

# Greater Cincinnati GLBT News

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## Hundreds of Bears to Descend on the Queen City

“Furgasm III: Bears on the Loose” will come to the Queen City on the weekend of September 20th to 22nd. The Cincinnati River Bears are expecting up to 200 “bears,” their friends and like-minded men into “bear culture” from across the Midwest to descend on the city for their third annual Bear Run convention.

The events kick off on Thursday night with pre-registration for early arrivals from 9pm to 11pm at Jacob’s in Northside.

On Friday evening things really get going with a Welcome Cocktail Party presented by the TriState Wolf Pack at the host hotel, the Days Inn on Central Parkway. A “Bear Parts Contest” and dance party will take place at The Pipeline as well as country western dancing all night at Shooters. After the evening events, Hoosier Bears will host an “After Hours Furfest” until 5am back at the hotel.

Convention participants will be treated to an Oktoberfest lunch of bratts, metts and other German fare on Saturday afternoon at The Dock. After lunch the hilarious “Friends of Lucy” comedy troupe will perform. The official “Furgasm Dinner” will be Saturday night at Woolly’s on Monmouth in Newport and will feature dinner and live music. Also Saturday night, Spurs will host a Bears cocktail party.

The Farewell and Survivors Party will be Sunday afternoon from 2pm to 5pm at the Crazy Fox Saloon in Newport. Local artist Lester Daniels will display his artwork as the bears bid each other a fond goodbye.

You can register for the River Bears Run online at [www.riverbears.org](http://www.riverbears.org). Pre-registration is \$65 per person and is a must. Participation will be limited to the first 200 people. Cincinnati River Bears is a non-profit social group for men who consider themselves “bears” and their friends. In addition, the group sponsors potluck dinners, beer blasts and other social outings.

## Support AIDS Volunteers of Cincinnati at Red Ribbon Walk

Mark your calendar and start gathering your pledges now for this year’s Red Ribbon Walk for AIDS. AIDS Volunteers of Cincinnati (AVOC), a not for profit comprehensive resource center for people affected by HIV and AIDS, will present its major annual fundraising event on Saturday September 21st at the Schott Amphitheater at Sawyer Point Park. Registration begins at 8am and the walk starts at 9am. The event will feature great live music, food, beverages and prize giveaways.

This year’s walk will follow a five mile scenic route beginning at Yeatman’s Cove, down the riverfront, around Paul Brown Stadium, across the river to Covington and Newport, and then back across the Ohio to the finish.

You can register for the Red Ribbon Walk and get a pledge sheet online at [www.avoc.org](http://www.avoc.org). Set your goal for pledges at \$100 or more and you’ll get a free t-shirt. Ask your family, friends, neighbors and co-workers to sponsor you. Also remember that it’s a good idea to collect pledges before the event.

Walking as a team makes the Red Ribbon Walk even more fun. You can form a team by getting together with your friends, co-workers, club or church group. Awards will be given for the team who raises the most money.

While HIV is by no means a gay disease, the GLBT community has been greatly affected by the epidemic and has also been instrumental in bringing awareness to everyone. As AVOC’s Education Coordinator Kathryn Thompson puts it, “The gay community always opened their organizations to people with HIV.” She points out that 20 years ago it was GLBT people who created AVOC.

All of the proceeds from the walk go directly to benefit the HIV prevention and case management programs AVOC sponsors for those infected with HIV and their friends, families and loved ones. With startling new statistics coming out about possible future increases in the HIV infection rate, the work of AVOC is even more vital to all of us.

Remember, the walk goes on rain or shine! No matter what the weather for the day is, AVOC still needs you. For more information on the Red Ribbon Walk, call 421-AIDS or visit [www.avoc.org](http://www.avoc.org).

## PFLAG to Give New “Rainbow Achievement Award”

According to Linda Arnest, outgoing president of the Cincinnati chapter of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG), planning has begun for the group’s 2003 Scholarship Banquet. This evening of fun and recognition will be on Saturday March 1st at The Madison in Covington, Kentucky.

