

The Rainbow Seniors Logo



**Promoting and addressing life issues affecting the  
general welfare of older gay, lesbian, bisexual,  
transgender, and intersex (GLBTI) individuals**

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## *The Empty Closet*

### September 2005

#### Some things to consider as life goes on

**By Sandra Ehman**

As we mature, we begin to develop an awareness of self that brings us to realize that the bars, hot spots, and clubs are not quite enough in our lives. There are gaps. Holes. Empty spaces. There's a loneliness.

For those of us who have been involved ourselves with Rainbow Seniors, some or all of these empty places have been filled with a sense of belonging\friendships that over the past few years have blossomed into something special. People coming to our monthly potlucks have made new friends and met old ones from way back when.

From the potlucks, they're gotten into special interest groups, i.e., yoga, euchre, swimming, Pride Parade participation, attending the ImageOut festival, helping pack baskets, visiting sick or homebound members, working on our mailings. These get togethers have enriched our lives.

Imagine two women or two men living together, for 15-20 years and not involved with the GLBT community-then coming to RSWNY-a whole new social life. This awesome group has changed lives and will keep on as our baby boomers age.

The support has been phenomenal\Rainbow Seniors friends now meet for lunches, movies, card games, etc. We call to gcheck up on each other. Members who have been ill or hospitalized have had meals brought in, have been given lap quilts/afghans, baskets, and lots of phone calls, cards, and visits. For our members who are not driving, rides are provided.

We are a diverse group within a diverse community. Bikers, poets, good cooks, artists, musicians, interpreters, teachers, farmers, you name it. We have it or will get it someday!

On November 12 we're having our major fundraiser, a silent auction and dance from 6-10 p.m. at the Roger Robach Community Center at Ontario Beach Park. You'll see ads in the Empty Closet and flyers around town. Great items for auction, great music and desserts, and it promises to be a wonderful time!

And join us for our monthly potlucks are on the third Sunday of the month. 4 p.m., 1st Universalist Church, 150 S. Clinton. Our Web site includes more events, [www.rainbowseniorswny.org](http://www.rainbowseniorswny.org), or give us a call at 585.442.6369. We'd love to see you!

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