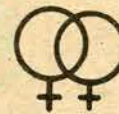
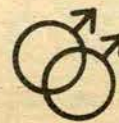


Gaze

News of Interest to the Gay Community

PUBLISHED MONTHLY AS A SERVICE OF
THE MEMPHIS GAY COALITION



TM

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Volume 6, Number 1

Memphis, Tennessee

January, 1985

AIDS Blood Test Due In Early '85

WASHINGTON, DC -- A fast and reliable blood test for the presence of AIDS antibodies will probably be licensed in January or February, according to the federal Health and Human Services Department. "Things are moving very swiftly and we are not anticipating any delays," said Dr. Lowell Harmison, science advisor for H&HS. Harmison added that they would need "at least 20 million AIDS tests per year, including 6 million for blood banks" which he indicated was a top pri-

ority.

Development of the tests began last June when five drug companies were given the task of developing the test. Progress has been swift and several are expected to gain FDA licences soon.

A positive reaction indicates that a person has been exposed to the AIDS virus and may have developed antibodies to it. It does not indicate that the person will suffer a life-threatening infection.

Gay Will Defended in PA

ERIE, PA -- The executor of a college professor's will who left his estate "to furthering the civil rights of American homosexuals" has decided to go to court to defend the contested will.

The will of John DeWitt McBride who died on May 20, 1983, named Dr. Raymond Lemieux as trustee of an estate valued at approximately \$160,000. The will stated that the money was to be used to further Gay civil rights. Last month Dr. Lemieux was given the choice by the court to either defend the will or lose his position as court-appointed trustee.

In April 1984, McBride's nieces contested the will stating that they, as blood relatives, should inherit the money. Attorney James E. Marsh has been retained to defend the will by the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund (LLDEF) and the National Gay Task Force's Fund for Human Dignity.

The will is unusual in that no specific organization was named to benefit. In August 1984, Marsh appeared on behalf of National Gay Rights Advocates and The Advocate, which was

named in the will as a source for the executor to consult in the disposition of the estate.

Also in August Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders (GLAD) requested standing with the Court as a party to the case and McBride's three nieces began procedures to contest the will since none were named beneficiaries.

Finally on August 29 Judge James B. Dwyer ruled that "Lemieux must defend the will. Otherwise there is no contest."

According to Lance Ringel of NGTF, "It's important for us that the money gets into the Gay community somehow. Our intervention provided a holding action that lasted long enough for Lemieux to become involved. If the will is upheld, then the Gay community can decide how to approach the money. We've never had the luxury of worrying about that much money before."

The Gay Community News reports that the probate file reveals that Stephen Tetuan, attorney for the estate and author of the will, wrote to Lemieux encouraging him to serve as trustee. Tetuan reportedly assured Lemieux that

Should You Take The Test?

On the surface, it sounds like a "good thing"... but is it? A growing sense of concern among health professionals in the Gay community point to potential social and legal repercussions of a positive AIDS test. Blood banks will almost certainly subject all blood donated to the test in order to guarantee the safety of the U.S. blood supply, but serious concerns in the Gay male community may overshadow the public safety reasoning.

What will an antibody-positive AIDS test reveal?

The test will reveal exposure to the AIDS virus. It will not be able to determine whether or not a person will develop the disease. Clinically the test is uninterpretable and will tell your doctor nothing. Many people test positively for tuberculosis and hepatitis without ever having had the disease and without ever developing the symptoms or being able to infect others.

What confidentiality protections are there?

According to New York's Gay Men's Health Crisis, current confidentiality safeguards are totally inadequate. It is not paranoid to assume that a positive test will be mistakenly equated with the disease itself. Such information might be made available to insurance companies and others who routinely require the release of your medical records. The worst case scenario would include a compilation of all Gay and bisexual men whose blood is "tainted". The effect of such a list on employability and insurability could, no doubt, be devastating.

What should I do?

The test should be used only for diagnostic purposes and for the purposes of research. If you do take the test, be sure that you are guaranteed confidentiality in writing. If your doctor feels that you have symptoms which warrant further investigation, take the test. If you participate in a bona fide research project, take the test but insure your confidentiality. Be sure that you understand what a positive test does and does not mean. If you are at risk for AIDS, do not donate blood other than for research purposes.

Lemieux's legal fees would be absorbed by the estate and that arrangements could be made that would be "very accomodating to [Lemieux's] work schedule."

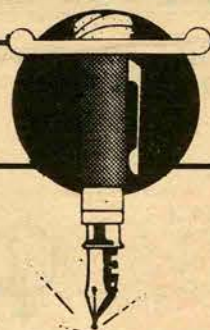
On September 11, Lemieux responded to Judge Dwyer accepting the position as "trustee". Apparently the will originally identified him as "beneficiary" with

the proviso that he administer the distribution of the estate to the Gay community. "I did not consider myself a beneficiary," he said.

Judge Dwyer retained briefs submitted by GLAD and The Advocate but denied their petition to intervene in the case.

Inside

Are Our Gay Leaders Uncle Toms?
Healthy Holidays
Sexuality And Spirituality
Regional And National News



Gazing

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

A Family Is A Family

by John Stilwell

The term "lifemate" may be unfamiliar to you but its usage is becoming more and more wide-spread. Gay people are in the unique position of being involved in the process of establishing words and names to describe us and our relationships. Many feel that the term "lover" denotes a brief, non-lasting relationship and also seems to indicate that that relationship is based on sex only. Any of us that have had any sort of relationship know that nothing could be further from the truth. So "lifemate" seems to more accurately describe the relationships that we have.

And I said all that to say this...

The holiday season that begins around Thanksgiving and ends after New Years is a time when great emphasis is placed on family and loved ones; on being to-

gether; on sharing dreams for the future... it's just a very emotional time. It's also a time when many people, and especially Gay people, go into deep "blue funks" because some of those elements seem to be missing from their lives.

If you choose to remain in the closet for whatever reason, that decision ultimately affects only you. If you choose to remain in the closet and you have a "lifemate", that decision and your actions can hurt the one you care the most about and, as strange as it may seem, few people seem to give that a lot of thought.

In Gay relationships we are trying to establish the same sort of relationship a husband and wife have without many of the hang-ups and role playing that they have attached to them.

But think about that.

When a man marries, he leaves home and establishes a new family unit. His wife leaves home and becomes part of that family unit with him, as do any children they may have. The point is, that they behave as a family. At Christmas, the wife doesn't take off and go home to her parents nor does the husband take off a week and go home to his parents. They both go to one parent or the other, together, as a unit. Usually, they trade off or spend equal amounts of time with each group of parents.

We Gays have reached a point where we are defining our relationships better. Yet, at a time when we should be sharing our time with the one person that means the most to us, we

are letting fear and cowardice separate us from that person.

I would personally suggest that when you receive that invitation or when you start making those travel plans, make it clear that you want to include your "friend", "roommate" or whatever you choose to call them. Few parents would come out and just say "no." If they do, just say you'll be unable to make it home this year. At the very least, that will indicate to both your parents and your lifemate just how important that person is to you.

Here are a few points to consider. I know some of you will deny them vehemently but trust me they are true!

1. In spite of everything, most people have already figured out that you are Gay, especially if you and your lifemate have been together for any length of time.

2. Of those who have figured it out, 99.99% don't care. The rest aren't worth worrying about.

3. If your parents really care about you and are truly concerned about your well-being, all they want is your happiness. They want you to find someone to love who loves you in return. If they want more, if they insist on forcing their old world prejudices, misconceptions and role models on you, then it is time to break with them anyhow.

4. Finally, you can do all this without coming out and

saying, "Mom, Dad, I'm Gay." Just letting them know by your actions that this other person (your lifemate) is someone special to you, you tell them everything without telling them anything. That also puts the ball in their court. If they want to just accept the situation, that's fine. If they want to talk it out, that option is left open to them but they have the responsibility to say to you, "I want to know more about this." If they choose to be rude or unkind to your lifemate or you, it may be time to break with them.

We have often said in these pages that the decision of "coming out" has to be made by each person in their own time but that nobody has the right to "make you crazy" and that includes your family by birth.

Ultimately, our goal is to attain acceptance and respect for ourselves and the relationships we form. We make the same commitments, emotionally and financially, that heterosexuals make when they embark on marriage. But until we give our lifemates the same love and respect and consideration that heterosexuals give their spouses, how can we expect non-Gays to respect our relationships? In this case, the ball is in our court. We have to like ourselves. We have to like the one we love. We have to respect the commitment we have made to our lifemate. We have to start acting like our lifemate is what we claim our lifemate is...the single, most important person in our lives.

Gaze

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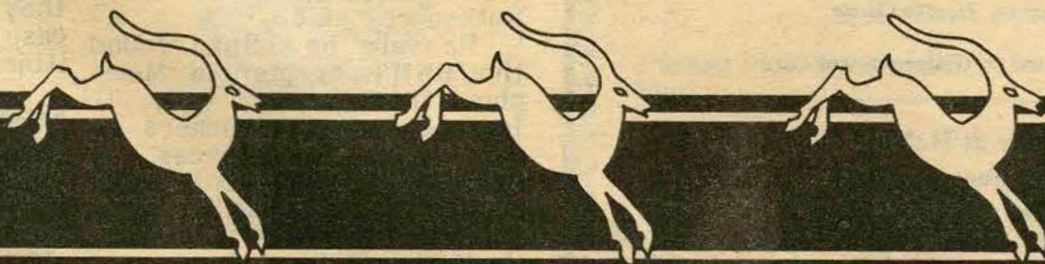
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Quick Clips

by Allen Cook

For those of you who thought Tommy Stewart had gone crazy putting a fence around the J-Wag's parking lot, think again. The fence isn't Tommy's, it belongs to (get this) Bellevue Baptist Church. Actually the lot belongs to the Southern College of Optometry. Tommy has offered to buy it but they won't sell for a reasonable price. BUT they have leased it to BBC who promptly decided to fence it in and restrict its use "to upgrade the neighborhood aesthetically." Tommy claims harassment. Imagine... having a Gay bar in the same neighborhood as one of the largest (and probably most bigoted) churches in the land. Let them move east! Next they'll want to ban street parking on Madison.

It is interesting to note that there are now two "leather-levi clubs" in Memphis. TSARUS, the venerable and WINGS, the upstart. There doesn't seem to be any real animosity there. Perhaps just a little competition. And we all know competition is good for business. Ask Jackie Wilson.

When Mike Smith (Founder of Black and White Men Together) was in town last month, he was asked what he thought about Memphis. Mike, who is from San Francisco, allowed as how it was different...quieter... less hectic. Yeah, we know.

Speaking of BWMT, Joe Calhoun and Irwin Rothenberg are no longer the official guiding forces of the group. Both Irwin and Joe still serve on national committees of the organization, but have turned over the local chores to newly elected officers. Ken Allen

and Ed Dillard are the new co-chairs.

Did anyone see HBO's "First and 10"? a couple a weeks ago. It's a new cable sitcom. The premise involves a woman who gets a football team as part of her divorce settlement. Seems she caught her husband in the act with one of the players. In the discovery scene, he introduces his partner with the line, "This is Eric. He's a tight end." Don't look for the series to be sold to NBC. Another player is a flasher and we wish all dirty old men looked like him. He tells us "Billy Bob" (his you-know-what) has a mind of his own... just likes to pop out a say "hello."

In other TV recently... NBC's "Night Court" recently did a story about the night the power went off in a snow storm and the prosecuting attorney and a Gay defendant were stuck in a elevator. A lot of laughs but a few good points were made as well. Score one for us.

Pop Superstar Madonna recently was asked at a New Music Seminar in New York City if being Gay could hurt one's career. Said Madonna, "It ain't hurtin' me."

The Queen's Men (TQM) is organizing a local AIDS umbrella fundraising group. All proceeds will be going to the research unit headed by Dr. Linda Pifer at UTCHS. A meeting of all groups interested in participating will be held at the Coach House on January 13 at 2:00 pm. Call Gary Salles at 452-4299 for more information.

Finally, I hope all of you are enjoying the holiday season. Remember there will be free cab rides home for the overindulgers during the holidays between Decem-

ber 23 and January 2. Ask the bartender for the number. The service is sponsored by St. Joseph's Care Unit. Don't take the chance of not seeing the New Year.

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BWMT Speaker Rouses Milwaukee

by Sue Burke

MILWAUKEE, WI--(OUT!) Black and white Gays must work together in politics, according to Irwin Rothenberg, a co-founder of the Memphis, TN chapter of Black and White Men Together.

Rothenberg spoke at the Great Lakes Regional Network meeting of BWMT, held in Milwaukee October 19-21. About 100 BWMT members from across the country attended the meeting, sponsored by the Milwaukee chapter to celebrate its fourth anniversary.

The regional meeting also featured workshops, business sessions, parties and songs. The fast-growing international organization changed its rules this summer to include both sexes and all racial and ethnic groups, although only men were present at the local sessions.

Rothenberg said polarization along racial lines affects Gays as well as straights.

