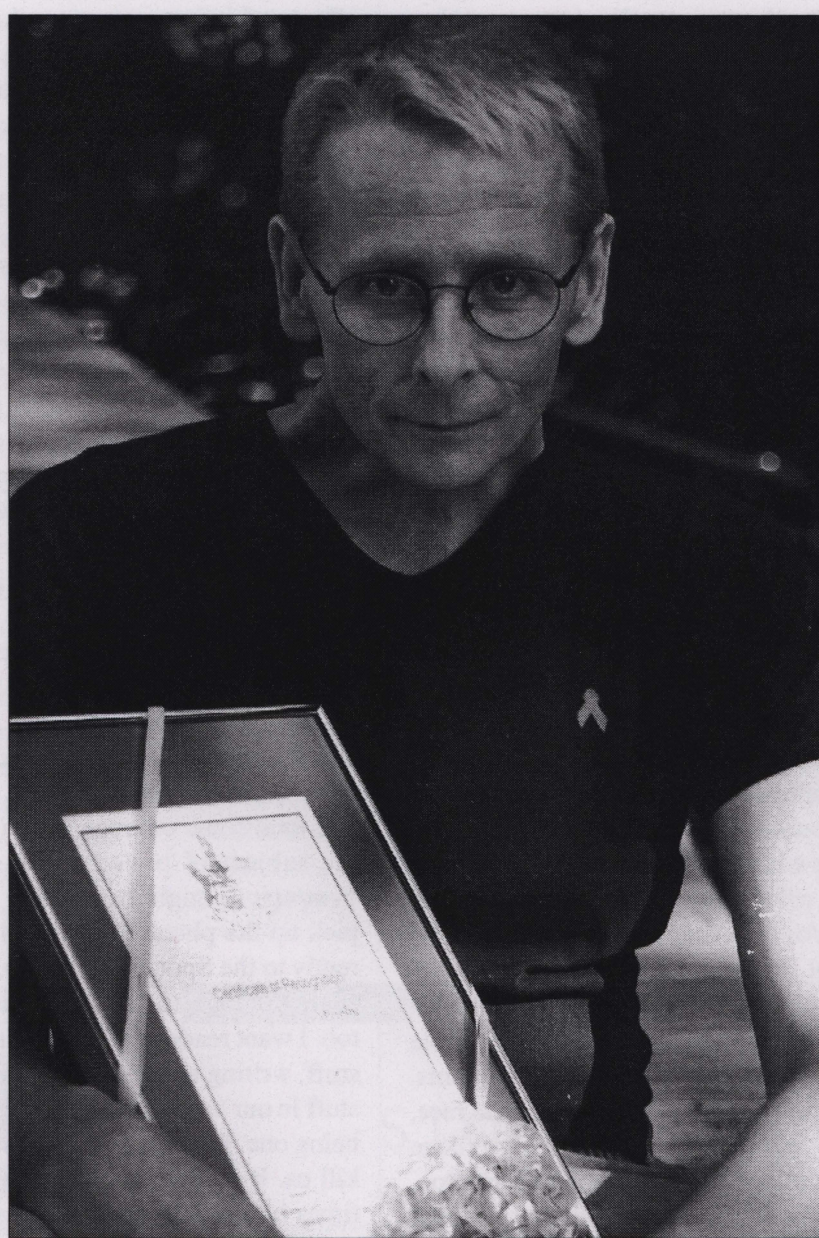


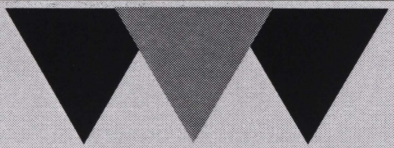
HQ75.5
L38

LAVENDER RHINOCEROS

Victoria's Premiere Lesbian & Gay Magazine
Volume One Number Eight
September 1999, \$3.00



— What's Inside —



**Jannit and Walter
Seek Nomination for
Victoria Elections**

**Minnie Bruce Pratt
Comes To Town
For All Of Us**

**The Wyrds Come to
Serenade Us**

**Editor Takes On
Political Correctness
And Co-Editor Takes
On the Cannibals**

**The Bakerwench
Offers a Sumptuous
Symphony**

And There's More ...

Photo by Kevin Doyle

**Gary Murphy with Certificate of
Appreciation See story page 11**



Inside there's an open letter to the *Times Feminist* reprinted here at the request of the G-Spot and including the G-Spot's response. We have agreed to run the letters as the Spot hopes to initiate discussion on issues of poverty, classism etc. this September. It should be an interesting series and a hot debate. I'd like to put in my two cents or 0 cents-worth right now.

I have in the past couple of years been told that I am racist because I am white; classist because I pay for my tickets; privileged because I am (or perceived to be) butch. The problem is, if you keep telling me how wrong I am to be me I am going to rebel. I appreciate it is hard for some women (and men) to budget time and money for tickets to everything. In my last month's editorial I complained that we are offering too many events in order to keep things like the G-Spot alive. I appreciate that we needed to look at how we are not sticking up for our friends, lesbian, gay, straight or whoever, who are differently coloured, or sexed, or able. I am not sure what privilege means. You can tell me when you respond to my editorial and/or take your own opinion to the G-Spot for the coming discussion.

I have some concerns about the G-Spot responding with a sliding scale that includes payment of 0 for events. From what I've seen of the human race, and this community, this is a privilege that will be abused. It concerns me, too, that I only hear people complain about the price of a ticket to a dyke-sponsored event. No one complains about the cost of the ballet, opera, and theatre. Or we

complain about how much it costs to hear kd lang but not Liona Boyd or the Folk Festival in Vancouver, or Lilith Fair. And those events involve the added cost of a ferry! Somehow, we just find the money. Or we don't go. But we don't write letters complaining about it.

Sponsors of events might remember to offer baby-sitting services to single parents or parents who cannot afford tickets plus baby-sitter.

Sponsors do need to remember the effects of being a woman. And most sponsors already do offer a sliding scale. Just remember, too, that public ticket sellers like Munro's have some trouble dealing with the varied ticket prices. Consideration is needed there, as well.

I think it is important for us to look at the issue of poverty and help us all to put it into perspective. When are the choices we make between beers, pop, popcorn, cigarettes, and other poisons, keeping us from having money to do other things? Sometimes, a lot of the times, it is about the choices we make. I cannot assume guilt, nor will I, for the choices any of us (including me), have made in this life. These days, if we don't have skills, there are tons of programmes out there that will help us to get them. Talk to Women's Work. They know. They will. And single moms are their speciality.

It took some courage to write about the subject of poverty in the *Times Feminist*. It might have taken more to pick up the phone or write a letter directly to the Spot or the Rhino. It takes some courage to state the other side, too. I want readers to be thinking about stuff, writing about stuff, talking about stuff in our various forums—the Rhino being one. It won't be our opinions that kill us. It will be, as I have said many times before, our apathy. Take a stand and blow this opinion out of the water. But take a stand.

Barbara

Lavender Rhinoceros was founded February 1999

Rhino Team:

Publisher: Barbara McLaughlin
Editors: Michael Yoder, Barbara McLaughlin

Editorial Assistant: Zorya Plaskin
Layout & Design: Marion Stoodley
Display & Advertising Sales:

Victoria: Barbara McLaughlin 598-6490 or e-mail: lavrhino@home.com
Saltspring : Reva Hutkin 388-4161
Vancouver: Michelle Clancey at (604) 377-3584 or e-mail: audience@intergate.bc.ca

To contact Michael: (250)386-3458 or by email at myoder@direct.ca

All submissions may be edited for space and clarity. Copy is considered to be the property of Lavender Rhinoceros. Letters and submissions must be accompanied by address and telephone. Only under extraordinary circumstances, discussed with you will unsigned letters/articles be printed. Deadline for advertising and for written submissions is the 1st of the month prior to publication.

While the Lavender Rhinoceros is a lesbian/gay publication it should not be assumed that all advertisers, contributors, letter writers are gay/lesbian. All may be assumed to be allies.

Lavender Rhino is a division of the Lesbian Community Connections Foundation. The LCC mandate is to provide a monthly written forum that celebrates all aspects of queer lives, to promote a healthy visible community by giving voice to and honoring diverse and common interests and to promote dialogue on such issues as class, culture, racial differences and diversity.

Lavender Rhino sells individually for \$3.00 per issue at Bolen Books and Munro's, in Courtenay at Headquarters Grocery and in Vancouver at Little Sister's Books. A subscription is \$25 per year. Cheques are payable to LNews. Mailing address is PO Box 5339, Stn B, Victoria, BC V8R 6S4

Acclaimed Author Will Even Dance With Us

By Connie Carter

One of the most important lesbians writing in the United States today, Minnie Bruce Pratt, visits Victoria September 19. A white woman, born in Selma, Alabama in 1946, Pratt was a member of the editorial collective of *Feminary: A Feminist Journal for the South*, *Emphasizing Lesbian Visions* for five years. Together with Elly Bulkin and Barbara Smith, she co-authored *Yours in Struggles: Three Feminist Perspectives on Anti-Semitism and Racism* which has been adopted for classroom use in hundreds of college courses. She has published four books of poetry, *The Sound of One Fork*, *We Say We Love Each Other*, *Crime Against Nature*, and her most recent *Walking Back Up Depot Street*. Pratt's work has been recognized as making important contributions to transgendered, lesbian, gay and bisexual histories as well as illustrating a self-reflective anti-racist practice. In 1989, *Crime Against Nature*, on Pratt's relationship to her two sons as a lesbian mother, was chosen as the Lamont Poetry Selection by the Academy of American Poets, an annual award given for the best second full-length book of poetry by a U.S. author. In 1991 *Crime Against Nature* was given the American Library Association Gay and Lesbian Book Award for Literature. In 1992 her book and autobiographical and political essays, *Rebellion: Essays 1980 - 1991* was a Finalist in Non-Fiction for the Lambda Literary Awards.

Pratt's best known work *S/HE*, a book of prose stories about gender boundary crossing, was one of five finalists in Non-Fiction for the 1995 American Library Association Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Book Award. In these lyrical vignettes, Pratt writes about the many ways to be girl, boy, man, woman and those of us in-between. *S/HE* explores the inconsistencies, the infinities, the fluidity of sex and gender. In *S/HE*

Pratt's lover relationship with Leslie Feinberg figures prominently and Pratt uses *S/HE* as an opportunity to write back in loving ways to Feinberg's novel *Stone Butch Blues*. Pratt will participate in two events organized to demonstrate the range of her interests and skills as a writer here. From 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. on the 19th, Pratt will participate in a butch/femme tea dance. The tea dance will include food, a bit of dancing, and some readings by Pratt.

It will be an opportunity to socialize, meet others, and enjoy the range of gender expression in our communities. This event will take place in the Garry Oak Room of Sir James Douglas School. At 7:30 p.m. Pratt will give a reading of her work at the Herald Street Centre for the Performing Arts. Everyone is welcome. Given the scope of Pratt's work which includes prose, poetry and academic essays along with her sustained commitment to an anti-racist, and visibly lesbian/dyke/queer presence, her work will be of interest to a range of individuals.

Both events are sliding scale (\$0-\$10). Tickets at Zydeco after September 1. For more information call, 382-SPOT. The reading is sponsored by the Women's Creative Network, the Department of Women's Studies, and Department of Writing, University of Victoria.

Looking At A Part of Minnie Bruce Pratt

By Lahl SarDyke

Walking Back Up Depot Street is the most exciting book of poetry I have read and its author, Minnie Bruce Pratt, is coming to Victoria. Her sixth book, *Depot*, although a vehicle for change, is not an exploration of gender as it was in her 1995 book *S/he*. However, Pratt continues to invite the reader to walk home again talking of "fundamental change, of the edifice of power, of what is to be done". No matter who the reader is, they have the ability to become the "obscure stones at whose shift the walls will crack from bottom to top, dirt to wind, so that all can be built again for all".

Walking Back Up Depot Street is the story of Beatrice, a white woman and Lesbian who is leaving her home in the South to move to the post-industrial North. *Depot Street* records Beatrice's search for the truth behind the lies, underneath the public story, hidden by the official history of
(Cont'd page 4)

Dr. Misty Watson
chiropractor
652-4347

Helping families to experience optimum health, without drugs or surgery, by correcting the nerve interference caused by spinal misalignments



Visit Stonewall...it's a riot!

