25 - THANKSGIVING

Annual Thanksgiving for the community hosted by the MCC Church. Everyone is welcome to a traditional dinner - Turkey & Dressing, Pumpkin Pie and all the trimmings. Exact times to be announced.

God's Love In Action (GLIA) invites all people with AIDS HIV+, friends, family and all individuals of the community to come to the Thanksgiving Dinner being served at the Cornerstone Fellowship Social Hall from noon until 3:00 p.m. Cornerstone is located at 2902 N. Geronimo (corner of Geronimo and Laguna). Call 622-8860 for more information. Everyone is welcome.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Singers Mary Wilson and Rita Coolidge will appear in a special concert to benefit PACT for Life. The concert will be at the Pima Community College Center for the Arts and begins at 8:00 p.m. Tickets are \$35 for the show only or \$55 which includes a post-concert buffet reception with Mary and Rita. Tickets are still available at presale and will be available at the door as well as Dillard's Box Office.

Cornerstone Fellowship to present a free movie "Torch Song Trilogy" at 7:00 p.m. with refreshments and rap following. Everyone welcome. Cornerstone Fellowship, 2902 N. Geronimo. For more info call 622-4626.

"Rock For TAP" begins at 9:00 p.m. with featured musical artists Rodeo Jesus, The Felts and Veltveta Regime. Suggested donation \$5 and it takes place at the 4th Avenue Social Club. This "Rock for TAP" is one in a series of benefits for Tucson AIDS Project.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27

Psychic Fair with Arts & Crafts at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 4831 E. 22nd. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. \$2 admission includes displays, books, crystals, herbs & vitamins, shiatsu demonstrations and metaphysical lectures all day. \$20 for half-hour readings - Tarot, astrology, numerology, palmistry, channeling, past life readings and more. Annual fund raiser for the Tucson Astrologers' Guild, a non-profit organization. For more info call 327-2954.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28

5TH Annual Festival of Life - a holiday benefit for People Living with AIDS at St Phillips Plaza. Many professionally designed trees, wreaths, memorabilia and celebrity items will be auctioned, along with raffles worth up to \$10,000. PLUS special appearances by Mary Wilson and Rita Coolidge. Raffle tickets \$2 ea. Event tickets \$10 each. Silent auction Party 5 p.m. with a voice auction beginning at 7 p.m. Music, food, fun. For more info call PACT for Life, 770-1710.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

TLOA Ad Hoc Committee on Health Services meets at Cactus Gallery at 6 p.m. All members are urged to attend. Other interested persons welcome for input.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1 WORLD AIDS DAY

"Paper Prayers" a benefit for Shanti will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. at Dinerware Gallery. Wines & hors d'oeuvres will be served. Donation \$10 and paper prayers may be purchased for a donation of \$2. Paper Prayers are donated works of art from artists, school children, Shanti clients and volunteers - created to offer prayers of hope to those living with HIV/AIDS and other life-threatening diseases. Dinerware Gallery 135 E. Congress. RSVP 622-7107.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2

Lambda Democratic Caucus meets at 6 p.m. at Cactus Gallery, 621 N. 4th Ave., Nominations of persons interested in becoming officers to the following openings, Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. Also people who want to form a fund-raising committee. To be eligible to run for office or to vote in the January 1994 election, you must be a paid-up member of the Caucus. Memberships are \$2 and \$5. you may pay your membership dues or join Lambda at this meeting or call 791-7000 for more information. Lambda will accept nominations over the phone.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4

The Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Parents Network holds their next family outing at Peter Piper Pizza. Parents, kids and other family members are invited to have a good time at the 22nd Street and Alvernon location (4112 E. 22nd St.) Call Craig at 318-9348 for more information and directions.

Desert Voices, Arizona's premiere Lesbian and Gay Chorus will present "Fiesta of Light" beginning at 8:00 p.m. at the Center for the Arts, Proscenium Theatre Pima College West Campus, 2202 W. Anklam. Admission is \$7 for adults and \$4 for student, child. Tickets are available at Antigone Books, and Pima Community College West Campus Cashier's Office Call 791-9662 for more information.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12

Lesbian Art Group for beginners and experienced artists. First meeting at 1 p.m. at Wingapoo, 422 N. 4th Ave. Call 624-1779 for more information.

## Tucson

# CALENDAR

Sunday

**CLUB 2520** - Open Noon, Salad Bar and Western Steak Fry 4 to 7 pm. AGRA C/W Dancing and Beer Bust 5-8, all you can drink \$5. C/W and Progressive Dance Music 8 to 1.

**GRADUATE** - Happy Hour 3-9 pm - All Short Well Drinks \$1.00. **4TH AVENUE SOCIAL CLUB** - Branch 11 am - 2 pm; Tea Dance with Kim Rios 2:30 - 6:30 and then a live band from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. (usually a cover for the band)

**HOURS** - Bloody Marys and Screw Drivers \$1.25 til 7 pm. Country/Western dance instruction 6-8 pm. Country Dance Music 8 to 1.

**IBT'S** - Open noon to 1 am. Happy Hour 4-8 pm, \$1.25 domestic beer and well. Benefic B-B-Q and Beer Bust for community organizations 3-6. Rock 'n Roll dancing to music.

**RUMORZ** - Open at noon. Bloody Marys and Screw Drivers \$1.25 from Noon to 6:00 pm. Domestic Beer \$1.75 9-1.

**VENTURE-N** - Open 10 a.m. 301 Dart Tournament 4 pm, \$3 entry fee. Cash prizes. Patio Bar Beer Bust 3-7 pm. B-B-Q 5-7 pm.

Monday

**CLUB 2520** - Open 3 pm. 99¢ Happy Hour 4 to 8 pm. \$1.25 well 8-1 + Moe's Madhouse "Beckets". C/W dancing and Progressive Dance Music begins at 9 p.m. **GRADUATE** - Happy Hour 3-9 pm all short well drinks \$1.00. Bring in your VHS movie and they'll play it. (No porno please!).

**HOURS** - Open Noon. Happy Hour 12 to 7 pm - Well and Domestic Beer \$1.25. 50 Draft Beer 7 to close.

**IBT'S** - Open noon to 1 am. Happy Hour 4-8 pm, \$1.25 domestic beer and well. \$1 hamburgers 4-7, also, 8 pm to midnight, 50¢ draft beer. Mellow Jazz Mondays with Pete from 9 to 1

**RUMORZ** - Open 1:00 pm. Happy Hour 1:00 pm until 8:00 pm \$1.50 Well and Domestic Beer. 8:00 to closing, Domestic Beer \$1.75.

**VENTURE-N** - Open 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Patio Bar opens at 5 pm

Tuesday

**CLUB 2520** - Open 3 pm. 99¢ Happy Hour 4 to 8 pm. \$1.25 Well and Domestic Beer 8 pm to close. T-Square Advanced Group 7 p.m. Country/Western dancing and Trunk Disco Black Light Party begins at 9 pm.

