

The Resource Line

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE GLBT COMMUNITY

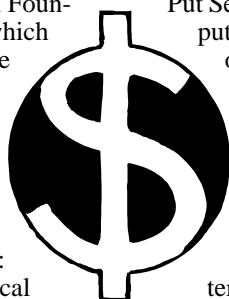
Fund-raising Workshop Scheduled for GLRC

Carol Riels will be presenting materials she learned at a workshop she attended as part of a regional meeting of community centers. The GLRC workshop is scheduled for September 20th at 7:00PM. Anyone interested in the financial stability (positively speaking) of the GLRC should attend.

The materials Carol will be sharing came from Julie R. Enszer, of the Gill Foundation's OutGiving Project, which seeks to expand the overall base of support for organizations serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community, because a movement for social change costs money. The Project focuses its activities into three primary areas: Fund-raising training and technical assistance that enhances organizations' ability to create and maintain diversified funding bases; donor resources that enhance donors' ability to create and maintain effective giving portfolios; and promoting philanthropy as social action.

The Gill Foundation, based in Colorado Springs, Colorado, is a national philanthropic organization and is the private foundation of Tim Gill, founder and

chairman of Quark, Inc., manufacturer of Quark Xpress software. The Foundation makes over \$4.2 million in grants a year and provides technical assistance to numerous national, rural, and Colorado-based organizations serving gay men and lesbians, people living with HIV/AIDS, and other areas of social justices.



Put September 20th on your calendars, put a big red circle around the 20th on the calendar in the newsletter or put a post-it note on your bathroom mirror to remind you of the workshop. The GLRC has been existing on a very small grant (for the past few years), Fund-raising activities, donations for the newsletter (which, by the way, don't even cover the costs), a few very, very reasonable ads in the newsletter every month, periodic donations from people who care that the GLRC doors remain open and one monthly contribution in the amount of \$10. We are extremely thankful for our one committed contributor and the GLRC needs 99 more people who are willing to give \$10 a month. Will you be one of those 99 contributors?

The GLRC is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization and is not in the business of making money, and, as you have been able to see in these last two issues of newsletter, expenses, just to keep the GLRC open run around \$1000 a month.

If we are to continue to grow.....if we are to continue to serve the community.....if we are to continue to educate the general public we need more funds coming in on a monthly basis.

Unless you have served on the board, you probably have no idea what it feels like to go month-to-month, breathing a sigh of

(Continued on Page 2)

Dinner Under The Stars

Our annual Dinner Under The Stars event is soon upon us.

It is scheduled for September 11, 6:00PM, at Christ Episcopal Church, located at 220 40th St. NE in Cedar Rapids

There is still time to make your reservation (\$15 per person) or to reserve an entire table for you and your friends. Just call the GLRC (366-2055) or Jim Foxwell (364-4101) or (365-0670). Reservation deadline is September 3rd.

Also, we will need a little kitchen help that afternoon with salad and the few extra prep things like coffee and lemonade. If you have an hour to spare to help out with this worthwhile GLRC event, please give a call. If you would be able to help with table set up, clean up etc. please let us know that too. Your participation is appreciated.

Call your friends and join us for an evening of delicious food and fine fun!!

IN THIS ISSUE

Parents Group - Page 2

GLRC Board Minutes and Financial Report - Page 3

Tim Miller to Premiere New Work at CSPS - Page 4

GLBT Friendly Coffee Shop Opening Soon - Page 4

State News - Page 5

National News - Page 6

Youth News - Page 8

Men's Retreat - Page 11

In the Spotlight - Page 12

Area Resource Directory - Page 13

GLRC Events Calendar - Page 15

Fund-raising Workshop (Con't from Page 1)

relief that we can still operate the much-needed service the GLRC provides.

Unless you come to monthly General Membership Meetings, you have no idea of the many, many people we serve in a vast number of ways. For as scary as it is to wonder if we are going to be able to make the bills for the month, we KNOW that we are providing a service that the GLBT community, allies, students, families, therapists and others working with GLBT people, teachers, business people and others appreciate. That's what makes us push on, work hard, grow, learn and become team players.

If you would like to join our team, walk through the doors of the GLRC, located at 1056 5th Ave. SE. Check us out. Volunteer to help. Stop complaining about what the GLRC DOESN'T do. Start learning about what it DOES do. We're the only organization of our kind in Eastern Iowa. We have a lot of work ahead of us. A handful of people cannot do it all. Have you done your part? Do you want to? The GLRC NEEDS you!

Parents Group

Is a Parent's Group, similar to ones held in other community centers, something that would be of interest to the community reading this newsletter?

The GLRC wants to offer whatever programs necessary to cover the needs of the community. We must support the families in our community

This group could be for those wanting to discuss parenting tips and the unique challenges are faced as parents, share advocacy information, and plan social get-togethers.

Regardless of whether you are a parent, co-parent or step-parent, family issues should be important to all of us.

As the public comes to see GLBT parents as people with families and values, much of the religious political extremists propaganda will be brought to light for what it is - lies. No longer will it be necessary to see GLBT parents as sexually

promiscuous, predators of children or haters of men. The truth will be revealed that we all desire the same things: a home, job security, freedom from violence and discrimination, the options of serving our country, getting married and having children.

Participation in a parents group is open to all persons who support its purposes, principles and programs. The group will be what YOU, the community, make it.

Please call the GLRC if you see this as a need in our community and would like to participate.

We must embrace those in our community who are quietly, but certainly showing the world that "LOVE Makes a Family." Call Carol at 366-2055.



Statement of Publication

The Resource Line is the monthly publication of the GLRC of Cedar Rapids, IA, a non profit organization under IRS code 5011. Articles and advertisements are welcome from anyone. They must be submitted by the date published in the prior month's issue and are subject to editing as needed.

Opinions and positions expressed in The Resource Line are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the opinions or positions of the GLRC. Identification of any person in The Resource Line by name or reference shall not be considered as an indication of the affectional or sexual orientation of that person.