Despite a population of 400,000 Blacks in Memphis, Rothenberg said, there was no Black-owned Gay bar there. "Blacks are welcome or not welcome at the bars, but they are most often welcome after midnight."

Blacks have often perceived the Gay movement as white middle-class and male--"the same people who have been oppressing them," Rothenberg said.

He said he helped found the BWMT chapter in Memphis three years ago. "I learned that Southerners do not enjoy differences in people. I'm not only Gay and enjoy interracial relationships, I am Jewish, Yankee, left-handed, educat-

ed and liberal.

"Just having a Black and white together without an employer-employee relationship is a political statement," he said he learned.

But he said economics is teaching Southern white business people, anxious to join in "Sunbelt" development, that they "cannot move forward while trying to hold someone else down."

Rothenberg contrasted Memphis where the white Democratic power structure excludes Blacks and Gays, with Birmingham, AL, which recently elected its first Gay mayor. That city has had an economic upturn because business investors see a Black mayor as evidence of a "stable political situation," he said.

Rothenberg pointed out that the Birmingham mayor has a Gay liason who awarded Lesbian-feminist singer Meg Christian a key to the city during a recent visit.

He said BWMT must also be more than political. "We have learned to love each other, we have learned to watch out for each other. and we have learned to take care of each other."

He said two ways his chapter has done that are providing rap groups to "exchange real experiences" across race lines and developing a "data bank" of emergency information on members so they can help each other in case of accident, arrest, illness or death.

(Ed. note: Since this article was written, a Black-owned Gay bar has opened in Memphis. Check the information and services section for address and phone number of the Apartment

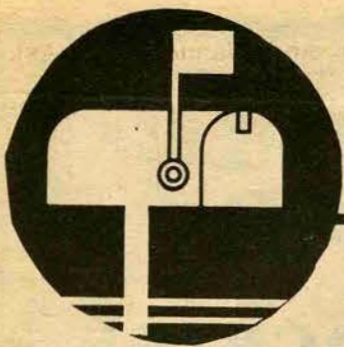
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Edd Smith Mourned

Would it be possible to put in an article about the death of an outstanding young Gay male??

I am of course referring to Edd Smith. Edd died two weeks ago in New Orleans. He was well known here as he was one of the guiding lights of the freedoms which we now enjoy.

I first saw Edd in the lobby of the late, great GUILD ART THEATRE! I was taken aback by his good looks. He had a personality and the drive and taste to match.

As I was the producer of the first four "drag" contests in Memphis to be held openly, we were among the eight or ten most involved in these shows. We became good friends and I saw him regularly when I visited New Orleans.

He was, as you may know, the originator of the Gay portion of the Mardi Gras. Edd had been on the TV news and on cable TV numerous times.

When he was taken ill at the last Mardi Gras, the contest was not held, as it was felt that no one could take his place.

I shall miss him and it hurts knowing I will never see him again. Edd was forty years of age, and died of leukemia.

I am so glad I have the photographs we took of the contests as well as the films of them, in color and with sound.

Perhaps we could have a tribute to him, using the films to raise money for AIDS research.

Thank you for taking the time to read this missive.

Bill Kendall
Memphis, TN

(Editor's Note: Anything we could have written would have paled next to the genuine love and respect contained in your letter. We feel

your letter is a much more fitting tribute than a cold dispassionate article.

I'm sure Bill will be more than happy to work with any group or individual who would like to use the films for fund raising purposes.)

Old Friends

What a pleasant surprise! I have been away from Memphis for a little over a year. At times, I've been so homesick, I've really had to control an urge to chuck it all and head for home.

Just as I've come to really like Knoxville, the holiday season rolls around. Being alone during the holidays is bad enough, but couple that with being away from home and it is a real bummer.

Then last Friday night as I was leaving the Carousel II I spied an old friend. Laying there on the table by the door - GAZE... I was so happy, I fairly leaped over people (actually I quietly ran over two queens and a little short dyke) to get my copy. I was like a kid with a new toy. I could hardly wait to get home.

GAZE - I remember your first very small issue. It was delivered to the Psych Out and of course, everyone said, "It won't last." But, to my delight, last you have. I am enclosing my check for a subscription and wish I had done so long ago.

To all of my friends, Merry, Merry Christmas and I miss you very much. And to GAZE - Happy Anniversary and keep up the good work.

Nancy Morris (or if you prefer, "Nern")
Knoxville, TN



TQM Fetes St. Jude's Kids

The Mystic Krewe of The Queen's Men, a Cotton Carnival organization renowned for its elaborate costumes, masks and floats, joined with the management of the Coach House Hotel December 18 to provide a Christmas party for the children hospitalized or undergoing treatment at St. Jude.

The party, which was held in the newly renovated Coach House Convention Center, was open to all the children of the hospital who could travel as well as their families. Gifts accumulated by the Coach House and The Queen's Men were distributed during a visit by Santa (Gary Salles). Sandy the Clown (Sandy Kosik) of the Clyde Beatty Circus was also on hand to entertain. He recruited "junior clowns" from the ranks of St. Jude's kids by actually painting them up in clown face.

The Queen's Men undertook the project because "All of our members have a great

many things to be grateful for and are looking forward to a happy holiday season; we think it is important to share this happiness," according to Gary Salles. "The best way we know how to do this is to try to brighten up the lives of children who are being denied the traditional Christmases most of us grew up with," he continued.

TSARUS to Honor 'Man of Year'

TSARUS will honor a man or woman of the year at a special dinner January 23 at The French Connection. Current plans call for the proceeds to be donated to the AIDS to End All AIDS committee. Tickets go on sale in January at The French Connection, George's front door and, of course, Jackie's, TSARUS's home bar.

The French Connection will hold about 80 people so tickets may be hard to get. No word yet on who the lucky person is.



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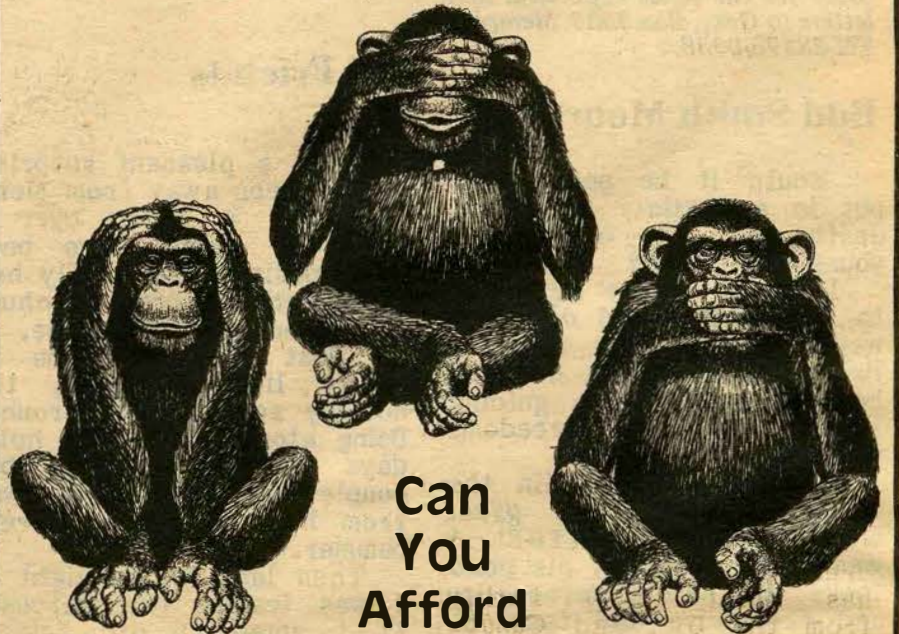
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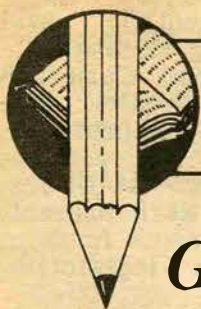
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Books

Gay Guides Abound

by Allen Cook

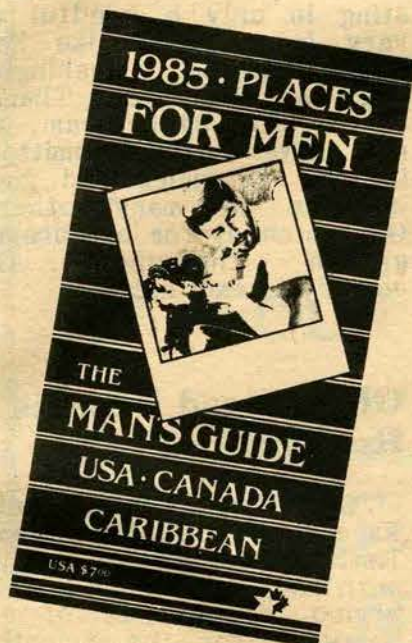
Tis the season not only for new calendars (and do they abound) but also for a new edition of whatever Gay guide you prefer. Here are some gift possibilities for that traveler on your list.

For the international set, *Spartacus Guide for Gay men* might be high on your list. It is a comprehensive guide for international Gays. The book is written in English, French, Spanish and German and provides not only the places to go in over 150 lands, but tells you a little of the customs and the laws in those countries. It sells for about \$20. Interesting reading, even if you don't do a lot of foreign travel.

For the domestic scene, there's *Bob Damron's Address Book* for about \$10. It has about 6,000 listings from the U.S. and Canada. Its 3" x 7" format is convenient for pocket or purse.

Similar in size and concept are two books, *Places for Men* and *Places of Interest to Women*. These two guides are pleasing in format and use those cute little symbols to designate particular features of the places mentioned (a \$ is for "hustlers", a ship for "cruise", etc.). These two are products of Ferarri Publications which also prints *Places of Interest* a larger book complete with maps. All of these guides include not only the U.S. and Canada but also the Caribbean. Cost is about \$7 or \$8.

Less classy, but probably



more detailed is *The Gayellow Pages*. They're not really yellow, but for the money, they have a lot of information. Selling for about \$2.95, they list everything from bars and bookstores to doctors, lawyers and dentists. *Gayellow Pages* offers a number of regional editions which concentrate on specific areas of the country. The southern edition covers 17 states from Virginia to Kansas and from Arizona and Texas to Florida.

For those on your list who travel in more exclusive circles is *Odysseus '85*. This 273 page book doesn't list the bars; it restricts itself to accommodations. It includes listings of over 450 hotels, motels, guest houses, bed-and-breakfasts, resort apartments, ranches, camping sites and private

houses "catering exclusively to, or welcoming Gay men in the USA, American territories and Canada. There's even a listing of 125 USA and international travel agents serving the Gay community. Suggested retail price is \$12.95

Last, but certainly not least is Mike Smith's *Colorful People and Places*. While not the easiest to read, the book contains valuable material for people interested in inter-racial people and places. Our copy is dated 1983 and we're not sure if it has been updated. It can be ordered from Quar-

terly, 279 Collingwood, San Francisco, CA 94114.

The problem with most Gay guides is that their printing lead time is such that inaccuracies are bound to occur. The nice thing is that most of them contain the phone numbers of groups and places so that you can check on the current status once you arrive in a city. They are a place to start.

The choice is yours, whatever your taste (or the taste of your gift-getter), you can find something to please.



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SF Baths Reopen — Court Orders Monitors

SAN FRANCISCO, CA -- After having been closed for a total of 44 days, the Gay baths in San Francisco are again open to the public. On November 28, Judge Roy L. Wonder overturned the city's efforts to shut the businesses down by reversing a temporary restraining order which was issued in October by another Superior Court Judge.

Attorneys for the club owners were understandably pleased. The Bay Area Reporter quotes one attorney, Thomas Steel, as saying "This reverses (Health Director Mervyn) Silverman's closure order and that's the main thing. We've been saying it is illegal and this confirms it."

Judge Wonder, a Republican did order several restrictions for the sex businesses which, in addition to the bathhouses, include sex clubs. Among them were:

- * No renting of private rooms without a hotel license.

- * Employees must monitor the behavior of patrons, and "expel from the premises any and all patrons observed engaging in high risk sexual activity." The definition of "high risk" sex is to be provided by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

- * Removal of doors to video cubicles, booths or rooms.

In addition, the judge

ordered that club owners "participate in the education of its patrons toward the prevention of high risk sexual activity" -- something that many of the owners have been doing for a year or more.

According to attorney Steel, even these restrictions are objectionable "especially in the removal of doors and assignment of monitors. Having monitors to spy on the behavior of patrons is obnoxious and unconstitutional," he said.

The definition of "high risk" sex will arouse a bit of controversy. The AIDS Foundation, which is charged with issuing the formal definitions under the order, recognizes three levels of risk in sexual behavior: Safe, possibly safe, and unsafe.

HRCF Raises \$800,000 For Candidates

WASHINGTON, D.C.

--The Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF), a national Gay rights political action committee, announced the successful completion of the 1984 fund raising drive, "Show Our Strength '84" (SOS 84). The 1984 campaign increased HRCF's mailing list from 7,500 to over 12,000. Total money raised jumped from 1982 by 33% to approximately \$800,000.

