

OUT ON THE COAST m a g a z i n e

Covering Florida's East Coast
from Cape Canaveral to Delray Beach

Issue #037, December 2005



Compass Holocaust Exhibit Opening

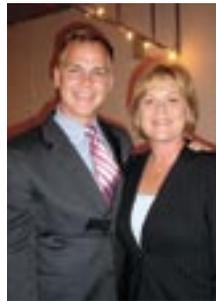
photos: Eric & Compass



Exhibit Curator Ted Phillips (center) with Compass Board of Trustees Chair Kerensa Butler and Treasurer Michael Grattendick.



Representative Mary Brandenburg with Senator Ron Klien



Jamie Foreman, Palm Beach County Human Rights Council president with Kimberly Mitchell, West Palm Beach City Commissioner.



Mark Glickman, Senator Ron Klien and Ted Deutch



Nicole Leidesdorf, Compass COO with Lake Worth Mayor Marc Drautz



(left) Compass Board of Trustees past chairs Mark Lindsay and Clarence Brooks with current chair Kerensa Butler and Compass President Tony Plakas.



Earle and James Goodman were instrumental in the design and layout of Compass presentation of the federal exhibit

Some of the other attendees are pictured below



Out on the Coast Magazine
published by OOTC Publishing, Inc.

PO Box 155
Roseland, FL 32957-0155
772.913.3008
Sales@OOTCmag.com
Info@OOTCmag.com

publisher/editor

Lee A. Newell II
LeeN@ootcmag.com

contributing writers

Raquel Rodriguez, M.D.
Rev. Dr. Jerry L. Seay
Rev. Mark A. Osdras
Rev. Gail Geisenhainer
Becky Jeffers
Celeste DeRoche, Ph.D.
Miss T

photographers

Richard Cases
Chas Wilson
Daniel Pearce

account executives

Palm Beaches - Eric Miller
561-452-4583
EricM@ootcmag.com

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Subscription information: \$24 for 12 issues. Subscribe on-line at: www.OOTCmag.com or send your check or money order to: Out on the Coast magazine, PO Box 155, Roseland, FL 32957-0155 Issues mailed First Class in plain envelope.



Model: Michelle
West Palm Beach
Photo: LANZ

Issue #037
November 23, 2005

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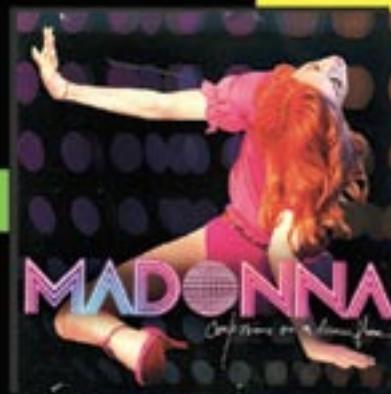
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In My Life

by
Becky Jeffers

Lesbian Representative

Hello to all Out on the Coast readers. What a privilege as a proud lesbian who has been out for years to be writing for this publication.

Let me first offer an invitation to all lesbian Womyn to please join Space Coast Lesbians. We are a Womyns support and social group. We meet the first and third Wednesday of each month from six to eight PM at the Rainbow Room Bar currently on Merritt Island. These hours allow us to use the bar before it opens to the public. We are on the Internet at Yahoo Groups. It's important to know that anything said during these support group meetings is kept strictly confidential among the group. Womyn supporting Womyn what could be better than that.

Space Coast Lesbians has a boat in the Cocoa Beach Boat Parade on the 17th of December. We will be meeting a few days before the parade to decorate our boat. Come along and enjoy a boat full of Womyn singing and celebrating the holidays while floating up and down the canals. We also have an overnight trip to Captain Hiram's in Sebastian in the planning stage. Boat down, spend the night at the motel there on the beautiful river, eat dinner and enjoy the music, have a free continental breakfast and float home. Everyone is excited about that trip. 2006 holds hopes for a group Key West trip with a stay at the Womyn's guesthouse there and hopefully going to many places in Florida to give support to lesbian performers and entertainers, and all causes for gays and lesbians.

There is another group on Yahoo for Womyn its called Brevard Lesbians. It's a very large group of Womyn you – should check them out. You could belong to both groups. That would certainly keep you very busy. Since Lee has given me this opportunity to write and cover lesbian news for *Out on the Coast magazine*. I want to do my best to keep everyone informed about anything happening for womyn. Please send any news of

upcoming events and happenings to my E-MAIL address at BeckyJ@ootcmag.com.