Articles, letters and notices for publication may be submitted by mailing or emailing them to the attention of the Editorial Manager of the Resource Line. All materials submitted for publication must be accompanied by the author's name, address and home or work telephone number (or email address). The Editorial Board reserves the right to verify the authenticity of any materials submitted, to reject for publication any material submitted and to edit any material submitted for clarity, length, spelling, grammar and without permission of the author.

The Resource Line is free to all, but a \$20.00 (or \$30 if you need it mailed in a plain envelope) donation per year is requested to help defray expenses. The mailing address, for all purposes, is GLRC, PO Box 1643, Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-1643 and the email address is: theglrc@geocities.com.

All material submitted for publication, whether or not published, will become the property of the Cedar Rapids GLRC.

Officers-At-Large

Jim Foxwell
Dick Spurlock
Sandy Vopalka
Chuck Sitter
Gene Stocker
Kris Davis
Dan Davis
Pat

Treasurer

Carol Riels

Secretary

Diane Green

Editorial Manager

Carol Riels

Layout Editor

Dick Spurlock

[Http://www.crglrc.org](http://www.crglrc.org)
Email: crglrc@crglrc.org

GLRC General Membership Meeting Minutes

August 9, 1999

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by Jim F. with 15 members present. Financial reports and office reports were presented by Carol R.

Old Business

Summer Picnic: Carol reported on the Summer Picnic. Gross income was \$2400. Dan brought up the issue of cigarette butts left all over the ground. Discussion followed on ways to prevent this at future events by taking a can for disposal and reminding attendees to use it.

Youth Pride Alliance: The Youth Group is doing well, working on their Web site. Moneys have been received from the ICAP grant and used for the computer purchase. Carol is looking for books and other educational materials as well.

Dinner Under the Stars will be held September 11, 6 p.m. at Christ Episcopal Church. Jim and Kris are co-chairs and looking for volunteers.

Fund-raising Presentation: Carol's presentation on Fund-raising was rescheduled to September 20.

National Coming Out Day will be October 11. Dan is chair with Gene and Pat on the committee.

Balanced billing for utilities: Carol has inquired into balanced billing for utilities, which would amount to \$39/month for

MidAmerican and \$63/month for Alliant. Discussion followed on accepting "pledges" toward utilities—tabled until Board Meeting on Wednesday 8/11.

(Editor's Note: The board asked Carol to set up balanced billing with the two utilities companies mentioned. She has contacted each company and arranged for balanced billing, which should begin with the next bills received.)

McLeod non-profit listing: Carol has not heard back. Dan will arrange this.

New Business

Newsletter printing: The newsletter printing cost was increased by one cent per page, and the volume discount removed. Carol called three printers for estimates, with Budget Copies presenting the low bid of \$269.50. Dan will ask one more printer for a bid.

(Editor's Note: The board instructed Carol to contact Budget copies to inform them that they had been chosen to print our newsletter. She did so and was told that as long as we were printing a monthly newsletter with them, the price would remain the same. Dick will drop off the newsletter on the appropriate Friday and they will deliver the newsletter the following Monday, during office hours.)

(Continued on Page 4)

Profit And Loss Statement For The GLRC

July 13 through August 9, 1999

Income			
Advertising	\$163.00	Other Postage	79.27
Donations/Other	137.85	Phone/Long Distance	0.52
Men's Discussion Group	160.00	Phone	39.63
Pride Picnic	2,400.00	Rent	<u>425.00</u>
Refunds	60.00	Total Expense	<u>\$1,274.94</u>
Total Income	\$2,921.65	Net Income	<u>\$1,648.71</u>
Expenses			
Banking Charges	17.85		
Bulk Mail Permit	100.00		
Electric	112.78		
Gas	18.44		
Water	13.36		
Library Supplies	44.05		
Newsletter postage	48.14		
Newsletter printing	375.90		

These totals reflect ONLY GLRC Expenses and Income, not Pride Fest transactions that are maintained by the GLRC.

You can see from this report that our donations and fundraisers are very important to keeping the GLRC operable. The Board of Directors, under the guidance of the General Membership, has asked that financial reporting be included in each issue of the newsletter so that the community and allies could see our month to month financial status.

GLRC General Meeting Minutes (Continued from Page 3)

Winter Carnival: The Winter Carnival is scheduled for March 11. Carol can rent the lodge at Squaw Creek Park for \$180 plus a \$60 deposit. The price has increased. Members discussed the impact on the event expenses and other possible locations—tabled for Board Meeting.

(Editor's Note: The board asked Carol to proceed with the paperwork and payment for the lodge at Squaw Creek, which she did.)

Sign-up sheets for statistical data for grants: A sign-up sheet has been instituted for all center events, in order to provide attendance statistics for grants. First names are sufficient.

Upcoming events: Carol announced some upcoming events and opportunities for which the center has received information.

Other Business

Use of last names of Board Members: Sandy reminded recorders to leave last names out of newsletter reports.

Sandy's leave of absence: Sandy announced that she is taking a leave of absence for medical reasons, but will continue on the Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Kris D.

GLBT Friendly Coffee Shop Opening Soon

It has been talked about, and dreamed of for some time by that very classy woman we know as Eva Ross, who had the intelligence and drive to make it a reality. 'Flavorable Reviews' is coming soon to serve the community. You will find this exciting new venue to meet old friends and make new ones on 2nd Street, next door to the Christian Science Reading Room in Cedar Rapids.

This past week, the Oxford English Dictionary, put a call out for inputs to their upcoming revision. Besides submitting definitions on sexual orientation, transgenderism, gender identity, etc. which still escape most dictionaries, they just might also get the following suggestions from this writer.

downtown (doun'toun'), —n. 1. That section of a city when, at the end of the day, when parking becomes free anywhere in it, everyone mysteriously vacates it, and parks themselves in front of a TV set, complaining how boring life is.

2. That section of a city where only live theater (so far) has been able to bring a few adventurers back into it at night. Everything else is closed! You can forget about getting a great cup of coffee near by, or a snack before or right after the show, but should you?