Since money is still com-

ing in and some post-election contributions to Congressional candidates will be made, final accounting is expected within another month.

HRCF executive director Vic Basile feels the most important development in this year's campaign has been the growth of the organization. "In 1983 we had HRCF committees operating in only a handful of very large cities like New York, Boston, Washington and San Francisco. Thanks to our SOS 84 program, we now have active committees in over 25 cities and good contacts in many others. Our potential for broadbased growth throughout the country is exciting."

GRNL Head Debates Homophobe

Gay Rights National Lobby Executive Director Nancy Roth locked horns recently with Paul Cameron, the self-styled chairperson of the Institute for the Scientific Investigation of Sexuality, on the Baltimore Public Broadcasting Service show "People Are Talking."

Cameron gained notoriety in the Gay community when he issued vituperative literature against the Lincoln, Nebraska proposed amendment to add "sexual orientation" to the city's human rights section of the municipal code in May 1982. The amendment, which would have made Gays one of ten groups protected from discrimination in housing, employment, and public accommodations failed, 3 to 1.

Cameron again came to the community's attention in early October when he was stripped of his American Psychological Association membership for misrepresenting data and not

exercising scientific caution in reporting findings.

Roth answered Cameron's diatribes with calm disdain, asking repeatedly, "What methods did you use to obtain those statistics, Dr. Cameron?" Roth presented cogent arguments in favor of Gay rights legislation,

The Cost of Persecution

WASHINGTON -- According to the General Accounting Office (GAO), the cost of investigating Gays in the military last year was a whopping \$373,000. While that figure seems high, it doesn't compare to the \$23 million spent on training and paying these soldiers who are discharged before completing their duty. The Navy accounted for more than half of the discharges in the past 10 years with more than 8,150. Of the 14,311 discharged, 191 were officers, according to the report.

The Defense Department firmly states that "the presence of homosexuals in the military environment adversely affects the ability of the armed forces to maintain discipline, good order and morale and to prevent breaches of security."

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Conduct Unbecoming

The military continues to try to keep "queers" out of the services. The American Civil Liberties Union and the Lesbian Rights Project have filed suit on behalf of a female officer in the California Air National Guard who was discharged because of her homosexuality.

According to the Gay Community News, 1st Lt. Julie M. Johnson wrote a letter to her commanding officer proclaiming her Gayness in order to "prevent any problems from arising in the future." Under the Air National Guard's regulations, declaring homosexuality or bisexuality is "unfit or unacceptable conduct" and cause for administrative discharge action. Johnson was given the option of resigning or being subject to a termination proceeding. She refused to resign and in August, Johnson was given an honorable discharge.

In addition to various state and federal constitutional claims, the suit charges that as a state of California employee, Johnson's dismissal on the basis of sexual orientation violates state labor laws and Executive Order B-54-79. That executive order prohibits discrimination in state employment based on sexual preferences, and was signed by former Governor Jerry Brown in 1979.

Johnson is seeking reinstatement, back pay and attorneys fees.

Lesbian "Dad" Given Visitation Rights

OAKLAND, CA -- In what may be a precedent-setting ruling, a Superior Court judge has granted visitation rights to the former lover of a woman who conceived a child by artificial insemination while they were together.

Linda Loftin married Mary Flournoy in a 1977 church service unrecognized by the state. Flournoy was artificially inseminated by sperm donated by Loftin's brother. The couple reared the child for two years until they separated in 1980. Since then, Loftin has been unsuccessfully trying to visit the girl, who is now six. Flournoy blocked the effort, fearing a disruption of the child's life.

The two women settled out of court last month and Loftin's visits were to begin November 29. The ruling is precedent-setting because until now, visitation rights had only been granted to biological parents, grandparents and stepparents.

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Gays Change Lifestyles

Dr. Stephen Morin, speaking at a forum sponsored by the American Psychological Association, said that AIDS is causing a lot of Gay men to drastically alter their lifestyles and is providing an excuse for violent Gay bashers to operate.

Morin, who is from San Francisco, likens the city to a "war zone." With a Gay male population of about 70,000, there is one AIDS death and two new cases reported daily. Morin has been studying about 800 men. He states that at least 40 have remained celibate out of fear of catching the disease. He claims the average number of sexual partners each month has dropped from six to just under four in the past year.

Among the reactions Gays have expressed are depression about friends who have died, anger at the govern-

ment for holding back on AIDS research, the allegedly insensitive medical profession, and the disease itself.

He noted an increased number of Gay bashings with about half of the perpetrators mentioning AIDS.

"Spurt Of Fundamentalism"

ANAHEIM, CA -- The first openly Gay person to head a major professional organization says that all minorities and human rights activists fear a "validation of bigotry" in the next four years under the Reagan administration. according to The Weekly News; (Miami). Stan Matek, former president of the American Public Health Association (APHA) recently told delegates to the APHA convention, "We've got four years of hell ahead."

"We view this as a spurt of fundamentalism. There is a kind of consciousness exploding in America, a tremendous amount of positive energy... that ultimately will move us forward. But we will have to gird our loins for some battles," he said.

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Black Gays Plan Conference In St. Louis

WASHINGTON, DC -- A national conference, tentatively scheduled to be held in St. Louis late next year and focusing on empowerment strategies for Black Gay women and men, heads a list of projects planned by the National Coalition of Black Gays (NCBG).

The projects were approved by the NCBG Board of Directors at its annual meeting on September 1. In addition to the conference, the board approved the continued publication of its monthly newsmagazine, *Habari Daftari*, the development of educational materials for distribution at public events in the Black community, local technical and material assistance to Black Gay organizing efforts, the development of a telephone information and referral service and continued lobbying activities. The project

list reflects an emphasis on programs for public education in the Black community and for the political mobilization of the Black Gay community through local organizing activities.

According to the Executive Director of NCBG, Gil Gerald, the November 1985 conference is to be held in conjunction with an NCBG convention, and is a direct response to concerns raised by supporters and members of NCBG. "Many individuals have been saying that NCBG needs to schedule a national conference focusing on issues of concern to the Black Lesbian and Gay community," Gerald said.

The executive director noted that this suggestion was a reaction to NCBG's previous sponsorship of two national Third World conferences and its co-sponsorship of a third. Gerald said that the programming

of those past three conferences did not allow enough time devoted exclusively to issues of concern within the Black community. "The national Third World conferences are extremely important and we are grateful that the next one, in 1986, will be sponsored by the Gay and Lesbian Latinos Unidos of Los Angeles," Gerald added.

The final selection of the site and date for the national Black Gay conference will be determined at the February 1985 meeting of the NCBG Board of Directors. NCBG is encouraging broad-based community participation in planning the conference. Information about the conference and other ongoing projects of NCBG is available from NCBG's national office, 930 F Street NW, RM 514, Washington, DC 20004.

NGTF Seeks Board Applications

The National Gay Task Force (NGTF) is encouraging its members to nominate candidates to serve three-year terms on its Board of Directors beginning in October 1985. NGTF by-laws require an equal number of men and women on the Board and a minimum of 20% Third World representation.

The Board of Directors is a working body, as well as an advisory one. Candidates are sought who have professional experience and personal skills that will further the goals of NGTF. They should be prepared to commit a considerable amount of time and effort to the organization if elected. It is the sense of the present board that fund raising responsibilities are a major concern.

NGTF urges nominations from as many localities across the country as possible so that the organization reflects the geographic diversity of the entire Gay community.

Nominations, which should include the candidate's name, address and telephone number, as well as a brief description of their qualifications, should be submitted by January 15, 1985, to Peter Fowler, Nominating Committee Chair, NGTF, 80 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10011.

Health Crisis Faces Shortfall

The largest private social service agency dealing with AIDS is in trouble. Faced with a potential shortfall of \$100,000, the group is distributing an informational packet in hopes of raising money.

Despite the doubling of

diagnosed AIDS cases every six months, contributions to GMHC have declined severely in the past 6 months. Organization officials attribute the fall in contributions to the lack of media coverage of the disease. In August, 1983 GMHC caseload was about 200 people; today the case load stands at almost half of the cases in New York City... about 1000. New York is the hardest hit of the metropolitan areas. Government funding accounts for about 25% of GMHC's funding with the remainder coming from contributions.

For information about contributions write: GMHC, Box 274, 132 West 24th Street, New York, NY 10011. All names and addresses are held in strict confidence.

German AIDS Sufferers May Face Jail

BONN, West Germany -- The West German legislature is considering legislation which calls for People with AIDS (PWA's) who continue to have sex, to be jailed for up to three years. There are about 100 AIDS cases in the country and health officials proposed the law as a way to eliminate the disease. A conference of German virus experts released a statement which said, in part, "There is no general danger now, but the disease must be taken more seriously than before. Sources do not indicate just how the sex ban would be enforced."

Australian Gay Bashers Cite AIDS

SYDNEY, Australia -- Gay men are being beaten and threatened in the wake of news that the nation's only blood bank was contaminated with AIDS.

18 people recently have been identified as having received AIDS contaminated blood; 13 have died, including two babies.

According to Terry Goulden, director of a Gay counseling service in the capital city, the situation for Gays down under may be out of control, especially on Oxford Street, the city's Gay center.

"A violent element has already beaten up some of the Gay community," he reports. "This element is preparing to take their hostility out on Gays, who feel they are solely responsible for the problem. There are many employers threatening their Gay staff with the sack and Gays are being ostracized by fellow employees."

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Landmark Status Sought For Original Stonewall

Seventh-Day Adventist Kinship International, Inc., has filed for National Historic Landmark status with the National Park Service for the building which formerly housed the Stonewall bar in Greenwich Village.

The organization is a support group of Gay Adventists which was formed in 1976 to help Gay members of the conservative denomination integrate their sexual orientation with their Christianity. It has no affiliation with the Seventh Day Adventist Church.

Bob Bouchard, president of the group, said the building is already on the National Register of Historical Places as part of the Greenwich Village Historic District, but its listing on the register is unrelated to its association with the Stonewall. "It's ironic that the building is on the Register, yet it is not being recognized for the most important event in its history. National Historic Landmark status is a step above a listing on the National Register of Historic Places, therefore filing for Landmark status will ensure that 53 Christopher Street is remembered for being the birthplace of the modern Gay liberation movement," Bouchard said.

The Stonewall bar was raided by police on June 27, 1969. The Gay clientele took the unprecedented step of resisting the police, sparking three days of rioting in Manhattan's Greenwich Village. The modern Gay rights movement which resulted from the riots is often called "the Stonewall movement" and it is not uncommon to read of the changes occurring in the years "since Stonewall."

To qualify for Landmark status, a building must meet certain criteria, such as being a structure "...at which events occurred that have made a significant contribution to, and are identified prominently with ...the broad cultural...or social history of the Nation...." Another criterion is being a structure "...associated significantly with an important event that outstandingly represents some great idea or ideal of the American people." According to Bouchard, "The Stonewall movement reaffirms the great American ideals of equality and equal treatment under the law so eloquently expressed in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.

Seventh Day Adventist

Kinship International, Inc. can be contacted by writing to Box 1233-W, Los Angeles, CA 90078 or by calling (213) 876-2076.

Students for GALA Reorganized

Students for Gay and Lesbian Awareness (GALA) has reorganized at Memphis State University. Elections were held recently and Jim Maynard was elected president, Marty Katz, vice-president and Chris Collins, treasurer. Students for GALA's faculty advisor is George Lord.

Anyone interested in participating with the group can call Maynard at 324-6808 or Professor Lord at 454-2795.

Frontrunners Mixup

Because of a mix-up at the Post Office box, mail intended for Frontrunners of Memphis may have been returned to its sender. Frontrunners is currently using Gaze's P.O. Box for its mail. If your contact was returned, Rick Bray, Frontrunners president, asks that you try again. Write to:

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The group is composed of people who are into running, bicycling and other aerobic type exercises.

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BWMT memphis

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Calendar of Events - Everyone Welcome

Thursday, January 3 — Action Committee Meeting
8 pm, Irwin's

Tuesday, January 8 — Discussion Group, 8 pm, Irwin's
Topic: BWMT and Gentrification

Saturday, January 12 — Board Meeting, 3 pm, Edward's

Thursday, January 17 — BWMT Outreach, 3 pm, Edward's

Thursday, January 24 — Discussion Group, 8pm, Irwin's

Saturday, January 26 — BWMT 3rd ANNIVERSARY BLOWOUT!
Call for details.

Monday, January 28 — General Meeting, 7:30 pm, Main Library

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

For further information call 278-7056 (Edward), 278-1555 (Ken and Bobby) or 746-1461 (Irwin) or write: Black and White Men Together of Memphis, Inc., P.O. Box 41773, Memphis, TN 38174.

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Health

Happy, Healthy Holidays

by Harvey Thompson, M.D.

The average U.S. citizen will be sick and in bed 6.5 days each year. This holiday season as you eat your turkey and all the trimmings remember that most people go to bed hungry each night. Three-quarters of the world live on a basic diet of one food, usually a cereal such as rice.

