



# Gaze



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## International Mr. Leather

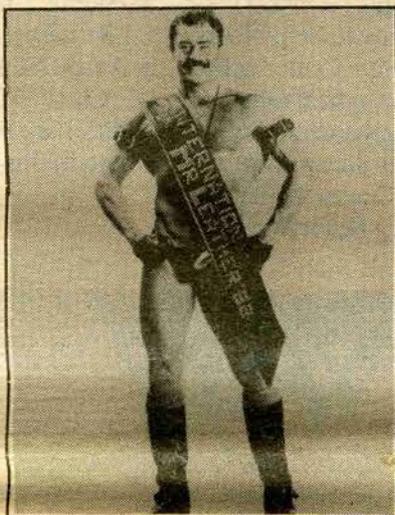
Chicago — The Eleventh Annual International Mr. Leather Contest has been scheduled for May 28, 1989 in Chicago, Illinois USA. Current title holder, Michael Pereyra will return from San Diego, California to help select his successor from the expected 50 contestants representing leather communities around the globe.

Last year over 1,500 leathermen

representing twelve different countries attended the Contest and the four days/night of par-

ties and events which surround it.

Contest promoters have contracted for discounted rates with United Airlines, Budget Rental Cars, and the Executive House Hotel. For toll free numbers and account numbers, or for more information about attending the contest, a free brochure is available on request to: International Mr. Leather, Inc., 5025 N.



Clark St., Chicago, IL 60640, USA, or by calling (312) 878-6360.

## Arkansas Governor Signs AIDS Bill

by Thomas Roe

Gov. Bill Clinton of Arkansas, the man who nominated Michael Dukakis for President at the Democratic National Convention and who reportedly was seeking the post of Secretary of Education in a Dukakis administration, signed into law two sweeping AIDS-related measures in March.

The first of these laws requires that a person who is HIV-positive report this to a physician or dentist prior to receiving any health care services. The disclosure law, which was introduced in the Arkansas legislature by Representative Jack McCoy of Malvern, makes failure to disclose HIV infection a Class-A misdemeanor. The bill was opposed by the Arkansas AIDS Foundation, the Arkansas Department of Health, and

the Arkansas Hospital Association, which contended that a disclosure law would discourage people from being tested. Although there have been fewer than 200 AIDS cases reported statewide in Arkansas since 1981, some estimates of untested, HIV-positive persons have ranged as high as 3,000. Many healthcare professionals believe that the disclosure law is a major discouragement to voluntary testing.

Other healthcare workers have argued that the disclosure law does not make the workplace safer, due to the large number of persons who carry the virus, but who have not been tested. The so-called "universal precautions" in dealing with all patients are the only safe responses by healthcare workers.

The disclosure law in Arkan-

sas does not contain any prohibitions against discrimination if a dentist or physician refuses to treat a person who has disclosed a positive HIV. Presumably, a patient could be refused medical care, with no legal recourse under State law.

The second law signed by Clinton creates a Class-A felony when a person who is HIV-positive knowingly exposes another person through sexual contact or sharing needles and does not tell the person of the presence of HIV infection. This is the so-called "Rock Hudson" bill, and does not necessarily mean infecting another person — rather, exposing another person without telling him or her of the presence of HIV. A voluntary attorney for the Arkansas AIDS Foundation argued

*Continued on page 15*

## NewsNotes

### Judge Cuts Marc Christian's Award

Judge Bruce Geernaert has cut Rock's Hudson's lover's AIDS lawsuit award from \$21.75 million to \$5.5 million. The judge called Hudson's behavior "outrageous and reprehensible" for not telling Marc Christian that he (Hudson) had AIDS, but said the jury's "passion" resulted in an excessive award. In his written opinion, Judge Geernaert said that both the compensatory and punitive damages were excessive and that the amount he set was sufficient compensation. Christian has not tested positive for HIV, the virus which causes AIDS.

### Tennessee Sentencing Accord Near

In an effort to standardize sentencing in Tennessee Courts

and relieve overcrowding the the state's jails, the Tennessee Sentencing Commission is negotiating with legislators and district attorneys for passage of a comprehensive criminal sentencing reform bill. One of the provisions will reduce the penalty for "crimes against nature" to a Class C misdemeanor removing it from the felony list. At presstime, there was no word on the final outcome.

### Is HRC Dead?

A Memphis organization which planned to open a hospice for people with AIDS has apparently folded. The Human Response Council telephone has been disconnected, and several of the organization's board members say they do not know if the organization is still functioning. Efforts to reach Bettye Griffin, Executive Director, have been unsuccessful. HRC was the recipient of donations from a number of benefit shows in the Gay community, but apparently could not expand its support or obtain other funding for the project.

## Kennedy Spearheads Support for Program Federal AZT Subsidy Receives \$5 Million Boost from HHS

Washington, DC — The Dept. of Health and Human Services (HHS) has reprogrammed \$5 million to continue the federal AIDS drug subsidy program that helps low-income individuals purchase treatments for AIDS and related conditions.

HHS reprogrammed the funds at the urging of Senator Edward Kennedy (D-MA), who spearheaded efforts to overcome the financial crisis faced by thousands of persons who depend on federal assistance for AIDS treatments.

Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) lobbyists said the reprogrammed funds came just as the subsidy program — originally created by Congress in 1987 and extended last September — was set to expire at midnight March 31st. The move comes as funds in Georgia, Kansas, Idaho, Kentucky, and

Utah already have expired, with 13 other states poised to run out by June 1989.

Last September, Congress authorized the reprogramming of \$15 million for the subsidy program, but so far HHS had only redirected \$10 million. The \$5 million approved today is expected to carry the program for another six months, through September 1989.

Approximately 7,000 people in the U.S. are receiving government assistance under the program to purchase AIDS treatments, including AZT (Retrovir). AZT, which costs about \$8,000 a year at full dose — is the only government-approved drug for directly fighting AIDS.

The \$5 million will be reprogrammed from other AIDS programs within the HHS. "While we don't like to see the money come from already ex-

isting AIDS efforts, we believe the financial crisis faced by so many people with AIDS is urgent enough to warrant such measures," Carlton Lee, HRCF lobbyist.

"AIDS and affordable health care are high on Senator Kennedy's agenda," said Lee. "His leadership on this issue will help thousands of individuals receive life-prolonging AIDS treatments without facing additional economic hardship."

Reports that the Administration supported continuation of the program came after Kennedy and 12 other Senators sent a letter to HHS Secretary Louis Sullivan urging reprogramming.

Co-signers of the Kennedy letter to Sullivan were Orrin Hatch (R-UT), Alan Cranston (D-CA), Lloyd Bentsen (D-TX), Mark Hatfield (R-OR), Barbara

*Continued on page 15*

# Gazing

## Volunteering to Help Yourself

by John Stilwell

The great Christian/Atheist battle that has been raging in these pages over the past three months illustrates an important point. We find a great deal of energy and enthusiasm to attack one another. It may be over something someone has said. It may be over something someone has done. It may be a simple difference in opinions or philosophies. Regardless, a lot of time and energy goes into these attacks. Sometimes these attacks are billed as constructive criticism or expressing an opposing

or different view. Usually though, they are just thoughtless and mean.

Instead of attacking someone, wouldn't it be more productive to divert that energy toward something positive and constructive? Wouldn't it be better to have something good to show for all that energy and thought?

I'm not about to jump into the fray over Christianity versus Atheism - there's no way to win. But mixed up in that question is the question of why we are here - which again has no answer. There are just lots of different opinions.

I find it hard to believe that we are here just to plod through life working 8 hours a day (or more), five days a week (or more), and trying to cram a little personal pleasure into the time that's left. Perhaps our purpose is to spend our time improving our own condition. If that's the case, there will always be someone better off than we are. So where is the end? When will we go as far as we can go and how will we know?

Or is the answer that we're here to make things better for someone else? Are we supposed to leave something behind to mark our passage?

At this time of year in the Gay community, a lot of things are going on. People are gearing up for Gay Pride month which means something different to everyone. In some of the major cities, it means parades, parties, celebrations, and a real public statement.

In Memphis, Gay Pride means the annual River Ride and, more recently, the much criticized Gayfest. There's not a large public spectacle. There's no dramatic statement of any sort.

This year, there's a little more going on. A committee has been formed to make the much-talked-about Gay Community Center a reality. And appropriately, the target date for a major announcement of a location, if not the actual grand opening of the location, is scheduled for Gay Pride Week.

The problem with Gay Pride

events and a potential problem of the Community Center is a lack of volunteers. For those of us who have volunteered so often for so much, it is very confusing why people are so unwilling to do something for someone else with no compensation other than the good feeling of knowing that you've done something good.

The Coalition may suffer a lack of volunteers for many reasons. At one time or another we've enumerated all of the reasons. They range from a bad reputation that has hounded us from our early days, to a simple difference of opinion or philosophy with other organizations or individuals. Whatever the reason, the things the Coalition tries to do suffer from a lack of volunteers. That is sad because the Coalition is dedicated to improving life for Gay women and men in Memphis. But that's another whiny editorial.

The Gay Community Center, on the other hand, is an untamished virgin. It can be-

come anything the community wants it to be. It doesn't belong to any group or individual, and it comes free of encumbrances. It is not beholden or owing to any person or any group. It has the potential of being the one thing that everyone in the community can have a part in.

The Gay Community Center can offer a social outlet, free of alcohol. Therefore it can be more flexible in the age groups that may use the facility. It can serve as a central location for accumulating books, records, newspapers, and all the other materials that come in from groups and organizations all over the country. The possibilities are limited only by the imagination and the number of volunteers who are willing to make it work.

Lots of people volunteer their time and energy to help others. The Community Center offers an opportunity to help others as well as helping yourself. Everything that you do to make the Community Center better for others, makes it better for you as

well.

What better public statement can we make? There doesn't have to be a sign or public announcement saying "Gay Community Center." A permanent location is statement enough. A place we can call our own makes the statement that we are here in this community and we're here to stay. What could be better to volunteer your time and energy for?

The time to act is now. Don't sit back and wait to see what others make of this "community center." Get involved now. Volunteer some time now to benefit yourself - and the community - now and in the future.

[The Memphis Gay Community Center Board of Directors will be elected from among those attending a meeting scheduled for Saturday, May 6 at 1:00 PM at Agape New Life Church, 405 N. Cleveland, Suite #3. See additional information elsewhere in this issue.]



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

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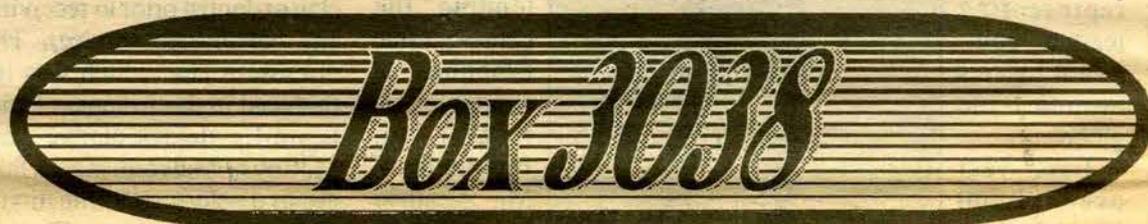
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*Gaze encourages letters from its readers and provides this space as a public forum for its readers to express their opinions. Gaze takes no responsibility for opinions expressed. Letters over 500 words may be edited for space requirements, but original meanings will not be altered. Letters should be as short as possible and must be signed. Names will be withheld by request, but anonymous letters will not be printed.*

## General Mills Not Responsible

This letter is intended to correct misinformation appearing in the media regarding Olympic champion Greg Louganis and one of General Mills' breakfast cereals, Wheaties.

Recently the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) urged readers of its monthly bulletin to protest Mr. Louganis' absence from the front of the Wheaties package, an athletic recognition that has been awarded only a select number of Olympians in the 65-year-old history of the cereal.

GLAAD also quoted a sports marketing executive to the effect that Mr. Louganis wasn't "macho."

Many readers have erroneously assumed that the executive who made the "macho" statement is from General Mills. He is **not** — nor does he have any association with General Mills or Wheaties.

Mr. Louganis and other outstanding American athletes who participated in the 1988 Summer Olympics were not selected to appear on the Wheaties package because at the time the cereal was negotiating a long-term contract with basketball star Michael Jordan.

Wheaties is proud of the accomplishments of all of the athletes who represented the United States in the 1988 Summer Olympics.

R.C. Schulstad  
Director of Media &  
Financial Relations

## Drink Pepsi!

I know this seems a little silly, but I have just about had it up to my balls with these judgement-passing, hate-preaching Christians (I use that last word loosely)

telling me what I can and cannot do! They tell me what I can and cannot watch on TV. They tell me what I can and cannot go to the movies and see. They tell me what music I can and cannot listen to. They tell me what magazines I can and cannot buy in my local 7-11 store. And now, are you ready for this, they are asking for a boycott against Pepsi-Cola because Pepsi is promoting Madonna's new tour, and they are offended by Madonna's new video. As if anyone cares what offends them anyway! Not only do I love Pepsi, but I love Madonna's new video. And Madonna! She has done more in the fight against AIDS than any other public figure I can think of. Including our own second-rate government. She has donated thousands of dollars; she has appeared at benefit shows; she has flashed "safe sex" signs at her live concerts; and on her latest album (Brilliant, I might add!) she has a little article about AIDS and how to prevent it.

When is the last time you opened up an album and were slapped across the face with an article that started off with: "The

Continued on page 14

*Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center  
Committee  
P.O. Box 3038  
Memphis, Tennessee 38173-0038*

Dear Friends of the Community,

The Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center Committee invites you to a community town meeting to implement its formation. This organization has been incorporated in the State of Tennessee, and in Shelby County. A constitution and by-laws have been prepared. At this meeting, representatives from the Gay and Lesbian community will discuss and approve these and will elect the first executive board of directors. Nominations for board positions will be accepted from the floor.

The Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center has been a project discussed for many years, up to now only a dream. At this meeting this dream will become a reality.

We encourage you to attend this very important meeting. We wish to see representation from all Gay and Lesbian organizations in our community. The meeting is open to all interested parties.