Flavorable Reviews (flā'ver e bel ri vyōōz'), —n. 1. A coffee shop opening in September and, of all places, in downtown Cedar Rapids! With evening hours too! Located at 321 Second Street between The Paramount Theater and the Public Library. 2. Brain child of Eva Ross, owner (phone 247-5085), a place of endearing class, heavenly deserts and the best coffee beverages in Iowa, all to accompany fascinating conversation. In good company and quality background music, a perfect place to 'review' those plays before going home for the evening, have a real chat, or to catch up with friends anytime. Forget just watching the show "Friends" on TV. Live it.

PFLAG Notes

Each day many of us see the necessity for groups like PFLAG (Parent, Families, Friends of Lesbians and Gays). This short piece was written by DOYLE CRISWELL Jr. of Bessemer City, NC; chair of the Gastonia/Western Piedmont Chapter of PFLAG.

"Curb suicide by teaching respect for every child" Suicide called a major health threat underlines what we, as parents, families and friends of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered youth are painfully aware of. The 1989 U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services study shows that up to 30 percent of teen suicides are G/L/B/T youth. Negative messages directed at gay youth cause social isolation and result in lack of support.

We, as a society, cannot remain silent about this epidemic. You can make a difference by teaching your children that each person is deserving of respect, regardless of race, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, religious or non-religious affiliation, or political beliefs. Help us create a society where every child is valued and treated with respect.

This just one reason that PFLAG is so proud of the working being done throughout the state of Iowa. As of today there are NOW 10 active PFLAG chapters in Iowa. The newest chapter is based in Iowa City and called the "Hawkeye Chapter." The work that the Dubuque chapter has set before them, is working to help change the civil rights laws in that city. The Dubuque City Council will be starting their process on August 16th, 1999.

So the work now being done in Cedar Rapids, is to structure group to progress forward. The forward movement is toward making more of the city aware of the group and how it can help. To celebrate the growth, the CR Chapter will be hosting an open house at the September meeting.

Please take the time and find the PFLAG chapter closest to you and learn how PFLAG can help you and how you can help PFLAG.

Sandy Vopalka

Anti-Gay Ad Confronts Candidates In Iowa

As presidential candidates and media flocked to the Republicans' Iowa Straw Poll, a controversial newspaper ad asked candidates to stand against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (lgbt) equality.

Sponsored by a coalition of anti-gay groups, the ad in the August 13 Des Moines Register called on candidates to sign a pledge to, among other things, "resist all attempts to provide the benefits and privileges traditionally accorded married couples to unmarried 'domestic

partners,'" and "[oppose] federal legislation that would expand [non-discrimination law] to include special legal protections based on sexual behavior or preference."

August 13 also saw the release of "Y2K Presidential Candidates & Gay and Lesbian Equality," a Human Rights Campaign (HRC) report looking at candidate positions on lesbian and gay issues. "The lesson from the 1998 elections was that the voters overwhelmingly reject extremism and divisive, anti-gay rhetoric," said

HRC Political Director Winnie Stachelberg. While welcoming the change in tone from some candidates, Stachelberg cautioned that those who embrace discriminatory policies would alienate mainstream voters. "Any candidate who signs this pledge is really pledging to ignore American voters who overwhelmingly support non-discrimination."

For more information, contact HRC Communications Director David Smith at (202) 628-4160.

Iowa 2000 Presidential Caucus Project

The Iowa 2000 Presidential Caucus Project (IPCP2000) is a non-partisan, GLBT Iowan created Grassroots effort to hold the presidential candidates accountable on three questions relating to sexual orientation and AIDS. As a result of determining and publicizing these positions, gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and supportive Iowans will be informed on important issues when they attend and vote at Iowa's presidential caucuses in February 2000.

The IPCP2000 is lead by a steering committee made up of eight Iowans: Francoise Bailey, Howard Eldrenkamp, Mary Goodwin, Sandy Vopalka, Tim Larson, Sharon Malheiro, Randy Palmer, and John Schumacker. The group consists of four lesbians, three gays and one PFLAG parent. The members of the steering committee are from Des Moines, Ames and Cedar Rapids. It is the intent of the steering committee to locate and empower other GLBT and Allied groups throughout the state to become a part of the IPCP2000.

Because of the significance that the Iowa Caucus plays in framing the issues for the presidential campaign, several gay and lesbian Iowans felt that organizing a non-partisan campaign to elicit the candidates positions on GLBT issues was important to furthering the GLBT civil rights movement. Hence, the birth of the IPCP2000.

IPCP2000 will ask each presidential candidate these three questions:

1. Do you support passage of the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA)?
2. Do you support passage of the Hate Crimes Prevention Act (HCPA)?
3. Do you support reauthorization of the Ryan White Act?

While there are many other GLBT issues (e.g., marriage, military, adoption, child custody, foster care, education, housing, insurance, credit, gender identity and lesbian health care), these three questions were selected for specific reasons.

First, and foremost, if a candidate says "no" to any of these questions, it is very likely that he or she will say "no" to questions on the other issues.

Second, many of the other issues, such as marriage, adoption, child custody for example, are state issues, not federal issues.

Third, in the age of "sound bite" politics, we want to diminish the possibility that a candidate will avoid the issue by saying "I would need to see the specific language" or "I will need to study that issue further." Because questioners at political campaign events rarely have the opportunity to ask a second question, the IPCP2000 believes focusing on specific pieces of legislation such as ENDA, HCPA and Ryan White will help to focus the candidate on the

GLBT issues. Each of these pieces of federal legislation has been in the legislative hopper a long time.

Each presidential candidate should be familiar enough with these issues that the candidates' should be able to answer the question either "yes" or "no." Finally, by asking the same three questions, IPCP2000 will be able to reinforce to the media and the GLBT and allied community the candidates' positions on these issues.

Although supported by contributions from national organizations, as well as individuals, IPCP2000 is controlled by Iowans, not national organizations. All Donations are tax deductible.

If you have questions about IPCP2000, please write to or call Sharon Malheiro at 515-288-2500.

