



**Tuesday, March 25, 2008**

## **MARCH – WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH**

### **Helping to Create a History of Equality and Freedom**

Joining women who are using their voices in support of GLBT equality, as exemplified in **Anne Hathaway's HRC acceptance speech** featured previously, we highlight women whose actions and attitudes will help build a history that moves toward inclusion and equality for all people.

#### **Vanessa Williams: HRC's Featured Member & Activist of the Month**

Vanessa Williams, recipient of the Human Rights Campaign's 2008 Ally for Equality Award, speaks of her life-long commitment to breaking down barriers that restrict freedom for some, in her **HRC acceptance speech**. Williams, who signed the **Million 4 Marriage petition** <sup>(1)</sup>, urges others to do the same. "When my children look at a loving & committed relationship some of their finest role models are the gay & lesbian couples they've had in their lives," says Vanessa.



<sup>(1)</sup> <http://www.hrcactioncenter.org/campaign/millionformarriageac>



#### **ELLEN RESPONDS TO SALLY KERN'S ANTI-GAY COMMENTS**

In response to the much-criticized homophobic remarks by Oklahoma State Representative Sally Kern, Ellen addresses the situation in **this clip from her show** <sup>(2)</sup>, as she attempts to place an on-air call to Kern's office.

<sup>(2)</sup> <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fBmCA4z8Yzc>

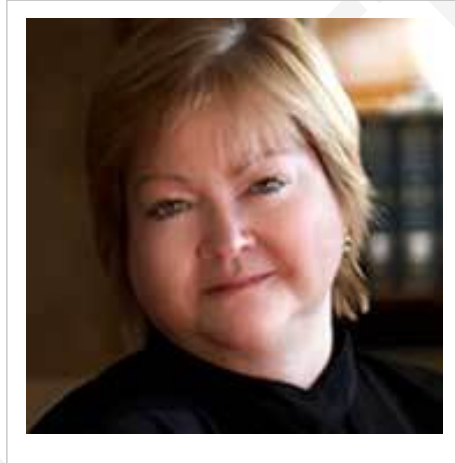
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## **JUDY SHEPARD – THE HEART OF ACTIVISM**

Judy Shepard, along with Judith Light (*Who's the Boss*) and Cyndi Lauper (singer/performer), round-out today's women who will be remembered in history for their passion and activism in support of GLBT rights.

After the beating death of her son, Matthew Shepard in 1998, Judy Shepard's life changed forever as "she went from Wyoming housewife and mother to international activist who, with her husband, Dennis, established the Matthew Shepard Foundation. Its mission: to combat hate and bigotry through funding diversity and youth programs."

In the last ten years she has traveled extensively and spoken to more than a million people. Normally a shy and quiet woman, Judy Shepard is a "reluctant crusader," as described by Craig Wilson of **USA Today**.<sup>(1)</sup>



"This sweet, gentle, quiet woman who never wanted anything but anonymity suddenly became the public personification of the desperate desire we all have to end hatred and violence," says Judith Light. "She doesn't pay attention to what she wants to do; she simply devotes herself to doing what needs to be done."

Her biggest disappointment is that the Matthew Shepard Hate Crimes Prevention Act, which includes crimes based on sexual orientation, has not yet become federal law. Shepard plans to keep speaking out in her son's name, and work for passage of the Hate Crimes bill through the **Matthew Shepard Foundation**.<sup>(2)</sup>

<sup>(1)</sup> [http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2008-03-10-shepard-hate-crimes\\_N.htm?loc=interstitialskip](http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2008-03-10-shepard-hate-crimes_N.htm?loc=interstitialskip)

<sup>(2)</sup> <http://www.matthewshepard.org/>

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## **BROKEBACK'S IMPACT ON WOMEN THREAD IS BACK IN BUSINESS**



PHOTO BY DAANNZZZ

After being dormant for nearly 8 months, this thread, dedicated to how *Brokeback Mountain* affects women - what themes from the movie have touched women most deeply and why - has seen new life! We invite you to join us on the thread where conversations range from how one's stage in life affects how the movie impacted us, why a movie about male/male love might affect women differently from your standard love story, and how age, child-rearing, and choice of life-partner can influence how the film was received by women. Please stop over and give us your thoughts.