Grandma always used to say: "Think of all those starving children in Africa." I never wanted to.

Nevertheless, one way to heighten appreciation for good health is to consider the disease and illnesses you don't have: "If you've got your health, you've got everything" was one of the best slogans ever from the boob-tube.

Aging

25% of Americans develop some type of cancer during their lifetime. 20% of women over age 40 have gallstones. 50% of middle-aged people get hemorrhoids. 25%

of middle-aged adults are overweight. 20% of women in childbearing age are iron deficient. 50% of all Americans are toothless by age 65.

Inheritance

8% of all Black Americans have sickle-cell trait. 3% of the American population has diabetes. 35% of whites have lactase deficiency and therefore milk intolerance. 2-8% of all men are color-blind. 1% of all live births have cardiovascular malformation. 25% of adults suffer chronic sinusitis. 50% of the population suffers a cold each winter. 20% of women get a vaginal Trichomonas infection during their lifetime.

Venereal Disease

56% of all cases of early syphilis are in Gay or bisexual men. Upon exam, 1% of adult Americans are found to have gonorrhea. More than 50% of young Americans have had herpes.

General Ills

10-20% of middle-aged adults have high blood pressure. 2% of American women have rheumatoid arthritis. 3% of the U.S. population

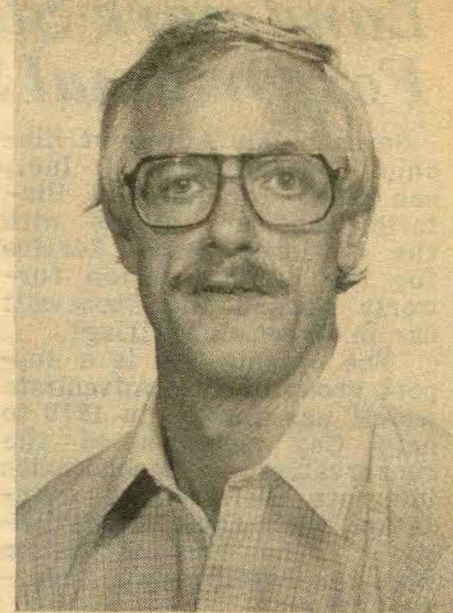
has asthma. 10% of the population has a thyroid enlargement. 10% of the population will get a duodenal ulcer sometime during their lifetime.

Mental

1% of the U.S. population is schizophrenic. 1% of the U.S. is manic-depressive. Sleep disorders affect 10-20% of the population. Recurrent headaches are a problem for 20% of adults. Migraines occur in 7% of adults. 3-5% of people will have at least one seizure during their lifetime. At least 10% of people become depressed at some time during their lifetime. 15% of adults over the age of 85 will have Alzheimer's disease. 5-10% of drinkers are alcoholics. 1% of teenage girls will have problems with anorexia nervosa.

Sex

10-20% of married couples have infertility problems. 5-9% of all births are premature. 16% of men have given cunnilingus. 75% of



Harvey Thompson, M.D.

all homosexual men have experienced heterosexual intercourse. 5% of men have a penis shorter than 5 inches. Even sadder is that only 37% of men have climaxed during same-sex or homosexual experience.

To end on a happy note, 11% of men have given fellatio, and it is estimated that 10% of men are primarily homosexual. Do you think there is a connection?

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

David S. Seay

Attorney At Law

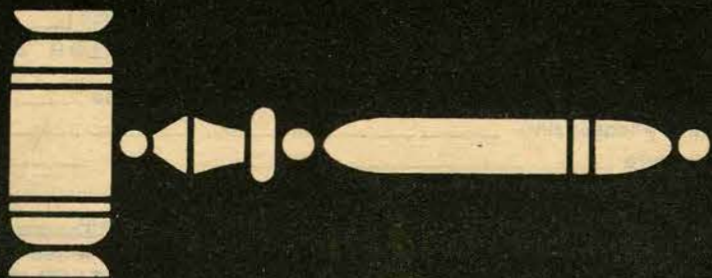
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Putting the Spiritual and Sexual Self Together Again

by Rev. Larry J. Uhrig

Fragmentation is the reality of many people's lives. We are emotionally, psychologically and mentally compartmentalized. One sphere of our life or lifestyle is segregated from other parts of ourselves. This is almost universally true of our sexuality. A private matter is what the folk wisdom and custom of culture call it. Sexuality is only for the bedroom and not for public discussion or visibility. That is just why Gay people are told not to demonstrate any sexuality or sexual preference in public. Somehow the exhibition of heterosexuality is glossed over as innocent affection or something other than sex. "Innocent affection" expressed by Gay people immediately raises fears that overt sexuality may follow. The issue is a fear of sexuality.

Gay people themselves participate in maintaining this status quo and work to keep their lives private. While this may appear at first glance to be the way to go, and may seem to be a route to freedom, it is a dead-end street. I am not saying that sexuality must all of a sudden be open and public, that we all begin copulating on the street corners, but I am going to say that sexuality is a dynamic energetic force which is close to our spiritual selves and must be harnessed to our spirituality if we are to be fulfilled.

We have been taught and society has modeled a lifestyle in which spiritual and sexual things are polar opposites. This has been the achievement of Western Christianity in particular. Example: how would the church you grew up in respond if you offered a verbal prayer during worship which said, "Thank you, Lord, for my sexuality and the joy of sexual expression"? They would probably fall out of their pews, then escort you out of yours. In reality, that is just what has happened to Gay men and women. We have been escorted out of the religious communities we were once a part of precisely because our very presence threatened to undo the traditional structures which had conveniently held sexuality and spirituality apart from one another. To allow Gay people to stay in the religious structures inevitably brings about the dialogue of sexuality and spirituality.

ality and spirituality.

What is needed now is a frontal assault upon the old structures to result in the merger of sexual and spiritual reality not only within the churches but within each of us as individuals. This merger is often frightening. We, ourselves, often oppose this merger and seek to shore up old walls which provide separation and a false sense of security.

Nevertheless, the agenda to unite both worlds proceeds. Why does it proceed? Because the truth at the heart of the struggle is that there are not two worlds, one sexual and one spiritual. The truth of the matter is that to know the fullness of spiritual truth, one must engage the substance of sexual energy and reality. The truth is also that to know the fullness of sexual energy and its meaning, spiritual reality must be brought into the sexual exchange between two persons. Herrein lies the essence of the mystery which religious form and sacrament has sought to communicate for centuries. This essence is the achievement of communion, the blending of two lives in ways that profoundly influence and change both. The depth and height of human love evidences the occasion of holy communion in which two persons merge their realities by way of physical sexual sharing. In doing so, they discover the presence of God in the most vital and real ways humanly attainable. What happens in this union is revelation of the nature of each person's being as well as the interdependence of each person with the Divine.

The fact that this is true presents us with this dilemma: the merger of the sexual and spiritual "stuff" is volatile and life changing, therefore, we fear it and seek to contain and avoid it. This containment motive has been the source of the world's attempt to devise sexual ethics in such a way as to prohibit sexual expression save under the most restricted of circumstances. The resultant "sexual ethic" is not a sexual ethic at all, but a procreation ethic. It does not serve or express the reality of Gay people either sexually or spiritually.

If, in essence, we as Gay people are not so different from the rest of humanity, then this ethic does not

serve the rest of humanity either. The procreation ethic to contain sexuality in order to appease human fear, has produced and reinforced the social institution of marriage. Religious symbols and meaning have been co-opted by culture to aid in this process of containment. The tragedy is that the deeper purpose of the religious symbol, i.e. to express human love and relationship, to mediate the union of sexual and spiritual, has been lost in the process of serving political, economic and other cultural needs. The old models must not be replaced for the sake of enabling health and wholeness of life for both Gay and non-Gay people. So let us work out our own ethic which begins with the agenda of discovering our spiritual selves and proceeds to the action of allowing our spirit to interact with our sexual selves. The result will be vital and healthy human beings able to love and empowered to create community. The result will also be the source of reformation and restoration



Rev. Uhrig

of a decayed and corrupt Western religious tradition which awaits the voices of new prophets.

The place to begin is in our own minds, our own hearts and our own beds. The best sex you will ever have will be a spiritual experience produced out of communion, dignity, self-respect, love and honesty; and this can't happen with anonymous strangers. All of the "hot" and passionate sexual desires we have ever had are fulfilled beyond the event of sexual and spiritual union and through this union. Every other pursuit is a vain hope.

This is a road to freedom.

Rev. Uhrig is the Pastor of the M.C.C. in Washington.

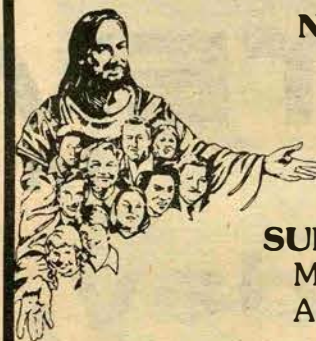
MCC Nashville Celebrates 12th Anniversary

NASHVILLE--The Metropolitan Community Church of Nashville celebrated its 12th year of existence in November. According to founders, the group was founded on the "three-fold principle that God loves all people, that God's love is unconditional, and that is is radical -- that is, God's love is constantly reaching out... even when we feel

unlovable."

Many weekly activities are found at MCC Nashville, including Bible Study, a weekly Community Dinner and Sunday morning and evening worship services.

For more information about MCC Nashville, call (615) 320-0288. The church is located at 131 15th Ave. N in Nashville.



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Regular office hours 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM, Wednesday through Sunday

Refried Grease

[As usual Rona T!'s column simply appeared on our doorstep one day. We disavow any knowledge as to either the truth or who the hell she's even talking about most of the time. For you targets, take offense! What the hell. -- The Editors]

Girlfriends, boyfriends, elves & fairies... Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, and all that other happy horseshit!

For the first time in I-don't-know-how-long something really new and exciting looms on the horizon in big M. Of course I'm referring to the recent sale of George's entertainment complex [French Connection, George's, Trapper John's]. The new emperess of Marshall Street is Frank Cooper, brother of Steve Cooper (of straight bar fame).

Miss Thang! Frank is putting mucho dinero into a complete renovation of the entire complex. Crews of union carpenters, electricians & plumbers have already begun gutting the now defunct Trapper John's, preparing it to become what Miss Cooper called a "high-tech, high-energy disco" which will be accessible from the 800-seat showbar (!) through the doors on either side of the stage.

She plans an "elegant, or at least brighter" atmosphere in the showbar, and the French Connection is slated to serve "quality food at reasonable prices," as soon as Frank can locate a top-notch food and beverage manager.

There are no plans for any name changes at present and all employees were asked to remain (and a Merry Christmas to you too!).

Frank told Rona T! that he plans to make heavy use of out-of-town guest stars and may institute a Sunday Champagne Brunch. In any case, he said he intends to give Memphians a club they can be proud of; one that they can bring out-of-town guests to and recommend to their friends.

He vows there will be no bar wars started by him (or his family) and is anxious to meet the other bar owners to see about working together on public-service projects for the betterment of the entire Gay community.

All Rona T! can say is "Best of Luck, Frank!"

At this point I think it appropriate to wish Don Rossignol and George Wilson well, as the sale of George's closes a chapter in

Memphis' Gay history. George still has the Georgetown Inn and the Club Baths, of course, which continue to do quite well. Rona T! has not yet had a chance to talk to Don about his plans, but the word is that he plans to spend about half his life in Europe, specifically Italy, for the next few years. I do know that he is very interested in AIDS research, having made numerous donations to the national effort previously.

George and Don have put many years of the time and effort into providing Gay Memphians a place to enjoy themselves without fear of harassment or reprisals. They had a payroll of over thirty Gay men and women. There were good times and bad, but the good memories will push the rest aside. Thank you, George and Don, for the part you played in making Memphis a better place to live and be Gay.

Now! -- Enough of the mush and on with the GREASE!!!

Lest you think that Danny Ray has rested on his laurels with all this activity going on downtown --- NAY, NAY!

A new drive (or launching ramp, I'm not sure which) has been poured connecting upper and lower parking lots. [Scott dear, I thought you sold peanuts -- I didn't know you worked for them! Or were you framed my dear?] And, D.R. has begun serving a buffet upstairs that is really much better than I previously reported. The food is quite good and there is plenty of it... all included with the price of the beer bust, making for one of the best bargains in the city. [Now if only Miss Salvati would keep her bald ass in the kitchen, instead of behind the steam table where I have seen her, I might be able to swallow some of her more exotic creations, such as weiners & tomato soup(?)]

While we're on the subject of D.R.'s... the new talent coordinator is Lisa Beaumann, who has a six-month contract (which is the most stability she's had in quite a while). Efforts continue to put on something on their stage that doesn't resemble a German shepherd in heat! With the exception of one or two -- the initials D.R.'s stand from Drudge Reigns Supreme!