"It is far more impressive when others discover your good qualities without your help."

Anonymous

CORRECTION

One of those I thanked last issue for Pride contributions was Eva Polam. The name should have been Eva Ross. I apologize for the error. Carol

Atlanta Exploring the Possibility of Hosting the Gay Games in 2006

A group of Atlanta residents are exploring the possibility of bidding to host the 2006 Gay Games, an international event held every four years featuring athletic and cultural events which bring together people from around the world

The first Gay Games were held in San Francisco in 1982 and have rapidly grown into the largest sporting event in the world. Nearly 15,000 athletes participated in Gay Games V in Amsterdam in August 1998.

The Federation of Gay Games' purpose is to foster and augment the self-respect of lesbians and gay men throughout the

world and to engender respect and understanding from the non-gay world. [It is] primarily through an organized international participatory athletic and cultural event held every four years, and commonly known as the Gay Games.

The next Gay Games will be held in Sydney, Australia November 2-9, 2002 with the name "Gay Games VI and Cultural Festival - Under New Skies." Although the Games are usually held in the summer, Sydney organizers cited warmer local weather and longer daylight hours as the deciding factors in changing the date. Sports competitions will be clustered in two main zones, one at the Olympic Park in

Homebush and the other downtown at Sydney Harbour, making it easy for participants to attend a number of different events in close proximity. Sydney 2002 also plans to bring some cultural events directly to the athletic sites.

Based on the principles of inclusion and participation, the Gay Games welcomes all people without regard to their sexual orientation, gender, race, religion, nationality, ethnic origin, political belief, physical ability, athletic/artistic ability, or HIV status. There are no minimum standards to qualify for the Gay Games; the only requirement is the desire to support the ideals of the Games.

United Airlines To Offer Domestic Partner Benefits

United Airlines became the first U.S. airline Friday to offer equal domestic partner benefits to its lesbian and gay employees and their partners.

The United decision came on the heels of a Friday federal appeals court ruling that the airline must follow specified parts of San Francisco's domestic partners ordinance - an ordinance United has challenged in court as intrusive and illegal.

"As we have said from the very outset, this case has never been about gay and lesbian rights," said United Chairman and CEO James Goodwin. "We value diversity at United, both among our employees and among our customers."

The extension of benefits was hailed by United With Pride, the company's lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and heterosexual employee network. "We were ecstatic to hear the news," said United With Pride Executive Director Nick W. Morse, who noted that the group will continue to work for other diversity-related policies.

"While this is a remarkable step for the many members of our community, we recognize that there are more steps that need to be made to ensure an equal workplace and community."

*Still time to move before the
"Snow Flies"!*



For all your Real Estate Needs Contact

Kathy Hall

CALL

(319) 362-9111 Business

(319) 369-0024 Home

"Your Real Estate Professional"



MARIAN ARENS & ASSOCIATES

(This is not intended to solicit currently listed properties)



Lambda And Hate Crimes

If your city does not have its own Anti-Violence Project (AVP) and you need help with an anti-gay hate crime or similar situation, contact LAMBDA's Hate Crime Hotline, toll-free, at 800.616.HATE. TTY users please call 800.735.2989. You may also confidentially report incidents online and get help & information at <http://www.lambda.org>.

Please tell your local gay papers, pride organizations, and your favorite queer websites to include this important number in their resource directories.

Since 1991, LAMBDA's AVP has provided assistance, information, and support to victims of anti-LGBTH and same-gender domestic violence.

LAMBDA GLBT Community Services is a non-profit, 501(c)3 organization. LAMBDA is a longtime member of NCAVP, the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email AVP@lambda.org or call 915.562.GAYS.

Gender Identity Is Subject Of Woman's Talk At Church

Reaching out to people who have changed their gender will be the focus of a unique service at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Charlotte.

Church member Rebecca Putman, 40, will present a talk on "Gender Identity," based on her experience of having undergone a sex-change operation in 1998. Gender reassignment surgery, she said, is what the procedure is typically called today.

Some 50,000 to 75,000 people live as transsexuals, or the opposite of the sex they were at birth.

Putman will talk about the challenges she has faced in dealing with family, friends, employers and a faith community that often doesn't understand who she is and what she has done. Putman said she lost her wife when she changed gender.

As difficult as this all is, Putman said she is more content than before. "I am perfectly happy with


Donna Red Wing New Director for Gill Foundation

The Human Rights Campaign today applauded the appointment of Donna Red Wing as the new director of the Gill Foundation's OutGiving Project, a program that provides training and technical assistance to the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community and other constituencies throughout the country. Red Wing currently serves as HRC's field director.

"The Gill Foundation's visionary projects direct important resources to strengthening our movement," said Elizabeth Birch, HRC's executive director. "Sharing knowledge, experience and training are vital stepping stones on our path to equality."

Red Wing will assume her new duties with the Gill Foundation on September 21 and will oversee all facets of the OutGiving Project, which provides intensive fund-raising and other skills-building training to communities throughout the country. As field director for HRC, Red Wing oversaw all aspects of the organization's community outreach, mobilization, and training efforts, and represented the organization at meetings and events nationwide.

Let us put you

Center  Stage

**COSTUME RENTAL & SALES
PERFORMANCE MAKEUP
THEATRICAL SUPPLIES
WIGS • HATS • MASKS
DANCEWEAR**

420 2nd Avenue SE
Downtown Cedar Rapids

319-366-1005

e-mail: jmcostumer@aol.com

GLBT Youth Camp Out

What: CAMP OUT '99
Fourth Annual
GLBT NIGHT at CAMP SNOOPY

Where: Camp Snoopy at Mall of America
Bloomington, Minnesota
(Minneapolis/St. Paul)

When: Saturday, September 18, 1999
10 p.m. until 2 a.m.

Who: Thousands of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender youth, adults, friends and families from the Upper Midwest converge on the region's most popular indoor amusement park for a night of celebration — an evening of unlimited rides, entertainment and fun reserved exclusively for them!

