

GAZE

News of the Lesbian And Gay Community

FREE

FREE

Volume 4, Number 7

Memphis, Tennessee

July/August 1983

OLD HASH Pulls 'Em In

Old Hash, a benefit fundraiser for AIDS research and education raised almost \$2200 dollars last month in an outpouring of support for a new project undertaken by the Memphis Gay Coalition.

The night was hot and so were the performers June 20 when many of Memphis' best known female impersonators hit the stage at Circuit Playhouse for a program comprised of production numbers garnered from previous benefit programs as well as solo acts from people both familiar to the audience and not so familiar. "For once we had a real theatre and a real dressing room," said Vincent Astor, producer of the benefit. Astor, who had previously produced benefits for Muscular Dystrophy, cited *Old Hash* as a real success both in raising money for a needy cause as well as drawing the Gay and Lesbian community together.

\$600 was donated by George's from a special show held the previous Wednesday night, proceeds of which will be applied to the special fund. Other special contributors included the Memphis Center for Reproductive Health (\$250), J-Wags and Encore Cards and Gifts, the employees of the Paris Adult Theatre, House of Flowers, Jackie's, Men of Leather and the Lystic Krewe of Aphrodite as well as several anonymous donors.

Actually inside the theatre it was SRO as the crowd simultaneously

cheered and sweated (the Ladies glowed) and the video cameras rolled. The event was recorded by Lambda Televideo (as well as some individuals for private use) for replay on Views From 10%. An Unedited version will be shown this month at the Paris Adult Theatre (on Summer) For those who missed the live performance (see display ad for time and date).

All monies raised for AIDS education and research will be kept in a special fund and used for no other purpose. Those who wish to donate may still do so. Make checks payable to the Memphis Gay Coalition (Box 3038, Memphis 38173-0038) and specify that the money is for the AIDS fund.

At press time, exactly how the money is to be allocated is still under discussion. According to Irwin Rothenberg, "We never dreamed we would raise this much money. so we were hesitant to decide beforehand what we would spend it on. Our commitment however, is to keep the money in the Memphis community." The general consensus seems to be that a good portion of the money will be spent on educational print materials to be widely distributed in the Memphis area. Research grants, AIDS victim medical funds, and educational symposiums for the general community are other suggestions under consideration.



Lady Astor and Emcee Dennis Massey at 'Old Hash' benefit for AIDS.

Parade and Rally Culminate Week's Events

Chanting "Two, Four, Six, Eight, How do you know your (teacher's, friend's, son's, daughter's, preacher's, etc.) straight?" a group of over 50 local Gay activists and supporters marched from Peabody Park on Cooper to the Raoul Wallenberg Memorial Shell at Overton Park for a Gay Pride Week Parade and Rally, Sunday, June 26.

The Parade and Rally culminated a week of events aimed at solidifying the Gay community (see related stories) and pointing up the discrimination endured by homosexuals in this country. The last week of June is celebrated by the Gay community as the anniversary of the Stonewall Riots in New York where homosexuals first rebelled against police harassment. That event is generally considered to be the factor which led to the rise of the Gay Rights movement.

Speaking at the Rally were April Ferguson (National Organization for Women), Sandra Kurijaka, Executive Director of the Arkansas ACLU, Allen Cook, co-editor of *Gaze*, Marty Katz (MSU's Students for Gay and Lesbian Awareness), singer/activist Charlie McMullin, and Dr. Harry Moore, Executive Director of the Memphis Branch of the National Conference of Christians and Jews.

In his speech Dr. Moore indicated that like any minority, Gays should constantly be aware of the rights of others. He said that any group that can be singled out for any reason has the potential to be discriminated against. He also pointed out that the AIDS hysteria has the potential to create additional discriminatory problems for all homosexuals.

Charlie McMullin concluded the rally with a truly stirring rendition (a capella) of Holly Near's "It Could Have Been You (It Could Have Been Me)" with the entire assembled group rising and joining hands. The song was dedicated to the memory of a man in Clarksville, Tennessee who committed suicide after being exposed by the newspaper there as a homosexual arrested in a park raid last year. Gay activists feel the man was murdered by homophobic reporting and negative social attitudes.

Joining local Gays in the parade were representatives from Little Rock as well as Denver, Colorado and Chicago.

Tommy Stewart opened J-Wags to the hot and tired but inspired and satisfied ensemble where discussion was among other things, plans for the next Parade and Rally

Picnic Served up Gay Pride

About 50 Gay men and Lesbians gathered at the home of Allen Cook and John Stilwell for the 3rd annual Gay Pride Picnic held June 19. The picnic (a bring-your-own-affair) was not as well attended as in previous years, but overall reaction was favorable.

Charlie McMullin, a locally well-known singer/activist in the Gay rights movement entertained with songs of pride and struggle encouraging people to do what they can for the cause.

All in all, it was a pleasant afternoon of fellowship, songs, food and fun held in an atmosphere conducive to "letting your hair down" and being yourself. Asked if the neighbors objected, Allen Cook replied, "I really expected some adverse reaction considering our neighbors had their 12-year old grand son visiting, but they were just as friendly the next day as ever. I'm not sure that they really know what was going on, but on the other hand I don't see how they could have misunderstood. I suspect that over the past three years with several large gatherings, our neighbors have come to respect us and know that our friends never cause any problems.

For the first time, the Coalition sold tickets for 25c donation which were redeemable for drinks or draft. One reason for this was that this was the first year that the keg was not donated by some group or individual. Enough money was raised to cover the cost of the keg and some of the pic-



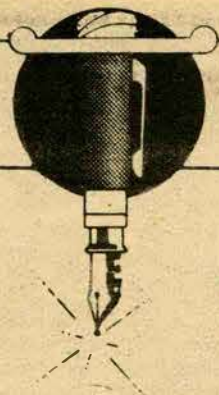
Charlie McMullin entertaining at the Gay Pride Picnic.

nic supplies. Future Coalition events will probably include a cash bar.

The Gay Pride Picnic is another annual event sponsored by the Memphis Gay Coalition held during Gay Pride Week.



Because of the GAZE staff's involvement in Gay Pride activities this year, it was decided to combine the July and August issues. All subscriptions and advertising contracts will be extended for one month past the normal expiration date. Our next issue of GAZE will appear on 4th Friday of August.



Gazing

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

Gazing Back and Looking Forward

by John Stilwell

Going back to the first Gay Pride issue of Gaze, I was interested most in the editorial "The Myth of Burn-out," and in order to put things in perspective, I reviewed the June and August issues.

I noted many advertisers who were no longer in business. Sound familiar?

In June, front page stories were "FM-100 Fires DJ Ron 'Bruce Puce' Jordan," "Christian Voice, Moral Majority Plan Election Year" and "Feinstein, Barry Support Gay Rights Plank." The paper had articles on CBS's "Gay Pride, Gay Politics," the '80 Southeastern Conference, Anita Bryant filing for divorce and the first scheduled appearance of Buddy Chapman as a speaker at the TGCHR meeting (which actually came to pass 2 years later!)

In August, the news was of the '80 Conference, the protests and "Britt Wants Gaze Out of Library." There was a two page spread for John Anderson, complaints about Reagan's platform, Mayor Chandler and the City Council refusing to answer questions sent them by TGCHR asking their feelings on issues of concern to the Gay community.

But the first Gay Pride issue is most interesting. The picture was on the front page, the story on page six. A quote from that story: "It is hard to unite the Gay Community. People don't always realize that working doesn't mean we have to be more or less out-of-the-closet than we want

There were stories of the religious right and persecution of Gays and lots of news about the '80 Southeastern Conference of Lesbians and Gay Men.

The editorial that month, "The Myth of Burn-Out" complained about a few individuals doing all the work and then being criticized by others who would not commit any time or effort to the movement. According to the editorial, "if we respond to criticisms and fatigue in a manner which causes us to discontinue our efforts...then our original motives are subject to question... The quickest way to kill the Gay rights movement is to concern ourselves so much with individual concerns that we lose sight of our purpose... How could we, in good conscience, allow such a silly thing as burn-out to destroy the organization and the communications network that we have built?"

In conclusion, the editorial says: "...of all the reasons we might give for burn-out, by far the greatest is taking ourselves and those who criticize us too seriously. If we lose our sense of humor and our enjoyment of the social side of life (especially Gay Life, then we are doomed to find our work in the movement too much a burden. No matter how serious our struggle for equality is--and it is--we cannot lose touch with those things which make life enjoyable. If we do, we will soon find our work is no longer worth the bother. We will stop working with the movement and then say we are 'burned out'...Burn-out? No such thing."

Three years later, the number of people actively involved has seriously decreased. Some folks have "outgrown" us and have continued to work but on a higher or different level. Some

have left to pursue personal projects while others have left just to have some sort of social life. Some left because they became discouraged by how long it takes to make the smallest progress and frustrated because there's no end in sight.

Burn-out is a reality.

The purpose of this editorial is not to mourn those who have left the ranks. They enlisted, they served well and when it came time to re-enlist, they chose instead to go onto other things. This is a call for new recruits. It's time for new people to serve the cause...pick up the baton and run with it. It's time to get off the fence and get involved.

The Coalition has been here to serve the Memphis Gay and Lesbian community and keep Memphis Lesbians and Gay men aware of what's going on around us. Perhaps you haven't needed the Coalition or its services, but as an example, if you depended on the straight media, only now would you be hearing any reports on AIDS, whereas Gaze has been reporting on it for over two years.

If you don't help and get involved now, several years down the road when you need those services, they may not be there.

Think about it. Get involved.

On Building Boxes

The following editorial appeared in Lambda, the Carolina Gay Association Newsletter and was written by Bill, the editor.

EMILY: (Suddenly she looks directly at Mrs. Gibbs) Live people don't understand do they?

MRS. GIBBS: No, dear-- not very much.

EMILY: They're sort of shut up in little boxes, aren't they? I feel as though I knew them least a thousand years ago.

(from *Our Town* by Thornton Wilder)

Last fall I had the good fortune to watch *Our Town* on television and was particularly struck by the lines I quoted above. If Wilder was interested in being prescriptive, he was trying to encourage self-inspection of the little boxes. Gay people are lucky in this respect, because we have been forcibly evicted from the box of heterosexuality, we begin to evaluate the world more critically, at least to that point where we accept that Gay is good (or at least as good as straight).

The eviction is too much for some people. They hurriedly construct a box completely identical to their old straight one except for sexual preference, and criticize other Gay people who cannot pass for straight. Other people take advantage of the opportunity to broaden their awareness of how society treats minorities. Maybe it starts with accepting other Gays who frustrate society's expectations, particularly, for example, drag queens. Then an understanding of how women are repressed and harassed sexually in our society; some people begin to explore racial discrimination and how it affects the spirit. Somewhere along the line we stop and get out the hammer and nails. A few keep going and seriously

question stereotypical masculine and feminine sex rules and examine what it means for a woman to be necessarily assertive or for a man to be sensitive to people. And others interpret the ways Gay people are oppressed politically, seeing the denial of rights in its broader scope.

I guess we all do have to stop somewhere and make a box, a nest, a comfortable place. You don't need to read between the lines to see that I believe the smartest thing to do is seize what appears to be a "bad thing" initially (being thrown out of the box) and make the most of the momentary illusion of no walls. If you've stopped at the first step, you're losing out. It's in man's nature to build boxes; the best we can do is make damn sure that the one we build isn't one that keeps us live people from understanding.

My own first view of homosexuals was in the mid 60's when I was a child. One night I stayed up late enough to catch a program coming out of NYC that was interviewing two Gay men and a Lesbian. They sat on stools with bags over their heads with holes cut out for eyes and mouths. The light was cast from the back, and the figures became simple black silhouettes speaking about their fears. I've forgotten exactly what they said, but I've never forgotten the sight--vision, if you will--of what life was like for homosexuals.

Things changed. Their world did not become our world. If Gay teenagers can appear on national television with no bags over their faces in full light explaining why they sued their high school (and won) to allow them to come to the prom as a couple, we've gotten somewhere. But so much remains to be done that the only benefit at looking at the advances is that it keeps you from getting depressed.

Gaze

River Cruise: A Sell-Out

Box 3038, Memphis, Tennessee 38173-0038. Phone (901) 454-1411 (irregular hours).

Gaze is nonprofit and produced by volunteers. We assume no liability for claims made by advertisers. Appearance in this publication is no indication of sexual orientation or identity. We welcome materials submitted by readers but reserve the right to edit or reject such materials. Subscriptions are \$8 per year to cover mailing costs. Gaze is published on the last Friday of every month by the Memphis Gay Coalition.

Co-Editors:

John Stilwell-Allen Cook

Staff Writers:

Thomas Smith
Joe Calhoun
Joel Tate
Scott Correll

Clifton St. John
Ric Sullivan
John House
Pat Jones

Nashville Correspondent:
Jeff Thompson

Production & Graphics:
Allen Cook Charles Overfield
Cecil McLeod

Circulation:

Cecil McLeod
Marty Martin

Rick Van Hooser
John Stilwell

Advertising Information:
(901) 454-1411

National Advertising:
Joe DiSabato
Rivendell Marketing
666 Sixth Avenue
New York, NY 10010 (212) 242-6863

Copyright 1983 by MGC. Reprint permission granted to Gay and Lesbian publications only, provided proper credit is given. Distributed in Memphis, Little Rock, and Nashville. Micro film-ed by Southern Gay Archives, Boca Raton, FL, Gaze Box 3038 Memphis, TN 38173-0038.

