

Gaze

News of Interest to the Lesbian/Gay Community



FREE!

Volume 5, Number 2

Memphis, Tennessee

February, 1984

Celebration '84 — The Southeastern Conference

The Ninth Annual Southeastern Conference of Lesbians and Gay Men will be held at the Holiday Inn-Medical Center in Birmingham, Alabama from April 12 to 15, 1984. Conference co-chairpersons Ms. Bootsie Abelson and Rick Adams announced the conference theme to be "Pulling Together and Reaching Out." Adams, in making the announcement stated, "We see a need in this region for Gay men and Lesbians to begin a closer community relationship to each other and to build alliances and coalitions with supportive people in the greater community. In doing so, we will achieve a better understanding of each other and our common needs."

The conference planning committee

has organized a series of workshop, guest speakers, and social events to incorporate the conference theme. "We are fortunate to have a number of very active and nationally known figures committed to this conference," commented Abelson, who heads the program section of the convention. "We will have leaders from the Gay and Lesbian community who are involved in politics, the law, lobbying, and mass communications. Of course, we have included a number of musicians, athletic organizations, and exhibitors," she concluded.

The conference keynoter will be Ms. Virginia Apuzzo, Director of the National Gay Task Force (NGTF). Ms. Apuzzo is chief lobby-

ist and spokesperson for the 10,000 member NGTF which is headquartered in New York City. Other major speakers confirmed for the Birmingham meeting include: Tom Chorlton of the National Association of Gay and Lesbian Democrat Clubs; Abby Rubinfeld, the managing attorney for the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund; and Mike Rutherford who is executive director of The Gay Press Association.

A number of Birmingham groups will be offering social events during the conference. An April 13th banquet and fund raiser will be held by

PRO-PAC, the local Gay/Lesbian political action committee. The Magic City Athletic Association will sponsor a softball game and dinner. Marathon, an all-woman band, will play for a Friday night dance, and Magnolia, the Birmingham Women's Art Collective, will hold an Artist-in-Concert on Saturday, April 14, 1984.

Conference registration and fees are now being accepted. They should be mailed to Mr. Rick Adams, c/o Lambda Inc., P.O. Box 73062, Birmingham, AL 35253.

Task Force to Challenge Sodomy Laws

Arkansas Gay Writes— Sandra Kurjiaka, executive director of the ACLU of Arkansas, and Paul D. Gordon, a former president of Arkansas Gay Rights, met with 15 representatives of Gay/Lesbian legal organizations, American Civil Liberties Union national staff, various ACLU affiliates, and attorneys involved in pending sodomy law challenge litigation on November 20 in New York. There, the group formed Ad Hoc Task Force to Challenge Sodomy Laws, which initially will focus on such challenges while anticipating future cooperative efforts that emphasize other aspects of the struggle for Gay and Lesbian civil rights.

The task force was formed to begin the process of developing a coordinated national strategy to challenge sodomy laws in the remaining non-reformed jurisdictions— which include Arkansas, Mississippi and Tennessee — and are committed to fighting anti-Gay/Lesbian discrimination in general.

The group agreed that no further civil challenges to sodomy laws be filed pending the decision of the U.S. Supreme Court in the case of *New York v. Uplinger*, but will proceed with preparations to go forward with such challenges immediately thereafter and will offer assistance to challenges that arise in the criminal context pending the *Uplinger* decision. The group will soli-

cit proposals from ACLU affiliates, Gay/Lesbian organizations, or other groups in the remaining non-reformed states for challenges to the laws in their states.

The task force will house its central directory of information and resources at the ACLU national headquarters in New York. The directory will include lists of experts available to testify in such cases (dealing with health issues or homosexuality in general) and existing briefs and/or legal memoranda dealing with sodomy law challenges. Persons or organizations having such information or briefs should contact either the ACLU or Lambda Legal Defense, both of which are located at the same address in New York.

Further information on the Ad Hoc Task Force to Challenge Sodomy Laws may be obtained through Abby Rubinfeld, managing attorney, Lambda Legal Defense, 132 W. 43rd St., New York, NY 10036, (212) 944-9488.

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TQM Recognized as Carnival Krewe

by Allen Cook

The Queen's Men, a local Gay social organization has been recognized by the Memphis Cotton Carnival as the Mystic Krewe of TQM and will have a 24-foot float in this spring's Cotton Carnival Grand Parade, June 2.

Wayne Newsome, Ball Captain of Queen's Men, announced that in a meeting with Robert Shelly of the Carnival organization, that the Mystic Krewe of TQM, the carnival arm of the group, had been asked to participate "fully" in Cotton Carnival activities. The King and Queen of TQM will be presented at this year's Crown and Scepter Ball and will ride on the Royal Barge with other reigning royalty. In addition, the krewe has been given its choice of one of the larger floats for the parade. Newsome explained that the entire krewe will either ride or walk along side the float in the parade *en masque*, and, of course, in costume. "We want to become a visible, yet invisible part of the community. We're pleased that they see us as a part of the community that is beginning to emerge and has talent to offer," Newsome

said.

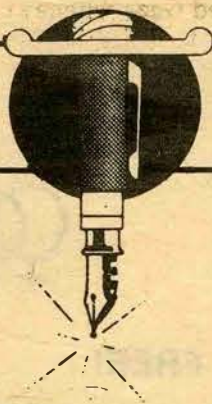
Gay social organizations in New Orleans are credited in large part with the revitalization of the Mardi Gras festivities there. Newsome feels that the same can be true of the Memphis Cotton Carnival.

The Queen's Men, established in 1971, has held annual balls featuring costumes every bit as elaborate as those shown in Mardi Gras balls. "In fact," Newsome says, "we have taken some of the costumes made locally to Mardi Gras where they were favorably compared with some of the best around."

TQM has foregone a ball this year to devote its efforts to its showing during Cotton Carnival.

In conjunction with a membership drive, The Queen's Men will offer free beer and food to potential members Friday, February 17 at The Other Side (12 North Cleveland) between 8 pm and 10 pm. Anyone wishing to join may meet members and apply at that time.

Currently there are 15 members of TQM; they hope to obtain a total of 35 new members. Both men and women are encouraged to apply for membership.



Gazing

Editorials appearing in Gaze represent only the opinions of the authors unless otherwise indicated.

By John Stilwell

1984 looms before us full of hope and promise. It offers us the opportunity to do all the things we promised ourselves last year that we would do but never seemed to get around to doing. In keeping with the month of February, I'd like to write about loving and respecting the most important person in your life — you.

I hear you saying, "I like myself. I'm comfortable with my sexuality. I'm a healthy, happy individual."

And I respond, "Are you out?"

And that's when we all do the most self-destructive thing we can possibly do. We lie. It's bad enough to lie to someone else but in this case, it's worse because we often lie to ourselves.

The lies vary: There's no reason to come out; my coming out won't make a difference; I'm coming out slowly on a one-to-one basis, people aren't ready for me to come out; I'm waiting for the right time; I have to protect my lover.

And, as is the way with all lies, the small ones lead to bigger ones. In this case, the bigger lies are

Believe It!

either leading a double life or denying your true sexuality. That paves the way for neuroses, psychoses and the constant fear that someone is going to find out (paranoia).

The sad thing and the reality of the situation is that the lies are all unnecessary. The coming out stories I've heard run in the same vein. People you tell who have a problem with it ignore it and don't

discuss it. Your real friends and loved ones have probably already figured it out and the only one left that you're fooling is yourself.

So the only person you hurt is yourself. You inflict unnecessary trauma and pressure on yourself; you stunt your own mental and emotional growth; and you make yourself unhappy.

I'm not calling for all 75-100,000 of you in the area to hit the streets

(although that certainly would be impressive!). I still think the when and where is a personal matter. What I am calling for is an end to the lies.

Work on being honest with yourself and then work on being happy with yourself. You are not a second class citizen. You deserve the same respect, rights and opportunities to pursue happiness that are afforded everyone else.

Believe it!

Gay Community, Gay Power

Old Fashioned Heroes

by Dan Siminoski, Ph. D.

Last year was a difficult and challenging year for me, for our community, and for the world as a whole. The beginning of a new year used to be a time of quiet reflection, a time more of satisfaction than of disappointment, it seems to me; it should give an opportunity to look forward with optimism to whatever comes next. At this moment, however, my optimism is, if not weakened, at least muted. We live in increasingly dangerous times. The challenges we face seem endless, and the policies our leaders adopt in our names seem never to satisfy. Yet we go on.

1983 showed the Gay community at its best, and at its most fractured. Stalked by a killer disease that few of us could even have pronounced a year before, our com-

munity rallied to raise money, build support groups and force policy makers to respond to the AIDS crisis. Yet our friends are still dying at an appalling rate while our enemies use their suffering to assert their "moral" imperatives.

In city after city, Lesbian and Gay people organized to support candidates who could not have won without that support. Openly Gay candidates won office in an increasing number of races, while the number of sponsors for the Gay Rights Amendment increased significantly in House and Senate. The power of Gay Democrats continued to grow, and most presidential hopefuls courted our votes with promises of support for our policy demands.

Meanwhile, in recent weeks Sen-

ator John Glenn has become one of the few presidential candidates to oppose Gay Rights legislation publicly. He quickly lost key backing in New York and Massachusetts. I hope that 1984 will be a year in which we can show Glenn and others like him that sexist and homophobic politicians do not deserve higher office, and that with our allies we will resist their election with all our strength.

In 1983, we reached out with unprecedented success to organized labor, ethnic minorities, and non-Gay Americans of every sort. We supported common candidates, opposed budget cuts that harmed our social services, and struggled together to keep Gay and human rights at the top of the policy agenda. The MCC struggled to win recogni-

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Gaze

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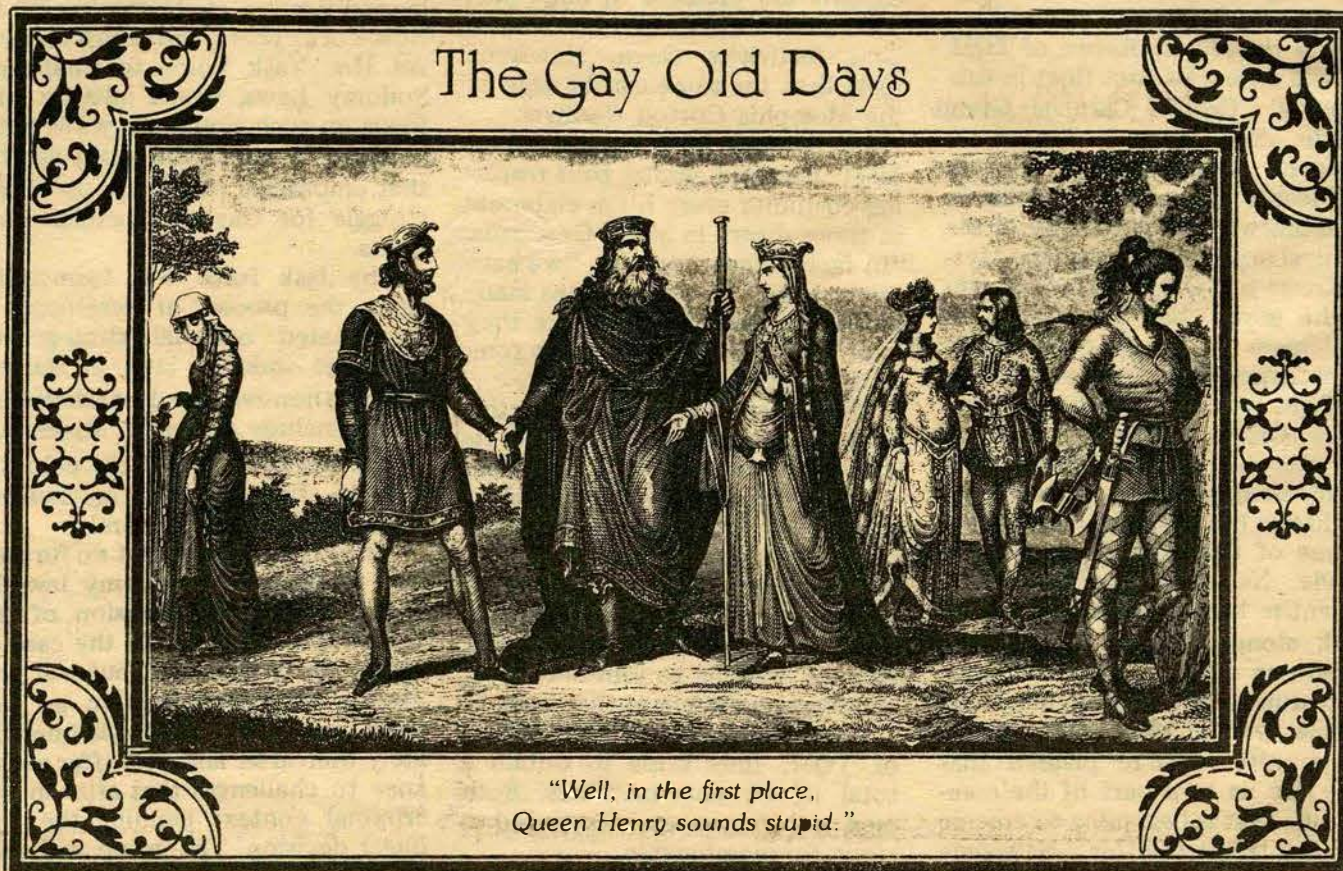
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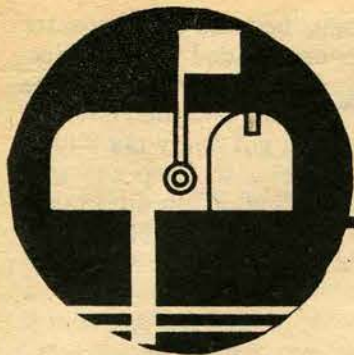
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Box 3038

Letters to the editor should be as short as possible and must be signed. Names will be withheld by request but anonymous letters will not be printed. "Box 3038" is a letters-to-the-editor column and is a public forum for readers to express their opinions. Gaze takes no responsibility for the views expressed. Mail letters to Gaze, Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38173-0038.