Why: Proceeds benefit **District 202**, a nationally recognized community center in Minneapolis committed to social, cultural and educational opportunities by and for GLBT youth. www.dist202.org

How Much? \$25 (in advance) \$30 (at the door)

N.J. Lifts Boy Scout Ban on Gays

By Thomas Martello

The Boy Scouts of America's ban on homosexuals is illegal under New Jersey's anti-discrimination law, the state Supreme Court ruled today. The Boy Scouts vowed to appeal the court's ruling, which upheld a state appellate court decision, to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The court, in a unanimous decision, sided with James Dale, a Matawan assistant scoutmaster who was kicked out of the Boy Scouts nine years ago when leaders found out he is gay.

The court said the Boy Scouts organization constitutes a "place of public accommodation" because it has a broad-based membership and forms partnerships with public entities and public service organizations. Thus, the court said the Boy Scouts fall under New Jersey's anti-discrimination law and cannot deny any person "accommodations, advantages, facilities and privileges" because of sexual orientation.

The court also rejected the Boy Scouts' contention that striking down their ban on homosexuals violates the group's First Amendment rights. "To recognize the Boy Scouts' First Amendment claim would be tantamount to tolerating the expulsion of an individual solely because of his status as a homosexual — an act of

discrimination unprotected by the First Amendment freedom of speech," the decision reads.

Dale, now 29, earned 30 merit badges and various other awards and was an Eagle Scout during his 12 years in the organization. He was expelled in 1990. A lower court judge ruled in the Scouts' favor in 1995, calling homosexuality "a serious moral wrong" and agreeing with the Boy Scouts that the group is a private organization and has a constitutional right to decide who can belong.

In overturning that decision last year, an appeals court said Dale's "exemplary journey through the Boy Scouts of America ranks as testament enough that these stereotypical notions about homosexuals must be rejected."

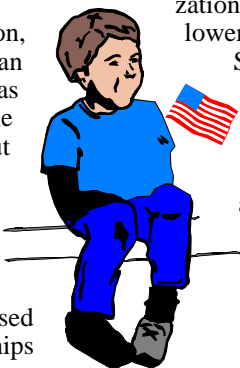
George Davidson, an attorney for the Boy Scouts, said this is the first time the group had lost such a case in a state's highest court. He had argued the group has a right to pick its own leaders without interference from "an all-powerful state." "It's a sad day when the state dictates to parents what role models they must provide for their children," Davidson said. "To us, the silver lining is it gives Boy Scouts the first opportunity to go the U.S.

Supreme Court and get a definitive ruling to put an end to these lawsuits," he said

The court decision rejected "the notion that Dale's presence in the organization is symbolic of Boy Scouts' endorsement of homosexuality. Dale has never used his leadership position or membership to promote homosexuality or any message inconsistent with Boy Scouts' policies."

Dale scheduled an afternoon news conference at the New York offices of the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, which represented him in court. "It's a great day for our client, but also for both lesbian and gay people who want to join the Boy Scouts," said Beatrice Dohrn, legal director for the group.

"It's also a great day for other people in the Boy Scouts who got a message today of inclusion rather than one of discrimination."



Youth Statistics

42% of all homeless youth identify as gay, lesbian, or bisexual.
Gay youth are four times as likely to commit suicide.
Violence against gay and lesbian youth has doubled in the last year.

Gay Teens Depictions Show Gay Is Not Strange

By Eric Gutierrez

If it's not easy being a teen-ager in end-of-millennium America, imagine what it's like to be a gay teen-ager. In the past few years, film makers and creators of television programming have been doing just that in unprecedented numbers.

Now playing on a screen near you: *Get Real*, *Election* and *Cruel Intentions*, which showcase gay teens as central or supporting characters. Independent films with similar themes or characters - including *Edge of Seventeen*, opening Friday, and *But I'm a Cheerleader* and *Show Me Love*, scheduled for release later this year - also are popping up.

On television this season: a number of popular shows targeting teens feature gay characters or story lines, including *That '70s Show*, *Felicity*, *Party of Five* and most notably the WB hit *Dawson's Creek*, which is following the coming out of a major character (Jack) partially based on the high school experiences of series creator Kevin Williamson.

But this trend, duly noted in the national media, raises the question of what impact gay teen characters and gay-themed stories have on teens themselves, straight and gay. That's a question that's debated at high school campuses and cineplexes from Salt Lake City to Wilmington to the suburbs of Los Angeles.

In a teen world where the word "gay" is often synonymous with lame, stupid and uncool, there is a 28 percent dropout rate among gay, lesbian and bisexual youth because of harassment and verbal attacks, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. In one 1995 study, 22 percent of boys and 29 percent of girls perceived as gay or lesbian have reported physical attacks by fellow students. Another 1995 Health and Human Services study shows that gay and lesbian youth account for 30 percent of all teen suicides.

At L.A.'s Hamilton High School, members of the student Gay/Straight Alliance are familiar with the hostility and with the influential power of film and television. Brigitte, a 16-year-old sophomore and self-described "straight ally," says, "I have gay friends who have told me they get harassed if they hold hands with their boyfriend or girlfriend. Seeing gay teens on film and TV makes a huge difference in their lives. They feel more confident about themselves after seeing a gay character presented like it's no big deal. And straight teens think it must be OK if TV says it is."

In movies, gay teens have become stock characters, taking their place alongside the jock, the nerd and the cheerleader in the pantheon of teen types. Whereas the biggest obstacle to happiness in the '80s of teen author John Hughes was coming from the wrong side of the tracks (*Pretty in Pink*, *Some Kind of Wonderful*), the '90s version of second-class citizenship is being gay.