As many of you already know my brother Jim and his partner Brian have the Rainbow Room Bar on Merritt Island, which is why we get free use for our Space Coast Lesbians meetings - they love me thank goodness. I have talked to them a lot about things for Womyn and special entertainment. They would like it to be a Men's and Womyn's club incorporating both drag queens – who gay men and lesbian womyn both love – and drag Kings or Womyn performers on the same night. At first I thought, "Oh, come on, give us our *own night*," but then I thought about it Most lesbian Womyn's best friends are gay men and most gay men's best friends are lesbian Womyn so - why wouldn't it work. How does it sound to the rest of you?

Girls, I did talk to them about getting Halcion. They said no problem as long as I thought I could sell all the tickets. Poor silly men have no idea the following Halcion has in our lesbian community – E-MAIL me if you want them booked and I promise to get them for you. Also E-MAIL me with any request or happenings in your areas. I am *your Voice now*.

Girls you also need to check out the Womyns comedian, "Lickity Split" she is at the club on the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of the month.

Everyone have a safe, healthy, happy holiday season. Remember our military in thoughts and prayers. Merry Christmas.

Big Hug From Your Lesbian Representative, Becky ▼

Becky Jeffers has been a resident of the Space Coast since 1973. Living in Merritt Island and Cocoa Beach. She has a Gay brother and a Bi sister. She has been involved in the Lesbian & Gay community for years as an out and proud Womyn. She and her partner Arlene have a home in Titusville and started Space Coast Lesbian Womyn's group.

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HOROSCOPE by Jacqueline

The first brings a New moon for our birthday babies this month. Which means the tone is set to party. With Mercury going direct on the 1st and Mars going direct on the 10th, the restrictions have been lifted. By now your personal values and beliefs have been tested. Now it is time to break free and enjoy your holiday season. Get ready after the 15th for things to accelerate. The Gemini full moon will bring lots of activity and new channels of communication. Take everything lightly and enjoy all the activity coming to you. Relax about the timing of things. All will be in it's own right time.

Aries March 23- April 22 This could be the start of something new, and it sets your creative juices on fire. You may also be anxious to get started on whatever it might be. You need relaxation time to keep your energy level high enough to meet the opportunities, though. This month, keep love simple and informal.

Taurus April 23 – May 22 Because of both the mars and mercury retrograde, you have had a lot of time to rethink your direction. You want to make changes if you are organized and be ready to fight for what you want. If you haven't finished your organization of your thoughts, you'll start that process. Either way, you are ready for a change and now have the power to start it.

Gemini May 23 – June 22 Other's actions will put you in a position to react, unless you decide that you are going to be out of control. It is important to look at what they say carefully. Look at what you need to set your limits and speak with those in mind.

Cancer June 23 – July 22 You have been setting the world on fire with your recent

ambition and energy. Even during moments when you were dragging, you rose to the occasion. Now everything is approached with wisdom, and you'll really show what you can do. Partnerships will be a delicate balance this month.

Leo July 23- August 22 Things take a turn for the better because of your adjustments and actions. You know you have to settle the past before you move on to the future, and a new creative opportunity may be offered that expands you vision greater than you ever imagined. However, the whole process takes time and patience.

Virgo August 23- September 22 You can simplify your life during this busy time if you do selective socializing. It's impossible to go to everything you feel you should say "yes" to. You also ease the mounting tension that a mate or spouse feels before they get cranky about the busy scheduling.

Libra September 23 – October 22 Things bubble and boil in the work place. The problem is too much communication. People are simply too frank and critical. It's tension that makes a gentile Libra uncomfortable. Follow the Zen rule: Never answer or do anything unless asked 3 times. If people want your opinion, they will ask.

Scorpio October 23 – November 22 Your year-end spotlight is on money matters. "Yours" and "mine". The "yours" might be a cautious and economic boss with the less is more approach, or your mate who's an enthusiastic shopper. You can tactfully get your opinion across. Do so when peaceful and calm, not after imploding for weeks.

Sagittarius November 23 – December 22 Happy Solar return! The career actions you take are good, courageous, and beneficial, if you aren't acting in haste. Think

things through. When it comes to love, you have the opportunity to clear up confusion about someone who was once a part of your life with the one who is important to you now.

Capricorn December 23 – January 22 Ordinarily you are as organized as anyone can get, but you can be prone to an impulsive and obstinate waste of energy applied to the wrong things this month. It's possible your predetermined thoughts are wrong. Others find this loose, off the wall behavior sensual and attractive.

Aquarius January 23- February 22 There's a little tension in the money area if you've put all your eggs in one basket. You might be too attracted to something that isn't producing. You should feel vital and energetic, so much so that you need to let off some built up steam in a positive way.