For the first time in its 5-year history, the Memphis Gay Coalition's Gay Pride River Cruise sold out before boarding time leaving a number of procrastinators standing on shore hoping for no-shows so they could join the fun.

The River Cruise was held June 25 on the Memphis Queen III and is an annual event of Gay Pride Week. "We were originally told the capacity of the boat was 300," said Cecil McLeod, Gay Pride Chair. "We found out about three days before the cruise that it was actually 399 including security, crew and the band. So we were able to offer about an additional 75 tickets for sale." All but six of the tickets were sold before 8:00 P.M. Saturday and those went quickly on a first-come, first-served basis shortly before boarding time.

Encore Cards and Gifts which graciously served as a ticket outlet, was swamped with requests Friday and Saturday and enlisted help so that normal business could be carried on as well.

Joyce Cobb and Hot Fun provided music ranging from jazz to disco for dancers who kept the dance floor packed all night long. A full moon and pleasant weather only added to a perfect evening.

REGISTER TO VOTE

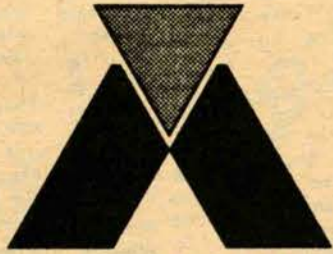
Saturday, July 16th

9 pm-Midnight

J-WAG'S

1268 Madison Ave.

An Open Letter to the Gay and Lesbian Community.



Memphis Gay Coalition

Dear Gentleperson,

We have accomplished a great deal in Memphis toward improving the quality of life for Gay and Lesbian citizens. Many of us remember the days when same-sex dancing was a target for police harassment, for example. Today, we take this simple pleasure for granted. We owe much to individuals whose names will never be recorded in our history books.

It is vitally important right now that we assess the progress we have made in our community and realize the need for an organized effort to provide services for the Gay and Lesbian community. We need an organization to exert influence and provide a presence in the general community and to stand beside us when outside forces threaten the concept of equality.

We are fortunate. We have a progressive and promising organization in Memphis which works to dispel anti-Gay myths and to achieve our constitutionally-guaranteed equality. The Memphis Gay Coalition, not yet four years old, has achieved national recognition for its enthusiasm and effectiveness in providing services and bringing about change for the Lesbian and Gay community in the Mid-South.

Whether we are totally open about our sexual orientation or whether we must remain anonymous, the movement for equality is equally important to all of us.

We are at a critical point in our progress and we must call on you for help if we are to grow and expand our services. Costs for such projects as the Gay Switchboard, "Gay Alternative" radio program and Gaze have skyrocketed during the past year. Year to year fundraisers barely provide the funds to continue the important services of the Gay Switchboard, for example, and we must rely upon individual donations and Coalition memberships to keep it going. Volunteers are needed, also. All it takes is a commitment to equality; it doesn't mean, as some people believe, that we must expose our private sexuality to public viewing.

Won't you please take the time to consider helping us out by giving a few hours a month of your time or by sending whatever donation you can afford? All funds are strictly accounted for and donations will go toward any service you might specify. Our mailing list is absolutely confidential and is given or sold to no one.

We are at the cross-roads--we may continue with limited volunteers, funds and services, or we may soar to heights only dreamed about a few short years ago. You can make the difference.

Thank You

John Stowell *Allen Cook* *Pat Jones*
Vincent C. Ator *Cecil McLeod* *Irving Rothberg*

P.O. Box 3038 Memphis, Tennessee 38103

The Beginning

The Eyes Have It

By Rick Reed

I came out of the closet exactly a year ago. For years previous, I had known and accepted the fact that I was in a closet, an attic, a basement or somewhere pretty unnatural.

I admired men for years from a distance, through three confusing, heterosexual marriages that comprised over a third of my entire life. I tried with all my heart and soul to remain faithful to three of the most wonderful women I'd known. But there always came "that" moment--perhaps it was the full moon -- the moment would always come when I had to have a moustache tickle my upper lip or hold on to a hand that was possibly as strong or stronger than my own. An undeniable need to be with someone who knew where I was coming from. I yearned for a relationship where there couldn't possibly be anything to hide. Thirty years of avoiding the truth, playing games to circumvent it was enough. My third and last wife and I loved to sing together and our favorite song was "I'll Never Love This Way Again." It must have been an omen.

When we split up and went our different ways, it was a whole year that I remained alone completely--no parties, no conversations, speaking to people only when in answer to a question or in response to a statement. All I was capable of doing was working 12 hours a day, attend lectures at MSU and sip wine at bedtime every night till I was able to sleep. From the time I was 18 years old, I was married and never slept alone. During my entire married existence I could count each and every night I slept alone on one hand. The one year of total social isolation was enough. I needed a teddy bear, a blow-up doll or something, and I knew what I had to do--find a male mate. I knew he was out there somewhere --had no idea who he would be, his name, or anything about him --- except that he would most likely need me as much as I needed him---and when the time was right, we'd meet and all would be well.

I made the rounds of all the bars, blew an enormous amount of money, broke all my previous abomination awards and records and hated every minute of it. Every night I ended up alone in the back of a cab heading home to retire and begin a new day of

hope.

Oddly enough I met Stan on the telephone. If that isn't strange enough--it wasn't even his telephone. He was answering my call for his landlord at the time. I was calling in reference to renting a farm outside of Memphis.

Stan's voice was hypnotic. From the moment he said "hello," I'd forgotten why I'd called, who I was, what planet this was and just about everything of major importance. It seemed that with every word he said after that I became more and more mesmerized. When he politely asked how I felt, I honestly replied "lonesome and bored."

When I hung up the phone I couldn't stop hearing his voice in my conscience. And at that moment, that was all there was -- a voice-- and everything that a voice could convey or would. I was tormented by it, rather teased by it for several days, until he returned

he phoned me one late afternoon and invited me over to his plush mid-town residence. It was a blind date (actually my first) but I wasn't nervous or afraid. I was still hearing his voice and was motivated beyond belief to see his face, look into his eyes to see if his "eyes had it."

I suppose he was taking a risk too. How did he know I wasn't a queer basher out for kicks or a burglar? Perhaps there was something to my voice that urged him on. Maybe he was lonesome, too.

He picked me up at my house and we drove to his. Since he was driving and had to keep his eyes on the road, I had the advantage of staring at him and falling in love before we got home. When we arrived, it was home--his place became our home and we have been together since that first night. I can't imagine any other existence without him at this point and I believe I felt that way from the moment we first looked into each other's eyes. To this day, I am not so thankful that he was good enough for me --- but that I was good enough for him.

I kept my own apartment for the summer but never slept there again, going back and forth to check the mail, pull some more clothes out, etc. My life stopped immediately. Everything I was doing came to a halt. School became excruciatingly boring. Anything that didn't include

Stan just seemed to be a waste of time. Rick Reed in love again? No--Rick Reed in love for the first time. A complete love, one that was fulfilling, purposeful and inspirational that I'd waited 31 years to find.

So, I had to come out of the closet. Not because I wanted to prove anything, but because I wanted to share my love for Stan with my family first off. We never had to discuss our relationship with my family or our plans and dreams; it was something that was very obvious to everyone around us.

I was never happier in my life. I thought I was happiest when my daughter Liza was born, but with Stan, there came a more relevant newborn--a different birth--happening within me.

With Stan I felt wonderful. I longed to hold his hand on Memphis streets. I wanted to be accepted by anyone and everyone as a homosexual. For years I'd hated my homosexual tendencies, but Stan taught me I could love myself and I learned fast.

I couldn't let well enough alone through being "just" a homosexual. Deep inside, wanting to get out was a great need to express how I felt about Stan. I wanted everyone to know I'd changed; I'd found myself and was ridiculously happy.

I wasn't ready to ride on top of a huge penis-float in the Cotton Carnival Parade, but I did want to be proud. That's when GAZE came into the picture. I'd been writing all of my life. My first published story was written when I was twelve. I have written four books. It was only natural that I would want to write for the paper.

Again I knew that when it was time, things would take care of themselves. When the time was right, just as I had expected, a complete stranger who was as poor at the pool table as I was missed his shot, and scratched and winced, and looked me in the eye and said, "Hey, you're Rick Reed aren't you?" I said "Yes" and he told me of GAZE, the opportunities and a need for new writers. In a few weeks I'd developed "The Eyes Have It," a compilation of short stories, long stories, what have you, that after a period of time would comprise my fifth book, by the same name. My stories would continue to reflect New Journalism, this time from a Gay point of view, through the four characteristics of New Journalism--it has to be personal, passionate, subjective and bizarre.

So, now I've been writing for GAZE almost a year -- remaining personal, passionate, subjective and hopefully bizarre. At least I feel I have done my best. In any case, I had to tell of Stan. I couldn't possibly continue

THANKS

Performers

Jessica Lane	Lily Christine
The Duchess	Evelyn Cooper
Henna Rintz	Sheri Turner
Vera Louise	Tamika
Leslie Carter	Kelly Green
Monique	Juanita
Eve Britain	Misty Dawn
Trixie	Wendy
Lorretta	Angie

and

The Sisters of the Impossible Conception

Sr. Shirley Eujeste

Sr. Mary Widow

Sr. Anita Douche

Sr. Betty Wont

Sr. Mary Valvoline

Mother Marie Hubetta Stoppe

Father Sister

Emcee: Dennis Massey

Special Thanks to:

Jackie's

The Other Side

Samantha (Our Instant DJ)

Our Lady of the Light Booth

(and her Lady on the headset)

St. Francis of the Pearls

Tom and Steve for Technical

Assistance

Mystic Krewe of Aphrodite

and

Lambda Televideo

Lady of Light

writing personally and passionately without including this particular story. The book would be incomplete if Stan were not a part of it. For me, Stan is the most wonderful person on earth -- the man has it, the voice has it--and the eyes have it.

Memphis Psychotherapy Center

1835 Union Avenue, Suite 203

Offering Personal Growth Counseling

for

Individuals, Couples, Groups

in such areas as

- Improving relationships • clarifying personal values and goals • Solving conflicts
- Increasing self-understanding

For Further Information call 726-1284

MEMPHIS CENTER FOR REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH



Non-profit Feminist Health Clinic

Offering A Full Range Of Gynecological Care

1462 Poplar at McNeil
Memphis, Tennessee 38104
(901) 274-3550

Nashville Celebrates Lesbian-Gay Pride Week

by Jeff Thompson

Nashville's Lesbian-Gay Pride Week, June 12-19, was a thrilling success--and even got written up (favorably) in a two-part article in *The Nashville Banner*. The special week focusing on the "Business of Being Gay" included meetings, two dinners at the Metropolitan Community Church building, a Sunday afternoon picnic, and a Gay Pride Cruise on the Cumberland River aboard the Nashville Showboat. Built in 1979, the Showboat is the newest of Music City's three riverboats and features both an exterior deck and a covered (but partially open-air) interior deck.

On Saturday night, June 18, 144 Lesbians and Gay men boarded the Nashville Showboat and enjoyed a three-hour cruise in warm, breezy weather. Alison Smith of the Nashville chapter of the Tennessee Gay Coalition for Human Rights (which sponsored the boat ride) was elated over the 144-strong turn-out, as the Gay cruises in the summer and fall of 1982 both had drawn only 115 people. "This one is the biggest ever!" she declared.

Pride Cruise passengers included Allison Smith and other Coalition officials; Nashville's own Abby

Rubinfeld, now working for Lambda Legal Defense in New York City (but who returned to participate in Gay Pride Week); Reverend Paul Tucker, pastor of Nashville's Metropolitan Community Church; Steve Smith and Rita Rhinestone of Balloons-Hi and Warehouse 28, Incorporated; John Sawyer, manager of Juanita's; Mark Ryan, owner of Mother's; and Carol Powell, an at-large candidate for the Nashville City Council.

The Showboat traveled up the Cumberland River and passed such riverbank landmarks at Fort Nashboro, the brand new Riverfront Park, Metro General Hospital, factories, Shelby Park, and the city waterworks. On board the ship, the gracious staff of the Showboat served beverages; Steve Smith distributed complimentary helium balloons; a tapedeck played jazz, rock, and dance music; and the 144 voyagers mingled, conversed, and danced.

Late in the cruise, a thunderous whoop went up as the boat passed the tourist-filled Captain Annex vessel on the river. The exuberant passengers on The Nashville Showboat obviously agreed that the "Business of Being Gay" was something to shout about!

MCC Pastor Resigns

by Joel Tate

The Metropolitan Community Church of Memphis has reorganized under lay leadership following the resignation of its pastor and approval by district church officials to continue operations.

The church board last month named two volunteer worship coordinators, Whit Smith and Bill West, to replace the Rev. Jim Simon, who resigned June 15. Simon, who was pastor of the church since April 1982, planned to preach in South Carolina through the end of July before seeking permanent employment elsewhere.

Simon's resignation came after a decline in attendance and financial support that threatened to end MCC's 7½-year-old ministry in Memphis. He said he believed his departure could only serve to stabilize the small congregation, which had been struggling with personality conflicts and financial trouble for months. Nine church members had resigned membership in December following efforts to get the pastor to leave.