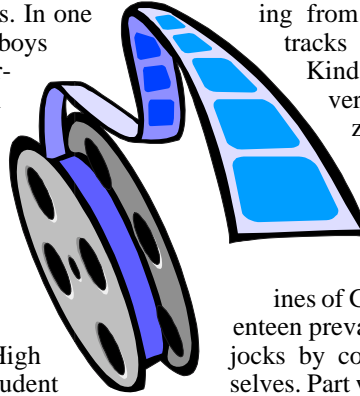
And like Hughes' heroine Molly Ringwald, the gay teen heroes and hero-

ines of *Get Real* and *Edge of Seventeen* prevail over snobs, bigots and jocks by courageously being themselves. Part wish fulfillment, part cultural evolution, the movies now show gay teens tackling dating, first love and fashion with the same gusto and anxiety as their straight peers. And occasionally, there's sex. The fact that they "just happen to be gay" hasn't stopped recent movies such as *Cruel Intentions* from showing sexually active teens.

"The depictions are more realistic, reflecting the audiences' increased comfort with homosexuality," says Jon Murray, co-creator of MTV's *The Real World*, a reality-based generational touchstone that has included young gays and lesbians since debuting in 1992. "Gay teens are no longer seen as necessarily troubled or suicidal. They don't have sex lives, but at least they're not all ready to slit their wrists."

Notes Simon Shore, director of the recently released *Get Real*: "The way to change attitudes is by creating a character who we like and know and want to be happy."

Until fairly recently, gay teens on television and in film were virtually invisible, limited to sympathetic but rare coming-out stories of teen angst, aggrieved parents and/or suicide. Movies of the week dealt primarily with family reaction



Fittings Unlimited inc.

Your source for prosthesis, bras, and wigs!

Save 20% off original retail prices on your entire purchase!

\$50 Fitting Fee required. Fee will be applied to your purchase!

Open Monday - Friday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.!

Personalized Fittings by Appointment!

8191 Birchwood Court, Suite E, 86th & I-80, Exit 129, Johnston, Iowa

515-727-1406 or Toll Free 877-954-2765

(Continued on Page 10)

Gay Teens Depictions Show Gay is not Strange (Continued from Page 9)

to a homosexual son, like 1985's *Consenting Adults*, in which a college freshman's coming out gave TV dad Martin Sheen a fatal heart attack.

On such series as *Life Goes On*, *Beverly Hills, 90210* and "very special" episodes of *Blossom*, gay youth were exclusively guest stars, never to be seen again after giving cast regulars a chance to model tolerance. At the movies, gay youth fared even worse, played in teen sex comedies for cheap laughs and ridicule, if they appeared at all.

Today, gay teens have evolved beyond one-episode guest appearances to become popular characters on hit prime-time series. Major studios have joined independents in depicting multidimensional gay teens defined by more than their sexuality. In comedies and dramas alike, family and friends are generally supportive or consider it a non-issue.

"Are these representations the chicken or the egg?" asks Shore, whose film *Get Real* is about a gay English schoolboy eager to learn about life and love. "For some, these films and shows are reflective of their experiences and attitudes. For others, they are a revelation."

The first revelation happened in 1992 on the daytime soap opera *One Life to Live* with the arrival of Billy Douglas, a recurring gay teen character played by current heartthrob Ryan Phillippe (*Cruel Intentions*). After an excruciating summer of coming out culminated in romance, the character abruptly departed the show. However, it was the critically lauded 1994 series *My So-Called Life*, a show aimed at teens and young adults, that introduced Rickie Vasquez, prime time's first recurring role of a gay teen-ager, played by Wilson Cruz.

"There are gays in the world, why shouldn't they be on TV?" series creator Winnie Holtzman says. "The network (ABC) gets credit because there were some concerns in the beginning over Rickie's proclivity to wear makeup and hang out in the girl's room, but we were never pressured to do things differently. We never received any

hate mail or got targeted for protest. I have to say, it gave me a good feeling."

Cruz, who is gay, still receives mail from teens who claim the representation saved their lives. "It sounds corny, but some letters you can see where the tears fell on the page," he says. "The fact that Rickie had an arc of pain but also joy and friendship was hopeful to a lot of kids who wrote to me."

The character was indeed a revelation for Alex, a 16-year-old. (The students in this story asked that their last names not be



used). "I identified with Rickie, his confusion, his difficulty with his family. I told my mom I'm gay, but not my dad. I could really relate to the episode where Rickie's father throws him out of the house."

The power of movies and TV to influence young viewers is a cause of alarm to some, a reason to celebrate for others. "I'm proud of the character of Rickie, and that he was true to teens. It's a natural progression of events, too slow for some, too fast for others," says Holtzman. That second group would include the Christian Action Network. The conservative watchdog organization has called for a "homosexual content" rating for network television to go along with the D (suggestive dialogue), L (coarse language), S (sexual situations) and V (violence)

ratings used by most networks for parental guidance.

"In a lot of these cases, what (these shows) are trying to do is change the value systems of Americans and, in particular, change the value systems of children," said Christian Action Network President Martin Mawyer, speaking on CNN's *TalkBack Live*.

"We're sick and tired of Hollywood trying to force its pro-homosexual values down teen-agers' throats," Robert Hales, 17, was quoted as saying by the Associated Press during the "Dawson's Creek" protest by Youths Against the Promotion of Homosexuality. In *Dawson's Creek*, the gay character Jack goes through some angst about his sexuality, but his decision to come out is supported by family members and friends - including his former girlfriend. That's similar to many contemporary depictions of gay teens in pop culture.

"Films now are less about coming out and more about being out," observes Morgan Rumpf, executive director of Outfest, L.A.'s gay and lesbian film festival. "Coming out is still central because that's what happens during the teen years, but characters make more powerful choices, showing how it's possible to overcome hostility and be a good person with a life full of hope."

Screenwriter Patrick Wilde, who wrote *Get Real*, Paramount Classics' first release, agrees. "It was important to tell the story of a 16-year-old who wasn't angst-ridden. I never felt guilty or that something was wrong with me, and I wanted to reflect that part of the experience."

For the time being, however, young gays and lesbians are validated in a way they never have been before. "I hope TV and movies get even more open-minded and realize there is more diversity than they ever expected among all teens, including gays," says Taylor, 15. "I watch the evolution of gay teen representation biting my nails, wondering where it's all going to lead."

Sean Strub Will Speak at October Men's Retreat!