Kudos

The following letter was sent to D.R.'s on behalf of the Memphis Gay Coalition:

To Danny Ray & the staff of D.R.'s, On behalf of the Memphis Gay Coalition, I thank you for offering D.R.'s as the location of our fifth annual Christmas potluck. It was an apparent success, judging by the attendance (approximately 50 Gay women and men, many of whom were new to Coalition events), the abundant food, and the laden plates (some of which were laden two or three times!)

The staff was cordial, courteous,

and helpful, contributing to the success of the evening.

It is through this type of cooperative, sharing spirit that Memphis will become an even better city in which its Gay and Lesbian citizens can live, work, and love.

Ric Sullivan
MGC Facilitator

Addendum

An Addendum to your election results in your December issue. In Minneapolis, Brian Coyle was elected to City Council, the first openly Gay person to serve on it. He joins Minneapolis' Gay state senator Allen Separ and Lesbian state representative Karen Clark.

Best wishes to you for the New Year. I continue to enjoy Gaze very much.

Tom Wilson
Minneapolis, MN

Tom Wilson, as most of you know, is a Gay entertainer whose records are available from Aboveground Records, Box 11276, Minneapolis, MN 55411. — Ed.

Help for Youth

Finally someone takes a stand — Teen Rapport of Memphis is an organization staffed and presented to you by teenagers who care and are concerned with the growing needs of other teenagers. If you are interested in meeting and making new friends, finding someone who listens and helps, or just an escape route from loneliness and depression. Write us today. For a list of our fresh new programs - rapp sessions -- or answers to your questions. Send \$1 and a SASE to:

Teen Rapport Memphis
2949 Letrec Cove
Memphis, Tenn. 38127

We are confidential indeed!

Oops!

This letter doesn't serve any useful purpose. I hope that's ok.

I've noticed your list of business establishments that have distributed Gaze in the past year. Your list includes, among others, Chaps and Variations (in Little Rock). That's no problem; however they are also listed in your classified directory. Chaps no longer exists. The bar is under new management (I believe) and is legally known as Lil's Country Pub. Variations went out of business almost a year ago. Also, I don't know if they want to

be listed or not, but 4-Star Video and University Video have always distributed Gaze whenever possible.

I tend to miss copies of your newspaper and have considered subscribing. I've been unemployed almost a year and can't afford it. Please keep up the fantastic work you've been doing.

P.S. Someone told me to say this, "Tell them not to print that you sound like an idiot."

F. McC.
Little Rock

No way do you sound like an idiot to us. Thanks for the tips. We don't get to Little Rock often (that's obvious) so we're a little shaky as to what exactly is going on there. We need a Little Rock correspondent. Care to volunteer?

We have entered a complimentary subscription for you so you don't miss an issue. —Eds.



MGC Monthly Program Meeting

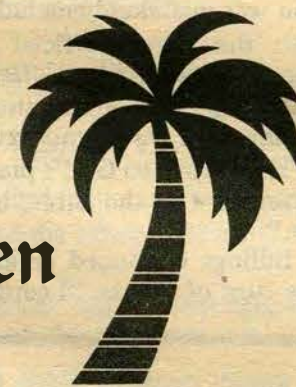
"Financial Planning for Gays"

A local CPA will address issues including taxes, investments, IRA's, etc. A question and answer session will follow.

February 20, 1984
Meeting Room B, Public Library
(Peabody and McLean) 7:30 p.m.

Tropical Nights at The Other Side

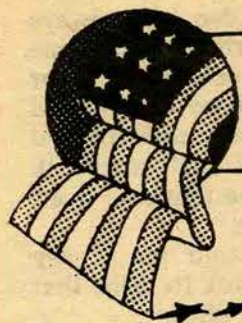
The Queen's Men
invite you
to a Membership Social



Saturday, February 17
8-10 p.m.
Free food and Beer!

The Queen's Men invite you to join their organization (Annual dues \$10). This year TQM will be participating in all Cotton Carnival activities. All public activities will be in costume. No identities will ever be disclosed! Come meet us and join!

The Other Side
12 N. Cleveland



National

Printer Refuses Book

Sacramento, CA — A book of cartoons with Gay content submitted to a Sacramento printer has been rejected because the Gay lifestyle depicted violates the Bible's teachings.

Cartoonist Bruce Billings, whose "Castro" cartoons are distributed by the Stonewall Features Syndicate and appear in half a dozen publications across the United States, recently inquired of the Spilman Printing Company what its bid would be on the printing costs of a book of Billings' cartoons about Castro, the dog, and his various human Gay friends. To his surprise, Billings was sent a letter informing him that the company was refusing to take on the job because "Our management team has received your manuscript and feels it is advocating a lifestyle contrary to the principles for which we stand as Christians."

Billings would not have known the real reasons for the refusal if he had not discovered a copy of a letter from the company president Carl E. Spilman detailing the thinking behind the rejection of Billings' business. Apparently the handwritten original letter written by Spilman was mistakenly included along with the vaguer official explanation. The handwritten letter further said: "In our opinion the subject matter exploits homosexuality as an alternative to God's plan which, as revealed in the Bible, is a major sin."

Billings expressed amazement at the turn of events. "I certainly had

no intention of causing any ripples," he said. "It was my understanding that Spilman had done some other Gay books in the past.

I guess they didn't want to print mine because some of the humor is sexual. Maybe most of the humor is sexual, as a matter of fact!"

Billings said that he has no plans to sue the company, since the legal situation is unclear. Some cities have ordinances that prevent businesses from flagrantly discriminating against homosexuals. "I don't think Sacramento is one of those," said Billings.

Billings added that the success of his cartoons in publications had prompted him to venture into bringing out a collection of his best work entitled *The Best of Castro*. "I hadn't expected to encounter the narrow-mindedness in a business in the 1980's. I thought Gay money was as good as any other money," Billings said.

Gay Billboard Thwarted

Lynchburg, VA (*The Washington Blade*) — Plans by Gays in this Moral Majority heartland to publicize their telephone counseling service on roadside billboards hit a dead end when the manager of the billboard rental company called a halt to the deal.

Jim Troy, manager of Virginia Outdoor Advertising Association, which rents billboard space in the Lynchburg area, told the Blue Ridge Lambda Alliance they could not rent billboards from his company to post their message, "Someone You Know is Gay."

"He said he was unwilling to withstand the pounding he's sure

to get from local newspapers and the damage [he would sustain] business-wise," said Doug Deaton, spokesperson for the Alliance.

Troy said his company "never signed an agreement" with the Gay group to rent billboard space and that as manager of the privately owned company, he "can consider whether any advertising is in good taste."

Troy declined to say whether he felt the Alliance's proposed billboard message met his company's standards of "good taste," and said he decided not to rent space to the Alliance because he "didn't think it was in the best interest of my company."

Deaton, meanwhile, said he has no hard feelings against Troy.

"I'm empathetic with him," said Deaton. "I don't like to be uncomfortable either. But often times, discomfort is the way to tremendous growth. I simply could not convince him that people would get over it."

Deaton said the Alliance would continue to look for billboard space to rent and has obtained a list of eight other billboard rental companies in the area.

"I'm going to go through them one by one," said Deaton. "I want to get a billboard up."

Porn Spies

Washington (Gay Community News) — A Pentagon study of long distance calls by the Defense Intelligence Agency shows the military's spies spent about \$25,000 a month in calls to a New York City "Dial-a-Porn" number according to a UPI dispatch.

The Pentagon's inspector general estimated the "potential monetary impact" from the porn calls to be about \$300,000 a year. The fun's

Jackson Supports Gays in 'Rainbow Coalition'

The Rev. Jesse Jackson told a press conference in Washington that his support for Gay rights rests on a distinction he has made between legal issues and religious ones.

According to *The Washington Blade*, Jackson said, "America is not a church state, it is a secular state, and there is a constitution that all of us must live under — a nation of law."

Jackson said he has not received pressure from religious groups within his emerging 'rainbow' coalition to steer away from Gay rights. "There is room in this rainbow for all American citizen," he said.

The press conference followed the endorsement of Jackson by members of the city council and the school board of the district.

Jackson added in support of his position on Gay rights, "There is a bible that some of us live under — morals, the Koran, that others of us live under."

over though, because the inspector general recommended that an electronic block be placed against the New York number and the Pentagon complied. But, get ready tax payers and tax resisters, to keep the spy boys from getting off on our money costs the following: a \$150 installation fee plus a \$15 monthly charge.

Key West Supports HRC Fund

Washington, D.C.—The Human Rights Campaign Fund, the national pro-Gay civil rights action committee, has wound up its 1983 fund-raising with a series of events in Key West during the last week of December.

This marks the end of the fourth year of operations for the Campaign Fund. The Fund's sights are set toward a minimum one million dollar war chest for the 1984 elections. During the 1981-1982 election cycle, over \$609,000 was raised.

1983 activities were highlighted by the annual New York City Dinner at the Waldorf. Rev. Jesse Jackson was the keynote speaker at the September event, and the evening netted over \$30,000 for the political action committee.

Vic Basile, Executive Director of the Campaign Fund, set the tone for the 1984 effort when he remarked, "The Gay and Lesbian Community has a tremendous wealth of talent, diversity and commitment. We want to bring those qualities together to forge an even more potent political force in 1984."

Oscar Wilde met poet Paul Verlaine, but only once. Oscar found the Frenchman "too ugly for decent conversation."

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Allain's Accusers Arrested

Jackson, MS— One of the three hustlers who figured in the Mississippi governor's race has been arrested for grand larceny. Grady Arrington, 24, was released on bond after his arrest for stealing a video cassette recorder and a piece of suede material in Hattiesburg, MS. Arrington and two other transvestite prostitutes claimed they had been hired by Bill Allain to have sex with him. The charges added no small amount of spice to the cam-

paign, but Allain won the election anyway.

One of the other transvestite hookers, who goes by the name of Donna, was arrested in January and charged with murder of a man and charged with the murder of a Jackson, MS man.



Heroes

continued from page 2

tion through membership in the National Council of Churches; the dialog, though unsuccessful, was productive, and the MCC will try again.

Groups like Black and White Men Together and the National Coalition of Black Gays brought Gay Rights to the forefront of the Human Rights movement in 1983, encouraging our inclusion in the National March on Washington last summer. Led by Presidential aspirant Jesse Jackson, minority candidates are increasingly basing their campaigns on "rainbow coalitions" of the poor and oppressed. I predict that lavender will be a striking color in those rainbows this year. I would go so far as to predict that we are in a position to help lead the human rights fight. All we lack is a broad concept of our future, and a program for mobilizing the power that we have only begun to tap in our communities. 1984 brings the opportunity to demonstrate both our power and our commitment. Next to research on AIDS, a show of strength in the coming elections must be our priority in 1984.

If I were to choose one leader who has best represented the Gay community in all these matters, it would be Virginia Apuzzo, Executive Director of the National Gay Task Force. She understands that our future depends on our ability to network effectively with other civil rights communities, and has travelled extensively to speak to both Gay and non-Gay groups, discussing our needs with the media throughout the country. Unlike many of our leaders, she sees our priorities from a very wide perspective, and can be expected to continue to lead well in the critical battles of 1984.

I think of Ginny Apuzzo as a leader, but not a hero(ine), and the distinction is an important one. Movie fans might remember a series of classic films that dealt with that distinction, ones made by Preston Sturges in the 30's. They dealt

with "ordinary" people who became "heroes," simply by doing "ordinary" things well. In *Hail the Conquering Hero*, Cpl. Woodrow Lafayette Pershing Truesmith (Eddie Bracken) is a nervous little man who has been cashiered from the Marines for hay fever. Due to uncontrollable circumstances, Woody returns home to a hero's welcome, and is immediately drafted to run for mayor. Eventually, the townspeople learn the truth, and their faith in the fake hero is destroyed; but their faith in Woody's honesty, his love for the town, and his leadership qualities cannot be denied, and we are left to assume his election is assured.

Forty years later, we have Clint Eastwood's Larger-than-life vigilante. We expect our heroes to solve our problems for us, whether through magic or by macho violence. We think of "ordinary" people as boring types who suffer their conflicts in private, live little lives, and vote occasionally. And when ordinary people become news stories (like Karen Silkwood), we rush to turn them into statues and put them on the screen as new heroes. As we worship the new icons, we forget how like us they were — and how heroic most of us can be in times that require personal valor.

The Gay community in America needs leaders, not heroes. In local as well as national organizations, we have to inspire thousands of Gay and Lesbian people to give up time and resources to work in the electoral process, help AIDS people at home, or just write checks so that others can do so. We need to believe again that heroism begins at home, in ordinary acts and ordinary relationships. And, we need to inspire one another to believe that we can perform one of the most heroic acts of all: coming out of the closets to take full control of our lives. Heroism - Leadership - Self-Worth and Pride.

Best wishes for a happy and politically effective 1984.

Dan White Released Amid Protests

by Allen Cook

"He got away with murder!" screamed 3000 people in San Francisco January 6, protesting the release of Dan White after serving only 5 years, 1 month and 9 days for the murder of SF Mayor George Moscone and openly Gay County Supervisor Harvey Milk.

In two rallies in San Francisco, more than 13,000 people sent White the message that, although he is officially forgiven by the state, he had better not come back to San Francisco.