However, MCC's Board of Home Missions for the South Atlantic District voted in May to allow the church to continue operating. Thirteen MCC members pledged to support the church

for at least one year and petitioned the board for approval. A delegation of church members attended a district conference in Columbia, S.C. in late May for that purpose.

District Coordinator Gilbert Lincoln said he regarded the board action "as a vote of confidence. I am deeply impressed that the church has obtained 13 promissory signatures and I'm pleased by the outline of the church goals for the year to come. It seems to me you're on the right track and have the means to go forward more and more effectively."

Since then, the church has embarked on a pledge campaign among its members and is preparing to send letters soliciting financial support from the community. Contributions may be sent to the church in care of P.O. Box 40943, Memphis, TN. At a July 6 meeting of the church's board of directors, the treasurer reported that the debts have gradually declined since May and that the church can be in stable financial condition soon with more community support.

The church continues to meet at 1 PM Sundays at 2224 Central. Rap sessions and Bible studies are conducted at 7:30 PM Wednesday.

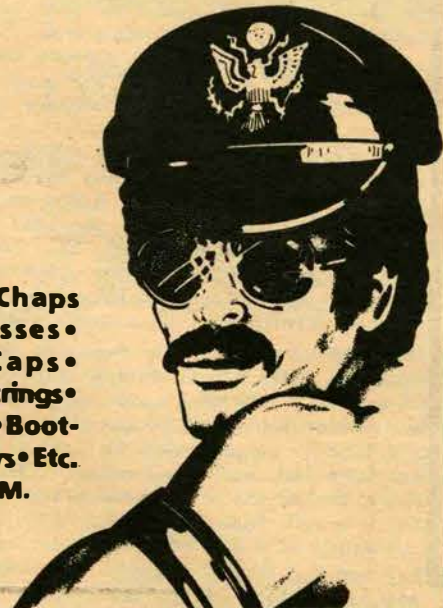
MEN OF LEATHER

1474 Madison

(located in the rear of Jackie's)

Custom-made belts • Chaps
Jackets • Vests • Harnesses •
Wristbands • Slings • Caps •
Leather Jock Straps • G-Strings •
T-Shirts • Western Shirts • Boot-
Straps • Leather Suspenders • Etc.

Open Fri.-Sat. 9 P.M.-2 A.M.



J-WAG'S

1268 Madison

NO COVER—NO COVER

DISCO
DISCO
DISCO
DISCO

OPENING JULY 25 - 10 PM

THAT'S RIGHT! OUR BRAND NEW DISCO WILL

OPEN JULY 25 at 10 PM

BEER SPECIAL FOR

DISCO OPENING

ALL CAN BEER 10 PM—3 AM

70¢

ALL DRAUGHT

40¢

Don't Miss Our Gala Opening—
Shuffleboard Tournament at 9 PM

ENCORE CARDS & GIFTS

1266 Madison Ave. (next to J-Wag's)



Now Open
Till 9 PM
every night!
(closed Sunday)

Cards & Gifts - More than ever before in Stock

Ceramics—Posters—Candles—Brass—T-Shirts

Just arrived—Special printed match books. Also,
Gay Gift Wrap. Also other Gift Wrap.

WE FEATURE A GOOD LINE OF FICTION AND
NON-FICTION GAY AND LESBIAN BOOKS

FREE 30 DAY LAY-A-WAY



REVIEWS

Doctor's New Book Provides Guide to AIDS/STDs

Every week there seems to be a shocking new development in the spread of the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). But as any Gay man knows, AIDS is certainly not the only disease that can be spread through sexual contact. Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) are an increasing problem for the Gay community both in quality and quantity.

In a comprehensive new book, *Gay Men's Health: A Guide to the AID Syndrome and other Sexually Transmitted Diseases* (Harper & Row, \$12.95 cloth, \$7.95 paper), New York physician Jeanne Kassler, M.D. provides an up-to-date and complete health guide for the sexually active Gay man.

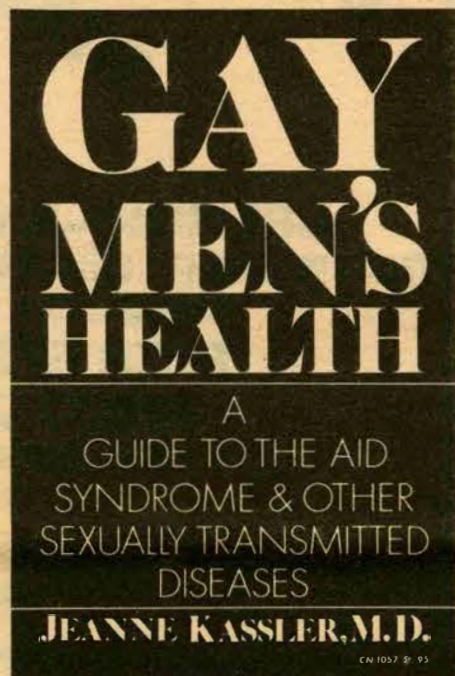
"While STD's are a potential problem for everyone who isn't celibate," Dr. Kassler writes, "Gay men and heterosexual women suffer the most." *Gay Men's Health* goes far beyond AIDS and describes all the known STDs that affect Gay men, including herpes, hepatitis, the classic venereal diseases, and more. The book explains what they are, their symptoms, what sexual practices are most likely to transmit them, how they are diagnosed and treated, and what can be done to prevent them. The treatment recommendations are usually those suggested by the Centers for Disease Control in their latest 1982 bulletin.

Numerous articles have appeared about AIDS, but *Gay Men's Health* is the first book to provide a compilation of all that is currently known about the syndrome. AIDS stands apart from other STDs because so much is unknown about the disease--and it can be fatal. Dr. Kassler discusses the various theories about what causes

AIDS, its symptoms, the diseases associated with it, and its psychological ramifications.

"With any disease that is incurable and has such high stakes, the emphasis is on prevention," Kassler writes. "Controlling AIDS has to be a cooperative venture."

Before the appearance of AIDS, probably the most dreaded of STDs was hepatitis. Over the past decade, Gay men have accounted for an increasing number of cases, and infections from sexual contact have become the major cause. By donating blood and making themselves available



for testing, many Gay men were instrumental in the recent breakthrough development of the Hepatitis B vaccine.

In researching *Gay Men's Health*, Kassler worked in a New York clinic that treats the problems she discusses. In one of the most valuable parts of the book, she lists clinics throughout the country that specialize in treating Gay men's STD's. Average cost of medical tests are given, as well as what to expect in a medical examination and a glossary of terms.

"Education provides protection against having to learn by unwanted experience," Kassler writes in the introduction. "It permits one to make decisions that are genuinely based on informed consent."

by Thomas Smith

After careful reflection on these two books, I have come to a conclusion: we're batting 500. One was a disappointment and one was less of a disappointment. Surely this does not seem to be the cheerful way to start up a review, but look, if you had read these books, you wouldn't be so elated, either. It has about the same effect as being promised steak and getting a chicken hot dog (less fat, less calories and certainly less fun) instead. What kind of a good time is that?

Since I've been wallowing in the muddy waters of pessimism for awhile, why change? Let's go straight down to the bottom as I discuss, review and pick apart this first book, Richard Hall's *Three Plays For A Gay Theatre*. Prepare yourselves, it's going to be a bumpy, uh, ride.

Hall's book contains not only three plays but three essays. This in itself is not much of a bargain because these "essays" (how loosely the term is used in these trying times) are worse than the plays. Not only are they dull, boring and lengthy, but they read like a *History of Theatre* text. Perhaps your English professor or Theatre professor would enjoy them but not I. In the first place, the essays did not tell me anything I didn't already know, like:

1. It took a while for Gay Theatre to evolve.
2. Straight actors don't like playing Gay characters.
3. Gay audiences enjoy Gay plays more than straight audiences do.

If this had been the first time I had read this information, I wouldn't be so cruel. Considering Mr. Hall's uncomplicated way of expressing these ideas, someone could have passed those essays right by me, not with a roaring cheer, or even a polite clap, but with an inattentive stare. It seems though that this information has passed by my eyes only 1000 times (make that 1001) and, besides, isn't it just common sense? Do we need to be told? Richard Hall might have a chance at writing some good essays if he could get a hold of the right material and not this textbook stuff.

Enough of the essays, now on to the major reason for the book: the plays. Let me dissect and crush them one by one:

The first is a vamped-up "Carol-Burnett-Show-Skit" type play called, *Happy Birthday, Daddy*. It's not bad. If you can overlook the emptiness, the TV show mentality of it, the bland, transferable-from-one-play-to-the-next characters and the obviously bad timing, it's a good play. Sometimes, as in this one, if you wrap all these bad characteristics up in a pretty package (beautiful people and miraculous acting and every now and then a snappy joke or two), it's easy to sit back and relax. Just don't try to think or the whole thing falls apart. *Happy Birthday, Daddy* is the story of a father, his wife, his boy and the father's lover. How they all interrelate is the general back-

LGAES Distributes Free Sci-Fi Bibliography

LGAES (Lesbian and Gay Associated Engineers and Scientists) is distributing a free science fiction bibliography to those who send a SASE. On the reverse side is a basic Gay and Lesbian bibliography and a Thomas Szasz bibliography. LGAES president Edward Sebesta says he "tries to promote Gay reading in this small way." For a copy, write to LGAES, P.O. Box 4247, San Francisco, CA 94101.

"Interesting" But Not Very Deep

drop, and how the father and his lover relate is the funniest. For the record, the worst is the boy/father/lover relationship which is very ill-scripted. Okay, first, the boy wants his father back with him and his mother. When he learns how pressuring it is to have a dating father for two weeks, the rest of the play is dedicated to getting the father back with the lover, wherein everyone decides that "life is wonderful and, gee, I'm not too sure about having a Gay parent/husband, but I know everything will be great soon!" When are we going to stop getting these cardboard, Neil Simon characters?

Play #2 does a jig around a thought of Hall's which goes, "Hey! I'll take one of those textbook ideas about straight people playing Gay characters and put a play behind it! Wow! And to make it really good, I'll make the straight lead a Tom Selleck-type so everyone can see he's real Hollywood and not very smart and I'll make his manager a Lesbian but keep it a secret until the end of the play where it won't make any difference anyway and have too many minor characters and a stereotype Gay couple who'll put the make on the Tom Selleck look-a-like, just for fun, of course, and really complicate a sugar-coated play where all it needs at the pathetic ending is violins and 20 dancing girls with sparklers! Yeah, this'll be a great play!"

Well, I hate to be the bearer of bad news, but things just didn't work out as planned. Oh, yes, this winner of a play is entitled (are you ready?) *Love Match*.

The worst is over, though, folks, as we glide out of the pits into the gutter with *Prisoner of Love*. The advantage of *Prisoner* over *Match* is *Prisoner* is on a beach with hopefully beautiful, shirtless men, and I believe that there's lots of touching going on. Otherwise, skip it.

(I'll run through it briefly so you won't feel you've missed anything)--See, this pseudo-eccentric Gay activist and friend go to Puerto Rico for a holiday. The Gay activist is pulled into a quickie with a hustler but his friend pays for it so the activist will have a good time. The activist falls in love with the hustler, who goes along with it as long as the friend pays more money and things go haywire and haven't you already seen this same story in a hundred A) books B) movies or C) plays? I'll risk it and give a hint about the ending--it's the same kind that Walt Disney uses.

Incredible as it is, there is an advantage to seeing/reading one (and no more than one) of the Richard Hall collection. They are enjoyable for relaxing--it's not "thinking man's theatre," rather "leisure man's theatre." I only tear them down because Hall wrote them to be the former, but he is being fooled.

Elements of a Coffee Service. In-

BWMT/Memphis BLACK & WHITE MEN TOGETHER

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.—JOIN US!

General Meetings
Action Committee
Pot Luck Social Evenings
Consciousness-Raising/
Support Groups

Voter Registration
Gay Pride Activities
Surveys of the Gay Community
Community Dances

SUMMER CALENDAR

July 12—C/R-Support Group	August 25—C/R Support Group + General Meeting
July 23—Pot Luck Social Evening	September 1—Action Committee
July 25—General Meeting-Library	September 3-5—Southeast Network Meeting
July 28—C/R Support Group	September 13—C/R-Support Group
August 4—Action Committee	September 24—Social Event
August 9—C/R-Support Group	Happy Birthday to Bobby, David and Ed this Summer!
August 17-21—International Convention	
'83 - IABWMT, Columbus, Ohio—Group Travel	

For Information call: Irwin at 901-276-4160 or Joe at 901-274-0532. BWMT meets the fourth Monday of each month at 7:30 PM at the Main Library, Meeting Room A, Peabody and McLean.

Lily Tomlin Wows Them in Nashville

by Jeff Thompson

Fresh on the heels of the fabulously successful April 2 Coalition fund-raiser at Nashville's Tennessee Performing Arts Center, the city's Gay community en masse once again filled the TPAC's James K. Polk Theatre---this time to see comedienne Lily Tomlin's brilliant one-woman show, *APPEARING NIGHTLY*.