Help us see our community center come alive.

The meeting will be held at Agape New Life Church, 405 North Cleveland, Suite # 3, at 1:00 PM, Saturday, May 6.

**Agenda**

- (1) Call to order and welcoming remarks. Introduction of committee members.
- (2) Recognition of groups in attendance.
- (3) Reading of incorporation papers.
- (4) Reading of the constitution, discussion and approval.
- (5) Reading of the by-laws, discussion and approval.
- (6) Nomination and election of officers and executive board.
- (7) Announcement of the next meeting and adjournment.

Copies of the by-laws may be obtained by request. Write to Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38173-0038 or call the Gay Switchboard at 324-GAYS

Respectfully,



Ken Horton  
Chairman, MGLCC Committee



## Openly Gay Person on Key Government Panel Senate Names National AIDS Commission Members

Washington, DC—On April 4th, the Senate announced four more appointees, including an openly Gay man, to the new National Commission on AIDS—created by Congress last year to evaluate and affect federal policy for fighting the epidemic.

The National AIDS Commission will promote the development of a national consensus on AIDS policy. Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) lobbyists say the new Commission will evaluate and make recommendations regarding the financing of health care and research needs relating to AIDS, monitor AIDS education programs for effectiveness, and make suggestions for improving other prevention efforts.

The new commission succeeds the Presidential HIV Commission established by former Pres. Reagan, and is expected to implement recommendations of the President's report. That report featured hundreds of recommendations for dealing with the HIV epidemic, most of which were shelved by the Reagan Administration with little or no action taken.

Senate appointees to the

commission are:

- Larry Kessler, openly Gay executive director of the AIDS Action Committee of Boston. Kessler is regarded as a champion of community-based AIDS service organizations.

- Dr. June Osborn, Dean of the School of Public Health at the University of Michigan and a renowned authority on the HIV epidemic. Osborn is an American representative to the Global Commission on AIDS of the World Health Organization and chairs the Advisory Committee for the AIDS Health Services Program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

- Harlan Dalton, Yale Law School professor and a leading expert on AIDS legal issues.

- Eunice Dias, director of Community Affairs and Health Promotion at White Memorial Hospital in Los Angeles.

Under the law, the Senate, House, and Administration are to name five individuals each to sit on the commission. The Senate is expected to name its fifth member in the near future.

Three of the Administration's nominees have been pre-designated: Secretary of Health and Human Services (Louis Sulli-

van); Secretary of Defense (Richard Cheney); and Secretary of Veteran's Affairs (Edward Derwinski). Pres. Bush is expected to name two other appointees in the near future.

"Overall, we are pleased with the members of the new commission," said Robert Bray, HRCF communications director. "In particular, the inclusion of an openly Gay member brings an important perspective to the panel."

Bray said the new commission thus far does not include any "clear cut ideologues."

"Sen. Ted Kennedy (D-MA) is to be commended for working to establish a commission absent of individuals with right-wing agendas," said Carlton Lee, HRCF lobbyist. "He has paved the way for sound AIDS policy versus demagoguery. Based on the appointment of so many well-informed individuals to the commission, we are optimistic it will have a positive influence on national AIDS policy."

## Discrimination Suit Appealed

San Francisco — National Gay Rights Advocates filed an appeal in a case of a Los Angeles man who was denied employment because he was Gay. In February of last year, NGRA, representing Gary Lawe, sued Indian Wells Estates for not hiring Mr Lawe as a designer because he was a "single man from San Francisco." The trial court held that Mr Lawe could only go to trial to prove marital status discrimination, not sexual orientation discrimination.

Leonard Graff, NGRA Legal Director, said "Clearly Gary didn't get the job because he's Gay. The judge had to go out of his way to not see the connection."

"Indian Wells based its hiring decision on bigotry and stereotypes," said NGRA Executive Director Jean O'Leary. "By giving priority to prejudice over performance, Indian Wells insults not only the Gay community but indeed its own customers."

## Is Phone Sex Protected Constitutionally in the Age of AIDS?

National Gay Rights Advocates has filed an *amicus curiae* brief in the U.S. Supreme Court in a case which could have an important impact on the fight against AIDS. The brief was filed on behalf of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. The case, *Sable Communications v F.C.C.*, challenges a 1988 Act of Congress which bans "Dial-A-Porn" over interstate phone lines. Under current Supreme Court doctrine the government may ban sexually explicit information as obscene if it appeals to a sexual interest, is "patently offensive," and is "lacking in serious value."

"In the age of AIDS, sexually explicit communications cannot simply be dismissed as obscene," argues attorney Benjamin Schatz, Director of NGRA's AIDS Civil Rights Project. "Quite simply, 'Dial-A-Porn' can save lives by providing an alternative to unsafe sex. Whether people like it or not, it has important social value, and is entitled to constitutional protection."

NGRA Executive Director Jean O'Leary said: "The Court's

ruling could have a broad impact on First Amendment rights and the public's ability to obtain sexually explicit materials. It is time to stop allowing conservative moralizing to take precedence over people's lives."

Chuck Frutchey, Assistant Education Director for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, commented: The Foundation has conducted safe sex workshops for Gay and bisexual men for three years now. Participants have named phone sex as a positive form of safe sex in every recorded session. This shows that phone sex is in fact an important safe sex outlet for many people.

The Supreme Court will hear oral arguments on the case on April 19 and is expected to reach a decision this spring. NGRA is a San Francisco-based public interest law firm dedicated to defending the rights of the Gay and Lesbian community and people with HIV infection.

Arguing to overturn the law at the oral argument will be renowned scholar and Harvard Law Professor Laurence Tribe.

## Regulation May Restrict Medicare Coverage for AIDS Treatments

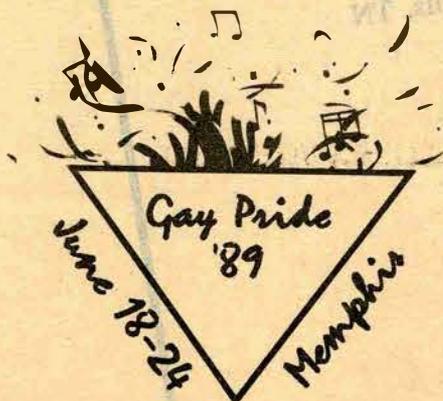
San Francisco — National Gay Rights Advocates has released public comments criticizing federal regulations which would prohibit Medicare coverage for drugs granted "Treatment-IND" status by the FDA. The Treatment-IND Program was established to allow early release of promising drugs to people with life-threatening illnesses before the drugs receive final FDA approval. Some of the most important AIDS-related drugs such as aerosolized pentamidine would be unavailable under the new proposal because they are currently

granted Treatment-IND status. NGRA was particularly critical of the proposal because Medicare already funds experimental cancer treatments under its "Group C Cancer Drug" program.

NGRA also criticized language in the proposal implying that, for Medicare purposes, the "safe and effective" use of drugs may be limited to purposes specified in the drug labeling insert. NGRA pointed out that the FDA itself has repeatedly stated that prescribing drugs for off-label uses is a valuable and widely accepted medical practice.

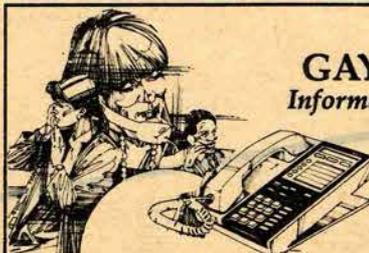
NGRA Executive Director Jean O'Leary, said: "We have fought hard to convince the government to speed the release of promising treatments for people with AIDS and ARC. We cannot sit back and let Medicare deny these treatments to people on the government's own medical programs."

### Gay Pride '89 Help Us Celebrate the 20th Anniversary of Stonewall



Find Out Why We Celebrate  
and How You Can Help

Come to *GayRap*  
Monday, May 15th 7:30 PM  
Main Library - Peabody & McLean  
Meeting Room A



**GAY SWITCHBOARD**  
Information • Counseling • Referral  
7:30 - 11 pm Nightly

**324-GAYS**

The Gay Switchboard is not a phonestex or dating service.  
A Public Service of the Memphis Gay Coalition

## Gay Dems Advocate Reproductive Rights

"Gay and Lesbian Democrats of America has signed on the amicus brief of the Women's Legal Defense Fund," announced Christine R. Riddiough, executive director of the GLDA. The brief is being filed in the Supreme Court case of Webster v. Reproductive Health Services. "We are involved in this brief because of our commitment to full civil rights and social justice for all people," continued Riddiough. "We are specifically concerned with the attack on the right to privacy and with the health care implications of this case."

The Webster case is crucial to the protection of the reproductive rights of women in that it challenges the landmark case of Roe v. Wade which upheld those rights. In addition to sign-

ing on to the WLDF brief, GLDA endorsed the April 9 March on Washington for Women's Equality and Women's Lives. GLDA is also assisting the National Abortion Rights Action League in their efforts to circulate petitions in

support of reproductive rights.

"We believe that these issues are important to our community both because of our basic commitment to civil rights and because they will impact on the rights of Lesbians and Gay men in such areas as family rights



and privacy rights," said Riddiough. This effort is part of GLDA's Progressive Agenda

project aimed at raising a range of issues of importance to the Gay and Lesbian community.

## Take Your Vacation At the NAMES Project

San Francisco — Preparing the Quilt for the Washington, D.C. display on Oct. 6-8 will require the efforts of hundreds of volunteers over the next six months. The NAMES Project needs part-time and full-time volunteers in the San Francisco workshop from now through the end of September.

Panels continue to arrive in San Francisco, especially since the Quilt's 19-city, four-month tour through the U.S. and Canada began. At its present rate of growth, the Quilt is expected to include more than 12,000 panels by October. Deadline for submission of panels to be included in the Washington, D.C. display is August 1.

The NAMES Project cannot be responsible for your transportation, housing, or other costs; but it can offer you the chance to part of the preparations for the October display, and to see San Francisco. If you would like to offer any amount of time, please call the volunteer coordinator at (415) 863-1966.

The NAMES Project Foundation was established in 1987 in San Francisco's Castro District. The Quilt began as a response by Lesbians and Gay men, and their friends to the devastation of their community by AIDS. Its goals are to illustrate the impact and human toll of AIDS, to provide a positive and creative means of expression for those whose lives have been touched by the epidemic.

# NUMBERS

600 MARSHALL STREET • 526-5553

## Our Numbers Just Got Bigger

New Addition Opens at 4 PM

Drink Specials 4 - 8 PM

Kitchen Opens at 8 PM

### Monday

Hottest Male Review in Memphis

\$2 Beer Bust & 25¢ Schnapps

### Tuesday

Talent Night II

Hosted by Dee Dee Whittaker

\$20 Bar Tab to Winner

\$1 Beer Bust & 25¢ Schnapps

### Wednesday

Modern Music Night - Sounds by Nu-Groove

\$3 Beer Bust & 25¢ Schnapps

### Thursday

Talent Night I

Hosted by Dee Dee Whittaker

\$25 Bar Tab

\$1 Beer Bust \$1.25 Well Drinks & 25¢ Schnapps

### Friday & Saturday

\$4 Beer Bust

Showtime - 11:30 PM

Starring Billie Jo Casino, Roxie Bleu, Crystal Jo & Special Guest

### Sunday

Bar & Patio Open 4 PM

Free Beer Bust & Free Buffet

\$3.50 Long Island Tea, \$2 Strawberry Daiquiris & 75¢ Schnapps

Showtime - 8PM

Starring Dee Dee Whittaker, Roxie Bleu & Special Guest

# Local/Regional

## G&L Community Center Closer to Reality

What may have seemed a wild-eyed, pie-in-the-sky dream moves closer to reality this month as the Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center (MGLCC) elects an independent board of directors.

A Gay community town meeting has been scheduled May 6 in order to elect a governing body for the organization and to approve proposed by-laws. The organization has already been incorporated under the laws of Tennessee.

All interested persons in the Gay community are urged to attend the meeting to be held at 1:00 PM at Agape New Life Church, 405 N. Cleveland, Suite 3.

The MGLCC is envisioned to "provide a location for social and recreational activities, and educational and counseling services, supported by and for

use by members of the Gay and Lesbian Community." Approximately \$2000 has been raised to start the organization.

Although initial support for the organization has come from members of local Gay organizations, a completely independent board of directors will be elected to oversee the operation of the center. Representatives of Gay community organizations as well as unaffiliated members of the Gay community are encouraged to volunteer or nominate others to the board.

Among the initial suggestions for use Community Center are: a Gay newspaper archive, a lending library of Gay and Lesbian books, a meeting place for Gay organizations, a rehearsal space for Gay organizations planning benefit shows, and a space to house the Gay Switchboard.

## Memphis Domino's Not Responsible

According to the April '89 edition of the National Organization For Women, Memphis Chapter newsletter, local representatives objected to the boycott of Domino's Pizza called for by Jan BenDor, president of the Ann Arbor Chapter of NOW.

The Chapter has a suit pending against Domino's Pizza for canceling an event at an Ann Arbor facility last spring. The event was canceled when it was learned that the event would be a fundraiser to support pro-choice. In addition, it was reported that Tom Monaghan, president and founder of Domino's Pizza, supported the November referendum to bar Medicaid funded abortions in Michigan. In fact, according to an article by Nina Combs in the March '89 issue of *Ms Magazine*,

Monaghan donated \$50,000 to assist in getting the referendum passed.

"There's no reason any self-respecting feminist should buy Domino's Pizza," Jan BenDor said, in calling for the boycott.

According to Memphis representatives of Domino's Pizza, Monaghan made the donation as an individual and not as a representative of the company. According to them, the local Domino's are independent franchises that are not controlled by Tom Monaghan; and they have nothing to do with what is happening in Michigan. It is unfair, according to the spokesperson, to penalize the local Domino's and to deprive Memphians of a livelihood because of the personal politics of Mr. Monaghan.

## Cris Williamson & Teresa Trull To Do Music City

Nashville — Cris Williamson and Teresa Trull, two of Olivia Records' most well-known recording artists, will appear in concert in Nashville, May 7.