One of America's leading gay entrepreneurs will be a featured speaker at an October retreat for gay and bisexual men.

A talk by Sean Strub is just one of the highlights of the day-long event, part of the Lives Worth Living program organized by Rapids AIDS Project. The retreat takes place from 10 am to 6 p.m., Saturday, October 9, at Pinicon Ridge Park north of Cedar Rapids.

Strub grew up in Iowa City and attended Georgetown and Columbia Universities. He is the author of such books as *Cracking the Corporate Closet*, as well as the founder and publisher of *POZ*, *POZ en Espanol*, and *MAMM* magazines. An activist and entrepreneur who has raised millions of dollars for social change, Strub has received the National Leadership Award from the AIDS Action Foundation, and the Cielo Latino Campanero Award from the Latino Commission on AIDS.

Strub is also co-founder of Community Prescription Service, and co-founder and vice-president of Uncommon Clout, an affinity VISA card which raises tens of thousands of dollars each year for gay, lesbian, HIV and breast cancer related causes. In 1990, he ran for Congress from New York's 22nd District. In 1991 he produced David Drake's award-winning hit play *The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me*. He has been profiled in the Los

Angeles Times, New York Times, McNeil Lehrer NewsHour, C-SPAN, Boston Globe, Business Week and *Folio*, and is a frequent guest on network news programs.



**Sean Strub
Featured Speaker**

In 1994 Strub was named to the Out 100, *Out* magazine's listing of America's most influential gay men and lesbians. More recently, *Crain's Business* identified him as one of New York's Top Six Entrepreneurs.

In addition to Strub, the retreat will feature a workshop with Los Angeles performance artist Tim Miller. Following the retreat, the controversial, internationally-known artist will present the world premiere of his new performance, *Glory Box*, at CSPA in Cedar Rapids.

Others scheduled to make presentations at the retreat include Peter Cannice, a Des Moines writer and HIV/AIDS educator; Roy Porterfield, a Cedar Rapids businessman and long-time volunteer in gay rights and HIV organizations; and Brian Wilkes, a counselor and therapist who works with gay and lesbian clients in Cedar Rapids and Iowa City.

Designed to attract gay men of all ages and backgrounds, the retreat offers networking opportunities in a relaxed, informal setting, while introducing a variety of social, cultural, and political resources.

Cooperating organizations include Legion Arts and CSPA, the Gay & Lesbian Resource Center, and the Linn County Health Department. The event is funded in part by a grant from the Iowa Department of Public Health.

A \$10 registration fee covers all materials, lunch and refreshments. Participation is limited, with advance registration required. Some scholarships are available. To register or for more information, call (319) 393-9579.



Tim Miller Also To Present Workshop at Retreat

Tim Miller, born in California in 1958, has been creating performances since the age of 20. His workshops and performances have been presented everywhere from New Orleans and Minneapolis to London, Paris and Copenhagen. He achieved national notoriety in 1990, when the National Endowment for the Arts yielded to pressure from the radical right and took away a grant it had previously awarded him. Together with three other performing artists who had their grants revoked (the so-called

NEA Four), Miller sued the federal government and won.

When he's not on the road touring, Miller is artistic director of Highways Performance Space in Santa Monica, as well as outspoken advocate for gay rights and HIV/AIDS awareness.

Miller will present the world premiere of his new work *Glory Box* at CSPA on October 8 and 9. For reservation or ticket information, call CSPA at (319) 364-1580.

Lunch With Billy Bean by Lydia Martin

He was a closeted gay outfielder in the macho world of big-league baseball, then the silent life partner of a famous name in South Beach cuisine. But now as an equal partner in a new restaurant, he is finally finding his own voice.

Just before you sit down for lunch at the Albion Hotel with Billy Bean, the former big-league baseball player who gave it all up for love, he takes you on a tour of his new restaurant.

This fall, he'll be opening Mayya with the man who made him hang up his San Diego Padres uniform.

The new place, adjacent to the Albion on the eastern stretch of Lincoln Road, will be upscale Mexican, featuring a star chef direct from the famed Charlie Trotter's in Chicago.

The work crew calls Billy "Chief." That's a big deal for Billy, who had a rough time when he gave up baseball in 1995 and moved to Miami Beach to be with Efrain Veiga, the well-known Miami restaurateur who founded Yuca and helped establish the Nuevo Latino movement. Veiga sold his share of Yuca recently to focus on Mayya.

"Three years ago, I was just his little boyfriend," says the soft-spoken Billy, who keeps his ball-player physique, but never

flaunts it. "Sometimes I'm sad that nobody here knows I played major-league ball. Because when you're with somebody prominent, everybody thinks you're just riding their coattails."

Their meeting was storybook. Billy was in town with the Padres to play against the Marlins. After the game, the ball player went to dinner at Yuca. The restaurateur was there that night, being his warm, charming self. "I didn't know anything about him except that he owned the restaurant. He had no idea who I was. I left town again, no big deal. But four months later when we came back to play, I wanted to see him again. He didn't care what I did for a career. He had never been to a baseball game in his life.

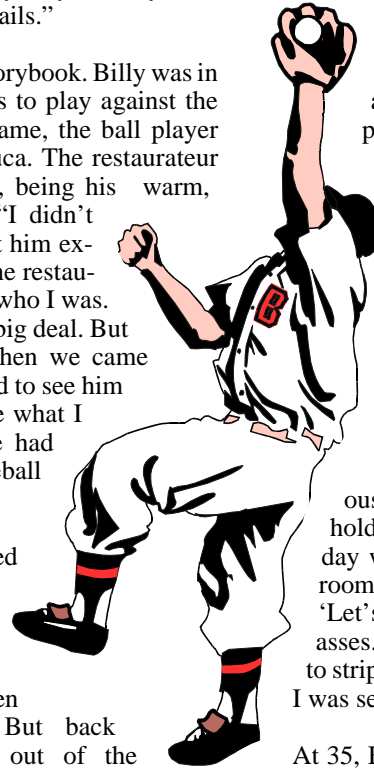
Billy had promised himself he'd give up the game if he ever met anybody who mattered that much. There had been somebody before. But back then, Billy wasn't out of the closet. Being a major-league ball player meant he couldn't be gay. "I told myself that if it ever came around again that I found somebody, I would

sacrifice everything for that relationship. And ultimately, that's what I did."