Lisa, Danny PLEASE!!! Bring in some talent from Atlanta, Lauderdale, SOMEWHERE! Tired and talentless drag queens with moustaches just don't get

it!

Moving down on Madison...

Jackie's has extended its hours as well as its offering for the late... late... late show watchers. Check with them for details. One little problem though... I have a hard time with dykes and drag queens in what is supposedly a men's leather bar. (The problem is not having a hard time.) Can someone PLEASE tell Rona T! why a bunch of Lesbians would want to watch all-male finger-fu*k movies?

Now before all the sisters of Lesbos get bent out of shape about Gay unity and equality and sexism, etc., let's be real! You and I both know there are several bars with mixed crowds and I enjoy those. But there are times when the boys want to play with the boys and the girls want to play with the girls. Can we not honor those needs? 'Nuff said.

Odds 'N Ends

The Queen's Men truly PEE-ED with their Merry Christmas message on the Coach House marquee. Union Avenue indeed! Ho-ho-ho!

I had promised to share some grease on Rona T!'s roomie, The Barrina, and a certain friend (semi-gorgeous) of a certain D.Q. (Noxema B), however said roomie has blamed RTB for the initial comments unjustly and I refuse to be a party to it anymore. And to Miss Vanderbilt I would add that you should watch your manners. Care has not been forgotten here!

And D.R. -- I think it's so sweet of you to put the entire Beaumann entourage on the payroll.

Then there's the matter of the Jefferina... girls, I realize you are trying to follow in your mother's footsteps, BUT your mother never spent the night at Dr. Phyllis Pheel-good, M.D.A.'s.

Greetings to Porsche - Black Queen of the Jacuzzi's in Nashville. Rona T! will be back in Music City very soon. Tell your friend Darren that my daughter Jefferina still craves his

deltoids.

To Norma Kriste: Thank you for everything! You made a wise business decision. The Miss Gay Mid-South Pageant will be the largest regional pageant in the Miss Gay America system and one of the most prestigious titles in this part of the country.

To the Randella, Miss C., and Jacuzzi-King Christopher:

Let's try peanut oil and champagne next time...

Wesson Oil and Bourbon is so blase.

And to Phyllis - it's amazing what some people remember after 20 years... I mean you were the HEAD of display and the Empress was a clerk in supply. No wonder she still remembers the Vamp of Main Street. One thing bothers me though... where the hell are you going to put those staircases?

Well, that's all for now, boys and girls.. Rona T!'s making a list to see who's been naughtiest but nice. And you can bet one damn thing if it ever turns cold... I'll be checking that son-of-a-bitch more than just twice!

Remember as New Year's Eve cums upon us (we hope... we hope): If you're not kissing the one you love at midnight, Rona T! probably is.

Merry, merry

Rona T! Barrett

Rona T. Barrett



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Counterpoint

Are The Gay Communities Political Leaders In Danger Of Becoming Uncle Toms?

First of two parts
by Joseph Di Sabato

A large measure of the Gay movement's failure to win the struggle for our civil rights is due to poor packaging, poor public relations, and poor communications. The recent conduct of Walter Mondale and Geraldine Ferraro with respect to Lesbian and Gay rights during the political campaign just ended points out quite clearly that we are not accepted as a community whose struggle for equality should be openly advocated in the name of "justice" and "fairness" -- two concepts upon which Mondale centered his try for the presidency. Many of our community's political leaders deny this, pointing to the extremely positive positions taken on Gay and Lesbian issues in the Democratic platform, and the fact that Mondale had several openly Gay people on his campaign staff -- including the first liaison to the Gay community ever appointed by a major party's presidential candidate. Such a claim is strong evidence that many of our community's leaders have personally become so enmeshed in the political games of the establishment elements of the Democratic Party that they can no longer see the forest because they are far too close to the trees. As a result, our movement is marketing its struggle as ineptly as Walter Mondale marketed his candidacy.

I want to make clear that my thoughts here are not to be interpreted as attacks on any specific individuals but rather as an attempt to open up a crucial dialog within our community concerning both the tactics used in this election and the changes we must make in those tactics over the next four years. I feel very strongly that it is the responsibility of the Gay and Lesbian press to publicly raise the question of accountability when it is felt that the activities of our leaders demand scrutiny.

These leaders should have admitted, early on, what

even the most casual student of politics knew all along: incumbency is of the greatest advantage in an election, and faced with a personally popular President during a time of widely perceived economic well-being in our country, no Democratic Party candidate could have defeated Reagan this year. It should have been easy to see that the only thing which could be accomplished by Mondale's candidacy was to give a much needed voice to those who are treated unfairly and unjustly in our society. Realizing this, our leaders should have decided upon a strategy calculated to bring our cause before the American people and our own community. Instead, they let their newly won acceptance by the Party structure interfere with their ability to make such objective judgments.

Ascendence Of The New Right

The "New Right" has become the dominant political force in this country during the past two elections. Ronald Reagan's victory is not the only proof of this. The re-election of openly Gay Congressman Gerry Studds in Massachusetts notwithstanding, the victories of Senators Jesse Helms in North Carolina and Phil Gramm in Texas will give the New Right confidence that injecting strong anti-Gay elements into campaigns will still help to win elections in middle America. In general, the ability of the Gay community to turn out a "Gay vote" in reaction to anti-Gay tactics is marginal. With few exceptions, the times when a "Gay vote" is a significant factor seem to be limited mostly to very close races in a handful of large urban centers.

If the Gay vote were perceived to be as significant a factor as the Black vote, we might get as much attention on a national basis as blacks do. We are certainly as large a population numerically. U.S. News & World Report, perhaps the

only national publication the notice the potential for Gay clout during this election, pointed out that Gays make up a voting block as large as Blacks and almost twice as large as Hispanics, almost four times as large as Jews, over five times as

Democrats therefore stood tall and confronted head-on such politically explosive issues as abortion, separation of church and state, women's rights, and the economic and political discrimination fostered by the Reagan administration against the poor. In fact, the only pet issue of the New Right which was consistently ignored in general political literature and in campaign appearances was

"We're buying into our own oppression by accepting invisibility."

large as farmers, and almost seven times as large as Asians. Yet no significant national TV coverage was given to the "Gay vote" during this year's election night reporting. We certainly do not have the same visibility or influence on the national political scene as other minorities. Did Mondale perceive our support to be less important than the support of these other groups?

For the first time in 1984, the Democratic Party and its presidential and vice-presidential candidates adopted a strategy of direct confrontation with the political, social, and religious bigots of the New Right. They accepted the fact that, from a practical political standpoint, Reagan has this camp solidly behind him.

the rights of Gays and Lesbians. We didn't even rate inclusion in the litany of oppressed ("race, creed, sex, national origin, age, or disability") which so easily rolls off the tongues of political candidates. We are conspicuous only by our deliberate non-inclusion.

Did Mondale's advisors think that they might lose even one more vote from the right-wing if they had taken a visible stand on this issue? Why were they willing to lose votes by actively supporting other socially progressive issues but not willing to lose votes by vocally supporting ours? Didn't they feel that the increase in support from the Gay voters they would pick up by taking an open

cont. page 17

Views From Ten Percent

Cable Channel 7



Sit Back and Tune In!

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9 -- 1 PM

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18 -- 7:30 PM

THURSDAY, JANUARY 24 -- 4 PM

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30 -- 1 PM

THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM FEATURES BOB KELLY OF NASHVILLE'S LIFESTYLE HEALTH SERVICES TAPED AT OCTOBER'S STATEWIDE MEETING OF LESBIANS AND GAY MEN.

stand on our issues would be significant enough to offset any additional loss they might suffer on the right? Or did they realize -- as an openly Gay Democratic district leader in New York City recently wrote -- that, in fact, there is really no Gay vote and therefore the risk of political embarrassment and voter backlash was too great for Mondale to openly advocate Gay rights.

Voters and Visibility

Why is there no Gay vote? U.S. News and World Report notwithstanding, there is no Gay vote because the mass media does not yet recognize the Gay movement as a legitimate civil rights struggle and therefore it is not afforded the kind of coverage that would bring our issues to the attention of the vast majority of Gay people who are still in the closet. The Gay press, which is the only media regularly covering our issues, is read by less than 5% of the country's Gay population. Moreover, due to this lack of mass media coverage, even most of those who have come out to some degree have not been sufficiently educated to the fact that our civil rights are more imperative than perceived short-term economic advantage. The Gay vote which does exist is only the minority of those of us who are self-identified as Gay, only a small fraction of the total homosexual population.

Many Gay people truly feel that their sexual orientation and issues arising from that orientation are not good grounds for making political decisions. Many Gay people feel that we have made friends and won significant battles over the past decade (and we have), that things are good for the Gay community these days (and they have certainly improved), and that we have come too far for anything to turn that around now (which is the ultimate in self-deception). Putting perceived economic self-interest before civil rights was the same mistake made by the Jews during the rise of Nazis in Germany -- not an extremist comparison for anyone who knows history. Social complacency will be our community's downfall if we don't take seriously the tenuousness of our progress.

How can this complacency continue in the face of the hateful rhetoric of the Moral Majority, in the face of an incredibly significant anti-Gay federal court ruling handed down during the height of the campaign, in the face of the refusal of the Reagan administration to request badly needed additional funding for AIDS

research (against the recommendations of its own Assistant Secretary of Health)? The complacency continues because of the poor visibility of our issues and the unwillingness of our leaders to force the Democratic Party to articulate them.

The Platform Strategy

We must ask whether our leaders are as afraid as the candidates are of provoking the New Right into publicly appealing to anti-Gay bigotry and thus forcing our friends to address the issue. The opportunity to open a nationally televised political dialog on our issues existed for the first time in this election, when the Democratic Party adopted strategy of direct confrontation with the social agenda of the New Right. Instead, the Democratic Party was given the signal by many Gay leaders that -- if the platform were sufficiently strong and specific in taking favorable positions on our issues -- we would accept the practical political realities which have traditionally held true and not embarrass our friends by making them take a public posture on Gay rights.

Therefore they gave us the most favorable and specific Gay rights plank in history (even writing the terms "Gay" and "Lesbian" into the platform); we couldn't have asked for more in this regard. They even officially recognized the Gay democratic clubs as a Democratic Party caucus, entitling Gays and Lesbians to a seat on every significant party committee. Thus, behind the scenes, the Democratic Party was as pro-Gay rights as we could have desired. A cynic might claim that they went this far in order to avoid any confrontation which might place their position on these issues in the full light of mass media coverage. Most people, however, are not familiar with party platforms. Only when platform stands are repeatedly made part of the public debate are people made aware of what they say.

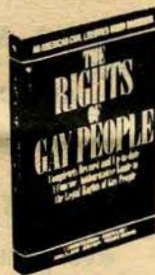
We are buying into our own oppression by accepting invisibility. Only in New York, where there existed a close personal relationship between one of the Gay community's political leaders and the head of the State Democratic Committee, were there any Mondale ads bought and paid for in Gay media by the state Democratic Committee. Nowhere were ads bought by the Mondale campaign itself. In other areas where specific Mondale ads appeared (as opposed to ads from Gay political organizations listing an entire slate of

candidate endorsements including Mondale), such ads were paid for by Gay committees supporting Mondale and not by Mondale's campaign or by the state Democratic Committees. Moreover, there I am aware of specific Mondale ads only in Washington, Chicago, Miami and Philadelphia; surprisingly none ran in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Boston or Houston -- all areas with supposedly large and influential Gay voting blocs.

Moreover, the appointment of Sandra Gillis as "liason" to our community was obviously just a bone thrown to us. Ms. Gillis was unknown in Gay political circles, had little knowledge of the Gay political structure and virtually no personal contacts with the majority of Gay political leaders throughout the country before her appointment. She spent much of her two months as liason meeting Gay political leaders, learning as much as she could about their organizations and their role in the community, and being assured that the Gay political structure was solidly behind

Mondale. Such an inexperienced liason would never be found suitable for any other significant constituency; yet we were -- once again -- grateful for anything. I'm sure that all of these assurances by our political leaders were comforting to Mondale's campaign -- especially since no vocal public support for our struggle was demanded in return. If Sandra Gillis naively assumed that such support on the part of Gay "politicians" translated into support on the part of the average voter in the Gay community (as opposed to support from that small percentage of Gays and Lesbians who are politically aware), she was sadly mistaken.

[Next month, Di Sabito concludes his essay discussing the Supreme Court, Planning for the Future and some specifics on how Gays can deal with political realities. Joseph Di Sabito, president of Rivendell Marketing Company and the founder and first president of the Gay and Lesbian Press Association, has a degree in political science from Fordham University.]



Newly Revised!

THE RIGHTS OF GAY PEOPLE

Thomas B. Stoddard, E. Carrington Boggan, Marilyn G. Haft, Charles Lister, & John P. Rupp

An American Civil Liberties Union handbook describing the rights of gay men and women under present law, the common problems they face and how the laws can and should develop. 208 pp. To order, send \$3.95 plus \$1 for postage and handling to: Literature Department, ACLU, 132 West 43rd Street, New York, NY 10036. Also available from Bantam Books at your local bookstore.