**GRADUATE** - Beer Bust all day. Happy Hour 3-9 pm, all short well \$1.00

**HOURS** - Happy Hour 12 to 7pm Well or Domestic Beer \$1.25. Schaapys 75¢ 7 to close

**IBT'S** - Open noon to 1 am. White Tuesday - all white well drinks \$1.00 from open to close. 25¢ extra for jinxes. Happy Hour 4-8 pm, \$1.25 domestic beer & well \$1 hamburgers 4-7. Mellow Jazz with Pete from 9-1.

**RUMORZ** - Open 1:00 pm. Happy Hour 1 to 8 with \$1.50 Well and Domestic Beer. \$1.75 Domestic Beer 8 to close. Fabulous Falsies show at 9:30 p.m.

**VENTURE-N** - Open 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Patio Bar opens at 5 pm

wednesday

**CLUB 2520** - Open 3 pm. 99¢ Happy Hour 4 to 8 pm. 50¢ off on everything from 8 pm to close. Drink specials all night. ID required. C/W dance lessons with Edgar 7:30-9:30.

**CLUB CONGRESS** - Rod Parrow's "Queer Extravaganza" here from 8 pm to 1 am, featuring cabaret dancers.

**GRADUATE** - Happy Hour 3-9 pm, all short well drinks \$1.00.

**HOURS** - Happy Hours 12 to 7 pm, Well or Domestic Beer \$1.25. Bartender's choice 7 to close.

**IBT'S** - Open Noon to 1 am. Happy Hour 4 to 8 pm, \$1.25 domestic beer and well. \$1 hamburgers 4-7. Seasonal shot specials 8 pm to midnight. Country/Western Dance Lessons with Tom Maza. 6:30-8:30. Open C/W dancing 9 pm to close.

**RUMORZ** - Open 1:00 pm. Happy Hour 1-8 with \$1.50 Well and Domestic Beer. Sales Nite 9 to close. \$1.50 Margaritas and Corona 4 Chips & "Piz" salsa.

**VENTURE-N** - Open 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Patio Bar opens at 5 pm.

thursday

**CLUB 2520** - Open 3 pm. 99¢ Happy Hour 4 to 8 pm. Men's Nite - 50¢ draft beer 9 pm to 1 am. C/W & Progressive Dance Music begins at 9 pm. Dart Tournament 8 p.m. Bar matches post.

**GRADUATE** - Beer Bust all day. Happy Hour 3-9 pm, all short well \$1.00

**HOURS** - Happy Hours 12 to 7pm, Well or Domestic Beer \$1.25. Heineken or Corona \$1.75 9 pm to 1 am. Country/Western dancing 9 to 1.

**IBT'S** - Open noon to 1 am. Happy Hour 4-8 pm \$1.25 domestic beer and well. \$1 hamburgers 4-7. Underwear Nite 10 to 1. - win a pair of Calvin Klein underwear. \$1.25 Well and Domestic Beer to those in their underwear.

**RUMORZ** - Open 1:00 pm. Happy Hour 1-8 with \$1.50 Well and Domestic Beer. Hot Male Dancers 9:30. High Tech Music follows with V/D/D Lieder.

**VENTURE-N** - Open 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Patio Bar opens at 5 pm.

friday

**CLUB 2520** - Open 3 pm. 99¢ Happy Hour 4 to 8 pm. (well and domestic beer). C/W dancing and Progressive Dance Music begins at 8 p.m.

**GRADUATE** - Happy Hour 3-9 pm, all short well drinks \$1.00.

**HOURS** - Happy Hours 12 to 7pm, Well or Domestic Beer \$1.25. Dancing 9 pm-1 am. Dance 8pm to 1am playing a mix of dance and country music.

**IBT'S** - Open noon to 1 am. Happy Hour 4-8 pm \$1.25 domestic beer and well. \$1 hamburgers 4-7. GoGo dancers 10pm. Dance Party Weekend 9 pm to 1 am with DJ David Z.

**RUMORZ** - Open 1:00 pm. Happy Hour 1-8 with \$1.50 Well and Domestic Beer. Hors D'Oeuvres. V/D/D Jeff Stricklen 9:00 to 1:00.

**VENTURE-N** - Open 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Patio Bar opens 5 pm.

saturday

**CLUB 2520** - Open Noon. C/W dancing and Progressive Dance Music begins at 8 pm.

**GRADUATE** - Happy Hour 3-9 pm, all short well drinks \$1.00. Pool Tournament 2:00 pm, \$3 entry fee, pot matched.

**HOURS** - Open Noon. Dancing 8-1 with a mix of dance and country music.

**IBT'S** - Open noon to 1 am. Happy Hour noon to 8 pm \$1.25 domestic beer and well. \$1 Hamburgers 4-7. Dance 9pm to 1 am with DJ David Z. and Go Go dancers begin at 10pm.

**RUMORZ** - Open Noon. \$1.50 Corona 8:00 pm to close. Dance with Linda Finkle V/D/D 10-1.

**VENTURE-N** - Open 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. Patio bar opens at 5 pm.



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# News From MCC/Tucson

by Ben Corbin

This Thursday, tomorrow, is Thanksgiving Day, a day set aside nationally to give thanks for all of our blessings. At MCC-Tucson we will have a special celebration with a Worship Service starting at 11:00 a.m., following this Worship Service a traditional Thanksgiving Dinner will be served. Everyone is invited to share with us as we give thanks to God for all that God has given to us. It is not necessary to attend the Worship Service to share this meal with us. Everyone at MCC-Tucson wishes that everyone has a great day on this special holiday.

This coming Sunday, November 28th, is the first day of Advent Season. Yes, that's right, only four more weeks until Christmas.

MCC-Tucson is planning a Christmas party for the entire community on Christmas Day. Christmas is one of the more joyous of all holidays, it is a day of giving and receiving and remembering the birth of Jesus Christ. It is a day for family and friends getting together to share, to confirm our faith in God and to strengthen our trust in humanity. There will be no worship service on Christmas Day, our Midnight Service on Christmas Eve will be the final worship service for this holiday. The church will be open all day on Christmas, there will be refreshments and gifts will be distributed to all who come to our party. Watch for more details as the holiday draws nearer.

Thought for the week: An informal survey shows that what most people want for Christmas is two more weeks to prepare for it.

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Wednesday Mid-Week Service  
7:00 p.m.



Thanksgiving Dinner

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## Bit Of The Old South

by Sean Thomas

This Friday, November 26, there will be a truly terrific concert presented at the Pima Community College Center for the Arts at 2202 West Anklam Road.

Who are the entertainers? None other than the multi-talented Mary Wilson (formerly of The Supremes) and the incredible Rita Coolidge. The cost of the tickets are \$35.00 (show only) or \$55.00

for show and post-concert buffet reception with Mary and Rita. Tickets are available through Dillard's Box Offices. All proceeds from the concert go to a very worthy organization, PACT for Life.

