

Gaze

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George's—GDI On The River Ends 20 Year History

by Vincent Astor

George's, Memphis' oldest and most famous Gay bar, closed suddenly the week of April 8. The reason given was the great expense to be incurred by replacement of a damaged lower level sprinkler system. Rumors had circulated that business had decreased significantly but two full page ads in the April issue of *Gaze* did not foreshadow the closing of the bar.

Known as the Twilight Lounge as early as 1960, the original location at 1786 Madison grew into an institution which played a major role in the early fight for Gay and Lesbian freedoms in Memphis.

The owners were numerous, including several Lesbians remembered by only their first names—Blanche & Cookie, Kay & Sarah—and more notable women such as Sharon Wray. Mike (Michelle) Rollins, owned it when it first made the papers when "Twilight Kiss Closes Twilight Lounge"; an innocent peck across the bar between a bartender and a sailor caused the first public controversy. When George Wilson

first bought the business in 1969, it was called The Famous Door but common practice of referring to it as "George's" coined the name it was to keep for nearly 20 years.

One of the early bastions of drag shows, it was raided in 1971 by police for violating a city ordinance against cross-dressing. John T. "Buddy" Dwyer represented the five performers and the owner and obtained dismissal of all charges by Judge Ray Churchill. Drag was legal and became the hallmark of George's Theatre Lounge.

Under the co-ownership of George Wilson and Don Rossignol, the bar expanded until it had exhausted the available space at the Madison address and then moved to a larger, multi purpose location at 600 Marshall. This included large dance spaces, a showbar and a restaurant. Peripheral bars such as the Townhouse, the Psych-Out II, Sam's, and Club Peaches became part of the effort to provide something for everyone, an effort which culminated with the opening of the Club

South Baths and the Georgetown Inn. The hotel and baths was "the grandest thing I ever did," said George much later.

In 1984, the partnership dissolved and the bar, with its famous name, was sold to Steve and Frank Cooper. In 1987, the Marshall St. location was closed and in the spring of 1988, GDI (George's Disco Incorporated) was opened at 287 South Front.

Touted as the most lavish Gay bar ever to be seen in Memphis, it opened with a fireworks of sequins, production numbers and high tech special effects. Much non-Gay presence in the employees and some reports of strange attitudes in management caused some Gay people to distrust the bar, but it passed its 20th anniversary in December of 1989.

It was written about in the *Commercial Appeal*, *Gaiety*, the *Memphis Flyer*, the *Press Scimitar*, *Gaze*, and *Memphis* magazine. It was referred to as the Queen Mother of Memphis Gay Bars. It was called Fantasyland and Hell in the same evening.

Above all, it was always George's. And now, it has gone.

Court to Block Amendment on Phone Sex

In a court order issued in response to a suit challenging to government's most recent attempt to control dial-a-porn companies, U.S. District Judge Fern Smith declared that phone sex is constitutionally protected speech.

The suit, filed by three California companies offering sexually oriented telephone services, seeks a preliminary injunction against the Helms Amendment to the Communications Act of 1934. National Gay Rights Advocates, the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, and Bay Area

Lawyers for Individual Freedom (BALIF) filed a joint *amici curiae* (friend of the court) in support of the injunction. Plaintiff in the cases are Ramrod Enterprises, Synchronet Inc., and Westpac Audiotext.

The Helms Amendment calls for FCC regulations that would require users of sex phone services to be subscribers of these services. Because of billing technicalities, such an arrangement would effectively eliminate dial-a-porn companies.

In his brief filed on behalf of the *amici*, Leonard Graff, for-

mer Legal Director for National Gay Rights Advocates, argued that "sexually explicit telephone communications may play a positive role in curbing the AIDS epidemic... sexually explicit telephone communications deserve first amendment protection if they may help save lives by deterring or replacing life-threatening behavior."

According to the plaintiff's attorney, William Turner, Smith is the first judge in the country to rule on the issue. Judges have yet to rule in similar suits filed in Texas and New York.



Looking for a Spring or Summer get-away vacation? See our Travel page for some nifty options.

Privacy Ruling a Boon for Gay Rights Fight

by Sandy Nelson

Seattle, WA—Though the government is now in the business of collecting urine samples and peeking through bedroom keyholes to monitor sex and drug behavior, countervailing winds are also blowing vigorously. Those who value privacy can breathe a little easier because of a recent Washington State Supreme Court decision upholding the right of organizations to keep meeting minutes and other internal documents confidential.

In what is known as the Freeway Hall Case, the court unanimously overturned a lower court's 1987 ruling against the Freedom Socialist Party for its unbending refusal to disclose minutes. Nine justices agreed that FSP ex-member Richard Snedigar hadn't sufficiently explained why the party should be forced to divulge constitutionally protected information. Snedigar sued the party and nine individuals for the return of a donation he helped make 11 years ago to secure a headquarters. He then demanded privileged information, including names of members and contributors, knowing that his former comrades would never surrender the information.

Because the party's First

Amendment claim is valid, the awarding of the case to Snedigar by default, without a trial, was out of line, the justices held.

Their decision has enormous implications not only for the socialist feminist FSP, but also for other organizations and movements that rely on privacy to survive.

"The Lesbian and Gay movement wouldn't exist if organizers couldn't protect the privacy of men and women who risk their jobs, homes, and families to fight for basic civil rights," said George Bakan, editor of Seattle Gay News.

"Even today, people in the Lesbian and Gay community hesitate to put their names on lists," Bakan said. "The fear of having membership lists or minutes made public is real within the labor movement, the Gay movement, and any controversial movement."

MSU Charters New Gay Group

Memphis State University has awarded a charter to GALA (Gay and Lesbian Awareness) a new student group. Some funding has been secured through the school. A full schedule is being planned for the fall semester, with some events this summer.

Gazing

Mr. Tennessee Leather Speaks

Let me begin by introducing myself—my name is Vance Reger. I live in Memphis, Tennessee, and have recently obtained a new title—Mr. Leather Tennessee, 1990. I have lived in Memphis for six years, and prior to that in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, for seven years. I suppose you might say I am a bride of the South by common-law. I have been a person of leather for about seventeen years, and am no stranger to its traditions and behavior.

Your first reaction might be to exclaim, "Oh no, another pageant, another beauty queen!" My reaction is to tell you that

Gaze

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there is much, much more behind this new title than you might suppose.

I won this title *not* by standing and modeling (though there was some skin shown) but mainly by voicing my thoughts, opinions, and quite a bit of philosophy for about twenty-five minutes; first in front of seven of my peers and later on, briefly, in front of several hundred people. I would like to share some of these thoughts with you.

I did *not* enter this contest for the purpose of winning instant fame, some money, and a bunch of pretty clothes. I entered it for what I hope are the right reasons—the most important of which is to try to make a positive change in our Gay community.

I "came out" in the early 1970's in a leather bar in Los Angeles, and discovered that these darkly-clad men and women were some of the most well-educated, well-spoken and sexually together people I had met. There are exceptions, there always are. On this subject I would like to pass on a thought I learned very early in my Gay education. Never assume. Take a risk and find out for yourself.

I'd like to begin by explaining to those of you who may not understand what people of leather are about. When I put on my leather to go anywhere (even a leather coat!) I feel different. Usually it puts me in a good mood—leather has a unique feel on my body and I recommend it highly. The leather, I mean.

First, and most important: not everyone who wears leather is into SM. I can't quote percentages to you—but trust me on this. Some people are—absolutely true—but the way you find out is to ask the individual.

People of leather are usually more responsible when it comes to sexual behavior—we have to be. Generally, we find out about a potential partner *before* a decision is made to get together and play. Preferences and limits are discussed ahead of time. This is not only a good idea, it's safer—you know what you *both* expect, and this can stimulate your imagination.

There are, as some of you have noticed, several leather clubs in our area. These usually are formed and are peopled by men and women who have an interest in leather in common. There are some in Memphis, Nashville and Little Rock, and probably more I haven't heard about. These clubs usually are not exclusively social—they do a great amount of fundraising and community service work. Clubs aren't always right for everyone, a great many of us are independents, attending club functions and events but keeping our individualities.

Those are the basics. My title implies that I am now to represent the leather communities of the state of Tennessee at the upcoming International Mr. Leather contest in Chicago. This is quite a compliment for me, but it is one that I bear uneasily.

I have seen and personally experienced a severe problem in our community here in Memphis, and know it exists in quite a few others—and I am not talking about the dreadful health epidemic. The problem, as I see it, is discrimination.

Discrimination, prejudice and intolerance are being practiced within our communities. I see it almost every time I go out. We so easily speak of how badly we Gay people are being treated by the non-Gay society, but look at how we treat each other! How

I prefer to express my sexuality is certainly my business, and I try not to force it on anyone else...but the very second I condemn someone else for doing it the way *they* want to I lose my own credibility, and can't begin to call anyone brother or sister.

This is a time in the history of our nation, and the rest of the world, when the Gay population is being listened to—and heard—but we lose our credibility and validity when personal opinions and actions create barriers between one another. We're so quick to judge the Jesse Helms' and Anita Bryants of the world and then turn around as quickly to ostracize drag queens and leather persons, not to mention being overly critical of those in our own circles. It is time to end this behavior. I certainly wouldn't suggest that utopia is around the corner, but I can suggest a good dose of tolerance is in order.