The gifted entertainer (last in Nashville in 1975 to film her Oscar nominated role in the movie *NASHVILLE*) is known for her hilarious ---and often poignant---transformations into Ernestine, overbearing telephone operator; Edith Ann, five-year-old dispenser of "mouths-of-babes" wisdom from her rocking-chair perch; Bobbi Jeanine, "organist extraordinaire" and self-appointed counselor; and housewife Mrs. Judith Beasley, spokeswoman for public-service platitudes on good consumerism. On Tuesday evening, May 17, Lily Tomlin treated her audience to all of these characters and more---invoking them not through costumes, props, and sets (as you have seen her do on TV's "Laugh-In" and "Saturday Night Live"), but through masterful use and control of her body, face, and voice.

Tomlin performed both acts of *APPEARING NIGHTLY* wearing black tuxedo pants and a black blouse with magenta and gray stripes. Her stage consisted of a tall stool, a short stool, a small black crate, and imagination! Through her changeable stance, walk, mannerisms, facial contortions, and vocal techniques (as well as excellent lighting effects), Lily took us to a street corner with harried Tess, the slightly unbalanced "bag lady," and to the phone company with Ernestine. She took us to her home in Detroit, where she (as a 7-year-old) suffered her first crush---on her school teacher, Miss Margaret Anne Sweeney ("she looked like Loretta Young"); and where she (as a teenager) was driven to distraction

by her parents' mindless table conversation ("Please stop talking about that cake!"). The audience went with Lily to a (straight) singles' bar, where Rick (her male persona) tried to drink, dance, and trick away the pain of his wife's affair with a college man and her sudden departure with the man and Rick's young son ("I hope he don't call that guy Daddy"). We journeyed with Tomlin's Glenna from the early sixties to the 1980's, as the impressionable young woman experienced Beatlemania, anti-war protests, the drug culture, the loss of a parent, psychoanalysis, natural childbirth, and ultimately, an Establishment marriage-and-family situation.



These, along with her show-stopping one-liners (Whenever I see a YIELD sign I feel sexually threatened"), were Lily Tomlin's finest moments. She especially shone in her consummate portrayal of the frantic Tess, the rambling, confused vagabond, who, between stays in the mental ward, tries to convince the people around her that she has had a close encounter with a UFO ("I got evidence!") Lily's *Appearing Nightly* performance even handled thoughtfully and res-

sponsibly the difficult subjects of quadriplegia, death, and mental illness...and she did it all with virtually no profanity. Tomlin's own *Tasteful Lady* (one of the few characters who did not appear) would have been proud. (The single drawback to the forty-four-year-old entertainer's entire program was her *Sister Boogie Woman* routine, which I found to be repetitive, irritating, and pointless.)

On the night of Tuesday, May 17, Nashville's Gay community turned out to show its support for the woman who has been called this generation's Mark Twain or Will Rogers. Nashville's Warehouse 28, Incorporated, had sold a block of 109 plum, front-and-center seats to the Polk Theatre event---and, because of excessive publicity within the community, it was estimated that an additional two hundred Lesbians and Gay men attended that particular performance. Therefore, approximately 30% of the 1000-seat Polk Theatre's Tuesday-night sell-out audience was Gay! Lily was aware of the fact and directed a couple of good-natured, ad-libbed asides to the enthusiastic group block-seated near the stage.

Furthermore, at one point, Lily began her "Glenna: A Child of the Sixties" routine (which can be heard on her Arista Records release, "On Stage") with the remark, "The 1950's was the most sexually frustrated decade ever---ten years of foreplay. And, of course, *no one was Gay*---" At that, the auditorium resounded for twenty seconds with wave after gleeful wave of cheers, whistles, and happy applause! When order finally was restored, Lily added, "---only shy!"

I later learned that "only shy" is the line which she regularly says---but the conspicuous ovation delivered by that anything-BUT-shy segment of the Tuesday audience served to demon-

surroundings, making it much too perfect to be true. There are, however, several realistic problems that are faced by Lane and Diana.

With *Curious Wine*, Katherine Forrest has done for Lesbians what D.H. Lawrence did for heterosexuals. She created a beautifully written intensely romantic fantasy. This novel is great for escape and difficult to put down until you have finished it, and one you will want to read for detail.

This book is available in Memphis at Encore Gift Shop. Once again we owe a debt of gratitude to Naiad Press for a marvelous book for summer reading.

strate and emphasize Tomlin's satirical statement!.

Many Lesbians and Gay men in the audience of *Appearing Nightly* that evening certainly felt a kinship to Lily Tomlin, who, in Act One, declared, "When I was young my mother told me some things that weren't true. She said that only tramps get their ears pierced. (Although this audience might be the exception!) She told me that, If the people in Washington

didn't know what they were doing, they wouldn't be there. My mother also told me, 'Whatever makes you happy, makes me happy!'" (To the delight of Nashville's Gay community, Lily Tomlin and her entourage visited The Cabaret on Tuesday night, May 17; and The Warehouse 28, Incorporated, on Saturday night, May 21.)



Greensong Foliage

722 South Highland

PLANTS-PLANTS-PLANTS

"grow your own"...supplies

Foliage plants
Hanging baskets
Pots and soil

Professional advice

all stock is
GREENHOUSE GROWN
Mon.-Sat. 10-5

Lesbian Love Story

Curious Wine by Katherine W. Forrest is a beautifully written, erotic novel. The setting is a quaint cabin in Lake Tahoe where Lane, Diana, Liz, Vivian, Chris, Millie, & Madge go for a skiing vacation. This is a basically straight group of women with Lane Christian, a lawyer, and Diana Holland, a personnel representative being the main characters.

This novel is not for the politically correct, as there are no politics in the book. It is instead a wonderful love story where two "basically straight" women passionately discover each other in the cabin's loft.

If there is any flaw in this novel, it is in the physical perfection of the characters, their possessions and



Katherine Forrester, author of "Curious Wine"--photo by Tee A. Corinne.

"Interesting" continued from page 6

teresting title. That is a good thing because it is an interesting book. *Elements* is a collection of short pieces about, well, a lot of ideas. The titles of each piece tell what's going to happen, but not usually. Robert Glück constantly goes off on tangents which frequently led me to believe that he wrote each piece off the top of his head. Not true, though if one can believe one piece about the construction of *Elements*. This book is supposedly well-constructed down to the very word.

For all the work Glück did for this book, it didn't work. As I have said before, *Elements* never gets above the "interesting" status. Possibly a good

coffee table book, or something to flip through, but no deep, startling meanings in this book.

I was disappointed at first with *Elements*, but it's creeping up on me.

I do enjoy the low-lying humor and the stories that don't really go anywhere, yet they do. It is quiet and relaxing to the harried souls of today. *Elements of a Coffee Service* is a refreshing, relaxing and disappointing (all in one!) small book.

Elements of a Coffee Service by Robert Glück is \$5.95 and *Three Plays For A Gay Theatre* is \$6.95. Both books are available from Subco, Box 10233, Eugene, OR 97440.

Raleigh Springs Bath House

\$4.00 per person 1/2 hour
\$7.00 per person 1 hour Minimum 2 People

Private Suites, each with
its own Therapeutic Whirlpool,
Shower, Lounge and Dressing Room

Suites Available for 2 to 7 Adults

Open 7 Days a Week Til 2:00 a.m.

4398 Raleigh LaGrange Road

377-0971



Health

Explosive Blood Issue Stirs Controversy at Denver Health Conference

by Phil Nash

DENVER- One of the most controversial subjects covered at the Fifth Lesbian and Gay Health Conference in Denver June 9-12 was blood donor policy. Dr. Jay Menitove outlined epidemiological studies pointing to the transmissibility of AIDS through blood products. Menitove said that the first case of pneumocystis carinii pneumonia (PCP), an AIDS related disease ever reported in a hemophiliac was published last summer. Hemophiliacs, whose blood doesn't clot normally, frequently use a blood derived compound known as factor 8 to enhance their ability to stop dangerous bleeding. Factor 8 is synthesized from pooled blood products, most of which are obtained from paid donors. Menitove explained that another safer clotting agent is available to hemophiliacs, but it is much less convenient to use.

In December, it was reported that a two-year-old child in San Francisco had been diagnosed with AIDS after receiving a transfusion of blood from a seemingly healthy donor who later came down with AIDS and died. Fourteen other cases of AIDS resulting from blood transfusion are under investigation, according to Menitove, however, only the first incident cited is a proven link between a donor with AIDS and a patient subsequently getting the syndrome.

Menitove said that the risks of getting AIDS through contaminated blood supplies is minimal. Of 10 million blood transfusions given in the last three years, only one case of AIDS is definitely linked to donor blood, and if one considers all the cases under investigation, Menitove said, the chances of getting AIDS by a transfusion are only one in a million.

Menitove warned that in the next few months, blood bankers will confront a phenomenon known as "donor-directed" transfusions, in which persons anticipating blood needs will specify relatives and friends to donate blood for them, with the result of creating two classes of blood. Menitove said the blood industry is fundamentally opposed to such a movement, but may be under pressure to implement such programs. To reduce risk, all agencies and commercial blood banking centers subscribing to the American Association of Blood Banks distribute an informational brochure to prospective donors pointing out the risks and the symptoms of AIDS. They request that anyone who has any of the indications not donate blood.

In a workshop on AIDS and public policy, a set of guidelines was developed around the explosive issue of blood donation. Another stronger statement was issued by a workshop on AIDS political strategy. The public policy guidelines acknowledged the probability that AIDS can be transmitted through blood and called for public education to encourage voluntary self-screening among high risk persons while working to protect donor confidentiality and the political and social effect of screening methods on donor groups who are thought to be at high risk for AIDS. They also called for funding to find surrogate markers for AIDS in order to screen blood effectively and rapidly implement these methods when they become available. In addition, the group called upon local governmental bodies to insure they consider the effects of their policies.

The blood policy sub-committee of the political strategy workshop endorsed the National Gay Task Force statement on blood donor policy issued in January which insists that the government and blood agencies not implement any policy that is "a political solution to a medical problem." The sub-committee also emphasized that the current scientific data does not conclusively show a relationship between AIDS and blood donation. The group also stated that any indirect questioning about sexual activity are "thinly disguised" questions about sexual orientation and are ineffective. Stating that the "Quarantine" of blood from Gays "is an ominous first step towards further social, political, economic and even physical quarantine," the sub-committee said that the resulting stigmatization may permit "racist and homophobic forces to accomplish in the name of "science" what they have...been unable to fully accomplish politically."

Guidelines for voluntary exclusion of blood donation were offered by several groups. Highlights of the guidelines follow:

- don't give blood if you have AIDS or if you have had sex with someone diagnosed with AIDS in the last two years;
- don't give blood if you have taken non-medically supervised drug injections.
- don't donate blood if you have AIDS symptoms, which may include swollen glands, purplish blotches on the body, rapid and unexplained weight loss, persistent night sweats, persistent fever, diarrhea for more than three days'

--don't give blood if your sexual activity puts you in a high risk category for AIDS. Having more than one partner is thought to increase risk, and if you are monogamous with a partner who is not, your risk may also be increased;

--don't give blood if your partners have been sexually active in cities with many AIDS cases, such as New York, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Houston, Miami and others.

--do give blood if you are not at high risk or have no reason to believe you or your partners are unhealthy.

A statement on blood guidelines from the Gay and Lesbian Health Alliance of Denver suggests the final test in assessing one's ability to donate blood with a clear conscience: "Would you feel comfortable giving your blood to your best friends?"

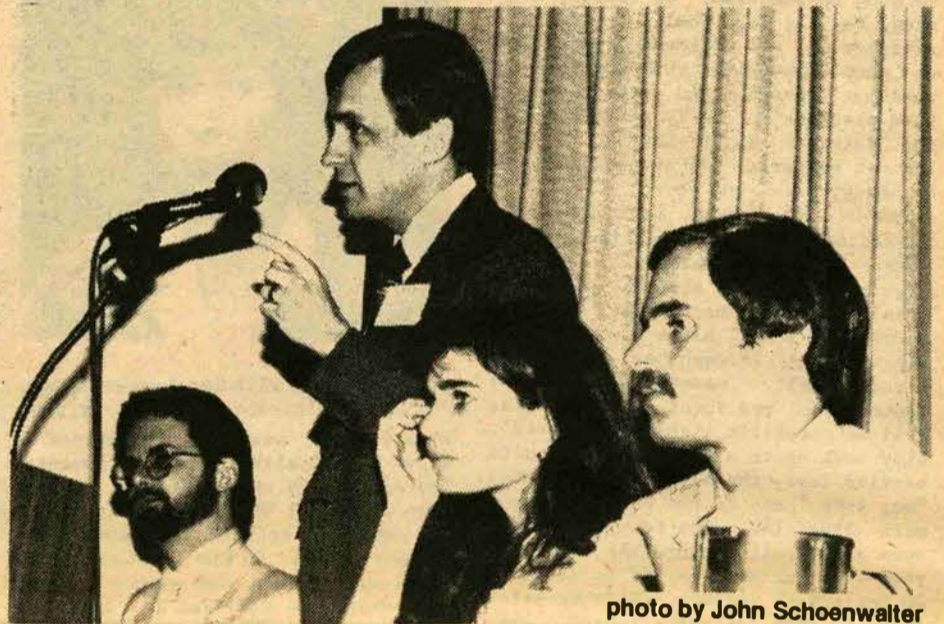


photo by John Schoenwalter

CDC's Curran: "AIDS is a medical issue first, a political issue second."

OLD HASH IS STILL SMOKIN'

See the complete video-tape replay of the most successful fundraising event in years!

Cast and crew of show admitted free. All others: \$2 donation to the AIDS fund.