The concert, a first for these artists in Nashville, is produced by Ewe productions. Producer Jai Neill says, "We are very pleased to bring these two fine artists to the Nashville area. They are the premier performers in independent music; and we feel that if we show support for their concert, we will be seeing much more of Olivia recording artists in this area."

Cris Williamson is credited with the original idea that ultimately became Olivia Records and is one of the most well-known and successful recording artists and songwriters in independent music today.

*The Changer and the Changed* by Cris is a classic, selling over a quarter million copies to make it one of the all-time best selling albums in independent music. She has recorded 11 albums during her career with Olivia Records and, along with Meg Christian, gave a showcase performance at the historic, two-show sold-out concert at Carnegie Hall in 1982. Cris' other albums include *Strange Paradise*, *Lumiere*, *Blue Rider*, and *Portrait*.

Teresa Trull has recorded a number of albums with Olivia, as well. She brings to life a

fusion of rock, blues, pop, and jazz in her electrifying performances. Her voice is rich with her Southern heritage and her versatility makes her music a real treat.

Among Teresa's albums with Olivia are *Unexpected* (a duo album with Higbie), *Let It Be Known*, and *The Ways a Woman Can Be*.

The show will be May 7, 3:00 PM at War Memorial Auditorium in Nashville. Tickets for the concert are \$15 plus \$1 postage and handling in advance or \$18 at the door the day of the show. Advance tickets may be purchased by sending a check or money order to: Ewe Productions, P.O. Box 291345, Nashville, TN 37229. Seating is limited for the single performance, so advance ordering is encouraged.

## Rap, Rap Rap!

by Ken Horton

Our April Gay Rap was one of our best yet. For those of you who are not familiar with Gay Rap, we meet on the third Monday of every month in meeting room A of the Main Public Library. This is YOUR Rap, your chance to speak up and be heard. Even though we have a main theme, the talk will invariably touch on problems and situations unique to Lesbians and Gay men.

My thanks to Mr. John Prowett, who is heading up the Minority Prisons Project in Memphis, and Mr. Vincent Astor, Vice-President of the Memphis Gay Coalition, who led a rap of fascinating history and anecdotes from our Gay and Lesbian subculture. John was a part of the Stonewall riots twenty years ago in June, the real launching of the Lesbian and Gay movement. We are really fortunate to have this fascinating man contributing to our community. Vincent, besides having his input in many of our local causes, is this year's Tsarus Man of the Year, and in spite of his youth has been through much of the movement in Memphis.

Most of the almost thirty people in the Rap contributed their insights, questions, and answers. The group was very diverse, from those of us, like me, who have been relatively out for a long time to a few people who are just now coming out. I do not know how anyone could have left the Rap without feeling a little better about oneself because, after all, pride was our subject matter.

Our next Rap will be May 15th, 7:30, same place. We will continue our discussion of pride, with some hopefully fresh insight gained by me at the Southeastern Conference of Lesbians and Gay Men held in Dallas in April. Rap is a really good group. See you there.

## BWMT memphis

### BLACK & WHITE MEN TOGETHER

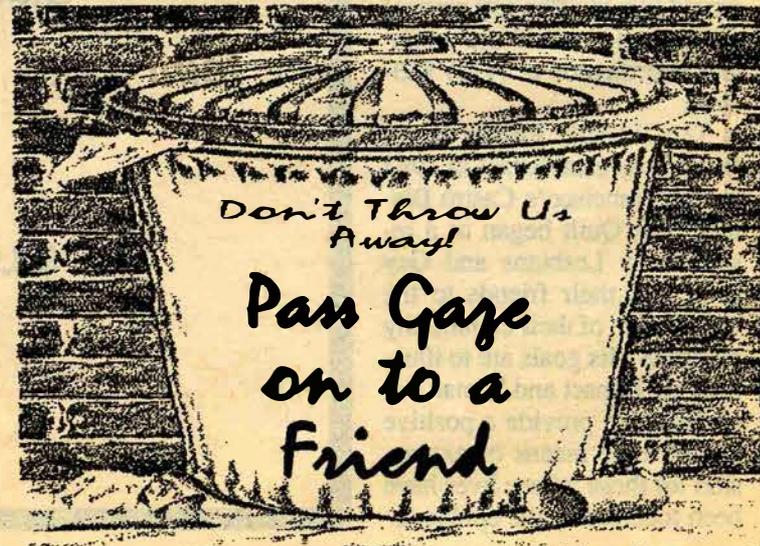
An Interracial Gay Organization for All People  
Statement of Purpose

Black and White Men Together of Memphis, Inc. is a Gay interracial organization committed to fostering supportive environments wherein racial and cultural barriers can be overcome and the goal of human equality realized. To these ends, we engage in educational, political, cultural, and social activities as means of dealing with racism, sexism, homophobia, and other inequities in our community and in our lives.

### BWMT MAY CALENDAR

May 7th	Board Meeting, 1 PM, Ed's
May 8th	CR Discussion Group, 7:30 PM, Irwin's
May 9th	Memphis In May - "Memphis Black Arts Alliance Celebrates Kenya," 8 PM, Dixon Meyers Hall
May 14th	Memphis In May - "Fisk Jubilee Singers in Concert," 5 PM, Lindenwood Christian Church
May 15th	CR Discussion Group, 7:30 PM, Irwin's
May 20th	Memphis In May - "African Cuisine Expo," 1 PM, Shelby State Community College
May 22nd	Final planning session for anniversary event, 7:30 PM, Main Library - Peabody & McLean
May 26-29	7 1/2 Year Anniversary Celebration (Call for Details)

For details: Call Ed (452-5894), Irwin (726-1461) or write BWMT/Memphis, P.O. Box 41772, Memphis, TN 38174-1773



# Burnout: Check Your Symptoms

by Becky Caperton, M.S.

First, I want to look at the stages of burnout. It is important to understand what stage you may be in if you think you are suffering from burnout. Burnout is progressive, occurring over a period of time.

During the "honeymoon" phase, energy level and enthusiasm are high, and so is job satisfaction. This stage is marked by feelings that anything can be accomplished and, at the same time, that the job will fill all your needs.

Eventually, however, "disillusionment" sets in, as you begin to realize that your expectations were unrealistic. You may begin to feel confused and impatient, and have a vague sense that something isn't right without being able to identify exactly what it is. You try even harder to reach your goals, but end up feeling bored, frustrated, and lacking in self-confidence.

As your emotional fuel begins to run low, you enter the stage of "brownout," characterized by fatigue, irritability, sleep

disturbances, changes in eating patterns, and possibly escapist drinking or shopping binges. Indecisiveness, a deterioration in handwriting, and decreased productivity are also early signs of "brownout."

If these early warning signals aren't heeded, "frustration" sets in, marked by anger, loss of enthusiasm, cynicism, detachment, and physical illness.

With the conclusion that the job is never going to measure up comes "despair." You feel a tremendous sense of failure: pessimism, self-doubt, loneliness, and emptiness are also typical. People in this stage often talk of wanting to "run away" and abdicate responsibilities; physical illness may become incapacitating.

Now for the big question: are you burning out? Psychological symptoms of burnout are feeling reactions to stress and pressure that linger after the immediate situation and diminish your ability to perform. They include:

- Nervousness or anxiety
- Depression and/or hopelessness

ness

- Low tolerance for frustration
- Fatigue, low energy or apathy
- Feeling pressured, trapped, or tense
- Insomnia or oversleeping
- Difficulty concentrating
- Irritability or angry outbursts
- Feeling emotionally drained
- Nagging self-doubt
- Difficulty turning off thoughts
- Loss of interest in usual social activities

Behavioral symptoms are self-defeating behaviors that we use to cope with tension or distress in an attempt to relieve, forget, or escape the pressure. This includes:

- Loss of appetite or overeating
- Taking of tranquilizers or other drugs
- Smoking or drinking more
- Withdrawing from close relationships
- Criticizing or blaming others
- Watching T.V. more than 2 hrs/day
- Feeling overwhelmed by work, yet believing you are indispensable
- Cynicism about work

## The Help Page

- Difficulty meeting commitments or completing tasks
- Physical symptoms are bodily manifestations of chronic or excessive stress in the form of pain, physical disorder and/or disease, such as:
  - Muscular tension
  - Back pain

- Gastrointestinal complaints
- Irregular heartbeat
- Grinding or clenching teeth
- Lingered colds

In Part 4 of Burnout, we'll look at ways to come back from burnout as well as ways to prevent it in the future.



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**REFLECTIONS**  
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Memphis In May  
In Salute to Kenya**

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**LOOK FOR**  
**Mud Wrestling**  
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**Costume Party (\$50 Prize)**  
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**Plus Regular Shows**

All Month Long  
**Tusker Longnecks** \$1.00  
(Imported from Kenya) Anytime



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**Memphis' ONLY 24-hour Gay Bar**  
Shows • Food • Shows • Male Strippers  
Patio • Cruise Day & Night

Daily Noon to 7 PM  
85¢ Longnecks 25¢ Draughts 50¢ Setups  
SHOWS AND BEER BUSTS (with Strippers)

**Monday & Wednesday**  
Beer Bust 8-12 Showtime 10:30 \$3.00 Cover

**Tuesday**  
\$2.00 Pitchers All Night

**Thursday**  
\$1.00 Longnecks All Night  
OR Optional \$1.00 Beer Bust (8-12)

**Friday**  
Beer Bust 11:30 to 2:30 AM  
Showtime (With Strippers) at 1:00 AM  
Cover \$3.00

**Saturday**  
BREAKFAST CLUB  
Bring Your Music and Be A Star!  
\$2.00 Cover Includes 1st Setup - B.Y.O.B.

All Month Long  
**Tusker Longnecks** \$1.00  
(Imported from Kenya) Anytime

# Cinema

## Films of Barbara Hammer Released on Video

The collected works of one of America's foremost independent film artists, Barbara Hammer, will be released on home video as a four-volume set under the collective title, *Films of Barbara Hammer*, by Facets Video, 1517 West Fullerton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60614 on June 15, 1989.

Long one of the most provocative and challenging of film and video artists, the tapes in the Barbara Hammer collection range from the wry and satirical to daring experiments in optical printing and new ways of image making.

*Films of Barbara Hammer: Lesbian Humor* includes the films *Superdyke*, a comedy about a troop of shield-bearing amazons; *Our Trip*, an animated film on a hiking trip to the Andes, as well as *Menses*, *Sync Touch*, *Doll House*, and *No No Nooky T.V.*

*Lesbian Sexuality*, a collection of four films by Hammer, includes *Dyketactics*, the first Lesbian lovemaking film to be made by a Lesbian, which is a sensual, evocative montage of 110 images edited to images of touch. The volume also includes *Multiple Orgasms*; *Double*

*Strength*, a poetic study of the Lesbian relationship between two trapeze artists; and *Women I Love*.

*Optical Nerves* is a daring exploration of film language including the films *Parisian Blinds* and *Tourist*, both of which investigate the nature of spectator perception in an unfamiliar environment. *Optic Nerve* is a moving and powerful personal exploration of family and aging; *Place Mattes* explores the space between the reaching and touching with animation and optical printing used to create travelling mattes for places. *Endangered*, Hammer's most recent work, has light, life, and film as endangered in this exquisite film which was etched with acid.

The final volume of the work of Barbara Hammer is titled *Perceptual Landscapes* and includes four works: *Pools*, made with Barbara Klutinis, is an exploration above and under water of two of the first swimming pools designed by the first woman architect in the U.S. *Pond and Waterfall* is an exploration of verdant pond growth as well as dynamic light and water reflections; *Stone Circles*

is a celebration of ancient pre-patriarchal standing mounds and circles surrounding Stonehenge and Asbury; *Bent Time* is one of Hammer's most ambitious films in which "she attempts to render

visually the scientific theory that time, like rays, curves at the outer edges of the universe." (*L.A. Times*).

Each of the volumes in the *Films of Barbara Hammer* se-

ries is \$59.95, and available from Facets Video at 1-800-331-6197 or Facets Video, 1517 West Fullerton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60614.

## PIPELINE'S 3rd ANNUAL Beach Party

SAT. MAY 6 12 NOON - TIL...