When you see someone dressed in leather, don't automatically assume they want to tie you down and beat the crap out of you. Don't point and whisper and ostracize them because they're dressed in skins. Try talking to them. There's a Gay person in there—just like you.

If you should see a drag queen come into a bar dressed in her Saturday finest, don't laugh at her, and wonder what's wrong

with her. Say something to her. There's a Gay person in there—just like you.

Ladies and gentlemen of leather—when you see someone come into your club bar wearing a polo shirt and a pair of Adidas, *please* don't ignore them, or make them feel they don't belong there. Try talking to them. Explain your leather to them. There's a Gay person in there—just like you.

If we can practice the brotherhood and sisterhood we all so highly and readily tout—perhaps add to it tolerance of each other and try some honest communication—maybe this could help us to function as a true *community* of Gay people. That sure would be a positive statement to those non-Gay organizations and people who would criticize us.

These are the thoughts behind what won me this title. I try to practice what I believe and wish to make myself available to any organization in any way I can help, in Memphis or anywhere else in Tennessee, as my schedule will allow.

I cannot solve the problems of a divided Gay community by myself—we can. The past is done, however, and the future always holds possibilities.

Thanks to those involved for allowing me to guest this editorial.

Letters to the Editor are encouraged. Letters over 500 words may be edited for length. Send them to Gaze, Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38173-0038.

Box 3038

And I'm Evil?

The entertainers, directors, and owners of Memphis are killing drag. The most common and best attended events in the city are getting on beer busts to see a show. There we can watch a clique of snow-queens wander around and throw what they think is a grand attitude, and listen to some old "never-was-enough-to-become-a-has-been" trash people on the microphone. That's entertainment!?!? Please Blanche, if that's all you can say, try putting that microphone to a different orifice.

I know, I know... This bitch isn't known for being nice or quiet. I admit that I have a sharp tongue, a short temper, and a good right jab. However, I have never been evil with somebody merely because I wanted to, or was insecure, or simply had the power to do it. I have never

refused to book an entertainer because they were prettier, or tinier, or do the same type of music, or do different drugs, or think or behave differently... or any of the other reasons the people currently in power use. They're too busy hurting feelings to perform their own numbers. Are they afraid of competition? A mature adult can put the B.S. aside and confront situations head on, in a private manner.

It's no wonder people are getting over drag shows. The only show I've seen in a month where this ugliness didn't take place was at Barbara's. Whether you agree with B. J. or not, you have to admit she stands up for what she says, and does so quite nicely. I guess it's true pretty is, as pretty does.

I have never been and I never will be ashamed of doing drag. Let's not forget that quite often it was the queens who took the

brunt of the abuse from a homophobic world. We who were out in the 70's and earlier had a standing chance for a night in jail, simply for dressing as girls. It's sad to see us throwing abuse among *ourselves*, these days, and simultaneously listen to all the talk about the good old days. These could become the good old days if we could just get it together. Every day I meet more and more sisters, but see so much less family, and I just don't understand it.

Be proud and happy to be yourself but allow others that same right without fear of ridicule. We are supposed to be a community of special people, if you can't love your neighbors at least refrain from taking cheap shots at their backs. The only thing stopping us is ourselves.

The one they call the "Bitch of Midtown",
Miss Renee Greene

*Those infected are not guilty,
Those dead are not forgotten;
The country and the world must
recognize and fight the growing crisis.*

A Time For Hope

AIDS Memorial Service

Sunday, May 27, 1990
5:00 p.m. Overston Park Shell

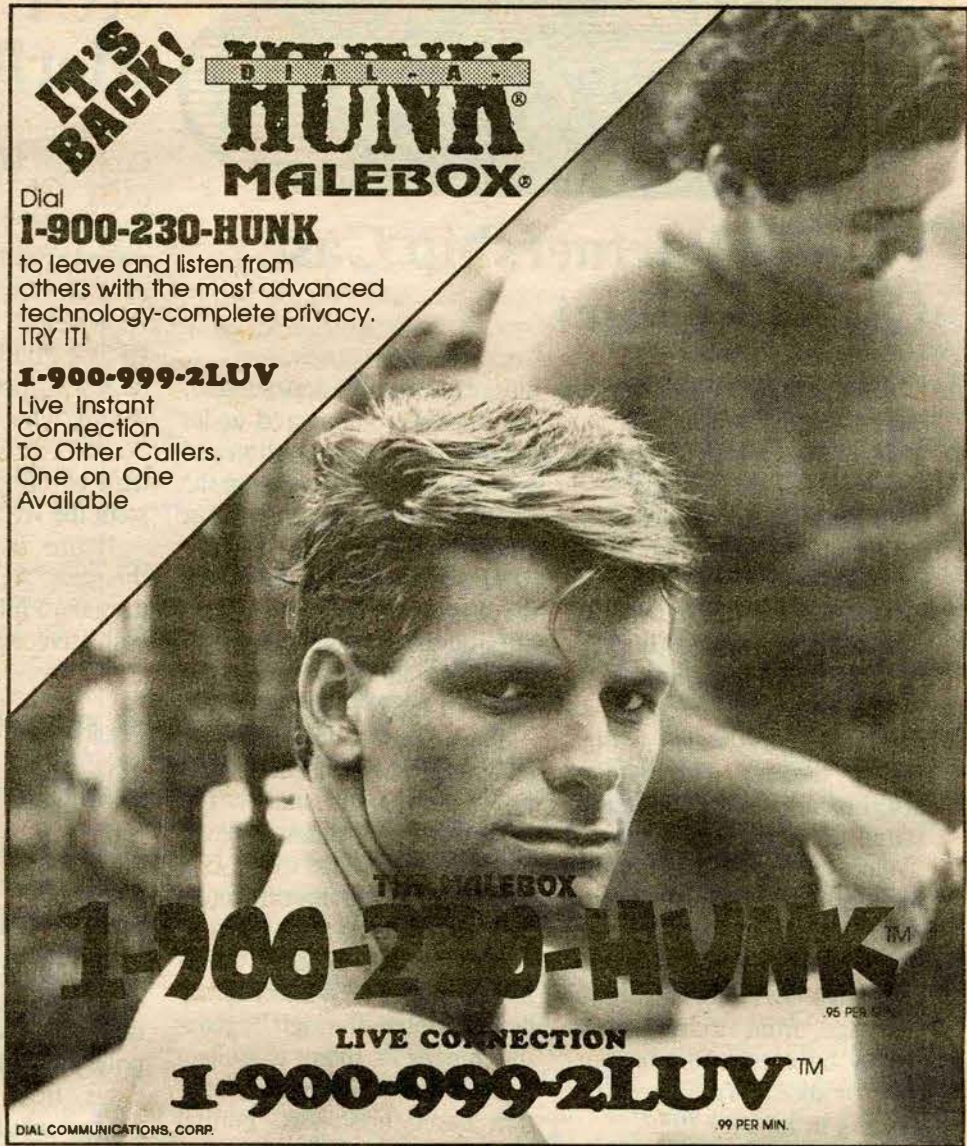
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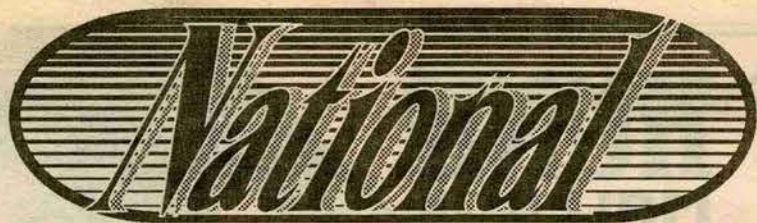
To: Mr. George E. Wilson

Dear George,

Thank you for being one of the "fore-fathers" of our community as we know it today. Thank you for opening the doors so we can dance, enjoy a female impersonation show, have liquor by the drink, and all the other things that so many just take for granted.

When you opened George's many years ago, little did we dream that you were paving the way for so many countless people. Thank you for the privilege of working with you, partying with you, laughing with you, and yes, at times, crying with you. Most of all, thank you for being my friend for all of these years! Hang in there. You're a real trooper! I love you!

Sharon



Family Partnership Case Goes to Court

National Gay Rights Advocates has filed suit against the State of Wisconsin Personnel Commission, for denying Jerri Linn Phillips, an employee of the Dept. of Health and Social Services, the right to obtain health insurance for her spouse equivalent and domestic partner, Lorri J. Tommerup.

The State of Wisconsin is one of the few states with a statute banning employment discrimination based on marital status and sexual orientation.

On Oct. 20, 1986, Phillips filed an application with her employer department, DHSS, during the open enrollment period, to change her health insurance coverage from individual to family coverage, for the purpose of adding Tommerup beginning in January 1987.

In November 1986, her application was denied based on the rationale that "Since Ms. Phillips has, according to defi-

niton, no "eligible dependents," she may not be covered under the family coverage option and is therefore eligible only for the "single coverage option for other eligible persons."

The decision was upheld by the Wisconsin Personnel Commission following NGRA's filing of an administrative complaint in 1987.

Paul Di Donato, NGRA's incoming Staff Attorney, commenting on the suit, stated: "The importance of this case is clear. Family partnerships in the Gay and Lesbian community must be legally protected and recognized for us to truly obtain equality. The State of Wisconsin has demonstrated through legislative means its intent to protect all its citizens from discrimination based upon sex, marital status or sexual orientation. Our suit seeks to enforce this intent."