Paris Adult Theatre
2432 Summer Ave.

Monday, July 25 7 PM

This is only the beginning...the fundraising won't stop until a cure is found!



photo by John Schoenwalter

Persons with AIDS: Refusing to be victims.

MGC AUGUST PROGRAM MEETING

Dr. Linda Pifer, Ph.D.
AIDS Researcher

August 15, 7:30 p.m.

Public Library (Peabody & McLean)
Meeting Room B

Presented by the Memphis Gay Coalition

Positive Policy Guides Will Compete Against Homophobia

by Phil Nash and Bill Britt

In an effort to address widespread concern over acquired immune deficiency syndrome, or AIDS, policy guidelines for health care facilities will inevitably compete against widespread homophobic reaction. This assessment is that of Virginia Apuzzo Executive Director of the National Gay Task Force. Apuzzo spent more than four hours helping Gay and Lesbian health care providers develop public policy guidelines at the Second National Forum on AIDS in Denver June 9. The two day forum was part of the Fifth Lesbian and Gay Health Conference entitled "Health Pioneering in the 80's" which took place June 9 through 12.

"It's particularly hard for Lesbian and Gay men to consider the question of public policy," Apuzzo said, "When we have systematically been eliminated from any discussion of public policy, especially as it relates to our lives." Still, said Apuzzo, while Lesbians and Gays are generally excluded from the country's political process, she insists the Gay community will not "stand in the corner and whine about it and walk away."

Apuzzo joined Pat Nornal, Coordinator of the Lesbian and Gay Health Care Services in San Francisco's health department, and other health professionals to formulate recommendations for public policy on AIDS issues. The policy statements are intended to serve as guidelines for hospitals, clinics, and organizations serving Gay men and Lesbians.

AIDS is a disease for which the cause and cure are not yet known. Persons diagnosed with AIDS are susceptible to infections and diseases that would otherwise be fought off by the natural immune responses of the body. Kaposi's sarcoma, a previously rare skin cancer, and pneumocystis carinii pneumonia are the two most common diseases reported among AIDS patients, although a list of about a dozen other opportunistic infections have been associated with the syndrome. Gay men account for about three-fourths of the nearly 1,700 diagnoses in the last three years, most of those being in New York City, San Francisco, and several other large urban areas. Other high risk groups for AIDS are Haitian immigrants, intravenous drug users and hemophiliacs. Few diagnosed AIDS patients have lived more than three years from the time they were diagnosed.

In addition to recommending various policy guidelines, the groups' stated objective was to help hospitals, health clinics, and the general public understand medical and ethical implications of researching and medically treating Gay men as a class.

As the group discussed the obstacles of homophobia, it was confronted with an incident which was, according to one participant, "a perfect example of our problem." It occurred when their meeting was interrupted by Paul Paroski, President of the National Gay Health Education Foundation, one of the conference's sponsoring groups. Paroski informed the group that the manager of the Executive Tower Inn, the host hotel, did not want to display the words "Gay", "Lesbian", or "AIDS" on the lobby announcement board. The notice carried only the program's subtitle, "Health Pioneering in the 80's", and Paroski asked the group what, if anything, it wished to do about the situation. Some members wanted to change hotels, but Paroski pointed out that the National Conference of Mayors was also meeting in Denver and accommodations elsewhere were scarce.

After meetings with Paroski and others, the hotel conceded a "misunderstanding" and permitted the sign to be changed to carry the full name of the conference. However, many conference participants had already started boycotting hotel services by taking their lunch breaks outside the facility rather than patronize the hotel's restaurant. The manager's concession came after a virtually unanimous vote of the approximately 300 delegates to boycott non-contracted hotel services if the management persisted in denying the group visibility for its activities.

Paroski later said that the hotel manager has "no understanding of AIDS whatsoever" and was concerned about the reaction of hotel guests to the announcement board. Paroski said he assured the manager that, while several people with AIDS were attending the meetings, he pointed out the lack of evidence to suggest AIDS can be transmitted through casual contact.

According to Apuzzo, the combination of homophobia, politics, and health care presents tremendous problems for Gay people seeking help in the form of federal assistance. "The political equation regarding AIDS is ruthlessly simple," she explained. "AIDS requires research, research requires money...money allocated by Congress, and Congress has to be assessed in terms of how it perceives us." Historically, the relationship between the nation's lawmakers and its Gay community has often been adverse, Apuzzo says. "We live in a society in which Congress is reluctant to acknowledge our civil rights, the federal government won't let us into the country, we have to fight to raise our own children, we have to fight to teach other people's children, we're not even allowed to fight in their army..."

In their efforts to provide services for persons with AIDS, as well as secure funding for various research projects, several people attending the forum said the "enemy" is not so much the government as it is prejudice. Six forum members identified themselves as people with AIDS, and all of them talked about what they perceived to be a need for health care services that accept all persons. One man said he lives in a small town near Minneapolis, "...where there aren't many AIDS patients yet." He said blood centers there are asking potential donors about their sexual preferences and then sending the information on to other centers that handle blood or blood products. Rather than ask potential donors if they are Gay, the Public Health Service recommended last March that individuals who may be at increased risk for AIDS voluntarily abstain from giving blood. Many blood centers now distribute literature which lists all of the AIDS risk groups, and the reported number of centers that directly question a person's sexual preference has decreased.

Many forum participants left with unanswered questions: How serious is the AIDS epidemic in the nation's Prisons? Why have no cases been reported among military personnel?

Despite the unsolved puzzles surrounding the mysterious disease, Naroman says the forum managed to generate more positive than negative feedback from participants.

Following are some of the recommendations of the meeting:

- condemnation of "business-as-usual" approach to AIDS attributable to either homophobia or incompetence;
- calling for public openness about research projects;
- greater involvement of researchers familiar with Gay Culture;

---collaboration with Haitians and other high risk groups;

---an affirmation of the rights of Gay clients to treatment with dignity and respect, including total confidentiality and the right to be referred to appropriate sources when other criteria are not met;

---that people with AIDS should be included in all policy-making bodies regarding AIDS;

---that increased health concerns brought on by the AIDS outbreak be directed also at other Gay and Lesbian health concerns such as alcoholism, drug abuse, and sexually transmitted diseases;

---that homophobia, including internalized homophobia is a major threat to the health of Gay men and Lesbians.

A copy of the complete guidelines from the AIDS forum can be obtained by sending \$3.00 to Ron Vachon, Director, National AIDS Federation Resource Information Project, P.O. Box 784, Times Square Station, New York NY 10036.



photo by John Schoenwalter

NGTF's Apuzzo: "Institutional neglect...ought to put us back in the streets."

National Aids Federation Formed

by Phil Nash

Thirty-eight separate organizations joined together at the Fifth National Lesbian and Gay Health Conference in Denver to form a federation of AIDS groups. The two top priorities of the new group are to establish a lobbying project and to develop a resource and information network, according to the founding guidelines developed at the conference.

With a goal of raising \$200,000 nationally, and making half that amount available within the first thirty days of the federation, plans call for offices to be established in Washington, D.C. Ron Vachon, Executive Director of the National Gay Health Education Foundation has been selected interim director of the resource and information project, to be temporarily headquartered in the offices of NCHAF in New York City. New York's Gay Men's Health Crisis was chosen to be the federation's temporary treasurer and will provide volunteers to assist in the resource project.

The organization is an outgrowth of a workshop on networking at the Second AIDS Forum, part of "Health Pioneering in the 80s," the Fifth Lesbian and Gay Health Conference held in Denver June 9 through 12. The federation is directed by a steering committee with representatives from New York, San Francisco, Houston, Atlanta, Denver, Los Angeles, and Philadelphia. There are also members from the NCHAF, American Association of Physicians for Human Rights, National Gay Task Force, and the newly-formed Women's AIDS also serve on the steering committee.

The federation was founded, in part to better share information, avoid duplicative efforts and to unify efforts at carrying out actions through out the country. The Interim Steering Committee of the Lobbying Project will choose a selection committee to hire a lobbyist who will select a staff of three other persons, including a media coordinator, according to current plans.

The permanent steering committee plans to meet in New York City in mid August.

Quote of the Month

"But AIDS is really neither a moral nor a political problem. It is a medical one. Those in pain and those dying are not only homosexuals or bisexuals, but people. And there is no more justice in their plight than there is in a teenager's unwanted pregnancy or a smoker's cancer death—or, for that matter, the battlefield death of someone who chose to be a soldier."

"Neither the threat nor the existence of AIDS exonerates what amounts to nothing less than fag baiting or justifies a moral condemnation of the entire homosexual community. It is a tragedy enough that it is killing people. It would be a greater tragedy if, under the guise of a medical emergency, it killed tolerance as well."

—Richard Cohen commenting on AIDS in an op-ed column in the Washington Post, June 16, 1983.



Spectrum

News, Information, Coming Events...

Gay Hotel Directory Available

Reservations World's tenth Hotel Directory is available free for the asking. This handy reference guide lists 56 hotels that participate with Reservations World to provide a free reservations service for the Gay and Lesbian travelling public. Every hotel listed in the brochure has been inspected so that the Reservations World staff can answer all your questions. Cost saving packages are offered to most destinations.

For further information and a free copy of the summer '83 hotel directory call or write Reservations World at 2118 Avenue X, Brooklyn, NY, 11235. 800-221-6574 Toll Free or New York State 212-934-1700.

New Minority Guide Announced

Colorful People and Places, a Gay and Lesbian guide to more than 1,000 Minority groups, bars, magazines and other resources, has just been published by The Quarterly Press in San Francisco. "Most people don't realize it, but there's a whole world of interracial and Third World social groups and clubs the Gay/Lesbian mainstream knows nothing about," the guide's author, Michael J. Smith explained. Included is information about such groups as Black and White Men Together, Salsa Soul Sisters, the Association of Lesbian & Gay Asians, Gay and Lesbian Latinos/Unidos. The National Coalition of Black Gays--as well as the many bars and private clubs where minority people socialize.

A special feature of the heavily-annotated guide is an extensive historical section discussing groups and bars of the past, such as Joe's Deluxe, a Black showbar in Chicago during the 1940's; Wally Hodgers, an interracial bar in Atlanta popular during the early 1960's; Hazel Valentine's, a buffet flat in Harlem during the 1920's; and the Rounders, a Black men's and women's social group in Washington, DC ca 1965-1975.

The guide, \$10. (\$12 overseas), is available directly from The Quarterly Press, 279 Collingwood, F., CA 94114

Gay Olympics '84 Housing

In anticipation of the thousands of Gay and Lesbian travelers during the summer of '84, Olympic Gay Housing has launched a campaign to roll out the Gay welcome mat. The organization has arranged for hundreds of resident L.A. Gays and Lesbians to rent their houses, condos, and apartments to Gay visitors. "The Olympics will be spectacular," says O.G.H. co-director, Jeanne Cordova, "we want to add that special Gay Ambiance."

Olympic Gay Housing, which is a division of Gay Los Angeles Hospitality '84, has accommodations ranging from luxury beach front homes and mansions complete with amenities such as maid service and chauffeur, to modest apartments. Hosts are also offering private rooms in their houses, condos or apartments. O.G.H. is geared to accommodate visitors within a wide range of budgets.

Gay Los Angeles Hospitality '84 will also publish *The Olympic Guide to Gay LA* debuting in the late spring

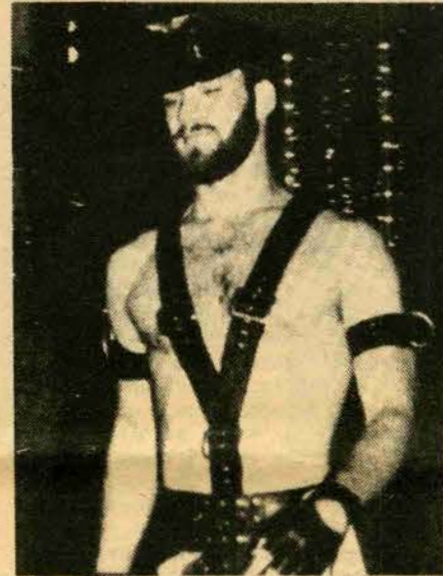
of '84. The guide will highlight Gay restaurants, clubs, services, theatre and transportation and most importantly, the biggest and hottest parties and entertainment in town.

The Olympics are coming-if you are Olympic Gay Housing invites you to call or write for further information: Olympic Gay Housing, 1314 S. Tremaine Ave, Los Angeles, CA, 90019, 213-938-1984.

Mr. Drummer 1983

Blond, 6'4", 26-year-old ex-Navy man John Garger walked away with the 1983 Mr Drummer title at the largest leather event in San Francisco's history on June 24th. Already the winner of the Mr East Coast Drummer 1983 title, John competed with nine other regional title holders for the coveted Mr Drummer title. A resident of the nation's capitol, John Garger began his cross country trek by leading six semi-finalists in the first round of eliminations for the Mr East Coast Drummer contest. Selected at the earliest Mr Drummer event, held at The Exile in Washington-John went on to cop top honors in Philadelphia, where he won the big one. In San Francisco, he had to win a majority of the audience vote as well as the majority of Drummer's panel of judges.

The extraordinarily handsome, warm-



hearted Garger, who pulled a seven-year Navy stint, won immediate respect from his co-contestants as well as the Drummer staff. With a Nursing degree from Boston University, the 1983 Mr Drummer is currently studying communication methods for the hearing impaired, as well as pulling full time shifts at The D.C. Eagle (where customers have known he was number one for a long time).