PACT is the only organization of people with AIDS empowering people with AIDS. The ultimate authority of this organization is in the hands of the membership at the General Membership meeting, when the election of the Board of Directors takes place. The Board of Directors are elected by the General Membership. The Board must be 50% plus one HIV+ and the President must be positive as well. To become a member all you have to do is call or come to the PACT offices and fill out a brief information form. You don't have to be HIV+ to join, only motivate by caring and concern. You are very welcomed in the PACT family. Call 770-1710 for more information.

Hats off to TLGA for helping to put a very difficult controversy hopefully to rest. Good luck to all parties concerned. We all will be happy.

Have a really wonderful Thanksgiving! Cornerstone Church and MCC are providing free Thanksgiving Dinners to those who would like them. Please call for details.

Till next week: Sean 323-1248.

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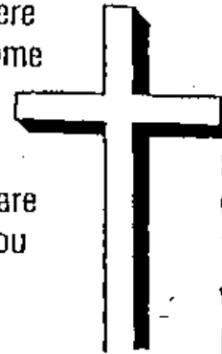
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## As I See It

by Clark



## LETTERSLETTERSLETTE ETTERSLETTERSLETTER

CONTINUED FROM PAGE NINE  
to help in something that is in many ways larger than our challenge last April.

Across the country, extremists are attempting to enact prejudice into law and have made us their primary target. Last election, Colorado and Oregon were their testing grounds. Today, over a dozen states and local communities face similar measures. Chosen by the far-right American Family Association because of its status as a national political bellwether, Florida is the largest state under attack.

Here, in the home of the Anita Bryant crusades, we have organized quickly to respond to this assault on democratic values by challenging their campaign of lies and by introducing our own initiative.

We can no longer react only defensively to these hateful ballot measures. We must frame the issue and force the far right to fight on our turf. They are counting on those of us who do not live in Florida or any of the other embattled communities to sit this one out. But we need your help. They have a sophisticated network of television and radio stations as well as massive databases to fund their campaign.

Take a moment now and make a contribution, however large or small, to help us win this battle in Florida. For information and to make a contribution to our political committee, please contact: Human Rights Task Force of Florida, 1222 S. Dale Mabry Hwy, Suite 652, Tampa, Florida 33629. (813) 273-8769.

Sincerely, Nadine Smith  
Executive Director

## Closet Door

CONTINUED FROM PAGE SIX  
too obviously queer, too flamboyant, too nelly, or too campy. Leathermen are damned for being too obvious, too severe, too sexual, or too dangerous. The truth is, both groups are too honest. They see through the stupid conventions of dress and gender-typed behavior and are happy to mock and manipulate those conventions, even at great personal risk.

The drag queen and the leatherman are both queer icons, stylized ideals of in-your face, obvious Gayness. They are both proud and unapologetic, they therefore draw the fire of homophobes, straight and queer alike. Sadly, leatherman and drag queens spend time and effort tearing each other down when their struggle is really the same.

The danger in being a drag queen or a leatherman is in taking one self too seriously. Concentrating too much on the gown, the hair, or the leather pose gives drag too much power. When we forget that it's all drag, we start to put each other down and thereby give strength to our enemies.

Once you're out of the closet, you can use it to store whatever you aren't wearing on a given day: your sequined gowns, blue jeans, flannel suits, or chaps and harness. It's all drag; don't let it blind you to the fact that we are all family. Underneath our drag we're all the same (with a few delicious minor violations).

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# Home On The Range With AGRA-Tucson

by Michael Allison

## AGRA CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

Saturday, November 27, trail ride and dinner, 3:30 p.m., El Conquistador Stables.

Saturday, December 11, AGRA Board Meeting, 4:00 p.m., HOURS.

Saturday, December 19, AGRA Board Meeting, 3:00 p.m. The Graduate. General Meeting following at 5:00 p.m. Christmas Jamboree follows General Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

January 14-16, The Road Runner Regional Rodeo, Corona Arena, Phoenix, details coming soon.

March 18-20, the Saguaro Regional Rodeo, Tucson! Details coming soon.

Many thanks are due to a heck of a lot of people for making "Chili Verde Days" a success:

To Peter Sittig and the staff of Club 2520 for co-hosting "Chili Verde Days", providing some beautiful picnic baskets for auction, and all the great support always given to AGRA from Club 2520. Thanks Peter! Also, thanks to Daniel, Joseph, and Rob for the great country western music.

To Miller Lite and Finley Distributing, our sponsors and underwriters.

To all of our entertainers; Victoria London, Miss AGRA; Madam X; Christina De Alexis; Adrienne Alexander; Raven; Jessica Blake; Gilda Fatale, contestant for Miss AGRA; and last but certainly not least, Lucinda Holliday, who always makes an event a scream. Thanks for helping with the auction, Lucinda! And special thanks to Victoria London who helped out with anything needed throughout the weekend!

To Bob Ellis, The Observer, for publicity and photos.

To Compass Travel and Morris Air for the donation of six roundtrip tick-

## FYI Continued from Page Five

chairs to sit on, and about six minutes to discuss issues, then asked us all to depart the meeting so they could conduct their meeting in private.

I noticed when reading Christine Rosetti's survey results in my issue of On TAP that the Calendar for October and November events listed the dates of both Board Meetings. So I have further evidence that these meetings must be public, since they were publicly announced to the TAP membership. Also, the most recent (7/93) TAP By-laws do not authorize "private" Board meetings in the section regarding Directors, or elsewhere.

Anyway, it was nice to go to a meeting where we were welcome, and our comments and criticisms, even if contrary to PACT's position on issues, were still acceptable dialogue. Our thanks to Jerome and Danny Blake for running a good, proper, civil, open meeting at PACT!



ets for two which are currently being raffled by AGRA.

To all the good humored folks who participated in our "Pie In The Face" auction: Natalie Perry, Lucinda Holliday and Peter Sittig. And to those who volunteered: Anne Maley, Colette Barajas, Gary Clark, and Jerome Beillard.

To all the AGRA Board Members and volunteers who worked long hours to make it possible and kept it going through the weekend. Special thanks to Mark McCrory!

To AGRA members who manned the coat check: Tom Maza, Tom Turner, Henry Warner, and John Carmichael.

To Don Gilbertson for the beautiful typesetting!

And very special thanks to Bill Darnall, AGRA-Tucson President.

Hope all of you in the community enjoyed "Chili Verde Days". It was a success for AGRA and we appreciate all of you who came and partied with us. If you think that was fun, just wait till "rodeo season" gets here! You'll experience Arizona's biggest and best partying!

AGRA members (the vast majority), I wish I could send you thanks also, but since most of you didn't even bother to attend, the thanks will pass. How about rectifying that problem by helping out? This article begins with a list of activities, show up! Volunteer for the coat check at Club 2520, also. If you want a rodeo do something to make it happen! Sure, you're going to be pretty when you show up at the rodeo in your new western shirt and hat ready to see all the hot cowboys and party till you drop. It'd be a pity if you showed up and there was no rodeo! But of course that won't happen since a small handful of devoted people pull it all off and make it happen. How about pulling some of the weight? Let's give Tucson the rodeo weekend it deserves!