Pisces February 23 – March 22 You should be in the midst of improving circumstances in your life. What you do now has lasting results if you do two things. First, work with persistence. Second, avoid doubts and excessive criticism when you encounter temporary delays or limitations. Instead maintain your confidence and soothe your mind with assurance and faith. ▼

For those who want to know: With both the mars and mercury retrograde, we all have been tested on our personal values and beliefs. Whether you have stood your ground or not, the test is over. This month being the month for Sagittarius, the energies have made a shift towards understanding what that was all about and freeing us to see the humor and lesson in those situations. Take a break this month and relax and have fun. Life will become a little more serious in January.

Monthly horoscopes by Jacqueline. Listen to Jacqueline on WPSL 1590 am every Thursday from 6-7pm. Offices throughout the treasure coast and Palm beaches. For more information on Tarot, Astrology, or a private reading call: 772.286.2720

Roosters

photos: Lee & Eric



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Tea Time

with Miss T

We'd like to welcome a new columnist, Becky Jeffers. The press of college, work and other duties have prevented Drake Austin from fulfilling his writing duties, so thank you Becky for stepping in and taking up the column. She is stepping into Drake's place to provide us with a woman's take events and news.

Good news: **Good Times** gay night is back. It never left, according to Elaine, just a couple of people barred and no more amateur strip contests. They're going to be low-key fun for the holidays – bar contest and such – and next year they'll bring back performers and special events. Watch next month's issue for their ad with the January details.

Details is what we're trying to pry out of Brian and Jimmy up at the **Rainbow Room** regarding their new location. Everything's being kept quiet until the last papers are signed. Anyone who has ever done a real estate deal knows how fragile they are and Brian and Jimmy don't want anything to go wrong! We hear it's going to be a big move and that everything will be finished up after Thanksgiving so you'll just have to stop in and get the skinny in person.

Thanksgiving dinner at **PFLAG Vero Beach** was a great success with the returning snowbirds and some new faces – and a dinner always brings out a big crowd. A huge table full of canned goods were gathered for the Homeless Assistance Center in Indian River County and tickets were sold for a Christmas dance on December 3rd. If you're interested in attending contact me or any PFLAG member and we'll get you tickets. The proceeds from the dance will go towards the cost of their annual Pride Dance in June. This is typical of **PFLAG Vero Beach**, they have a lot of money in their treasury but that's to go for good works – like the over \$2,000 donation to needy AIDS sufferers in Indian River County on December 1 (World AIDS Day) – and they go out and raise money to pay for their social events. So you can rest assured that the proceeds from last year's **Treasure Coast Pride Festival** are all going to help people and not for anything else.

Something else is the **Holocaust Exhibit at Compass**, which opened last week. It's something everyone should make an effort to visit – and bring some friends. That's important. In these days when anti-GLBT feelings are politically popular it is especially important to bring our friends in to see what can happen when politics gets out of control. And when your friends say it couldn't happen in the good old USA, ask them if they mean like secret prisons, torture of prisoners, secret courts and the rest of our Patriot Act "security enhancements." Kudos to **Compass** for bringing this important exhibit to our area – it'll be there until January so everyone has plenty of time to see it. Make plans now, and include someone whose mind about us needs changing.

And remember to make a weekend of it: **Grandview Gardens Bed & Breakfast** is participating in the Palm Beach County Bed & Breakfast promotion offering VIP double accommodation for two nights, including breakfast; two tickets to two featured exhibits (the other exhibit is *French Impressionism and Boston: Masterworks from the Museum of Fine Arts*); one dinner for two at one of three local restaurants; welcome amenities. The *whole package* starts at only \$325, so make your reservations now as it is subject to availability.

Here's hoping you were available for the **2006 Treasure Coast Pride Festival** kickoff benefit at **REBAR** on Sunday the 20th. As the magazine had to be at the printer's early because of Thanksgiving, pictures of the event will run in the January issue. What an amazing event, with the cast of *Knight Life* performing. It just goes to show the quality of the folks behind next year's event. Many thanks to Paul from the **Riverside Theatre** for making this happen. We can hardly wait to see what's going to happen for the **2006 Treasure Coast Pride Festival** next April.

Riverside Theatre is going from musical comedy to straight up comedy with their upcoming production of *Sylvia* a show about men and women and dogs, which opens January 6. Of course you can still see *Knight Life* through December 11 and there's *The Nutcracker* on the 17th. Something for everyone!