Marti Kwiatkowski will chair the Banquet Committee and has developed the theme for next year’s event: recognition of individuals in Greater Cincinnati’s GLBT community whose lives and work exemplify the PFLAG mission: support, education or advocacy. To do so, PFLAG has created the “Rainbow Achievement Award.” A mailing is planned for early September to over 30 local GLBT organizations to solicit nominations for these much deserved awards.

The banquet in March will include a silent auction, which serves as the main funding source for the PFLAG scholarship program. In 2002, the group awarded ten \$1,000 scholarships to very deserving GLBT students in Cincinnati.

The PFLAG mission is to promote the health and well-being of GLBT persons, their families and friends through support, education and advocacy. They meet on the second Tuesday of each month at Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church at 7:30 pm. All meetings include small support group discussion.

## Finding Common Ground at NKU

Common Ground is the gay straight alliance at Northern Kentucky University, in Highland Heights, KY. It acts as a support group for GLBT and supportive students on and off campus. This year, the group will be busier than ever. Among the programs in the works for this school year are “Safe Sex and Pizza” talks, a panel on affirming faiths, a Coming Out Day celebration, the National Day of Silence Project, a Halloween party (in conjunction with another student campus organization), a gay-friendly prom, and classroom panels.

New this year will be a mentor program for new students, hosting the Greater Cincinnati Youth Summit in November, a forum on GLBT issues, and a much larger publicity campaign within the university and the entire GLBT community.

The group is in the process of revamping the Safe Zone campaign (for the university community to easily find gay-friendly contacts) and the classroom panel programming. Even though Common Ground’s goals are directed toward the university community, their meetings are open to anyone gay-friendly and youth-friendly from the Greater Cincinnati area, and are held on Tuesdays from 3pm to 5pm in University Center Room 303. All attendance and discussion remains confidential at the meetings. For more information, call staff advisor Michele Kay at 859-572-5218 or visit [www.nku.edu/~commonground](http://www.nku.edu/~commonground).

## Pride Night at Paramount's Kings Island

Thousands of GLBT and supportive folks from across the Midwest came out to ride the rollercoasters and cheer on the drag queens at this year's Pride Night at the Paramount's Kings Island amusement park on Friday August 30th. The evening, which is a major fundraiser for the Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Cincinnati, was a smashing success with one of the largest crowds in the event's six year history!



## In My Opinion

### Knock! Knock!

by Peter Lafoon

Knock! Knock! It's our future knocking Cincinnati and we need to ask ourselves what we want it to be. The GLBT community in Cincinnati is at an interesting turning point and many members of our community are not even aware of it. It's no secret that Cincinnati is in a state of turmoil. But looked at from a certain vantage point, we could be being presented with a fantastic opportunity to provide a vision for a bright new future for not only our city, but in some ways, the country.

Due to a strange confluence of events Cincinnati finds itself in the center of some of the most important debates facing the country right now. The issue of race in America... not much doubt we're right in the middle of that one. The issue of gay rights is another one where we're right there. Even some of the questions about gay marriage and church related issues are being debated here.

My interest as a citizen, as a businessman, and as a member of the gay community is for our city's future to be as bright as possible. The challenge, as I see it, is to figure out how best to answer the knock. My answer is simple, but it is not easy. It is to build. We as members of the GLBT community need to build bridges to the greater community as a whole. We need to take individual responsibility and leadership when possible, each in our own way, to do something constructive. We need to join organizations which are doing something positive in the city. AVOC, GLSEN, Caracole, and the new One Human Family (you'll be hearing more about this one soon!) are all great organizations which are trying to make life better for ALL of Cincinnati.

It's not enough to "protest" something we don't like. Objecting to a situation without providing a useful solution is worthless.

So we each need to ask ourselves what we as individuals are doing to build a lasting solution to the problems facing us. We each need to do something. We have the opportunity to help lead the city as a whole toward healing on several fronts, including discrimination in the areas of race, GLBT issues, police/community relations and even religious debates.