Sister Boom-Boom, late of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, said at the rally, "Yesterday [January 5, his last day in prison] was the last day Dan White could spend knowing he would live through that day. Today Dan White begins a new sentence — and I'm sorry to say I don't think it's going to be a long one."

At another rally, feminist attorney Mary Dunlap struck a more calming note. "We demean ourselves and we become our own enemy when we avenge his wrong

by killing," Dunlap said.

Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley is angry that White was released on parole in his city. California corrections officials had contacted the city's chief of police about the release but he had failed to notify the mayor. Several other California cities had rejected White, citing the fact that they did not feel that he could be protected.

White shot and killed Moscone and Milk at the San Francisco City Hall more than five years ago. He had just resigned his seat on the Board of Supervisors and approached Moscone about being reinstated. Moscone refused and was then shot by an enraged White. Harvey Milk, a longtime political foe, was shot as White tried to escape Moscone's office.

White's defense in his 1978 trial was "diminished capacity" resulting from his overwrought state. Doctors testified that his dependence on "junk food" had contributed to his anxiety resulting in the murders.

White's current residence in Los Angeles has not been disclosed.

BWMT
memphis

An Interracial Gay People's Organization

- Thursday, February 2 — *Action Committee* 8:00 p.m.: Convention '84 — Program Planning, Workshops
Wednesday, February 8 — *Steering Committee* - 8:00 p.m.: Monthly Agenda
Saturday, February 11 — *Soul Food Potluck* (Bring the soul food of your choice to reflect your ethnic background, and the ethnic diversity of the Gay community and BWMT) 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday, February 14 — *CR/Support Group* - 8:00 p.m. Topic: "What Happens after the first Night?"
Friday-Sunday, February 17-19 - *Southeastern BWMT Network Meets in Atlanta*
Wednesday, February 22 — *Ron Smith Remembered*
Thursday, February 23 — *CR/Support Group* - 8:00 p.m. Topic: "Attitude Changes in the Last Two Years"
Monday, February 27: *General Meeting* — Main Library Meeting Room B, 7:30

We are Gay individuals creating an interracial, cultural, social, political and educational organization dedicated to fostering a supportive environment where racial and cultural barriers can be overcome, as well as working to combat racism both within and outside the Gay community.

For further information call 276-4160 (Irwin) or 274-0532 (Joe) or 726-4299 (Gay Switchboard) or write: Black and White Men Together of Memphis, Inc., P.O. Box 41773, Memphis, TN 38174.



Spectrum

X-Mas Potluck Draws Crowd

D.R.'s, Memphis' most recent addition to the Gay restaurant listing, was the setting on December 19th for the Memphis Gay Coalition's fifth annual Christmas Potluck.

Adorned by two braised birds, furnished by the Coalition, the food-laden tables attracted nearly 50 revelers to the festive feast in the room which offered a commanding view of the intersection of Cleveland and Madison.

Past sites for the annual bacchanalian feast include the architectural offices of Boxes Trees, the Pendulum, and the Metropolitan Community Church.

AIDS Topic of Health Show

Total Health and Relaxation: An Ounce of Prevention, a local public access cable program will feature two local researchers on AIDS in programs airing February.

The first program, slated to be broadcast on Memphis Cable Channel 7 will feature Dr. Linda Pifer, Assoc. Professor at UTCHS and Director of the Immunology Lab at Le Bonheur Hospital. Dr. Pifer recently received a \$204,000 grant from the National Institutes of Health to research pneumocystis carinii pneumonia, the opportunistic infection which afflicts more than 50% of all AIDS victims. That program will run Tuesday, January 31 at 5 pm. Other plays will be on February 1, 1 pm; February 2, 9 pm; and February 5, 6 pm.

The second program will feature Dr. Walter Hughes, Chairman of

the Division of Infectious Diseases at St. Jude and Professor at UTCHS. It will run Tuesday February 7, 5 pm, and be repeated February 8, 1 pm; February 9, 9 pm; and February 12, 6 pm.

The programs were produced by Bob Hughes, a consultant with the Mid-South Medical Center Council (MMCC) and yoga teacher. "Total Health" is an extension and parallel effort of the MMCC's Task Force on Preventive Medicine and in cooperation with UTCHS's Dept. of Community Medicine to disseminate health information to a wider audience.

The shows on AIDS will be rebroadcast in April. For further information call MMCC at 527-4162.

Discrimination Response System Started

Gay News—The Fund for Human Dignity and Black and White Men Together have formed a nationwide Discrimination Response System (DRS) to be administered by local chapters of BWMT. The program began in the District of Columbia last summer and resulted in claims being filed against two Washington Gay businesses with the D.C. Office of Human Rights. The settlement of the first claim resulted in the \$5000 check to the Fund for Human Dignity to provide grants to local BWMT chapters for their own programs. In October the fund added another \$2000 to the grant program. BWMT chapters wanting info on the DRS program should write to DRS Grant Application, Fund for Human Dignity, 80 Fifth Ave., No. 1601, New York, NY 10011.

Perspectives on Ageism

San Francisco, CA (*Bay Area Reporter*)— An anthology on aging from a feminist perspective is being compiled for use in women's studies and gerontology studies, as well as for political organizing and consciousness raising.

Polly Taylor seeks articles, fiction, cartoons, drawings, photos, interviews, personal experience and feminist theory for "Feminist Perspectives on Ageism." Materials for submission should demonstrate a high level of political consciousness around issues of age, sex, class, race, physical appearance, Lesbianism, anti-Semitism and ethnic/religious identity.

Submissions must be received by March 15, 1984. Include a self-addressed envelope and send to: Feminist Perspectives of Ageism, c/o Polly Taylor, 904 Irving St., No. 258, San Francisco, CA 94122.

Gay People Urged to Talk

The Media Fund for Human Rights has announced a major, nationwide campaign to make Gay people more critical of the media. The campaign was launched with an exhibit during the recent convention of the National Association of Business Councils in Los Angeles. Convention-goers were invited to view a video-tape of the media coverage of many Gay issues and to respond to a questionnaire.

The Media Fund for Human Rights is a tax-exempt charitable and educational organization which was founded by the Gay Press Association, the international association of Gay media professionals.

"Local groups have been doing incredibly successful consciousness-raising among media officials in their communities," according to Mike Rutherford, Executive Director of the Media Fund. "Now, the time has come for us to be sending our version of breaking news stories directly into the electronic news systems of the country — and do it on a national level." It's a task, he says, which will take full-time professionals, lots of money and cooperation among Gay groups nationwide.

"If we could just match the technical facilities of the Moral Majority,

Lesbian Elected Now Pres in PA

Harrisburg, PA (*Gay Community News*)— Mary Nancarrow, 32, has been elected president of the Pennsylvania National Organization for Women for the next two years.

Nancarrow defeated longtime NOW activist Phyllis Wetherby of Pittsburgh by a vote of 201-123. Nancarrow will leave her job as the only openly Gay investigator with the Pennsylvania Human Rights Commission to assume full-time duties as the state Chapter president of the 10,000 member organization.

Nancarrow, of Harrisburg, said "We will involve and include Lesbians in every issue area — reproductive rights, the Equal Rights Amendment, eliminating racism, violence against women, and economic justice."

Back to the Media

we could begin to counter some 'media fag-bashing' which is going on," said Morgan Pinney, CPA, who is Chief Executive Officer for the project.

The heart of the operation of the Media Fund is the computerized electronic network, established more than a year ago by the Gay Press Association and now operated by the Media Fund. The system is now accessible by any group in the country, using any of the popular home computers connected over regular phone lines to the "host" computer in New York. Any group can leave messages for any other group or disseminate press releases to all groups. Members of special sub-groups, such as Gay lawyers or Gay journalists, will communicate within their special sections of the system. "All of this will result in a better and more rapidly informed Gay community, and everyone will be in touch with the Media Fund as we send news and analysis directly into the electronic news systems of the country," according to Pinney.

The Media Fund can be contacted through its national office in Washington, D.C. at 1110 Rhode Island Ave., NW, Zip 20005.

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Convention-goers were urged to "Talk Back to the Media" and view a video tape of "media fagbashing" at an exhibit of the Media Fund for Human Rights during the November convention of NABC in Los Angeles. photo by Robert Finney

Lesbian Empowerment Theme of Conference

Lesbian empowerment will be the focus of the Southern Lesbian Conference scheduled for October 12-14, 1984.

That theme was decided upon by the 21 women who met for the second Conference Planning Meeting in St. Petersburg, FL on November 19. Women from north, south and central Florida participated in the one-day session.

The focus of the Conference will be on ACTION both personal and political, as well as networking and education. Tentative topics for conference workshops and discussion groups include: Southern talent, civil disobedience, spirituality, starting a women's business, substance abuse among lesbians, lesbian mothers, racism, agism, international women's culture, coming out and staying out, incest survivors, and revolution.

We are looking for women's space somewhere in the southern states to hold the Conference.

Lesbians wanting to participate in any phase of the Conference, please contact Jayne-Orr Burns, 148 W 6th St. Jacksonville, FL 32206.

The third planning meeting is set for February 11-12, 1984, at the Pagoda, 207 Coastal Highway, St. Augustine, FL.



Twinkies and Trolls

New York(*The Weekly News*)— For those of you tired of playing "Monopoly" or "Life" there is a new game available with our community in mind. "Twinkies and Trolls" is the creation of Greg Mayfield and is distributed by Gaymes Publications. The game begins with those innocent first experiences, progresses through coming out, the first visit to a Gay bar, a show bar, and leather bar and the unavoidable "tubs." The object, as is true in life, is to accumulate as many Twinkies and as few Trolls as possible.

Textbook Warns of Prowling Homos

The Weekly News — Masculinity and Femininity, a sex education textbook for 12 and 13 year olds advises its readers to avoid being trapped by "clever and devious" homosexuals, *Au Courant* reports. Unsatisfied by any one partner for very long, Gay men are "usually on the lookout for new ones," including teenagers, the book warned.

Catholic Guide Warns

Gay News — A new Catholic guide to sex education has stern warnings against homosexuality, masturbation and heterosex outside of marriage. The thirty page booklet, aimed at parents and edu-

cators, says "sexual intercourse, ordained toward procreation, is the maximum expression on the physical level of the communion of love of the married." It specifically brands homosexuality as a "disorder," possibly caused by psychological or physiological factors, habit, bad education, bad examples, or the lack of normal sexual development. The guide is seen as an expression of the Vatican's previous position on the sanctity of marriage. But the book breaks new ground by urging governments to elevate "public morality" and regulate the media to eliminate pornography. The guide was written at the direction of Pope John Paul II by the Sacred Congregation for Catholic Education, headed by Cardinal William Baum, former archbishop of Washington.

Quote — End Quote

"Homosexuals do their best to keep their physical fitness up so they can indoctrinate others."

—Rev. John Martelli of the Moral Majority explained why we pump iron on "People Are Talking" WBZ-TV, Boston, on November 8. Martelli and Berkeley Gay Boy Scout Tim Curran appeared on the program to discuss Gay people as role models for children. In a telephone poll conducted during the show, respondents who believed that Gay people can be good role models outvoted the naysayers on the question by about 75 votes.

No Umbrellas for Our Guys

Dallas Gay News — Sex discrimination may lead to sniffles at the nation's army bases, reports the *Los Angeles Times*.

The Pentagon brass has been mulling over whether GI's should be allowed to tote umbrellas in the rain. Their decree: "Bumbershoots are okay for female soldiers, but they're too wimpy for the guys."

Summer Cools on Gays

In what may seem to some a suicidal effort, careerwise, Donna Summer has found religion and rejected many of her most ardent fans.

As reported by Chicago's *Out* magazine, Donna was asked how she felt about Gays in a question-and-answer session after a recent concert.

"I'll pray for you people. I'll pray for you tonight," she said. The reporter supposedly indicated that such prayers were neither wanted nor needed.

In answer to that, Summer continued, "I have seen the evil homosexuality come out of you people ...AIDS is your sin." She closed with this: "Don't get me wrong. God loves you. but not the way you are now."

Summer was first discovered by Gays and reigned over the Gay disco scene before and during her mass success.

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Outlook

Putting Yourself Back Together Again

by Rev. Larry J. Uhrig

Fragmentation is a reality of most people's personality. Many spheres of our lives and lifestyles are segregated from other parts of ourselves, and we often remain emotionally, psychologically, or mentally compartmentalized. This is almost universally true of our sexuality; folk wisdom and the custom of our culture call it "a private matter." Sexuality is only for the bedroom, not for any kind of public discussion or visibility.

That, supposedly, is why Gay people are warned not to demonstrate any form of sexuality or sexual preference in public. Yet somehow the exhibition of heterosexuality is glossed over as "innocent affection" or something other than sex. "Innocent affection" on the part of Gay people immediately raises fears that overt sexuality will soon follow, hot and heavy. If two boys holding hands can cause a stir, the issue is a fear of sexuality.

Gay people participate in maintaining the status quo and work to keep their lives private. While at first this may seem to be a route

to freedom, it is actually a dead-end street. I do not advocate open and public sexuality, with copulation on street corners, but I do say that sexuality is a dynamic energy force which is close to our spiritual selves and must be harnessed to our spirituality if we are to be fulfilled.

We have been taught society's model of lifestyle in which spiritual and sexual things are polar opposites. Western Christianity has long prompted this view. For example, how would the church you grew up in respond to a prayer which said, "Thank you, Lord, for my sexual expression?" They would probably fall out of their pews in haste to escort you from yours.

In reality, that is just what has happened to Gay men and women. We have been escorted from the religious community precisely because our very presence threatened to undo the traditional structures which conveniently held sexuality and spirituality apart. Allowing Gay people to remain in the religious fabric invariably brings about a dialog of the two.

