

Ciao! THE WORLD OF GAY TRAVEL

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June 1975
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- Dallas
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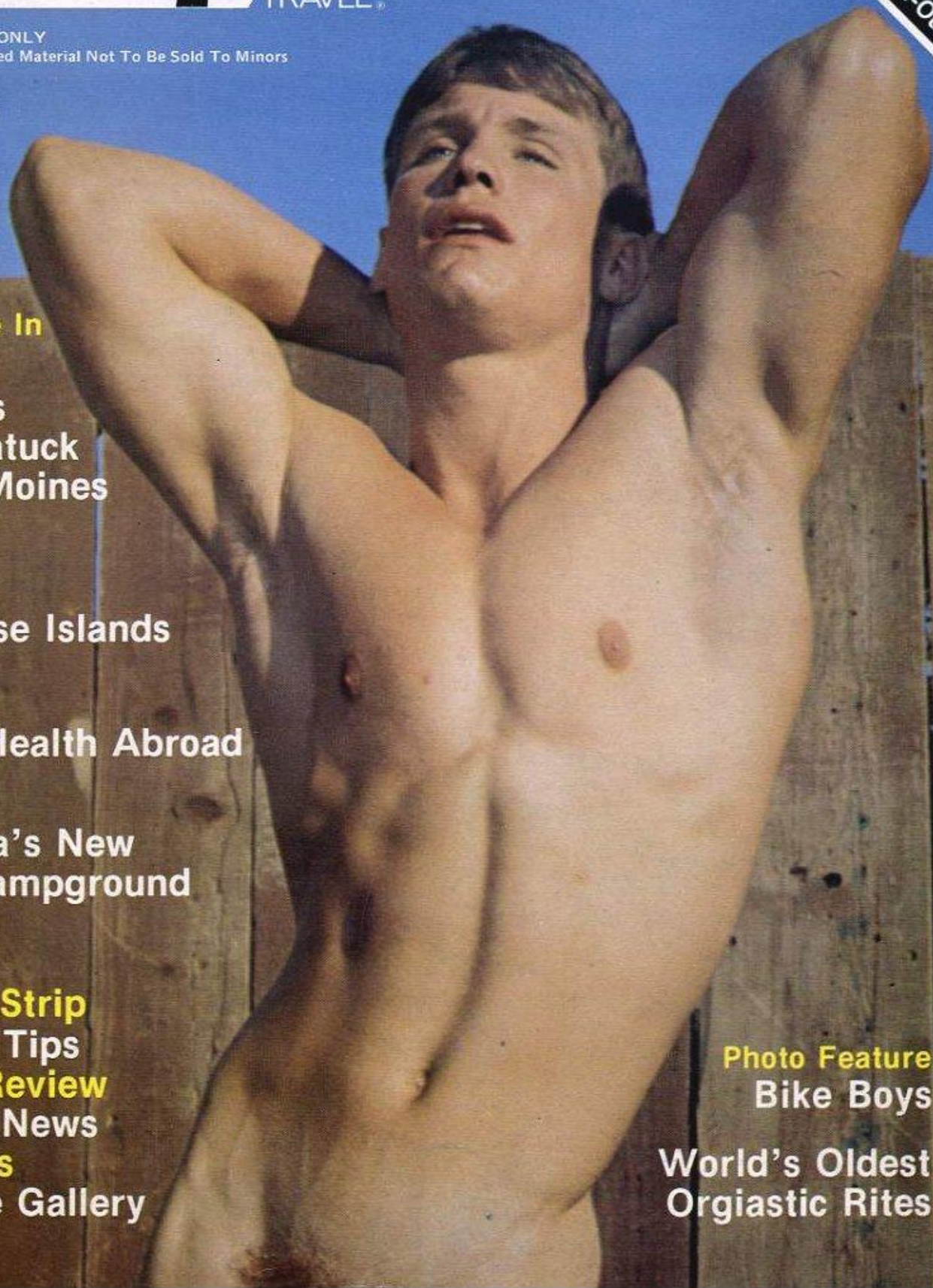
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Travel Tips
Book Review
World News
Recipes
Picture Gallery