From this thread **chapeaugris** posts:

*"The people, male and female, who have gravitated to this forum are mostly over 40 and I think the fact that the story ends when Ennis and Jack are 40 or about to be is a big factor. For our generation it was during our 30s that we made most of the big life decisions (whereas our parents didn't have as many choices or started families in their twenties). So the fact that these two men were thwarted in their quest for fulfillment and everything stopped for them at the end of their thirties hits hard and makes you reflect, sometimes for the first time, on the choices you yourself made. I'm sure some straight men found the film triggered those kinds of reflections but few felt affected enough to do any soul-searching online. So that leaves us!"*

**Desertrat** adds:

*"Isn't it interesting how we see different aspects of ourselves in the story, depending on the stage of life we are in right now?"*

*For me it was more about choices concerning my life partner. It made me realize even more and most clearly that i have found my Ennis/Jack and that it was good that we started our little cow and calf operation.....*

*i guess that's why we respond differently to different stories and themes...we must find resonance in our own life. Sometimes, i have been impressed far deeper by some TV show theme than some artsy, deep movie - simply because the theme brought some part of myself out. Brokeback very clearly found quite some resonance in my life."*



PHOTO BY DAANNZZZ

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## **HOUSE HUNTERS**

By **FindingBrokeback.com**

The Lonesome Ranch and the Divorce Cabin are two very prominent Brokeback houses. In a recent interview, Kerry Hart recalls her amazement when she and her husband, John, were approached by a location scout anxious to use their houses for a Hollywood motion picture!

The Lonesome Ranch house dates back to the early 1930s. It was built by Scandinavian pioneers to this sparsely populated part of western Canada and has had a history of colorful occupants, culminating, of course, with the del Mar family.



**THE LONESOME RANCH**  
Hart Farm, Near Claresholm, Alberta



**INSIDE THE LONESOME RANCH**  
Hart Farm, Near Claresholm, Alberta

In addition to the familiar kitchen and bedroom shots, the Ennis Feeds the Cattle scene was also done here, as was a deleted scene in which Ennis tends a sick calf. Hart recalls the elaborate preparations which occurred before the film crews arrived, and the intricate, sometimes amusing, efforts that were made to film here one day in early June 2004.

The following morning, a different Brokeback scene was filmed, this one less than a mile away at the ramshackle cabin which was home to the newly divorced Ennis.

This structure was built in the 1920s for a Scandinavian "bachelor" uncle who, whatever the nature of his fantasies, never dreamed that his simple shack would be immortalized on the big screen. Though early scripts called for a brief shot of Ennis inside the Divorce Cabin, this was cut; nothing was filmed inside. Indeed, the much-discussed Passing White Truck shot was not filmed here either.

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**THE DIVORCE CABIN**  
Hart Farm, Near Claresholm, Alberta



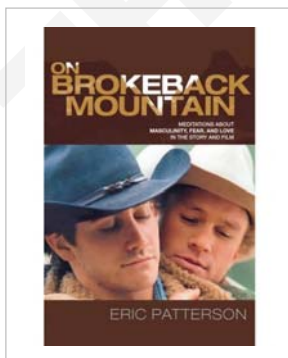
**ENNIS TENDS A SICK CALF**  
Hart Farm, Near Claresholm, Alberta

The amenities at this place are few: an outhouse, a root cellar, and a Windcharger tower to generate small amounts of electricity. Quite understandably, the driveway that an excited, and later dejected, Jack used in the film, has seen very little activity in recent decades.

Hart also was an extra in the Fireworks scene, which was made in a local baseball stadium at nearby Fort Macleod. She vividly recalls staying up until dawn as the filmmakers fought pouring rain and tried to coordinate the fight, the crowd, crying babies, lighting requirements and, of course, the actual fireworks. That demanding scene, originally planned for a single night, would eventually require three all-nighters to complete.

The Divorce Cabin and the Lonesome Ranch are among the most revered Brokeback heritage buildings. You can learn much more about the preparation and the filming at these iconic locations by reading Kerry Hart's recently completed interview **HERE**.<sup>(1)</sup>

<sup>(1)</sup> <http://www.findingbrokeback.com/Interviews/Hart/Hart.html>



## **BOOK CLUB DISCUSSION BEGINS, AUTHOR ANSWERS QUESTIONS**

The discussion of *On Brokeback Mountain* by Eric Patterson is underway in the **book discussion thread**. The first set of questions is posted, and we will discuss chapters 1 and 2 this week.

The author has been reading the discussion and wrote the following



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note, which he asked me to post:

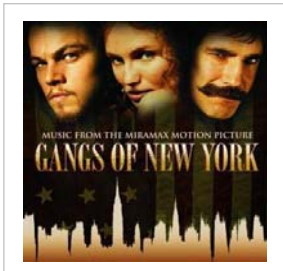
*Dear Forum Members,*

*Thanks for your kind words. I'm very grateful for your interest in and comments on my book, On Brokeback Mountain. As you raise and discuss issues, I'll try to respond every few days (please bear with me, as I have a really demanding teaching and commuting schedule this semester.) I wanted my book to be a serious discussion that would be useful to academic scholars, but my primary goal was to support discussion among thoughtful general readers like those in the Forum, and I'm very glad for the opportunity.*

*Best, Eric Patterson*

## **"GREAT TO BE NOMINATED"**

By **BayCityJohn**



**Oscars.org** has announced that the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences' popular "Great To Be Nominated" series begins Monday, April 21, and will run for 17-weeks. Showcased will be films from each Academy Awards® year between 1993 and 2007 that received the most nominations without winning the Oscar® for Best Picture. All screenings will be held on Monday evenings at 7:30 p.m. at the Academy's Samuel Goldwyn Theater. [Tickets and passes go on sale April 1](#), and can be purchased online at **Oscars.org**. There are no minimum order

requirements and no transaction or processing fees.