The GLBT community has so much to offer. Let's not squander our abilities or our opportunities to make Cincinnati a better place for everyone.

*Peter Lafoon is the owner of Hamburger Mary's. He also recently began serving on the Board of Directors of AIDS Volunteers of Cincinnati (AVOC).*

# Community News

## Planning for Pride 2003 Underway

At an organizational meeting held on August 11th, the Cincinnati Pride 2003 Planning Committee announced that the dates for next year's parade and festival will be Saturday June 7th and Sunday June 8th. The music festival will again be two days with the Saturday portion of the event starting at 4pm, several hours earlier than in 2002. Festival organizers will be Ken Colegrove and Debra Randall. Michael Chanak and Dr. John Maddox will organize the rally before the parade and parade organizers will be Bill Abney and Jeff Young. Long-time pride chair Chris Good has announced he will not be returning for another year.

Pride 2003 will feature some new surprises. The "Parade Princess" will be elected at a new pageant which will follow preliminary pageants to be held at several local bars. These events will act as fundraisers for the parade and festival. Miss Peaches, the "Grand Marshellette" of Cincinnati's last three pride parades, will return in 2003 with the ceremonial title of "Queen Mum."

The Pride 2003 Committee meets on the second Sunday of each month at noon at the Greater Cincinnati Women's Resource Center (formerly Crazy Ladies) in Northside. All GLBT organizations are urged to send representatives to help organize the event. For more details, call 681-4627 or visit [www.cincypride.com](http://www.cincypride.com).

## Caracole Goes Back to Broadway

Caracole Inc., a Cincinnati area organization which provides safe, secure and affordable housing and support services for people living with HIV/AIDS, will present its 5th annual "Back to Broadway" fundraiser on September 14th. The event will be a revue of numbers from various musicals such as "Guys and Dolls," "My Fair Lady," "A Chorus Line" and "Miss Saigon," performed by a company of talented volunteers. This year's revue will feature Broadway performer Ron Bohmer. "Back to Broadway" begins at 8pm and will be at the Rapid Run Middle School on the West Side. Tickets are \$35 general admission and \$50 for patrons. To get your tickets, call 761-1480. For more information, visit their website at [www.caracole.org](http://www.caracole.org).

## TriState Leather Contest Coming in November

The 2003 TriState Leather Contest is fast approaching. The contest, which will attract leather enthusiasts from across the region, will happen here in Cincinnati on the weekend of November 22nd to 24th. Judges for the contest will include: Frank Perko, Mr. TriState Leather 2002; Tobin Britton, America Leatherwoman 2002; David Baldwin, Mr. Olympic Leather 2002; and Mister Marcus, correspondent for San Francisco's *Bay Area Reporter*. In addition to the contest there will be an auction and vendor market. The leather archives and museum will also be on display. Participating venues for events include The Serpent Bar, The Pipeline, The Dock and The Pyramid Leather Crypt. The Days Inn on Central Parkway is the official host hotel. Discount weekend packages are available. TriState Leather organizers encourage those planning to attend to purchase their packages in advance for the best rates. For more information, please visit [www.tristateleather.org](http://www.tristateleather.org).

## Integrity Teaches the "Rainbow Rosary"

At their September meeting, Integrity of Cincinnati will have a special program on creating a "Rainbow Rosary." Tom Fehr, who designed the rainbow rosary, will show how to make them and teach prayers to be used with them. Members will also be invited to write their own. This rosary is similar to the Anglican rosary. Cincinnati's group for GLBT Episcopalians and their friends will meet on September 12th at 7pm at Church of Our Saviour. For more information on Integrity, call 648-0790 or visit the website at [www.geocities.com/integritygc](http://www.geocities.com/integritygc).