What is needed now is a frontal assault on the old structures, not only within the churches, but with-

in ourselves. That can be achieved by combining our sexual and spiritual reality - a merger that is often frightening. Even personally, we often oppose this merger and seek to shore up old walls that provide separation and a false sense of security.

The truth at the heart of the struggle is that there are not two worlds, one sexual and one spiritual. The truth of the matter is that to know the fullness of spiritual truth, one must engage the substance of sexual energy and its reality. An equally important truth is that to know the fullness of sexual energy and its meaning, spiritual reality must be brought into any sexual exchange.

This is the essence of the mystery which religious form and sacrament has sought to communicate for centuries: the achievement of communion, the blending of two lives in ways that profoundly influence and change both. The depth and height of human love evidences the occasion of holy communion in which two people merge their reality by way of physical sexual sharing. In doing so, they discover the presence of God in the most vital way humanly possible. What

happens in such union is the revelation of the nature of each person's being as well as the interdependence of each person with the Divine.

The discovery presents us with a dilemma: the merger of sexual and spiritual "stuff" is volatile and life-changing, and we therefore fear it and seek to contain and avoid it. The motive of containment has been the source of the world's attempt to devise sexual ethics which prohibit sexual expression except in the most restricted of circumstances. The result is not a sexual ethic at all, but a procreation ethic that does not serve to express the reality of Gay people either sexually or spiritually.

But if Gay people are essentially not so different from the rest of humanity, this ethic does not serve any of us. The procreation ethic which contains sexuality in order to appease human fear has produced and reinforced the social institution of marriage. Religious symbols and meaning have been co-opted by our culture in order to aid in the process. The tragedy is that the deeper purpose of the religious symbol - to express human love and relationship, to mediate the union of sexual and spiritual - has been lost in the process of serving political, social, economic, and other cultural needs. The old models must now be replaced for the sake of furthering health and wholeness of life for both Gay and non-Gay people.

continued on page 18



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Nashville

1984 Comes to Nashville

by Jeff Thompson,
Nashville Correspondent.

Nashville's Gay community eagerly is awaiting the imminent opening of 1984's first new Gay nightspot, while a perennially favorite club has ushered in this Orwellian year with a suitable, high-tech nod to the future.

The Cabaret, at 1711 Hayes Street, proudly is proclaiming itself to be Music City's very first "video bar." The Cabaret, already famous for its dazzling shows and pageants, has installed two ten-foot television screens, one on either side of the stage/dance floor area. Since the screens' unveiling on New Year's Eve, the very latest music videos have been projected onto them, while those videos' stereo soundtracks have resounded through the club, providing a thrilling dancing experience for the patrons.

The Cabaret receives sixty new music videos from New York City every month. Already the club has had the honor of "premiering" several brand-new songs to its Nashville clientele. Videos which are the crowds' current favorites include Michael Sembello's *Maniac*, *Why Me?* by Irene Cara, and, according to Cabaret owner Pat Blaylock, "Anything by Michael Jackson! We start off a lot of nights by running *Thriller* when we open up at 8:00."

Pat observes that, when the sight and sound of a music video crackle through the Cabaret, the crowd seems to dance *and* watch. Some people watch the giant-screen televisions from their tables. Many others are inspired to get out onto the floor and dance to the stereo music. But *most* of the guests find themselves doing a little of *both*,

as they gyrate to the danceable sounds, while keeping a watchful eye on the remarkable visuals which illustrate the songs.

In addition to the projection of the wide variety of new music videos, the pair of ten-foot screens at the Hayes Street establishment often takes on even more stunning dimensions when songs which have no videos are played. The Cabaret has acquired a complex, computerized instrument known as a Chromascope. This device "hears" a song and generates amazing geometrical designs and other effects *in rhythm* to the music! The Chromascope has the capability of producing *2147 million* different designs! Plus, a video camera occasionally is focused on the dancers, and their likenesses flash onto the screens, and then *change color* several times!

Executing these high-tech, visual wonders with finesse and flair is The Cabaret's popular Jim Smith. The DJ is thrilled that the coming of 1984 has transformed him into a VJ (video jockey), apparently Nashville's first! From his perch overlooking the dance floor, Jim operates the Chromascope, a TV camera, spotlights, record players, a VHS videotape recorder, mixers, and more, as he catapults Nashville's Cabaret and its guests into an astounding future-world.

Meanwhile, the grand opening of a new Gay bar, The Chute, is now mere days away. As reported in the *January Gaze*, The Chute occupies the former home of Mother's Construction Company, at 2535 Franklin Road, and will feature an inviting country-and-western atmosphere, complete with a restaurant, a cozy fireplace area, occasional screenings of films, pool tables and games, and even live entertainment on selected nights!

All the while, The Warehouse 28, Incorporated, is continuing its special nights of theatregoing and cast parties, having led delegations to see performances of *Shenandoah*, the Lar Lubovitch Dance Company, and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. The Jungle is offering Nashvillians and tourists alike memorable evenings of fellowship and entertainment. B. Palola's Restaurant is eliciting even more culinary plaudits from its growing number of regular customers. Juanita's 224 and the Crazy Cowboy are giving folks something to celebrate. And the flourishing Metropolitan Community Church is providing meaningful spiritual and social outlets for members of its friendly congregation. Already this much-ballyhooed year of 1984 has proven that NASHVILLE offers *something for everyone* in its proud Gay community.



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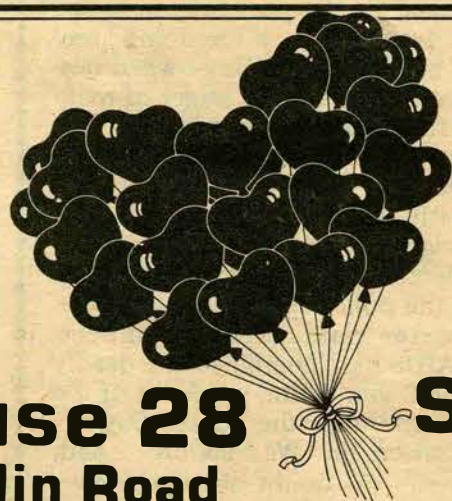
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Health/AIDS

AIDS Reported Worldwide

The worldwide spread of AIDS was discussed by 38 scientists meeting at the U.N. World Health Organization in late November. They revealed that 15 European countries reporting to the U.N. reveal that 10% of the known cases originate in these countries. The disease has been reported in 33 countries.

This was the first world conference of scientists who are directly working with AIDS care and research. They shared information and made some general conclusions, the most spectacular of which is the increase in AIDS cases outside of the U.S. However, some origins of the disease were noted. For example, the European totals reflected that 59 cases were of people born in Africa. In France and Belgium, more than half of cases were from five African nations. The French total also included 94 Haitians.

The scientists meeting in Geneva reviewed recent data and made these conclusions:

Africa: Reports that the disease may be generally transmitted heterosexually in some less developed countries because of inadequately sterilized needles.

Hospital records reveal that AIDS cases existed in Africa at the same time they were discovered in the U.S. In Zaire, as many women as men were affected. An internationally financed team is working in Zaire to study the AIDS situation there.

Asia/Australia: Australia has reported only four cases and Japan has reported only two. Japan is the only Asian country to report any cases.

Eastern Bloc: While information from this area may be being sup-

pressed, the Soviet Union claims to have no cases and, while West Germany reports 42 cases, East Germany claims none. However, strict travel restrictions imposed on the Soviet-dominated countries may account for the limited spread.

United States: The reported 2,753 cases in the U.S. (out of approximately 3,000 worldwide) makes it the largest incidence area. It was concluded that the earlier doubling of statistics every six months appears to have eased off.

Canada: Cases continue to double every six months with 50 cases thus far reported. The 50 included 43 men and 7 women; 24 were known homosexuals. The total included 18 Haitians, including one homosexual.

Haiti: Haitians are bitter over the drop of U.S. tourist trade —

2/3 of the total at one time — over some allegations that Haitians were "spreading" AIDS to the U.S. through male prostitution contacts. Tourist trade fell from 70,000 in the winter of 1981-82 to 10,000 last year. There are currently 180 documented cases in Haiti. A surprising 28% of the cases are women compared to 5% in the U.S.

One encouraging note may be that with the detection of AIDS in many countries outside of the U.S. more scientists will be participating in the research.

Testicular Cancer Most Common

The American Cancer Society has published a four-page pamphlet, "For Men Only— Testicular Cancer and How To Do TSE" which explains testicular cancer and explains how to do testicular self-examinations (TSE).

Cancer of the testes is one of the

most common cancers in men 15 to 38 years of age. And TSE is the best way to detect the disease early.

Men can take this simple self-examination once a month in just three minutes. TSE is done after a warm bath or shower when the scrotal skin is most relaxed. Each testicle is rolled gently between the thumb and fingers to search for abnormalities, such as a lump or nodule. If any are found, they should be reported to a doctor promptly.

Men with an undescended or partially descended testicle are at higher risk of developing testicular cancer. In cases where it is detected and treated early, seminoma—the most common form—has a survival rate approaching 100%.

The pamphlet is available free from local American Cancer Society units.

Foster Homes Won't Accept AIDS Baby

Miami—Pleas from officials of the Florida Dept. of Health & Rehabilitation Services (HRS) have gone unheeded as almost 20 foster homes have refused to take a 14-month old girl who is reportedly suffering from AIDS.

The child, born of a Haitian immigrant, weighs less than 10 pounds. She is thought to have contracted the disease from her mother. The mother died about a month ago and the father has abandoned the child.

Jackson Memorial Hospital is attempting to place the child because, it says, it needs the bed space. The State of Florida wants to stop the payments, now amounting to \$57,684 for the baby's 132 day stay.

The little girl is one of an estimated 100 children in the country who have AIDS.

AIDS-related Bashings Surge

Seattle, WA (*Bay Area Reporter*) A dramatic outbreak of queerbashing by gangs of teenagers which is blamed on AIDS hysteria has erupted in this city.

At least six Gay men have been attacked in the past month in the Broadway area, a predominately Gay neighborhood. Gay-owned businesses have been the target of rock-and-firecracker-throwing teens. Reports indicate that references to AIDS and "disease-carriers" are frequently shouted by the attacking teenagers.

Members of the Gay community and the police agree that homophobia and an irrational fear of contracting AIDS have combined in a deadly fashion. Jim Holm, president of the Dorian Group, the largest Gay organization in Washington said, "There's no doubt about it now—it's pure, unadulterated hatred of Gay people that's behind the hysteria." Police say the attackers are middle-class white youths who live in the neighborhood.

The Dorian Group has begun a project to monitor queerbashing in

ten cities around the country to assess the incidents of AIDS and the frequency of attacks on Gay men in different cities.

Adding Insult to Injury

Denver, CO. (*Gay Community News*)—A man with AIDS who had once before been refused public services when it was learned he had AIDS has again been insulted by the same overactive police officer, according to the *Washington Post*.

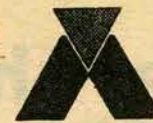
Henry Pena was injured in a minor traffic accident recently in Denver. He chipped a tooth and sustained cuts to his mouth. Patrolman Key Boyd responded to the call and recognized Pena as the man whose house he had fled in August when he learned Pena had AIDS during a routine burglary investigation. Boyd evidently learned nothing from the first incident, since he summoned a hazardous materials team to clean up Pena's blood.

An Officer, But No Gentleman

New York — According to *Gay News*, actor Richard Gere was issued a summons recently in Greenwich Village for an unusual offense. Gere of *Breathless* and *American Gigolo* fame, was found with his member hanging out of his pants along a public street. It seems that Gere had to urinate.

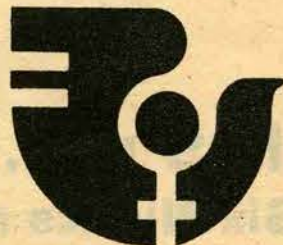
Like many artists before and after, the sculptor Phidas commemorated his lover "fair Pantarkes" by carving his name on a work of art. His statue of Zeus, one of the seven wonders of the world, bore the inscription on its middle finger.

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Our Bodies, Our Minds

No Way to Die

by Harvey Thompson, M.D.

Dedicated to Mr. X — who agreed to having his story told...

He hadn't told the doctors when he was admitted for treatment that he was Gay. At the age of 71, he probably didn't consider it important.

When he came into the hospital, his doctor asked about his past history, but was politely told by the patient that he would "rather not go into that because it's not important anyway." So, it became a silent contract between them to ignore the past history portion of the interview, and just stick to physical findings and laboratory tests.

He was cultured from every orifice, his heart was ultrasounded, his blood studied, and he was treated for presumed endocarditis when his fevers continued. The doctors called in to consult on the case had thought of AIDS, but since the patient denied being at risk for this, they dropped the possibility.

He kept hoping that they would find the right antibiotic to cure his self-diagnosed "bronchitis," and that this "flu" would just run its course. But it didn't, and he became more and more frightened. He was ready to open up to the right person.

Ten days into his hospitalization, the "Gay doctor" was asked to consult. It's unusual for non-Gay doctors to ask help from their openly Gay colleagues; I remember feeling like the priest in *The Exorcist*.

After the initial formalities and the usual medical questions, I sat down, grasped his hand, and said, "There's something important we have to talk about. I'm Gay, many of my patients are, and it's impor-

tant to know if that is a possibility in your case..."

Then he poured out his story. He had left his midwest family in the 1930's when he realized he was "different." He headed for California, and never saw his family again. He worked in a box factory for most of his life; he and his lover kept quietly to themselves. It was dangerous to get together with other homosexuals. That was the way he learned to live his life—in secrecy.