Designed to emphasize men and leather, the 1983 Mr Drummer Contest took a much different path than has been used in other leather events in the country. Contest coordinator John W. Rowberry said, "We wanted everyone who came to this contest to be there because it was a night for *Leathermen* so we passed on the more traditional devices like disco stars and unrelated personalities. We wanted to intensify the relationship between the audience and the ten contestants."

Complete coverage of the contest as well as special photospreads of the winners will appear in *Drummer* # 66, the July 1983 issue.

It's Miller Time

A cooperative effort by two officers of the National Association of Business Councils has resulted in the adoption of a policy of nondiscrimination on the basis of sexual orientation by the Miller Brewing Company, Milwaukee.

Despite the passage of the nation's first statewide Gay rights law in Wisconsin earlier in 1982, Miller management at that time indicated that they did not see a need for a change in policy. However, discussions over a period of more than a year between Miller Brewing executives and Ralph Navarro, Secretary, and Arthur Lazere, now NABC Past President, led to the adoption of the new policy by Miller.

Miller has adopted the policy companywide which includes many locations outside of Wisconsin. There is a real possibility that the adoption of the policy by Miller will have a positive influence on its parent company, Phillip Morris. Miller is also planning to include Gay sensitivity materials in company training programs.

1983 Summer Gay Together

July 30

Craighead Forrest Park Jonesboro, Arkansas

3 Miles South off Joe H. Martin
Expressway (U.S. 63). Turn on Calhoun Rd.

Pot Luck Picnic Starts at 11:30

All other activities start at 12:30

Camping, Hiking, Cruising, Foot Races,
Bike Races, Swimming, Volleyball, etc.

Sponsored by the Arkansas Gay Athletics Association.

Roger Green & Bill Johnson

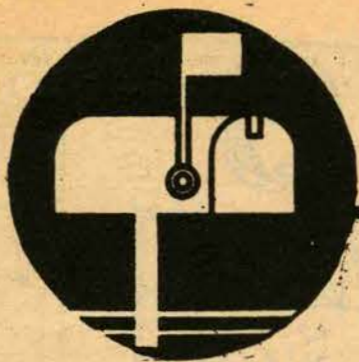
invite you to attend a celebration
in honor of their commitment
to each other. Saturday,
September 10, 1983, 4 P.M.
981 Meda Street (backyard),

Memphis

Casual or costume drag
Free cake & homemade ice cream

Bring your own champagne

(No gifts please)



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 opinions expressed. Lengthy letters may be edited for space requirements but original meanings will not be altered. Mail letters to Gaze Editor, Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38103

'Nellie Queens' Defended

This letter is addressed to those who may happen to be Gay. It also concerns itself with those who dislike "Nellie Queens." More important, it deals with an issue that is of great importance to our entire community. The issue we wish to deal with is disunity.

Having taken a straw poll of our members, it was discerned that sixty percent did not care to be identified with the stereotypical "Nellie Queen" cited in Mr. Gough's letter. Yet that gives him (or anyone else) no right to belittle a member of our community in such a manner.

One must be cognizant of the fact that these same "nellie queens" took the worst blows from society at large to give us the right to call ourselves Gay and be proud of it.

It comes as no surprise our community cannot present itself to the public as a conundrum of types. Yes we do come in many shades. "Nellie queens (if you will), men, and those that fall somewhere between these two extremes. How can one expect positive strides when there is trouble in paradise? One must always realize we are members of a minority. A minority which should work cohesively toward change.

BWMT/Memphis
Action Committee

I don't much care for effeminate men, but "nellie queens" have as much right to be themselves as do I or anyone else. My most formative years were spent with "Straight" people; that may be why the men who appeal to me are usually androgynous or masculine.

But after all, all social conventions are arbitrary. I admire anyone who has the courage to be him or herself, even when it means going against convention, as long as it doesn't hurt anybody.

True, "nellie queens" probably are the most visible Gays to the general public. But if most people think all homosexuals are nellie, the fault does not lie with the queens. It would be fairer to blame the other "invisible" Gay people.

When my boss, or my brother, or one of my good "straight" friends make a joke about nellie queers, what is my response? If I keep silent, I can only blame myself, and the other silent ones, for society's misconceptions.

I know I myself am in the best position to change the attitudes of those who know me. So instead of being silent I say, "Well, not all Gay people are like that." I play it by ear from there, and I refuse to lie.

These people already know me and respect me. When I tell them I'm Gay it confirms what they've already read but doubted: there are lots of Gay people who look, act, think, and are just "regular people" like themselves.

Now, in Ron's letter he said that he's proud to be a male homosexual, so my guess is he already practices the openness I advocate.

In any case, there is an additional benefit for us otherwise "invisible" Gays that comes from being open and unashamed about it; it makes it more likely that we will find each other, out in the fresh air and sunlight.

Al Teter
P.O. Box 40334
Memphis, Tenn. 38174

Discrimination Charged

Once again, it has come to our attention through an increasing stream of complaints and documentation, that the loathsome and reprehensible practice of racial discrimination at our bars has again reared its ugly head. The denial of entry to Black patrons or the requests of excessive and ridiculous quantities of identification not asked of white pa-

trons, have become an increasingly common practice at two local bars (one predominantly male, the other female).

It is a continuous source of amazement to us that a community which supports the cry, "Gay Rights are Civil Rights," would continue to practice the same oppression and discrimination to which we, the Gay people of Memphis, chafe under every day.

For those of you who either support these discriminatory practices or prefer to look the other way while patronizing these establishments, you must understand that we as Gay men and women cannot hope to win support for our cause when we practice the same discrimination as is practiced upon us.

Whether or not some of you realize this, one of the foremost goals of the Gay Rights movement is the passage in Congress of a "Gay Rights" amendment to the Civil Rights Act of

1965. This would add sexual orientation to the long list (race, religion, etc) from which discrimination is banned on the national level: an act which would protect all of us!

Are you aware that 25-30% of the total sponsorship for this bill in the House has so far come from a group making up under 5% of the House membership?—Yes! The Black Caucus is almost 100% behind this bill—for us, the Gay community. Black and White together. How long do you suppose the Gay community can count on continued minority support for our cause when blatant, stupid, callous and plantation-value thinking occurs in one of the few outlets for our brothers and sisters in our community.

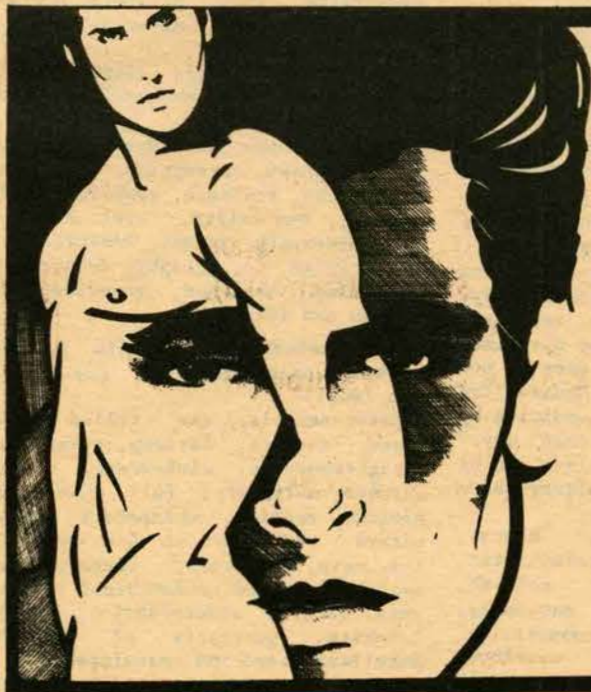
Think about it. There is an old saying: You can't walk forward while holding someone else down.

The Members of BWMT
Memphis.

Call For Gay Memphis **The Memphis Gay Switchboard**

726-GAYY

The July 18 PROGRAM MEETING of the Memphis Gay Coalition will consist of a training session for all those who wish to become Switchboard Volunteers. The Memphis Gay Switchboard is the oldest Gay Service in Memphis and is in desperate need of volunteers to man the switchboard evenings from 7:30-11:30 p.m. Volunteers should be stable, comfortable with their information. One evening per month is the minimum commitment. The training session will be held in Meeting Room B of the Memphis Public Library at Peabody and McLean, at 7:30 p.m., Monday, July 18.



CLUB SOUTH

HEALTH CLUB FOR MEN ONLY

**628 MADISON AVE.
(901) 525-2582
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE**



A member of the Club Bath Chain

Searching for That Special Someone A Romantic Essay

by Jeff Thompson

"I'm so set in my ways, I'm not sure I'd want a lover."

"Right now I'm looking for someone to settle down with."

"It's easier for me to do it with someone I don't know."

"Who knows? I could meet Mister Right tomorrow."

"I loved her so much...but NOW.. what do I have to show for it?"

"No, I'll NEVER meet anybody else like him."

"I need someone so desperately... just someone to be near me...so I won't have to be alone."

"I am very content right now. He's wonderful!"

Which statement describes you? Have you been fortunate enough to find That Special Someone? Or are you still searching for Him or Her--and have been for months (or even years)? Is finding The One even IMPORTANT to you--or would you rather have many casual friends and acquaintances instead of That One Person?

Even if you are not searching at the moment, you probably know someone who is. I hope that you have not become cynical or disillusioned concerning True Love or "permanent," "stable" relationships -- although disappointments are very real hazards in today's transitory, shifting, confusing culture. Unfortunately, there are those who don't do what they say they are going to do-- or do say what they don't mean -- or who are thinking only of themselves when their paths cross yours. However, the lyrical and powerful words of an unknown New Englander of 1692 still ring true today, 290 years later, long after his name has been lost and his society faded.

Exercise caution...for the world is full of trickery. But let this not blind you to what virtue there is; many persons strive for high ideals; and everywhere life is full of heroism...Do not...be cynical about Love; for, in the face of all...disenchantment, it is perennial as the grass. ...With all its sham, drudgery, and broken dreams, it is still a beautiful world.

While you probably know someone who is searching for someone right now, I bet that you also know a man or woman who takes a dim view of romance or settling down. Sure; you might consider that to be rationalization on his or her part--but it could be that the person is aware of the very

real fact that falling in love or being in love brings definite changes to an individual's life! Suddenly, you are not alone. There is another person whose feelings and needs you must consider--and the very fact that you love her or him usually means that your priorities and outlook and behavior change. Ordinarily, the routines and the exact dogma to which you subscribed BEFORE you met and fell in love with Mister Right or Miss Right no longer are workable! (Also be prepared to find yourself thinking about the lucky person almost constantly!) In addition to being a source of extreme pleasure (if your love is returned, of course) being in love is a big responsibility. You have become the trustee of an awesome gift -- another human being's emotions

Perhaps the greatest source of pain is the saddissolution of a love relationship, when or if that occurs. I know. I have been in love in the past --but, for quite a while now, I have not been near the one that I loved. That person moved to another state-- never truly aware of my actual feelings (due to some complicated and unfortunate circumstances)!

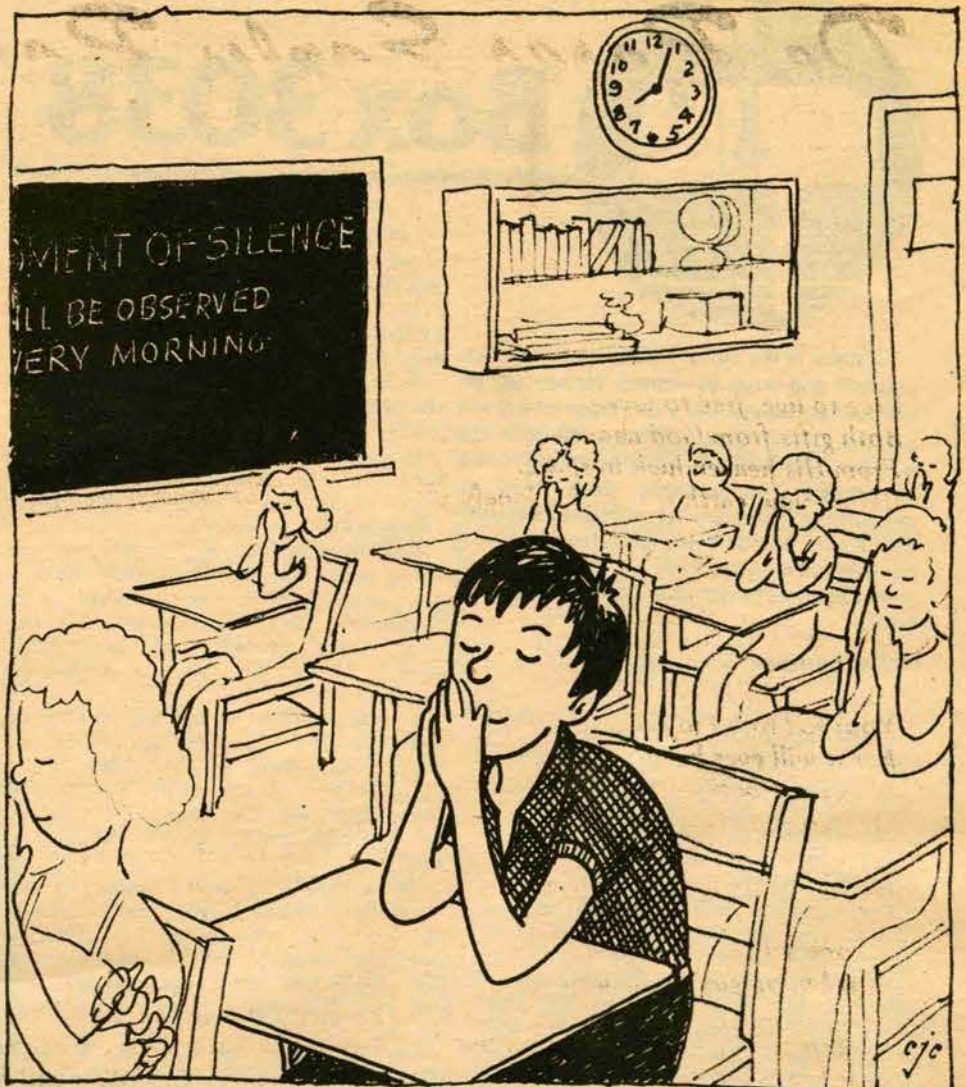
As much as it hurts me, I am not sorry that I fell in love with my very close friend, K.D.W. Alfred, Lord Tennyson's wistful 1850 poetry sounds trite today, but I for one believe it--"Tis better to have loved and lost than never to have loved at all!"