ACLU Handbooks

Memphis Gay Coalition January Program Meeting

Topic: The ACLU And The Gay Community



Monday, January 21, 1984

7:30 — 9 PM

Main Library - Peabody & McLean
Meeting Room B



Nashville

1984: The Year In Review

by Jeff Thompson

In Orwellian terms, the much balleyhooed year of 1984 was "Double Plus Good" for Nashville's Gay community! The year just passed offered advancement and "Victory" on many fronts for Lesbian and Gay men in Music City USA.

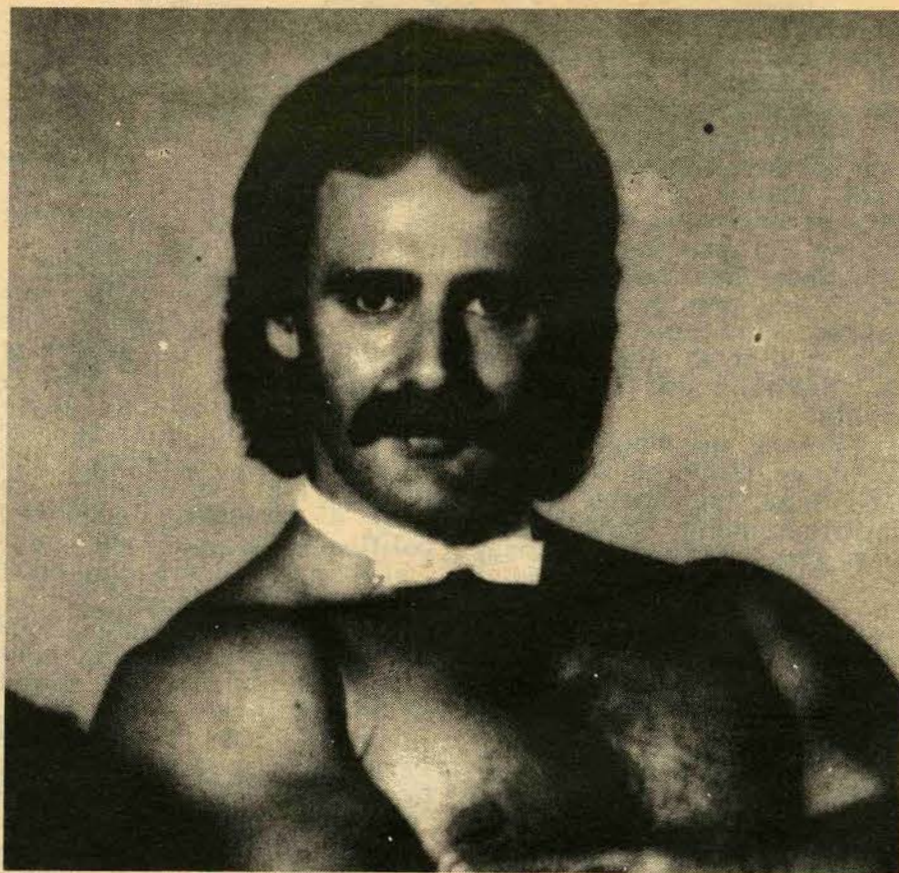
1984 was called the "year of George Orwell", and in JANUARY, The Cabaret ushered in the year with a suitable, high-tech nod to the future. As reported in the February 1984 issue of *Gaze*, The Cabaret became the first "video show bar" on Saturday night, December 31, 1983, when it unveiled two ten-foot television screens, one on either side of the stage. The very latest music videos are projected onto the screens, while the video's stereo soundtracks resound throughout the Hayes Street club. Video cameras and a computerized, design-generating device called a Chromoscope are also used in The Cabaret's nightly, imaginative video projections on the pair of giant screens.

The month of FEBRUARY 1984 found The Cabaret presenting the Mister Music City USA pageant, an annual competition for male impersonators. Aaron won the title, with Rocky and J.T. as first runner-up and second runner-up. Meanwhile, Nashville's Metropolitan Community Church participated in a Sexual Attitude Reassessment seminar at Vanderbilt University. The program was sponsored by the Council On Human Sexuality. Finally, Thursday FEBRUARY 23, 1984, was a red-letter day for the Gay community, as that was the day that The Chute opened its doors and began drawing impressive crowds almost immediately. Located in the Franklin Road building which housed Mother's Construction Company during 1983, The Chute replaced Mother's futuristic decor and regrettably meager crowds with an inviting country-and-Western atmosphere and a hefty stable of faithful and ever increasing customers (as reported in the April *Gaze*). Fascinating Old West memorabilia is everywhere at The Chute, and a warm stone hearth, 18-*Gaze*-January, 1985

friendly staff, and appetizing short order menu are the popular "extras" which may have prompted the 1984-1985 edition of Bob Damron's *Address Book* to add the deserved message, "Looks Promising", to The Chute's listing therein. Since FEBRUARY, The Chute has been putting its unique brand on Nashville's Gay Community. As a result, the bar has lassoed a diverse, thriving clientele.

MARCH was the month that David Silver and his Fantasy Male Revue took to the stage of The Cabaret, and Rita Ross headlined at Warehouse 28. As announced in the April issue of *Gaze*, MARCH also brought an exciting new feature---live piano music---to Nashville's downtown landmark, Juanita's 224.

The seventh annual Miss Gay Cabaret pageant was held in APRIL 1984, and contestant Tamiki Ross took the crown. A festive party commemorated the first anniversary of The Jungle's move to its new locale, and Music City's everpopular Warehouse 28 celebrated its



David Silver

sixth anniversary with a "Tropical Madness" party, a sweepstakes, another performance by Rita Ross, and a special concert by "progressive bluegrass/fusion" artist, Robin Flower. Also in APRIL, Reverend Paul Tucker and the Metropolitan Community Church participated in a Tennessee State University seminar on the crucial subject of being Gay and Christian.

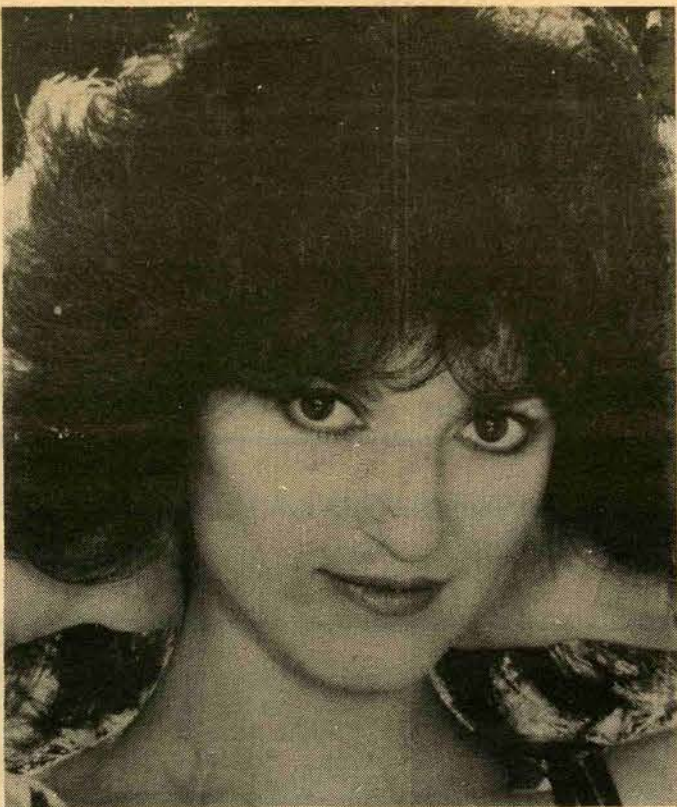
The MAY 1984 issue of *Gaze* carried the hopeful headline, "AIDS CAUSE DISCOVERED", as well as news

of the merry third anniversary celebration at The Crazy Cowboy. A major portion of the proceeds from The Crazy Cowboy's festivities was donated to the Multiple Sclerosis Society. The Warehouse welcomed the Sleazebuckets for one MAY performance, and The Cabaret presented the official Mister Gay All Tennessee pageant (the preliminary to Mister Gay All American). Mark Middleton was named Mister Gay All Tennessee and went on to represent the Volunteer State in Oklahoma. Finally, on Monday night, MAY 21, 1984, Nashville's Gay community, as well as delegations from Chattanooga and Chicago, convened at the Polk Theatre of the Tennessee Performing Arts Center downtown to witness the first annual Miss Continental Tennessee pageant for female impersonators. At the stroke of midnight, the wonderfully elegant ceremony crowned the contestant who subsequently represented Tennessee in the Miss Continental USA pageant in Chicago in September. At the Tennessee preliminaries, pageant coordinator Ginger LaMar and then reigning Miss Continental USA Chena Black welcomed seven outstanding and stunningly attired contestants from Nashville and Chattanooga. Ultimately, Diana Hutton was crowned Miss Continental Tennessee, and Stephanie Wells and Terry Livingston were the first and second runners-up. In addition to the two-page pageant article and five photographs published in the June *Gaze*, the Polk Theatre gala was covered by **The Nashville Banner**.

Nashvillians joined Gay communities throughout the



Co-hosts John Carnes (far left) and Micahel Stark watch a reigning Miss Continental USA Chena Black crowns Diana Hutton as Miss Continental Tennessee for 1984-1985. Photo by David Lindley, *Nashville Banner*.



Pamala Stanley

nation in celebrating Gay Pride Week in late JUNE. Music City's Pride Week activities included voter registration at Gay nightspots, a meaningful Seder Service of worship at the Metropolitan Community Church, and the annual Pride Rally and Picnic in Edwin Warner Park in West Nashville. Meanwhile, "The Cabaret's most prestigious pageant"---Miss Music City USA---was held on JUNE 13 and 14. As reported in the July/August Gaze, Dawn Dupree of Atlanta was awarded both the 250-dollar talent award and the one thousand-dollar Grand Prize (and Miss Music City USA 1984-1985 crown). Leslie Rajeanne was first runner-up, with Alana Kela and Joan Delite as second and third runners-up. Finally, JUNE of 1984 marked the thirty-fourth anniversary of Juanita's, and saw the beginning of the Metropolitan Community Church's effective Prison Outreach ministry at the Tennessee State Penitentiary.

In JUNE and JULY, over seven hundred patrons of The Warehouse 28, Incorporated, purchased brand new Preferred Customer Cards. As reported in the September Gaze, the numbered, plastic cards bring freebies, discounts, special offers, exclusive invitations, and a monthly newsletter. The biggest news at The Warehouse last summer and fall was of the club's major remodeling project, which expanded the dance floor to twice its size and generally made the whole place even more attractive and stylish. Meanwhile, The Cabaret, ever the trend setter, celebrated JULY 4 with a dazzling show spotlighting 1983 and 1984's most exciting new phenome-

non, break dancing! A break dancing troupe called The Fellows wowed The Cabaret's audience on Independence Day, while all of Nashville's Gay nightspots celebrated the Fourth in unique ways.

AUGUST was made special by a festival, a pageant, and a party. Music City's Metropolitan Community Church participated in the Festival of Women held in Centennial Park...Diana Hutson was crowned Miss Gay Tennessee at The Cabaret (with Rita Ross being the first runner-up)...and lovely restaurateur Barbara Palola celebrated her thirtieth birthday in a grand way. The owner of B. Palola's Restaurant and her co-owner, Mervin Luke, threw a spectacular birthday bash at their popular restaurant. It was an affair complete with balloons, music, sumptuous delicacies, and even a bubble machine to add to the gaiety! On that unforgettable AUGUST evening---and throughout the year of 1984---B. Palola's continued to distinguish itself as an emporium of superb cuisine and positive fellowship. The Hayes Street restaurant is one of the Nashville Gay community's finest gathering places.

There's never a dull moment at The Cabaret, Music City's world famous show bar, and the month of SEPTEMBER proved to be no exception. David Silver and his Fantasy Male Revue (which appeared in both Nashville and Memphis in March of 1984) returned to The Cabaret, as did drag performers Charlie Brown and Kellie Green. Across town at Warehouse 28, extensive and creative remodeling continued. Much of the reconstruction was completed in

time for The Warehouse's sizzling Red Hot Party on Friday, SEPTEMBER 14. Special guest artist Pamala Stanley entertained more than four hundred Warehouse patrons with her dynamic performances of "I Don't Want To Talk About It", "Coming Out of Hiding", and her other hits.

OCTOBER was Ginger Lamar's month. The talented local star shone at The Cabaret on the night of the Grand Empress of Tennessee pageant, and duly won the Grand Empress crown for 1985. Meanwhile, the extremely significant, second annual Statewide Meeting of Lesbians and Gay Men took place at Nashville's Metropolitan Community Church on Saturday, OCTOBER 13. As chronicled in the November Gaze, seventy-five Tennesseans gathered at the church to hear informative and helpful addresses by health activist Bob Keller, Memphians Irwin Rothenberg and Joe Calhoun, politician Milo Guthrie, and keynote speaker Tom Chorlton.