When he retired from being a security guard in Reno, he moved to Sacramento and lived in a high-rise apartment downtown. He tried to socialize at a senior citizen's center, but had little in common, and besides, "they wouldn't talk to me." He was lonely, and went to San Francisco most every week—his little secret. He said he hadn't had sex since his open heart surgery three years before. Though he went to bathhouses, he "didn't do anything." He didn't consider being the passive partner in anal sex with numerous partners "doing anything." After all, they had sex, not him.

He worried about AIDS, and was careful not to kiss or go down on anyone. He always went to the same bathhouse, thinking it was less risky than frequenting different bars or backrooms.

Once, he was treated for syphilis at the county clinic, and just for reassurance, he checked with three private dermatologists for retreatments. He always asked "Do I have AIDS?" Even the internist he visited in San Francisco told him, "Seventy year-old men don't get AIDS." Remember — he wasn't Gay, and didn't ever have sex, anyway.

But then he started losing weight, despite vitamins and food supplements from health food stores. He never liked to cook, and

usually ate out. Then he lost his appetite for that and stayed home more and more in his apartment with all the things accumulated from his past. He started getting dizzy and couldn't sleep, had night sweats and even fainting spells.

His eyes brimmed with tears when he looked up and asked me if he had AIDS. He really didn't want to know; you could tell from the way he said, "I don't have AIDS, do I?"

His shortness of breath, his fifty-pound weight loss, and fevers to 104 spelled out a pneumonia, but the proof wasn't ready until the following day. He had a lung biopsy which showed pneumocystis carinii organisms, confirming the impression of AIDS. The day of the biopsy was the last one that enabled him to ask more questions; he was intubated and unable to talk with the endotracheal tube in place.

There were more tubes: IV's, arterial lines, CVP's, bladder catheters, suction, and oxygen. The endotracheal tube burned, the needles hurt, and his skin was raw from stool that he couldn't control. He couldn't have asked for it all to be stopped if he wanted. He may never have been asked if he wanted someone notified or if

he needed anything from his apartment.

It was hard to tell who was who when everyone came through the door in identical caps, masks, gowns and gloves. He couldn't even see out the window very well; it was covered with signs that said "CMV precautions: No Pregnant Women," or "Strict Isolation! AIDS."

No friends came to visit. He hadn't any. There was that lover of a decade before somewhere in Arizona, but he didn't want him tracked down anyhow.

People from the AIDS office came promptly, but too late. How can you talk about death and dying when a respirator is doing all the communicating?

The medicines didn't work; his chances had been 50/50. When he slipped into a coma and died a few days later, the nightmare came to an end.

His body waited "on hold" in the morgue until distant relatives could be found. By that time, no one wanted to do an autopsy, anyway. He became victim number 2483, a coincidence because he came out at age 24, and went out in the year '83.

It was no way to die, isolated, alone, and unloved.

NSA Investigation Targets Gays

Five employees of the National Security Agency, a highly secretive federal agency, are fighting for their jobs following investigations in which employees told the NSA the five are Gay.

The employees, all males holding top security clearances, have told investigators that their homosexuality does not pose a threat to national secrets and said they were willing to go to court to save their jobs.

The Washington Blade learned of the investigation of the employees from information provided by a local Gay activist, Frank Kameny, who is also serving as an administrative counsel to the men.

NSA is an arm of the Defense Department and deals in code-breaking and monitoring of communications throughout the world.

It is considered to be one of the most secretive intelligence gathering organizations in government.

The case is interesting because in another case in 1980, the then-director of NSA, Admiral Bobby Ray Inman, ruled that a Gay linguist could keep his job. Sources close to NSA indicated that this was a major shift in policy.

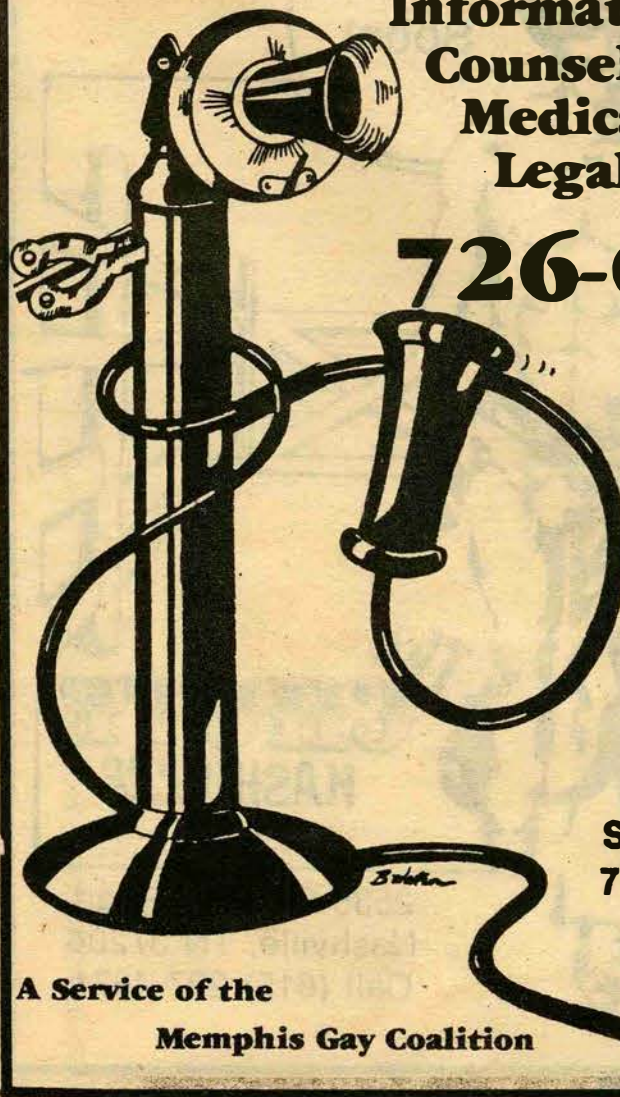
The NSA is governed by the personnel policies of the government's Office of Personnel Management. Those regulations hold that homosexuality in and of itself is not grounds for denial of employment or denial of a security clearance. Each case involving a homosexual employee is decided separately on its own merits.

NSA contends, however, that homosexual employees are subjected to more scrutiny than others.

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... In the Courts



Panicked Hets

San Francisco, CA (*Bay Area Reporter*)—The “homosexual panic” defense, used unsuccessfully in a bay area murder case last summer, is gaining popularity around the state as a defense against murder charges. Three more cases in California surfaced in which defense lawyers claim that their clients killed their victims in states of “diminished capacity.” The killers supposedly panicked after they were sexually approached by the murdered men. The *BAR* also reports that unmarried men are being eliminated from juries, apparently in an attempt to clear juries of Gay jurors.

San Diego (*The Washington Blade*)—A jury has found a 27-year old man guilty of second degree murder despite claims by the defense that the victim had propositioned the man sexually and caused him to lapse into a “Homosexual panic.”

Robert Eady had been charged with striking Vince Leon, 37, in the head with a shovel nine times in Leon’s Chula Vista home on July 8. Eady fled to San Francisco but turned himself into police and confessed to the murder.

Eady’s psychiatrist told the jury Leon’s advances aroused “suppressed homosexual urges” in Eady, causing him to enter into a “homosexual panic.” The psychiatrist, Jose Ferando, said the advances by Leon reminded Eady of an incident he experienced when he was 12, when he was sexually assaulted by two 16-year-old males.

Eady’s attorney urged the jury to convict Eady of either voluntary or involuntary manslaughter. Deputy District Attorney Bob Hammes, however, told the court Eady knew Leon was Gay, approached Leon for a job, and allowed Leon to “get close to him and put his arm around him.”

Eady faces a 15-year-to-life term in state prison.

Citizenship Case Taken to High Court

National Gay Rights Advocates is appealing a Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals decision denying citizenship to a Gay man who immigrated here nearly 20 years ago. And the federal government will soon appeal a Ninth Circuit ruling that the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) can no longer bar visitors (and, by implication, those who enter with the intention of becoming citizens) on the basis of their sexual orientation.

The Fifth Circuit case stems from the efforts of Richard Longstaff, who entered the United States in 1965. He settled in Texas, started a business, and applied for citizenship in 1976.

A federal court in Texas ruled that Longstaff was ineligible to become a U.S. citizen because he is homosexual and therefore lacks “good moral character.” The case was then appealed to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans.

The Fifth Circuit, in ruling 2-1 against Longstaff’s naturalization, decided that Longstaff was ineligible for citizenship because he had illegally entered the country in 1965. The court based its decision on a federal law that forbids homosexuals to enter this country.

Yet that same statute provides that only the Public Health Service (PHS) can certify a person as homosexual and therefore excludable as a “sexual deviate.” The Fifth Circuit ignored that provision and held that Longstaff’s own admission that he was Gay at the time he entered the country was sufficient proof that he was homosexual and therefore excludable.

NGRA entered the case, officially known as *Matter of Longstaff*, at the

appellate level. It filed an *amicus curiae* brief and Leonard Graff, NGRA Legal Director, presented oral arguments to the court. Mr. Longstaff asked NGRA to become co-counsel after the Fifth Circuit’s 2-1 decision was handed down.

NGRA’s first move was to request a hearing *en banc* by every judge in the Fifth Circuit. That request was denied. On November 1, NGRA and Longstaff decided to go to the Supreme Court.

While the divided Fifth Circuit ignored the section of the law that requires PHS to certify a person as homosexual, the Ninth Circuit on September 7, upheld that very same provision. The Ninth Circuit decision upheld an earlier ruling won by NGRA in the case of *Carl Hill vs. INS*.

This Ninth Circuit decision, in effect, ended INS discrimination because PHS, reflecting a widespread shift in medical judgement, will no longer certify that homosexuality means a person is afflicted with “psychopathic personality, or sexual deviation, or a mental defect.”

While the law was not held to be unconstitutional, the new policy at PHS ends the discrimination. The INS has filed for a rehearing *en banc* by the entire Ninth Circuit. If this is denied, the government will go to the Supreme Court, where the conflicting decisions by the two circuits will have to be resolved.

The two cases raise the same issue — the government’s ability to deny entry to Gay and Lesbian foreigners — although Mr. Hill sought entry under a tourist visa, whereas Mr. Longstaff was a resident alien applying for citizenship.

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Watkins Loses Latest Round in Bid to Stay in Army

by Katherine Bourdonnay

In a stunning upset for Gays, a three-judge panel of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco has ruled unanimously to overturn a lower court order preventing the U.S. Army from discharging Sgt. Perry Watkins, an openly Gay soldier.

In its eight-page decision, penned by Judge Herbert Choy and filed December 9, the court said it had no power to force Watkins' superiors to disobey Army regulations, which call for the discharge of homosexuals, unless those regulations are proven to be "repugnant to the Constitution or to statutory authority."

"That is not the case here," said the opinion. "Although Watkins' complaint included claims that the Army regulations in question are repugnant to the Constitution, the district court declined to rule on any constitutional question."

Sgt. Watkins is currently in his final six-year enlistment and would be eligible for full retirement benefits in October, 1988, at the end of this tour of duty. He is stationed in West Germany where an attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union, John Lobsenz, who has been representing Watkins in the case for the past several years, contacted him by phone to break the news.

Watkins was drafted during the

Vietnam War, and had told an Army psychiatrist at the induction center that he was Gay. Watkins was nevertheless, found fit for duty. During his ensuing military career, his homosexuality came to the attention of the Army several times but until recently he was able to continue on active duty without imminent threat of discharge.

Exactly what is in store for Watkins in the immediate future is unclear. The grounds upon which he was granted injunctive relief by the district court have been overruled, and in reversing that decision, the appeals court has sent the case back to Judge Barbara Rothstein for further consideration. The order initially issued by Rothstein states that the district court would "retain jurisdiction over the parties and the dispute pending final disposition of [Watkins'] request for reenlistment."

Watkins reportedly told Lobsenz that no one in the Army has given him official notification of the appeals court decision and, to date, the Army has taken no action to discharge him.

Kathleen Taylor, Executive Director of the ACLU in Seattle, said "We will continue every effort to save Watkins' career but his cause and the cause of all Gay and Lesbian personnel have undeniably been dealt a severe setback."

GRNL Announces Plans for Immigration Hearings

Washington, DC — Gay Rights National Lobby announced that Congressional Hearings on immigration reform are to be held in early 1984. GRNL Immigration Task Force Coordinator Craig Howell, Legislative Aide Mike Walsh, and Executive Director Steve Endean have been working closely with Rep. Barney Frank (D-MA) to insure that the hearings will take place.

Of most immediate interest to Gay community is Frank's revision of "health related grounds" for exclusion. Under the 1952 law, immigration authorities are directed to bar any alien who is "afflic-

ted with a psychopathic personality, sexual deviation, or mental defect" — language which has been interpreted to keep out foreign homosexuals. In contrast, H.R. 4509 would restrict medical exclusions to, first, "any alien who is afflicted with any dangerous contagious disease," and, second, "any alien who suffers from any mental illness likely to result in the performance of acts which would endanger public safety."

Rep. Frank, commenting on his bill stated, "This language is intended, among other things, to repeal the prohibition on admitting foreign homosexuals."

N.Y. Attorney General Sides with Gay Man

The New York State attorney general — in what has Gay legal observers pleasantly surprised — filed a "friend of the court" brief in support of a Buffalo Gay man whose sex offense case is being considered by the U.S. Supreme Court.

Attorney General Robert Abrams filed the amicus curiae brief in New York v. Uplinger, the first Gay-related case to be heard on its merits by the nation's highest court in over 15 years. The case involves Robert Uplinger, who was arrested in August 1981 after inviting an undercover police officer to his home to engage in sex. Depending on how the case is decided, it could have a far reaching impact on anti-Gay sodomy laws nationwide.