Everyone's talking about the "turkey shoot" at **Club B.l.r.d Cage** a couple of Sundays ago. Bringing canned goods got you a shot at the target, or you could buy extras so the ultra-competitive types could have several turns at the paint gun. Mike Ryan proved to be the best shot. Tracy did her usual above-and-beyond involvement working behind the bar, supervising the shoot and the pumpkin toss and calling out the bar tab winners – just another **Club B.l.r.d Cage** benefit, with a ton of food and lots of cash going to WPTV's Food for Families program. **Club B.l.r.d Cage** is adopting 50 children for Christmas through the Children's Home Society of the Treasure Coast so make sure you stop in and participate – you can make a cash donation



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to help fulfill the wish lists or take a couple of the kids' lists to fulfill on your own. Their 4th anniversary weekend is December 9 & 10. **Club B.l.r.d Cage** will be doing it up right with **Kelli Randell**, Dominique Golden, and special guests Felicia Blackhart, Spikey Dyke and Gage Gatlyn. And right after new year's comes the **Miss Club B.l.r.d Cage Pageant** in January, then the 6th Annual Hearts of Love Benefit for babies with AIDS in February.

Family of God Community Church, up in Cocoa, has programs to benefit everyone in their area. On World AIDS Day, December 1, they are offering confidential, free, 20 minute HIV testing in their Family Room from 3 to 7 pm, followed by a prayer service in the Chapel at 7. Remember that their Christmas Eve services will be at 9 pm and Christmas Services will be at 6 pm.

On a personal note, I was saddened to learn of the passing of Billy DeMund. I'd met him as a volunteer at the **Family of God Thrift Shop** and saw him often at **Rainbow Room**. He always had a sparkle in his eye and a ready smile for everyone. He will be missed by lots of people.

LuLu's Place will be missed, too. The Delray Beach staple is closing. The building has been sold and the new owners will decide on what will happen there – let me guess: condos? I don't know why, but that word just pops into my mind every time I hear a building has been sold. In any case you've got until December 3rd to stop in and say goodbye to **LuLu's Place**.

Stopping in at **Roosters** the other day I caught John Perry performing – a real change of pace for a Saturday evening. Keep your eyes open for upcoming surprises at **Roosters** and I'm sure you'll see more of John around, too.

As most of you know, if you want to see more, stop over at **Cupids Cabaret** for an eye full! There's nothing like **Cupids Cabaret** and you can be sure you'll have a good time no matter your age or if it's on the way someplace else or the end of your night and you know the performers will be wearing nothing to disappoint you!

Are you planning to wear Green and Red to **Kashmir** on the 17th for your free drink? See the **Kashmir** ad on page 4 for details. Daisy Deadpetals is sure to be entertaining and I know I just can't wait to see how Santa's package gets wrapped!

Wrapping up this column is a news release I received from 12 Muses cruises – a new travel company

continued on page 33

Rainbow Room

photos: Lee, Daniel & Show
Your Pride Photography



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Spiritually Speaking

The Gift of Life

The word diversity is used to celebrate the gifts of all our differences. We all come from different walks of life, different socio-economic backgrounds, family backgrounds, educational backgrounds and certainly different styles of life.

There is one thing that does unify us and makes us all equal. As we were all born to this life, we will all leave at one time or another. No one among us has the power to be here on earth for eternity or have the ultimate control of when, where or how we leave this earth. As we were born we will surely die. It is what happens after we are born to this life; and to the point of leaving this life as it is; that makes us different.

As a Christian Pastor within our community, one of my most humblest but honored duties as clergy comes when we say good-bye to one of our own. We all interact with one another in many settings, whether it would be a nightclub, a pot-luck a social party or even in church, but the time comes that no matter who we are, or who we know, or what kind of life we have led; we will be called to the next life. Our physical presence here no longer exists and comes to an end.

The gift of life is precious and most of us will reach the age when we realize that life is relatively short and we will not be here forever.

What we decide to do with our lives can make a wonderful difference in the lives

of others. Who Me? Yes YOU! This sometimes takes some risk but think about it. YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

We just celebrated another Thanksgiving. Was this Thanksgiving any different than the previous years experience of Thanksgiving? If your Thanksgiving wasn't any better, why not? Christmas is soon upon us. Are we going to do anything to make this upcoming Christmas any better than the last? It is up to us to grow in this life, to appreciate this gift of being and making the most of it every moment of life we possibly can.

Our lives are really our greatest gift to one another. To share the simplest moments with one another can bring about an awareness of good that we never knew existed. Good gifts are not just confined to Church buildings but really come from the people and lives inside. Just as well it's the human interaction no matter where it is that makes a difference. Go beyond the exterior to celebrate what's inside each of us!

We bid farewell to one of our own this week. William "Billy" DeMund has left us to go on to life eternal. His quiet presence was truly a gift. Was he the most well known person of our community? Probably not. His calm and peaceful gift brought strength to all who knew him. He loved life, loved our community, celebrated diversity and made a difference in his own positive style. Through Billy I appreciate life just a bit more.

Look around you, do count your blessings and celebrate the life that we have been called to live. Please don't take it for granted, because not one of us knows the when and how.