Big Brothers Stops Discrimination

Big Brothers of the National Capital Area (Washington, DC) has agreed to stop discrimination against Gay volunteers as part of a settlement of a lawsuit brought by the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund. Under the settlement, Big Brothers will treat an applicant's sexual orientation in the same manner that they treat other personal characteristics such as race or religion, and will not refuse volunteer role models because they are Gay.

Jeffrey Gould, a D.C. area man who wanted to participate in the Big Brothers program, brought the suit against the agency, which matches adult volunteers with boys in need of role models. In September 1988, Big Brothers refused to allow

Gould, an experienced health educator with a master's degree in counseling, to volunteer with the agency and become a "Big Brother," simply because he is Gay. Gould filed a complaint with the District of Columbia Office of Human Rights (OHR), which ruled that Big Brothers was not exempt from the D.C. Human Rights Act. That law bars discrimination on a number of grounds, including sexual orientation. OHR held that Big Brothers is a "place of public accommodation" subject to the anti-discrimination laws that govern most establishments, and rejected Big Brothers' assertion that, as a non-profit volunteer organization, it was not bound by the law and could freely discriminate.

ACT UP Boycotting Marlboro Man

Washington -The AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power (ACT UP) has announced a boycott of Marlboro cigarettes, owned by Philip Morris because of their contributions to Sen. Jesse Helms. According to ACT UP, the Philip Morris Co. is the largest corporate contributor to Helms who is considered the Senate's most venomous opponent of effective responses to stem the AIDS epidemic.

Helms is up for reelection this year. ACT UP/DC intends to make Philip Morris feel the collective economic power of

Gays, Lesbians, and their supporters by boycotting Marlboro cigarettes until Philip Morris agrees to the following demands:

1. Cease all corporate donations to Helms
2. Renounce its past support of Helms
3. Meet with ACT UP/DC representatives to discuss Philip Morris' corporate responsibility to the Gay and Lesbian community and to people with AIDS.

Helms has had 29 opportunities since 1986 to vote on issues

that directly affect Lesbians, Gay men, and people with AIDS. He has voted against Gays each time. Due to his pathological obsession with the private lives of American citizens, Helms has, time and time again, aggressively hindered the passage of legislation intended to save lives through AIDS education and prevents.

Contacted at Philip Morris' corporate headquarters and its DC lobbying office, requesting a meeting to discuss their concerns, Philip Morris officials denied the request for a meeting and indicated it was impossible to consider the group's demands.

Anti-Gay Foster Care Policy Reversed

Boston, MA — Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis announced April 4 that the state policy which effectively banned Gays from becoming foster parents would be reversed. The new state policy which will no longer include sexual orientation as a factor in placement of children in foster homes.

A lawsuit initiated by Gay rights and civil liberties organizations, challenging the policy which began in 1986, reached an out-of-court settlement just prior to the governor's announcement. "This is an extraordinary victory for direct action groups and legal advocacy groups alike who have protested this discriminatory policy since 1985," said David LaFontaine, lobbying director of the Massachusetts Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights. "Sooner or later, people have got to realize that being a good parent has nothing to do with sexual orientation," he said.

Gay foster care became the source of controversy in 1985 when Dukakis ordered two small children removed from the homes of Don Babet and David Jean, two Gay men who had the children in foster care. The Gay and Lesbian community responded with outrage and the groundswell of protests targeting Dukakis grew to national proportions, hampering his ability to win Gay support in his presidential bid.



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Bush AIDS Policies Protested

Washington, D.C.— Pres. George Bush's first major address on the AIDS health crisis was interrupted today by Urvasi Vaid, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), who stood up during the presentation and urged the President to do more for people with AIDS.

Bush spoke to a gathering of about 400 business and labor leaders at a conference sponsored by the National Leadership Coalition on AIDS held at the Crystal City Gateway Marriott Hotel just outside Washington. The speech was extensively covered by major national and international media.

During the speech, Vaid, who sat in front of the President, stood and held up a sign that read, "Talk is Cheap — AIDS Funding Is Not" and "Remember Gay People With AIDS."

She then challenged Bush directly, saying, "Mr. President, you don't understand. We need your leadership. We need more than one speech every 14 months. We need more funding for AIDS education, research, and prevention. We need you to end the discriminatory immigration policy."

Secret Service agents instructed Vaid to remove the sign

and sit down. But a few minutes later, Vaid again stood to address the President, who up to that point in his speech had not revealed any new substantive Administration initiatives for fighting the epidemic. Vaid was then escorted out of the hotel and told if she reentered she would be arrested.

Bush paused during this speech to address Vaid, saying, "Let me say something about this. I can understand the concern that these people feel. And I hope if we do nothing else by coming here, I can help them understand that not only you care, but we care too."

During his speech, Bush urged compassion for people with AIDS. He mentioned education, "AIDS babies," "confidentiality, the "war on drugs," and praised Allstate Company, Fortune Magazine and General Motors for fighting the disease. Among other things, Bush touted the Administration's response to AIDS.

"The epidemic is having a major impact on our health care system," said Bush. "The Federal response is unprecedented."

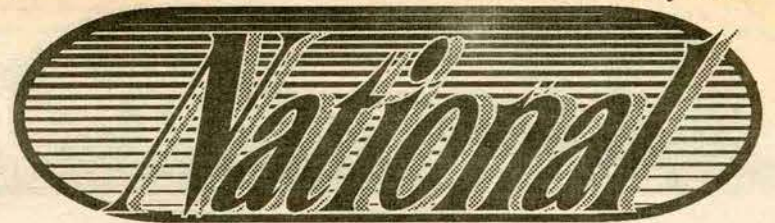
Bush renewed his support for the Americans With Disabilities Act, which he said must be immediately passed to ban dis-

crimination against people with AIDS and HIV.

"It is commendable that the President mentioned anti-discrimination protections," said Vaid after the speech. "And his rhetoric was certainly more compassionate than anything former President Reagan ever said. But one speech does not equal leadership. Photo opportunities and soundbites on compassion are not substitutes for public health policy and political courage."

The day before the President's address, NGLTF's Vaid testified before the Senate Appropriations committee in support of increased federal AIDS funding. Vaid, on behalf of the National Organizations Responding to AIDS (NORA) asked for \$2.8 billion to meet anticipated HIV prevention, care, and research needs in 1991. The NORA proposal emphasized immediate impact aid to relieve those communities hardest hit by the epidemic.

"What is missing from the President's picture of AIDS?" asked Vaid. "An end to punitive and harmful immigration, visitation, and permanent residency laws that discriminate against foreigners with AIDS and HIV. Increased funding of AIDS re-



search, prevention and care programs. Affordable health care for all Americans. Access to promising drug therapies. Acknowledgement that the Gay community, which comprises more than 65 percent of total AIDS cases, continues to suffer discrimination, stigmatization, and government negligence. And a real action plan for fighting the nation's health crisis."

Court Refuses to Recognize Lesbian Parent

New York— A New York appellate court has ruled that a Lesbian who had parented a child with her ex-lover has no legal right to see visitation after the couple split up. In a 3-1 opinion, the court held that a prior decision of New York's highest court, where a non-biological father lost his claim for visitation, bound them to rule against the Lesbian non-biological parent. A strong dissent to the court's ruling was filed by a fourth judge.

Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund represents Alison D., who became involved in a romantic relationship with Virginia M. in 1977. The two women decided in 1980 that they wanted to raise children together. Virginia was inseminated with the sperm of an unknown donor, and gave birth to their son in July 1981. Three years later, Alison gave birth to a girl, whom they also intended to raise together. However, the couple separated shortly after the birth of their daughter.

"This ruling is a tragic reminder to all Lesbian mothers, particularly those with no biological link with their children, of our vulnerability as parents in a world which refuses to validate our families," said Paula Eitelbrick, Legal Director of LLDEF. "though we know we are charting new legal territory with this case, I am amazed that the court never attempted to consider the child's well-being and interest in retaining contact with his other mother, but ruled coldly as a matter of law that if there is no biological relationship, visitation is not allowed."

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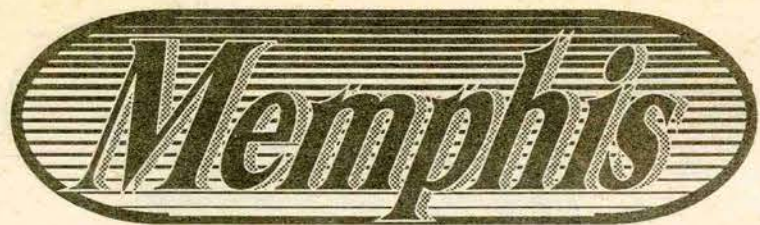
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GayRap To Explore Gay Heritage

The Memphis Gay Coalition's GayRap subject for April was volunteering for the Gay Switchboard. My thanks to everyone who is helping out with this essential service. Working the Switchboard from my own home a few hours a month has been the easiest and one of the most rewarding volunteer efforts which I have undertaken. For those of us who have been out for a few years and have a knowledge of what is going on in town, the Switchboard is a great way to help out.

The May GayRap will be the last one before Gay Pride month in June. The rap subject will be the life of the late San Francisco politician Harvey Milk, a martyr and role model among Gays and Lesbians. A video about his life will be shown—one that no

Gay or Lesbian should miss. The purpose of this rap will be to instill a sense of pride and activism. We owe a great deal to those who sacrificed in the generation before us so that we could have a better life, and we have a responsibility to generations after us so they will have things better still.