Anyone in bathing suits from 12 to 5 PM

TWO for one Domestic Beer

8 to 11 PM Stroh's 75 cents

Buttons on sale \$ 3.00

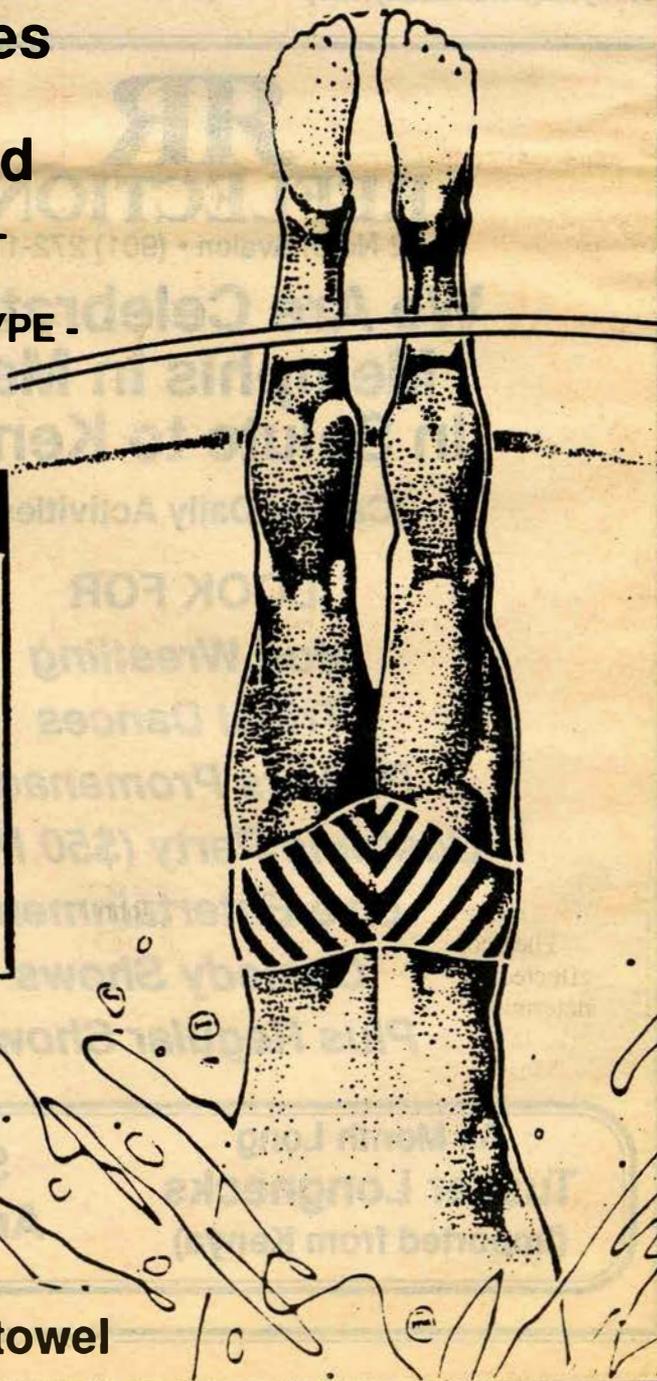
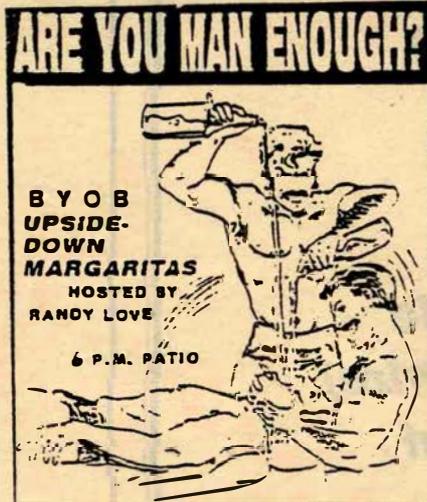
includes

all activities

and

food

SWIM SUIT CONTEST  
MOST ORIGINAL  
BEST LIFEGUARD TYPE -  
FOR \$20.00 BAR TAB  
EIGHT PM



## Thanks!

My thanks to the Memphis Gay Coalition for my recent trip to the Southeastern Lesbian and Gay Men's Conference held in April in Dallas, Texas. Attended by almost four-hundred delegates from across the nation, mainly our region, I attended four days of enriching seminars, speeches, and a few fun social events. In addition, we were treated to the talents of the Oak Lawn Symphonic Band, the Turtle Creek Chorale, the comedy team of Romanovsky and Phillips, and the singing of Kitty Barber.

The most stirring parts of the Conference were, however, the speeches as delivered by Vivian Shapiro; Reverend Renee McCoy; Stephen Beck; Council Member David Scondras from Boston; and Virginia Apuzzo, former director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

Also impressive is the Dallas Lesbian and Gay community, a group which put thousands of volunteer hours into making the conference a success. I hope that the trust put forth by all of the people involved in my trip will be turned into making me a better servant of your community.

Many thanks.

Ken Horton  
President,  
Memphis Gay Coalition

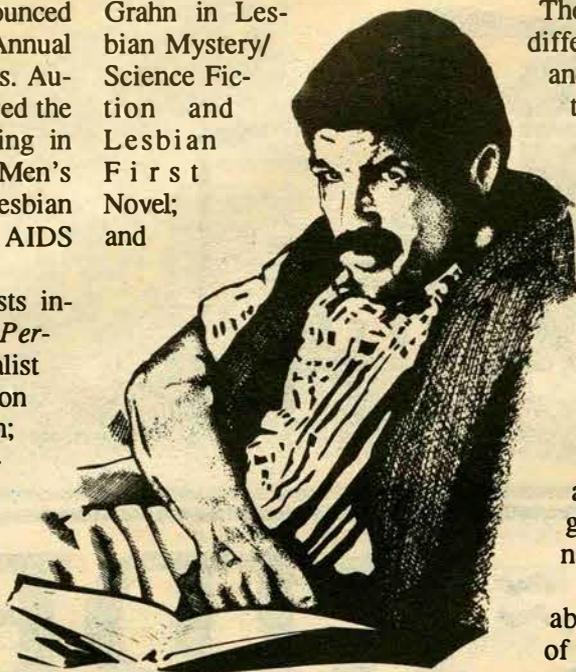
P.S. Don't forget a towel

## Lambda Literary Awards

Washington, DC—*Lambda Rising Book Report* announced the finalists of the 1st Annual Lambda Literary Awards. Author Paul Monette received the most nominations, placing in three categories: Gay Men's Nonfiction, Gay and Lesbian Poetry and the Special AIDS Category.

Other multiple finalists include Dr Betty Berzon's *Permanent Partners*, a finalist in both Lesbian Nonfiction and Gay Men's Nonfiction; *Trash* by Dorothy Allison in Lesbian Fiction and the Lesbian Small Press Book Award; *Swimming-Pool Library* by Alan Hollinghurst in Gay Men's Fiction and Gay Men's First Novel; *Why Can't Sharon Kowalski Come Home?* by Karen Thompson in Lesbian Nonfiction and the Lesbian Small Press Award; *Mundane's*

*World* by Judy Grahn in Lesbian Mystery/Science Fiction and Lesbian First Novel; and



Michael Nava's *Goldenboy* in Gay Men's Small Press Book Award and Gay Men's Mystery/Science Fiction. Monette placed with *Love Alone: 18*

*Elegies for Rog* (Gay and Lesbian Poetry) and *Borrowed Time* in both Gay Men's Nonfiction and the Special AIDS Category.

The finalists represent 53 different titles, 58 authors, and 31 publishers. "During the nomination process, support of the Awards program came from the entire Gay and Lesbian reading community," said Jane Troxell, editor of the sponsoring publication. "Now a panel of 60 judges from across the country will have the difficult task of selecting a single book in each category from among the finalists."

For further information about the awards program of the banquet, please contact Will Guillams: Book Report, 1625 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20009-1013 or phone (202) 462-6965.

## Alyson Publishes New Photo Collection

A new collection of male photographs by the Italian portraitist Tony Patrioli is scheduled for publication on June 1, 1989 by Alyson Publications of Boston.

*Sunbeams* contains many models not seen in Patrioli's popular first collection, *Mediterraneo*, which was also published by Alyson. Both collections focus on young Mediterranean men. Patrioli captures his subjects in outdoor settings that reflect the young men's natural sensuality.

"Patrioli is endowed with the eye of the hunter," says Gene Rizzo in the introduction to *Sunbeams*, "and what he is hunting is an ideal of beauty first forged in the ancient lands of the South Mediterranean."

*Sunbeams* is a large format paperback book with black-and-white photos. It is available for \$15.00 from Alyson Publications, Inc., 40 Plympton Street, Boston, MA 02118.

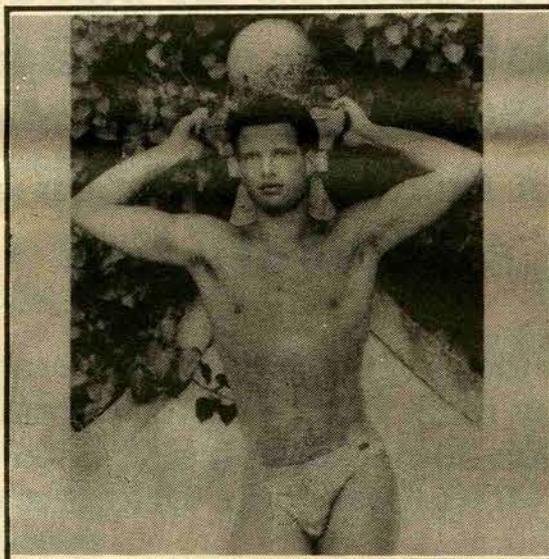


Photo Credit: Photos by Tony Patrioli; Copyright © 1988 Tony Patrioli; reprinted with permission from *Sunbeams* (Boston: Alyson Publications, Inc.).

### Why Is My Child Gay? Available From PFLAG

*Why Is My Child Gay?* is a 16-page booklet published by Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) with answers to the question provided by 11 nationally known scientists in the fields of human development and sexual behavior. Among the respondents are Alan Bell, Richard Green, Evelyn Hooker, John Money, and June Reinisch.

The booklet invites the 11 scientists to address three questions: How is sexual orientation effected by genetic, hormonal, social, or psychological factors? Do any of these factors determine sexual orientation alone? Can Lesbians and Gay men change their sexual orientation through therapy or other means?

Most of the 11 surveyed agree that there is a biological predisposition toward sexual orientation at birth, no single factor causes homosexuality, and sexual orientation cannot be changed permanently through therapy.

The booklet also includes a reading list, information about the Kinsey Scale, and information about the PFLAG Federation with its over 200 chapters and contacts. Tineke Bodde, the author, is a medical writer and member of PFLAG.

One free copy is available to those who send a self-addressed, stamped envelope (45¢ postage) to: PFLAG, P.O. Box 20308, Denver, CO 80220.



## 3rd Annual Golden Threads

The Third Annual Golden Threads Celebration will take place on June 16-18 at the Holiday Inn in Provincetown, MA. Started four years ago, Golden Threads is for Lesbians over 50 and for women who are interested in older women. It's quarterly contact publication lists many self-descriptions, resources, book reviews, and an editorial, all targeted at the interests and concerns of the older Lesbian.

Lesbians from all over the U.S., many from Canada and some from Europe, will converge on Provincetown to cele-

brate what they are and their age, whatever that is. The highlight of this year's celebration will be a banquet, followed by Jennifer Justice, internationally famous storyteller. Jennifer, with her partner Susan Wilson showing slides, will present stories of Lesbian erotica.

Started in 1985, Golden Threads brings older Lesbians out of isolation to know pen pals, friends, and/or lovers. It has brought joy into the lives of older Lesbians. For information contact: Christine Burton, Golden Threads, P.O. Box 3177, Burlington, VT 05401-0031.

We Deliver  
Anywhere!



The New

**Gaze**

**SUBSCRIBE NOW!**

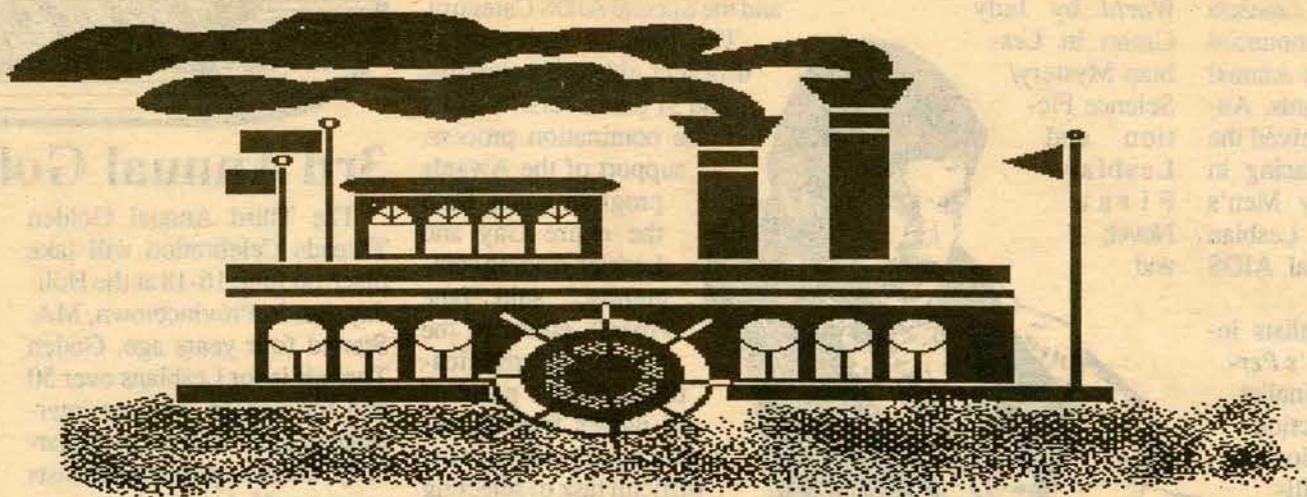
**\$8.00 A YEAR**

Mail to GAZE, Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38173-0038  
Please make checks payable to GAZE.

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City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please do not forget your zip code!

The Memphis Gay Coalition  
presents



# RIVER ≈ RIDE

WITH JOYCE COBB

MEMPHIS SHOWBOAT  
(Foot of Monroe at Riverside)

Saturday, June 24

Board 8:30 PM - Sail 9:00 - Midnight

Cash Bar On Board (No Carry-on Beverages)

All tickets \$15

Tickets are available at Star Search Video, 1264 Madison, Memphis, TN (Visa, Master Card, and American Express accepted) or by mail. Send \$15 money order for each ticket (no cash or checks please) to MGC, P.O. Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38173-0038. Money orders should be made payable to MGC-River Ride. Tickets are non-refundable.

\* MGC members may obtain a \$3 discount on one ticket if purchased from an MGC Board member.