Forever is a relatively short time for our human lives here on earth my friends, but for the lives we can touch and celebrate in the here and now, you can certainly make the difference.

Together and individually let's make that difference. ▼

Mark Osdras, Pastor

Family of God Community Church

Rev. Mark Osdras is the pastor of Family of God Community Church in Cocoa. Family of God Community Church is a vital and growing congregation with worship services on Saturday at 10:00 a.m., Sundays at 6:00 p.m. and on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. They also have a thrift shop and their community room is available to any organization that needs a place to meet. You can reach them by calling 321-632-3767 or visit their website at familyofgodbrevard.org for a list of their activities and schedules.

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12/9: Special Guest Susan Whitney for Revolution Studios & Columbia Pictures
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12/16: Special Guest Carmella Marcella Garcia

12/23: Leigh's Christmas Party with Special Guest Daphne Ferreo

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11:15 pm &
2 am



Susan
Whitney



Amber
Douglas

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Hip-Hop & Dance All Night by DJ SPIN.

\$1 Rum & Cokes and 50¢ Drafts 9-11

12/1: Leigh Shannon

12/8: Amber Douglas

12/15: Kelli Randell

12/22: Stephanie Shippae

12/29: Susan Whitney



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12/3: Nazhoni

12/10: Lady Pearl

12/24: Tiffany McCray



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Bλrd Cage

photos: Lee & Richard



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DECEMBER 3



MELISSA MASON

DECEMBER 17

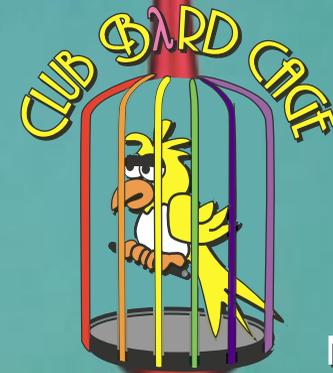


MELISSA ST. JOHN

DECEMBER 24



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In Our Past

by Celeste DeRoche, Ph.D.

“Don We Now Our Gay Apparel”

What better time than the holiday season to celebrate one of the most important aspects of gay culture the history of drag balls. In this season of festivities and parties we can remember that dressing up and dressing out has a unique and long-standing place in our history.

Like other practices in gay culture, drag balls were patterned on, but gave new meaning to, the practices of the dominant culture that gay people, in this case, gay men had observed and participated in.

Drag balls at which gay men dressed in women's clothes and danced together were quintessential gay institutions. They were not, however, the unique creation of gay men. Masquerade balls provided the prototype for drag balls. Masquerade balls had a centuries-long tradition and were common events at the turn of the century. Masquerade balls allowed people from different classes to socialize together. Ralph Werther, a gay man who as a student in the 1890s and 1900s in New York City attended masquerade balls in drag recorded, “Every patron is in disguise, with a mask covering at least the upper third of the face, and the millionaire and the thief dance and flirt together.”

Masquerade balls held in Greenwich Village and Harlem in the 1920s attracted growing numbers of gay participants. They were able to attend some balls because the setting made it difficult to distinguish them from other participants. But gay men were harassed at still other balls, perhaps because, as the New York *Herald Tribune's* hostile tone suggested, *their* cross-dressing seemed less a masquerade than an expression of “their genuine perversion of the workings of society and nature.”

When gay men began to organize their own masquerades, they drew on a long tradition. For gay men, masquerades became “drags”. Gay men began organizing their own drags as early as the 1890s. A North Carolina medical student who visited New York around 1890 recalled visiting a ball at the Lower East Side's Walhalla Hall, where he found some five hundred same-sex male and female couples “waltzing sedately to the music of a good band.” In 1896 a doctor reported being told that “the Fairies’ of New York” organized a ball like those in Europe where “men adopt the ladies’ evening dress.”

Drags became popular all over New York City. Large and small drags were held in saloons from the Bowery to out-of-the-way dives, such as Frank's Place in Brooklyn, where gay civilians in drag danced with sailors from the nearby Navy Yard.

In the 1910s and early 1920s, Thanksgiving was

the occasion for one of the most significant – and largest – of the annual balls. On a day that celebrated the family, gay men assembled to celebrate their membership in a gay family.

The popularity and prestige of the drags grew during the 1920s. By the late 1920s, six or seven enormous affairs were staged every year in some of the city's largest and most reputable halls, including Madison Square Garden and the Astor Hotel in midtown New York, the Manhattan Casino, the Alhambra, and the Savoy Ballroom in then Negro Harlem, and the New Star Casino in Italian Harlem. The Hamilton Lodge ball held every February in Harlem drew thousands of dancers and spectators and was the largest and best known such event in the city. By the beginning of the 1930s some observers believed that New York's drag balls had surpassed those of Chicago and New Orleans in size and opulence, and that the city could even claim to rival Berlin.