GayRap is held on the third Monday of every month at 7:00 at the Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center, except June and December. It is an informal discussion on a pre-selected topic and one can be as vocal or anonymous as one wishes. GayRap is a good place to hear an intellectual discussion on Gay or Lesbian topics, and is a great way to meet new people, especially during the social hour which follows.

Memphis Sends Political Post Cards

The Gay and Lesbian Task Force in Memphis has announced their open support for the NGLTF Congressional Post Card Campaign. Their goal is to cause increased support for the Civil Rights Bill of 1989 (S47 and HR655), a bill to amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to include discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

As of January 11, 1990, the bills had 74 co-sponsors in the House and 8 in the Senate. Not

among those sponsors are Tennessee's Senators and Representatives. The Memphis organization has targeted Senator Albert Gore, Jr. (D) and Representatives Don Sundquist (R) and Harold Ford (D), all of whom are due to run for reelection this year. Also listed are Senator Jim Sasser (D) and Representative John Tanner. The Task Force vows to have a strong voice in the political campaigns this year, according

to spokesperson Jason Starr.

The MGLTF is dedicated to building a movement to promote freedom, and full equality for Lesbians and Gay men. The task force exists to eradicate prejudice, discrimination, and violence based on sexual orientation. Any person(s) interested in volunteering to help this cause should call 272-3663. We have the power to do this if we stand up for ourselves. If we don't fight for our rights, who will?

Basic Alternative States

Basic Alternative States In Consciousness as the Basic Meditation Group will be meeting every Sunday from 7-9 at the Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center.

Our first meeting, held on Earth Day, got underway on time with the first hour in direct dialogue about the meditation techniques. We then opened discussion on the poetic description of the techniques and where they could be found written.

We were also able to answer all questions that were brought up.

The teaching of techniques is really an awakening or a rebirth to the mind, body, and soul. Techniques will be revealed only after dialogue sessions to those who ask for it.

Practice of these techniques can bring peace of mind and relaxation or an alert mind with new energies to get you through the day.

As a basic beginning, this is a

simple practice of an experience. With practice this experience becomes wisdom and understanding of one's self. What better way toward understanding others too.

A whole realm of new realizations can be shared with this new kind of energy.

So come share the feeling of a true love that is ancient-old with us.

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Lifeblood donation slip)
A donation will be made to ATEAC.**

Gay & Lesbian Community Center Continues to Serve

by Ken Horton, MGLCC President

Your Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center is working for the day when being Gay or Lesbian carries with it no possibility of threat, discrimination or automatic hatred. This center and our other fine Gay and Lesbian organizations are giving us visibility, helping many of us to "come out" to ourselves first, and then to all those around us. That is, of course, the first step in overcoming the barriers to full equality, barriers which have been created both by our enemies from outside and by us among ourselves.

The community center is going to be one of the main locations for the upcoming 1990 Gay Pride week events in June. A strong and concerned Pride Week committee is coordinating a list of events which will help stimulate pride in ourselves, our diversity, and our uniqueness. These events are involving almost every Gay and Lesbian group in town, and the activities will be listed in the June issue of this newspaper.

The community center is continuing to play a vital and useful role in our community, being used often as a meeting place and gathering space. Business people are leaving their cards here for those who prefer to do business within the community, flyers for events are on our bulletin board, and it is the best place in town to find out what is happening. Our library is growing every month not only through donations of books, but also with periodicals being dropped off,

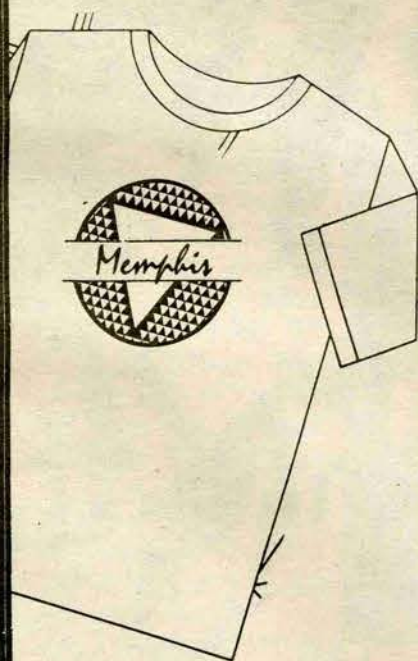
or received in the mail.

The center wishes to broaden its services further. If you have a way in which you feel you could use the space, please come to our board meetings on the third Saturday of each month at 11:30. These meetings are open and all are welcome. We are also still short of finding the three-hundred and sixty-five people in this area willing to donate one day's support of \$35.00, though the list is growing. This center works for the good of every person in Memphis and the surrounding area. Please drop by!

My thanks to the Mystic Krewe of Aphrodite and the Lollipop Guild who presented very nice checks to us this past month. Individual donations have been very helpful also.

An enormous amount of interest in our center was recently created at the Southeastern Conference of Lesbians and Gay Men which I attended as the delegate for the Memphis Gay Coalition. We hope that both Charlotte, and Asheville, North Carolina will soon join the ranks of those cities in the South which have centers. In an effort to serve our center better, one of our board members recently visited the Atlanta Gay Community Center, and I visited the Dallas Gay Community Center. Both of these places have expanded to include full time employees while ours is still all volunteer, but at least we have the seed sown to grow and flourish. We are always open to better ways to run our operation, and your input would be greatly appreciated. Hope to see you soon.

Show Your Pride!



The Memphis Gay Coalition is offering these limited edition Gay Pride T-shirts for only \$8 (\$7 for members of MGC). Silk screened in purple with a pink triangle, these 100% cotton T-shirts will make the perfect gift — or buy several for yourself! They can be purchased at any MGC or GayRap meeting or by mail (add \$2.00 to cover postage and handling). Sizes M, L & XL.

MGC

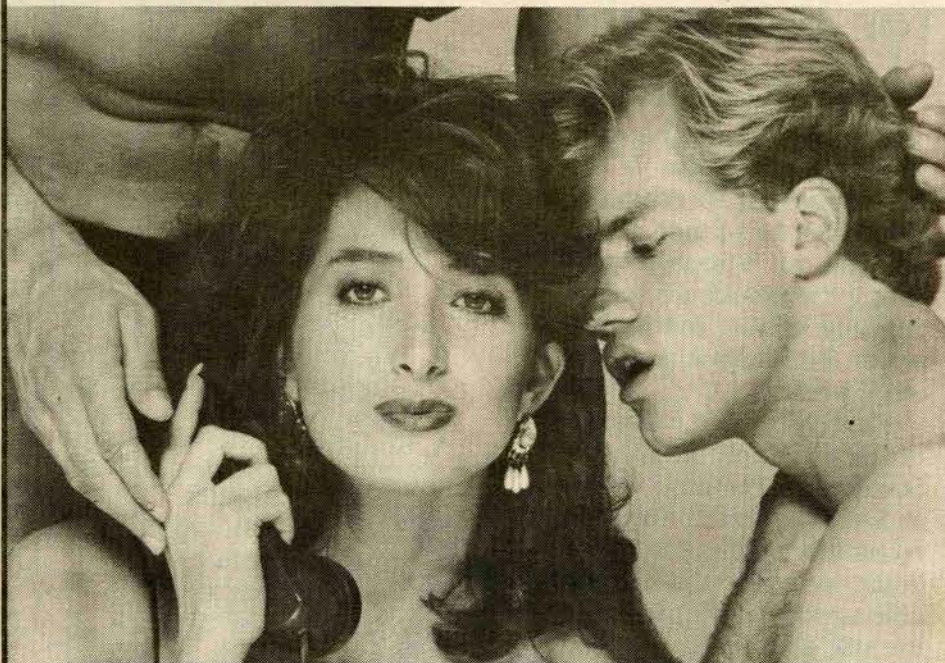
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Travel

“Men of Memphis” Head for Pensacola

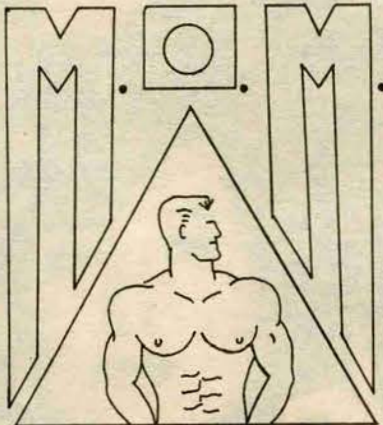
Nobody knows why it happens or when it started, but each year growing multitudes of Gays and Lesbians head for Pensacola Florida for the Memorial Day weekend. An estimated 7,000 (mostly men) made the annual migration last year, and enjoyed perfect Florida sunshine for the entire weekend.

The Gay beach in Pensacola is approximately ten miles Southeast of Pensacola Beech on Santa Rosa Island. There are no markers to indicate that such a beach exists, other than the two mile stretch of cars parked on the side of the highway. The beach is hidden from the highway by huge sand dunes, causing the occasional hetero to sometimes wander aimlessly over the dunes to see what is so “hot” about this section of the beach.

The crowds start to arrive on Friday, with the main thrust of people hitting on Saturday and Sunday. The island has several hotels and condos that book up as early as March. The crowds have traditionally been from Atlanta, Birmingham, and New Orleans, but a recent surge by the Memphis community is starting to take control of the holiday. The number of Memphians travelling to the extravaganza this year will almost double the number of last year.