There's one thing Billy realized - he couldn't tell the world he was gay and continue to play ball. Nobody knew about him, and if there were other gay ball players in the majors, they kept it secret, too. "I would have been ostracized. I would have wound up on Oprah. Overnight, they would have found some way to kick me out. Because some dad doesn't want his little kid watching some gay baseball player and saying, 'I want to grow up to be just like him.'"

"I had gone through a seriously difficult time. I was tired of holding my breath eight hours a day when I walked into the locker room and heard the guys saying, 'Let's go kick some gay guys' asses.' Or when I went to Hooters or to strip bars just to be one of the guys. I was selling myself out."

At 35, Billy says he won't waste time hiding anymore. "I still have nightmares that people are going to find out and they're not going to like me. But I know that's just residue."



Leeza Asks What Makes A Family

On the July 15 episode of Leeza, entitled "What Makes a Family?", Leeza Gibbons explored what she called "the new face of the American family." Featured guests were Jon and Michael Galluccio, who challenged New Jersey laws and made history as the first same-sex couple in their state to jointly adopt children. Gibbons' supportive and informed remarks encouraged the couple to speak openly about their seventeen years together, their parents, and their two toddlers, Adam and Madison, who joined them on the show.

Responding to heated debate in the audience about religion and non-traditional

families, Gibbons stated, "You guys can talk about religion all day long, but let's talk about what we know based on the children." She followed with a study that showed the children of same-sex parents to be just as well-adjusted as the children of opposite-sex parents.

Gibbons also invited other children of lesbian and gay parents to join the show.

She interviewed Sarah - a member of Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere (COLAGE) - a teen who was raised by both her mother and her father, but grew up knowing her father was gay.

With her "What Makes a Family" episode, Gibbons worked to break down the far-too-common notion that traditional family structures are the only valid ones.

Please thank the Leeza show for working to educate its viewers on issues of same-sex parenting.

Contact: Ms. Leeza Gibbons, Host and Executive Producer, Leeza, c/o Paramount Domestic Television, 5555 Melrose Melrose Ave., Balaban Bldg., #B, Los Angeles, CA 90038-3112, e-mail: leeza@pde.paramount.com

ARTS &
ENTERTAINMENT**Club Basix**

3916 1st Ave NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402
319-363-3194

CSPS (Community Arts Center)

1103 3rd St SE
Cedar Rapids, IA
319-364-1580

One Flight Up

44-48 Main St
Dubuque, IA
319-582-8357

The Bar

East 7th & Sycamore
Waterloo, IA
319-232-0543

HEALTH

AIDS Interfaith Network of Eastern IA

1621 E 4th St.
Waterloo, IA 50703

Iowa Center for AIDS Resources & Education (ICARE)

c/o Laura Hill, Executive Director
321 E. First St.
Iowa City, IA 52244
(319) 356-338-2135 voice
ICAREIC@aol.com

Linn County Health Dept.

Free Anonymous HIV Testing
501 13th St. NW
319-398-3551

Iowa City Free Medical Clinic

Free Anonymous HIV Testing
120 N. Dubuque
Iowa City, IA
319-377-4459

Rapid AIDS Project

3601 42nd St. NE
Cedar Rapids, IA
319-393-9579

PUBLICATIONS

ACCESSLine

Iowa's Statewide Newspaper for Lesbians & Friends
c/o ACCESS in Northeast Iowa
PO Box 1282
Waterloo, IA 50704
319-232-5805
access@forbin.com

Iowa's Pride

The University of Iowa
20314 Iowa Memorial Union
Iowa City, IA 52242-1317
319-335-3251 voice
319-335-3407 Fax
iowa-pride@uiowa.edu

Resource Line

GLRC Monthly Newsletter
PO Box 1643
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-1463
319-366-2055
theglrc@geocities.com
www.geocities.com/~theglrc

SOCIAL

OWL's

Older & Wiser Lesbians
Monthly Potluck & Social
319-366-2055

GLBT Social Sunday

Second Sunday of every month
6:00 p.m.
Sanctuary
405 South Gilbert St
Iowa City, IA

SOCIAL/SUPPORT

Coe Alliance

Weekly Meetings & Events
www.coe.edu/organizations/allian
ce
jchaimov@coe.edu
319-399-8594

GLRC of Cedar Rapids

1056 5th Ave SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403
319-366-2055
crglrc@crglrc.org
www.crglrc.org

SpiritHill Women's Retreat

Info, counseling, Women's Dance on 1st Sat each month
319-643-2613

Youth Pride Alliance

Info, education
1056 5th Ave SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403
319-366-2055

SUPPORT

Clare House Catholic Worker

A Community offering roommate services to people living with HIV/AIDS
514 McKinley St. SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403
319-364-4101

PFLAG

Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays
4th Tuesday of every month
Faith United Methodist Church
1000 30th St NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

Men's Support Group

2nd & 4th Tuesday of every month
6:30-8:30 p.m.
GLRC Resource Center
1056 5th Ave. SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403
319-366-2055

Women's Support Group

1st & 3rd Tuesday of every month
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
GLRC Resource Center
1056 5th Ave. SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403
319-366-2055

SPIRITUAL / WORSHIP

Faith United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation
Worship Service at 10:30 am
1000 30th St NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402
Pastor Tom Mohan
319-363-8454
http://soli.inav.net/~faithumc

Pathways of Light Spiritual College

Rev. Lorma Lang, O.M.C.
Ordained Ministerial Counselor
Self Awakening Spiritual Counselor
Certified Course and Group Facilitator
Weddings & Other Ceremonies
319-396-5415

Peoples Church Unitarian

A Welcoming Congregation
Forum at 9:30 am
Worship Service at 11 am
600 3rd Ave. SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403
319-362-9827