STONEWALL
guest house

Vancouver Island's newest
gay and lesbian Bed and Breakfast
— only 1.5 hours from Victoria.

Luxurious rooms, country quiet.

Telephone 250.245.3346
Fax 250.245.3316
Email stonewal@island.net
Web <http://www.island.net/~stonewal/>

Minnie Bruce Pratt (cont'd)

the land of her childhood. Beatrice's journey includes the stories of those who accompanied her.

Pratt has lifted and woven voices from court proceedings, studies, reports, autobiographies, witness reports, encyclopedia, biographies, and supreme court decisions and used them as the sources for the voices of the folks that traveled with Beatrice. Pratt then credits and names these voices that sing, shout and whisper. Yes, this is Beatrice's story, but it could not be truthfully told without the voices of Ruby Bates', Chief Cobbs, Altagracia Ortiz et al.

Pratt assumes only Beatrice's voice. The voices of those Beatrice traveled with (and sometimes against) are not assumed to be the same as Beatrice's (or Pratt's) but to have their own cadence, their own reasons for telling, their own history. According to her Home page, "the words and rhythms of Bible Belt preachers, African-American

blues and hillbilly gospel singers, share-cropper country women and urban Lesbians" infuse these poems with energy and reality. There is testimony of freed slaves and white abolitionists speaking against Klan violence, fragments of speeches by union organizers and mill workers, snatches of songs from those who marched on the road to Selma. One voice may begin a sentence and another may end it, but each voice carries name, history, place, time. (Refer to the notes at the back of the book). It's the authenticity of these voices, the naming of their history and place that creates the exceptional depth and truth of the telling of Beatrice's story.

I read Pratt as saying these stories and realities exist at the same time, but none are identical, none are equal, none are perhaps even parallel, yet each exists with the other. Any person lives a life to be claimed using their own voice in their own way, each deserves a place

to start on the page, perhaps a different font for their story telling. And when we tell what we think is only our story, parts will need to be told by those who traveled with us.

Pratt mentioned *Walking Back Up Depot Street* in her biography in a 1983 Issue of *Sinister Wisdom*. In her essay *Identity: Skin Blood Heart in Yours In Struggle - Three Feminist Perspectives on Anti-Semitism and Racism* published in 1984, she wrote of being shaped by her relationship to what she saw in her childhood and by what she didn't see, or didn't notice on those streets. It's almost 20 years, perhaps her whole life, that Pratt has been writing these poems.

No matter the title, the poem, or the narrative, Pratt writes about how to attend to the changes in our vision and the resulting expansion of our realities and possibilities as we learn to see what we would and could not see.

Heading for Vancouver?

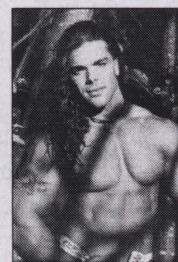
The Dufferin Has It All For You Conveniently Located in the Heart of the City

Clean and affordable, newly renovated rooms
in the heart of downtown Vancouver
Singles \$75-\$95 (double + \$10).
Without shower, \$55-\$85 double occupancy



*In House activities include:
Go-Go Boys, Tickle Me Tuesdays, Karaoke and Drag Shows*

900 Seymour St. Vancouver
(604) 683-4251
www.dufferinhotel.com
e-mail:indigo@direct.ca



hD HOTEL DUFFERIN

Fine Young Cannibals

By Michael Yoder

Within the last few years, I've seen an alarming number of gay men with shaved heads, and goatees, and those Celtic-esque armband tattoos, and multiple piercings (some of which are visible) and I asked a friend what it meant. "Oh! You mean Tribalism!" was his enthusiastic reply. Now, were we all Maori Warriors I could understand the ritual of manhood requiring us to sport tattoos. Perhaps, then, I could see relevance in a unified hairstyle or symbolic facial hair accessories, but the last time I checked, none of the guys I've seen donning the images of this new gay male sub-sub-culture were in any way remotely South Pacific in origin. And the painted and pierced "macho, macho man" exterior is a little - well - silly. I suppose this new trend is really not much different than the "clone" look of the late 70s—short hair, white tank tops, jeans, white runners, mustache and mirror shades (even at night). The disturbing difference, to me, is the apparent need to permanently scar or otherwise mutilate the body.

In the seventies we were buff—but there were no requirements to poke holes in our private parts. Nipple rings were few and far between. Now it seems the different looking gay men are the ones who don't have anything marred by ink or silver studs or rings.

I can understand the desire to be bonded to our group—this is a human quality and well documented—but I wonder about the underlying psychological reasons for body modification.

What signals are we sending and receiving? Are we manlier if we have a heavy gage ring through the end of our penis? Does it say we are more masculine if we have a cool tattoo like all the other guys? Does being gay these days mean we have to prove our worthiness to others by suffering pain? I sincerely hope not.

I can understand the desire to be bonded to our group—this is a human quality and well documented—but I wonder about the underlying psychological reasons for body modification.

What signals are we sending and receiving? Are we manlier if we have a heavy gage ring through the end of our penis? Does it say we are more masculine if we have a cool tattoo like all the other guys? Does being gay these days mean we have to prove our worthiness to others by suffering pain? I sincerely hope not.

If the only thing that binds us together is the way we look (making it much easier to detect each other through our gaydar), then we really have nothing in common at all. If on the other hand, we are feeling so stigmatized by the general public that we need to alter our physical appearance through body art and holes and such in order to separate "us" from "them"—I think we have more to fear than marginalization. Perhaps this is a fad like so many other fads and will ultimately be replaced by yet another fad. To date it is the most self-destructive fad I've witnessed and I wonder what it tells youth. I think it says that to belong to this particular club you have to endure the rites and rituals of a fictional "culture" that celebrates being different by being the same as everyone else. In my mind it reflects the "straight acting and appearing" mentality that speaks about shame more than about acceptance, that shows us that we aren't any more evolved in our celebration of diversity than the very people who chant to us about our "sins".

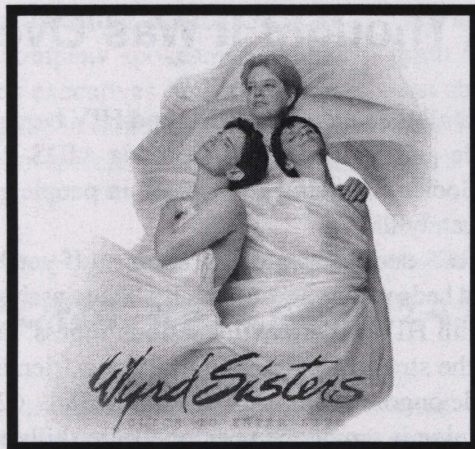
Worse than all that: worse than the tattoos and the piercings and the air of machismo, and the facial hair stylings and the attitude copping – it's pretentious.

“
Now it seems the different looking gay men are the ones who don't have anything marred by ink or silver studs or rings.

WYRD SISTERS IN CONCERT

DAVID LAM AUDITORIUM @UVIC
SEPTEMBER 26, 1999 AT 8 PM

Tickets on Sale September 1 at Lyle's Place
Out of Town Call (250) 598-7494
Option 2



Website: <http://www.escape.ca/~wyrds/>

Sponsored by UVIC Womens Centre and
Womens Creative Network

10 free tickets available for un-waged
No calls before September 1 !!

Richard Heiser Barrister– Solicitor – Notary



Full & Friendly Legal Services
in Cook Street Village
Tuesday – Friday
9:00–4:00

Open Saturday 10:00–2:00

303 Cook Street, Victoria, B.C.
Phone 385-4544 Fax: 385-4533

Quotes and Queeries

News, views and gossip from the international lesbigay, transgendered and mainstream media.

by *Mary Lasovich*

GLAADAlert, an on-line activist tool developed by the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, offers an informative roundup of "provocative and/or noteworthy" articles on Pride events across the U.S. The 30th anniversary of Stonewall sparked unprecedented mainstream media coverage, described by GLAAD as a "harvest of articles including anecdotes on lesbian families, political initiatives, and thoughtful descriptions of the ongoing importance of [Pride] events across the country. Perhaps the most exciting trend was the first-ever gay parades in smaller communities, such as Tulsa, OK, and the broadening of events to include booths for filing domestic partnerships and for voter registration." In an article in the Hartford Courant, Donna Red Wing, a national director of the Human Rights Campaign, articulates a vision we can all share: "We simply want to live our lives

free from discrimination and free from violence." Indeed.

Nicole Murray Ramirez, longtime lesbigay activist and a founder of the first San Diego Pride parade, has launched a reward fund for information leading to the arrest of a man who lobbed a tear-gas canister into the crowd at this year's 25th annual parade. Four people were treated at hospital and dozens of others were treated at the scene, including children and grandparents marching with the local chapter of the national Family Pride Coalition. Ramirez noted that San Diego's Chief of Police recently said "overall crime was down but hate crimes had risen 107 per cent." Parade organizers lauded the bravado of parade participants and onlookers who, after a brief panic, resumed the march with louder cheers than ever. Homophobia marred Pride events elsewhere, including the burning of a rainbow flag in Columbus, Ohio, and police disrespect to Stonewall Veterans marching in Manhattan.

Boy George, decked out in a black suit and faux leopard top hat, joined a crowd celebrating the re-opening of the gay pub in London where a bomb killed three and injured more than 80 people in April. "Today is about remembrance, but it's also about moving on," he said. "The re-opening of the Admiral Duncan pub after just nine weeks sends a powerful message to the small but dangerous minority who want to terrorize the lesbian and gay and ethnic minority communities." The pub was restored with the help of corporate and
(Cont'd page 7)

MUSAIC

Choral Society of Lesbians, Gay Men, and Allies



THE 60'S DANCE

A costume event!
prizes for best costume
best 60's couple
best 60's celebrity

MUSIC BY: PETER WILLING.
ON THE SPOT ENTERTAINMENT

Da Vinci Centre
195 Bay Street, Victoria
October 2, 1999
8:00 pm - 1:00 am

Tickets: \$10.00 waged, \$ 8.00 unwaged

Tickets: Munro's Books & Musaic Choir Members

You Thought It Was Over?!

With all the talk about AIDS and HIV being manageable and next to cured, Victoria AIDS Respite Care Society is seeing an increase in people getting desperately ill.

VARCS needs Respite Care Homes! If you have a second bedroom and would really like to assist a person with HIV experiencing serious illness, and relieve the stress of partners, family and friends who provide ongoing care, call VARCS at 388 - 6220.

Training is provided in personal care skills and respite providers are reimbursed for the cost of meals, laundry, etc. If you work, volunteers and home support is available while you're away from the house.

There isn't a cure, and the battle's only just begun.

Quotes & Queeries

individual donations. Newly installed is a light sculpture of three flickering candles and 86 twinkling bulbs -- one for each of the dead and injured.

Linda Chapman and **Lola Pashalinski**, partners in life and theatre, created and star in a new play, "Gertrude and Alice: A Likeness to Loving," which opened recently at New York's Signature Theatre. The dialogue is based on letters and writings by Gertrude Stein and her longtime wife Alice B. Toklas, and explores one of the most intriguing marriages of the 20th century, although the playwrights say: "We don't play the kind of rigid roles that they did." Reviewer Michael Kilian notes that Pashalinski bears such a strong physical resemblance to her subject that she seems to have stepped from a 1920s photograph of Stein, and he lauds the writer-actresses for bringing "an affectionate funniness to Stein's often puzzling writings [that] makes us understand them as never before."

Advertising Age reports that the Miller Brewing Co. did a last-minute about-face and pulled a planned broadcast of a beer commercial targeted to the gay market. The 30-second spot was to feature chiselled hunks discovered in a popular calendar -- playing in the pool, knocking around a volleyball and, of course, quaffing Miller Genuine Draft. A company spokesman denied that Miller executives had sober second thoughts, insisting that the ad had never been officially approved for

broadcast. But Chris Amburn, who came up with the ad idea, expressed his disgust, saying: "We have a large gay community out here [in San Francisco], and [for Miller] not to market to that segment would be stupid."