## Support for Gay Married Men

The Cincinnati Gay Married Men's Group meets on the first and third Friday of each month. Their meetings provide opportunities for attendees to discuss feelings, ask questions, and find a supportive environment with others who share similar situations. The discussions center on matters pertaining to being gay or bisexual in the context of marriage and/or family. For more information on the group, please call 293-3640 or visit the website at [www.cincinnati-gay-married.com](http://www.cincinnati-gay-married.com).

## New Gay Store to Open Downtown

Downtown Cincinnati will soon have a new shop catering to gay men. In early October, the new "Pyramids" is expected to open its doors. The Pink Pyramid on Race Street downtown and the Pyramid Leather Crypt in Northside are both being closed this month so that the stores can be merged into this new entity which will be located across the street from the current Pink Pyramid store location. The new shop will feature rainbow gifts, t-shirts, magazines and erotica, as well as a large selection of leather and S/M goods. According to the owners, Gary and George, the old Pink Pyramid location will be turned into a GLBT-friendly coffeehouse which is expected to open next year.

## Saints & Sinners Come Together to Celebrate Halloween

Cincinnati Men's Chorus will kick off its season with the "Saints and Sinners Ball III," a festive evening of masquerade and dancing on Saturday night October 26th. This Halloween celebration will be held at One Riverboat Row, on the river in Newport, KY. Spend a quiet evening in "heaven" where you can enjoy the atmosphere, talk with friends, make new ones and enjoy the fabulous view of the Ohio River and downtown Cincinnati. Or, take the trip to "that other place" for music, dancing, and river wildness. Prizes will be awarded for the most fabulous costumes and there will be a silent auction, food and cash bar. Festivities start at 8pm. For more information and tickets, call the CMC hotline at 542-2626.

# Our Faith Too!

*Celebrating the Spirituality of GLBT People*

## St. John's Unitarian Church Welcomes New Minister

St. John's Unitarian Church, long one of the area's most GLBT supportive churches, will welcome a new leader to their pulpit this month. The Rev. Frank Carpenter, who was called by the congregation in April, will begin as minister on September 8th.

Rev. Carpenter comes to St. John's after serving the past 5 years as an interim minister at congregations in Cleveland and Massachusetts. Before that he was the settled minister at two New England churches. He was ordained in 1972 and holds a BS degree in Humanities and Sciences from MIT. His partner, Jacquie Rousseau, and 18-year-old son, Will, have moved to Cincinnati with him.

Rev. Carpenter says that one of the reasons he was attracted to St. John's was its great reputation within the denomination as a welcoming place for GLBT people. He says that he feels that Article XII, the city's anti-gay charter amendment, is "despicable and clearly contrary to what America stands for." He sees both the homophobia and racism that are present in our city as "good challenges" and says he looks forward to working with other like-minded churches to bring about needed change.

Some of the goals of his ministry at St. John's will include increasing the diversity of the church's membership, doing outreach to the community and broadening the scope of social justice work in this church. He will continue do commitment ceremonies for same-sex couples and supports the Unitarian Universalist denomination's stance in favor of the legalization of marriage for lesbians and gays.

As an avid member of the Unitarian Universalist Historical Society, Rev. Carpenter says that the denomination has a long history of social justice work beginning with the anti-slavery movement before the Civil War. "One of the reasons I feel Unitarians were among the first to stand up for the rights of gay people is that as a denomination we have historically been open minded and embracing of diversity, both in theology and in people."

Rev. Carpenter's official installation as minister will happen at a service to be held on Sunday October 16th at 4pm. Many area ministers as well as special guests from the national Unitarian Universalist offices in Boston will be in attendance. The Rev. Mark Belletini of Columbus, Ohio will give the sermon. Daniel DiBona, head of the Unitarian Universalist Office of Identity Based Ministry, a group which teaches congregations ways to build their diversity, will also speak at the service. For more information on St. John's Unitarian Church, call 961-1938 or visit their website at [www.stjohnsuu.org](http://www.stjohnsuu.org).

## Investigation Into Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Begins

The investigation by members of Cincinnati's Presbytery into Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church has begun. In March, following a denominational vote against the ordination of open gays and lesbians, the Madeira/Silverwood Presbyterian Church filed charges with the Presbytery against Mt. Auburn Church over its policy affirming full inclusion of lesbians and gays in parish life.