Uplinger, now 32, was charged with violating a New York law that prohibits loitering in a public place for the purpose of soliciting for

"deviate sexual intercourse." He was convicted in Buffalo City Court and the conviction was upheld by the Erie County Court. However, the New York Court of Appeals, which had earlier overturned the state's sodomy statute as unconstitutional, threw out the loitering statute as well, holding that Uplinger could not be punished for soliciting for an activity that was not illegal. The Erie County district attorney then appealed to the Supreme Court, which accepted the case. Oral arguments were scheduled to be heard on January 18.

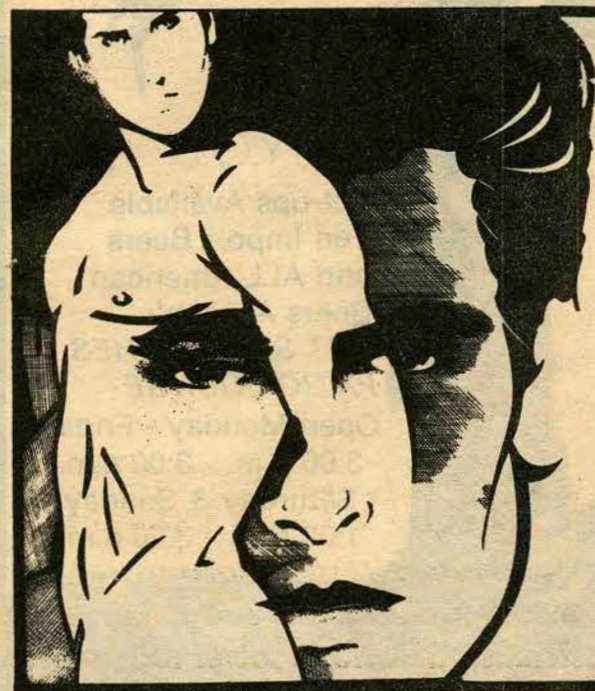
Joe Tom Easley, co-chair of the Lambda Legal Defense and Education fund, a Gay legal group, said he was "flabbergasted" that Abrams filed the brief. "I've never heard of another situation where an attorney general of a state opposed an appeal of an adverse opinion to the criminal statute of the state," he observed.



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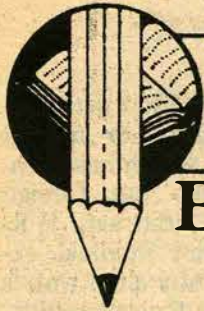
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REVIEWS

Book Chronicles Black Lesbian Struggles

By Edie Murray

Black Lesbian in White America is a collection of essays, letters, interviews and autobiographical stories that chronicle Anita Cornwell's struggles to survive as a Black Lesbian in America. The Philadelphia-based author has been active as a journalist and Black Lesbian feminist since the mid-60's and although the book covers the period of time from the 50's to the 80's it is still pertinent and timely.

The opening section of essays lays out Cornwell's personal convictions and her holistic approach to life. The subjects treated include the inherent malevolence of men, racism, sexism, patriarchy and those Lesbians who adhere to the butch/fem syndrome who take on the chauvinism they find so detestable in men. Rather than emphasizing the means at hand to achieve Lesbian goals, this section exposes the results of oppression and victimization.

The second section is an interview with Black Lesbian poet Audre Lorde who was chosen because "she is one of our most courageous and compassionate role models..." We get a clear, revealing, inspirational picture of the poet through the interviewing adeptness of Cornwell.

Unfortunately, the energy and excitement of the first two sections



photo by Tee A. Corinne

Anita Cornwell

of the book do not carry into the last two sections. Cornwell's autobiographical stories of coming out in Philadelphia in the 50's are stiff, one-dimensional and really don't give us a feel for the time. This is partly because she chose to write then in the third person.

The final section is a discussion of social ills and consciousness raising through letter writing.

Although *Black Lesbian in White America* may not become a literary classic, we do get an overall impression of one Black Lesbian's struggles and her convictions and it will be an important part of the history of our movement.

Black Lesbian in White America is available from Naiad Press, P.O. Box 10543, Tallahassee, FL 32302 for \$7.95.

Silver Screen Reflects Changing Images

By Jonelle Hensen

If '82 was the year when Gay men "came out" in the movies, '83 was the year for Lesbians on the silver screen. Not always positive images, the films are at least telling the American public that Lesbians do exist.

Perhaps the most positive image was Cher's portrayal of Lesbian Dolly Pelliker in the Mike Nichols film *Silkwood* which deals with the circumstances surrounding the death of Karen Silkwood.

Frankly, the movie was much too long and the previews were more exciting than the movie itself. The very end of the movie is terminally boring and should have been lopped off. As for Kerr McGee, they appear to be guilty of not maintaining their safety precautions, cheating on their safety checks, guilty of not impressing their employees with the dangers of the materials they were handling, insensitive to overworking their employees, and, if we are to believe the implication, guilty of deliberately contaminating and murdering Karen Silkwood.

Frankly, I didn't care. I never even got to a point where I liked Meryl Streep's Karen.

But Cher's character was a positive Lesbian image as was Diana Scarwyd's portrayal of Angela. Neither was typical and the scenes of them together seem very natural. The only question I had was where did Angela go and why.

Karen and Dolly's relationship is made clear early on. Dolly LOVES Karen and Karen loves Dolly (but

not that way). There is a mildly amusing scene when Dolly emerges from the bedroom with Angela for the first time. Karen and Drew (Kurt Russell) tell each other "they can handle it" and Karen says, "well then why are we talking about it?"

In other films, second runner-up would be John Sayles' *Lianna*. This sensitive and non-judgemental movie comes in second to *Silkwood* only because *Silkwood* will have a wider distribution and be around much longer. Two other films are *If She Grows Up Gay* and *On Guard*.

The unanimous vote for absolutely the worst portrayal goes to *Liquid Sky*, a scenic fiction story in which the Lesbian couple lives in Soho, deals in drugs, follow the butch/fem stereotype, independently have heterosexual affairs and at one point the butch attacks her lover with a switchblade.

To wrap up, Barbra Streisand's *Yentl* gets the Tootsie-Turn-About-Is-Fair-Play Award. Streisand's personal accomplishment in writing, producing, directing and starring in the film, and *Yentl*'s ultimate success only reaffirms what we've known all along. Women are every bit as good as men and sexual discrimination is unfair.

One generally forgotten fact of male liberation in order to wear the svelte styles of 19th century clothing, men, too, nipped it in with corsets.

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Hot Wax

by Houston Butler, Rumors DJ/VJ

Highly recommended is Lisa's new album, *LISA* on Moby Dick Records. Included on the LP are remixed versions of the dance classics *I Thank You* and *Jump Shout*, plus four new cuts, of which *Sex Dance* and *Rocket to your Heart* are bound for the top of the charts.

Debbie Harry, lead singer for Blondie, has released a new 12-inch entitled, *Rush Rush*, my pick hit of the month. Produced by Giorgio Moroder, this special extended remix is the title track from Al Pacino's new movie *Scarface*. Moroder, who produced Irene Cara's summer smash *Flashdance*, uses a smooth techno-pop formula resulting in a sure-fire hit which should enjoy both club and radio play.

Top 15

1. GIRLS JUST WANNA HAVE FUN — Cyndi Lauper
2. SEX DANCE/ROCKET TO YOUR HEART — Lisa
3. WHERE ARE YOU NOW — Cerrone
4. TALKING IN YOUR SLEEP — Romantics
5. OVER MY HEAD — Toni Basil
6. HEAVEN SENT — Paul Haig
7. LET THE MUSIC PLAY — Shannon
8. LOST AGAIN/PUMPING VELVET — Yello
9. CATCH ME — Marcia Raven
10. NUMER ONE — Aida
11. TELEFONE — Sheena Easton
12. EARTHQUAKE — Flirtations
13. WHERE IS MY MAN — Eartha Kitt
14. TAKE A LITTLE CHANCE — Eve
15. THAT'S LOVE — THAT IT IS — Blancmange

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MCC News

by Sheryl Miller

We are happy to announce that we have a temporary pastor until March 31, 1984. Steve Quesnel has come to be with us from Monticello, Kentucky, and his presence has brightened our congregation. He is available for counseling and/or just talk between the hours of 10:00 AM-2:00 PM Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. If these hours are not convenient to anyone's work, please call the church number and an appointment can be made for an evening hour.

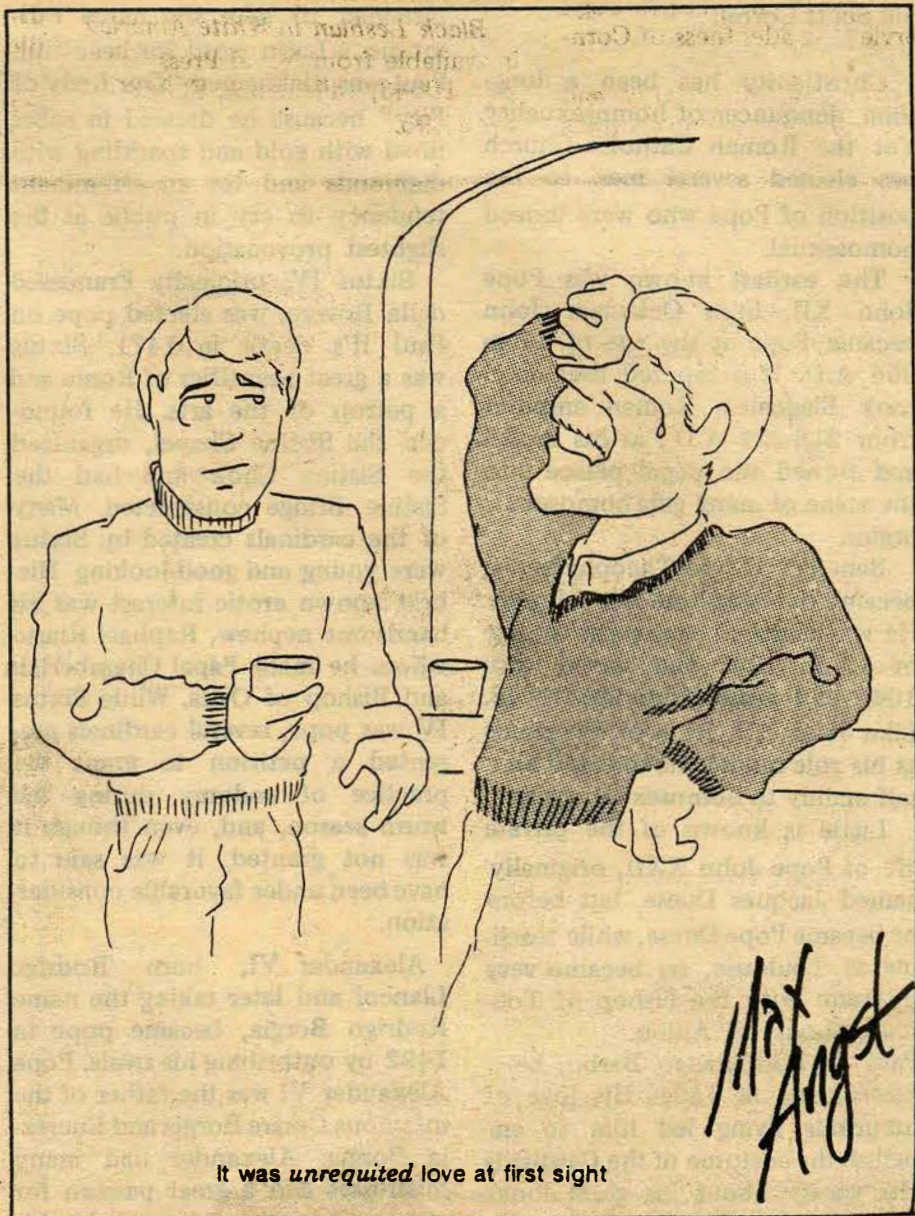
Rev. Quesnel has been in Memphis since the first of January to aid MCC-Memphis through growing pains. On Wednesday nights at 7:30 PM, we meet to discuss what we feel are priorities for MCC and for

Memphis, and we rap about what can be done for continued growth while meeting the new needs of the community. On Saturday nights at 7:00 PM, we have instituted an AGAPE potluck dinner and Bible study for anyone who wants to learn more of what the scriptures have to say to every individual. Please call the church number for location of the potluck.

MCC-Memphis welcomes everyone to take part in our service and fellowship hours. If you have any ideas to present or things you want to talk about, please feel free to bring them and yourselves to 2224 Central at 1:00 PM on Sundays and 7:30 PM on Wednesdays. The church number is 274-8355 and can be reached from 3:00 PM to 10:00 PM daily.

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Ask the Duchess

DEAR DUCHESS,

I love your column. I really liked your answer to Concerned Lesbian. I don't think that our (Gays) sexual lifestyle is much different than that of the straights. They (straights) have sexual problems the same as we do. The only difference is that they write to Ann Landers and we write to you.

I don't think it really matters what is put in your column. Because I think most of the straights already have the wrong impression of us Gays and nothing will change their minds. People are going to think what they want no matter what.

I was told by a pastor that being Gay wasn't illegal anymore and we could adopt children. He knows two married men who have done it. Is this possible. And how? And is it a sin to be Gay? —J.B.

DEAR J.B.

It has never been illegal to be a homosexual in Tennessee. The sex act itself is what is illegal. As a matter of fact, the only legal sex act is between husband and wife within the confines of their own bedroom and in the missionary position.

Today's society is finding more and more single parents. The adoption of children by single people is becoming more common. The adoption laws in Tennessee are complex, and, if you are considering adoption, I suggest you call the Gay Switchboard for some referrals to lawyers.

Being Gay is no more a sin than being Black or white is. For fur-

ther advice and guidance on this matter, I suggest you contact the Metropolitan Community Church.