Please mail \_\_\_ tickets @ \$15 each for this year's **River Ride**. I have enclosed a \$ \_\_\_ money order (No personal checks, please). Orders received after June 10 will not be mailed. Please include telephone number, if ordering late. Paid tickets will be held for pickup and confirmed by telephone.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City /State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Payment Enclosed  
\_\_\_ Master Card \_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_ Amex

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# **GDI**

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### **FOR**

## **MEMPHIS IN MAY**

### **GDI Club Room Summer Hours**

**Opens at 5PM Wednesday - Sunday**

**Happy Hour 5 - 10 PM**

#### **Tuesdays**

**Tuesday Night Fever**

**Dance Floor Opens 8pm**

**Rachel Slurr's Modern Music**

**\$3 No Draft Beer & Cooler Blast 8-11 pm**

#### **Wednesdays**

**Dance Floor Opens 8pm**

**The Wacky Wednesday Show**

**with Sofonda Peters**

**\$3 Beer Blast 8-12m**

**50¢ Schnapps & Jagermeister**

#### **Thursdays**

**Dance Floor Opens 8pm**

**All New Male Dance Cast**

**Show at 10:30pm**

**\$3 Cover**

**\$1 Optional No Draft Beer Blast 8-12m**

#### **Fridays & Saturdays**

**Dance Floor Opens 8pm**

**Special Theme Shows 11:30pm**

**\$5 Cover**

#### **Sundays**

**Dance Floor Opens 8pm**

**Continuous Dance Night**

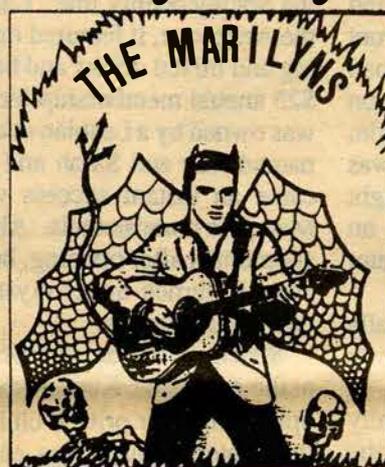
**\$2 Beer Blast**

**50¢ Schnapps**

**75¢ Jagermeister**

**Specials Throughout the Night**

#### **Sunday, May 14**



#### **Wednesday, May 17**

**Miss Southern Belle Pageant**

**\$750 in Cash Prizes**

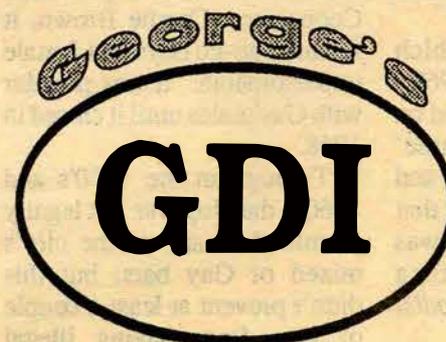
**Entry Fee \$50**

**Contact David da Ponte**

**Applications at the Door**

#### **Saturday, May 27**

**Enjoy Sunset Symphony Specials**  
**While You Watch From Our Balcony**



**on the river**

**287 S. Front St.**

**526-1038**

# Memphis Memoirs

## Gay Bars of the Sixties

This month we return to Fred Harris' *Memphis Gay History* series, first published in *GAJETTY* in 1975. This segment deals with the 1960's, which future articles will treat in detail.

Continued from the February, 1989, issue of *GAZE*. Other "mixed" bars patronized by homosexuals during this late 1950's - early 1960's period included the Purple Eye Lounge at 3484 Park Avenue near Highland, the French Quarter and Cellarbars downtown near Front and Union, the Misfits on Broad Street, and Sir Robert's on Poplar. Ritter's, a lunchroom on Union near Parkway, was popular with some Gays at night as was the Bar X, a tavern on Bellevue which would later become the Entree' Nuit.

The late 1950's and especially the early and mid 1960's were characterized by a shifting of Gay activity from the basically "mixed" bars downtown to the predominantly or exclusively Gay bars in the midtown area. This shift paralleled the larger move to East Memphis.

In the mid-60's, the oldest currently existing Gay bar in Memphis [in 1975], the Entree' Nuit, opened. It was located on Bellevue through the 1960s but moved to its present location at 265 South Cleveland about 1970 [Cleveland at Linden, the site of the Methodist Hospital parking garage today]. It was the bar for young Gays during the 1960's and featured the city's first go-go boys in 1966 and 1967.

Another Gay bar which opened during the early 1960's was Frank's Shobar, located on Bellevue next to the Entree' Nuit. It opened about 1962 and operated continuously at that location until 1970 when it was demolished to make room for a parking lot [also for Methodist Hospital].

Late in the 1960's, two of the notorious Tiller brothers came into the Shobar to wreck the establishment and terrorize its Gay customers, Bill Kendall said. Most of the male customers fearfully fled; but Dottie, the barmaid, stayed to fight. She

blasted one of the Tillers in the stomach with a shotgun while Mary, her black female assistant, smashed the other on the head with a whiskey bottle. The bloodied brothers staggered out of the bar and never came back again. [Betty Tiller, another member of this colorful family, could be found, in later years, at the Front Page nearby as a frequent patron.]

In 1965 or 1966, a private Gay club was opened in Tipton County, Tennessee, just across the Shelby county line. Called the Aristocrat, it featured dancing and mixed drinks and had a \$25 annual membership fee. It was owned by a Lesbian couple named Kay and Sarah and became an instant success with Memphis homosexuals. About six months after opening, however, it burned under mysterious circumstances.

Shortly after the destruction of the Aristocrat, Kay and Sarah opened another private club on the Tipton County line called the Raven. Like its predecessor, it had mixed drinks and dancing and was very popular with Memphians. It burned about 1969 or 1970, also under mysterious circumstances.

During the mid-1960's, Kay and Sarah also purchased the Twilight Lounge on Madison from another couple known as "Blanche and Cookie." They renamed it The Famous Door and turned it into a Lesbian bar, the first in Memphis.

Another bar during this same period was the Hunt at 971 Jackson. Owned by Dalton Cooper and Charlie Brown, it featured go-go boys and female impersonators. It was popular with Gay males until it closed in 1968.

Throughout the 1950's and 1960's, dancing was not legally permitted in any of the city's mixed or Gay bars; but this didn't prevent at least a couple of bars from having illegal dancing now and then, sources report. The doors would be locked and careful watch kept for authorities.

If the 1950's had been a decade of quiet conformity, the 1960's were marked by turbulence and social change. The

Vietnam War, with its mindless destruction had caused many Americans to doubt the authorities they had previously respected. The Black civil rights movement had caused other minorities to question whether they too could obtain, through struggle, their basic rights as American citizens. On campuses and in cities across the nation, an entire counterculture sprang up, rejecting traditional

modes of dress and behavior.

And this mood affected the nation's Gay community. On June 28, 1969, at a club called the Stonewall in New York City's Greenwich Village, homosexuals fought back as police attempted to raid the club. It was the first time in history that homosexuals had struck back at their oppressors, and this marked the beginning of the contemporary Gay liberation

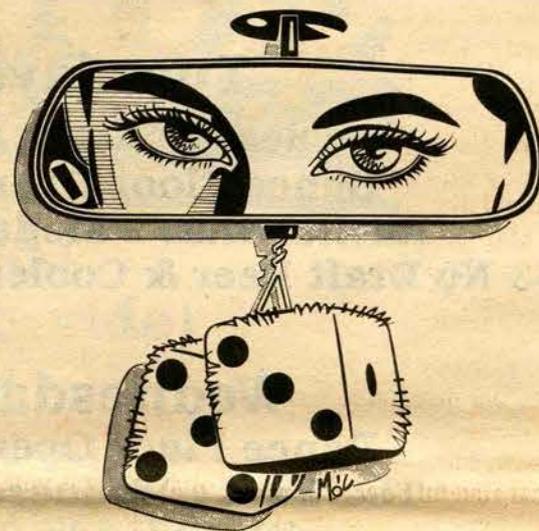
movement.

Back in Memphis, Gays aware of what was happening watched with interest. What effect, if any, they wondered, would these developments have in Memphis during the 1970's, the new decade just ahead.

Written by Fred Harris, edited by Gary Poe, compiled with asides by Vincent Astor.

# Aphrodite

Presents



Music of the

50's

60's and

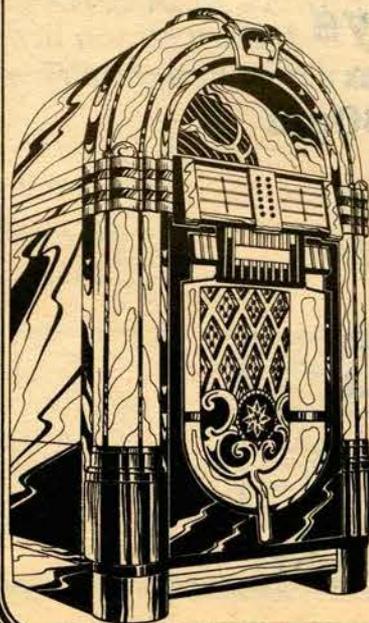
70's

Sunday May 28th

WKRB in Memphis 1528 Madison

Doors Open at 5 PM

Show Starts at 7:30 PM



\$3 Donation or  
Life Blood Slip  
Donations Will Go to  
PWA's in care of ATEAC

by Lady A

Type fast, Mary, we are going to Nashville on a well-earned vacation. Any last-minute Lenas will just have to wait.

### Rumours and Hearsay And Dirt, Oh My!

Reflections has enjoyed a steady increase in business in recent weeks. A very successful engagement by Melissa Mason will be followed in May by special events during the Memphis in May celebration. Some pageant or other is still being rumoured to take place. If it's in the ad and not here, we are officially miffed.

Tommy Stewart also tells us that Male Exotic Dancers (you figure it out, Madge) have returned to J-Wag's three nights a week.

Yes, friends and neighbors, Another Bar has closed. If this is already old news, let us hasten to add that it will reopen in early May as Lorretta's, operated by the living legend of the same name. The small side will remain very much as always but she is planning a surprise use for the old disco area. That's what she said, and we are all a-dew with antici—pation.

Dear Hateful Sow, Bar wars are one thing but false rumours concerning other people's health, or lack thereof, is dirty pool. What goes around, comes around. If the size 11 shoe fits.....

Last Stop, the newest Black-owned Gay bar in Memphis, will have its Grand Opening May 1 - 7. Large scale entertainment and specials Wednesday through Sunday have been promised. The Apartment Club was apparently only closed for a short time. At any rate, it's back open for business now.

Hours will host a "Very Little Clothes" fashion show in May and a party themed "Playtoys and Tasty Li'l Tidbits." You figure it out; it absolutely boggles the mind.

Women of Leather is planning a big anniversary celebration in October, it was whispered to us. Plans are being laid for the 2nd annual Pipette 4th of July Benefit and Cookout.

A show held April 23 at WKRB brought back the timeless talents of Lily Christine, Liz Carrington, Sabrina Lea, and Trixie deJournett. You surmise correctly. The Little Rock Ladies return on April 29 and "Cher," "Prince," "Dolly," and "Diana Ross" will do a show on the 30th.

The Pipeline will host its 2nd annual Beach Party on May 6. A \$3 button will admit one to all events. May 20 (Armed Forces Day) will see a Tsarus Uniform Night at the same location (will the Marines be there, really?). Food will also be served from lunch until late afternoon, weekdays, at the bar beginning May 1.

Dennis is also offering a reward for information leading to the location and admission (extracted who knows how) of who stole and then broke the concrete lion from his patio. Such vandalism is really inexcusable, and he is understandably upset. After all, Mary, it wasn't yours!

GDI's anniversary was a hoot. The Walk Down Memory Lane included ourselves, Leslie Cartier, Melina, Toni Chambers, and regular cast

members featuring Summer Holiday, and Sofonda Peters. The Marilyns will appear live on Sunday, May 14.

Dare and the Nashville MCC were host to the cast of The Boys in the Band after their successful engagement at WKRB in April. Two utter sellouts and three standing ovations made the cast feel that all the work was worthwhile, made Sharon Wray feel obviously pleased, and made director Dennis Massey promise more of the same to come. The show in Nashville on April 22 was a benefit for Advance, the political action committee of the Tennessee Gay and Lesbian Alliance. Advance is lobbying on Capitol Hill in Nashville to eliminate the damning laws that make our sexual way of life a crime.

There will be a very impor-



tant Community Town Meeting at 1 PM on Saturday, May 6, to approve the Constitution and By-Laws and elect the first Executive Board of the new Memphis Gay Community Center, now being formed. If any of our gentle readers wish to support this endeavour, please attend and speak out.

Belle of Amherst, a one woman show featuring Bates Brooks, will be performed at Playhouse on the Square Thursday evenings only, May 11, 18, and 25. Performances are at 8:00 PM. Emily Dickinson, who is purported to have been whoopsey, has become one

of America's most beloved poets. Belle of Amherst is based on the life and poems of Ms. Dickinson.

### Quote of the Month Department

Overheard at a local women's bar—Owner: "Everybody's money is all wadded up tonight." Patron: "Sure, we don't carry purses, we're butches."

Ta, ta.  
Lady A.

## Baseball Book Redefines All-American Athlete

*Changing Pitches*, by Steve Kluger, Alyson Publications, \$7.95 paperback.

Baseball has never held much meaning for most Gaymen. That may change with the publication of *Changing Pitches* by Steve Kluger.

In this paperback release from Alyson Publications, a pitcher's disdain for his handsome new catcher inexplicably turns into a major-league crush. Kluger shows with wry humor how a man who lives in the straightest possible environment deals with unexpected feelings.

It's no surprise that, by and large, Gay men haven't been drawn to professional baseball. The sport has a poor record in dealing with Gay players.

In 1875, *The Advocate* approached several professional sports organizations about in-

terviewing Gay players for the magazine. One of the harshest responses came from the Minnesota Twins baseball club.

"Your colossal gall in attempting to extend your perversion to an area of total manhood is just simply unthinkable," said Tom Mee, PR Director for the Twins.

This homophobia has also been felt by Gay baseball players. In 1977 when Glenn Burke joined the roster of the L.A. Dodgers, he was touted as "another Willie Mays." In 1978, Burke was unexpectedly traded to the Oakland A's.