On July 9th, the Presbytery rejected a proposed slate of candidates to the Investigative Commission because a majority of the members were closely affiliated with the Madeira/Silverwood Church. A new slate of candidates for the Commission will be presented for approval September 10th.

While the make-up of the investigative body is still in doubt, the Presbytery did set up a charge of responsibility for it. The Presbytery's finding from 1993 that Mt. Auburn Church is "irregular" and "delinquent" in its adherence to church doctrine on GLBT people is to be a starting point for the Commission.

Charges were also filed this past spring against Rev. Steve Van Kuiken, Mt. Auburn's minister, and Rev. Hal Porter, their former minister. In an open letter to the denomination in late July, Van Kuiken called the church's policy on gay and lesbian marriage and ordination "an oppressive and intolerable weight upon many" and said that he feels he is a "prisoner of conscience on this matter."

## Church of Our Saviour Working for Inclusion and Justice

The Church of Our Saviour in Mt. Auburn has long been known for its inclusiveness and for taking risks for justice. In the past COS has welcomed many important community groups to meet in their church. AIDS Volunteers of Cincinnati had their first office there and New Spirit Metropolitan Community Church met at COS for 20 years. The first Headstart program in Mt. Auburn was at COS, the first Mt. Auburn Community Council met there and COS' Rectory was also the first home to Bethany House. Currently, Integrity of Cincinnati (the organization for GLBT Episcopalians and their friends) calls Church of Our Saviour their home. The group meets on the second Thursday of each month at 7pm. A monthly support group for Crossdressers and one for Transsexuals, both sponsored by Crossport, meet on Wednesday nights at COS. In addition, the church is also home to a black women's support group, racism awareness workshops, and an after-school program for children at risk.

The Rev. Paula Jackson, rector of COS, has been an outspoken advocate for GLBTs over the years. She has participated in the Pride Interfaith Services and hosted a work-shop titled "What the Bible Really Says About Homosexuality" in 2001.

The Church of Our Saviour is a multicultural parish, younger and more diverse than average for "mainline" congregations. As a part of the Episcopal Church US and Anglican Communion, COS is both catholic and protestant in tradition: "catholic" in understanding sacraments as central to our lives, "protestant" in honoring questions and reason on the spiritual journey. Sunday Eucharist is at 10am and there is Bible study on Wednesdays at 7:30pm. For information, call 241-1870.

# Financial Advisor

## A Guide to Socially Responsible Investing

by Vicki L. Marsh, American Express Financial Advisors

The idea of using your hard-earned money to make an ethical statement might seem like a novel concept, but it's an investment strategy being employed by a growing number of individuals. Today's "socially responsible" investors carefully screen companies and mutual funds to ensure that they invest only in companies whose business practices match their personal values. This approach is gaining momentum. According to a report issued by the nonprofit Social Investment Forum, \$1 out of every \$8 invested by professional fund managers today is involved in socially responsible investing (source: Social Investment Forum news release, November 2001). Here's a closer look at the strategy and how you might integrate it into your overall financial planning.

**How Does It Work?** At its most basic, socially responsible investing is simply supporting –or refusing to support– specific companies on the basis of your personal values and beliefs. The modern socially responsible investing movement traces its roots back to the 1960s, when investors were concerned primarily with such issues as civil rights, the environment and military action. Today, socially responsible investors often consider a much broader range of issues and use several different strategies to reach their goals:

**Social screening** involves purchasing stock in companies that match the socially responsible criteria the investor has established. This investment strategy can also focus on excluding specific companies or mutual funds that don't meet standards.

**Community investing** is investing in assets that support or play a role in an individual's local region or community. For example, you might buy stock in a company that is a major employer in your neighborhood. Or you might invest in a money market fund or foundation that directs capital to low-income neighborhoods in your city.