(Note: Tennyson's poem, *In Memorium* was written not about a woman, but about the newly-deceased Arthur Hallam, Tennyson's close male friend)

I have no regrets, the love that I remember left me with very unique and precious memories -- and temporarily transformed my methodical life into glorious frontier of helpful self-discovery and jubilant sharing.

If you are searching for that special someone now, my friend, do not get discouraged, scared or depressed. Just as you (with your distinct personality and talents) are looking for the One, He (or She) is out there right now, SEARCHING FOR YOU!

And, if you currently are involved in a loving, caring relationship, then you and your beloved truly have been blessed-- and will serve as a happy inspiration to us all.



...AND BLESS UNCLE BOB AND HIS ROOMMATE, TED, WHO YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO KNOW ARE GAY.

NGTF

NGTF CRISISLINE

Call toll-free 800-221-7044
In N.Y. State (212) 807-6016

- * To report anti-gay violence
- * To obtain A.I.D.S. referrals

Stereotypes in Reverse

by Clifton St. John

Heterosexuals are thieves, rapists, liars, alcoholics, dope addicts, cheats, freaks, perverts, gossips, child molesters, adulterers, rebels, gluttons, racketeers, infidels, terrorists, war-mongers, sadists, homewreckers, law-breakers, masochists and psychotics.

(Yet, heterosexuals claim to be normal; they are the "typification" of human nature!)

Heterosexuals dress in loud clothing, make disgusting spectacles of themselves, harass others in public places, solicit for sexual purposes, promote prostitution, kill innocent animals for sport, abandon their children, shirk responsibility, abridge and compromise the rights and liberties of others, worship money, cause hunger, create chaos, instigate economic collapse, destroy civilizations, loathe anyone who does not conform to their standards and boastfully justify their condition by insisting they are "born that way."

(Yet, heterosexuals claim to be normal; they are the "Culture bearers.")

Heterosexuals are cruel, brutal, fiendish, barbarous, cannibalistic, blood-thirsty, maniacal, selfish, stingy, possessive, mercenary, carnal, worldly, un-cooperative, suicidal, intemperate, usurious, lazy, wanton, insensitive, presumptuous, negligent, mutinous, rude, defiant, licentious, tactless, sar-

castic, phobic and just plain mean. (Yet, heterosexuals claim to be normal; they are the "acceptable role models!")

Heterosexuals indulge in egotism, lust, conspiracy, self-righteousness, duplicity, impudence, extravagance, sensualism, sham, paranoia, hypocrisy, effrontery, materialism, and indecency.

(Yet, heterosexuals claim to be normal; they set the moral and ethical standards!)

Heterosexuals participate in scandal, bribery, corruption, pollution, oppression, violence, gambling, obscenity, bestiality, oral and anal sex, pederasty, incest, masturbation, child abuse, pornography, debauchery, profanity, abortion, genocide, vandalism and fraud.

(Yet, heterosexuals claim to be normal; they establish and enforce the laws!)

Heterosexuals are filled with greed, avarice, larceny, treachery, unrighteousness, wickedness, covetousness, malignity; full of malice, debate, deceit; whisperers, backbiters, and haters of God; despiteful, vain, boasters, inventors of evil things and disobedient to parents, lacking understanding, treaty-breakers, purveyors of disease, merciless, lewd and chauvinistic.

(Yet, the heterosexuals claim to be normal; they are "created in the image of God!"

J. D.'S HOUSE OF FLOWERS
"Designer's Choice With Personality"

2504 Summer Avenue
327-5689

JOHN C. DENNEY
Owner / Designer

DOLLY E. GILLIS
Owner / Manager

Vernon Shaw

Photography

Portraits, Weddings, Industrial

205 Kirk

Memphis, Tennessee 38109

774-0885

De Roses, Early Ray

Trip O' Six

*This yellow rose I give to thee,
Symbolic of my love for you:
Fresh, fragrant, filled with the morning dew,
For it was you that set me free.*

*Free to live, free to love
Both gifts from God above,
From His heaven high in space.
Before you, earth was such a lonely place.*

*Now with you, hopefully till I die,
My life's goal is to give it a try,
Making a heaven on earth for you,
Trying to please you with things anew.*

*Your red rose I joyfully accept
For it will ever be kept,
A treasure between you and me alone
To warm my heart when you are gone.*

*Gone, but for a fleeting moment,
For each moment apart is torment –
A torment as real as hell.
This I hope you know well.*

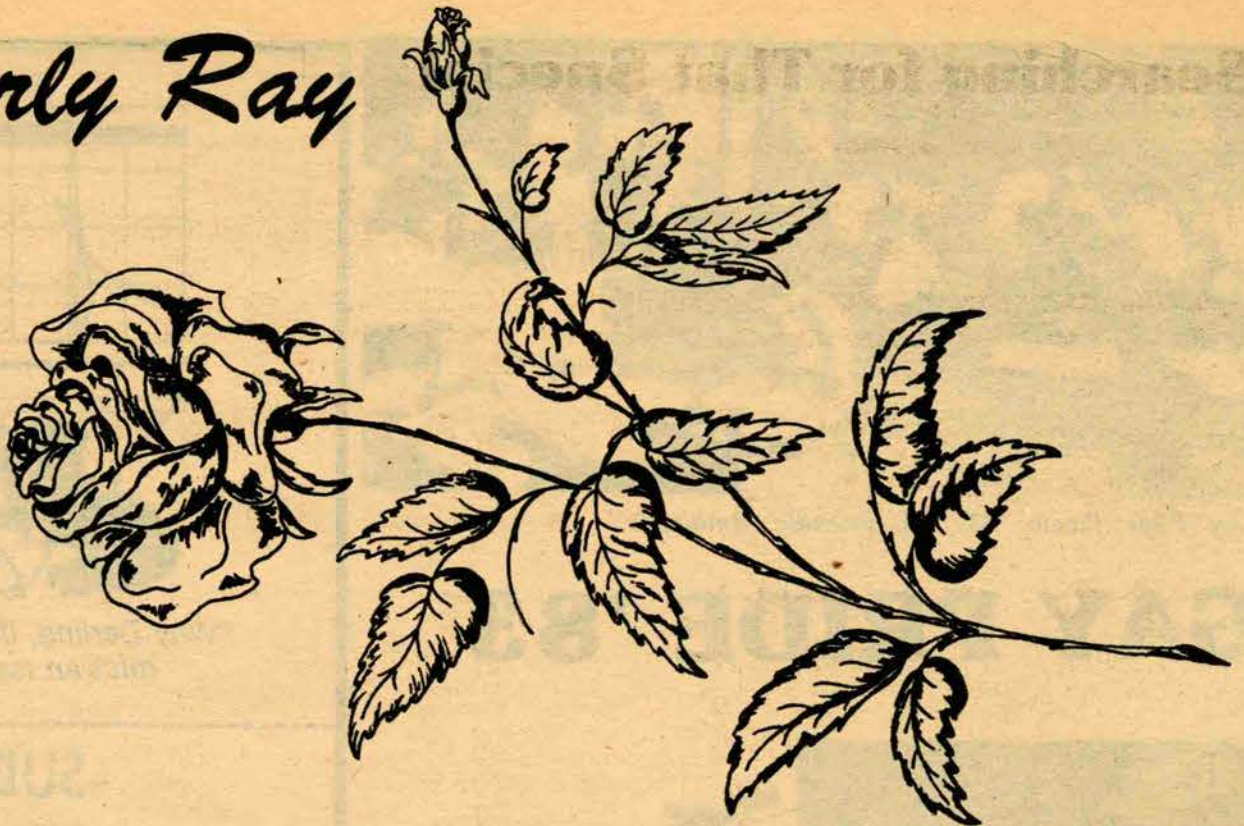
*Your presence fulfills my every need;
This I'm sure you know indeed.
Receiving your touch is my desire;
Your tender kiss starts a fire.*

*A yellow rose blended with red,
Uniting us until we're dead;
Beauty and fragrance so divine,
Once two – now one entwined.*

*None other can fill your space,
For you possess such a face.
And you gave me your strength,
Strength that stretches endlessly in length.*

*So endlessly – only God can know,
Along with our Christ we do love so;
Love that stretches so very far,
Way beyond the most distant star.*

*For God destined us to meet,
Our legs guiding our racing feet
To magnolia trees in the park
In September, after dark.*



*The darkness of the night,
Close to you till dawn's early light.
Sharing one another's strength,
Totally void of time's length.*

*Sharing – as only lovers do.
To thee I'll ever be true.
Sharing – that's what we need most
By the grace of God, Son and Holy Ghost.*

*Facing the future alone was I,
So despondent I wished to die.
But now is intrinsic in life
Your strength giving me more than I need to suffice.*

*Yes, you are a symbol of change;
Some people think us strange
Yet from you I did find
A wonderful peace and pleasure of an enduring kind.*

*Only you, only you bring me alive,
Bring me up from my lowest dive.
Only you, only you make me high,
High above all the stars of the sky.*

*Only you, only you give me peace;
Your warm touch supplies relief.
Only you, only you fulfill my dreams,
By being yourself, dear and serene.*



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.

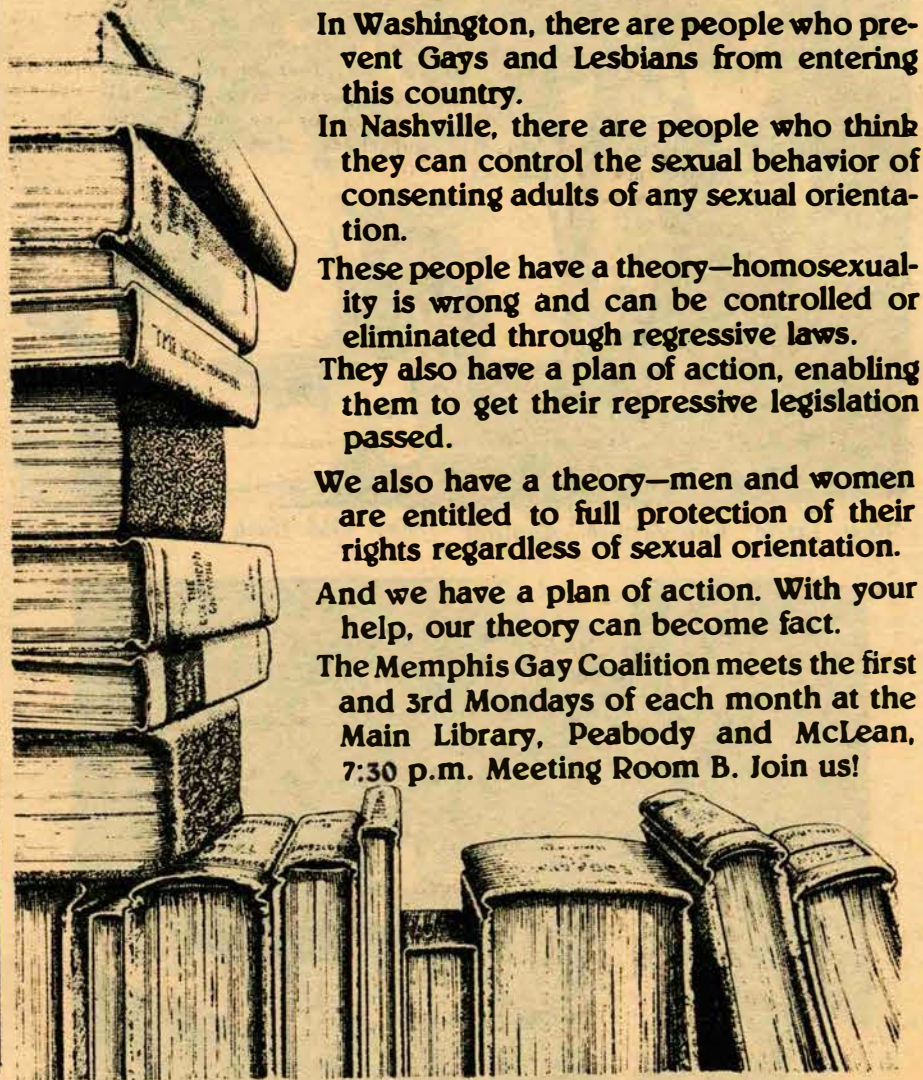
In Nashville, there are people who think they can control the sexual behavior of consenting adults of any sexual orientation.