Savoy Howe, a top-ranked Canadian coach and pioneer in women's boxing, figured that nobody would watch a documentary on gay and lesbian athletes. So she set aside her concerns that her parents were just coming to an uneasy acceptance of her sexuality back in 1993 and talked about her experience as a lesbian boxer in "For the Love of the Game". But the film was so popular that TSN rebroadcast it six times. By then, every one of her 68 cousins had seen her use the "L" word on TV. "That was probably the best thing that ever happened to me," said Howe, one of four athletes featured at a Toronto fundraiser covered by The Globe and Mail (June 26). "I had no choice. I'd outed myself and people had to deal with it." Olympic gold medalist, Mark Tewksbury, spoke about how swimming saved his life during his adolescence in Calgary, where he was branded a "fag" when his crush on the junior high school quarterback was revealed. Betty Baxter, captain of the Canadian Olympic volleyball team in 1976, and fired as head coach of the national program after months of public speculation about her sexual orientation, cautioned that coming out still threatens the sports system. Olympic boxer Mark

Leduc, silver medalist at Barcelona in 1992, recounted his confusion and denial about his sexuality, his downward spiral into prostitution, drugs and prison -- and the salvation that sports provided. "I was troubled and lost," said Leduc, who now builds film sets and lives with his partner of eight years. In jail, he trained and trained. "When I really needed something in my life, sport was there." Leduc and Howe were grand marshals for this year's Pride parade in Toronto.

Relive Pride with Tim and Dan

One of our favourite web sites has been put together by Tim McLellan and his partner, Dan. I think they even do this web page thing as a business. Anyway, if you want to see photographs of the 1999 Pride Parade, Tim tells me he expects his online photo album will be ready by the time you read this copy of your Rhino. The site is <http://www.islandnet.com/~tmc/html/pride/>

This site also has links to photo albums and galleries of other pride parades and celebrations around the world.

So, happy re-living a marvellous day. Thanks, Tim and Dan, for making the memories available.

ZORYA ALEXANDRA PLASKIN

*Find new ways to empower your life.
Sensitive, transferrable interpretations with
special emphasis on karma and past-life patterns.*

- ★ natal charts
- ★ compatability
- ★ lunar cycles
- ★ the year ahead

380-2960

Carot readings also available

The End Result PROJECTS

Restoration • Fine Furniture • Renovating
Quality woodworking the way you like it!
•No Chemicals •Environmentally Friendly

Janet Weigelt 385-2960

What's a Word's Worth?

By Maddy Aramis

This month has been a strange one and I blame it all on the weather. The nice weather meant I actually went on a number of long walks out along the Lochside Trail, in Mount Doug Park, around Elk Lake, and up to the top of Lone Tree Hill. Invariably, when I take the time to put myself into the natural world for a while, I find a different rhythm, feel somehow different to my usual in-the-city, frenetic self driven by deadlines and a perpetual shortage of sleep.

As so often happens, the books that have thrown themselves off the shelves at me recently have all been related in one way or another to our complex and mysterious relationship to, and place within, nature.

Perhaps the best read of the lot was *The Education of Little Tree*, by Forrest Carter. I must say I'm glad I didn't know anything about the controversy raging about this novel/autobiography when I sat down to read it, as knowing the background would have spoiled the experience. You may wish to read the book first and let it stand as a compelling piece of writing, and then, if you absolutely have to know what I'm talking about, go to http://www.umass.edu/legal/derrico/forrest_carter.html.

The Education of Little Tree tells a thoughtful, appealing story of a young Cherokee boy who goes to live with his Cherokee grandparents after he is orphaned. Set in the Appalachian Mountains during the Depression, the book explores themes of respect for nature, tolerance and understanding for those who do not share your beliefs, and has a distinct anti-authority, anti-government undercurrent.

Through the eyes of Carter's young narrator, the reader experiences love, humiliation, fear, passion, and delight. The ideas the author illustrates are enlightened and relevant, and the story he tells human and compelling.

As far as I know, Sharon Butala is controversy free. Her memoir, *The Perfection of the Morning: An Apprenticeship*

in *Nature* is refreshingly honest. This is the portrait of a woman unafraid to be vulnerable, confused and disheartened. Butala tells how she left the city to move to a desolate area of southwest Saskatchewan to marry a rancher. The new life she chooses for herself under the wide blue prairie sky couldn't be more different than the one she left behind in big city academia.

The book shines when Butala takes us with her on her long walks through prairie grasses. We feel her being drawn to circles of stones and look over her shoulder as she pauses to observe coyotes. We walk with her when she roams, and

come to understand the profound impact of the land on her consciousness. We are also treated to glimpses of Butala's inner landscapes: she shares her dreams and visions, explorations of women's ways of being, and how her thinking in turn shapes her reactions to, and understanding of, her home and of her Self.

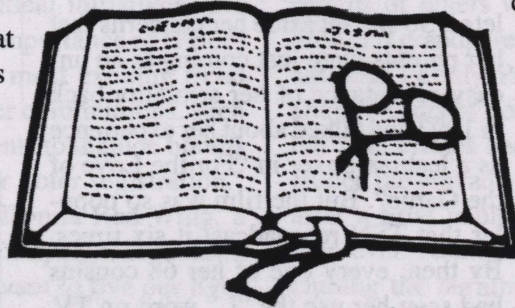
Butala's ideas about the vital importance of 'bonding' with the natural world are as ancient as the hills across which she walks, yet have considerable relevance to contemporary society.

Not quite as good a read (I am a sucker for personal stories), but loaded with interesting information nonetheless is *When Elephants Weep: The Emotional Lives of Animals*. Jeffrey Moussaieff Masson and Susan McCarthy have compiled all sorts of evidence that animals have emotions and, therefore, some sort of consciousness.

This book is not so valuable as a way of convincing most of us this is true (don't try to tell me my dog isn't experiencing unbridled joy and anticipation when I ask if he wants to go for a walk), but is a fascinating look at the way science works (or doesn't).

Playful foxes, depressed primates, proud guide dogs and grieving elephants; Masson and McCarthy's many anecdotes and observations that will make you think twice about the way in which we treat the creatures with whom we share our homes, farms, and wilderness.

Where *When Elephants Weep* is sometimes a little dry and impersonal (the authors were clearly trying to be very 'sci-
(Cont'd page 9)



Lounge • VideoBar • Dancing



**Broad Street
at Johnson**
Open everyday at Noon
(250) 388-0505
"We are family!"

Pool • Darts • Entertainment

DEEP MASSAGE

Karen Wreggitt invites you to experience deep, gently, relaxing transformational massage.

Located in James Bay
Sessions 1/2 hr – 2 hrs
@ \$25.00 per 1/2 hr
Call 386-9530
E-mail karenwre@islandnet.com

Word's Worth (cont'd)

entific' about the presentation of their ideas), Monty Roberts' *The Man Who Listens to Horses* is an extremely personal story. Speaking frankly of his own life experiences, both successes and failures, Roberts comes across as a personable guy with a mission.

His gentle techniques for working with horses are by now well known, and are based simply on listening to what horses are trying to tell us. By reading their body language and observing mustangs in the wild, Roberts has come to an understanding of these animals that is touching and refreshing.

You don't have to be a horse lover to appreciate Monty Roberts' book. The story is compelling and rich with human emotion, struggle, pain and triumph. It is refreshing to read about someone who has realized there is no need to forcibly impose your will on another creature in order to gain its trust and cooperation.

Finally, remember *The Secret Life of Plants* by Peter Tompkins and Chris-

topher Bird? That was the book, which described, among many other fascinating plant observations, the researcher who wired his plants to a lie detector and then thought about burning their leaves with a match or cutting parts of them off. The plants, in response to his nasty thoughts, experienced dramatic changes in their energy fields.

The authors are back with a new release of their 1989 book, *Secrets of the Soil: New Solutions for Restoring Our Planet*. This book looks at bio-dynamic agriculture around the world, the interconnectedness of all things, organic solutions to food production challenges, and a whole lot more. This is one of those 'big picture' books we should all read then run out to our backyards, patios and balconies to pot up a mixture of organic compost and healthy soil to grow ourselves some carrots.

This is a book that should encourage us to examine carefully our food buying, growing and preparing habits - for the sake of our own health and

that of the planet.

That's it for this month - I'm heading out into my garden to plunge my hands into the compost pile. After this month's reading, I'm looking forward to communing with worms with happy abandon!

The dirt on this month's books:

The Education of Little Tree

Forrest Carter, University of New Mexico Press, 1976

The Perfection of the Morning: An Apprenticeship in Nature

Sharon Butala, HarperCollins, 1994

When Elephants Weep: The Emotional Lives of Animals

Susan McCarthy (Contributor) and Jeffrey Moussaieff Masson, Delta, 1996

The Man Who Listens to Horses

Monty Roberts, Ballantine, 1999

The Secret Life of Plants

Peter Tompkins and Christopher Bird HarperCollins, 1989

Secrets of the Soil: New Solutions for Restoring Our Planet

Peter Tompkins, Christopher Bird, et al, Earthpulse, 1998

Minnie Bruce Pratt Poet, Writer, Activist

**Will be in Victoria
September 19, 1999**

Two Events:

Public Reading:

7:30 pm - Herald Street
Centre for the Performing Arts (all welcome)

Femme/Butch Tea Dance:

2:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Garry Oak Room, Sir James Douglas School
401 Moss Street

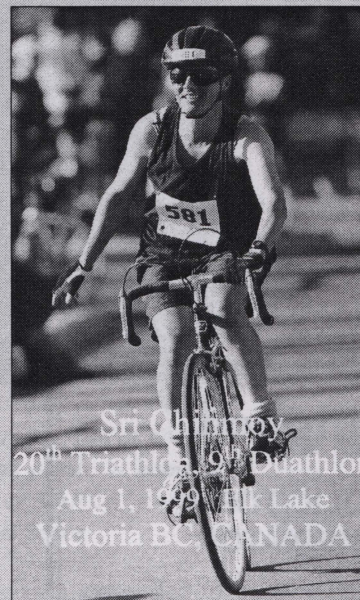
All Events Sliding Scale \$0 - \$10.00

Tickets Available at Zydeco 565 Johnson (Sept. 1)
Or call 382-SPOT for more information

Sponsored by Women's Creative Network, Department
of Women's Studies and Writing, University of Victoria

Triathlon Offered Many Rewards

By Jill Aitkenhead



On Aug. 1, 1999, I had the exhilarating experience of participating with 252 others in the Sri Chinmoy triathlon at Elk Lake. The course, which I completed in 2 hrs 49 mins, consisted of a 1.6 km swim in Elk Lake, a 33.3 km cycle and a 10 km run. Motivated by a desire to transform self-limiting beliefs and by a love of physical challenge, I trained for 14 weeks. The rewards were many— an inner journey, stronger heart, new friendships and the inspiration to try even harder. The whole experience was incredibly enhanced by the beyond belief cheering of Nola, Anne, Chantal, Joanne, Gay, Jared, Lori, Stephanie and Joan. It was a great day over too soon.

The Wyrds Tell All

By Kim, The Sisters, and
edited by Michael Yoder

When the band first started as a trio, we assumed that any audience we might have would be a gay one (you know, the Olivia Records type of audience). At the time we weren't seriously pursuing a music career, it was something we were doing for ourselves, for fun. The songs we played and wrote were important to us as individuals and we didn't have any notions in mind as to what kind of topic or music would be acceptable to the public. We're activist kind of people, interested in politics, humanities, spiritual and emotional issues and our music reflects those issues.

We found ourselves thrust into the music business, and were surprised at our acceptance. Things just happened—someone asked us to play at a wimmins benefit, a producer was there who asked us to play at his folk club, the CBC recorded the folk club show, the Winnipeg Folk Festival heard the show and asked us to play there. Soon we were a working band. For the first few years we had no support staff, no agents or publicists, and all the gigs we got were from people calling us. It was hard to keep up with ourselves, we had no idea about what the music industry was about, and in the back of our minds we always thought that our success was a freak



Photo: Paul Martens

accident that would soon come to an end.

Of late, because of our age and situations in life, our songs have been more about emotional issues. Our listeners seem interested in thoughts and feelings and spiritual issues, not sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll (ok, well, maybe just a little of that).