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Bike Boys

**World's Oldest
Orgiastic Rites**



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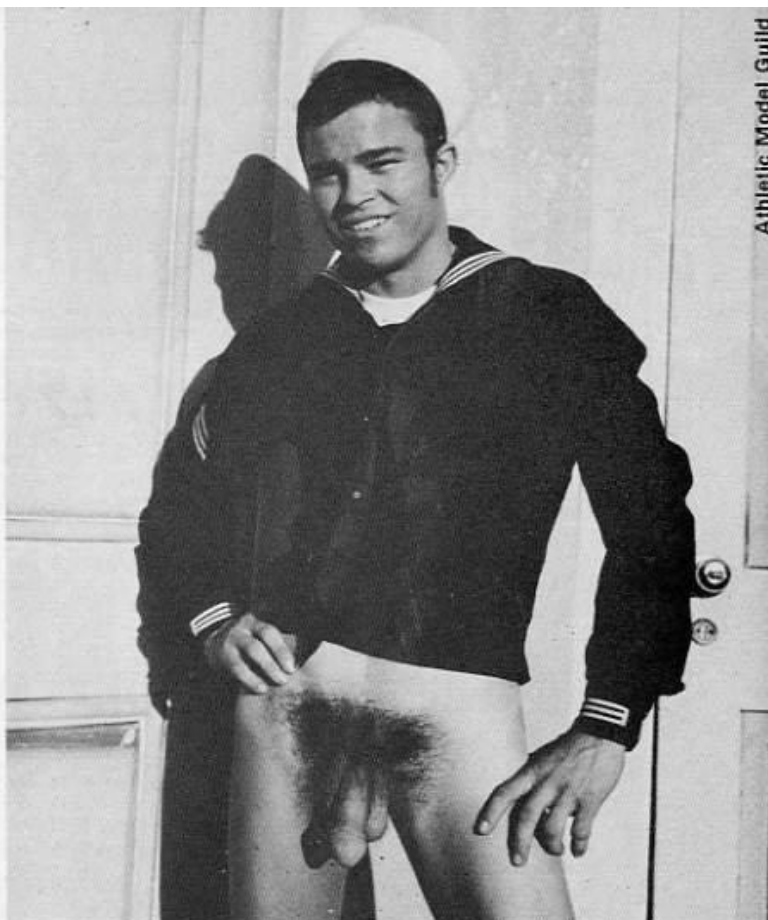
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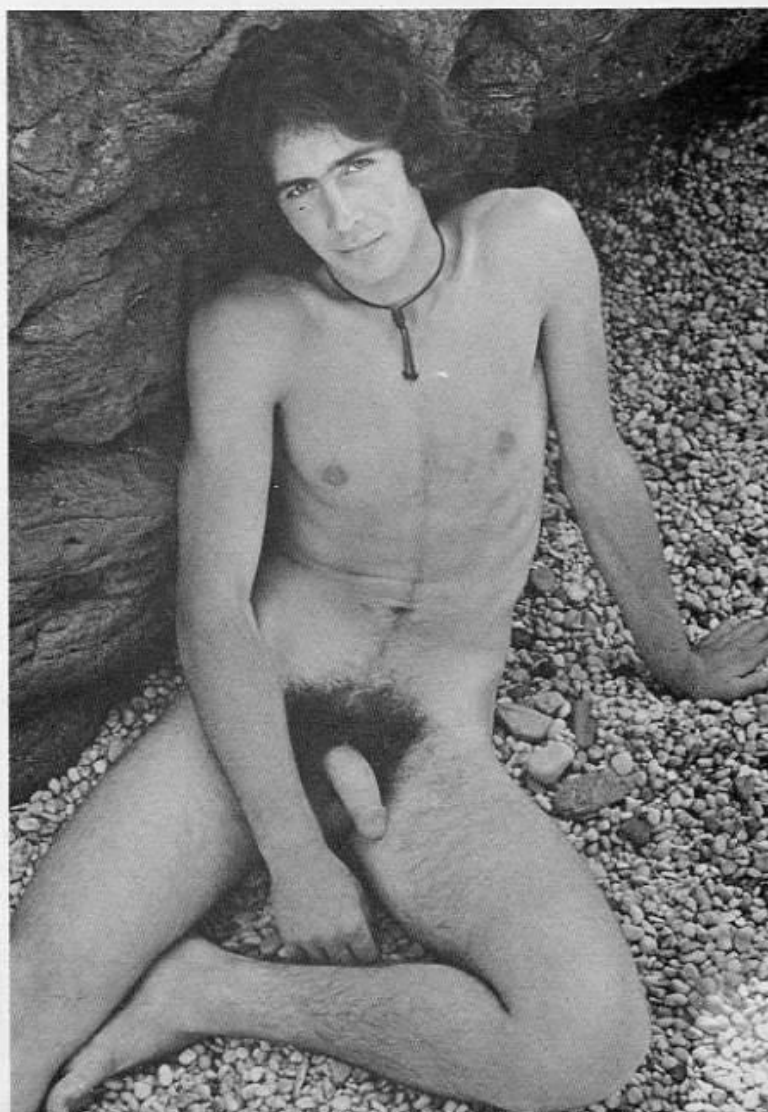
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Athletic Model Guild