The complete screening schedule is as follows:

April 21	"The Piano" (1993)
April 28	"Pulp Fiction" (1994)
May 5	"Apollo 13" (1995)
May 12	" Fargo" (1996)
May 19	"L.A. Confidential" (1997)
June 2	"Good Will Hunting" (1997)
June 9	"Saving Private Ryan" (1998)
June 16	"The Cider House Rules" (1999)
June 23	"Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" (2000)
June 30	"The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Rings" (2001)

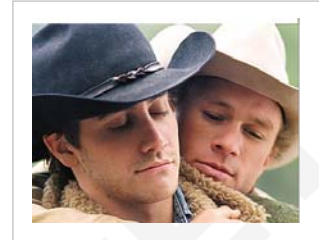


**THE DAILY SHEET**

A production of The Ultimate Brokeback Forum  
[www.davecullen.com/forum](http://www.davecullen.com/forum)

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July 14 "Gangs of New York" (2002)  
 July 21 "Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World" (2003)  
 July 28 "The Aviator" (2004)  
**August 4 "Brokeback Mountain" (2005)**  
 August 11 "Babel" (2006)  
 August 18 "Dreamgirls" (2006)  
 August 25 "There Will Be Blood" (2007)



<sup>(1)</sup> <http://www.oscars.org/events>

## GLAAD ANNOUNCES "NEWSROOM '08" WEB SITE

By BayCityJohn

GLAAD<sup>(2)</sup> announces **Newsroom '08**,<sup>(3)</sup> a resource Web site for discussion of how the media covers issues related to the LGBT community and the upcoming local, state and national elections in November. The site also has a blog, *Read Between the Lines*, where "commentary on and analysis of election coverage will be posted, as well as resources for both community members and media professionals."



<sup>(2)</sup> [http://www.glaad.org/media/release\\_detail.php?id=4293](http://www.glaad.org/media/release_detail.php?id=4293)

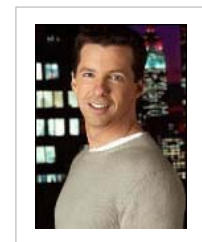
<sup>(3)</sup> <http://newsroom08.glaad.org/>

## PROMISES, PROMISES

By BayCityJohn



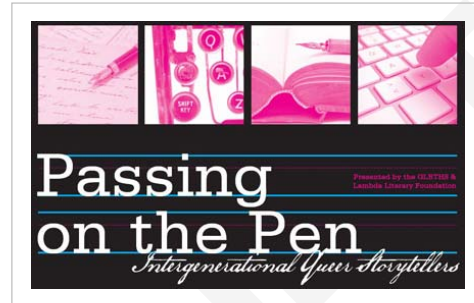
"*Promises, Promises* may be heading back to Broadway. Rob Ashford, who choreographed the new Broadway musical *Cry-Baby*, will stage a workshop of the Burt Bacharach-Hal David musical at the end of this month. The *New York Post* reports that *Will & Grace* Emmy winner Sean Hayes will play Chuck Baxter in the *Promises* workshop with film star Anne Hathaway (*The Princess Diaries*, *Brokeback Mountain*, *The Devil Wears Prada*) as Fran Kubelik," reports the **Playbill.com**.



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## **GLBT STORYTELLERS - THE CHANGING OF THE GUARD**

"The **GLBT Historical Society**<sup>(1)</sup> and the **Lambda Literary Foundation**<sup>(2)</sup> have joined forces to celebrate the contributions of three generations of GLBT authors and will host a series of conversations in San Francisco, entitled "**Passing On The Pen.**" This event will pair more seasoned authors of GLBT literature with today's emerging storytellers, reports **Gaywired.com.**<sup>(3)</sup>



"It's a powerhouse lineup, bringing together some astonishing talent and people who I have read and respected for many years as well as some wonderful new writers," says Michael Nava, author and winner of five Lambda Literary Awards.

Ann Bannon (*Beebo Brinker Chronicles*), and Victor J. Banis, critically acclaimed author, will kick off the "Passing On The Pen" literary series on March 25th. Each event (monthly, March - December) will be held in the gallery of the GLBT Historical society from 6:30 to 8:30, and will be free of charge and open to the public.