Our audience is generally a 'straight' crowd. We have never made any secret of our orientation, but that has never been a problem as far as we can tell. When we play in Halifax, Regina, Vancouver or Victoria the audience is primarily lesbian. Everywhere else the audience is mixed, mostly straight - men, women and children of all ages. We'll also have more gay men attend

our shows if we're playing in a smaller community than in a larger one. A straight woman complained about our last show in Victoria. She thought we were too 'homosexual' and catered to the lesbian audience. (that audience was mostly lesbian, so of course we did). One of the sisters went into the audience and sat on the straight woman's male companion's lap and took a picture. He loved it. She didn't. We think she was the complainant.

Since some of us came out in the 'bad old days' over 20 years ago, we find the lack of concern about our orientation by the general public refreshing, even inspiring. It's good to see that there are more important things that can unite us together as a species without getting caught up in something so insignificant (in the big picture) as sexual orientation. We have grown and changed from the lessons we have learned in this work. One of us, who was a lesbian-feminist-separatist-revolutionist, has come to learn to love and appreciate all good people, regardless of gender or orientation. This has come about because of all the lovely people we have met and worked with in our travels.

(Cont'd page 11)

Alison Campbell

**BARRISTER, SOLICITOR &
FAMILY LAW MEDIATOR**

209-703 Broughton St.
Victoria, B.C. V8W 1E2

(250) 380-6688

"Most of the time we stand with our backs to our own Light, looking into the shadows."

Swami Radha

**Susan -Rose
Slatkoff**

M.A., R.C.C.

Psychotherapist

1422 Wende Road, Victoria, B.C. V8P 3T5 250-477-8385

Wyrd Sisters (Cont'd)

We tour several times a year for two to six weeks at a time. We've played from Inuvik to Texas. One of the sisters still runs an emergency receiving home for youth through Child and Family services in Winnipeg, but the others work full time at music. The Wyrd Sisters have started touring more in the US, opening up a new market with large urban centres much closer to each other than in Canada.

Our involvement in our home community includes benefits for several gay/lesbian organizations, student groups, churches etc. in Winnipeg. The G&L community in Winnipeg appears to be a strong one, and the general populace of Winnipeg is more accepting of gays & lesbians than most cen-

tres we've been in. We think there is still a rift between the issues important to lesbians and gay men, though it is decreasing. The difference between gay men and lesbians is still the difference between straight wimmin and straight men. We believe that as society as a whole comes to recognize what's really important in the "big picture" the G&L community will become more cohesive as well. The problem, we believe, is not the sexuality issue so much as the gender one.

Our last album was called *Raw Voice*. We are currently putting together a new recording called *Sin and other Salvations* which, because of our touring schedule, likely won't be released until next year.

Taking on the Amazon Off the Net

Amazon Bookstore Inc. is suing Amazon.com in federal court, alleging the Internet giant that sells books, music and videos is knowingly infringing on the smaller store's trademark.

The bookstore, in a lawsuit filed April 7 in U.S. District Court in Minneapolis, seeks cancellation of Amazon.com's federal trademark registrations using the word Amazon and asks that Seattle-based Amazon.com stop using the name.

The lawsuit also seeks unspecified monetary damages. Amazon Bookstore, a 2,000-square-foot, women-oriented Minneapolis bookstore, stocks 25,000 titles and mails a newsletter to more than 2,500 people across the U.S. and in 11 other countries.

Gary Murphy Honoured

A lot of the men and women in our gay/lesbian community go quietly about their work. Whether paid or volunteer, what we do for others as it relates primarily to our own community is rarely recognised. Thus, it was especially neat to hear that Gary Murphy was being honoured for his work with Victoria Aids Respite Care Society (VARCS). Gary was presented with a plaque from the Ministry of Community Development, Co-operatives and Volunteers signed by the Hon. Jan Pullinger and Premier Glen Clark—"a small token of the respect with which Gary is held in this community, in British Columbia, and in Canada."

Board member Arthur Holbrook offered a brief history of VARCS as he saluted Gary at a VARCS volunteer appreciation luncheon August 8. VARCS was incorporated as a society in 1991 and by 1992 there were five respite care homes in the community, a volunteer training programme, an orientation program for workers in home support agencies who were fearful of dealing with people with HIV/AIDS.

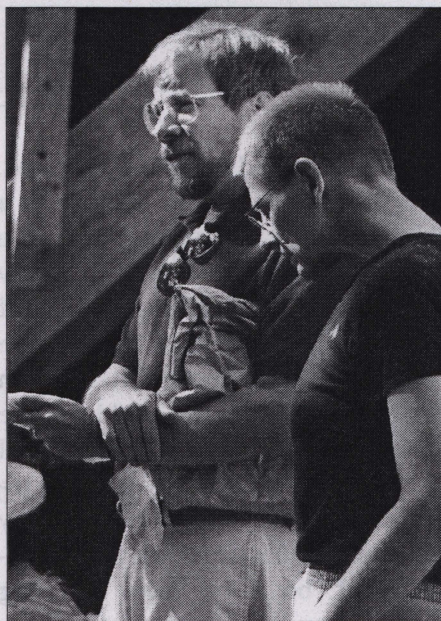


Photo by Kevin Doyle

Art Holbrook and Gary Murphy at VARCS Volunteer Appreciation picnic at home of Gary and his partner VARCS' current administrator, Michael Yoder.

"In 1993 Gary's vision expended to seek greater links in the community. At that time he brought AIDS issues before the palliative care committee of the regional health board to include AIDS

as part of their mandate. Over the next five years," Holbrook noted, "the model that Gary developed began to receive national attention and support. Gary became a member of national committees and worked with officials at Health Canada to further his ideas about the place of persons with HIV/AIDS in the community.

"Discussions with Health Canada officials," Holbrook continued, "resulted in Positively Fit, a fitness and rehabilitation program for people with HIV/AIDS. Victoria and VARCS, with Gary's enthusiastic vision and commitment, was, in the eyes of Health Canada, a natural place to run a pilot project. "Positively Fit became the most successful single project ever run for people with HIV in Victoria and is now the model for national and international work on rehabilitation of people with HIV."

Gary's own health has forced him to step down. Fortunately, our multi-talented friend is being kept busy, as health permits, with a variety of projects.

By *BMcL* with Art Holbrook and thanks to Kevin Doyle

The Subject is *Yours* – The Opinion

By Gerald Walton

I feel annoyed that I was asked to be interviewed by one editor of the *Lavender Rhinoceros*, and later I am rebutted by the other. Although my name does not appear in, *I Like My Penis*, by Michael Yoder (Lavender Rhinoceros, July 99), it is obviously a (barely disguised) response to statements made by me in an interview with Barbara McLauchlin (Lavender Rhinoceros, June 99).

I Like My Penis looks as though it is an article. The content is actually editorial, and therefore should be labelled as such. “Articles” involve research to ensure the integrity of the author. *I Like My Penis* involved no such research. Yoder failed to understand his subject matter, which he admitted in his first sentence, “I like my penis . . . and because of this I don’t understand the latest remarks I’ve read by a couple of male persons [who is the other one?] in the Rhino about not identifying with ‘men’. Acknowledging that he lacks understanding of the issues, Yoder then proceeded to discuss the topic even though he had not attempted to clarify his confusion. In my discussion with Barbara McLauchlin, I did not mention penises. Furthermore, the tone of Yoder’s editorial was judgmental, and I resented it.

My intent here is to help Yoder understand what I was talking about in my interview with Barbara McLauchlin. A writer with integrity would have approached me prior to writing and publishing a response such as “*I Like My Penis*”. Nevertheless, clarification after the fact is better than no clarification at all.

Yoder’s biggest mistake was confusing the concepts. Thus, I would like to give him a quick and simple “Human Sexuality 101” lesson. Sex is not synonymous with gender. Sex refers to physiology of being (usually) either

male or female. Genders refers to the social categories of “boy”, “girl”, “man”, and “woman”. Most males identify either as “boys” or “men”. Most females identify either as “girls” or “women”. However, some people do not fit into this schema, such as

Most men are not free from the oppression of manhood. They live in fear that their manhood will be compromised if they do not act in “manly” ways. I no longer live in such fear.

transgendered and transsexual persons.

In my case, I used to identify as a “boy” when I was young, and as a “man” when I became an adult. In my experience, the societal expectations of being either a “boy” or a “man” were oppressive. I felt uncomfortable with those social roles, and I could not live up to those expectations, as much as I tried to do so. Rather than deny my individuality by ‘conforming’ my behaviour to that which tends to be expected of “boys” or “men” (i.e. ‘big boys don’t cry’), and after years of feeling like a failure as both, I eventually decided to emancipate myself. I learned to deny and reject the social role altogether. I realized that I did not have to be a man. I am still not a man, nor do I even try. In fact, I refuse to be a man (with inspiration from John Stoltenberg). I am free to act in any gendered way that I see fit without fear-

ing that it will compromise my “manhood” because I simply don’t have one.

Are you following me, Michael? If you are, then you will readily see that I was not referring to my penis at all. I was referring only to a social category (“man”) rather than to my physiology (“male”). I am male. But I am not a man.

Does this make me a transgendered person? Maybe, but I tend not to think so. Does this make me a transsexual person? No.

Most men are not free from the oppression of manhood. They live in fear that their manhood will be compromised if they do not act in “manly” ways. I no longer live in such fear. I chose a particular strategy to negotiate “manhood” that works for me. Other men deal with their manhood in other ways, such as by revising their own definitions of what it means to be a man. For example, many gay males have come to accept that they can be gay and men, the latter being a category traditionally reserved for heterosexual males. I have not chosen to follow a similar course. I have chosen radicalism instead of revisionism. In my view, queer and feminist politics would benefit from males giving up the compulsion to be “men”, but I am not holding my breath.

My final intent here is to provide some advice: the next time Yoder feels the urge to pontificate in response to an interviewee’s statements, he should make sure that he knows what he’s talking about. If he doesn’t understand the issues, then he should ask for clarification. In doing so, he will appear to be intelligent and knowledgeable rather than pompous and uninformed.

I hope that I have provided some of the understanding that Yoder admits he lacks. For my part, I remain confused about why he decided to focus on his penis in his editorial -- but I guess that’s what men do.

Pages For The Community

Michael Replies...

by Michael Yoder

When I wrote the opinion piece "I like my penis", it was not intended as a personal attack against anyone who does not identify themselves as "men" including Gerald Walton.

While I found Gerald's point of view interesting (issues related to gender and gender ideology and how boys and girls are raised in our society), the challenge of ideology must not extend only to men but also to women.

I don't believe this happens very often, and I meant to address this issue from my point of view.

I believe that sexual and gender identity is complex and that there are no black and white answers (including those black and white answers that say I must agree with everyone's point of view because if I don't feelings may be hurt).

If my opinion is not on track for people, then write in and talk about the issue from your perspective. But understand that there are always people who disagree (some of them vehemently), and that's half of what makes the world a fascinating place.

We're all Beautiful Women!

from Leslie Robinson of *Ample Opportunities*

Did you know...If shop mannequins were real women, they'd be too thin to menstruate?

--There are 3 billion women who don't look like supermodels and only eight who do. Marilyn Monroe wore a size 14.

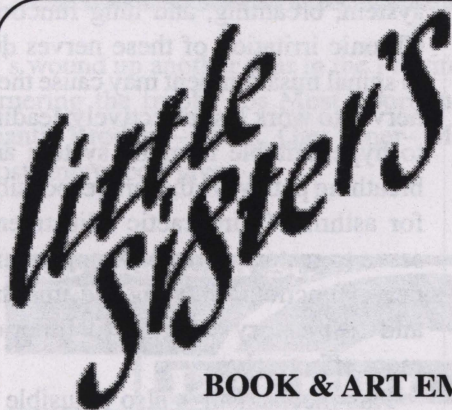
--If barbie was a real woman, she'd have to walk on all fours due to her proportions.

--The average American woman weighs 144 pounds and wears between a size 12 and 14.

--One out of every four college-aged women has an eating disorder.

--A psychological study in 1995 found that three minutes spent looking at models in a fashion magazine caused 70 per cent of women to feel depressed, guilty, and shameful.

--Models 20 years ago weighted 8 per cent less than the average woman, today they weight 23 per cent less.