rue Miromesnil; and **Le Poulbot Sauna**, 10 rue la Condamine.



Sauna Milan

If you are in Paris during the summer, head for the **Piscine Deligny** (pool, open from April to September) for an afternoon swim. They float the pool on the Seine by the Concorde Bridge, and it is the cruise area for swimmers.



Piscine Deligny

JOHNS

Several johns I have already mentioned . . . the one in front of the Trianon Cinema and the two by the Aerogare des Invalides. Others worth a visit are in the **Gare du Nord** (very good); **Gare St. Lazare**; **Gare Montparnasse**; and that by the **Arc de Triomphe** (side of the Belgian Embassy). These are the main ones, but Paris is such a large, fascinating city you shouldn't have any trouble finding more. This applies to bars and baths as well.

Although the prices in Paris are unreal, and the French are sometimes impossible, if you are a smart traveler and know how to watch your spending, there isn't any reason why you can't plan a Paris holiday now. So go . . . Paris is wonderful. It is the most beautiful city in the world. Honest! I've been to many. I know!

Big Dallas

By Jerry Daniels

Dallasites are unpredictable. They seem to be either very hospitable or very cool, depending on the occasion. Recently, for example, in a crowded cafeteria I selected a table occupied by a dazzling brunet. Smiling cordially, I asked if I might join him. He nodded indifferently, then looked away and sipped his coffee. Since I was impressed with his looks I began to force conversation, but he merely acknowledged my questions or statements with perfunctory remarks. Discouraged, I decided to forget him and gobbled my lunch.

Halfway through the lunch, a hunky-looking blond spotted us and descended, out of breath and full of conversation. The brunet immediately became all gaiety (pun intended) and charm upon seeing his friend. After the excited "It's so nice to see you again!" exchange, the brunet then turned to me smiling, and introduced me to the blond. The blond had no sooner spread his firm buttocks on the chair than we were all talking, trading amusing experiences. I don't remember how long the conversation continued but it ended several hours later comfortably over drinks in a downtown hotel.

Dallasites, I fear, like my example, can respond to strangers with discouraging coolness. But I believe this is because they think that being "cool" in such instances is sophisticated and **de rigueur**. Since they are basically warm-hearted people, they can unexpectedly shed the "cool" facade and be quite charming.

If you want to get involved in a heated argument with a Texan, simply mention how much nicer Houston is physically (or for that matter **any** way) than Dallas, or vice versa. You will quickly learn by his hot response that there is a strong rivalry between these cities. Each resident is stubbornly convinced that **his** city is best!