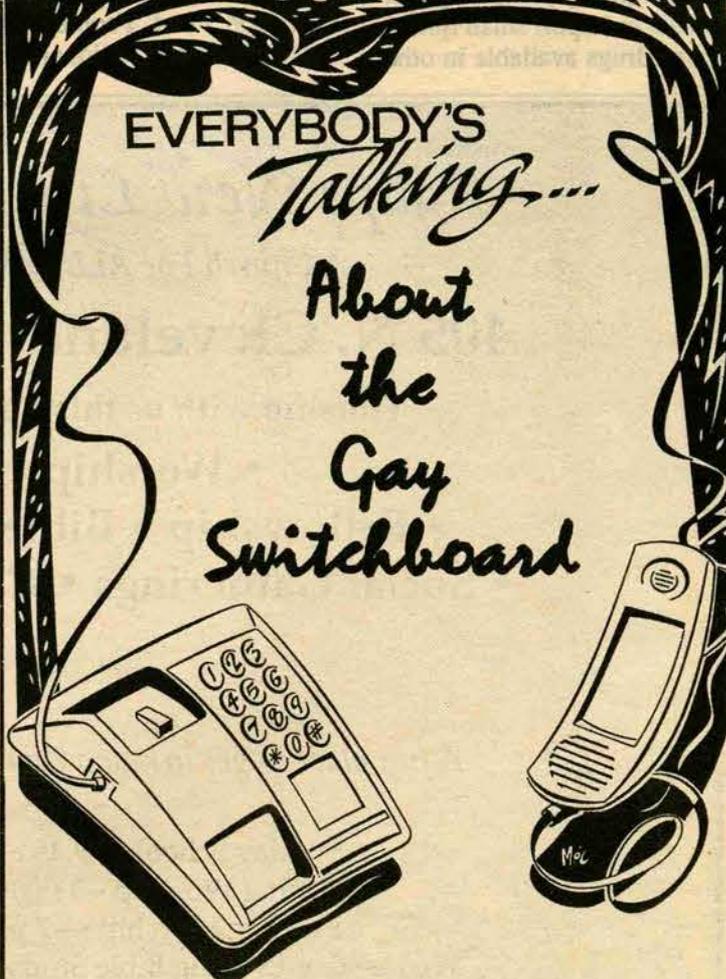
Teammates, sports writers, and fans were puzzled by the trade. Burke, who had been living a closeted Gay life for three years, realized that his increasing visibility in the Gay community was the likeliest reason

for his exile to Oakland.

*Changing Pitches* isn't an indictment of pro baseball. It is the simple story of one man's unexpected love for another. Kluger manages to deflate the macho stereotype we've grown up with, and gives a fresh perspective on the all-American sport and the men who play it.

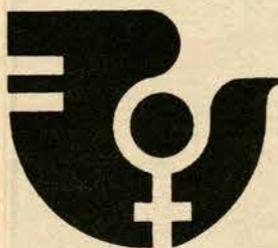


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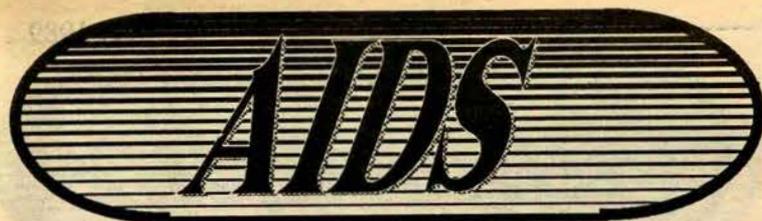
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## PWA Drug Buyer's Group Established

New York — The People With AIDS Health Group, a buyers' club that supplies underground substances to people with AIDS, with endorsements from several major AIDS, medical, and Gay organizations, has announced plans to import prescription drugs from foreign countries (which are approved for use in those countries) to treat AIDS and its opportunistic infections. The drugs, as yet unapproved in the U.S. and until now unavailable here, will be provided to people with or at risk for AIDS, in consultation with and under the supervision of their physicians. The action marks a major step by the AIDS community to secure prescription drugs and treatments that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, under its agonizingly slow drug approval procedures, has yet to license for marketing in the U.S.

The action is consistent with an FDA policy permitting individuals to import small quantities of drugs available in other

countries for their personal use. This is the first time, however, that a buyer's club has assisted with the importation of prescription drugs. In the past, buyers' clubs have helped people obtain over-the-counter medications (like Dextran Sulfate), but individuals were forced to travel to a foreign country and get treated by a doctor in that country in order to obtain prescription drugs. Under the new, bold action, the PWA Health Group will secure the drugs through various channels and import them for people with or at risk of AIDS in the United States. The Health Group will require documentation substantiating that the individual is under a doctor's supervision for the particular treatment. The new treatment measures are endorsed by: Gay Men's Health Crisis, New York Physicians for Human Rights, AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power (ACT UP), Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, People With AIDS Coalition, National Gay

and Lesbian Task Force, and Community Research Initiative.

"People with their backs against the wall — people like me, with AIDS facing the very real possibility of death — will do whatever we have to do to stay alive," said PWA Health Group founding board member Michael Callen. Peter A. Seitzman, M.D., a private physician with a large AIDS practice, also stated: "Unless and until the over-protective stance of the FDA is relaxed, and until the FDA and the U.S. government view AIDS as a health emergency requiring rapid drug development and approval, we [doctors] will feel compelled to direct our patients to foreign sources of drugs we feel have been proven safe and effective."

As new drugs are developed for AIDS, they are often approved in many other countries before they are approved in the U.S. The FDA takes anywhere from 5 to 10 years to approve a drug, the longest drug-approval process of any country in the world. The drugs to be imported by the Health Group are approved and in use in foreign countries, while in the U.S. they are, in many cases, still in lengthy clinical trials. For instance, fluconazole, which is approved in France, England, Denmark, and Austria, is an anti-fungal medication that is effective against cryptococcal men-

ingitis, an infection of the lining of the brain that affects people with AIDS and that, if left untreated, quickly leads to death. In the United States, the only approved treatment for this opportunistic infection is amphotericin B, a highly toxic drug which can cause severe adverse reactions, such as renal damage and shaking chills. Amphotericin B also must be administered weekly via a Hickman catheter, an intravenous port which is implanted into the chest. Fluconazole, on the other hand, is taken in pill form and has shown little if any side effects. It is of such minimal toxicity, in fact, that it is now prescribed regularly in the United Kingdom for vaginal thrush.

"The PWA Health Group will consider, on a case by case basis, which drugs and substances available in other countries it will help to facilitate access to,"

said Callen. "Issues of toxicity, possible efficacy, quality control price and general availability are all taken into account in making our determinations about what drugs to help PWA's access. We are committed to providing the highest quality products at the lowest possible cost and to acting as consumer advocates to insure product safety and to keep the price as low as possible."

The People With AIDS Health Group was established in New York City in March of 1987 as a buyers' club to help people with or at risk of AIDS obtain substances that are known to be safe and that may be effective against AIDS or its opportunistic infections. The PWA Health Group now serves an active clientele of over 2000 people throughout the tri-state area.

## AIDS Activist Sued by Private AIDS Testing Clinic

San Francisco — Stuart Caplan, a registered nurse and AIDS activist in Baltimore, MD, has been slapped with a multi-million dollar lawsuit after criticizing an AIDS testing clinic. The clinic, AIDS Counseling and Testing (ACT), had been distributing fliers promoting "peace of mind" by taking an "affordable" \$50.00 test and offering a picture I.D. card to prove that the cardholder is HIV-negative.

Because the local health department was offering free HIV testing and because I.D. cards are not an effective AIDS reduction tool, Caplan wrote letters to various government officials demanding an investigation of ACT. I.D. cards are misleading and counterproductive because they are good only for the moment the blood is taken. It can take up to fourteen months after infection for HIV antibodies to show up on the test.

As a result of his activism, Caplan was sued by ACT for \$6.5 million in U.S. District Court. National Gay Rights Advocates has agreed to defend Caplan and on March 31, 1989 filed a Motion for Summary Judgement, requesting that the

court dismiss the suit.

"We are asking the court to protect Mr. Caplan's free speech rights under the First Amendment. While we are in the midst of this epidemic, it is crucial that every one be encouraged to speak out against unscrupulous AIDS profiteers," said Leonard Graff, Legal Director of NGRA.

Jean O'Leary, NGRA's Executive Director, added, "We will not allow ACT to escape responsibility for their opportunism by filing intimidating suits against our community. Lawsuits like this must be stopped in their tracks, or they will have a chilling effect on our ability to monitor and speak out on AIDS treatment issues."

Mark Lane, an attorney affiliated with Liberty Lobby, an ultra-conservative Washington political group, is representing ACT. Lane is also known for his book about the Kennedy assassination, *Rush to Judgment*. Edward Wolf, of Arnold and Porter, is NGRA's co-operating counsel. Arnold and Porter is one of Washington DC's largest and most prestigious law firms.

The court will hear the case on May 19 in Baltimore, Maryland.

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## Arkansas Governor

*Continued from page 1*

before the Senate Health Committee that the combination of circumstances required in this law is so remote as to make it unenforceable. A Class-A felony in Arkansas can carry a prison sentence of 30 years.

This law also allows courts to require HIV testing of persons charged with a sex-related crime in Arkansas, with disclosure of the results to the victim (or partner, in the case of sodomy. Arkansas still has a sodomy law on its books.) This bill was introduced by Representative Bobby Hogue of Jonesboro and Robert Wayne Tullis of Mineral Springs.

Gov. Clinton of Arkansas gained notoriety during the Democratic National Convention for his lengthy nominating speech for Dukakis. Delegates cheered wildly when, nearing the end of the speech, he stated, "in conclusion." Clinton became the object of numerous jokes by TV talk-show host Johnny Carson, and later appeared on the Carson show.

## AZT Subsidy

*Continued from page 1*

Mikulski (D-MD), Brock Adams (D-WA), Daniel Moynihan (D-NY), Donald Riegle (D-MI), Daniel Inouye (D-HI), Pete Wilson (R-CA), Christopher Dodd (D-CT), and Claiborne Pell (D-RI).

Efforts to pass legislation earlier in March to extend the subsidy were thwarted by Senators Jesse Helms (R-NC), William Armstrong (R-CO), and Don Nickles (R-OK). Helms and the others blocked action on the bill by threatening to attach "hostile" amendments to it.

The newly reprogrammed HHS funds do not require full Senate approval.

## Rutgers Gay Group Releases Findings

New Brunswick, NJ — The President's Select Committee for Lesbian and Gay Concerns of Rutgers University has reached out to gather comments on issues the group has studied for almost a year.

The session was the committee's first university-wide forum and press conference. The group heard interim reports from task groups looking at specific concerns of the Gay and Lesbian Community and released the findings of a needs assessment survey.

The select committee was appointed in the spring of 1988 by Dr. Edward J. Bloustein, president of the State University of New Jersey. He directed the committee to study the needs of the Gay and Lesbian Community and to advise the administration of the full implementation of the university's 1981 policy which bans discrimination based on sexual orientation.

In the fall of 1987 Bloustein formally initiated the Program to Advance Our Common Purposes, a variety of efforts to combat bigotry and racism and encourage a respect for diversity.

William David Burns, assistance vice president for student life policy and services, said the select committee is an integral part of the Common purposes project.

"it's one other dimension of

looking at the concept of accepting differences, of eliminating hate and bigotry," said Burns. "Our idea of an education is an enlightening, enlarging, connecting kind of experience, not one that leaves you more alone as you go through it."

The select committee will continue to look at specific concerns under study by nine task groups. Dr. James D. Anderson, chair of the select committee, said the group could begin work on some of the recommendations of some task groups this spring.

Suggestions endorsed by the committee could be presented to Bloustein this fall — in time to mark the 20th anniversary of the Stonewall Riots in New York City in June 1969.

Considered a milestone, the confrontation between police and Gay and Lesbian people began at a bar in New York following alleged police harassment. "It is now considered the birth of the contemporary Lesbian/Gay liberation movement," Anderson said.

The Rutgers University Lesbian/Gay Alliance, formed shortly after the Stonewall Riots, is the second-oldest active Lesbian and Gay organization affiliated with an American university, added Anderson, who is associate dean and professor of the School of Information, Communication, and Library



Studies.

The task groups are studying student life and services, Lesbian concerns, curriculum and academic affairs, personnel benefits, university publications, ending homophobia, special concerns of the Newark and Camden campuses, and problems unique to Lesbian and Gay people of color.

Proposals being discussed by committee task groups include:

- Ways the university can provide safe residential space as well as places for social interactions for Gay and Lesbian students.
- Cultural events that focus on the Gay and Lesbian experience.
- Possible creation of a university Office for Gay and Lesbian Concerns in addition to current liaisons to the Gay and Lesbian community.
- A proposal to grant benefits (such as insurance coverage, bereavement leave, and housing rights) to domestic partners of Lesbian and Gay faculty, staff, and students, similar to those currently received by married couples.
- Highlighting, not just stating, the university's non-discrimination policies in all relevant university publications.
- Revisions to curriculum and instruction so that they incorpo-

rate Lesbian and Gay experiences and address the problem of homophobia.

- Ways to make faculty more sensitive to the concerns of Lesbians and Gay people.

The findings of a Student Needs Assessment Survey were also released by the select committee at today's forum. The survey was conducted to determine the major reasons students would seek assistance from the university's 28 liaisons for Lesbian and Gay concerns and to assess student needs at the university.

Sixty-nine percent of the Lesbian and Gay respondents said they would turn to a liaison for information on services available to Lesbian and Gay Rutgers students, both at the university and in the surrounding community.

Other areas of need and concern were insensitivity or homophobia (53%), helping professors and staff become sensitive to Gay concerns (52%), and career option questions (51%).

The survey was conducted last spring by the Office of the Assistant Vice President for Student Life Policy and Services and the Dept. of Health Education at Rutgers. It is believed to be the first study of its kind at a major university.

## Gay Games III Entries Available at Seattle Sports Festival

Seattle, WA — Entries for Gay Games III will be made available for the first time ever to participants in the 1989 Northwest Gay/Lesbian Festival in Seattle this July, according to Metropolitan Vancouver Athletic and Arts Association (MVAAA), organizers of the Games.

"We're delighted Gay Games officials decided to debut their entries at the Sports Festival," said Team Seattle co-chair Rick Peterson. "We have worked closely with the Games people for several years now." Team Seattle organizes the Sports Festival in Seattle during the July 4th holiday weekend each year that the Games do not occur.

Three new sports have recently been added to the Sports

Festival: fencing, bench press, and martial arts. In addition, a men's division has been added to the Festival softball tournament.

