

Speak Out

Closet secrets outed

TO THE EDITOR:

Congratulations to Michael Thomas Ford for outing the worst of the closet secrets that many of us in the community share ["Man's best friend," *Just Out*, March 20, 1998]. I also have a very large dog that keeps me from ever sharing my bed with another woman. She also started small and got out of hand.

She is now about 110 pounds. She is a Rottweiler named Jessie who in short order discovered that if she slept crosswise in the bed then I could only have a corner.

She is also the master of deep sighs and many glares when put out of her bed. When I tell her to get down she begins to practice selective hearing loss and most of the time just ignores me.

Ford and I must live parallel lives. I also spend my spare time taking her for drives, to the vet to retrieve a favored shoe (mine, not hers), so I have no time for a lover and, also like Ford, my dates seldom go beyond the first. Meeting a very large jealous dog is rather intimidating.

My suggestion to Ford is that perhaps he can start a support group for us now that our terrible secret life has been laid bare. We could meet, say, on rainy Sunday afternoons to bare our souls while 100-pound beasts sleep the rainy day away on our beds at home.

Thanks for a great article.

MYRNA IHRIG
Vancouver, Wash.

Setting the record straight

TO THE EDITOR:

We, the undersigned, have read the brief notes regarding JOQ's in your April 3 bar guide ["Where Everybody Knows Your Game," *Just Out*, April 3, 1998] and feel compelled to offer some additional information and corrections to your readers. JOQ's has been serving the community for 18 years. The clientele varies from just barely legal to, well, legal. However, we are sure that your reviewer confused the weathered but lively pool table (only one, not more as listed) with a customer. We're sure that this is an easy mistake to make the first time in the bar.

As for "a complete lack of pretension [being]

as disturbing as a bad attitude," we like to think that it can also provide a setting with a good attitude. In addition to Wednesday's "Training Films," there is free pool on Mondays and bingo on Sundays during the fall and early winter. In fact JOQ's recently contributed over \$1,000 to Our House directly related to the bingo activities. In addition, JOQ's supports teams in bowling, softball and pool (recent champions of the Lambda Pool League).

As you can see, there is much more to JOQ's than can be squeezed into less than two column inches. However, given such a shortage of space, accuracy is even more important.

Thanks for letting us set the record straight.

LARRY SHAW
LOYD PERRY
MICHAEL ALBRIGHT
TODD D. GREER
ZIG SPATH
GEE-GEE VILLA
Portland

Eager recruit

TO THE EDITOR:

Thank you for the article on the "Lollipop Philosophy" of the Lesbian Avengers [*Just Out*, March 6, 1998]. I have long admired this group for their good-natured approach. Although raising the consciousness of society is a daunting task, I believe their tactics work as effectively in the long run as some of the more serious, ham-fisted actions I have seen over the years.

I also have the distinct pleasure of sharing my workplace with one of the women whose picture and comments are mentioned in the article, Alisa Williams (known to most as Snarf). She always makes my workday brighter.

Say, is there any way for a gay male to become a Lesbian Avenger? After all, they do recruit!

OLIN WILLIAMS
Portland

Correction

The article "Where Everybody Knows Your Game" in the April 3, 1998, issue of *Just Out* incorrectly referred to The Hideaway Pub as Tim's Hideaway Pub. *Just Out* regrets the error.



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