



Palms of Manasota

CONDOMINIUM and
VILLAS ASSOCIATIONS

NEWSLETTER

“Join us, We’re Family.”

July 2008

Researcher: More Lesbians Than Gay Men in the Military

Lesbians could very well outnumber gay men in the military, according to Williams Institute senior research fellow Gary Gates.

“The percentage of lesbians that serve in the military is really quite high,” he said. “It’s possible that there are more lesbians than gay men serving in the military.”

Gates’s interpretation could explain why such a disproportionate percentage of women in the military (relative to the percentage of female service members) are discharged under the military’s “don’t ask, don’t tell” policy. Even though women account for only about 15% of the Army and Air Force, new numbers released this week show that they make up nearly half of all DADT discharges.

The new data, gathered under a Freedom of Information Act request by the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, an advocacy group for military personnel, was published in a New York Times article on June 23. The figures show an increase in the percentage of women discharged under “don’t ask, don’t tell” between 2006 and 2007.

“It’s not that [the Times] made factual errors,” Gates insists, but without an interpretation, the information suggests that a disproportionate number of women were discharged from the military under “don’t ask, don’t tell” in 2007 for no apparent reason. “Why might that be? That’s the question [the Times] didn’t answer for me,” Gates said.

Gates says the issue isn’t what percentage of women make up the military, it’s the “percentage of women among gay and lesbian populations in the military.” Based on statistical techniques and census data utilized by Gates and the Williams Institute, they found that the LGB population could account

for anywhere from 40% to upward of 50% of the total female service members. According to Gates, “This is the key reason you see high proportions of women among [“don’t ask, don’t tell”] discharges.”

(Hannah Clay Wareham, The Advocate)

Obama Considers Gay Ally for Running Mate

The blogosphere is abuzz with speculation that Lt. Gen. Claudia J. Kennedy, a retired three-star general, is one of a dozen people under consideration to accompany presidential hopeful Barack Obama to the polls this November. According to PinkNews, Europe’s largest gay news service, Kennedy has supported campaigns to overturn “don’t ask, don’t tell.”



Kennedy’s consideration for running mate could appeal to many different groups, reports PinkNews. Former supporters of Hillary Clinton could align themselves with Obama should he choose a woman as his running mate.

Kennedy’s military record is also part of the equation, as American voters have a history of electing military leaders to political positions. Kennedy served in the Army for 30 years and has a background in Army Intelligence.

They also report Kennedy served as an adviser during John Kerry’s unsuccessful 2004 campaign and she endorsed Hillary Clinton for the Democratic presidential nomination this year.

(The Advocate)

This and That
(Calendar events)

■ We have two birthdays and three anniversaries this month. Happy Birthday goes to **Pat** Landry on the 2nd and **Bob** Hallé on the 9th. Happy Anniversary goes to **Bryan** Heikkinen & **Ed** Sage on the 3rd, **Charles** Showard & **Terry** Cox on the 15th and **Emmy** Royal & **Wendy** Brand on the 19th.

Humor

A Honeymoon Swim!

A man met a beautiful lady and he decided he wanted to marry her right away. She protested, "But we don't know anything about each other."

He replied, "That's all right; we'll learn about each other as we go along."

So she consented, and they were married, and went on a honeymoon to a very nice resort.

One morning, they were lying by the pool when he got up off his towel, climbed up to the 10 meter board and did a two and a half tuck gainer, entering the water perfectly, almost without a ripple. This was followed by a three rotations in jackknife position before he again straightened out and cut the water like a knife. After a few more demonstrations, he came back and lay down on his towel.

She said, "That was incredible!"

He said, "I used to be an Olympic diving champion. You see, I told you we'd learn more about ourselves as we went along."

So she got up, jumped in the pool and started doing laps. She was moving so fast that the froth from her pushing off at one end of the pool would hardly be gone before she was already touching the other end of the pool. She did laps in freestyle, breast stroke, even butterfly! After about thirty laps, completed in mere minutes, she climbed back out and lay down on her towel, barely breathing hard.

He said, "That was incredible! Were you an Olympic endurance swimmer?"

"No, she said, 'I was a hooker in Venice and I worked both sides of the canal.'"

13...13...13

I was walking past the mental hospital the other day, and all the patients were shouting, '13...13...13'.

The fence was too high to see over, but I saw a little gap in the planks and looked through to see what was going on.

Some idiot poked me in the eye with a stick.

Then they all started shouting '14...14...14'

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POMCA & POMVA Newsletter is published on or about the first of each month. Interested contributors should contact Jan Darstein at 941-723-9775 or E-MAIL the newsletter at res6mgee@verizon.net. A copy of the newsletter can also be found on the PomCA & PomVA web site at <http://www.palmsofmanasota.org/>. Media interest should contact our Marketing Committee at joanleblanc2@yahoo.com