"This is why we decided to hold the Sports Festival in the first place," said Betty Whitaker, Team Seattle co-chair. "We wanted to provide opportunities for as many sports as possible, especially the smaller ones; smaller, at least, in terms of participation and visibility."

Other sports this year include: tennis, croquet, women's softball, bowling, swimming, water polo, men's and women's volleyball, diving, golf, and running.

The four-day extravaganza during the July 1-4 weekend includes a banquet Monday night at the Seattle Trade Center and an all-athletes party on the

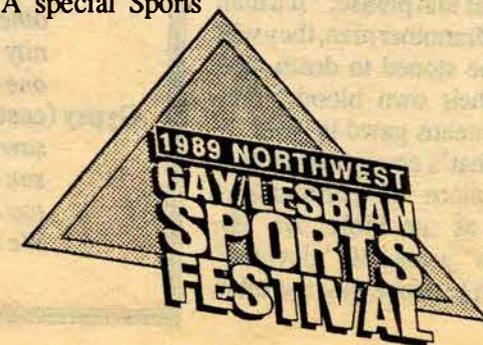
waterfront Sunday night at the Seattle Aquarium.

The Sports Festival is once again made possible in part by a grant from K & L Distributors in Bellevue, WA. K & L distributes Anheuser Busch, Perrier, and Soho products throughout Western Washington.

Host housing can be arranged for athletes who wish it. In addition, a block of rooms at Seattle's Tropics Motor Inn has been reserved for Sports Festival athletes. A special Sports

Festival discount for travellers on Alaska Airlines from west coast cities has been arranged by The Cruise and Travel System in Seattle. For information or to make travel arrangements, call (800) 233-5961.

Entries for all Sports Festival events are now available. To receive entry forms or for more information about the Sports Festival, contact Team Seattle at 1206 E. Pike St., Seattle, WA 98122 or call (206) 322-2777.



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# Commentary

## Gay Atheism: It's Time Has Come

by Paul Neuwirth

The following article is for those individuals who are willing to toss away old, out-dated ideas when newer and better ones come along. It is for people who are free from superstition, who care about all of humankind, and not just a select few who would force the world to their narrow point of view. It is for anyone who knows that their sexual orientation, whatever it may be, is as natural as the sun and wind, and not something mysterious or perverse. It is not for the simpleminded types who think that begging (i.e. praying) to some imagined spook in the sky will solve all their problems. If you are religious and/or subscribe to the tenets of the judeo-christian bible, then I recommend that you turn the page and read something else that would be of interest to you, because what I have to say will probably upset your holier-than-thou little selves.

OK, freethinkers, now that the religious nuts have turned the page, let's get on with it! In the last two issues of this paper, there has been some dialogue concerning the appropriateness of religious intrusion in the Memphis Gay Coalition's activities, especially the GayRap sessions. Don Miller and Bill Tracer got their panties in a wad because Don Sanders and Mark Franceschini, two Gay atheists, gave their reasons why homosexuality and the bible are incompatible. Gay christians (an oxymoron as ridiculous as jewish Nazis!) will always have this problem, unless their gawd hires him-her-itself a cosmic rewriter to ink out certain passages concerning same-sex activity. I don't need the "misinterpretations" of a second-rate witchdoctor (i.e. minister, priest, preacher, rabbi, etc.) to explain to me that that phrase, "if a man lieth with another man, they will surely be stoned to death, and lie in their own blood," REALLY means gawd is love!!!!

But that's enough about that putrid piece of pornography known as the bible. As Mr. Tracer's years of "devoted" research to prove that the bible

is not anti-Gay goes to show, anyone can read anything they want to in that book to bend their opinions on what is right and wrong. The truth is, the bible is no more "holy" than a piece of swiss cheese and is filled with muddled myths that were stolen from ancient Sumerian, Assyrian, Babylonian, and Egyptian texts by some Johnny-come-lately savage nomad tribes, i.e., the Jews.

Mr. Miller throws in Webster's definition of an *atheist* as "one who denies the existence of God." It is safe to assume that the person who came up with this definition for Webster was either christian, jewish, or moslem, since it presumes that there is only one god, a conceited characteristic of the "Big Three" monotheistic religions. Since I am an atheist, and the writer of the definition obviously isn't, I think I am a better authority on what exactly I am than some bi-

ased religious employee working for Webster! Using no confusing rhetoric, and going back to the basic Greek translation, we have *a*, without, and *theism*, religion — atheism — without religion. Now, wasn't that simple? This now makes the religious definition of atheist another can of worms, but that was precisely the intention. There is simply no logical reason for an atheist to deny that which never existed in the first place!

Mr. Tracer goes on to say that he feels he must be helping his hurting brothers and sisters from the social pressures of homophobia by sharing an alternative way of looking at scripture. I have an even better suggestion: don't look at it at all! Most scripture is nothing less than the stuff of nightmare. You would feel a whole lot better if you masturbated once or twice a day (another advantage of being an atheist... you can do it without guilt!).

It is very important to know that there are a lot of Gay men and Lesbians out there who are atheists. This year, at the American Atheist Convention in San Diego, more than 400 people attended, of which more than 50 were Gay men and women. Every year, more and more

people stop going to church. The surge of religious fundamentalism that is occurring now is inevitable, but that is because religion is in its death throes and, like a cornered bear, is fighting for its very life. The power struggle that is now going on in this country will either propel us into the 21st century or drive us back into the Dark Ages, when christianity held back western civilization with its stagnant, medieval dogmas.

I would like to add that atheists are human, too, and don't always agree with each other. I personally didn't mind that there were two GayRaps about homosexuality/bible problems. A Gay atheist friend of mine and I tried

to go to the first one, but when we got to the Main Library, we found it was closed, and that the Rap has been scheduled for another day. We figured that two atheists could intellectually handle a roomful of religionists, so you can imagine our disappointment that evening. We are willing to let you have at us, though... if anybody out there would like to hold a GayRap concerning atheism and homosexuality, drop a note to the Memphis Gay Coalition or American Gay Atheists (AGA), if your afraid to write the words "gay" and "atheist" on the envelope!), both listed in the Information and Services page of this paper.

### Editor's Note

The debate between the Gay Christians and Gay Atheists has gone on for three issues now. We personally do not feel that this issue will be resolved in these pages or even during our lifetime. And, while this paper is your forum and we do not want to stifle you, we feel it is time to move the debate to where it belongs: Box 3038, Letters to the Editors. We also feel we should reinstitute the Box 3038 rules to protect ourselves and our readers from our more verbose and grandiose writers. Simply stated: Letters should be as short as possible. Letters over 500 words may be edited for length.

With that said, we encourage you to continue sending your letters. We enjoy hearing from you. Just keep it brief and to the point.

## Community Voices

by John Prowett

This month's question was asked at the Battered Women's Shelter Fundraiser held recently at WKRB.

**Question:** This year we are celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Stonewall Riots and the time we came out of the closet as a community. What does this mean to you?

**Rusty (Mother Rusty)** — *When is Memphis going to get off its duff and do something. All I hear is "We are too scared."*

**Grace (Bartender)** — *I've been out longer than that. But Memphis as a whole has a lot more to go.*

**Bill (Associate Pastor, Agape New Life Church)** — *No matter what our concertive religion and social leaders of the heterosexual community might say, God has a place for all Gay people in his church, and our community has a place for God in our church. I look forward to Agape New Life Church having an intimate relationship with the Gay Community Center and working together with all of the other organizations to bring to Memphis a community of true harmony, sharing, caring, and loving one another as a family.*

**Gypsy (customer)** — *I came out long before Stonewall. I saw how the diversified Gay, Lesbian, Transperson community banded together for one cause. It's too bad we still don't have that community spirit. We have lost it.*

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# Information & Services

The Information and Services directory is printed as a public service and its listings are free. Agencies and businesses listed herein have requested to be listed but have not been charged.

## RESTAURANTS & BARS

**Apartment:** 343 Madison - 525-9491.  
**Barbara's:** 1474 Madison - 278-4313.  
**GDI on the River:** 287 S. Front Street - 526-1038.  
**Hours:** 92 N. Avalon (upstairs) - 725-9400.  
**J-Wags:** 1268 Madison - 725-1909.  
**Last Stop:** 616 Marshall - 525-4556.  
**Numbers:** 600 Marshall - 526-5553.  
**Pipeline:** 1382 Poplar - 726-5263.  
**Reflections:** 92 North Avalon - 272-1525.  
**WKRB in Memphis:** 1528 Madison - 278-9321.

## ORGANIZATIONS

**Aid to End AIDS Committee (ATEAC):** Box 40389, Memphis 38174-0389 - 762-8401, 458-AIDS.  
**Agape New Life Church:** Worship Sundays at 11:00

AM and Wednesdays at 7:30 PM - 327-4145.

## American Gay Atheists

Memphis: Box 41371, Memphis, 38174-1371.

## Black & White Men Together:

Box 41773, Memphis 38174 - 327-3753, 452-5894, or 726-1461.

## Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition, Inc. of Memphis:

P.O. Box 40982, Memphis 38174-0982.

## Gay Athletic Association:

Bowling, volleyball, camping, and more. Box 22914, Memphis 38122.

## Gay Women's Social Group:

324-6949.

## Kinship: Seventh Day Adventist Gay religious group.

P.O. Box 171135, Memphis, 38187-1135 - 754-6160.

## Memphis Center for Reproductive Health:

1462 Poplar Ave, Memphis, 38104 - 274-3550.

## Memphis Gay Coalition:

Box 3038, Memphis, 38173-0038 - 324-GAYS.

## Memphis Lambda Center:

Meeting place for 12-step recovery programs. 241 N. Cleveland (above United Paint Store), Memphis - 276-7379.

## Minority Prison Project

(MPP): For information: John Prowett, 1973 Sipes, Memphis, 38127.

## Mystic Krewe of Aphrodite:

Box 41822, Memphis, 38174-1822.

## National Organization for Women (NOW):

Box 40982, Memphis, 38104 - 452-6983.

## Parents & Friends of Lesbians And Gays (P-FLAG):

P.O. Box 172031, Memphis, 38187-2031 - 761-1444.

## Phoenix (Gay AA):

272-9549, 276-7379, or 454-1414.

## Tennessee Gay & Lesbian Gay Alliance (T-GALA):

Box 24181, Nashville, TN 37202 - (615) 831-2941.

## Tennessee Gay & Lesbian TaskForce:

P.O. Box 24446, Nashville, TN 37202-4446. Memphis contact: Rick Bray - 274-0454.

## Transexuals in Prison (TIP):

For information: John Prowett, 1973 Sipes, Memphis, 38127.

## Tsarus: (Leather-Levi club)

Box 41082, Memphis, 38174-1082.

## Wings: (Leather-Levi club)

Box 41784, Memphis, 38174-1784.

## Women of Leather: 181 N.

Willett, Memphis, 38104 - 278-9321

## HELPLINES

**AIDS Switchboard:** 458-

AIDS. 3:30-11pm

**Gay Switchboard:** 324-

GAYS. 7:30-11pm

**LINC:** 725-8895.

**Narcotics Anonymous:** 276-LIVE.

**Rape Crisis:** 528-2161.

**Suicide & Crisis Intervention:** 274-7477.

## COUNSELING &

## LEGAL SERVICES

**Becky Caperton, MS:** Counseling - 327-9758.

**Beth Causey, M.Div.:** Pastoral Counseling - 454-0108.

**Susan Mackenzie, Attorney**

**At Law:** 100 n. Main, Suite 3310, Memphis, 38103 - (901) 525-0417.

**Carole Taylor, MS:** Counseling - 458-7098.

**Northeast Mental Health Center:** 382-3880.

## MISCELLANEOUS

**Airport Adult Theatre:** 2214 Brooks Rd E. - 345-0657.

**The Book Mart:** 852 S. Cooper - 278-9546.

## Cherokee Adult Book Store:

2947 Lamar - 744-7494.

**Fantasy World:** 1814 Winchester - 346-2086.

**Economy Interiors:** Antiques

1466 Madison - 725-9222.

**Getwell Book Mart:** 1275

Getwell - 454-7765.

**Getwell Adult Book Store:** 1617

Getwell - 745-9054.

**Men of Leather:** Leather shop -

1266 Madison - 722-8963.

**Paris Adult Entertainment**

**Center:** 2432 Summer - 323-2665.

**Star Search Video:** 1264 Madison - 272-STAR.

**Tobacco Corner Newsroom:**

669 Mendenhall Rd S. - 682-3326 & 1803 Union - 726-1622.

## MEDIA

**AIDS Update:** newspaper published by the Aid to End AIDS Committee - 458-AIDS.

**Gay Alternative:** radio program, Mon. 6:00-7:00 PM, WEVL:

FM 90 - Box 41773, Memphis, 38174.

**Gaze:** monthly newspaper: published by the Memphis Gay

Coalition - Box 3038, Memphis, 38173-0038 - 454-1411.

**The Personals:** Gay Computer Bulletin Board - 300 or 1200

baud - 274-6713.

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# Classifieds

**RATES FOR CLASSIFIEDS:** Personal, non-commercial ads FREE. Limit of 30 words (including address or phone number) and a \$2.00 charge for the use of our P.O. Box. Please specify if you want to use our P.O. Box. Commercial ads are charged at the rate of 20¢ per word, \$3.00 minimum. Phone numbers and zip codes are free. \$2.00 additional charge for the use of our P.O. Box. Deadline for ads is the 15th of each month. Send to Gaze, Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38173-0038.

GBM, 37 (look younger), 5'7", 138 #, with trim beard and moustache. Would like to meet GWM's for friendship/companionship, and possible lover. I am honest, sincere, private, fun-loving, and trustworthy. My interests include movies, music, theatre, travel, nature, and spending time with a special someone. I am sexually versatile and into safe sex. Free to

travel. Will exchange photos. Only serious replies please. Write in detail to: Jesse Pippins, Box 1388, Tupelo, MS 38802.

Minority Prison Project desperately needs at least two four-drawer filing cabinets. If you can donate these items, please call 353-1092.