"In the early days of the GLBT community, our literature helped our community find its voice," says Paul Boneberg, the Executive Director of the GLBTHS. "Now it's helping us chart our future." For more information and a schedule of events click **HERE.**<sup>(4)</sup>

<sup>(1)</sup> <http://www.glbthistory.org/>

<sup>(2)</sup> <http://www.lambdaliterary.org/>

<sup>(3)</sup> <http://www.connexion.org/newsstory.cfm?id=12774&returnurl=index.cfm>

<sup>(4)</sup> [http://www.glbthistory.org/news/POTP\\_Release\\_022108.html](http://www.glbthistory.org/news/POTP_Release_022108.html)

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## Forum Footnotes

### FUN QUESTION OF THE WEEK

**This week's Question:** Can you really balance an egg on its end on the vernal equinox, March 20th or 21st, when the sun passed directly over the earth's equator?



Let us know the answer on the **response thread**.

**Last Week:** Is it tin foil or aluminum foil in your kitchen drawer? Why is one side shiny and the opposite side dull? When cooking food is it best to put the shiny side against the food or facing outside?

**The answer:** Although tin was originally used, all kitchen foil is now made from aluminum. One side is shiny and one dull, because the foil is so thin that when it's processed it would tear if not doubled while going through the rollers. The sides facing out are buffed by the rollers and are shiny, the inner sides that face each other come out of the process dulled. It makes no difference which side of the foil, shiny or dull, is against the food.

### POST OF THE DAY

In the **How Brokeback Affected Me** thread, a discussion is going on about the repercussions and intensity of feeling experienced after viewing Brokeback Mountain and how to deal with them. **MaineGirl** posts:

"I still don't know 'what the hell happened to me,' but talking to the others here has helped me a lot, even if it is just to know that I wasn't alone in this reaction. I had many of the same symptoms you describe.... the funny thing is that seeing the film, its impact on me, made me realize just how precious my family and friends are to me, and yet my need to be here and the friends I have made here have taken me away from them to some extent. It is an odd contradiction. I think balance is the key. Take a step back, as dahia said, every once in a while.... just to find your center again. Sometimes it is hard to come up for air, but we must. My life has been forever enriched by the people I have met here as a result of this amazing film, whether or not we have met in RL!"



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**QUOTE OF THE DAY**

"Don't cry because it's over. Smile because it happened."

~ Dr. Seuss ~

**ENGLISH PRECISION**

From **Photo Captioning Fun 3**  
By **HR**

Make sure to use the definite article (the) when referring to a specific thing. Indefinite articles (a, an) should be used when referring to one of a group.

Examples:

**THE SNIT**



**A SNIT**



**Questions?**

**Contributors: KittyHawk, Whiplash, BayCityJohn, Daannzzz, chapeaugris, Desertrat, HR, and MaineGirl**



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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

If you have ideas about initiating a gathering, go to **Start Your Own Threads** and get the ball rolling to plan a get-together near you.

### **AUSTIN REUNION**

**March 29 - 30, 2008**

**Austin, TX**

**Come join us in Austin.**

<http://www.davecullen.com/forum/index.php?topic=29053.0>

### **BROKEBACK EVENT IN TULSA OK, APRIL 5TH, 2008**

***Brokeback Mountain* Screening followed  
by talk from author Eric Patterson  
*On Brokeback Mountain*  
7 p.m., Sue Welch Hall in the Equality  
Center.**

### **BBQ: WYOMING ROUNDUP**

**June 1-7, 2008.**

<http://www.davecullen.com/forum/index.php?topic=27951.0>

### **BROKIES IN THE UK**

**June 20 - 22nd - Oxford 08**

<http://www.davecullen.com/forum/index.php?topic=20185.0>

### **BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN SCREENING IN LA**

**August 4, 2008 at 7:30 P.M.**

<http://www.davecullen.com/forum/index.php?topic=27940.0>

**Let us know** of any events you'd like listed here.

The Daily Sheet is a production of The Ultimate Brokeback Forum at [www.davecullen.com/forum](http://www.davecullen.com/forum)

Editors: **Ellen** (tellyouwhat), **Dawn** (Stilllearning)

Columnists: **Jim Bond**, **michaelflanagansf**, **Marge\_Innavera**

Proofreader/Researchers: **whiplash**, **gnash**, **denim girl**

Proofreader and columnist: **Royandronnie**

**Today's edition produced by Dawn (Stilllearning) email: [Dawn@davecullen.com](mailto:Dawn@davecullen.com)**

Today's edition formatted and proofed by **denim girl**

We count on you to send us your news items, questions, and nominations for posts of the day.

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