After sleeping in, the rest of the day is spent on the beautiful Sandy Gulf Beach. After dinner and a short disco nap, the island rises again. The bars on the mainland soon fill to capacity, and the night begins. Early curfews close the bars at 2:00 A.M., but that doesn't stop the party. Several groups from different cities host “Post-bar” parties at the condos or houses they have rented. So now your back on the island, party-hopping until sunrise, at which time the whole scenario starts again.

This year, early planning was made for the “Men of Memphis” (simply a cliché with a name). M.O.M. has had reservations on at least six of the large condos on the island since February. The group has designs in the works for tank tops



to wear to the parties on Saturday night. M.O.M., consisting of forty to fifty men, has already had one pre-pre-Florida party and had another pre-party scheduled for April. May is starting to fill up with party plans leading up to the grand holiday. The gang is also planning on hosting one of the big post-bar parties on the Saturday night of Memorial weekend.

“Men of Memphis” has already received a personal invitation from the main disco bar, “The Office.” The bar wrote M.O.M. to inform them of the improvements and plans for the weekend. The bar has purchased the building next door (doubling the size) and now also sports a swimming pool with cabana bar in the back. The office mentioned the fun from the Memphis group back on Labor Day and looks forward to the return of M.O.M.

The group is basically based in Memphis, but will be joined by men from Dallas to Atlanta and even from Connecticut. The majority of the group has made plans to depart on Thursday, May 24. They will depart Memphis around 6:00 PM and roadtrip to Birmingham for a night of southern hospitality. From there they will continue south arriving at Pensacola early Friday morning. Most of the group plans to return to Memphis on Monday, May 28, but some won't straggle home until Tuesday, with a few disappearing 'til sometime in June.

Even though the trip is still over a month away, plans are already in the works for the next M.O.M. trip — back to Pensacola for Labor Day Weekend. (Why not finish the summer the way you started it?)

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The group is hoping to come in contact with other social groups in some of the other cities. Since Memorial Day Weekend 1991 is the grand opening of the Great

Pyramid, plans for the return next year are being reconsidered. The “Men of Memphis” are trying to come up with a major party attraction that will

bring as many Gays from other cities to Memphis for the Great Pyramid's opening.

RSVP Announces Gay Cruises

RSVP Travel Productions has announced its new 1990/91 cruise vacations. The ports of call are exotic and exciting. The entertainment is always top shelf, and the staterooms are fluffed and waiting.

The latest addition to RSVP's 1990 program is a new concept in cruising—the adventure cruise. This Caribbean sailing is aptly named since the ship is equipped with hundreds of scuba tanks, sailboards, kayaks, sailboats, water skis, and snorkeling gear. With stops in Belize, Guanaja, Roatan, and Cozumel aboard a 320 passenger ship, adventure is all but certain. It will sail out of St. Petersburg, Florida on Oct. 28.

RSVP has pulled out all the stops for its 1991 program. A total of nine itineraries (seven of which are new) are available to the Gay/Lesbian community. In 1991 RSVP will sail to engaging ports of call in the Western Caribbean, Deep Caribbean, Mexican Riviera, and French Canada. Call your travel agent for details.



Vance Reger Wins 1st Mr. TN. Leather

by Vincent Astor

A crowd estimated at over 250 attended the first Mr. Tennessee Leather contest on April 7. Vance Reger of Memphis was chosen the winner; Tim Brokaw, first alternate; John J. Poole, second alternate.

The Officers Club of Little Rock began the festivities with a cocktail party at the Pipeline on Friday night. Two meals were served during the day on Saturday and several vendors held a Leather Market all afternoon. On exhibition was a show entitled Titleholder II by erotic artist, Cirby.

Saturday night began with a fine Italian dinner, courtesy of Jere Douglas, followed by the contest with entertainment by J. T. Fredericks, specializing in country and western music, and Born Divas, two singers of varied contemporary and classic pop repertoire. The contest sparked many favorable comments and much enjoyment despite a mix-up about the shuttle buses which left some of those attending dependent on friends for rides back to Midtown. This was rectified on Sunday.

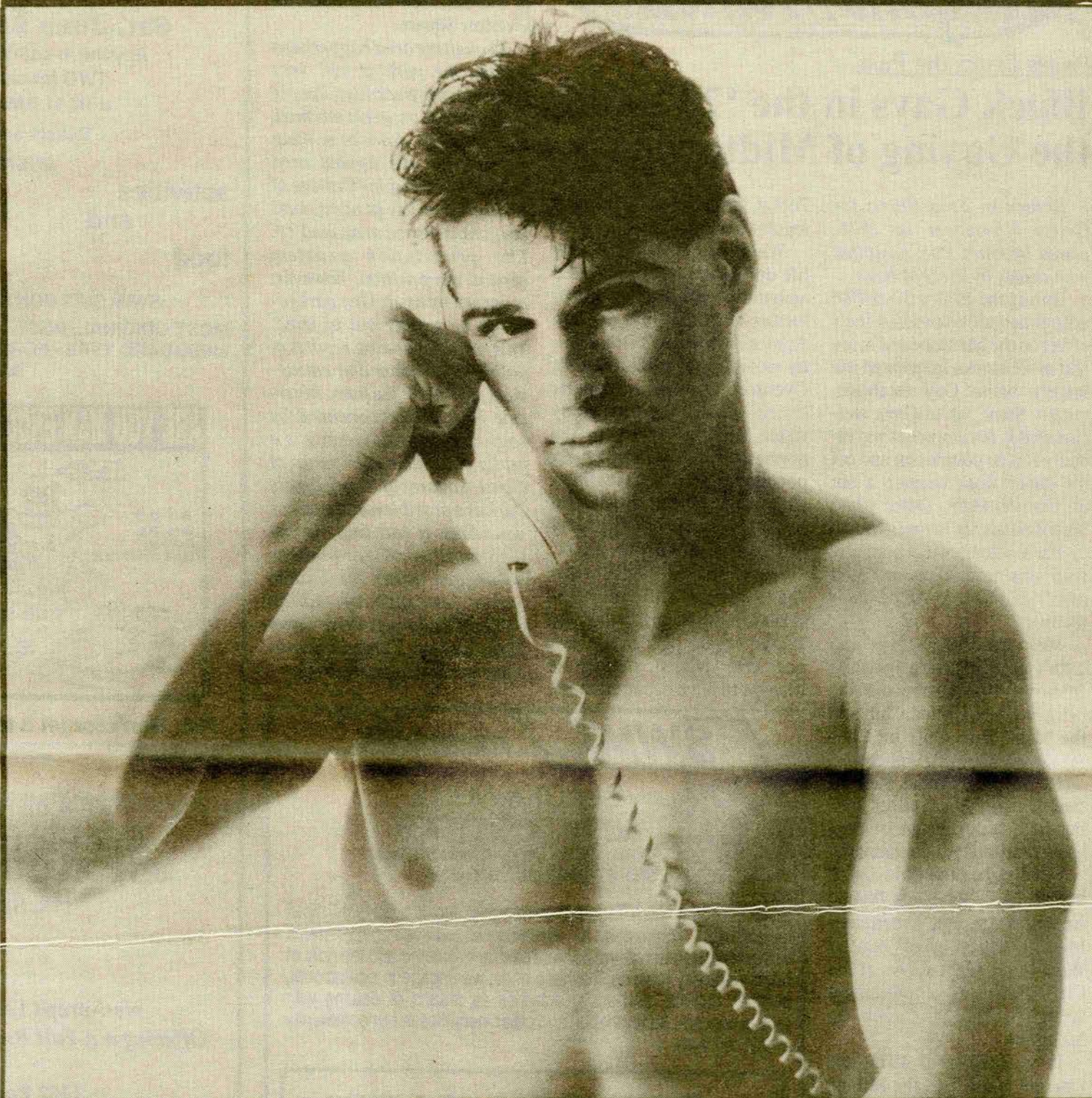
A lavish Southern buffet took place at the Pipeline Sunday afternoon. The live entertainment was repeated Sunday evening at a send-off dance for the new titleholder.

Guy Baldwin, International Mr. Leather 1989 and a judge, gave a talk in the middle of the event which addressed the issues of tolerance and acceptance, not of Gay people by non-Gay people but of the different facets of the Gay lifestyle by one another. He was very serious about this and about laying petty bickering and personal opinions aside in favor of uniting for the common good. He also encouraged activism and promoted the power of the 25¢ piece, the cost of a stamp which gets a letter to Washington DC.

COMMENTARY: This reporter was given a bit of interesting insight into the judging process. It seems that the primary criteria for judging in this case was the ability to be a spokesperson and the attitude an individual has toward his/her lifestyle, i.e. leather.

Vance described the judging as "rigorous." "You ba-

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sically tell them why you have a right to be there. And to put it as quickly and succinctly as possible. Someone who's articulate, comfortable with a leather lifestyle, and is able to be calm at

the same time in front of enormous stress. They were very interested in how you felt. You will have to appear in front of the press; it has grown past a body beautiful contest."

There has been a resurgence of the popularity of leather in recent years with the addition of leather people becoming more active, first in AIDS related issues and now political issues.

"The need for someone to be articulate and believable in front of a mass of people is very important. It's now 'What can you do for the Gay community': it's not Miss America."

Memphis Memoirs

Pages From the Past

Black Gays in the '70's and the Gaying of Midtown.