Four weeks later, on NOVEMBER 9-10-11, Nashville's Metropolitan Community Church hosted the annual South District Conference, which brought one hundred representatives from Metropolitan Community Churches throughout a six-state region of the Southeast. Also in NOVEMBER, Reverend Paul Tucker and his M.C.C. participated in seminars concerning homosexuality and Christianity at Austin Peay State University (in Clarksville, home of the new Detour Disco Showbar), and at Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro. Meanwhile, Warehouse 28 presented its first ever Fall Art Show...Jim McCullough and the staff of The Jungle Lounge unveiled a new dance floor...and Marge Simrell and the staff of The Crazy Cowboy opened the doors of their brand new,

sister establishment next door to The Crazy Cowboy! The Crazy Cowgirl is Nashville's newest women's bar, and it began attracting large, enthusiastic crowds almost immediately upon its debut on the local scene.

On the second day of DECEMBER 1984, native Nashville-turned-Broadway star Zoe Walker returned to town for a spectacular appearance at Warehouse 28. Zoe Walker took New York by storm first as a chanteuse, and then as the star of *Ain't Misbehavin'*, *Save That Song For Me*, and *More Tea*, *Miss Anne?*---and on Sunday night, DECEMBER 2, the rising star dazzled a large Warehouse audience with a "vibrant, classy, outrageously energetic" act. Walker's warm-up act was Nashville's own One Word, an excellent contemporary Christian singing duo. Mid- and late DECEMBER saw elaborate, festive Yuletide celebrations at B. Palola's, The Cabaret, The Chute, The Crazy Cowboy, The Crazy Cowgirl, Juanita's 224, The Jungle, and The Warehouse 28, and Christmas worship services and dinners at the Metropolitan Community Church. 1984 will conclude with reverent reflection at the New Year's Eve service at the M.C.C., and the year will go out with a bang at the stupendous New Year's Eve parties planned at all of Middle Tennessee's Gay nightspots.

In Orwellian terms, the much balleyhooed year of 1984 was "Double Plus Good" for Nashville's Gay community. The year was characterized by change, excitement, achievement, and opportunity. Now, poised on the threshold of a New Year, the city's community is certain that it will soar to new heights of growth and fulfillment, and really come alive in Eighty-Five!

Nashville



SEASON'S GREETINGS

and Best Wishes for the New Year to all the acquaintances, friends and loved ones who have touched our lives through the years and contributed to making us the people we are today.

With Love,

Allen Cook

John Stilwell

A Night Of Answering The Phone

Switchboard Duty

(Ring) "Switchboard, May I help you?"

"I'm Gay. Can you find me another Gay person?"

"No"

"Why not?"

"Well, we're not that kind of service."

"Yeah, you're a FAG!" (Click)

(Ring) "Switchboard"

"My boyfriend just turned Gay and I want to know what I should do?"

"What do you think you should do?"

(Click)

(Ring) "Switchboard"

"Hi, I'm from out of town. Can you tell me where the bars are."

"Sure, we've got quite a few. Want the list?"

"Thanks"

You get the prank calls, the kids playing on the telephone, the people who think that insulting you for being Gay is doing some good and the ones who try to convert you. Nobody said it was going to be easy.

Working the Gay Switchboard on a weekly basis is really an eye-opener. It is at once tedious, fulfilling, boring and exciting. Rarely a dull evening.

I got involved with the Switchboard initially a couple of years ago. I wondered how I, who had so many of my own doubts, could even consider giving advice to someone else.

you're lucky, you'll have most of the answers or at least know where to find them. Many of the questions involve special events, where the bars are, where the bookstores are, if there is a bathhouse in the area or where Gays gather. Those are the easy ones.

But every once in a while a hard one will come up. "How do I tell my parents I'm Gay." "I'm really attracted to this guy (or gal) I met. How do I find out if they're interested." "Should I tell my (boss, mother, wife, sister, friend... fill in the blank) that I'm Gay?"

(Ring) "Switchboard."

"I'm Gay and I'm really having a problem with it."

"What kind of a problem?"

"Well, I know I'm Gay. That's not the problem. The problem is that I love God and God says it's wrong. What do I do?"

"Where does God say it's wrong to be Gay? Does God say it's wrong to love someone? Do you have any control over the way you feel? How do you live your life? Are you a good person?"

You know you're not the only one who has these feelings."

Asking the right questions and being open to letting people spill their guts is a necessary part of working the Switchboard because, for all the cranks, the kids and the morons, there are quite

You've answered 32 phone calls tonight. 20 from men, 12 from women. 20 of those were for information (12 bars, 1 legal referral, 2 medical referral, 1 MCC referral and 1 Phoenix (Gay

6:00 am alarm clock you know is going to ring and yet, despite it all, you feel good. You helped another person tonight. The Memphis Gay Switchboard answered over 5000

"You go to bed hating the 6:00 AM alarm clock you know is going to ring."

AA) referral and 3 people wanting to know where they could get a date. Most of the rest were pranks or hang-ups. Except for that one...

You go to bed, hating the

calls this year. It operates from 7:30-11:30 pm nightly. If you would like to volunteer, contact Cecil McLeod or any volunteer at 726-GAYY.



Memphis Gay Switchboard

726-GAYY

Information Referrals Counseling

Staffed Nightly 7:30-11:30 pm

"You get the prank calls, the kids playing on the phone... and the ones who call to try to convert you. Nobody said it was going to be easy."

When you work the Switchboard, you open yourself up to a lot of self-examination and through it all, you end up developing a strong sense of your own Gayness. For every personal situation presented, you end up asking yourself "What would I do in that event?", "How would I handle that?", "How do I feel about that?"

(Ring) "Switchboard"

"My lover just left me and I need someone to talk to. Have you got a minute?"

(Ring) "I just came out to my parents and they've thrown me out of the house. What am I going to do?"

(Ring) "Can you tell me where I can meet other Gay people besides the bars?"

You get a lot of questions on the Switchboard. If

a few people for whom you can be a real help.

We never meet the people we talk to. For one thing, it's against the rules. For another, you never know who is serious and who has a problem...or, for that matter, who is the psycho.

(Ring) "Switchboard"

"You're just a bunch of goddam homos. You people are sick. I hate you."

(Click)

(Ring) "Switchboard"

(Heavy Breathing)

"Hello..."

(Silence)

(More heavy breathing)

(Click)

It's 11:30. Time to close down the Switchboard.



Gaze
Advertising and Copy Deadline
for the February Issue
January 21



IT'S
SHOWTIME!

George's
600 Marshall

A MEMPHIS TRADITION
GEORGE'S
NEW YEAR'S EVE GALA

A minimal cover includes...

Beer Bust * Champagne Fountains * Special Show
* Party Favors and Balloon Drops *
And Many Surprises!

THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE

Doors open at 9 PM

Door Prizes!

Advance Tickets \$12 — \$15 at the Door

Information and Services

MEMPHIS

ORGANIZATIONS

American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU): general movement - 81 Madison Bldg, Suite 1501, Memphis, 38103 - (901) 521-9875.
 Black and White Men Together: support, movement - Box 41773, Memphis 38104 - 726-1461 or 726-4299.
 Frontrunners of Memphis: aerobic athletics group - Box 3038, Memphis 38173-0038.
 Ladies Plus: service organization for men and women, public - Call 725-9877 after 3 pm daily.
 Memphis Center for Reproductive Health: non-sexist, non-heterosexist - 1462 Poplar Ave, Memphis 38104 - 274-3550.
 Memphis Gay Coalition: movement, public, meets 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month in meeting Room B of the Library at Peabody and McLean - Box 3038, Memphis 38173-0038.
 Metropolitan Community Church: non-denominational, Sunday worship 3:15 pm at Unitarian Church, 292 Virginia Ave W, Wed. Bible Study, 7:30 pm, at member's home - Box 241592, Memphis 38124-1592 - 324-1769.
 Mystic Krewe of Aphrodite: social, service, movement, women - Box 41822, Memphis 38104.
 Mystic Krewe of Apollo: social, private membership, men only - no address listing.
 National Organization for Women (NOW): movement, feminist - Box 40982, Memphis, TN 38104.
 Phoenix (Gay AA): meets Wed 8 pm, Fri 10 pm, Sun 8 pm - Mid City Bldg, 1331 Union Ave, Suite 170 - 365-7153.
 The Queen's Men: social, service, private membership, meets 1st Sunday of every month - Box 3223, Memphis 38173 - Gary Salles, (901) 452-GAYY.
 Tsaurus: social, levi-leather, motorcycle, private membership - Box 41082, Memphis 38174-1082.

MEDIA

Gaze: newspaper, monthly, Box 3038, Memphis 38173-0038 - (901) 454-1411.
 Lambda Televideo: TV, monthly program, Views From 10%, cable channel 7 - Box 3038, Memphis 38173-0038.

HELPLINES

Gay Switchboard: information, crisis, referrals, counseling - 726-GAYY.
 Rape Crisis: 528-2161.
 Suicide and Crisis Intervention: 274-7477.

RESTAURANTS/BARS

Across the Street: bar - 1349 Madison - 726-9875.
 Adams Family Restaurant: home cooking - 1782 Madison - 725-7336.
 The Apartment: bar, food, shows - 343 Madison - 525-9491.
 D.R.'s: restaurant, show bar - 12 N Cleveland, above The Other Side.
 The Eighth Day: bar, pizza, beer - 1382 Poplar - 725-9877.
 The French Connection: restaurant, piano bar, dining menu - 598 Marshall - 526-1038.
 George's: showbar, large disco, mixed drinks - 526 Marshall - 526-1038.
 J-Wags: bar, moderate food menu, games, patio, 24 hrs - 1268 Madison Ave - 726-9011.
 Jackie's: bar - 1474 Madison Ave. - 272-1104.
 The Other Side: bar, large disco, late hrs - 12 N Cleveland - 726-9245.
 The Pendulum: bar moderate food menu - 92 N Avalon - 725-1530.
 P.W. Bumps: bar, moderate food menu - 238 N Cleveland - 726-9953.

MISCELLANEOUS

Airport Adult Theatre: bookstore, movies - 2214 Brooks Rd E - 345-0657.
 Book Cottage (Overton Square): mainstream bookstore, includes large selection of Gay novels and non-fiction - 2113 Madison Ave - 726-5857.
 Club South: baths, TV room, sauna, spa, lockers, rooms - 628 Madison - (901) 525-2582 - CBC affiliated.
 Encore Cards and Gifts: cards, gifts, ceramics, posters, etc. Large selection of Gay fiction and non-fiction - 1266 Madison Ave - 722-8963.
 Fantasy World: bookstore, arcade - 1814 Winchester - 346-2086.
 Georgetown Inn: hotel, daily, weekly, monthly rates - 628-630 Madison Ave - Reservations (901) 525-0725.
 Getwell Book Mart: bookstore, arcade - 1275 Getwell - 454-7765.
 Getwell Adult Book Store: bookstore, arcade - 1617 Getwell - 745-9054.
 Men of Leather: clothing, accoutrements - 1474 Madison (in the rear of Jackie's) - 458-8342.
 Mid Town Adult Theatre: bookstore, arcade - 1360 Poplar - 725-4306.
 Midtown Video: video cassette sales and rentals - 1264 Madison.
 Paris Adult Entertainment Center: bookstore, arcade - 2432 Summer - 323-2665.

Tobacco Corner Newsroom: mainstream newsstand, carries Gay periodicals - 669 Mendenhall Rd S - 682-3326.

NASHVILLE

ORGANIZATIONS

American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU): general movement, legal - Box 120160, Nashville 37212.
 Conductors: levi-leather club - Box 40261, Nashville 37212.
 Lifestyle Health Services: confidential clinic specializing in STD's - 1729 Church St, Nashville 37203 - (615) 329-1478.
 Metropolitan Community Church: non-denominational - 131 15th Ave N, Nashville 37202.
 Tennessee Gay Coalition for Human Rights: movement - Box 24181, Nashville 37202.
 Womankind Health Service: confidential clinic, feminist - 1727 Church St, Nashville 37203 - (615) 329-1478.
 Women's Resource Center: general services for women - YWCA, 1608 Woodmont, Nashville - (615) 385-3952.

RESTAURANTS/BARS

B. Palola's: restaurant, bar - 1812 Hayes St - (615) 320-0713.
 Cabaret: bar, disco, drag shows - 1711 Hayes St - (615) 320-7082.
 The Chute: restaurant, bar - 2535 Franklin Rd - (615) 297-4571.
 Crazy Cowboy: bar - 2311 Franklin Rd - (615) 383-9493.
 Juanita's 224: bar 224 Capitol Blvd - (615) 255-9841.
 The Jungle: bar, restaurant, patio, shows - 300 Fourth Ave S - (615) 256-9411.
 Slipper's: bar - 2106A Eighth Ave S - (615) 269-9150.
 Warehouse 28: bar, disco, shows, special events - 2529 Franklin Rd - (615) 385-9689.
 World's End: restaurant, live jazz - 1713 Church St. - (615) 329-3480.