BOOK & ART EMPORIUM

Western Canada's Lesbian and Gay
Bookstore

Little Sister's Book & Art Emporium
1238 Davie Street, Vancouver, B.C., V6E 1N4
(604) 669-1753 Phone Orders 1-800-567-1662

Our Store on the Net
<http://www.lsisisters.com>

Artinside
GALLERY

FEATURING

Gloro Rose Levitt
Mixed Media and Collage
and
Frances Powell Moore
Sculpture

Continuing throughout summer

136 Medana Street, Victoria, BC Canada V8V 2H5
Gloria Rose (Gloro) Levitt (250) 380-7076

Alternative Approaches to the Management of Asthma

Asthma affects an estimated 10 percent of Canadians. It is more common in children, although it does persist into adulthood in many cases. Traditional management of asthma involves drug therapy, but a 1995 study published in the *Journal of Family Practice* found that 55% of North American general physicians are not collecting the peak flow or spirometry measurements required to assess the severity of asthma. These measurements are included in established practice guidelines for the diagnosis and management of asthma, and determine which types of medication and dosages are most appropriate for the patient¹.



**Dr. Misty
Watson**

Many public health organizations, the Canadian Lung Association included, are beginning to realize the importance of education and other complementary health approaches in the effective management of this condition. The CLA is currently running a large-scale trial in Quebec to determine the effectiveness of education in conjunction with drug therapy versus drug therapy alone. One of our patients is currently involved in such a study in Victoria, and she has reduced her medication dosages by 75% over the last

three months! Her asthma continues to improve with this new approach to the management of a condition that she has been living with since childhood.

Chiropractic care is one complementary approach that many asthma sufferers have had considerable success with, and much research has been done regarding the effectiveness of Chiropractic adjustments in reducing the severity of asthma. Various studies evaluated different aspects of asthma and Chiropractic, but the following findings have been noted in children under Chiropractic care: increased expiratory measurements, improved quality of life, a reduction in the number of asthma attacks in a given time period, the need for medication is reduced, and 92% of the parents of asthmatic children in one study considered the Chiropractic care to be beneficial².

Many of these findings were refuted by a large clinical trial that was published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* in October of 1998. This particular study found Chiropractic care to be of no benefit when combined with traditional medical care³. The study did have several flaws, the most significant of which was that researchers had participating Chiropractors utilizing a control, or sham, adjustment that had the potential to produce the same effects as the therapeutic adjustment. Further research is needed to determine the re-

producibility of data collected in this clinical trial.

We see several children and adults in our office who suffer from asthma. From these patients we have seen a variety of results, ranging from complete remission of the asthma to no effect at all. Chiropractic care does appear to be more effective in the management of childhood asthma, but we do have several adults who are experiencing fewer asthma attacks of lesser severity than they were prior to seeking care in the office.

The most important principle to realize is that Chiropractic adjustments do not cure asthma or any other condition. The exact mechanism of how Chiropractic works with regard to asthma has not been determined, but there are many theories. The most likely mechanism is spinal misalignments in the upper neck and mid back, which are the areas where nerves regulate immune system, breathing, and lung function. Chronic irritation of these nerves due to spinal misalignment may cause these nerves to work less effectively, leading to hyperirritable immune system and breathing pathways that are responsible for asthma. Chiropractic adjustments serve to restore normal alignment and nerve function, allowing the immune and respiratory systems to function more effectively.

This mechanism is also plausible in
(Cont'd page 15)



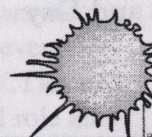
Gay / Lesbian Interest Films On VHS & DVD

Toll Free Phone: 1-800-665-1469

Buy Online @ www.videomatica.bc.ca

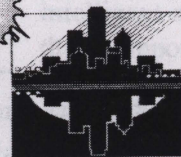
E-mail: sales@videomatica.bc.ca

1855 W. 4th Ave. Vancouver, BC V6J 1M4



"RENOLAND"

Residential and
Commercial



Repairs
Carpentry
Renovations
Landscaping
Contracting
Hauling

Professional service. References available.

Contact Sue Tel/Fax: (250) 381-1537

Asthma Management

that it explains why not all people respond to Chiropractic care. If an individual has certain allergies, sensitivities, or other triggers that precipitate his or her asthma, then any amount of Chiropractic care is not going to make a difference until these other causes have been dealt with or eliminated.

There are many options other than traditional drug therapy available to

people who are living with asthma. In many cases, medication can be reduced or eliminated with proper education, use of dietary supplements, and the elimination of any sensitivities from the diet and environment of the asthmatic. Chiropractic care has also been proven to be very helpful in the management of asthma.

¹Fried, R.A., et al., The use of objective measures of asthma severity in primary care: A report from ASPN. Journal of Fam-

ily Practice, 1995 August, 41:139-43.

²A more complete summary of the childhood asthma research referred to in this paragraph can be viewed at the International Chiropractic Pediatric Association website at www.4icpa.org under "Research"

³Balon, J., et al., A Comparison of Active and Simulated Chiropractic Manipulation as

Adjunctive Treatment for Childhood Asthma. The New England Journal of Medicine, 1998 October, 339(15).



Photo: Nicolle McKenna

BJ's wound up another year in the Provincial Govt. Women's Softball League by garnering the trophy for Most Sportsmanlike Team. Individual awards were: Chantal Brodeur – Spirit, Gay Toner– Most Valuable Player and Nola Erhardt – Most Improved Player.



BED & BREAKFAST

- A Beautiful Place
- Hot Tub & Sauna
- A Memorable Escape

(250) 537-9344

Email: blueewe@saltspring.com
www: saltspring.com/blueewe

Salt Spring Island, B.C.

860 Denman St. Vancouver B.C.
(604)669-8448 www.wpl.bc.ca/denman

Denman Station

Cabaret

MONDAYS NIGHTS draught specials

TUESDAYS NIGHTS highball specials

Wednesdays
COUNTRY DANCING
Line Dance lessons
with instructor Al Serbas
special time beginning @ 8:30pm

Every Thursday Evening
Martini & Mick invite you to the...
Electro Lush Lounge
\$2. after 9:30pm

Friday Nights
Organza & Rob present

MR. ENGLISH June 4th
RAY CONTEST June 18th
July 2nd

SATURDAY NIGHTS
WILLI TAYLOR AND THE
ALL STAR REVUE
SHOWTIME 11:30PM @ 2. AFTER 10PM

Sunday Nights
KARAOKE
beginning at 10pm with your host Darren Leffler

doors open @ 9pm every night

Brenda Hopper
Real Estate Sales

Serving our community
for over nine years



Brenda Hopper, Pemberton Holmes
150-805 Cloverdale Ave.
Victoria, BC V8X 2S9 Canada

(250) 384-8124

Toll free 1-800-665-5303

Email: service@pembertonholmes.bc.ca

An Open Letter to the Organizers of Feminist and Lesbian Events

Excerpted from The Times Feminist:

The following is a letter and response from G-Spot reps: Eds

i saw posters for the lesbian/feminist film festival here in Victoria. i was so frustrated not to see sliding scale on the poster or that the organizers welcomed privileged wimmin to buy tickets for less privileged wimmin in this community. one of the organizers said that "it was so good to be able to bring these films to 'the community'." i do not know what 'community' she was talking about, not all feminist have disposable wealth and not all dykes are independently wealthy. organizers need to start fighting for these communities poor wimmin, one key way is to have a sliding scale that reflects ALL the wimmin in the community, or start advertising their events for "the financially secure".

those of us in poverty struggle with the experience of going to a "feminist lesbian" event and having to ask about sliding scale. i struggled for two days before the event, sometimes in tears and definitely with anger, about the dismissal of the poor at events that supposedly are feminist.

all my shit came up around having to face years of ignorance, resistance, defensiveness, so called "understanding" towards wimmin living in poverty. as i approached the window at the Roxy, i asked about sliding scale for a friend and i who are struggling financially (meaning on welfare/just off welfare). the response i got was that they hadn't thought about this. it had not come up yet. the woman at the window went and consulted with another organizer, i went in and stood beside the two of them. she turned to me and said "how about two for ten?" i just looked at her, aware of all the wimmin around me in line-ups for food & tickets, laughing with friends/excited about the films..., i just look at her and felt "you really do not get it" and reached into my pocket for

the ten i had that we could not afford, and paid. OK folks. lets think about that. if you are poor you pay five dollars? i guess you got to be poor and dead to get in for a buck! i had already dealt with the anger/despair around having to ask, i turned to join the food line and reminded myself that i just spent the last portions of my food money and was about to treat myself to popcorn and water.

i worked on an organizing committee in Calgary that brought in Sandra Butler and Ellen Kashik. We had a two day workshop for activists that was free/donation. Sandra and Ellen did a couple of days of workshops for professionals that cost one thousand a day for the two of them, which subsidized the activists workshop. One of the workshops during the two days for professionals was open for poor to attend since it was for wimmin who had suffered child sexual abuses. We started the weekend off with a community event which we advertised as sliding 0-15 dollars. we printed a separate poster that explained sliding scale. **"Sliding Scale means if you have more pay more, if you have less pay less. those with privilege pay more so that those without privilege can attend.."** for those of us with less privilege, it helped us to feel good about being there. like we are welcome, and we felt good about giving what we could. it was the first time at such a talk that we made \$1000.00. so much for the argument that "we will lose money if we welcome the poor..." such propaganda must be identified and stopped in our communities. Make posters explaining sliding scale.

in closing, i am reminded of how scary it can be to personally/politically criticize/challenge folks. this problem of classism i speak of, the recent ex-
(Cont'd page 17)

Lavender Rhinoceros Seeks

Outgoing, energetic, experienced, go-getter to sell advertising.

Commission 20 per cent to the right person. Only experienced sales persons please. Call 598-6490. Resume to Rhino box number.

Please Note

Lavender Rhinoceros has kept subscriptions at below cost to be available to as many as possible. Starting in October the annual subscription rate will be \$30. Increased costs of production, envelopes, postage and production have caused this increase.

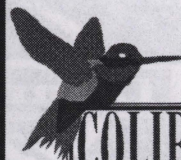
You have lots of warning. So subscribe now!!

Thanks for all your support.

Writers Wanted

If you can take notes and hold up a pen we want you. Call 598-6490. I'll find you an assignment, or staff will help you edit what you have. Practice on us. Youth, old folks, 30-40, rich, poor, anything but indifferent.

The Only Place to Stay!



1101 THURLOW
VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA
V6E 1W9
TEL: (604) 689 5100
FAX: (604) 682 3925
E-MAIL: SMOHRY@IBM.NET

Open Letter (cont'd)

ample of the film festival, is just that, one recent example. Many events are not sliding scale/many organizers do not bring up the poor at their meetings...for the first time i have "put it out there", i have challenged and criticized a specific event/organizers, i only hope that people do not go around saying "those wimmin, i never would have done that..." you probably have and will, cause we all have a lot of work to do around the issue/experience of the growing number of poor in communities across Canada.

i just really want for us to **get this**, to dialogue and work together as active allies in our day to day lives. i don't think it is asking too much.

Kim A. Hines

Response to Kim Hines

We are writing on behalf of the Women's Creative Network, in response to your letter to the editor of the Times Feminist about the lack of financial accessibility at our First Annual Victoria Lesbian and Feminist Film

Festival (published in the April-May issue).

Thank you for challenging us to stop and think about what words like community and accessibility really mean. We, as the board of the Women's Creative Network, feel ashamed that we have failed to address this issue adequately in general, and that as a result, we failed to make our film festival financially accessible to all women.

We apologize for your struggle in asking for sliding scale tickets, and that we didn't stop to consider that sliding scale is about what you can afford. Offering you a dollar off the \$6 tickets was not a solution. We realize that this incident has caused you personal pain and we are sorry.

To put our money where our mouths should have been, the Women's Creative Network is refunding the cost of your tickets. And to help us remember the need for sliding scale, we've initiated and will be advertising a new policy on all of our calendars and posters. All of our events and programs will be financially accessible. For those events with a contracted ticket price,

and/or a higher than average ticket price, such as the upcoming Wyrd Sisters concert, we will offer a number of free advance tickets to women who need them.

Beginning this fall, we will be instituting monthly forums at the GSpot that will discuss topics of importance to community members. One of the first forums will address this very issue of the financial accessibility and classism.

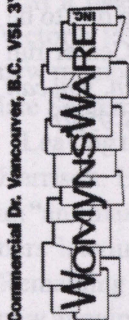
In appreciation of your strength in making public your personal struggle with classism, we have adopted your suggested wording for this new policy:

Sliding scale means that if you have more, you pay more, if you have less, you pay less: those with privilege pay more so that those without privilege can attend.