DEAR DUCHESS,

How does one go about keeping a lover? My lover and I have been together for 5 years now. I love him just as much now as I did the day we met. Our lives together have been good, but we also have had our share of bad. I guess all relationships are like that. The problem is our sexual needs and wants. We have sex 4 to 5 times a week, still very intense and very good, but —

I like to cuddle, lick, kiss, etc., lots of foreplay, but he's getting where all he wants is to hurry up and get it over with. I like to caress and hold and make it last awhile. He's just not wanting to satisfy me, just himself.

What can I do? Where did I go wrong? I find myself looking at other men to get some sort of outside sex. I have never done this in

all the years we have been together, but I have been tempted to do this. What should I do? I end up rolling over and going to sleep without any kind of action from him, except maybe a kiss and telling me "later." I'm still waiting.

Perhaps I am too old for all this. I am 30. My lover is 31. —Paul

DEAR PAUL,

Thirty is not too old to be concerned about your sexual needs—Seventy-five is not too old!

You need to talk this out with your lover. Open communications between two people will solve many problems and avoid future problems. The longer you suppress your sexual needs, the greater the possibility that you will actually seek out other sexual partners and the shakier your present relationship will become. Your lover may very well be unaware that he is not satisfying you, but once you have talked it over with him, he may once again become that concerned lover you knew when you were first developing your relationship.

No problem can be resolved until the lines of communication are opened.

Gazing Back

by Scott Correll

Christianity has been a long-time denouncer of homosexuality. Yet the Roman Catholic Church has elected several men to the position of Pope who were indeed homosexual.

The earliest known was Pope John XII, born Octavian. John became Pope at the age of 17 in 955 A.D. It is reputed that John took Elagbalus, Roman emperor from 218-222 A.D., as his model and turned the papal palace into the scene of many gala homosexual orgies.

Benedict IX, ne Theophylactus, became the next homosexual pope. He was installed as pope at the age of 12 in 1033 and served until 1045 and again from 1047-1048. Like John XII, he took Elagbalus as his role model and devoted himself mainly to homosexual orgies.

Little is known of the private life of Pope John XXII, originally named Jacques Duese, but before he became Pope Duese, while teaching at Toulouse, he became very intimate with the bishop of Toulouse, Louis of Anjou.

Paul II, born Pietro Barbo, became pope in 1464. His love of luxurious living led him to embellish the costume of the Cardinals. His vanity about his good looks was so great that he originally

intended to take the name Formosus, a Latin word for beautiful. Paul was nicknamed "Our Lady of Pity" because he dressed in robes lined with gold and sparkling with diamonds and for an effeminate tendency to cry in public at the slightest provocation.

Sixtus IV, originally Francesco della Rovere, was elected pope on Paul II's death in 1471. Sixtus was a great beautifier of Rome and a patron of the arts. He founded the Sistine Chapel, organized the Sistine Choir and had the Sistine Bridge constructed. Many of the cardinals created by Sixtus were young and good-looking. His best known erotic interest was his handsome nephew, Raphael Riario whom he made Papal Chamberlain and Bishop of Ostia. While Sixtus IV was pope, several cardinals presented a petition to grant the practice of sodomy during the warm season, and, even though it was not granted, it was said to have been under favorable consideration.

Alexander VI, born Rodrigo Llancol and later taking the name Rodrigo Borgia, became pope in 1492 by outbribing his rivals. Pope Alexander VI was the father of the infamous Cesare Borgia and Lucrezia Borgia. Alexander had many mistresses and a great passion for women; however, his probable bi-

Homosexuality and the Roman Catholic Church



sexual experimentation with some handsome pages in the course of the many orgies cannot be overlooked. Pope Alexander spent much of his time in hunting, dancing, staging plays and miscellaneous orgies. Among his favorite companions was Jem, the brother of a Turkish sultan. He was a patron of Raphael and Michelangelo.

Pope Julius II, originally Giuliano della Rovere and nephew to Pope Sixtus IV, was installed in 1503. Julius II, like his uncle, was a great patron of the arts and did much to beautify Rome. He laid the foundation stone for St. Peter's and founded the Vatican Museum and was a friend and patron of Michelangelo and Raphael. Julius formed the Holy League against France. Louis XII of France responded by joining with Emperor Maximilian in summoning a church council to depose Julius. Trying to win over Henry VIII of England, Maximilian wrote him referring to Venice being recently won over to Julius II by two "young minions" of the pope, and, in case he still failed to get the point, told him that two French boys recently sent to Rome by Queen Anne of France had fallen victims to the homosexual lust of Julius II. A council met to consider the deposition of the pope, and, in its decree of deposition included a refer-

ence to Julius as "this sodomite, covered with shameful ulcers, who has infected the Church with his corruption." The council, however, failed to rule against Julius.

Julius III, born Giovanni Maria Ciocchi del Monte, became pope in 1550. While a cardinal, del Monte was said to have been very partial to orgies involving multiple sodomy; he was not secretive about these orgies and used to like to have his colleagues "discover" such scenes. Also while a cardinal, he adopted a boy, Innocente and nicknamed Prevostino, and ultimately promoted him to his bed. When del Monte mounted the papal throne, Innocente remained by his side at all times, even while conducting Church affairs. Some of the cardinals protested this, to which Julius replied, "The Prevostino is worth more than the whole of you." Julius III created a number of teenage cardinals. Pope Julius accepted the dedication of the infamous Latin poem "In Laudem Sodomiae" (In Praise of Sodomy) by the archbishop of Benevento, Giovanni della Casa. Julius III was the most blatantly homosexual of all the homosexual popes.

It is also interesting to note that after Julius III, who died in 1555, there is no documented evidence of any following pope being homosexual.

Project Documents Anti-Gay Violence



Anti-Gay Violence: The Problem

*July, 1983. Seattle, Washington: Two Gay men walking on the street at night are jumped by a gang of teenagers wielding baseball bats and crowbars and screaming "diseased faggots." They are repeatedly clubbed and kicked and then raped with crowbars.

*May, 1983. Southern California: Two openly Lesbian Native American women are repeatedly threatened and assaulted by several local men. Their assailants also vandalize their home and set it on fire. Although the women can identify the perpetrators, the police are unwilling to make an arrest. Fearful for their lives, they move to another city.

*September, 1982. Atlanta, Georgia: The Gay Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) is set on fire, causing at least \$75,000 in damages. MCC reports that eighteen of its churches have been torched in the last 15 years. MCC Atlanta was also broken into and vandalized four times in 1982.

*September, 1982. New York City: The Blue's bar is raided by police. They brutalize several Black patrons, make racist and homophobic slurs and destroy thousands of dollars worth of property.

The incidents cited above are only a few of hundreds reported to the National Gay Task Force each year. As in the vast majority of cases, the victims were singled out for one reason only: they are Lesbian or Gay.

Violence against Lesbian and Gay people is nothing new. Harassment and attacks against members of the Gay and Lesbian community are a longstanding aspect of society's hatred of homosexuals. In recent years, however, the number of reported incidents has increased at an alarming rate. The Gay media now regularly reports homophobic harassment, beatings, arson, murder, police brutality, rape and vandalism.

Across the country, local Gay organizations have responded to outbreaks of violence in their communities by documenting incidents and assisting victims. In New York City, the Gay/Lesbian Anti-Violence Project has helped more than 1,500 victims of homophobic attacks since its founding in 1980, and estimates that this figure represents only 20% of the total number of those singled out for anti-Gay attacks in the New York Metropolitan area. In 1981 alone, San Francisco's Community United Against Violence (CUAV) received nearly 600 reports of homophobic violence; this figure is also estimated to represent only 20% of all incidents that year.

Anti-Gay Violence: The Aftermath

In addition to the physical injury, fear and trauma experienced by all victims of violence, Gay victims face additional problems. Like rape victims, they are often blamed for incidents they did not invite. Often they are told they "deserved" to be attacked because they held hands in public, because of the way they were dressed, or simply because they were visible

as an openly Gay person. It is not surprising, therefore, that many victims feel guilty and responsible for the attacks against them. In addition, some find talking about or even thinking about an incident so painful that they never mention it to friends or lovers.

Among the factors that promote violence are notions that Gay people are "sissies" or "Pansies" who will not fight back or report assaults to police. In fact, Gay people frequently do not report attacks against them because they expect a hostile or at best indifferent response from the police. Additionally because Gay civil rights are not guaranteed, the Lesbian or Gay victim fears losing a job or home if s/he "comes out" to the police or in a courtroom. Many also fear rejection from friends and family, and retaliation from the criminal.

Those who do report incidents are often victimized again — this time by the criminal justice system. Some receive shoddy and even brutal treatment from the police. Others report that district attorneys failed to prosecute their assailants, defense attorneys asked them intrusive or irrelevant questions about their sex lives, and judges did little more than slap the wrists of convicted offenders.

Anti-Gay Violence: What NGTF Is Doing About It

In response to the rising tide of violence, NGTF initiated its Violence Project in 1982. The Violence Project has two primary objectives: (1) to raise public awareness about the nature and extent of homophobic violence and (2) to improve or help initiate services for Gay and Lesbian victims of violence.

The NGTF Crisisline: One of the ways NGTF collects data on violence and helps victims is through its toll-free Crisisline. In addition to

taking reports from victims, staffers provide counseling and referrals to local support services. The Crisisline Directory currently lists more than 1,500 Lesbian/Gay sensitive support systems for victims, including helplines, switchboards, rape crisis centers, shelters, legal services, and other victim service agencies. It is NGTF's goal to provide every caller with at least one name and phone number of an agency that can be of help.

Documenting Evidence: In addition to documenting incidents on the Crisisline, NGTF is collecting data by conducting violence surveys around the country, compiling incident reports from the Gay and Lesbian press, and from more than a dozen local Gay anti-violence projects — many of which use NGTF standardized violence report forms.

With the data it collects, NGTF is working to educate public officials, the criminal justice system, victim service agencies, the media and the general public about the scope and nature of anti-Gay violence, what to do about it and how to help victims.

Working With Victim Service Organizations: As a member of the National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA), NGTF is working to sensitize victim service agencies to the issue of anti-Gay violence and how to respond to the needs of Lesbian and Gay victims. NGTF is also reaching out to groups such as the National Coalitions such as the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV) and the National Coalition

Against Sexual Assault to ensure that the needs of Lesbian victims are met and that their cases are documented.

Helping to initiate New Local Anti-Violence Projects: In addition to working with existing victim service agencies, NGTF is helping to facilitate the establishment of new local organizations to combat anti-Gay assaults and help survivors. NGTF shares the accumulated expertise of local violence projects with new groups by providing them with existing information on how Gay and Lesbian people can protect themselves, how to guide people through the criminal justice system, and how to counsel Gay and Lesbian victims of violence.

For further information contact: NGTF Violence Project, 80 Fifth Ave., Suite 1601, New York, NY 10011 (212) 741-5800.

NOW Endorses Mondale

by Lisa M. Keen
Gay Community News

Washington — The board of the National Organization for Women considered a number of criteria, including each candidate's stand on Gay rights, in choosing to endorse former Vice President Walter Mondale for the 1984 Presidential Presidential nomination, an endorsement that was announced December 10.

The criteria, according to a source at national NOW headquarters who asked not to be identified, included what positions women held in the candidate's campaign, what priority women's issues take in the candidate's campaign, whether or not the candidate is giving serious consideration to a woman vice-presidential running mate, and the candidate's potential to get elected.

According to the source, Mondale and Sens. Alan Cranston (D-Calif.)

and Ernest Hollings (D-SC) were the three top contenders for the NOW endorsement in terms of their positions on Gay rights, and that Mondale's support for Gay rights was considered to be "very strong." Mondale's staff, said the source, requested a meeting last month with NOW officials to focus on concerns of women in the Gay community.

Sen. John Glenn (D-Oh.), said the source, "was dropped altogether for his recent statements against Gays." Up until those statements, in which Glenn said he "will not advocate or promote homosexuality" and is opposed to federal civil rights protections for Gays, said the source, Glenn had a number of supporters among the 37-member NOW board. Glenn's anti-Gay remarks, said the source, "clearly weakened him a lot" in seeking NOW's endorsement.

ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME

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Memphis Gay Coalition

BROCHURES AVAILABLE AT GAY LOCATIONS

Break-in Shortens Columnist's Tour

Denver (*Out Front*) — Dan Siminoski was in Phoenix in early December for a speaking engagement. He returned from an evening appointment to find that the automobile of his host was broken into. The only item stolen, however, was Siminoski's briefcase containing several thousand dollars worth of plane tickets, travelers checks, and the documents concerning a controversial suit by Siminoski against the FBI.

The briefcase was returned by the police several days later, still containing the valuable travelers checks and plane tickets.

Curiously, the only things missing were the FBI documents, crucial to Siminoski's attempt to force the release of documents of alleged illegal spying sorties against Gay and Lesbian activists and or-

ganizations.

The break-in caused an abrupt cancellation of Siminoski's nationwide tour.

The ACLU Foundation of Southern California filed suit in federal district court in Los Angeles on Siminoski's behalf late last year. The suit seeks to compel the FBI to release documents concerning unlawful FBI surveillance of Gay and Lesbian activists and organizations since 1950.

Siminoski holds a doctorate degree in political science. He is in the midst of preparing a book on the impact of Gay and Lesbian politics on the 1984 elections. He writes a syndicated column called "Gay Community, Gay Power" which appears in these pages beginning this month.