Written by Fred Harris for Gaiety Newspaper in 1976, edited by Gary Poe, compiled with asides by Vincent Astor.

During the 1970's the public accommodation laws had their effect on the bar scene and more and more blacks frequented the largely white Gay establishments. Some white Gays welcomed this development and racially mixed couples on and off the dance floor became a not uncommon sight. Other white homosexuals, including a couple of bar owners, were unhappy with this turn of events and didn't hesitate to voice their feelings.

Meanwhile, black Gays who didn't go to the largely white Midtown bars patronized the Mirage Underground Club and the Music Box. Both on Elvis Presley boulevard, these bars were "mixed" in that they attracted straights as well as Gays, but each featured regular drag shows and related entertainment.

Finally, beginning in October of 1972, the black female impersonator and entertainer Miss Peaches gave regular Wednesday night shows at the Club Paradise, a prominent straight black nightclub in Memphis.

In November of 1975, the "mixed" black bar, the Mirage Underground, closed and another bar, the New Club Mirage, opened. This new bar was the first all-Gay-black bar in Memphis and featured dancing, sources reported.

By the early 1970's, the Gay move from the downtown business area was virtually complete. With the exception of the Closet and the black "mixed" bars, all of the city's homosexual establishments were located there. Many Gays also bought houses and rented apartments in the surrounding Midtown neighborhoods, making it the city's "Gayest" residential area.

With four or five Gay bars on or near its borders, Cleveland St. became the "Main Street" of this developing Gay ghetto. On weekends, the stretch between

Poplar and Peabody became a regular Gay playground.

While much Memphis Gay life during the 1970's centered around the bars and clubs, other locales attracted Gays as well. As more of the city's Gay activity moved to the Midtown area, Overton Park became a popular cruising area. The Doughboy statue and the woods in the northeast corner were especially popular. They were sometimes dangerous as well. In addition of the ever-present possibility of a confrontation with police, the park attracted hoodlums and "queer baiters." Several homosexuals have been assaulted by straights in the park and at least one Gay related murder is thought to have occurred there.

Other cruising areas during the 1970's included Riverside Park and that perennial favorite, Court Square. A few adventure-some Gays also tried their luck in the bars and streets around Overton Square.

Though the area has perhaps shifted, the park is still very cruisy during weekdays. People Day closings on weekends have slowed things down to nothing by day, but the lighted area around the Memphis College of Art can be cruisy at night, until the park is closed at around 11. The prostitution problem around the pavilion, however, is agreed by many Gay parkgoers to be getting out of hand. There are continuing reports of police harassment and entrapment of Gays in the park. Riverside Park is recommended by some as being cruisy but it is a really old settler who thinks of Court Square of Confederate Park as a possible meeting place nowadays. It was said, during the Second World War when the Millington Naval Air Station was at peak capacity, that all one had to do was drive down Main and up Second once or twice around to find a trick.

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.

MAY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday, May 7 **CR/Discussion**, Irwin's, 7:30
 Monday, May 13 **Board Meeting**, Ed's 1:30
 Monday, May 21 **CR/Discussion**, Irwin's 7:30

**Memphis in May
8th Anniversary
Weekend Celebration**
 Friday, May 25 - Monday, May 28

Activities will include CR's, Brunch, Outdoor Barbecue, Guest Speaker and More! Information on events available on request.

For details and a copy of our newsletter: Call Ed (452-5894), Irwin (726-1461) or write BWMT/Memphis, P.O. Box 41773, Memphis, TN 38174-1773

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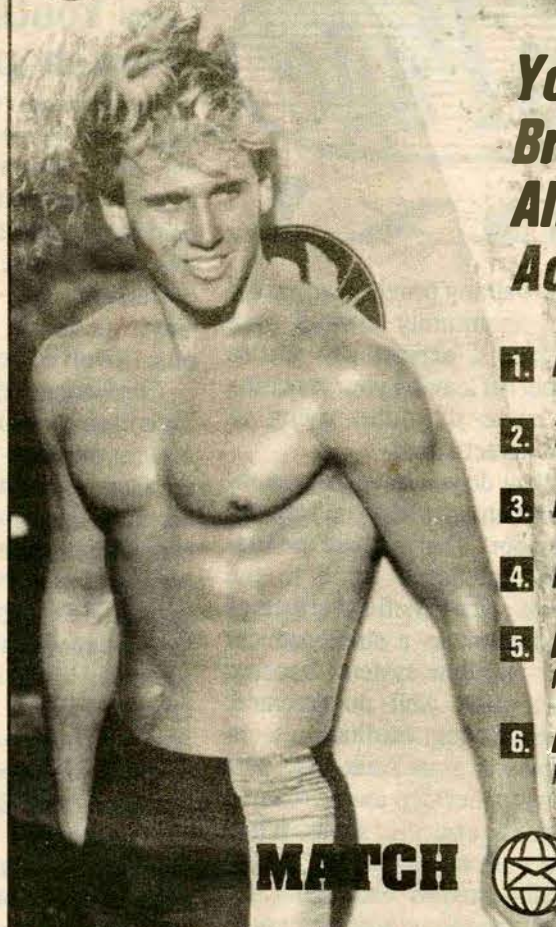
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- Video Nights: Second & Fourth Thursdays 8:00 Gay and Lesbian Subjects. Call 276-4651
- Dance Lessons: First & Third Thursdays 7:30
- Meditation Group, Sundays, 7-9 PM
- Center Potluck - First Saturday 7:00 PM

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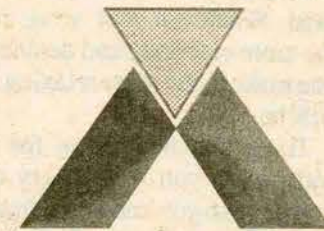
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The Help Page

Relax!

This month, we're going to talk about how to relax better. I recommend these four relaxation techniques. They will reinforce your feeling of control because you'll see that you have the ability to do something. But there is also physiological rationale for doing them. They literally loosen your muscles, slow your heart rate, and control your blood pressure.

The most widely prescribed relaxation technique is progressive muscle relaxation. You do this by systematically tensing and relaxing various muscle groups in your body to generate a sense of total body relaxation. Deep, regular, diaphragmatic breathing can also help you relax. The shallow chest breathing we do most of the time seems to go along with the anxiety. How to breathe diaphragmatically:

Inhale slowly through your nose, expanding your belly and not your chest. Exhale by pulling in your stomach, lettering the air flow out of your nose.

Another good relaxation technique is called positive imagery. That's where you imagine a relaxing scene, using as many scenes as possible. A beach theme works well for me. I imagine being alone on a beach, watching the waves rippling, hearing the sound of the waves breaking on the shore, tasting a hint of salt in the air, and feeling the warm sun and sand. Whatever your scene is, the more elaborate and detailed you make it, the more relaxing it will be.

Have you ever gone for a walk when you were angry or upset? Then you know first hand the soothing effect that walking can have on your emotions. Exercise is a great tension reducer, and walking has the added benefit of getting you out in the fresh air and distracting you with changing scenery. And distraction may be just what you need.

While many people report

that walking provides an excellent opportunity to mull over problems, experts say you're better off leaving your concerns at home if you're trying to counteract stress.

How do you leave those problems behind when you step out the door? That's where meditation techniques come to the rescue. The beneficial effects of meditation as a stress-reducer and immune-system booster, have been well documented. Adding some meditation techniques to your walk may take you another step away from the negative effects of stress. While there are no scientifically controlled studies examining the combined activity of meditation and walking, many stress-reduction specialists feel it's a winning combination.

You should recognize that anxiety is a part of life. That's much less upsetting than having the attitude that it's terrible and you shouldn't have to feel it. In fact, you may even be able to put that anxiety to good use. Up to a point, anxiety can really help people. If we realize that, we can use it to our advantage. Many actors and actresses say that they get nervous, but it helps them get up for the performance. If you accept the normalcy of the anxiety and harness the energy in a positive way, it can help you. If not, it can drain you.

One final word of advice: a good laugh — the kind that makes your eyes tear and your stomach hurt — can de-stress you just as well as relaxation can. In a study done by the Laughter Project at the University of California, it was learned that people who spend an hour participating in a laughter workshop dealt with psychological stress as well as another group that just relaxed. It was learned that if you don't value laughter, you may just stop doing it. Life is a lot lighter if you can laugh.

AGLTF Offering Gay Youth Workshop

The Arkansas Gay and Lesbian Task Force will offer a one-day conference on Lesbian and Gay youth on June 15. The conference has targeted educators, counselors, the medical profession, law enforcement, Gays, Lesbians, parents, and other involved persons.

Conference organizers said, "We have to acknowledge that 10% of all these young people are Gay or Lesbian, others are bisexual, that heterosexual kids experiment with homosexual acts, and that many more homosexual kids experiment with heterosexual acts... With the advent of AIDS, it is even more crucial that we address these issues and relieve the isolation of these young people."

Among the faculty for the conference will be Andrew J. Humm, Director of Education at the Hetrick-Martin Institute which serves Lesbian and Gay youth in New York City and a member of the AIDS Advisory Committee to the Board of Education of the City of New York. Other faculty members include Dr. Joycelyn Elders, director of the Arkansas Dept. of Health; Shirley Herndon of the Little Rock chapter of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays; and local doctors, psychologists, and social workers.