Dallas is older, and according to its citizens, the best city with more money and power and chic. This is probably quite true, although it may seem doubtful on the surface. That's because Houston is still working hard at beautifying its image to the world in order to overcome a feeling of inferiority that Dallasites' feelings of superiority over the years have created. Dallas, on the other hand, like big and important cities everywhere, is living off its past reputation and has, consequently, lost some of the spirit which once gave it so much sparkle and glamor. It now seems content to enjoy the reputation it worked so hard to earn, and leave the image-building to Houston.

Perhaps the most important observation a northern gay will make of ultra-conservative Big D is that the police are very watchful of activity both outside and inside bars. It isn't unusual to see the police enter a gay establishment and create a feeling of tension by their presence. Since they have been known to arrest gays for very minor offenses, it would be smart to be careful about one's behavior.

You will also learn that Dallas is big and spread out. Without a car you can feel stranded, even though transportation is regular. The gay area isn't concentrated; yet there are several areas which have more interest than others. On Live Oak and Skiles Streets there is a small cluster of gay establishments which are popular. I don't like the area, though, because it's rundown and very rough, but I haven't heard anyone say anything bad about it, so it may be safe. Since the three bars and a baths are next to each other, you won't have to wander dark streets to find anything. I will warn you, nevertheless, to avoid walking down Hall Street. It is very rough even during the day.

The **Entre Nuit** at 3116 Live Oak, attracts both boys and girls, and its entrance is in the rear of, and under, the Bachelor Quarters Baths by the fire escape. It is a friendly bar where both sexes mix easily. Most of

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the boys visit here to socialize with the girls. It is open from 5 p.m. to 2 a.m. daily; on Saturday and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 2 a.m. Dancing. On Thursdays there are amateur shows.

Villa Fontana, 1315 Skiles, is popular with the older, conservative crowd, both black and white, and is decorated attractively in the 50s style. The owner claims that it's the oldest gay bar in America, which is doubtful since it's only 25 years old. Nevertheless, it is a nice place to take your lover and quietly spend a romantic evening on the patio. There are shows on Sunday at 9 p.m. On that night a \$1 cover charge is made. It is open from noon until 2 a.m. No food, but there's dancing. From 3 until 7 p.m. Monday through Friday, there is a happy hour. On Sundays from 6 to 8 p.m. draft beer is free.

Act III at 3115 Live Oak is the third bar in this area, and it attracts a butch crowd. Some real truckers are supposed to drop in here. But normally they get all types. It is a very hard bar to classify since it is very popular with everyone. Hours are from noon to 2 a.m. Specials on Monday through Friday from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. on all drinks.

The **Bachelor Quarters Baths**, 3116 Live Oak (entrance on Skiles) is a clean, pleasantly-run baths which is private. Membership is \$2 for the year and membership at Frizby's of Houston is honored here. All an out-of-towner needs to join is his driver's license. Rates are \$2 for lockers and \$4 for rooms during the summer; during the winter it's \$4 and \$6 respectively. From midnight Monday to midnight Tuesday, there is a \$1 special. Rates are for a 24-hour period.

Also nearby on 2616 Swiss is the **Club Dallas**. Like all the eastern Clubs, this one is clean and well-equipped. A swimming pool is under construction at this writing. Membership is \$4 per year with lockers going for \$4 and rooms for \$6. There is a \$2 youth locker rate for anyone from 18 to 24 with I.D.

A very nice place to stay, if you want to be in this area, is the

Travelodge at 4001 Live Oak Street. Singles about \$12; doubles about \$15. Across the street from the Travelodge is the **Toddle House** at 4010 Live Oak. After hours, the gays in the area stop here for food before heading home.

The only movie house for hardcore gay "action" films is **Studio 9** at 4817 Bryan Street. Admission to this small, cruisy theatre is \$4. Bryan, incidentally runs parallel to Live Oak a block away.