Balls and their organizers occupied an honored place in gay culture. Every gay novel published in the 1930s paid homage to the drags, and the men who organized them. These men were among the major personalities of gay society: H. Mann in the Village in the 1910s, Jackie Mason in the Village and midtown in the 1920s and 1930s, and Phil Black in Harlem from the 1930s through the 1960s.

The drag balls made the existence and scope of the gay world manifest to the dominant culture. In a dominant culture hostile to gay people, the balls brought thousands of gay people together. In a world that disparaged their culture, it was the drag balls, more than any place else that celebrated, affirmed and made public the irrepressible spirit of gay culture.

This holiday season don your gay apparel with pride and know that you stand with a long line of women and men who put on their finery and stepped out. ▼

The research for this column drew heavily from the excellent history of drag balls, gay culture and gay life in the book, *Gay New York: Gender, Urban Culture, and the Making of the Gay Male World 1890-1940* by George Chauncey.

Celeste DeRoche received her doctoral degree in United States History from the University of Maine. She currently resides in Vero Beach with her life partner. She loves to read. She would welcome any suggestions for historical topics you might like to learn more about. You can reach her at CelesteD@ootcmag.com

NAZI PERSECUTION OF HOMOSEXUALS 1933–1945

SPECIAL EXHIBITION

Nov. 13, 2005 - Jan. 6, 2006



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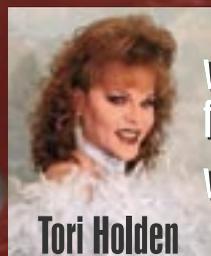
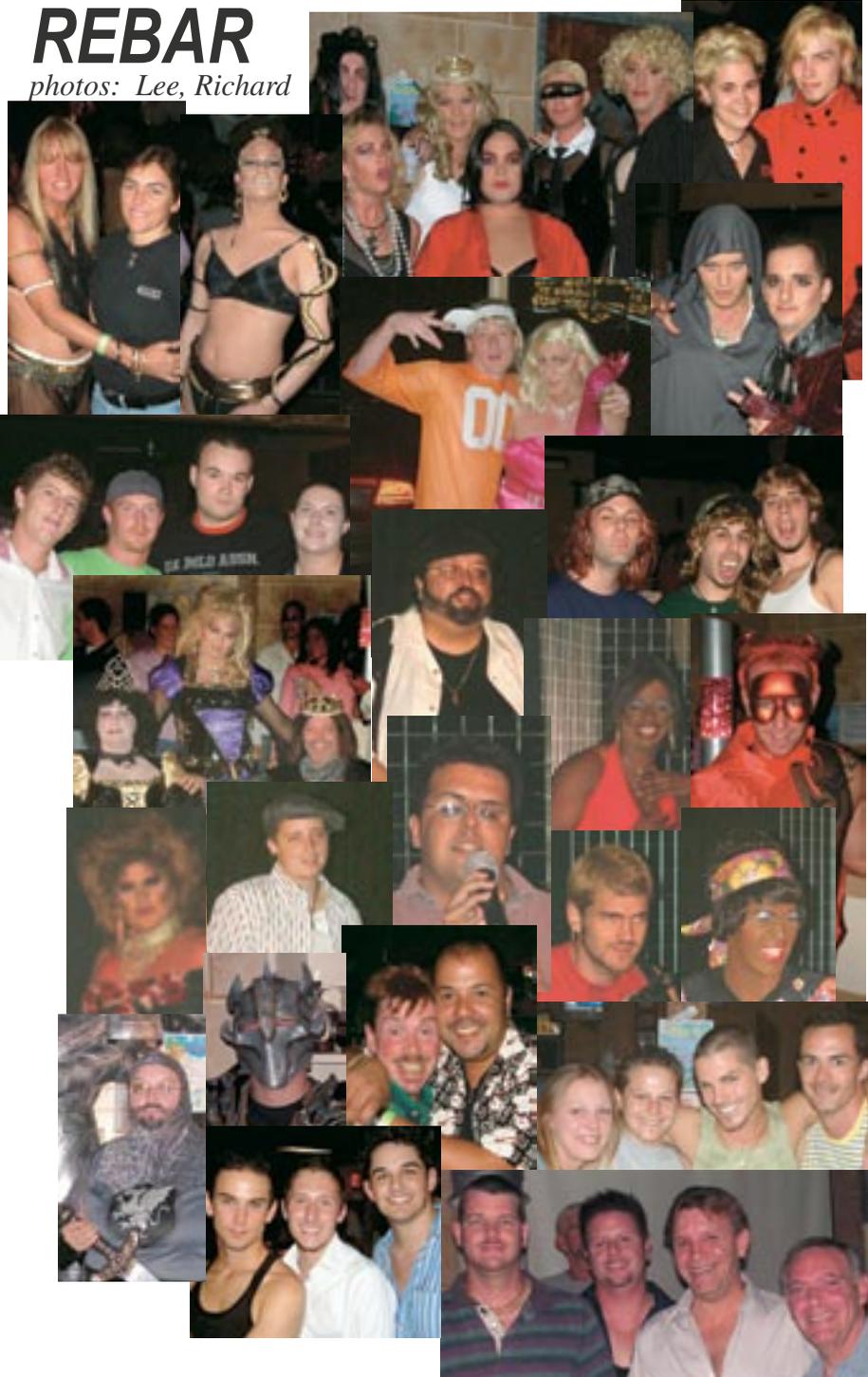
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photos: Lee, Richard