P.S. Buy lots of AGRA raffle tickets! Six winners! Six roundtrip tickets for two to any of Morris Air's west coast destinations! Raffle drawing at the christmas jamboree at The Graduate on December 19. Help us raise much needed funds for the rodeo.



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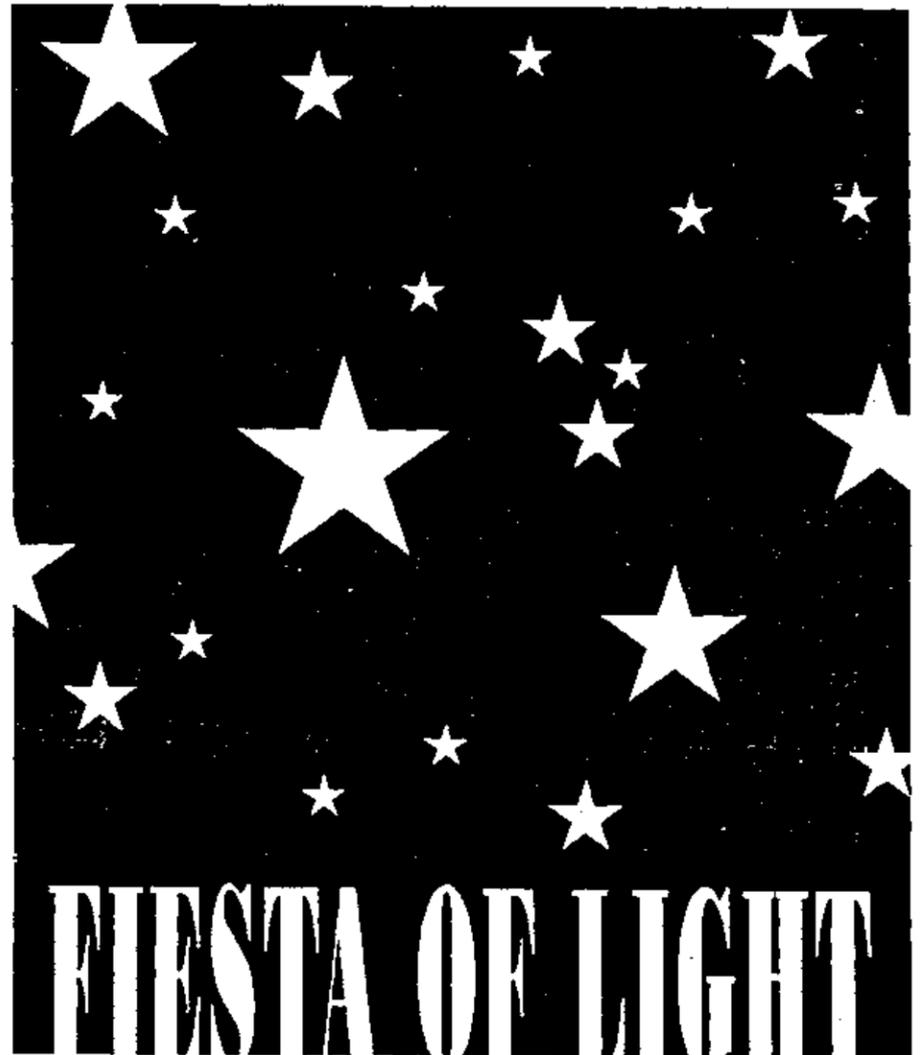
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## ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES - DIVISION OF DISEASE PREVENTION AIDS, ARC, HIV+ SURVEILLANCE REPORT FOR ARIZONA - NOVEMBER 1, 1993

COUNTY OF RESIDENCE	POPULATION	CASES OF AIDS			DEATHS	CASES OF ARC			DEATHS	CASES OF HIV+			DEATHS
		OCT.	SEPT.	AUG.		OCT.	SEPT.	AUG.		OCT.	SEPT.	AUG.	
APACHE	61,591	6	6	7	4	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	0
COCHISE	97,624	27	25	23	12	5	5	5	0	43	43	43	3
COCONINO	96,591	18	18	17	12	1	1	2	0	17	17	17	0
GILA	40,216	8	8	7	4	0	0	0	0	2	2	3	0
GRAHAM	26,554	6	6	6	4	1	1	0	0	4	4	5	0
GREENLEE	8,008	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0
LA PAZ	13,844	4	4	4	4	0	0	0	0	6	6	6	1
MARICOPA	2,122,101	2261	2237	2206	1364	478	472	467	47	1769	1759	1748	77
MOHAVE	93,497	39	39	38	21	4	4	4	0	24	24	24	3
NAVAJO	77,658	11	11	11	8	2	2	2	0	3	3	3	1
PIMA	666,880	643	635	622	371	81	80	82	13	542	539	541	43
PINAL	116,379	33	32	31	21	5	5	4	0	33	33	31	1
SANTA CRUZ	29,676	8	8	8	4	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	0
YAVAPAI	107,714	34	34	34	22	4	4	4	0	29	30	30	2
YUMA	106,895	38	37	36	19	8	9	9	2	56	57	57	3
UNKNOWN		3	3	3	2	0	0	0	0	117	117	117	0
	3,655,228	3141	3105	3055	1874	590	584	580	63	2650**	2639**	2630**	134

\*\* NOTE: ON MARCH 15, 1989, THE OPTION TO RECEIVE HIV TESTING ANONYMOUSLY BECAME AVAILABLE. AN ADDITIONAL 1,817 PERSONS HAVE TESTED HIV+ USING THE ANONYMOUS OPTION.

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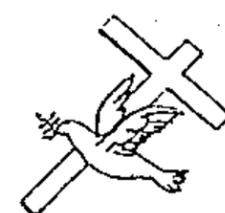
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## G'Day Mates, This Is Homestay Australia Calling



VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA - Homestay, the International Gay & Lesbian Home hustling program, is seeking members world wide. Based in Australia, Homestay caters to people of all ages who can offer a room or spare bed for a couple of nights or so.

The benefits of being a member are meeting new friends, saving money, and sampling a variety of cultures first hand.

You know what it's like when you travel overseas. You arrive at the hotel. You have done your home work before you left. Then comes the big BUT, there are so many venues but what are they really like? Will you enjoy them or will you waste two or three nights to find the right venue of your taste in the last two hours before you fly out. Well with a Homestay Host they would help you with all the local information and you would possibly find the right venue on the

### GLIA Thanksgiving Dinner

Time for the G.L.I.A. Thanksgiving Day Dinner. G.L.I.A. (God's Love In Action) is a ministry of Cornerstone Fellowship which has been established to help people with AIDS. Cornerstone Fellowship is opening it's doors to welcome you.