Another popular area for gay activity is near Oak Lawn. This is a comfortable, middle-class, and very nice area. There is a variety of places to visit near Oak Lawn, although they are spread out a bit. All types visit this area, from the pointed-boot-cowboys to the Neiman-Marcus-smart types. A comfortable hotel in the area is the **Melrose** at 3015 Oak Lawn. Rates about \$12 for a single, and \$18 for a double. The hotel is within walking distance to Maple Street where the four leather-western bars are.

The most popular leather and western bar is the **Sundance Kid** at 4025 Maple. It's the home of the Wrangler Club, the local S&M bicyclists. Hours: 4 p.m. to 2 a.m. daily. Happy hour from 4 to 8 p.m. On Wednesday there's free beer. In this building there is the **Eagle Leathers** store which is open from 10 p.m. daily, and Sunday from 7 to 10 p.m. All types of leather goods can be bought here. (Special orders as well).

Terry's Ranch, 4117 Maple, is a popular cowboy bar in a long rambling building. Hours here are from 2 p.m. to 2 a.m. On Friday and Saturday it is open after hours until 4 a.m. (Soft drinks and coffee served then.) Special beer bust on Sunday at 5 p.m. and 11 p.m. (until the beer keg runs dry) and Thursday at 11 p.m.

At 4006 Maple is another country/western bar whose slogan is: "We may be the butchest bar in town, but we try not to act like it." This bar, **The Swinger**, isn't as popular as the above two, but it does draw an interesting crowd of "semi-butch"



Entre Nuit



Villa Fontana



Act III



Bachelor Quarter Baths



Toddle House



Studio 9



Sundance Kid



Terry's Ranch



The Swinger



Marlboro



Machine Gun Kelly's



Bayou Landing



Cedar Springs & Hood



Trio Coffee Shop



Movies

cowboys. Hours: 1 p.m. to 2 a.m. daily. After hours on Friday and Saturday until 4 a.m. No dancing. Happy hours is from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. daily.

The **Marlboro** at 4100 Maple is the fourth western bar in the area. Although this isn't the busiest of the four bars it does a satisfactory business. I found those present during my visit a little too conscious of their masculinity to relax and enjoy themselves, but I generally find this true of most gays in such bars. Hours are from 4 p.m. to 2 a.m. daily. No dancing. Impromptu entertainment. Every night there is a balloon drop with a \$1 bill in one balloon. The dollar should be held for the once-a-month drawing. Then the lucky guy who holds the dollar that matches the serial number gets \$25 in cash. Each Sunday at 6 p.m. there is a free chicken dinner, and each night from midnight to 1 a.m. there's free draft beer.

A fifth western-leather bar that opened last summer is called the **Sundowner Saloon**, 2822 McKinney. Hours 4 p.m. to 2 a.m. It's too early to know for sure what type of crowd this one will get.

Machine Gun Kelly's (formerly called the Mark Twain) at 4015 Lemmon Street tries to attract all types—straights and gays (girls too), hippies and businessmen. This is a huge discotheque bar and restaurant with a piano bar upstairs for those who like quiet. From Thursday to Sunday at 10 p.m. there is live entertainment. On Fridays and Saturdays, it's after hours with entertainment continuing until 4. Food from \$1.25 to \$3.50.

Nearer downtown Dallas at 2609 N. Pearl Street is the very popular **Bayou Landing**. The crowd is young and dresses Neiman-Marcus-smart. At 9:45 on Wednesday and Sunday there is a show. Also, on show nights there is a \$1 cover charge. From 3 p.m. to 2 a.m. daily; open after hours on Friday and Saturday. Food from 6 until midnight; weekends until 3 a.m.

On McKinney there are two
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bars besides the Sundowner Saloon. The **Encore** which is like the Bayou Landing in popularity, attracts an elegantly dressed young crowd. It's the farthest out—at 4516 McKinney. Hours from 1 p.m. to 2 a.m. Not after hours. No food. Dancing.