Thank you for reminding us that we need to stay vigilant on issues of privilege and accessibility, and responsive to the needs of everyone in the community that we seek to serve and strengthen.

Cynthia Callahan, Ellen Hines, and Jannit Rabinivitch for the Women's Creative Network Board

Celebration & Empowerment of Q's Sexuality



★ Retail Store Open 7 Days A Week ★ Mail Order Catalogue \$5.

3rd EDITION CATALOGUE

Canada's largest selection of quality sexual products for women! Yippee!!



896 Commercial Dr. Vancouver, B.C. V5L 3Y6
Tel: (604) 254-2543
Fax: (604) 254-5472



Order Toll Free 1-888-WYM-WARE
www.womynsware.com

Hours by Appointment (250) 727-3113

Joan Borutski, RMT.
Registered Massage Therapist

370 Hector Road Victoria, B.C. V8X 3X1

Good eggs are hard to find.

For socially responsible mutual funds... and low rates for mortgage insurance, call a "Grade A" financial advisor.



Tanya Anderson



Woodburn Financial Group Ltd.
301 - 754 Broughton Street,
Victoria BC V8W 1E1
TEL: 381-0116

Bodyworker Karen Wreggitt has Magic Hands. On the start of my massage, I thought her beautiful, strong hands would turn my body to mush, but instead I jumped up from my hour and a half massage rejuvenated. Karen says her clients respond differently to the deep massage. "Some people can't even drive home", she says. Others, like me have more energy.

What does Karen do exactly? "Does the expression hurts so good mean anything to you?", Karen responds when a prospective client asks how hard she massages.

The phrase seems to resonate with folks. I could almost hear the "Ahhh" on the other end of the phone.

When did you start your business? And are you covered under Medical?

Karen has been doing massage for fifteen years. She is experienced at Jin Shin Do, Reflexology and working with pressure points. She has a loyal customer following despite not being registered as a massage therapist. There are folks who want a body worker who is registered so that they can get their visits covered by medical, but others don't care.



What brought you to massage peoples bodies for a living?

Karen is positive, caring and spiritual in her work and about people. She grew up in a tactile family and at an early age learned the importance of touch. Soon after having her first massage, Karen became interested in the effects of therapeutic touch. Some being: the releasing of toxins, helping to cure disease, even helping premature babies to leave the hospital an average of six days earlier than babies who aren't massaged.

Tell me your philosophy behind your work? Karen observes that we live in a society that is hungry for touch. Because of the abuse of children we have rules like "teach don't touch". We are scared both to touch and to be touched. Karen provides a safe and caring environment for clients to heal and receive. She works Monday to Friday (9am- to 7:30pm) out of her James Bay home which is nothing short of a sanctuary.

Advice for Good Health? "Laugh a lot, play a lot, see a chiropractor and massage therapist, take detox baths and take time out to just be".

Advice to anyone interested in being a Massage Therapist? "Get clear on your motivation, take a massage class and decide if you want to be registered or not."

And as Karen says about her own choices, "if you love what you do, take the leap and the universe will support you."

Karen Wreggitt hopes one day to be part of a Holistic Healing Center run by and for women. *Until then, you can reach her in Victoria at 386-9530*

**WALTER & HUMPHREY
COUNSELLING SERVICES LTD.**

*Helen Walter PhD
Pat Humphrey MSW RSW*

**SERVING THE COMMUNITY SINCE 1978
WELCOMING E.A.P. AND PRIVATE CLIENTS**

1480 Lands End Rd. Sidney
#110 - 1175 Cook St. Victoria

656-5611

Dog's Day Bakery



Healthy Treats
Handmade with Love
At Artisan's Lane in the Ramada
Huntington (across from Clipper)

Penny Stone & Janis Mullan
Pet Owners & Proprietors

(250) 477-4856 Dogsbakery@aol.com

Raising High the Roofbeams

By Andrea Hill

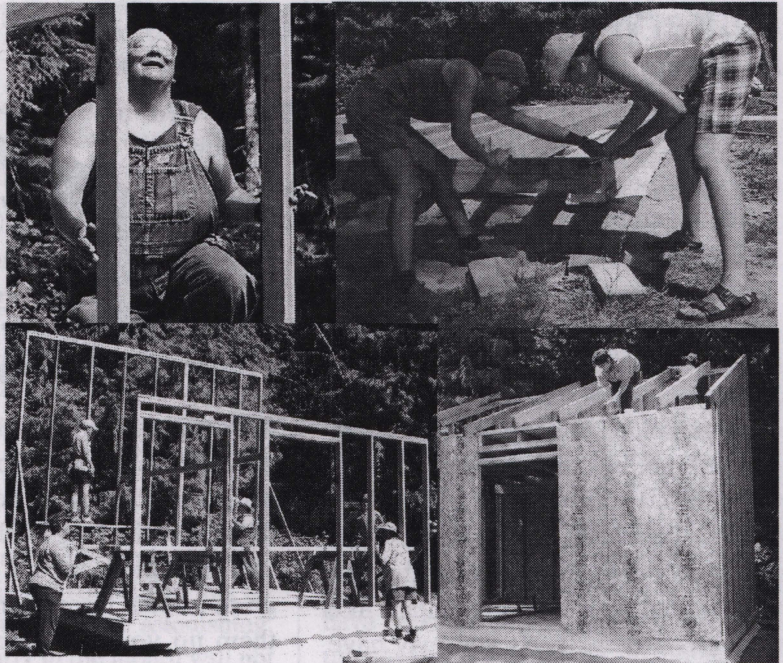
Photos: Sherie Norie

Spinstervale house-raising was a multi-faceted adventure in a lot of ways. We numbered 20 women, although not all at the same time. Ages were as varied as occupations, and although we were primarily from Vancouver Island, women from as far away as Germany, Mexico and Japan came to help raise the new bathhouse at Spinstervale.

A few of us were handicapped in the carpentry department, but there were many ways to help out over the weekend. Although I did a wee bit of hammering, I was also part of the cheerleading squad, one of the nail-pullers, water-girl (I really enjoyed that role) and self-appointed Haus Frau at my cabin, which, at one point was mistaken for the communal bath house.

Our own Sue Glossup from Renoland collaborated with multi-talented Lynn from upisland, to provide us with our building plans and guidance on the project.

Saturday we saw the floor laid, with front and back walls assembled and raised. Sunday we worked on the siding, as well as bracing up the building and starting on the remaining two walls. We saw most of the roof rafters in place as



our party left on Monday afternoon, and were sad to have to leave when we did.

I brought back some great memories of the meals, the teamwork, the Sweat lodge, the icy creek, and more. It was enough to call me back again. I need to decide if it will be as a working guest or paying camper.

Either way, it is well worth a repeat visit.

There's Still A Pride Society

by Michael Yoder


At a meeting on August 11, attended by 16 people, the Victoria Pride Society Board of Directors appointed three new members until an annual general meeting can be held in late September or early October.

Leaving the Board after five years are Lisa Landers and Terry Harrison. Harrison described her time involved with Pride as "an amazing adventure watching Pride grow." Other members leaving are Stacy LeBlanc and Catherine Snowden. Remaining members are Rene Hope and Ellen Hines. The new appointees are Carolyn Schneider, David Hardwick and

Richard O'Connor.

Members of the community present expressed appreciation for the departing and current board members for the amount of time and energy committed to producing Pride Week events and the Pride Parade. There is year round work for volunteers of the Pride Society and departing board members explained that it's time for "new energy and new people to step up" to take on the challenge of, not only Pride Week, but also community education, queer community activities and perhaps the development of a queer community centre.

For more information about the Pride Society and to find out how you can be involved call 360 -2393.

the **Royal Hotel** 

Angus invites you to stay at The Royal Hotel
Newly Renovated Gay and Lesbian hotel & pub
Clean and Affordable Rooms

Angus and his partner Daichan are former Victorians

Tel. 604-685-5335 e-mail frontdesk@attheroyal.com

1025 Granville Street



PATRICIA LANE
Lawyer*/Mediator

I Can Help You With:

- MEDIATED AGREEMENTS
- DECISION PLANNING
- ENHANCED COMMUNICATION

598-3992

*Denotes Law Corporation

Bakerwench Trifles With Us

By Marcia Hicks

Those that trifle...shall always die full. These words are truly ones to live by. If ever there has been a concoction with more symphonic sweetness let it come forward. No challengers? I am hardly surprised, for the well prepared trifle is a hard act to follow.

The key to a good trifle though... and I can see you all perched on the edge of your seats, dry mouthed and wide eyed...is its components. Okay, so maybe that wasn't the answer you were searching for, but just wait and you will not be disappointed. You see, the trifle is an oral orchestra. It's a careful arrangement of flavour and textures that individually may be delightful, but once united they sing 'hallelujah' like a chorus of angels. As you may have guessed, I am a fan of the trifle (not to be confused with the truffle), yet many a bad trifle have I tasted. So, let it be known that not all trifles are created equal.

Firstly, one must choose the predominant flavour of the trifle. A stellar combination is raspberry, peach and almond. Select your peaches (as in, 'I really love your peaches, wanna shake your tree') or any of your other fruit with scent and general firmness in mind. Whenever possible, supporting local farms is the way to go for freshness and overall good karma. Fruit should always smell! If it doesn't then it's fake! Our poor fruits and vegetables have been manipulated and sprayed to perform in ways that Mother Nature never intended. Finding real fruits at



this time of the year is easy because they can be grown right here on local soil, thus reducing the need to be treated to survive the long haul usually necessary from more tropical climates. If you go to a local farm or market and pick them up yourself, then the only trip these fruits will make is to your kitchen and then to your mouth!

The biscuits, the sherry, even the custard all are important in terms of quality. If you don't start out with quality, then you will never finish with it. One doesn't need to use the best sherry but a good rule of thumb is if you can't drink it then don't use it. Many people like lady fingers in a trifle, and if handmade, can often be a good choice. I prefer to use a more substantial biscuit, like an amaretti (Italian almond cookie, look for them at your local Italian bakery) or macaroon. Left over cake layers can also be used. Just imagine what chocolate cake with say, cherries, nectarines and scads of whipped cream would be like. Or how about fruit cake soaked ever so liberally and layered with juicy

orange slices and custard and then topped with candied orange zest? The options are endless, all you need to do is let your imagination out of its daily play pen and out into the world of the infinite.

Trivial Trifle

(Best if made over a two or three day period)

Day#1: Place an ample layer of cake/biscuits into a glass bowl. Soak completely with sherry. Rest over night.

Day#2: Sprinkle with a handful of toasted nuts. Layer fruit, being sure to place up against glass to show off. For example, cut strawberries or kiwis show up nicely if placed cut side next to glass. Next pour in half of custard. Repeat, starting with biscuits and brandy and finishing with the custard. Chill over night.

Service: To decorate trifle, whip some whip cream with a little sugar and vanilla. Whip until soft peaks form, and drop by spoonful onto the top of the trifle, spreading with a spatula to form voluminous peaks. Toast some nuts or grate chocolate and scatter on the top. You may also like to decorate with some more fruit and mint leaves, artfully arranged. Enjoy!

Any questions or suggestions? E-mail me at bakerwench@hotmail.com
Home page is www.randomact.bc.ca

SANTIAGO'S

where rimming martinis is highly encouraged

**660 Oswego Street
Reserve at 388-7376**

bring in this ad and get 10% off your encouragement

The Romance Shop

Victoria's Home of Romantic and Erotic Adventures

Now two locations

2022 Douglas St.
Victoria
380-0069

GRAND OPENING

New Store Sept. 1
The Romance Shop
80B Trunk Rd, Duncan



SEPTEMBER 1999

Aries: You'll feel a lot better about the way life's running. Positive plans are drawn up, although there's one hiccup at the beginning of the month to give you a jolt. No worries. A lot of dreams will come true. Your fun and positive attitude returns as does a new boost to your relationship and contacting friends. So much becomes clear. Hindsight. What you've been left with (after the last couple of months) are your tools of the future. So let them work for you.

Taurus: Had a tough time recently? Not any more. September promises you plenty. So be cool, calm and collected. Home and work in two different places? You have all the potential. Maybe commuting. Home is where your heart is, and that's where even *you* put your hat!! You're in demand. Set things up to *your* benefit. Keep control of flirting too much. One is potentially dangerous so nip it in the bud early on in the month. Build!! Call the Shots!!