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Tori Holden



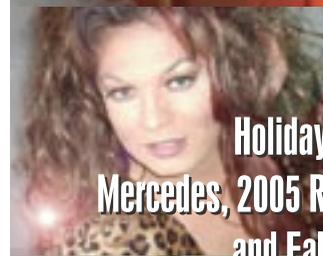
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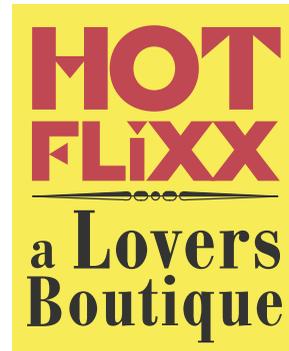
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continued from page 15

for women “catering to lesbians and open-minded women, announces a maiden year line-up of five women-only itineraries. The cruises accommodate up to 34 passengers who will interact with a powerhouse line-up of guest lecturers including women’s studies pioneer Lillian Faderman, poet Honor Moore, marriage historian Stephanie Coontz and LPGA touring pro Patty Rizzo, who accompany groups offering their insights and observations. For more information, check out the website at www.12Muses.com or call 1 866-926-MUSE (6873).

Gay Rights Tidbits: Do us all a favor and take someone to **The Nazi Persecution of Homosexuals 1933-1945 at Compass**. It cannot be stressed too much that to forget history is to have history repeat itself. We must get people from outside our community to this event to educate them (and let them see an outstanding community center). This really is important. This is your opportunity to get a gang from the office to go see the Holocaust Exhibit (you don’t have to tell them it’s about homosexuals). Or spend some quality time with your grandparents by taking them to see it. It’s the personal stories, the personal interactions that change people’s minds about us. And don’t pass up the opportunity to turn the conversation to why the anti-gay marriage amendment is persecution of homosexuals by deny us the civil benefits of legal unions. ▼

Send your news, gossip and tidbits to MissT@ootcmag.com.

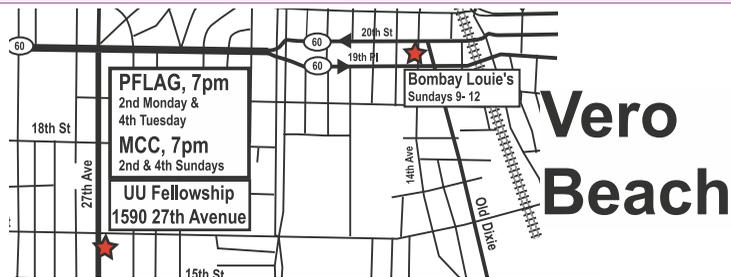
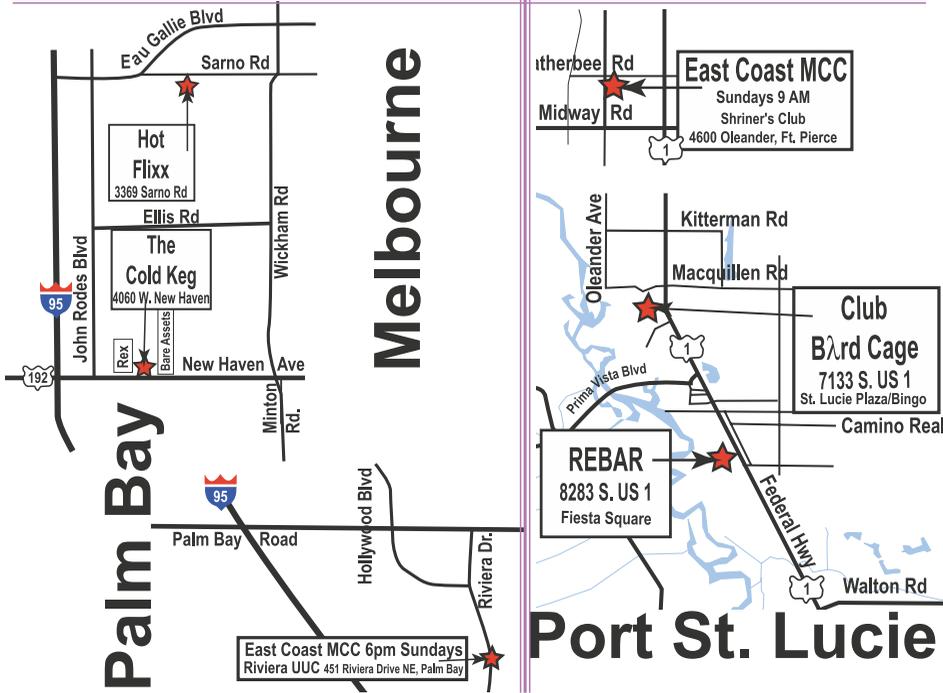