**Shareholder activism** involves using your influence as a shareholder to try to change the practices of a publicly-held company. For example, in 1999, shareholder activism played a key role in convincing Home Depot to phase out the sale of wood products made from timber in old-growth forests.

**Won't This Limit My Options?** Being a socially responsible investor doesn't necessarily mean limiting your investments to a few companies. As you might expect, individual investors often have differing views on the definition of "socially responsible." Some socially responsible investors, for example, only avoid companies involved with tobacco sales, while others prefer to invest in companies that have demonstrated a strong commitment to philanthropy. Although you might think that limiting your investment choices to a specific range of companies and assets could negatively affect your potential returns, recent survey results seem to indicate otherwise. According to the Social Investment Forum, assets in socially screened investment portfolios under professional management grew by 36% from 1999 to 2001, surpassing the \$2 trillion mark for the first time.

### **Mutual Funds May Make the Process Easier**

Screening individual companies on a case-by-case basis can be challenging. To simplify the process of socially responsible investing, you may want to consider the wide range of available mutual funds that already screen investments according to certain socially responsible criteria.

According to the Social Investment Forum, there are currently 230 socially responsible funds in the United States, so the chances of finding a fund that meets your requirements are probably quite good (source: Social Investment Forum news release, November 2001). Such mutual funds screen for a variety of different issues, most commonly excluding companies involved in tobacco, gambling and alcohol industries.

Some socially responsible mutual funds emphasize specific issues. A mutual fund oriented toward workplace equity issues, for example, might focus on investing in companies that are owned by women or are known for being proactive in promoting women to leadership positions. Similarly, humanitarian funds often support companies with policies that emphasize human rights and workplace diversity.

### **Start Slowly, Invest Responsibly**

If you're thinking about adding socially responsible investments to your portfolio, consider some key tips:

**Don't go overboard.** Shifting your investments to socially responsible companies and mutual funds doesn't necessarily mean you should immediately make radical changes to your portfolio. Depending on your personal values the tax implications associated with changing your investment choices, there may be many socially responsible investments to consider. You might already be invested in equities that fit your criteria. Consider a strategy that gradually integrates socially responsible investments while slowly phasing out investments that don't fit your personal values.

**Consider investing through a tax-deferred account.** Making socially responsible investments through a tax-deferred account, such as an individual retirement account (IRA), through the workplace, your 401(k) or 403(b), can help you avoid the large tax bill that could result from switching investments in a taxable personal investment portfolio.

**Make sure each potential investment meets sound financial criteria.** Buying socially responsible assets shouldn't alter your overall approach to the investment process. Just because an investment is socially responsible doesn't mean it will also meet your other financial criteria, such as your overall goals, investment timeline and tolerance for risk.

### **Creating a Financial Plan You Can Feel Good About**

The world of socially responsible investing can be rewarding and it can also be complex. Before making any changes to your investments please consult a financial advisor or tax professional regarding your individual circumstances and objectives. For help in finding investments that fit with your personal and financial goals, consider meeting with a certified financial planner. Your financial advisor can work with you to help ensure that your investment portfolio meets both your financial goals and your personal values.

# GLBT Health

## Letting Our Guard Down on HIV

by Bob Donovan, MD

In writing health columns I've often left HIV topics to others since it was fairly extensively covered and GLBT health is more than just HIV. However, a study came out from the Centers for Disease Control in July that shows we've let our guard down about this critical topic. An anonymous survey of over 5,000 gay or bisexual men between the ages of 15 and 29 was done in six major US cities, not just in bars and clubs, but also in neighborhoods, followed by HIV testing. The results are staggering:

- \* 57% of these young men tested positive (that's ten percent!)
- \* 77% of these were unaware of their infection, including 91% of African Americans and 70% of Hispanics.
- \* 59% considered themselves to be at low risk for infection.