Outlook

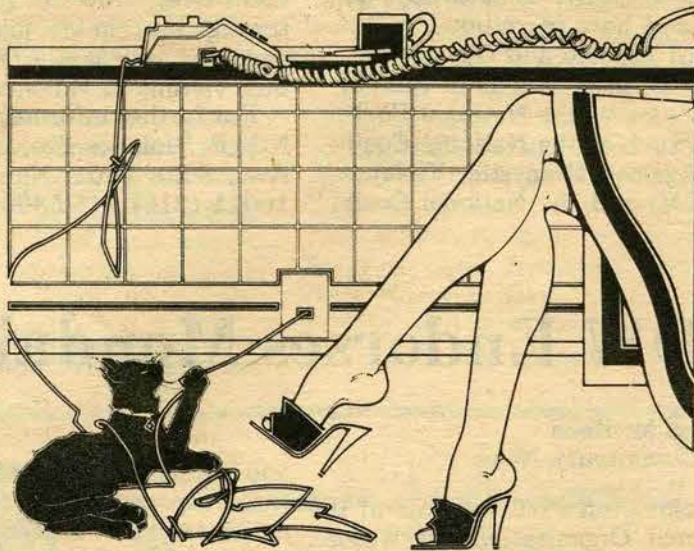
continued from page 2

Let us work out our own ethic which begins with the agenda of discovering our spiritual selves and proceeds to the action of allowing our spirit to interact with our sexual selves. The result will be vital and healthy human beings able to love and empowered to create community. The result will also be the source of reformation and restoration of a decayed and corrupt Western religious tradition which waits for the voices of new pro-

phets.

The place to begin is in our own minds, our own hearts and our own beds. The best sex you will ever have will be a spiritual experience produced out of communion, dignity, self-respect, love and honesty. This can't happen with anonymous strangers. The sexual-spiritual union is a beginning for personal integration; every other pursuit is a vain hope.

This is the road to freedom.



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The best theories are useless without a proper plan of action.

In Washington, there are people who prevent Gays and Lesbians from entering this country.

In Nashville, there are people who think they can control the sexual behavior of consenting adults of any sexual orientation.

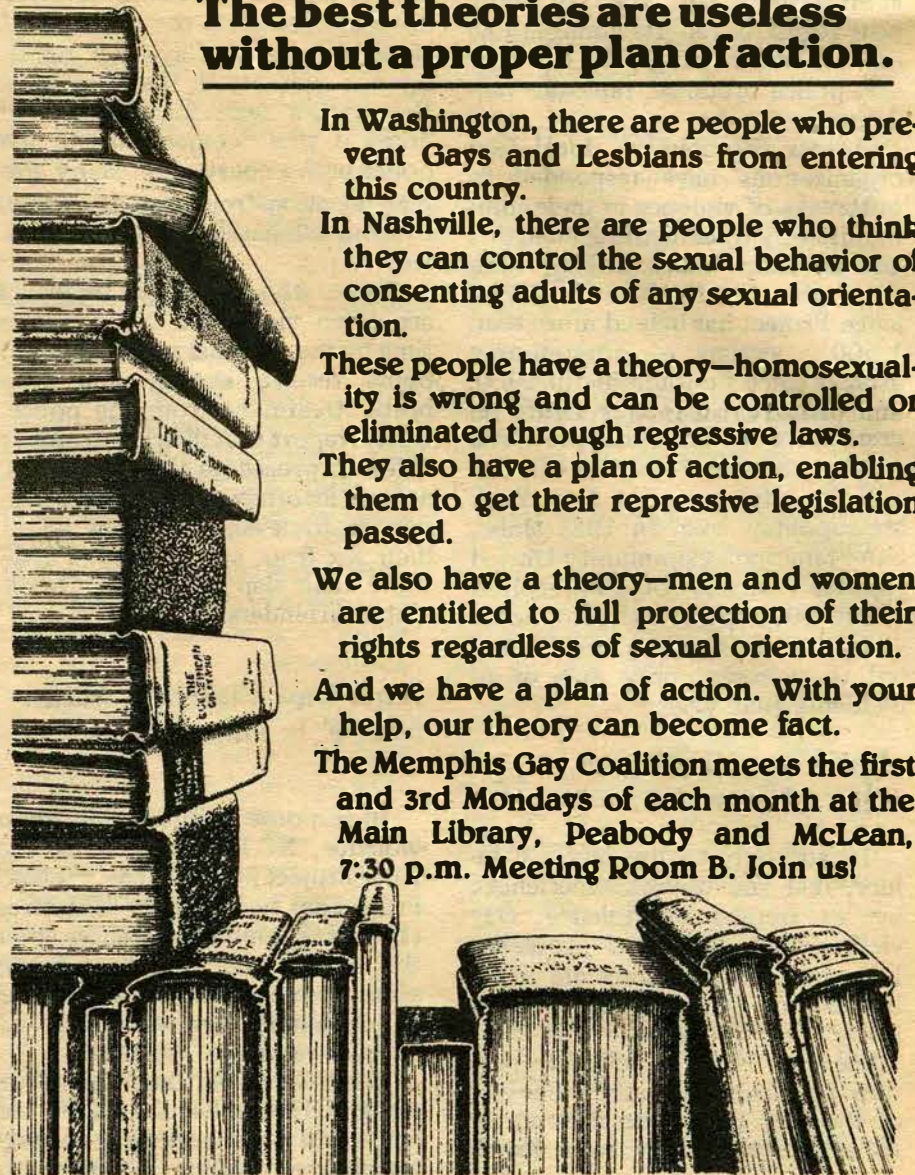
These people have a theory—homosexuality is wrong and can be controlled or eliminated through regressive laws.

They also have a plan of action, enabling them to get their repressive legislation passed.

We also have a theory—men and women are entitled to full protection of their rights regardless of sexual orientation.

And we have a plan of action. With your help, our theory can become fact.

The Memphis Gay Coalition meets the first and 3rd Mondays of each month at the Main Library, Peabody and McLean, 7:30 p.m. Meeting Room B. Join us!



Information and Services

MEMPHIS

Organizations

American Civil Liberties Union-- (ACLU): general movement; 81 Madison Bldg., Suite 1501, Memphis, 38103, 521-9875

Black and White Men Together: support/movement; 276-4160 or 274-0532

Gay Advocacy Project: movement, ACLU & MGC; 521-9875 or 726-4299.

Gay Catholics: Call 725-1698 for recommended Sunday Mass.

Memphis Center for Reproductive Health: non-sexist, non-hetero-sexist; 1462 Poplar Ave. Memphis 38104, 274-3550.

Memphis Gay Coalition: movement, public, Meets 1st and 3rd Mondays of month in Meeting Room B of Library at Peabody & McLean; Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38173-0038.

Memphis Gay Speakers Bureau : Movement, general education Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38103-0038.

Metropolitan Community Church: religious, general Christian; 2224 Central Ave., 274-8355.

Mystic Krewe of Aphrodite: social/movement, women; P.O. Box 41822, Memphis, 38104.

Mystic Krewe of Apollo: social, private membership, men only; no address listing.

National Organization for Women (NOW): movement, feminists; Box 40982, Memphis, 38104 452-6983.

The Queen's Men (TQM): social, private membership; no address listing

Rape Crisis: 528-2161

Suicide and Crisis Intervention: 274-7477.

Phoenix: Gay Alcoholics Anonymous; meets Wed., 8pm; Fri., 10pm; Sun., 8pm. 2009 Lamar 365-7513.

Tsarus: social, levi-leather/motorcycle, private membership, Box 41 082, Memphis, 38111

Helplines

Gay Switchboard : information, crisis, referrals, counseling 726-GAYY.

Media

"Gay Alternative": radio, weekly, Sundays 3 p.m. WEVL-FM 90.3, Box 41773, Memphis 38104.

GAZE: newspaper, monthly; Box 3038, Memphis 38173-0038. (901) 454-1411.

Lambda Televideo : television , monthly program Views from 10%, cable channel 7; Box 3038 Memphis, TN 38173-0038.

Restaurants & Bars

DR's: restaurant/bar, late hours; 12 N. Cleveland (upstairs)

The Eighth Day: bar, pizza/beer, 1382 Poplar, 725-9877

The French Connection: restaurant, bar, dining menu; 598 Marshall, 526-1038.

George's: bar large disco, drag-shows; 600 Marshall, 526-1038.

J-Wag's: bar, serves food, moderate menu, small disco, games, patio late hours, 1268 Madison, 726-9011

Jackie's: bar, 1474 Madison Ave. 278-9021

The Other Side: bar, disco, 12 N. Cleveland, late hours, 726-9245.

The Pendulum: bar, large disco, serves food, limited menu; 92 N. Avalon, 725-1530.

P.W. Bumps: bar, serves food, limited menu; 238 N. Cleveland St., 726-9953.

Psych-Out II: bar; 571 Marshall ave., 523-1940

Rumors: disco/bar; late hours; 616 Marshall 527-6348

Miscellaneous

Club South: baths, TV room, sauna spa lockers, rooms. 628 Madison. (901) 525-2852. CBC affiliated.

Book Cottage (Overton Square)- large selection of Gay/Lesbian novels and non-fiction; 2113 Madison Ave. 726-5857.

Encore Cards and Gifts: Cards gifts, posters, ceramics, etc. 1266 Madison Ave. (901) 722-8963

Georgetown Inn: hotel; daily, weekly and monthly rates. 628-630 Madison Ave. Reservations (901) 525-0725.

Men of Leather: Clothing, accoutrements. 1474 Madison (in the rear of Jackie's). (901) 458-8342.

NASHVILLE

Organizations

American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU): general movement: Box 120160, Nashville 37212.

Conductors: Levi-leather Club; Box 40261, Nashville 37204.

Lifestyle Health Services: confidential clinic specializing in STDs: 1727 Church St., Nashville 37203 (615) 329-1478.

Metropolitan Community Church: religious, general Christian; 131 15th Ave., N., Nashville, (615) 320-0288.

Nashville Committee: social/movement, Box 23321, Nashville, TN 37202

Tennessee Coalition for Human Rights(TGCHR): movement, Box 24181, Nashville, TN 37202.

Womankind Health Service: confidential clinic, feminist. 1727 Church Street, Nashville 37203 (615) 329-1478.

Women's Resource Center: general services for women; 1608 Woodmont YWCA, Nashville, (615) 385-3952.

Restaurants & Bars

The Chute: Restaurant, bar, 2535 Franklin Rd., (615) 297-4571.

Crazy Cowboy: bar; 2311 Franklin Road (615) 383-9493

B. Palola's: Restaurant, bar, 1812 Hayes St., (615) 320-0713.

Cabaret: bar, disco, drag shows; 1711 Hayes St. (615) 320-7082.

Slippo's: 2106-A Eighth Ave. S., Nashville (615) 269-9150

Warehouse 28: bar, disco, shows and special events; 2529 Franklin Rd. (615) 385-9689.

World's End: restaurant, live music, (jazz); 1713 Church St. 329-3480

LITTLE ROCK

Organizations

American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU): general movement; Box 2832, Little Rock, AR 72203

Arkansas Gay Rights, Inc. (AGR): movement, P.O. Box 3115, Little Rock, AR 72203

Arkansas Women's Network: movement, feminist; Box 1787, Little Rock, 72203

Gay Alcoholics Anonymous: (Gay AA): meets every Tues. & Sun., 8 p.m., 7509 Cantrel, Suite 102, Tanglewood Shopping Center

Gay Counseling Service: 409 Walnut Little Rock, AR 72205, (501) 663-6455

Grassroots Women's House: 1524 S. Summit, Little Rock, AR(501) 378-7851

GREAT Men of Little Rock, an affiliate of BWMT; social, support movement. (510) 374-3217.

Metropolitan Community Church: religious, general Christian; Box 1964, Little Rock 72203. (501) 664-3749.

National Organization for Women (NOW): movement, feminist; Box 662, Little Rock 72203

Parents & Friends of Gays: movement/support; Box 1839, Batesville, AR 72501

Crisis Center: 664-8834 (toll-free, 1-800-482-8886

Media

Arkansas Gay Writes: AGR, Inc., newsletter; Box 3115, Little Rock 72203

Ours: newspaper, 5 times/yr., feminist; Box 2352, Little Rock AR, 72203.

Restaurants & Bars

Lil's Country Pub: 1701 S. University, Little Rock

Silver Dollar: 2710 Asher Ave., 663-9886

Discovery II: 1021 Jessie Rd., 664-4784

JOIN: The Memphis Gay Coalition. We are working for YOUR rights. Business and social meetings at the Library at Peabody and McLean, first and third Mondays at 7:30 pm. Meeting Room B.

Classifieds

RATES FOR CLASSIFIED: 20¢ per word. \$3 minimum. Phone numbers and zip codes are free. Deadline for ads is 5 days prior to publication date last Friday monthly. \$2 additional charge for the use of our PO Box. Send to GAZE, Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38173-0038.

BEAR, Toni welcomes you home with all his love.

Gay, Butch-looking cowgirl looking for Fem cowgirl for meaningful relationship. Write to me: Toni Conti, Linden Hill Station, P.O. Box 902, Flushing NY 11354.

Yankee, 35, white, hot, black hair, beard wants to hear from hot dudes in Tennessee and Kentucky coming through Illinois and has room. No Fats, Fems or Blacks. Let's get acquainted. "Good Buddies" Call days. LEE (217) 783-6374. Serious only please!

MID TOWN APT. AND HOUSE SITTER- Domestic trivia included, References available. Mark Garrett, 722-8270.

W.M., 23, seeking a w.m. 23-30 for a close friendship + exploration into Gay life. Serious inquiries only. Reply to P.O. Box 38972, Memphis, TN 38183-0972.

HOT MEN WANTED: Bartenders, waiters, and especially cooks needed for The Chute/Nashville; full or part-time. Call Gary (615) 297-4571, (615) 297-7953.

WATCH: Views from 10% on cable-channel 7. See display ad for days, times and topics.

NATIONAL GAY CONTACT CLUB- Men/Women. LOW RATES, SEND SASE TO: NGCC, PO Box 28781, San Jose, CA 95159.

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Civil
Rights**