I need someone to need me. I love to write and will "answer all." Please, is there anyone out there who cares? Is there anyone out that is real about love? Write: Jerry Cabell # 870486, Westville Correctional Center, P.O. Box 473, Westville, IN 46391-0473.

Attractive, GWM, 28, Blonde, Green-eyed, seeking GWM 28-38, honest, sincere, hard-working. Interests include dinners, movies, safe-sex. Non-smoker - light drinker.

seeking possible relationship. Please include photo. Write: Dept C5, Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38173-0038.

New in Town: GWM, 26, 6'2", 195#, BR/BL, very good-looking, muscular, athletic, endowed, intelligent, and professional. Seeks similar type for safe and discreet good times. Send photo and letter to Troy Box 40322, Memphis, TN 38174.

Wanted: Roommate. GWM Desperately needs place to live!! \$150/mo. max. If you're interested in a quiet roommate and not a trick, reply to: Box 40544, Memphis, TN 38174-0544.

I love you, Rusty Hansel! Forever your guy, Michael Ashe.

I am so "lonely," I'm indigent, and afraid because I am alone. Is there any one with enough heart to care. Only if you could feel what I'm feeling, "aloneness..." Age 28. Tyrone L. Patterson # 880098, P.O. Box # 473 - 4 Dorm, Westville, IN 46391-0473.

Young GWM couple, seeking same (for friendship only). We've got a ski boat, love to camp and enjoy quiet evenings at home. Must be athletic and enjoy roughing it! Reply to: Dept T5, Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38173-0038.

Roommate Wanted: 28 year-old GWM has room to rent in Jackson to discreet, responsible and mature individual. Good neighborhood and ideal atmosphere for serious college student or professional. Reply to: Dept M5, Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38173-0038.

Are you tired of dishonest, uncaring guys? GWM, 29, Bl, Bl, looking for an adult, caring relationship. If you are an honest, sincere guy, reply to Box 613122, Memphis, TN 38101.

GWM, 5'9", 175#, Bl/Bl, early 40's, sincere, caring, personable, responsible. Seeks GWM, 21-38, for dinners, movies, travel, friendship, possible relationship. Reply to: P.O. Box 38185, Memphis, TN 38183.

GWM, 39, 5'9", 165#, professional seeks same aged 28-42 for friendship and possible relationship. Prefer someone who is intelligent and sincere and does not do drugs. Not into the bar scene. Reply Dept R5, Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38173-0038.

GWM, 32, 5'9", 158#, Looking for 30-plus man, versatile, sense of humor, no queens, settling down, home and lots of love to give. Photo please - Family man. Phone 1-901-549-9897.

Interested in bicycle touring, racing, or just riding? If you would be interested in forming an informal group of Gay and Lesbian cyclists (short/medium distances - weekends). Please call Tom 278-4730.

BEWARE OF INMATE SCAMS — It is unfortunate, but some prisoners will take advantage of Gay pen pals. Gaze does not make a judgement regarding inmate ads, but feels compelled to warn its readers of potential problems.

## May Gay Community Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	Gay Coalition Meeting, 7:00 pm Meeting Room A, Main Library Grand Opening - Last Stop thru 7th 1	2	3	4	5	Gay Pride River Ride Tickets On Sale   Gay Community Ctr Mtg 1PM   Beach Party - Pipeline 6
Cris Williamson & Teresa Trull in Concert - Nashville   BWMT Board Meeting 7	BWMT CR Group 8	Memphis In May - Memphis Black Arts Alliance Celebrates Kenya - Dixon Meyers Hall 9	10	Belle of Amherst - Playhouse on the Square 11	12	13
Memphis In May - Fisk Jubilee Singers in Concert - Lindenwood Christian Church   Marilyn - GDI 14	June Gaze Deadline for letters, stories, & ads   Gay-Rap 7:30 Main Library Meeting Room A   BWMT CR Group 15	16	Miss River City Pageant, Reflections 17	Belle of Amherst - Playhouse on the Square 18	19	Tsarus Uniform Night - Pipeline   Memphis in May - African Cuisine, SSCC 20
21	ATEAC Board Meeting 7:30 689 Melrose. All interested welcome. 22	23	24	MG C Steering Com 8PM - Bryton Tower Party Rm Belle of Amherst - Playhouse 25	June Gaze Due Out 26	Sunset Symphony 27
Aphrodite Benefit - WKRB - Doors open at 5 - Show at 7:30 28	29	30	1	2	3	4

Continued from page 2

Facts About AIDS"? That's what I thought!

Well, I am not taking anymore judgement-passing, hate-preaching Christian crap. I don't know who these people think they are, but whoever it is, they ain't! Once again Brothers and Sisters: Drink Pepsi!!! Let's Boycott the Boycott!

Mike A.  
Memphis, TN

## Response to Bill Tracer

In reading Mr. William Tracer's letter in the Volume 10, # 4 (April 1989) edition of *Gaze*, I realized that the only thing which makes Christians, including the Gay or Lesbian Christian, authorities on matters of spiritual insight is the assertion that they are such.

Mr. Tracer seems to think that I have never heard the old argument that all anti-homosexual references within the Christian Bible have been "misinterpreted." Frankly, I find it extraordinarily incredible how anyone with any working gray matter filling the confines of the orbital lobe can possibly accept the Christian Bible as a guide for living. The Christian God is a vengeful, hateful, and murderous being of such heinous proportion that he makes Charles Manson look like Mr. Rodgers.

The fact that there have been many translations, many versions, and many "misinterpretations" of the Bible can never excuse the fact that the so-called "misinterpretations" regarding homosexuality have been responsible for untold misery and death for millions.

As for your mythical Jesus changing the attitudes of his blood thirsty father, these words are attributed to him in Matthew 10:34, "Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I come not to send peace on earth, but a sword." Jesus also makes it clear that he is willing to carry on the violent family tradition in Matthew 5:17, "Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy but to fulfill."

Christianity's attitudes toward human sexuality have led to extraordinary perversions. A most ghastly example was the elaborate system of torture used against "heretics, witches, and fornicators" during the "holy" inquisition. It was not until the Christian takeover of the Greco-Roman world that laws and programs against homosexuality began to be written and enforced. As Christians began to outnumber the pagans, sexual activity began to be restrained since it threatened the very basis upon which this new cult was formed: original sin.

Relying upon the tenets of a book which has been proven time and time again by science to hold absolutely no scientific proofs; a book which is based upon myths and fables handed down by superstitious peoples for centuries; a book which advocates female inferiority, virgin births, water walking without the aid of skis, food taboos, beliefs in demons, human and animal sacrifices, and even self-castration demonstrates absolute lunacy. My sincere wish for Mr.

Tracer and those he leads is that they seek immediate psychiatric treatment for their serious masochistic and psychological disorder.

Origen (AD 185-254), one of the early Christian fathers, had such a hatred of the human body and of human sexuality that he even advocated self-castration. Contemporaneous with Origen was a Christian sect which was so enthusiastically addicted to the practice that, in addition to requiring castration of all its male members, they also castrated any guest who was rash enough to stay under their roof. And Gay people today wish to continue to apologize for such a religion?

In fact, the "holy" robes that modern day ministers wear come from the practice of self-castration. Your own skirted cassock, Mr. Tracer, is at least in part an imitation of the many religions competing with early Christianity which required that their priests don female attire only after they had been castrated.

As a Gay person, I would be ashamed to let anyone know that I upheld the heinousness and barbarousness of the religion known as Christianity. The Gay churches do nothing more than encourage their followers to act as "Uncle Tom." The only difference between Troy Perry, founder of the Metropolitan Community Church, and say, Jerry Falwell, is that Perry preaches that the Christian scriptures have been "misinterpreted" regarding that religion's long history of organized terrorism against Gays, other sexual minorities, women, and people of color. In all other aspects the two are alike.

The incongruities of upholding a religion which has been our number one oppressor throughout the ages are incomprehensible. Therefore, I must compare a Gay Christian to a Jew who would join the Nazi Party or to a Black who would join the Ku Klux Klan.

Don Sanders  
National Director  
American Gay Atheists, Inc.

## No Gay Elitist

I am not a Gay elitist. Unlike some of my Gay brothers and sisters, I do not feel that we have any special gifts not held by the heterosexual community. I do feel, however, that we should have a head-start on many heterosexuals in regards to questioning old ways of thinking. The reason for this is because many homosexuals are discriminated against at a very early age due to behavior that does not meet the norm, i.e. being effeminate, tomboyish, etc. This causes one to ponder about the fairness in trying to make people conform. I never cease to be amazed, therefore, when the homosexual community closes its mind to its own people and discriminates against its own. How many times have we heard people say that they wish a particular bar would exclude Blacks or drag queens? It has always made my heart ache to see my brothers and sisters act this way; that is why I can never be a Gay elitist. We're no different than the general heterosexual community when it comes to espousing hate and prejudice.

This brings me to my point: America has taken a giant leap backwards in the last nine years due to fundamentalist christian bashing of liberals, freethinkers, homosexuals, and persons with AIDS, to name a few. Fundamentalists wreak havoc and stir up hate through the organized church and its political action committees. I have no problem with people who think they are perfectly good christians who have nothing to do with any organized church. Obviously, as an Atheist, I feel that they are wasting a lot of their time and energy, but that is their right. Why does anyone, especially Gay men and women, have to become a part of that organized institution that has discriminated against us so heavily in the past and continues to do so now? Don't try and tell me it's for the social contacts, because I am able to have plenty of social Gay contacts outside of the bars without help of any oppressive institution. Wake up, Gay men and women! Allow those Gay people who think or act differently than you their freedom of expression as I allow Gay christians, but please don't make yourself a part of an institution that you don't need and that has told Gay people that it didn't need them. Working from within the system will not work — just ask the members of Dignity about that subject.

Mark Whitehead,  
Gay Atheist  
Memphis

## Gay Atheist Spurned By Gay Christian

As a Gay Atheist, I would like to add my remarks to the Gay Atheist/Gay Christian mini-debate that has occurred in *Gaze* for the past two issues.

My own personal opinion is that the term "Gay Christian" is an oxymoron. The reason I say this is because the Christian cult hates and despises you, the Gay Christian, as much as it does me. Ever since the Council of Nicaea conceived and brought forth Jesus Christ in the year 325, there has been the most barbarous of all forms of oppression. The oppression of a human being because of the way nature formed that human being in his or her mother's womb. I, for one, do not choose to identify myself with the immoral philosophy that, without any compunction at all, oppresses and at times murders people like you and me. We must never forget that the foundation stone upon which the Cathedral of Homophobia has been built is Christianity, not Atheism.

I would like to add one more thing before closing this letter. It is just as difficult to come out of the closet as an Atheist as it is a Gay person. A Gay Christian friend of mine, upon learning that I am an Atheist, told me quite seriously that, "I hope God strikes you dead." Well, isn't that special? I wonder how in the world I have managed to live my 31 years without such shining examples of Christian love and compassion.

Michael Fitzalan  
Memphis, TN



## Designs By Us To Close

We have never been forced to write a letter that has caused us and so many others such ambiguous feelings of love and pain. Patty's profit sharing has not been paid to her, and we simply do not have the funds to keep *Designs By Us* open. Patty is going into litigation with Allied Graphics. They simply do not have a leg to stand on, so she will win but not soon enough. We have tried every avenue available to us and cannot seem to come up with sufficient help soon enough.

In March, we had begun to finally reach those people, (collectors, designers, corporations, etc.) that would have guaranteed success. If we could make it through April, we could have had a chance.

The phone just rang and once again we had to tell someone the news. We cry each time.

We want to thank you all for your contributions to the gallery and a special thanks to those who tried to help financially and spiritually. We still believe in our purpose. We will always say it was worth it.

We have learned a lot from the artists who have shown with us. Nan says she thinks she can answer that question now about "what is art and what is not." Art is something that is created to express something from the soul. One artist said, "I just don't care anymore what it is; I just want to know, is it honest?" Honesty of an artist comes when she is able to separate her soul from those whom she has learned. When she comes to create that which is within her soul alone. That which cannot and never was within another.

We have had a lot of people who are not artists and have never had any exposure to the art world come through. We have learned as much about "what is art" from them as we have from the artists or collectors. We have had the privilege of watching them as we helped them lose their fear of "Galleries and Art" and as they found that at least in DBU you don't have to know a lot about art to appreciate it. We think they make the best critics. We sold an abstract piece to a woman who has traditional flower paintings in her house. She said it looks like a heart beating. A whole world is now open for her since she saw movement in a stationary object.

We watched as seven women learned how to stand up for themselves in our women's assertiveness training where they learned as

much about being woman as they did about being assertive. We watched a woman be able to take a spring vacation she was never able to make before she learned to say no to others and care as much about herself.

We watched four women blossom and explore themselves in Patty's Watercolor in Spirituality classes. One of them wrote a poem that will be made into a play about the seven goddesses within her and was performed at MSU.

We had the privilege of meeting Alix Dobkin, feminist-Lesbian folk singer. She performed for over 25 women about being a woman. We watched the pride in their eyes about themselves, many of them for the first time.

We watched woman after woman come in and sign the petition against stopping abortion while talking of their own harrowing experiences with coat hangers and dark alleys.

We watched a mother of two children who had stopped creating art start creating again and make the best selling jewelry in the shop in March.

We watched a woman who was our biggest skeptic become our biggest supporter and now one of our most endearing friends.

We watched a bright young girl from India cook curry potatoes for fifty strangers at a Christmas party and learn the words to "Grandma Got Run Over By a Reindeer." She renewed our love of Christmas with an outsider's view that Christmas in the USA may be commercial but it sure is wonderful.

We met men who are manly enough to be womanly at heart. We met men who thought women artists were exactly that "artists."

We watched artists who had been separated for years come together and cousins become friends after barely seeing each other for what seemed eons.

We got cards of praise and good wishes from as far away as England.

There is no way a letter could express the things that have happened here from women discovering their soulful media to discussions of spirituality.

We want to be able to keep up this kind of work. We need help. We want to know if you still want us and if you are willing to help make it work. We are going to say good-bye to 955 South Highland at the end of April, but we want to become a non-profit gallery somewhere, someday soon.

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