Sessions will include:

- Youth and AIDS
 - Counseling and Therapeutic Issues
 - Programs on Sexuality in the Schools
 - Dealing With Religious Issues
 - Growing Up Gay or Lesbian
- There will also be a panel on Gay and Lesbian Youth.

Continuing education credits have been applied for from the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Family Physicians, and the University of Arkansas College of Nursing. CEU's are available from the State of Arkansas Social Work Licensing Board.

Fee for the conference will be \$20 if registered by June 1 and \$30 thereafter. For more information write AGLTF, P.O. Box 45053, Little Rock, AR 72214 or call 501-375-8525.



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See Page 15 for details

Brothers & Sisters Bowling League Standings

The Brothers and Sisters Gay Mixed Bowling League bowls at Big Daddy's Poplar Plaza Lanes on Friday evenings at 9:15 PM. The league has 14 teams with four members on each team. While new teams cannot be added this season, substitute bowlers are accepted every Friday night except position nights. Five lanes are set aside for open bowling, so stop by and substitute, open bowl, or just watch. We're sure you'll have fun!

Standings as of April 27, 1990

Team	Won	Lost
1. Stiff Competition	43.5	16.5
2. WKR Bowlers	39	21
3. Up 'N Comin'	36.5	23.5
4. Lois Laners	36	24
5. King Pins	34.5	25.5
6. Simply Delicious	31.5	28.5
7. Half Nuts	30	30
8. Just Fer Fun, Hun	30	30
9. Travelin' Trojans	27.5	32.5
10. Hallelujah Hooters	27	33
11. Goodwinners	25.5	34.5
12. Lucky 13	21.5	38.5
13. The Orphans	18.5	41.5
14. Nads	16	44

For more information on the Brothers & Sisters Bowling League, call Tony or Mark at 726-4890.

Out And About Summer Calendar

A new outdoor activities group has been formed especially for those in the Memphis area who complain that there is little for Gay people to do here.

Out And About has already sponsored two fun outings. The first outing, which took place last March, was a fascinating visit to the Memphis Zoo. After feeding the bears and enjoying the great weather, everyone went to John Wills Bar-B-Que Pit for a delicious lunch.

In April, Shelby Forest was the spot for the first Out And About picnic. If you're into volleyball, frisbee, biking, hiking, and good food then the Out And About picnic was the place to be.

Out And About is basically different from most Gay organizations in the Mid-South in that events are planned and executed by individual members of the group. Our outdoor group has

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no "leader" *per se*, each member is responsible for planning an event, if he or she wishes to. Future events for Out And About will be a volleyball game at Forrest Park, across from the

University of Tennessee, on Sunday May 20 beginning at 2 and running till 4 PM. Volleyball games will take place at the park on the first and third Sundays of every month.

A fun run is planned for Saturday, May 12th. The run will cover about 2 miles and will start at the Crump statue in Overton Park at 8 AM. Runs will take place the 2nd and 4th

Saturday of every month thereafter.

Would you like to plan an event? For more on Out And About call (901) 274-1847 or 276-0275.

Quick Clips

We were pleased, during our coverage of the Mr. Leather Tennessee contest, to meet a gentleman of leather who made a lasting impression on us. Guy Baldwin, Mr. International Leather for 1989, was not only handsome and charming but he took time to speak to the crowd about a touchy subject: acceptance of Gay people by other Gay people. He particularly touched upon those who make light or fun of the glitter set, very similar to those who dish the leather set. He advised that this was a lot of horse shit (in different words) and exhorted us all to have a little more tolerance and respect. If we don't come together, he said, the hets will pick us off, hospital bed by hospital bed. Think about it, gentle readers.

Another Titleholder in our Midst
Congratulations Vance! You know who you are.

Question and Answer Department

Men of Memphis—Who are they? Who were they? Who do they hope to be?

Will there actually be a Memphis chapter of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force? How big a part will drag-activism play (Oh Mary, don't ask.)?

Is Tommy Stewart speaking to us or what?

Public Service Announcement Department

Check out the guest editorial, there are some very interesting views coming from some fresh quarters. The leather people and the drag queens are having activist symptoms. Where is everybody else?

Would you believe that the Gay Switchboard had received a large increase in calls due to an ad placed by the Coalition in the *Memphis Flyer*? Seems that some Gay and Lesbian people

are better reached through the mainstream media. Then too, why not publicize in the mainstream media? Our money is as good as anyone else's.

R.I.P.—GDI—George's, 1969-1990 (and a tradition from 1960).

Out and About Endora

We must say, that we once again enjoyed our brief visit to the Radical Faeries at Short Mountain Sanctuary. We will spend an hour or two telling you, gentle readers, who the hell these people are over tea just about anytime, we wrote an article about them a couple of years ago. Suffice it to say that if there are any other would-be Faeries in disyere fayah city we would be delighted to be in touch. It is truly next door to Nirvana to visit a place where affection is as natural as speech.

Woman on the Street Department

Chaps, home of Mr. Southern Leather, will host an ATEAC Benefit June 2 to be given by the Wagettes. The Mr. Tennessee Leather contest (as opposed to the Mr. Leather Tennessee Contest) has been cancelled.

The Wagettes raised over \$600 at their J-Wag's benefit for PWA services. ATEAC received the donation.

In excess of \$800 was raised to benefit the Gay Pride Committee at the benefit hosted by B. J. Hefner at WKRB.

Aphrodite's next benefit, **Blast from the Past**, will take place May 27 at WKRB.

Out and About Memphis, for those outdoor activities enthusiasts amongst us, is a small and growing group which plans sporting events and other activities outdoors. Memphis has so many possibilities for such that we should really use them as much as possible.

A Positive Atmosphere will hold another Pot Luck at the MGLCC on May 19 at 4 PM.

Speaking of tea time, when was the last time you went to a good old fashioned white gloves and picture hats **High Tea**? Just such a fundraiser is being planned for the **Quilt to Memphis** project set tentavely for early June. More as it happens so bleach those gloves, girls.

The Pipeline will once again welcome **J. T. Fredericks** on May 11th and 12th for more high caliber C&W entertain-

ment. Military Uniform Night will be held on the 19th and their annual Pool Party will return on June 2.

WKRB will present **Connie** and the **Little Rock Ladies** on May 13.

Don't forget to purchase your tickets early for the 10th annual **Gay River Ride**, scheduled for June 23. **Joyce Cobb** will once again help us celebrate Gaypride in Memphis.

GayFest, with performances by **Harmony Gold** and the **Lambda Men's Chorus** will be held at Mud Island on Sunday, June 24. It is free, ticket information will follow.

GALA (Gay and Lesbian Awareness), the new student group at **Memphis State**, recently received its official charter from the school. Some funding has been realized. Some summer events will be followed by a larger fall semester schedule. Write **GALA** at 295 N. McNeil St. (rear), 38112.

The Pipeline won its third **pool tournament** of the year on the last day of April. The final score was 98-83 in the continuing contest between them and WKRB.

Ta, ta,
Lady A.

oops
1349 Autumn Ave. Memphis, TN 38104

Memphis' 24-Hour Gay Bar

Happy Hour Daily From 10 AM 'Til 8 PM

85¢ Domestic Beer 50¢ Draft Beer 50¢ Set Ups

Wednesday Nights \$1.00 Beer Bust 8 - 12

**Call for Memorial Day Special
(901) 272-1634**

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.

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. Proceed with caution.

GAY WRESTLING CONTACTS. Fun/hot action! Nationwide adlistings. Infopixpak \$3.00: NYWC, 59 West 10th, NYC 10011.

HAIRY MEN/ADMIRERS. Bears/Trappers! Nationwide uncensored adlistings. Infopixpak \$3.00: MAN-HAIR, 59 West 10th, NYC 10011.

GBM, mature & educated, want to meet GWMs for friendship and companionship — possible lover if

we are compatible. I am honest, sincere, trustworthy, and very serious about this ad. I have a wide variety of interests and enjoy quiet evenings at home. Write: Occupant, P.O. Box 22871, Memphis, TN 38122.

Wanted: young stud, 19-30 yrs old, well-built, hung, white, for fun and games. Call (501) 932-7184.

GWM, 48, 5'6", 145#, recently come out. Dislike the bar scene. Neat, discreet, home-oriented, sincere, professional enjoys music, movies, walking, and simple life style. Seeks someone who finds these qualities desirable. Call: David, (901) 452-0596 after 6 PM.

Gay XXX Phone Fantasies! Over 200 choices, Gay male or Lesbian, all scenes. 5 full-play stories only \$9.95. Use Visa/MasterCard/AmEx. Call (303) 595-0051.

GWM, 33, 5'11", 180#, seeks feminine pre-op male-to-female transsexual taking female hormones. Discreet. Want to swap transsexual films, magazines. Send photo! Steve, Box 38501, Germantown, TN 38183-0501.

Are you my destiny? Very cute GWM, 19, br/bl, 5'10", 135# searching for someone fascinating

for friendship/relationship. Take a chance and your search may be over. Contact: Boxholder, Box 411, Collierville, TN 38027-0411.

Attractive, sincere GWM, 35, br/bl, 5'11", 175#. Desiring that special man, 25-45, for a lasting friendship/relationship. Have many interests including traveling, outdoor activities, and quality time with loved one. No fats, fems, or druggies. Write: SCM, Box 240863, Memphis, TN 38124.