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!

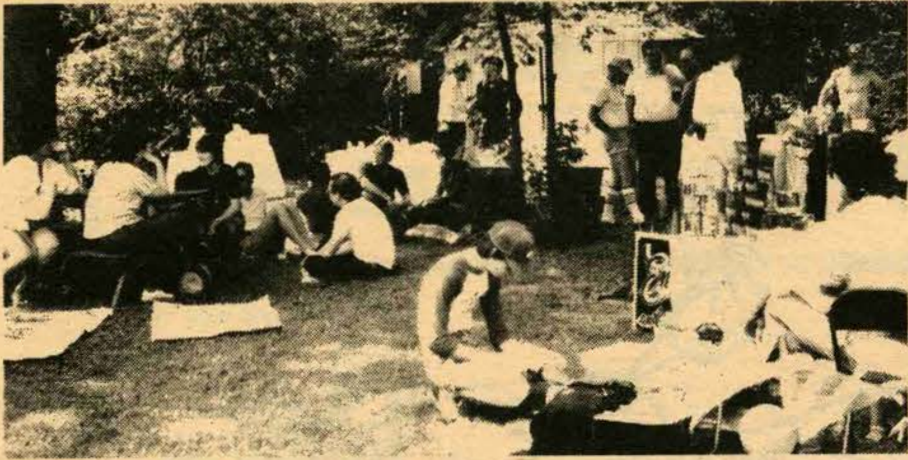


 **Metropolitan
Community
Church**

2224 Central
P.O. Box 40943
Memphis, TN 38104
(901) 278-1091

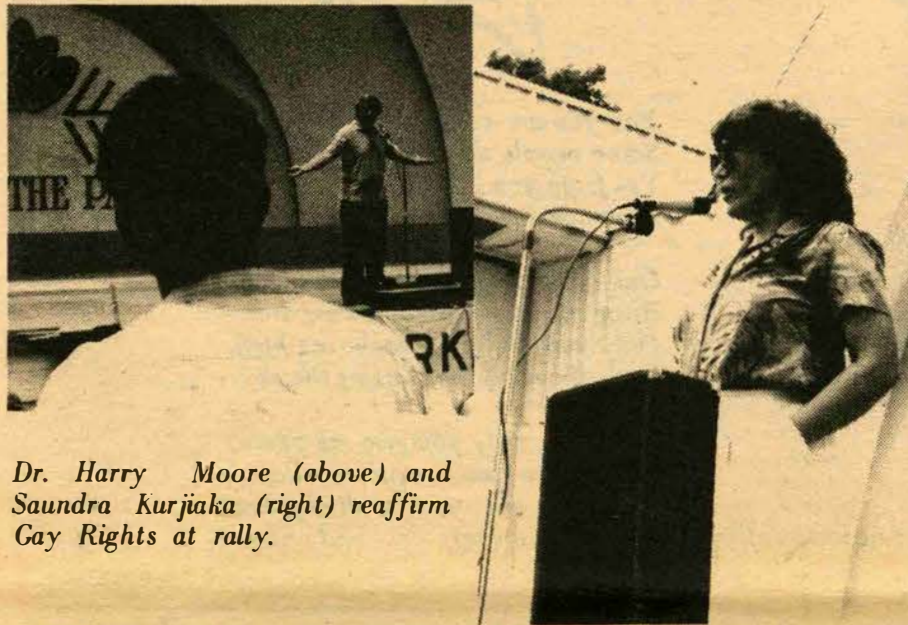
SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES
1:00 pm
CHRISTIAN GROWTH (Bible Study)
Wednesday 7:30 pm

**"Love
Is In The
Air"**



Gay Pride Picnic '83: "A Friendly Ambiance"

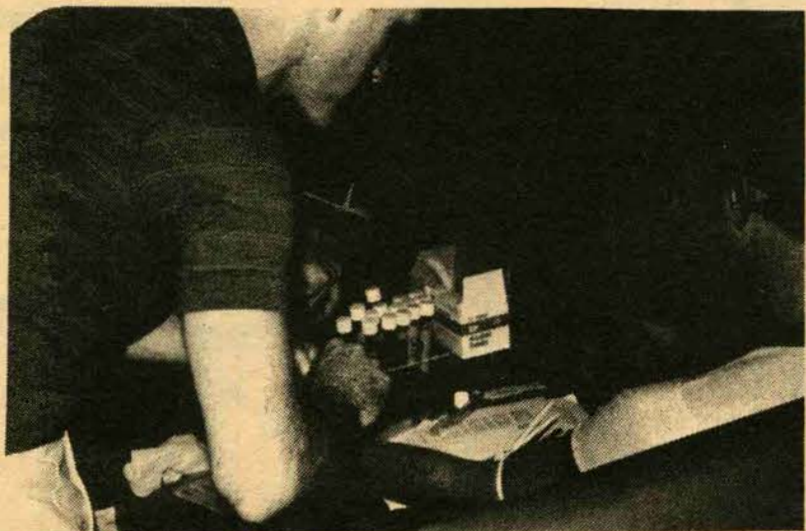
GAY PRIDE '83



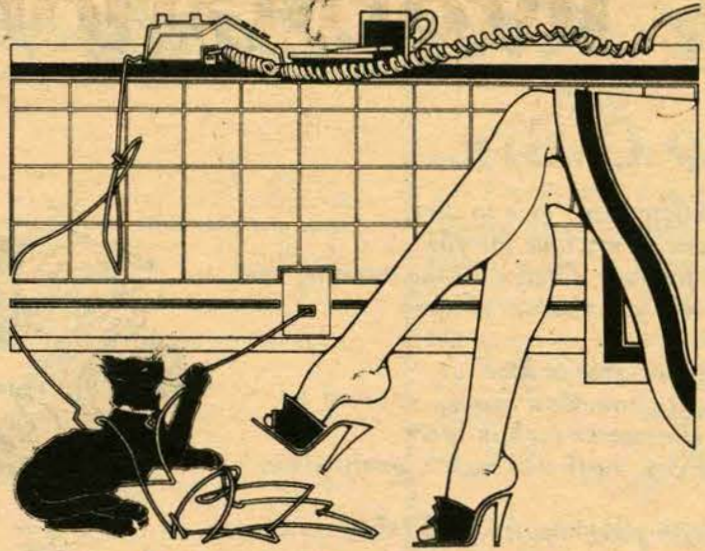
Dr. Harry Moore (above) and Sandra Kurjiaka (right) reaffirm Gay Rights at rally.



'Best Little Whorehouse' number from 'Old Hash'.



Volunteers draw blood for AIDS research at George's.
14-GAZE-July/August 1983



"Why Darling, if you Subscribed to Gaze you wouldn't miss an issue!"

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

\$8.00 a year

Mail to GAZE, Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38173-0038

Please make checks payable to GAZE.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Please do not forget your zip code!

Views From Ten Percent

July 24	7:30 pm
August 3	4:00 pm
August 8	4:30 pm
August 19	7:30 pm
August 31	4:00 pm



Cable Channel 7

Gay Alternative

WEVL-FM 90.3

Sundays—3 P.M.

Presented by the Memphis Gay Coalition

NAME YOUR GAMES

NATIONWIDE CONTACTS
For Gay Males in Your Area

- ALL ADULT INTERESTS
- SEND FOR SUBJECT LISTINGS
- FREE DETAILS FROM:

D.A.T.A. ENTERPRISES
P.O. BOX 3238 • REDWOOD CITY, CA 94064

Information and Services

Memphis

Organizations

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

Black & White Men Together: support/movement; 276-4160 or 726-4299

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

Gay Catholics: Recommended Sunday Mass 11:00 AM—St. Peter's Village.

GOPS: social, private membership; no address listing.

Lesbian Mothers Support Group: NOW, 458-1661.

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

Memphis Gay Activists: movement, private membership; 274-0431.

Memphis Gay Coalition: movement, public; Box 3038, Memphis 38103.

Memphis Gay Speakers Bureau: movement, general education; Box 3038, Memphis 38103.

Memphis State University Gay Student Union: movement/student support; Room 416, University Center, MSU, Memphis 38152.

Metropolitan Community Church: religious, general Christian; 2224 Central Ave., 278-1091.

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, feminist; P.O. Box 40982, Memphis 38104, 458-1661.

Phoenix: Gay alcoholics anonymous; meets Weds., 8 pm in Clark Tower, 5050 Poplar, Room 3102; 365-7153.

Queen's Men: social, private membership; no address listing.

Tsarus: social, levi-leather/motorcycle, private membership, P.O. Box 11831, Memphis 38111.

Hotlines

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

Rape Crisis: 528-2161.

Suicide and Crisis Intervention: 274-7477.

Media

"Gay Alternative": radio, weekly, Sundays 3 p.m. WEVL-FM 90.3, P.O. 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; P.O. Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38103.

Restaurants & Bars

The Barracks: bar, large disco, patio. Late hours; 616 Marshall Ave., 527-6348

Family Affair Club: bar, Gay crowd Sunday nights only; 873 Vance Ave., 527-0672.

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

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

J-Wag's: bar, serves food, moderate menu, patio, late hours; 1268 Madison Ave., 725-4670.

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

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

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

Psych-Out II: bar, shows on weekends; 571 Marshall Ave., 523-1940.

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

Nashville

Organizations

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

Conductors: Levi-Leather Club; P.O. Box 40261, Nashville 37204.

Justice for Parents Defense Fund: legal child custody; 43 Music Square West, Nashville 37203.

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

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

Nashville Committee: social/movement, P.O. Box 23321, Nashville, TN 37202.

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

Womankind Books: 2006 20th Ave. S. Nashville, 27212 Open Saturdays Noon-6 p.m. (615) 297-3450

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

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

Restaurants & Bars

Aaron's 154 6th Ave., N. Nashville (615) 254-9911

Cabaret: 1711 Hayes St., 320-7082.

Crazy Cowboy: 2311 Franklin Rd., 383-9493.

Juanita's 713 Commerce St., Nashville (615) 251-9841

The Jungle 715 Commerce St., Nashville (615) 256-9411

Mother's: bar, late hours: 2355 Franklin Road.

The Parlor 2110 8th Ave. S., Nashville (615) 292-9177

Slippo's: bar, 2106-A Eighth Ave. S., Nashville. 209-9150.

Warehouse 28: 2529 Franklin Rd., 297-0992.

The Women's Rm: 2110 8th Ave. S., 292-9177.

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 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 72205, (501) 663-6455.

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

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

Media

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

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

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

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

Hotlines

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

Restaurants & Bars

Chaps: 1701 S. University, 663-8682.

Silver Dollar: 2710 Asher Ave., 663-9886.

Discovery II: 1021 Jessie Rd., 664-4784.

Variations: 113½ E. Main, 371-9919; Disco nights, piano bar days, restaurant 24 hours.

Miscellaneous

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

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



Do you have questions about social etiquette? How to find and keep a lover? Problems dealing with your sexuality? Medical questions?

Ask The Duchess

Address your questions to *GAZE*, Ask the Duchess, Box 3038, Memphis, TN. 38173-0038.

**U.S. Public Health Service
AIDS HOTLINE
1-800-342-AIDS
(Toll Free)**

Classifieds

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

1,000 Men! ADS, ADS, ADS! Ad World 584 Castro #346-TN, San Francisco, CA Or (415) 626-1100 anytime.

Female, 38 has 3 bedr. dulex w/washer-dryer, cable, wish to share with responsible adult female of compatible age. Split \$350 rent and utilities. Close to Bartlett area and State Tech. Call Jan for more information 386-2894.

HEAR: The Gay Alternative—Sundays at 3 pm on WEVL 90.3 FM.

Black bi-male, 34 would like to meet all white bi-males, TVs, she-males, bi-couples in Miss. and Tenn. area. Call 601-852-4427 anytime. Call host. Buddy, Box 141, Edwards, Miss. 39066.

Gay young man needs a friend. Write V.A. Owens, Gainsville, MO, 65655.

NATIONAL GAY CONTACT CLUB—Men and Women. Low Rates. SASE: Dean, P.O. Box 26044, San Jose, CA. 95159.

ATTN: GAY FEMALE(s) Buddhist, or interested in Buddism living near/to pray (chant) also socialize with. Write or call MERMAID, Hermitage Apts. #2, 1115 S. Cooper, Memphis 38114 (274-0532).

GWM, 50, 5'3", 115 lbs. honest, clean, sincere. Seeks friends over 30 in Memphis and East Arkansas. Write Ad Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38173-0038.

July/August 1983-GAZE-15

Patronize Our Advertisers—Their Support Helps Us To Survive

MOTHERS

CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

2535 FRANKLIN ROAD (615) 297-4571

In Nashville...

**MOTHER'S
HAS MADE A
BREAK-THROUGH!**

**Because of your sup-
port, we'll always be
under construction!**

**OPEN 7
NIGHTS A WEEK
NO COVER CHARGE
B.Y.O.B. OK
TUESDAY
B.Y.O.B. PARTIES
THURSDAY
HAPPY HOUR ALL
NIGHT
SUNDAY
BEER BUSTS**