We are lovingly preparing a meal and hope you will join us to celebrate Thanksgiving together. Dinner will be served between 12 noon and 3:00 p.m. We would enjoy the presence of your company. You need not be a client of G.L.I.A. to attend this dinner, it is for the whole community. We look forward to this day as an opportunity to meet many new people who have not had the chance to come to either Cornerstone Fellowship or to a G.L.I.A. luncheon. If you have not made plans yet for Thanksgiving Day plan now to join us for good food and fellowship.

Cornerstone Fellowship is located at 2902 N. Geronimo. It is one block north of Glenn and two blocks west of First Avenue. If you have any question call 622-8860.

first night.

Other advantages are a quarterly NEWSLETTER a "welcome kit" with publications and guides, social activities and a membership card.

Each Host sets the house rules and arrangements are made in advance. Wherever possible, guests are given three hosts to choose from.

Members receive a list of host locations when joining, which is updated regularly, but addresses are confidential.

Apart from the \$20.00 (Australian) joining fee and annual renewal of \$5.00, Homestay is free! Members can use the program as often as they like.

For more information write to Homestay, P.O. Box 96, Fairfield, Victoria 3078 Australia.

### ACLU Challenges Presumption of Unfit Parenthood

NEW YORK, N.Y. - The American Civil Liberties Union of Virginia and the ACLU's national Lesbian and Gay Rights Project asked the Virginia Court of Appeals to overturn a lower court decision on behalf of Sharon Bottoms, the Virginia woman who lost custody of her 2 year old son in September because she is in a Lesbian relationship. Filing of the brief sets into motion an expedited review of the case.

"The ACLU is representing Sharon Bottoms because we believe that her case raises a critical principle, that parents be judged according to their parenting ability, not their sexual orientation," said William B. Rubenstein, Director of the ACLU's national Lesbian and Gay Rights Project.

Because there was absolutely no evidence that the mother's Lesbian relationship had any detrimental effect on the child, the ACLU is asking the appeals court to reverse the trial judge's ruling and restore custody to Sharon Bottoms.

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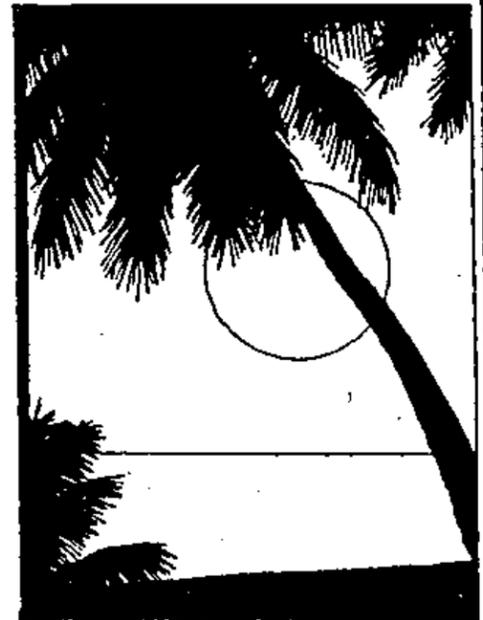
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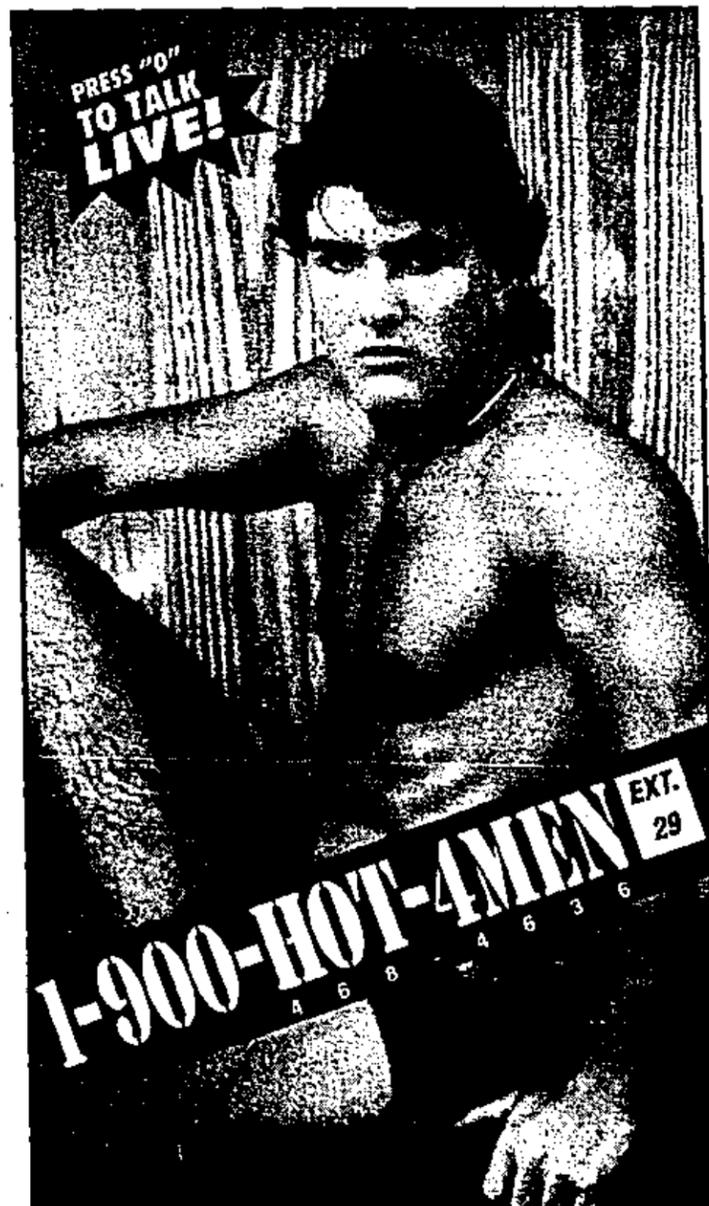
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**ARIES**

MARCH 21 - APRIL 20

A significant other will set your heart on fire with passionate, and romantic natural advances. This spontaneous and adventurous manner precedes a fast take off with no landing in sight.

**TAURUS**

APRIL 21 - MAY 21

A companion is slow and plodding and never leaves the realm of the material. Though this behavior initially drew you together, it now seems to be pulling you down too low. It is likely that this association will not get farther than the first date if romance becomes a priority.

**GEMINI**

MAY 22 - JUNE 21

As a Gemini you tend to amuse with short one-liners and a great sense of humor. This week you will be dazzled by intelligence coupled with independence. It could be an exciting connection and will dominate all your attentions.

**CANCER**

JUNE 22 - JULY 22

You have put yourself in a rut with your moody and manipulative ways. Try not to be so selfish and take yourself so seriously. A change in scenery from the domestic side will re-generate your sense of self.

**LEO**

JULY 23 - AUGUST 23

This week you are more romantic, dramatic and marvelously attentive. This lavish nature could lead to courting and making someone feel like royalty, careful you may not want it to end!