The other bar is the **Owl's Nest** at 3236 McKinney. An older crowd of mixed types here. Hours: 1 p.m. to 2 a.m. There are half-priced drinks and a free buffet on Sundays. During the week between 4 and 7 p.m. they have a happy hour. Another popular bar with the older crowd is the **Crew's Inn** at 3220 Fitzhugh. Hours: 1 p.m. to 2 a.m. Dancing. Happy hours from 5 to 7 nightly.

In "Homo Heights," the Oak Lawn area, there are several cruise areas. The best is **between Cedar Springs and Maple, and between Welborn and Hood** (off Oak Lawn). This area at night is alive with movement. Gillespie, Congress and Brown are especially busy, though I doubt anyone will have difficulty finding the right area. The movement of cars and feet are too heavy to go unnoticed.

Reverchon Park is the other very cruisy, but **very** hot area, especially by the parking lot and john by the circle. Cops sometimes sit on the hill near the john and watch. So be **very** careful here!

Near the Maple Street bars and Machine Gun Kelly's is **Lucas' B & B Restaurant**, 3520 Oak Lawn. Usually at night gays head here when they want something to eat. It isn't popular as once, but it still attracts some loyal gays. At 3541 McKinney is the **Trio Coffee Shop**. This also gets gay traffic late at night.

In downtown Dallas there are only two bars. **Gene's Music Bar** at 307 Akard Street is the oldest of the two. This one attracts the butch \$5 and \$10 hustlers, both black and white. Since it is a rough bar, there have been some beatings of some gays who took this rough trade home.

The other downtown bar is the **Lasso** at 215 Akard Street. The same crowd as at Gene's. In fact, they drift back and forth

between the bars. Lasso has dancing.



Gene's Music Bar



The Lasso

Outside cruising downtown is usually around the **Greyhound and Trailways Bus Terminals**. The same types who visit Lasso and Gene's cruise here. Near the Trailways there is a popular 25-cent arcade that gets a heavy black crowd. It is called, simply, **Movies** at 308 Ervay Street. It can be lots of fun if you like such places. There are private rooms with hooks to lock the doors.

A very cruisy triple-X movie theatre is the **Art Flick Theatre** at 1226 N. Industrial Boulevard. They show only male-and-female films.

A distance from the city are two favorite cruise areas: **Lake Dallas**, which is sometimes referred to as "Queen's Point" (near the dam on the lake, both night and day), and **White Rock Lake** (near Garland Road, by the picnic area). For truckers try the **Mid-Continent Truck Stop**, which is supposed to be the largest in the world; can't be

topped. It's on Big Town Boulevard off 1-20 and just east of 1-30.

For a great selection of gay magazines, be sure to visit the **Dallas Literary Shop**, 4934 Maple Ave. Friendly management... browse around and ask about the latest in Dallas.

In closing I should like to repeat: **Be careful!** The police of Dallas have a reputation for being hard on gays, but if you watch what you do and where you do it, your trip to Big D will be both relaxing and fun.

Good luck!

Gay Reno

By Bill Josephs

On the surface, Nevada is Playboy Country with Las Vegas as its capital. Super-butth dealers and waiters and buxom show gals and waitresses, sensually dressed, stimulate lust, creating for Las Vegas and—to a lesser degree—Reno, a sexy atmosphere of **Playboy Magazine** heterosexuality. Beneath the surface, though, moving counter-clockwise to the super-butth atmosphere, is an established gay community.

As in gay bars everywhere, the conversation in Reno's runs the gamut of extremes, with gambling never quite fitting into either extreme. Gay life is home-town simple and direct... nothing splendid or conspicuous. Many of the waiters and dealers, the manly image-builders for heterosexual Reno, use these bars as their escape from the artificiality of the city. They frequent them in an effort to make new friends who, like themselves, want to forget temporarily the entrapments of the city, and relax. Out-of-town gays with similar interests, are, of course, taken into the inner circle with a swiftness that is almost unbelievable.

The big difference between Reno and Las Vegas is the