Do you believe in true friendship, love, and romance? Then maybe you should believe in me. I'm a nice-looking GWM 29, 6'1", br/br seeking a special, sincere GWM 25-45 for a true friendship/relationship. Phone Scott at (601) 489-8023 anytime after 7 PM.

GWM 5'9", 158#, br/bl, sincere, dependable, discreet, home-oriented. Seeks GWM 21-39, with similar qualities for dinners, movies, travel, friendship/1:1 relationship. Reply to: Box 38185, Memphis, TN 38183.

Acrylic Art work by Wildhare. You name it. Fantasies, your idea or mine. As wild as you like. Wildhare Graphics, 344 North Watkins, Memphis, (901) 278-8437.

Classifieds

GWF, 32, interested in wholesome activities. Likes outdoors, pets, movies, and music. Not a big drinker. Employed and responsible. Seeks friends with same qualities. Reply to: Boxholder, Box 12782, Memphis, TN 38112.

GBF, light complexion, br eyes,

5'1", would like to meet other GF's to show me around the Memphis area. I'm also looking for true friends, singles or couples, that are not into the drinking and drug scene. If interested, drop me a line. Photo if possible. Race not important. Write: Occupant, Box 70441, Nashville, TN 37207.

**Grab Your Frisbee and a Blanket!
Come To...**

**A POSITIVE ATMOSPHERE'S
SPRING POTLUCK PICNIC**

**Saturday, May 19 at 4 PM
Rain or Shine!
Bring A Dish To Share!
Soft Drinks Provided**

**For Location and other information,
Call: Kevin 276-1778 or Marty 767-6026**

**A POSITIVE ATMOSPHERE is designed to foster
unity in a community divided over health issues.**

May 1990

Gay Community Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
					• May Gaze Due Out 4 • Bowling League, 9:15	• MGLCC Pot Luck, 7 PM 5
• Meditation Group, MGLCC, 7-9 PM 6	• MGC Meeting, Main Library, Peabody & McLean, 7 PM • BWMT CR, 7:30 PM 7	• Gay Men's Chorus, MGLCC 8	9	• Video Night, MGLCC, 8 PM 10	• Bowling League, 9:15 • Country '90, J.T. Fredericks, Pipeline, 11 PM 11	• Gay Women's Social Group, Cookout Potluck, 7 PM • Country '90, J.T. Fredericks, Pipeline, 11 PM 12
• Meditation Group, MGLCC, 7-9 PM 13 • BWMT Board Meeting, 1:30 PM • Connie & Little Rock Ladies, WKRB	14	• Gaze Advertising & Copy Deadline for June 15 • Gay Men's Chorus, MGLCC • River Ride Tickets Go On Sale	16	• Western Dance Lessons, MGLCC, 7:30-9 PM 17	• Bowling League, 9:15 18	• MGLCC Monthly Meeting, 11:30 AM • Positive Atmosphere Potluck, 4 PM • Military Uniform Night, Pipeline 19
• Meditation Group, MGLCC, 7-9 PM 20	• GayRap Meeting, MGLCC, 7 PM • BWMT CR, 7:30 PM 21	• Gay Men's Chorus, MGLCC 22	23	• Video Night, MGLCC, 8 PM 24	• Bowling League, 9:15 • BWMT Memphis In May Celebration 25	• BWMT Memphis In May Celebration 26
• Gay & Lesbian Parents, MGLCC, 2:30-5 PM • Meditation Group, MGLCC, 7-9 PM • BWMT Memphis In May Celebration • Aphrodite Benefit, WKRB, 8 PM 27	• BWMT Monthly Meeting, 7:30 PM, Main Library • BWMT Memphis In May Celebration 28	• Gay Men's Chorus, MGLCC 29	30	31	• June Gaze Due Out • Bowling League, 9:15 1	• Beach Party, Pipeline, Noon-Til • Wagettes Benefit, Chaps, 10 PM 2

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.
- Chaps:** 111 N. Claybrook - 722-8963.
- J-Wags:** 1268 Madison - 725-1909
- Oops:** 1349 Autumn - 272-1634
- 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):** AIDS Service Organization - Box 40389, Memphis 38174-0389 - 458-AIDS, or 272-0855.
- Agape New Life Church:** Worship Sundays at 11:00 AM and Wednesdays at 7:30 PM - 327-4145.
- American Gay Atheists (AGA)** Memphis: Box 41371, Memphis 38174-1371.
- Black & White Men Together (BWMT):** Box 41773, Memphis 38174 - 452-5894, or 726-1461.
- Brothers & Sisters Bowling League:** 1161 Poplar Ave #15, Memphis 38105.
- Colors:** Box 1921, Memphis 38101.
- Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition, Inc. of Memphis:** Box 40982, Memphis 38174-0982.
- Gay Women's Social Group:** Lee, 327-6165.
- Into The Light (Women's AA):** Meets Sundays at noon, Thursdays at 8 PM at Memphis Lambda Center.
- Kinship:** Seventh Day Adventist Gay religious group - Box 171135, Memphis 38187-1135 - 754-6160.
- Memphis Center for Reproductive Health:** 1462 Poplar Ave, Memphis 38104 - 274-3550.
- Memphis Gay Coalition (MGC):** Box 3038, Memphis 38173-0038 - 324-GAYS.
- Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center (MGLCC):** 1291 Madison, Memphis 38104, Mailing address: Box 40231, Memphis 38174-0231 - 276-4651.
- 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, 1526 Court Street, Memphis 38104.
- Mystic Krewe of Aphrodite:** Box 41822, Memphis 38174-1822.
- National Organization for Women (NOW):** Box 40982, Memphis 38104 - 452-6983.
- Out and About Memphis:** Tom - 274-1847, Dale - 276-0275.
- Parents & Friends of Lesbians And Gays (P-FLAG):** Box 172031, Memphis 38187-2031 - 761-1444.
- Phoenix (Gay AA):** 272-9549, 276-7379, or 454-1414.
- Positive Mental Attitude Association, Inc:** 28 N. Claybrook, Suite 1, Memphis 38104 - 276-PMAA.
- Tennessee Gay & Lesbian Gay Alliance (T-GALA):** Box 24181, Nashville, TN 37202.
- Transexuals in Prison (TIP):** For information: John Prowett, 1526 Court, Memphis 38104.
- 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.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

- Counseling**
- Becky Caperton, MS:** Counseling - 327-9758.
- Beth Causey, M.Div.:** Pastoral counseling - 454-0108.
- Bob Hughes, MS:** Counseling, Codependency/ACOA, Holistic Helathcare Services, 5583 Murray Road, Memphis 38119-767-6351.
- Kim A. Moss MS:** Midtown Counseling Service, 1835 Union, Suite 101, Memphis 38104 - (901) 726-4586.
- Carole Taylor, MS:** Counseling 458-7098.
- Northeast Mental Health Center:** 382-3880.
- Legal**
- Wayne C. Gullede, Attorney A** Law: 208 S. Heard Street, Senatobia, MS 38668 - (601) 562-8738.
- Susan Mackenzie, Attorney A**

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

Massage

- "Just the Right Touch":** Non-sexual Swedish/sports massage - 377-7701.
- "A Touch Of Relaxation":** Therapeutic massage by appointment, Ms. Bernie Gwyn - 522-1482 or 522-7054.

Miscellaneous Services

- Lee's Carpet Care:** Commercial-Residential, 24-hr. service, free estimates - 327-6165.
- Correct Cable Connection:** Audio/video connections and wiring - 375-1570.
- Wildhare Graphics:** 344 North

Watkins, Memphis, TN 38104 - 278-8437.

MISCELLANEOUS

- Airport Bookmart:** 2214 Brooks Rd E. - 345-0657.
- 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.
- Paris Adult Entertainment Center:** 2432 Summer - 323-2665.

GAZE IS ALSO DISTRIBUTED AT THESE BUSINESSES

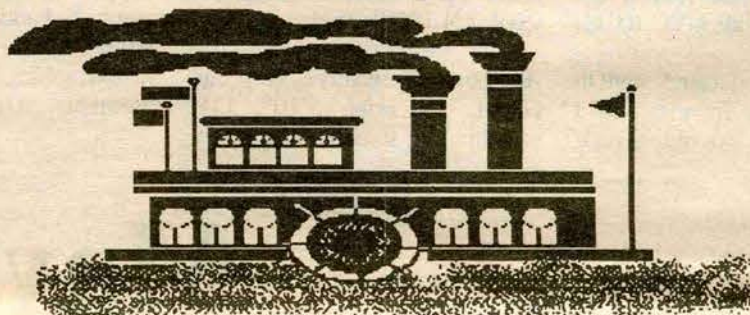
- Davis-Kidd Booksellers Inc.:** 397 Perkins Rd. Ext. - 683-9801.
- Men of Leather:** Leather shop - 111 N. Claybrook - 722-8963.

- P & H Cafe -** 1532 Madison Ave. - 274-9794.
- 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. (You must have a computer and modem to access this service.)
- Two's Company:** Gay computer bulletin board and computer support. "Handles" accepted. 1200/2400 baud. 726-4073.

The Memphis Gay Coalition presents



RIVER ~ RIDE

WITH JOYCE COBB

MEMPHIS SHOWBOAT
(Foot of Monroe at Riverside)

Saturday, June 23
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
(A 5% surcharge will be added to all credit card orders.)

Mail to : MGC River Ride
Box 3038
Memphis, TN 38173-0038

Credit Card #
Expires
Signature