**VIRGO**

AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23

You are cautious, conservative and emotionally restrictive. Let your hair down and allow some freedom and spontaneity in to make you feel more alive. Beware of Sagittarius who zigs when you zag.

**LIBRA**

SEPTEMBER 24 - AUGUST 23

Be careful not to let your need for security and commitment make you act indifferently to others. The approaching holiday will shift your spirits and re-open your avenues of optimism.

**SCORPIO**

OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22

With a need to be controlling and emotionally cold you will encounter the just desserts for such actions this week. A wild night of sexual madness and frivolity leaves you longing for more after the person and the thrill for them is gone.

**SAGITTARIUS**

NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 21

You have a common ground which needs to be established with all your partnerships. It includes: intelligence, spontaneity and strong beliefs. The male Sagittarius may want to concentrate on reforming aspects like being self centered, undependable and flighty. If one minds that, enjoy the staying power!

**CAPRICORN**

DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20

Try not to be selfish, insensitive and determined in describing your needs to someone close. Your need to be boss all the time may start to impede your sensibility and promise of communication.

**AQUARIUS**

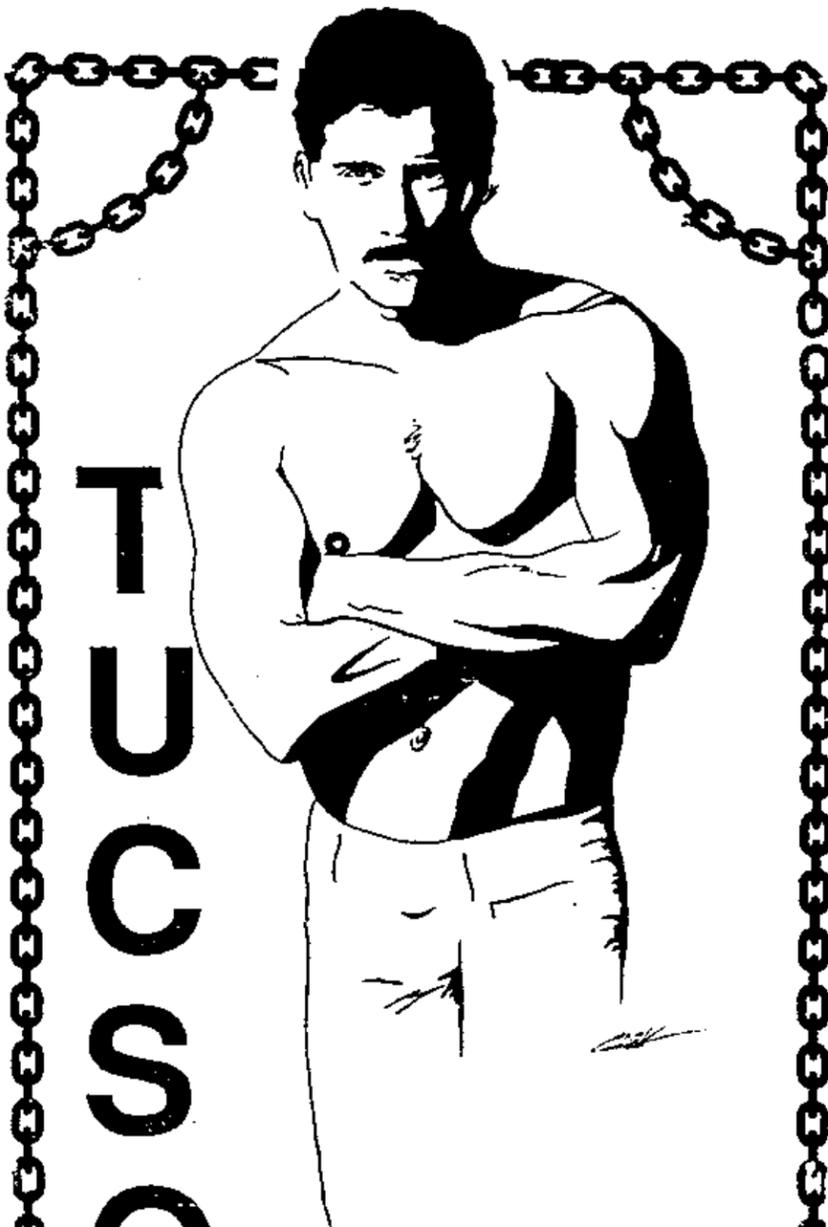
JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19

You tend to be mentally engaging, but emotionally cold. So you find this formula is great for conversation but not for love, sensuality or the kind of nourishment you need for your soul. Keep your options open this week and prepare yourself for a refreshing surprise.

**PISCES**

FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20

You may make a Sagittarius feel like the soul mate they have always longed for. Qualities of sensitivity and psychic forces spell excitement. Be on your guard not to change and distort your sense of reality. Be cautious and look before you leap.



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## Notices

**CAMELBACK BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION (CBPA) OF PHOENIX** has a bulletin for information and membership call: 266-7272 or write CBPA at P.O. Box 2097, Phoenix, AZ 85001.

**LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP** addressing a full spectrum of issues, problems and situations. Meetings 2nd & 4th Wednesday 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Wingspan, 422 N. 4th Ave. 624-1779.

**TEN PERCENT** meets every Wednesday on the UofA campus in the Student Union room 281 at 6 p.m. All Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual members of the community are invited.

**RESTORATION FELLOWSHIP CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF ALL LATTER DAY SAINTS - SOUTHWEST** - Don't give up your religious beliefs and principles. Be with brothers and sisters of RLDS, LDS Mormon faith. For more information call 325-7668 or 1-800-755-2928. Sacrament Meeting Sundays 1-2 (social after). Mondays family home evening 7-9 p.m. All welcome. Bring a friend.

**UofA FACULTY AND STAFF** for Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Equity meets on the fourth Friday of each month for a Brown Bag Lunch from noon to 1:30 p.m. in the Student Union, Room 283 or 285. Open to UofA faculty and staff concerned about Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual issues.

**ARIZONA/SONORA PROYECTO, S.J.D.A. - AIDS INFO LINE 882-3933.** Also seeking volunteers who are bilingual (Spanish/English) and are interested in presenting information about AIDS to Spanish groups in Arizona and Sonora, Mexico. Early Intervention Center, 801 West Congress, Tucson, AZ 85719. 770-6364.

**ARIZONA GAY RUDIE ASSOCIATION (AGRA) TUCSON CHAPTER.** Interested? Call 323-0805 or write AGRA/Tucson, P.O. Box 40894, Tucson, AZ 85717.

**AMERICAN GAY & LESBIAN ATTORNEYS** advocating state/church separation. Monthly meetings and support for the non-religious. Writing: 3003 N. Central Ave., Suite 121, Box 211, Phoenix, AZ 85012-7903. "Educating Our Community Since 1983".