CHATTANOOGA

Alan Gold's: bar, restaurant, disco - 1100 McCallie - (615) 629-8080.
 Go Go: bar, dance, drag - 1077 Duncan Ave - (615) 698-1023.

MISCELLANEOUS

Parkview: Alcohol and Chemical dependency treatment center - 8614 Harrison Bay, Harrison, TN 37341. In TN 1-800-821-2914, Outside of TN 1-800-233-3737.
 Riverside Adult: bookstore - 1009 Riverside Dr - (615) 622-9335.
 Startime Video: bookstore - 6309 East Brainerd Rd - (615) 899-9174.

CLARKSVILLE

The Detour: bar, disco - 1808 Madison - (615) 645-8146.

JOHNSON

The Connection: bar, disco Gay/straight - 429 W Walnut - (615) 928-9925.

KNOXVILLE

ORGANIZATIONS

Dignity/Knoxville: religious - Box 9451, Knoxville 37920 - (615) 577-3772.
 Knoxville's 10 Percent: movement, meets 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month - Box 9816, Knoxville 37940.
 Metropolitan Community Church: 3219 Kingston Pike, Box 2343, Knoxville 37917 - (615) 521-6546.

RESTAURANTS/BARS

Circle J: bar, food, pool table - 310 Church Ave - (615) 522-9312.
 Lord Lindsey's: restaurant - 615 Hill - (615) 552-2178.
 Peppertree (Badlands): bar, disco restaurant - 317 N Gay - (615) 525-5647.
 Upstage 54: bar, restaurant, disco entertainment - 1501 White - (615) 522-6966.

LITTLE ROCK

ORGANIZATIONS

ACLU of Arkansas: general movement, legal - Box 2832, Little Rock, AR 72203.
 Arkansas Gay Rights: general movement - Box 3115, Little Rock, AR 72203.
 Crisis Center: 664-8834 (Toll free 1-800-482-8886).
 Gay Counseling Service: 409 Walnut, Little Rock, AR 72205 - (501) 663-6455.
 Grassroots Women's House: 1524 South Summit, Little Rock, AR - (501) 378-7851.
 Great Men/BWMT: movement, support - Box 3123, Little Rock, AR 72203 - (501) 374-3217.
 Metropolitan Community Church: non-denominational - Box 1964, Little Rock, AR 72203 - (501) 666-2404.
 National Organization for Women (NOW): movement, feminist - Box 662, Little Rock, AR 72203.
 Parents and Friends of Gays: movement, support - Box 1839, Batesville, AR 72501.

MEDIA

Arkansas Advisor: monthly newspaper - Universal Publishers, Box 4397, Little Rock, AR 72214 - (501) 225-1300.

RESTAURANTS/BARS

The Branding Iron Saloon: country-western bar - 1701 University - (501) 663-8682.
 Discovery II: 1021 Jessie Rd - (501) 664-4784.
 Silver Dollar Bar: 2710 Asher Ave - (501) 663-9886.

MISCELLANEOUS

4-Star Video: bookstore,
5300 Baseline Rd - (501) 562-
4762.
University Adult Arcade:
bookstore - 6316 Asher Ave -
(501) 568-2952.

MISSISSIPPI ORGANIZATIONS

American Civil Liberties
Union (ACLU): general move-
ment - 528 North State St,
Jackson, MS 39205-2242 -
(601) 355-6464.
Gay Switchboard: 24 hrs,
information, referrals, coun-
seling - (601) 355-7495.
Integrity/Mississippi: re-
ligious, Episcopaleans (all
Gay Christians welcome) -
236 1/2 W Capitol (up-
stairs), Jackson, MS 39216
- (601) 355-7495.
Lambda Group (Gay AA):
meets Sat 8 pm - 236 1/2 W
Capitol (upstairs) c/o Box
8342, Jackson, MS 39204.
Metropolitan Community
Church: non-denominational
- 236 1/2 W Capitol (up-
stairs) - Box 8342, Jackson,
MS 39204 - (601) 355-7495.
Mississippi Gay Alliance:
movement - 236 1/2 W Cap-
itol (upstairs), Box 8342,
Jackson MS 39204 - (601)
355-7495.

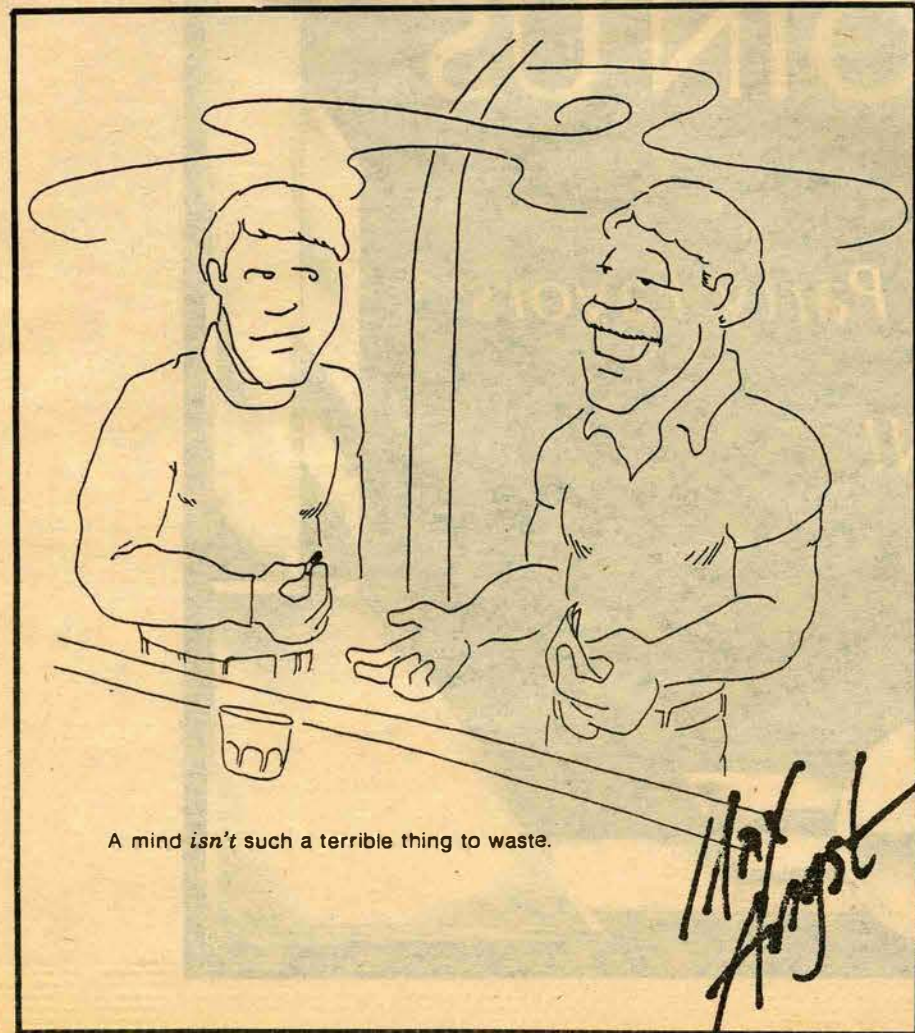
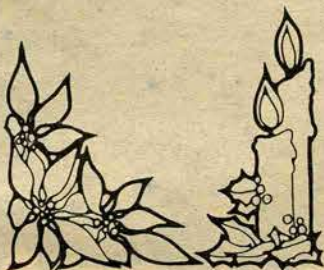
Mississippi Gay/Lesbian
Democratic Party Caucus:
movement - 236 1/2 W Cap-
itol (upstairs), Box 8342,
Jackson, MS 39205 - (601)
355-7495.

MEDIA

This Month In Mississip-
pi: monthly newspaper - 236
1/2 W Capitol (upstairs),
Box 8342, Jackson, MS 39205
- (601) 355-7495.

RESTAURANTS/BARS

Bill's Disco and Show Bar:
200 W Amite, Jackson, MS -
(601) 969-9765 (Thur-Sat
only).
Cha Cha's: bar - 236 W Cap-
itol, Jackson, MS - (601)
352-9728.
Jack's Saloon: 208 W Cap-
itol, Jackson, MS - (601)
354-9588.
Jill's: 208 W Capitol, Jack-
son, MS - (601) 354-9588.
Zan's: bar - 944 Robinson,
Jackson, MS.



A mind isn't such a terrible thing to waste.

Classifieds

RATES FOR CLASSIFIEDS: Personal, non-commercial ads FREE. Limit of 30 words (including address or phone number) and a \$2 charge for use of our P.O. Box. Commercial ads at the rate of 20¢ per word. \$3 minimum. Phone numbers and zip codes are free. \$2 additional charge for use of our P.O. Box. Deadline for ads is 5 days prior to the publication date which is usually the last Friday of the month. Send to Gaze, Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38173-0038.

LEAVING MEMPHIS on
2/20/85 for one way trip to
exciting San Francisco.
Need 3 Riders Now! Call
Now before someone else
does! Don 358-7640.

NLR, WHITE F, 60, educat-
ed, sincere, respectful,
seeks mature female. Will
answer. Please respond.
J.W., Rt 6, Box 28, NLR,
AR 72118.

NASHVILLE AREA. Bi-sex-
ual male, 29, white, educat-
ed seeks Bi or Gay mature
friendships, companionships.
Sincere Reply Only. Occu-
pant G-7, 1311 Greenland
Dr, Murfreesboro, TN
37130.

MEMPHIS, W/M wants photo-
grapher to take & develop
nude photos of me for my
personal use. Reply with
price list to: Robert Mann,
147 West 42nd St, Suite
603, NY, NY 10036.

ATTRACTIVE, GWM, 26,
5'10", slim, Fr/A, Gr/P,
seeks friendly, GWM,
25-40, good-looking, muscu-
lar, 7"+, for good times.
No drugs, S+M. Send letter
& photo to PO Box 12566,
Memphis, TN 38182-0566.

COMPILING GLORYHOLE
and cruising area list. Send
one, get all. Places, Box
15351-HP, LA, 90015-0351.

WANTED- BUY, SELL OR
TRADE, 8mm movies, Reg.
or Super 8. Send me your
list including prices,
condition. Need for my pri-
vate library. Must be Gay
movies. Bob R., Box 527,
Ripley, TN 38063.

BE GENTLE, this is my
first ad! Nashville, Gay
white male, 32. Educated,
professional, sincere, affec-
tionate - seek same for pen-
pal, friendship. I.W., PO
Box 8045, Nashville, TN
37207 - All answered.

SIX OSTRICH FANS. 2
black, 2 red, 2 white. \$10
each or \$50 for the set.
Approx. 30" wide. 725-1698
Evenings.

BI-SEXUAL MALE, 28, pro-
fessional accountant, seeks
drag queen on female hor-
mones or a transexual. VERY
SERIOUS but shy. Please
send photo, phone and box
number: Stan, PO Box
161443, Memphis, TN
38186-1443.

SEEKING GWM, 18-30, for
companionship, possible per-
manent relationship. Am
GWM, early 50's, loving,
caring, sincere. Send let-
ter, photo to Russ, 70
Carroll St, Jackson, TN
38301.

WANTED: PIANO PLAYER
on voluntary basis for MCC
Memphis. Will provide
transportation. If interest-
ed, please call Sheryl at
274-8355.

GAY SWITCHBOARD needs
volunteers. Call 726-GAYY
for details on how you can
help.

GWM, 28, honest, responsi-
ble, seeks same 25-38 for
friendship or possible rela-
tionship. All replies answer-
ed. Please send letter and
photo to David, 510 Rassco
Rd, No D, Southaven, MS
38671.

NATIONAL GAY CONTACT
CLUB - Men/Women. Low
rates. Send SASE to:
NGCC, PO Box 28781, San
Jose, CA 95159.

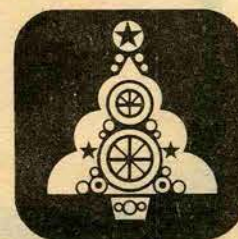
GOD LOVES YOU! MCC
meets Sundays at 3:15 at
the Unitarian Church of the
River in Memphis. Join us!

PHOENIX - GAY AA - see
listing in Information and
Services Directory.

HELP! GAZE NEEDS RE-
PORTERS AND ADVERTIS-
ING SALES PEOPLE. Com-
mission on all ad sales col-
lected. Call 454-1411 for de-
tails.

ATTENTION GAY ORGANI-
ZATIONS: We'll help get
the word out to the Gay com-
munity about your upcoming
event or activities No
charge! Call GAZE at (901)
454-1411.

YELLOW HIDE-A-BED
SOFA. Opens into a double
bed. \$50. Call 725-1698 Eve-
nings.



JACKIES

1474 Madison Avenue Memphis, TN (901) 272 - 1104

NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION COME JOIN US

Champagne — Party Favors

MEN!