Gemini: Want your dreams to come true? Then get the right person—there's a few around to choose from at the moment. A bit of bad news re re your home can throw a spanner in the works, but nothing long-term. You'll appreciate your home surroundings far more now. You have energy to burn with potential lovers, or partners. You are a pretty cool cat to hang out with. Popularity returns to you.

Cancer: You'll be busy arranging social schedules. Bills will be brought into line. Your home can be altered to be your dream home. A new vehicle wouldn't go amiss. A good time to invest, apply for loans or get backing. Your personal life is busy in a very positive way. How about a nice break away—abroad? You may be starting a new job as a teacher of some kind. Or maybe an advisor about home financing. Either way it is right up your street.

Sue's Sun Signs

My name is Sue. I'm 40, English, Taurus sun and Virgo rising. Your natal chart is your starting point, so as time passes planets move on, activating stages of your life; if you drastically move so does your chart. When you read the sun signs, flit through them all; you may find that other signs fit certain parts of you simply because you have either progressed there, or it relates to your ascendancy—you have a strong activation in that sign. You'll soon get the hang of it. Write to me c/o Lavender Rhino.

Leo: Other people's reaction has greatly influenced you in the past re relationships, so this for yourself in this instance. The results will be astonishing. Some money early in the month will not be forthcoming—lost, even. The month's too good to hold you back; show off your new love. Work is highlighted so take advantage of opportunities or they'll pass you by. This month could prove to be a reflection of your dreams.

Virgo: There could be a harmful comment made early on in the month—no offence, but it's a beautiful month so be nice. Life's moving again. You'll receive support from friends and family, which will inspire your true Virgo beauty. Previous problems will be resolved. Money and heart will return. What goes around comes around. Giving and receiving. There's a lot of activity around the home—party at your place? Send me an invite.

Libra: You'll hear something you don't like much at the outset of the month but this isn't your only avenue. A lot of thinking and planning for the long term ensures a prosperous future. You'll be in demand and your opinion sought after. This opens the doors for your creative flare. You'll love it. Home and friends haven't passed you by and this in turn enthralls your energy levels. Sex drive returns. Alter your goals accordingly. All becomes clear at last.

Scorpio: A lot of behind-the-scenes work. This will fatten your bank balance, which enables you to do things you want at home. Beware making a bad decision on the first. It could be that you're entering into a more permanent partnership.

One thing's for sure; you're learning how to keep hold of love and money and how to increase the worth of both. You'll get a kick out of volunteering, but it's even nicer when you're given something for it. You'll feel so much better this month.

Sagittarius: One job fall through—a minor setback. Socialise and network. Now is the time to talk, grasp opportunities, and make an effort. You have a chance to create your own doors. The stars are favourable. You look good, feel good. Be on time for meetings. You're putting down roots in whatever you choose. Choose wisely. Get out of the house when you have done the chores. After the last two months this is a period for breathing.

Capricorn: A bubble burst is of no consequence to you. There's a chance here to pull off the coup of a life-time, to make large gains now, and for the future. So be creative in your ventures. You can win people over to your way of thinking with charm and panache. All will benefit, so make that extra effort and set yourself to work. You've got a lot to do. You'll find release through this, enabling you to have the time you want to achieve personal pleasures. A sweet circle.

Aquarius: Sweet romance. The world and your partner, (which you'll find if you haven't already), is fantastic. Is it true? Is it for real? Time will tell so you enjoy yourself and lap it up. Take the lead, take a trip, and discuss the future. What are the benefits of sharing a home? You're a person of action. You seem to have unlimited energy for those that count, able to sort out all sorts of problems. You'll then enjoy showing your love. It's like an aphrodisiac.

Pisces: A lot of good planetary activity highlights business and deals: There's good investments for the future plus news of a relationship—a rekindling of the heartstrings. A love, or deal, like never before that's very much to your liking. A positive compromise, you lucky school of fish! Just remember to treat people right so they in return will treat you the same. One hiccup at the beginning of the month hints of bitching, so, if you're prone to it, be careful or it will come boomeranging back.

Little Lezzie Flashes

Our own community activist, **Jannit Rabinovitch**, is seeking nomination for mayor of Victoria through the Victoria Civic Electors (VCE).



To support Jannit's nomination you must be a member of the NDP (it could cost you a buck), and attend the nomination meeting in September. The time and date is to be announced. Running with Jannit but for the Green Party (and you must be a member for the nominating meeting) is **Walter Meyer zu Erpen**. The pair is running on the same ticket should they get their respective nominations. Here's hoping. For details regarding the nomination meetings you can call the special line Walter has set up for the campaign to date at 381-VOTE... Winner of a free massage from our resident goddess and my Big Bosomed Buddy, **Karen Wreggit**, is **Eric Bedard**. Lucky devil... Not so lucky in his holiday time is **Kevin Doyle**. Missed terribly at Pride Day, Kevin languished in Ireland with a terrible cold and flu. He was well enough to enjoy a wedding as both photographer and uncle, before returning to represent the Chinese boat people and their struggle to sort things out with Customs and Immigration and, alas, as **Mary Lasovich** and I discussed, the Canadian people... **Tim Stevenson**, making reference to Queen Elizabeth's 'annus horribilis' referring to divorce and her castle nearly burning down, described our **Queen Victoria's** year as 'annus terrificus' when introducing the Queen and **Albert** to the House. The words were barely out of his mouth when a Delta woman wrote of his "lewd, thoughtless comments regarding his use of "annus terrificus". Oh, dear

me... Pretty soon they're going to have to change the name of a certain planet, too... There's more than one way to burn your fingers, however... **Val Utman** did hers up proud. She ordered a flaming Sambucco for **Irma La Douche** at BJs to celebrate the ball game and Irma's fine performance. Alas the glass tipped, the flames caught and Val had to make a decision which cost her a badly burned pinkie... There ought to be rewards for pub bravery. I know

of people who have nearly killed themselves, or broken ankles, tripping off the edge of thick carpet. Finally, **Walter zu Epern** just sent me a note to say that he's having a big, green party at his and partner **Michael's** house, 1271 Walnut Street., Sept. 28 from noon to 9 p.m. Lunch buffet at 12:30, tea, coffee and dessert at 3 p.m. and pizza at 6 p.m. My, my. And refreshments and snacks will be available throughout the day. Don't just drop in. Let Walter know you are coming" FAX 386-4478, phone 3 8 1 - V O T E , e - m a i l wmze@islandnet.com.

September 14 - October 10, 1999

Centaur Theatre Company / Canadian Stage Company
National Tour of

For the Pleasure of Seeing Her Again

by Michel Tremblay, translated by Linda Gaboriau



main stage

Starring
Nicola Cavendish
and
Dennis O'Connor

Director
Gordon McCall

Cavendish's characterization is altogether remarkable... she keeps us under her charm for close to two hours **La Presse, Montreal**

A warm and loving gift to anyone who cherishes rich characterizations, cleverly layered dialogue and the kind of emotional intensity - laughter and tears - that have always been at the centre of great-hearted theatre **Ottawa Citizen**

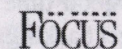
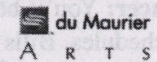
Belfry Theatre

A great place to see great theatre

Tickets 385.6815
from \$14 - \$25

1291 Gladstone at Fernwood
www.belfry.bc.ca

supported by



ANNOUNCEMENTS, ADS & SERVICES

ALL ads are \$5 first 25 words and .50/word thereafter. Call 598-6490. Deadline the first of the month prior to publication.

RENTALS & PROPERTIES

ATTRACTIVE: 1-Brm Basement Suite. Private Entrance, yard, on quiet street. Enjoy cozy fireplace, patio, shared laundry. Two quiet non/Smokers. \$600 month. Tel 361-9502, Sheila.

GULF ISLANDS RETREAT: Cabin for rent by week or weekend on 23 acres of women-owned land. Total privacy. South facing ocean view. Call Susan (250) 539-9951.

GETAWAY in Port Renfrew. Rent by night or week - three bedroom house, fully equipped, beach view, near Botanical Beach and West Coast Trail. Reasonable rates: 388-0754 Website: <http://www.islandnet.com/~gspot/wwr/>

SPINSTERVALE IN COOMBS: Offers rustic cabins at \$7.50 per woman per night. Larger cabin sleeps 4 to 6. \$30 per weekend. Inquire about farm-hand position or work exchange. (3-hrs per day equals room and board. Call (250) 248-8809. E-mail Sunshine@macn.bc.ca

COMMUTER ROOM: Weekends or weekdays. View, close to downtown. Prefer women over 40. Details (604) 254-2440

CLASSIFIEDS

PHOTOS: All photographic needs—wedding, butch/femme/display/pride/Business cards and ads. Call Heather 388-0754.

TAROT READINGS: Do you want insight into present patterns or future opportunities? Alice offers Tarot readings and guided visualization services for \$30/hr. Call 920-0275.

COMMUNITY NOTES & HAPPENINGS

COURTENAY DRAG KING SHOW Saturday, August 28 7pm sharp, \$5 entry fee, tickets at door. Participants welcome; please contact us prior to date. Dance to follow starting at 8.30pm. Entry by Donation. (\$2 min) Dance is also a beach party theme, potluck and byo alcohol. There will be pop on sale and a 50/50 draw. All proceeds to Community Phone Line. Please email, visit our community website for more information or the Hall address. You can also call us at our community phone line (250) 897-0757 evenings and weekends.

DYKE CAMPOUT: Friday Sept 5 - Monday Sept 6 Ruckle Park, Saltspring Island. Space is limited to 50 tents (half of last year) so book your spot early! \$12 per person for the whole weekend before August 16, \$15 afterwards. Sliding scale and a limited number of subsidized ferry tickets available upon request. For information and reservations, call 920-0275. Plus don't miss the Beaver Fever All-Gender Dance on Sat Sept 4 at Beaver Hall! For more details, call the Spot's recorded information line at 382-7768. Brought to you by the G-Spot and the Women's Creative Network.

MINDFULNESS-BASED: stress reduction for women. An eight-week program that offers a meditative approach to working with stress, pain or illness. For more information about upcoming class starting September 23, 7-9 p.m. (pre-register by September 10) call Beth Trotter, M.A. Registered Clinical Counsellor. (250)386-7805. Includes one full day and eight two-hour session one night per week.

WOMEN'S AIKIDO in Vancouver: Sundays 11 a.m. to 12:30. On-going sessions resume September at Trout Lake Community Centre in Vancouver, 3,350 Victoria Drive, near Broadway Skytrain. Drop-in \$16. For information (604) 739-4233.

ON SALT SPRING ISLAND Gays/Lesbians/Allies: meet on the third Sunday of the month, 2-4 p m, at the Seniors for Seniors Building, 379 Lower Ganges Road (across from GVM). Plan social events; get involved in education, exploration and visibility projects. For more information call 537-2227 or e-mail caffyn@saltspring.com.

PERSONAL

THANK YOU: We would like to thank people who made our commitment ceremony July 16 very special: photographer Heather Brown, chaplain Susan Breiddal, Musica, and Dunsmuir Lodge staff. Special thanks and love to our four best women—Theresa, Marianne, Nancy, and Lorraine. Special thanks too, to brother Dave and to our parents Fran and Craig—you're the best!! Thank you all for making this day so warm and full of light. It will be remembered as the best day of our lives. Dylan and Pat.

FREE: A lovely, grey, affectionate puddy cat who wants to share life with a lesbian or gay man or...This cat's only drawback is that it wants to star in its owners' home—no other cats, puhleeze, although dogs are okay. Call Kate (250)743-9334 in Cobble Hill.

RUNNING GROUP: For gays and lesbians to run. Gar Fisher @ 658-1613. All levels.

TENNIS FOR GUYS: Call David 388-0393 or Jim at 382-2970

(Ads cont'd next page)

ANNOUNCEMENTS, ADS & SERVICES

ALL ads are \$5 first 25 words and .50/word thereafter. Call 598-6490.

Deadline the **first** of the month prior to publication.

SERVICES, ACTIVITIES & CONTACTS

Dyke Dimensions Radio Show: Mondays, 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. FM CFUV 104.3 Cable FM 101.9

This Way Out Radio: CFUV 101.9 FM Mondays 1:00 to 1:30 p.m.