**SOURCES UNLIMITED,** a Lesbian & Gay referral service. Business and individual listings are free of charge. All information available to anyone just simply by asking. 322-5655. Leave message.

**GAY COWBOY CLUB** - Nationwide Personal Ad. Admirers welcome too. Send stamp for information: Mavericks, Box 9543, Santa Fe, NM 87504.

**ATTENTION ALL NUDISTS** - Tucson Tanners is a nudist group open to all -- Nude activities scheduled both indoor and outdoors. Not "Gay Only", but Gays are welcome and invited to join. For further information send SASE to: Tucson Tanners, P.O. Box 84-G, Coconino, AZ 85612.

**FRONT RUNNERS OF TUCSON** meet for fun runs Tuesdays at 6 p.m. Group meets in front of the Himmel Park Library (last side), and Saturdays at various times and places. For more information call Mitch at 376-3555

**FACT** - People with AIDS Coalition of Tucson, 801 W. Congress. Office hours 8 to 5 M-F (8-7 Wed); Support Group meets every Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. Call 770-1710 for info.

**SHANTI FOUNDATION OF TUCSON** Help us help others in giving emotional support to persons with life-threatening illnesses and their families/friends. Contact us Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. 622-7187. VOLUNTEERS WELCOME.

**P.L.A.G. - Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays** - is a support group available to anyone who has a son, daughter or friend who is Gay. Call 375-8660 or write P.O. Box 36264, Tucson, AZ 85740-0264. All replies confidential.

**Casa De La Paloma Apostolic Church,** 225 W. Flores, Tucson. Worship Services Sundays at 11 am & 6:30 pm. Wednesday & Saturday Bible Studies 7 pm. Tuesday, watcha's Rap Group 7 pm. Coming out issues couple counseling provided. For appointment Pastor S. Lewis for info 323-6255.

**ARE YOU GAY OR LESBIAN** and someone else's drinking is getting to you. Call information and Referral about Al-Anon 790-8922 in Tucson info about special groups for Gays and Lesbians.

**GAY MEN'S THERAPY GROUP:** The group focuses on assisting members in integrating a positive sense of self and building caring relationships. Contact Michael Hutchins, Ph.D. 327-4024 Tucson.

**OLD PUEBLO BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION** For meeting dates and locations or membership information call 577-6018 or write: OP, P.O. Box 44033, Tucson, AZ 85733

**TRANSSEXUAL, TRANSGENDERS, TRANSVESTITES AND CROSS GENDER SUPPORT GROUP.** Conversation and Fellowship. Meets 2nd Saturday and last Friday of each month. Call 293-3456. Not a dating service.

**YOUNG AND GAY?** Lesbian and Gay youth 23 and under, meet every Saturday in Tucson for sharing, support and information. Meetings are held at 422 N. 4th Avenue from 3 to 5 pm. You are not alone. For more info call Randy 882-4986 or Lora 295-7990.

**WOMEN'S THIRD FRIDAY COPPER HOUSE** meets third Friday of each month at Unitarian Universalist Church 4831 E. 22nd Street. \$2 at door (more if you can, less if not).

**ARE YOU A GAY MAN 40 OR OLDER?** Do you enjoy the companionship of your peers? Call Cronica 888-7264 in Tucson.

**TUCSON AIDS PROJECT (TAP),** 151 S. Tucson Blvd., Suite 252 (The Broadmoor). Places for people with AIDS, ARC or HIV+; Community Education. Monthly public meetings. Volunteers welcome. 326-AIDS (Hotline) or 322-6226 (Administration).

**GAY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL IN TUCSON** Call Information and Referral 881-1794 - 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Mon. - Fri.

**GAY OR LESBIAN AND HAVE A DRINKING PROBLEM?** Call A.A. 624-4183. 24-Hour Hotline. Call for info about Gay and Lesbian meetings in Tucson.

**AIDS HOTLINE - 326-AIDS.** Hours M-F, 9:00 am to 10:00 pm. Information, counseling, HIV-related services. Tucson.

**GAY OR BI-SEXUAL MEN** in relationships with women. Need friends you can talk to? Weekly support group meets Tuesdays 6:30 - 7:30 pm. Licensed psychologist facilitator. Call 884-0476 Tucson. Strictly confidential.

**WINGSPAN** - Tucson's Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Community Center, 422 N. 4th Ave., offers support groups / info line / social events / library / meeting space. Volunteer Opportunities. Board meetings every 2nd Sunday (open to all). General Meetings every 4th Sunday 6:00 p.m. Parents Support Group meets every 3rd Wednesday. (information 624-1779).

**GAY SUPPORT GROUP:** Lesbians and Gay men meet weekly for open discussions in a loving, supportive atmosphere. Meetings Thursdays from 7:30 to 9:30 pm at St. Francis in the Pothills Church, 3700 and River Road. Call the church at 299-9063 for information.

**LICHEN HIKING CLUB** for women of all ages and backgrounds of life. Hike with other women. 793-3610.

## Notices

**INNER WISDOM** - Try hypnotherapy for pain relief, past life exploration and addiction release. Also available: Spiritual Counseling and Dream Interpretation. \$79-9020

**SQUARE DANCE WITH Y-SQUARES** at Club 2520. All level classes are held every Tuesday, 7 to 9 p.m. in the C/W rooms. New basic-level classes for beginners to be announced soon. For sign-up or information call 747-2875.

**"QUEER BISHOP"**, Bishop's Lesbian and Gay Alliance, has a general meeting every 3rd Sunday at 7 p.m. at the YWCA in Bisbee.

**PRESCOTT GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL, & QUESTIONING SUPPORT GROUP** now forming. Are you lonely? Scared? Confused? Need Friendship? Support? Please write to us. We will respond to all in confidentiality. We're here for you... don't be alone! For students and the community. YAG, Box 8663, 3200 North Willow Creek Road, Prescott, AZ 86301-3720.

**GAY MEN'S THERAPY GROUP.** This ongoing therapy group, facilitated by a licensed psychologist, provides a safe place to work on interpersonal blocks and self-esteem issues. Membership will be limited to 8-10 people. Call Randy Oberhoff, Ph.D. 623-3390

**BEARS UP THE OLD PUEBLO** - a social club for bears and bigger, more robust men (and of course, those who prefer their company). For more info, write PO Box 40021, Tucson AZ 85717 or come to our general meetings the first Thursday of every month at 7:30 pm on the Venture-N patio.

**GAY AND LESBIAN OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS.** Stop binging, purging and overeating. Get a life! Call 793-3488 / 290-1759. Come to a weekly meeting.

**TUCSON ROOMMATE LOCATOR SERVICE**  
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**"LAMBDA CAR CLUB, Grand Canyon Region"** for information about membership or activities call Bill James 622-1808 Tucson.

**LESBIAN AND GAY ALANON** - Affected by someone's drinking? Meeting every Tuesday 8:45 to 9:45 p.m. at Lambda Center, 2940 R. Thomas, Phoenix. Ellie 581-8850 or Ross 968-2384.