Half of those who were unaware of their infection had unprotected anal intercourse within the previous six months, and nearly half said they did not use condoms because they believed that they and their partners were at low risk of infection. Many of these young guys didn't have the experience of just ten years ago when dozens of gay men were dying of AIDS on a weekly basis. With the new drugs, too many are in denial about the seriousness of HIV infection. Taking HIV medications may be saving many lives, but it's no cakewalk to do. Some must take 20 to 30 pills a day to keep the infection down, to suppress other infections and to counteract side effects of the drugs. The medications must be taken extremely conscientiously to be effective. All of these medications can have unpleasant side effects. And despite the reduction in deaths from AIDS, people are still dying. HIV is continuing to mutate and getting around all of our drugs. We could easily be experiencing a rise in deaths very soon.

### What should you do?

- \* Take HIV seriously. Your partner can look perfectly normal and have HIV infection. So be sure to practice safer sex every time.
- \* Get information. Call 1-800-342-2437 or go online to [www.gayhealth.com](http://www.gayhealth.com), for instance.
- \* Get tested for HIV and other sexually transmitted Diseases. Anonymous testing is available from the Cincinnati Health Department. Call them at 357-7300 for more information.

# Thought You Knew

## Advice for the Confused and Clueless

from Ambrosia

### Dear Ambrosia,

I'm in quite a pickle. I'm trying to get serious with this guy. Everything is great but he tells me that he is bisexual. This bothers me. It makes me feel like I'm only getting half of a man and not the whole one that my heart desires. What should I do?

—Half Pint

### Dear Half Pint,

I've heard this song and dance a lot. Sometimes there's even a nugget of truth to it too! Most guys that will tell you this have a hang up about being gay. Take for example "My Boys," a group of well-known hustlers, that I know. Most of them have been married and have children. Now they have sex with guys. They'll tell you that they're bisexual in an attempt to help them deal with the fact that they are with guys all day and night long. Unfortunately, a lot of these guys succumb to societal pressures and can't own up to the truth that they are in fact 100% gay. If you're ever with one of them, you'll know what they prefer! (Mention this column for a discount, just kidding.)

Now for the other guys who are real bisexuals. If you are having good sex with your guy, don't worry about it. Think about it like this: You have dark hair. Your guy says he likes blonds. You can only be one hair color at a time so don't worry about it. If you know what you're doing in the bedroom, he won't be thinking about a girl at all. You've got somethings a girl don't got so use 'em! If you need any pointers on how to satisfy him, drop me another line and I'll throw some ideas your way!

### Dear Ambrosia,

I'm a new queen. I'm not sure what direction I would like to take. I see a lot of performers out there doing different songs. I am wondering why I see so many white queens performing black music. I don't think this looks good. It's obvious that the singer is black and the performer is white and I just don't think it fits. Why does this happen? I've seen you do it and I really think you shouldn't. I'd like to see what you have to say about it and for yourself!

—Racial Injustice

### Dear Ms. Injustice,

It's always nice to be noticed. You know if you watch you will see all races of queens performing just about anything they can get their hands on. You are right that this causes quite some controversy with some people. I've been told all sorts of things about performing soul music for example, "Why?" "You should perform music that sounds prettier like you look," "You need to stop," "You need to try Country," "Stop imitating other people and be yourself," etc. Of the people that make those types of comments, I must point out that they are racists. Unfortunately, there are some gay people that can't see past race. I strongly believe that one should perform what one truly feels. If you've ever seen a queen perform a number and afterwards thought, that's her number, no one else can do it, she felt that number and should do it. I've seen plenty of white queens (and black) that try to perform "And I'm Telling You" with no energy and it falls flat. We can all remember a good queen doing this song justice and there will always be others riding on her good performance trying to make a buck or two. That's why it's fun being able to stop "those other queens" from doing the music I like. It's also why I'm so popular!

A big thanks to my fans for supporting my new endeavor at Razzberry's on Mondays. I would also like to thank everyone for noticing my recent weight loss. I've received letters about that and promise to address that and share my exciting dieting secrets next month. And keep writing to me at [ehutflie@cincyradio.com](mailto:ehutflie@cincyradio.com).