Queerly Canadian: CFUV Radio 8:30-9:00 p.m. 101.9 or 104.3 cable

AA for GLBs etc: Front Runners Group meets Tuesdays 383-7744

AIDS VANCOUVER ISLAND: 384-2366, 304-733 Johnson St. V8W 3C7

The G-Spot: Club for Women, Lesbians, Trannies 382-7768

Camosun College Lesbian Collective. Alternate weeks. 370-3484

Victoria Lesbian Seniors Care Society: Milnor, 360-2779 Mail P. O. Box 39022 James Bay Postal Outlet V8V 4X8

Karaoke Night: With Stacey at BJs Mondays 9 p.m.

Musaic: Lesbian & Gay Choir. Box 8533 Victoria, BC V8W 3S1, 360-1966

Outdoors Club: Sherry: norie@bc.sympatico.ca or tel. (250)812-5751 Also Kanaice e-mail Kanaice_Scott@bc.sympatico.ca

Pink Umbrella, Pink Pages: New Address Box 5231 St. B, Victoria V8R 1H0 pinkpage@gayvictoria.com

P-Flag: Information, 385-9462

The Victoria Status of Women Action Group: Services available: free use of computers, resource library; info on local events and organizations that work with and for women. 383-7322.

130-645 Fort St. (Yarrows Bldg.) Email swag@pacificcoast.net Fax 388-0100

VYPS: Victoria Youth Pride Society (14-25) 472-4393 vyps@writeme.com

MUSAIC

Victoria's Choral Society of Lesbians, Gay Men, and Allies is looking for volunteers to fill the following positions.

Choir Coordinator:

Offers leadership and ensures the smooth running of the Society. Facilitates and cooperates with the Coordinating Committee, Conductor, operating committees, and general membership.

Communications Coordinator:

Maintains and updates the external contacts of friends and business supporters of the choir. A computer is a necessity for this position.

Volunteer Coordinator:

A new position with the choir that manages and recruits volunteers to assist in performances and other functions of the choir.

Fund Development Coordinator:

Develops short and long term plans to address the financial fundraising needs of the choir. Recruits various businesses, organizations and communities to support or sponsor the choir.

Community Coordinator:

Focuses on outreach in the larger community and organizes any of our public appearances.

SUBSCRIPTION FORM

Please send me 12 issues of Lavender Rhinoceros starting with _____ (month)

Name

Address

City

Postal Code

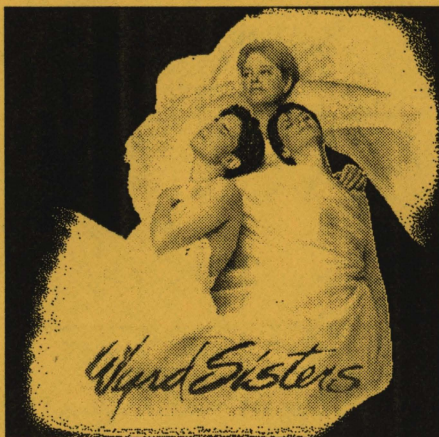
Enclose cheque or money order for \$25 payable to Lavender Rhinoceros. Send to P.O. Box 5339, Station B, Victoria, BC V8R 6S4

Special Events

Wyrd Sisters in Concert

David Lam Auditorium @ UVIC
September 26, 1999 at 8:00

Tickets on Sale September 1 at Lyles Place
Out of Town - call (250) 598-7494



Website: <http://www.escape.ca/~wyrds/>

*Sponsored by UVIC Womens' Centre and
Womens' Creative Network*

Mini Bruce Pratt!! Butch-Femme Tea Dance Sept. 19th

Tickets go on sale after Labour Day at Zydeco on Johnson Street.
Dance 2-5pm at the Garry Oak Room, Sir James Douglas
School - sliding scale \$0 - \$10.

"A Women's Creative Network event"

The Reading will take place at 7:30pm at the Herald Street Centre
for the Performing Arts. Sliding scale \$0-\$10. For Tickets sales infor-
mation, call the G-Spot recorded information line at 382-SPOT

"A Women's Creative Network event"

Yes, the **Dog-free Dyke Campout** is happening on Saltspring
this Labour Day Weekend!

Friday Sept 3 - Monday Sept 6 - Ruckle Park, Saltspring Island
For the whole weekend: \$12 per person before August 16,
\$15 afterwards. Sliding scale and a limited number of subsi-
dized ferry tickets available upon request.

Space is limited to 50 tents (half of last year) so book your
spot early! For information and reservations, call 920-0275.

Plus don't miss the **Beaver Fever All-Gender Dance** on
Sat Sept 4 at Beaver Hall! Starts at 8pm sharp until 1am.
Tickets at the door. \$5 members, \$8 non-members, sliding
scale available. For more details, call the Spot's recorded
information line at 382-7768. Both events brought to you by
the G-Spot and the Women's Creative Network.

Victoria Women's Outdoor and Activity Club (vwoac)

call kanaice 812-575 or email norie@bc.sympatico.ca for
activities info

Volunteer position available at the Gspot

(no experience needed - training available)

G Spot Licence (getting the liquor licence for licensed
events at the Spot, get your Serving It Right licensee certifi-
cate)

Interested? For more information leave a message at the
Spot 382-SPOT and we'll call you right back.

Singles Soirée

lots of babes and that means you too... see you there
all women of all kinds and variations invited. There will be
dancing and mingling, a kissing booth, a 'postoffice' and
"the Dating Game" September 11th - 8pm
\$0-10 sliding scale at the door this event will licensed with a
DJ

event information

september@thespot

women's creative network
it's small but if you can find it
you can come...

see reverse for special events

Coffee talk
10:30am - 1:30pm Wednesdays \$2 for everyone hosted by Colleen and Leah - a friendly time to drop in and chat - tarot and aura readings with Melissa and Jane.

sappho's salon:
7:30-9pm 2nd and 4th thursdays with Jannit and Betty. Bring a hot topic for discussion \$3 for non-members

Writers' group
same blurb as August

wise women over 40
4th Saturday, 7:30-11pm unlicensed, Women only

meditation
Sundays, 2-3:30pm with Maria, by donation

qi kung
Tuesdays 6-7pm, with Mariah, by donation, sliding scale.

saturday morning coffee talk
10:30 am - 1:30pm with Debbie & Fran - \$2 for everyone - plus bagels for sale!

documentary film & discussion
3rd Saturday, 7:30 - 9pm, with Jannit, \$3 non-members

Forum
2nd Wednesday, 7:30 - 9pm with Ellen & Denise, \$3 non-members. First in a series of discussions on our community - Sept topic: Accessibility & Classism

wisewomen - over 40s
7:30 - 11:00 pm, 4th Saturday, with Elaine

	sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
				1 coffee talk 10:30am -1:30pm	2 wcn board meeting open to members 6:45 - 7:15pm writers group 7:30-9	3 Dog-free Dyke Campout Ruckle Park, Salt Spring Island	4 Campout Spring Island coffee talk 10:30 am -1:30pm beaver fever dance 8pm-1am over for details
	5 Dog-free Dyke Campout Ruckle Park, Salt Spring Island	6 meditation 2-3:30pm with Maria, by donation	7 qi kung 6-7pm, with Mariah	8 coffee talk 10:30am -1:30pm Forum 7:30 - 9pm with Ellen & Denise	9 sappho's salon 7:30pm-9pm	10	11 coffee talk 10:30 am -1:30pm Singles soiree 8pm
	12 meditation 2-3:30pm with Maria, by donation	13	14 qi kung 6-7pm, with Mariah	15 coffee talk 10:30am -1:30pm	16 wcn board meeting open to members 6:45 - 7:15pm writers group 7:30-9	17	18 coffee talk 10:30 am -1:30pm documentary film & discussion 7:30 - 9pm, Topic: Gender open fill midnight
	19 meditation 2-3:30pm with Maria, Mini Bruce Pratt!!! Butch-Femm tea dance 2-5pm reading 7:30pm	20	21 qi kung 6-7pm, with Mariah	22 coffee talk 10:30am -1:30pm	23 sappho's salon 7:30pm-9pm	24	25 coffee talk 10:30 am -1:30pm wise women over 40 7:30-11pm
	26 meditation 2-3:30pm with Maria, wyrd sisters in concert 8pm David Lam Auditorium, UVIC	27	28 qi kung 6-7pm, with Mariah	29 coffee talk 10:30am -1:30pm	30 Closed	1	2 coffee talk 10:30 am -1:30pm bagels for sale!

Further information and events on reverse

Events at the Womens' Creative Network are:

• **WOMEN-ONLY** unless indicated
all genders. this policy includes and welcomes transgendered and transsexual people.

• ALWAYS available on a **SLIDING SCALE**. a sliding scale means that if you have more, you pay more, if you have less, you pay less: those with privilege pay more so that those without privilege can attend.

up-to-date information always available @ 382-SPOT (7768)
1910 store street
(just past Capital Iron)
wcn_spot@yahoo.com
http://victoria.tc.ca/
Community/WCN/

FINAL MONTH

TIME OF CELEBRATION/REFLECTION/& THANKS

WE ARE MOVING!

We have **OUTGROWN** 1910 Store St

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21ST

LAST SHOW

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21ST
DRAG / STRIP / MUSIC / OPEN MIKE
8:30 pm to 1 am

LICENSED

DJ's: ALICE & ALISON

WOMEN ONLY EVENT

PHONE LYN TO ASSIST OR BE IN THE
SHOW: 361-9691

2 SHOWS: 9:30 pm & 11:30 pm
\$3.00 to \$5.00 at the door

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28TH

HALLOWEEN COSTUME PARTY

8:30 pm to 1:00 am

DJ's: ALICE & ALISON
WOMEN ONLY EVENT

Licensed

\$3.00 to \$5.00 at the door

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29TH

CELEBRATION & AFTERNOON ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

2 pm - 5 pm

FINGER FOOD
POT LUCK

event information

October@thespot

women's creative network
Come on out to support
YOUR spot

COFFEE TALK

10:30 am - 1:30 pm Wednesdays
 \$2 for everyone - hosted by Larrein & Kayshalee. A friendly time to drop in and chat.
 Dream Work with Clair
 Phone first 595-0088

COMING OUT SUPPORT GROUP

with Tammy 384-2366
 "Welcome New Members"
 1st & 3rd Friday's, 7 - 9 pm

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

7-9 pm, 2nd Thursday

SATURDAY MORNING COFFEE TALK

10:30 am - 1:30 pm with Debbie & Friends - \$2 for everyone

DROP-IN JAM WITH PAULA

8:30-10:30pm
 2nd & 4th Mondays

Victoria Womens Outdoor's Club

Contact Kanaice at 474-8159
 sls@telus.net

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	Coffee Talk 10:30am-1:30pm 4	5	Coming Out Support Group 7-9 pm 6	Coffee Talk 10:30am-1:30pm 7
8	Drop in Jam with Paula 8 - 10:30 pm 9	10	Coffee Talk 10:30am-1:30pm 11	Women's Book Club 7-9pm 12	13	Coffee Talk 10:30am-1:30pm 14
15	16	17	Coffee Talk 10:30am-1:30pm 18	19	Coming Out Support Group 7-9 pm 20	Coffee Talk 10:30am-1:30pm LAST SHOW PARTY NITE 8:30pm-1am 21
22	Drop in Jam with Paula 8-10:30pm 23	24	Coffee Talk 10:30am-1:30pm 25	26	27	Coffee Talk 10:30am-1:30pm Halloween Costume Party 8:30pm-1am 28
Celebration & Afternoon Acknowledgment 2 pm - 5 pm Finger Food PotLuck 29	Moving Out Volunteers Needed Call 382-SPOT (7768) Mon 30 Tues 31					

Events at the Womens' Creative Network are:

WOMEN - ONLY UNLESS INDICATED
 * ALL GENDERS * THIS POLICY INCLUDES
 AND WELCOMES TRANSGENDERED &
 TRANSEXUAL PEOPLE.

ALWAYS AVAILABLE ON A SLIDING SCALE.
COME OUT & SUPPORT YOUR SPOT

Up-do-date information always available @382-SPOT
1910 Store St
 (just past Capital Iron)
E-Mail: wcn@victoria.tc.ca
Website: victoria.tc.ca/Community/WCN/