**AT LAST AGAIN,** A men's discussion group, meets at Wingspan, 422 N. 4th Ave, at 7 pm every Tuesday. All Gay and Bisexual men are welcome.

**JOIN US!** PLGC, Presbyterians for Lesbians & Gay Concerns, is a national organization of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The Tucson chapter formed in May 1993: PLGC de Cristo. We invite all Presbyterians to join us at our meeting on the 4th Sundays of each month at St. Mark's Presbyterian Church, 3809 R. 3rd St. Tucson in Geneva Hall. For more details contact Nancy Brown, 377-3293.

**CHRISTIAN SCIENCE GROUP** - Outreach to Gay and Lesbian people in Arizona. Meets monthly. Write to P.O. Box 893, Phoenix, AZ 85001 or call Eddy Walters, (602)371-1102

**ARIZONA NUDE DUDES (ANDES)** is a Gay men's outfit group with activities held in Tucson and Phoenix. Contact ANDES/Tucson, P.O. Box 64044, Tucson, AZ 85728-4044 or call Jim Farina at 297-9816.

**Male - Female Bisexual Support Group.** Info: Steve, 323-8436 or Wingspan, 624-1779.

**PRENSDORFF HOUSE,** a group living facility for people living with HIV/AIDS. Private rooms with shared kitchen and living areas. Free cable. For more info call Paul, 622-1437. Contributions accepted for direct patient services.

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## Employment

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**COMMISSION SALESPERSON** to sell advertising for Gay publication. Tucson and Southern Arizona or Phoenix. Send resumes to: Publisher, 802 U. Science St., Tucson, AZ 85719. 487

**MAIL STRIPPERS** wanted at Remort. Call Hank at 791-0309 or Danel 326-5217. 487

**DELIVERY PERSON** needed for early A.M. paper route. East Central Tucson area. Must have car and insurance. Call Tim or Dan for more info. 571-9678. Make up to \$130 per week!

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## Viewpoint

ty of life that implies.

The issues of double-blinding and placebo controls is a complex one, but has been handled before by treatment activists in other cities. While some in the scientific community insist such controls are the only way to obtain reliable data, Harvard statisticians have outlined protocols for large scale trials that avoid such constraints, while supplying the same information. And the history of such trials shows that they're pretty much a fiction, because with AIDS, scientists and doctors are dealing with a far more sophisticated patient population than they once were. Gay men in placebo trials often take their allotted drug to a laboratory to have it analyzed; they stop talking if it's the placebo. Already I know a participant in the VA trial who is not taking the pills he/she was given, but has decided to use the trial for the free lab tests that monitor his immune system; even the concept of the double-blind, when neither patient nor doctor are supposed to know who is getting the drug and who the placebo, is pure nonsense. Within weeks, doctors know through blood tests, and patients know because of the effects on their bodies, who is getting the real drug, and who is getting the fake one.

Dr. Ampel, the chief investigator in the trial, is described by his staff as a "patient advocate" in their attempts to stifle objections to the placebo controls. My question to Dr. Ampel is, as a patient advocate, how many patients did he advocate be a part of the decision making process when the criteria for the trial were established? The answer, of course, is none, zero, zilch. In fact, the criteria were established by the drug company, hardly a source of grassroots input or patient advocacy.

How does this relate to funding issues? This way:

Right now, as a joint project between Phoenix Body Positive and PACT of Tucson, one of the most important advances in providing early access to new treatments in Tucson is shaping up with the establishment of a single Community Research Initiative (CRI) for both cities. Because of the efforts of AIDS treatment activists, CRIs already exist in large cities like New York, San Francisco and Los Angeles. They provide access to clinical trials through a patient's personal physician; they do crucially important testing of overlooked drugs, or drugs that are too cheap for pharmaceutical companies to profit on, and therefore never tested. CRIs also provide for Community Advisory Boards that allow seropositive individuals to monitor the experimental treatment protocols and make recommendations concerning double blinds and placebo controls. In other words, CRI allow patients to advocate for their interests, instead of acquiescing to the demands of powerful pharmaceutical companies, or doctors who treat patients as if they were steel and glass laboratory instruments.

I cannot emphasize strongly enough that the CRI is the most important treatment initiative to come Tucson's way in a long time, and certainly should qualify as a critical "direct patient service."

Unfortunately, the months of work that went into writing the grant proposal etc. are about to be flushed down the Tucson drain. Why? Because when the Ryan White funds were distributed this year, Maricopa County decided to keep the lion's share; Tucson gets less than

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

ever. When Tucson AIDS professionals protested to the Arizona HHS, they were blown off with the comment, "life's not fair."

Regarding the CRI, the effect was immediate. Phoenix now has the start up funds to begin their end of the CRI; Tucson does not. When the someone from the NIIH makes a visit this winter to determine whether or not to grant the needed funds for the CRI, Tucson will not qualify. The result: shorter lifespans, less quality of life, more dead Gay men.

Another aspect of the CRI issue illustrates how TLGA's focus on "value for donor money" and "direct patient services" is overly simplistic. The CRI will need staff people to run it; salaries paid to such people might not be considered direct patient services, yet the CRI is potentially the closest life-prolonging endeavor we have to offer PWAs at this point in time.

These issues, from patient services, to treatment availability to the right of PWAs to live with dignity and without being treated like human guinea pigs, have one common denominator: both the problems and the solutions to them are inextricably bound up with the issue of money: where it comes from; how it's spent; and most important, who gets to spend it.

What is ironic and most disturbing is that this year, Congress appropriated more money for AIDS than ever before, a fact that is being celebrated in the Gay media, and in AIDS communities elsewhere in the country. But in Tucson, because of El Rio's and Maricopa County's actions, Tucson ASO's face cutbacks and Tucson PWAs face reduced services. Doesn't the issue of direct patient services, and "value for dollar" apply equally to taxpayer dollars, and not just to TAP's alleged misuse of funds? Why is the rest of the country celebrating, while Tucson's ASOs are forced to retrench? Don't these cutbacks and their implications make Tucsonians angry?

I've tried to point out how direct patient services are tied to funding issues in far more complicated ways than so far imagined. But in a sense, the real issue concerns the Gay community, and its agenda for AIDS. How much responsibility will we in the community to take address these wrongs? To save lives? PWAs have enough to do fighting for proper treatment and dignity, and they desperately need support from the Tucson Gay community. But if the community wants to have a say, it will have to act, not bestow "seals of approval". People talk about restoring power to the grassroots, but they forget that the grassroots are us, us doing things, material, concrete actions that effectively address the serious problems that PWAs face.

I admire the energy that has been unleashed by John Haase's recent exposes, and the honest commitments from individuals attending meetings of the AD Hoc committee. But to PWAs who fighting for their lives, putting the TLGA seal of approval on Share Bears, as a solution, is at best laughable, worse kind of pathetic.

**Play Safe!**