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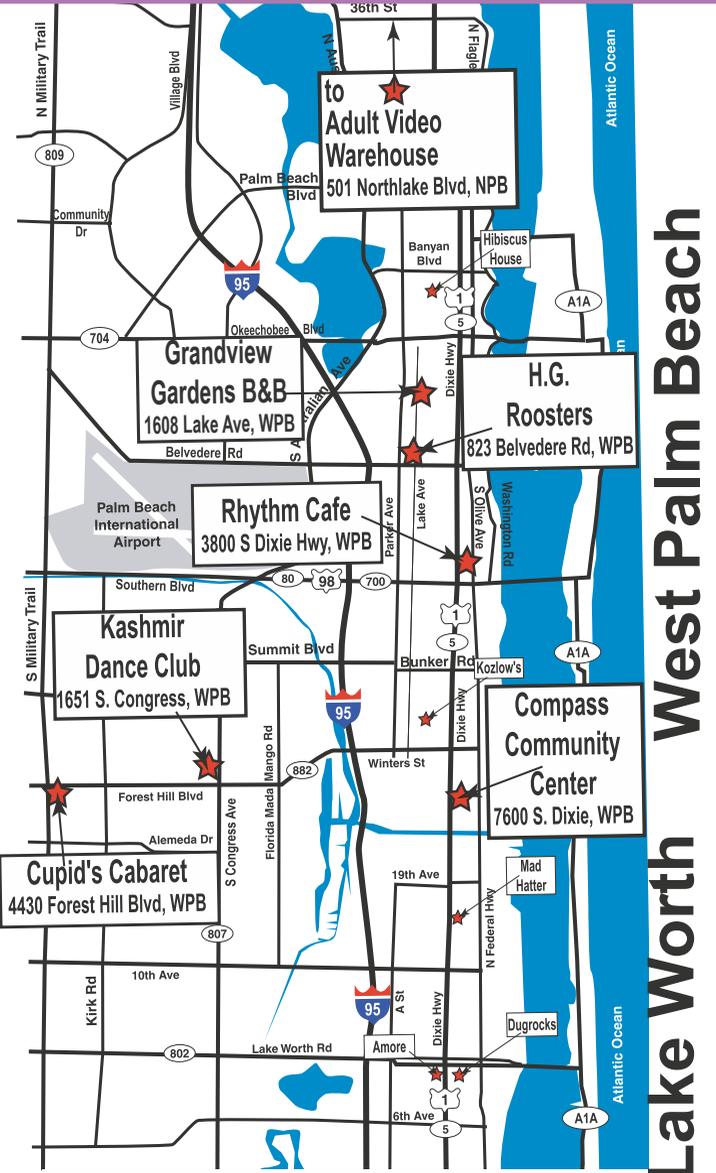
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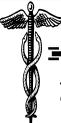
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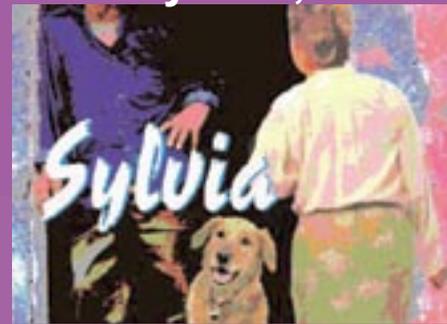
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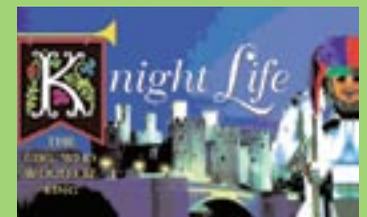
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