

# Gaze

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## Racism Discussion Spurs Action

A discussion of racism in the Gay community held July 16 has resulted in the drafting of a letter to Tommy Stewart accusing him of "unethical as well as illegal [racial discrimination] behavior." The meeting was held at the Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center as part of the Memphis Gay Coalition's GayRap series.

The two-hour discussion heated up as several people accused Stewart, owner of J-Wag's and Reflections, of "carding" practices which discriminate against Black Gays. Although it was acknowledged that "all the bars do the same thing," Stewart was singled out to be made an example.

A "group of concerned citizens" met July 23 and decided to draft a letter to Stewart. The "action planning committee" then sent a copy of the proposed letter to Memphis Gay and Lesbian organizations asking that it be endorsed. The letter with endorsements was to be signed by August 15 and forwarded to Stewart.

A cover letter seeking these organizations' support was signed by Tony Horne, co-chair of the Black Gay and Lesbian Alliance for Dignity (B-GLAD) and Bill Huckabee, president of the Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center. It called Stewart "the most overt practitioner of racial discrimination in our community." Once endorsed, copies of the letter to Stewart were to be sent to local newspapers, as well as *Gaze*, *Dare*, the *Lesbian and Gay News Telegraph*, the ACLU and NAACP.

The Memphis Gay Coalition at its regular business meeting Aug. 2 refused to endorse the letter because of its inflammatory language. It instead passed a resolution to contact all local Gay bars to determine what criteria they use in carding their patrons and to try to negotiate a consensus among them as to which specific identifications are acceptable. [The preliminary results of that survey appear in an article on page 2 of this issue.]

The Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center Board was reportedly polled by phone and initially endorsed sending the letter. However, at the MGLCC board meeting Aug. 18, the board voted to table any action and to meet in closed session to "iron out philosophical differences."

It was also revealed at this meeting that a moratorium had been placed on sending the letter to Stewart pending a rewrite. Apparently no Gay or Lesbian organization had officially endorsed the letter by the Aug. 15 deadline.

On Aug. 27, the board voted 5-3 not to endorse the letter to Stewart.

A second GayRap on the subject of racism was held on Aug. 20. Although tempers flared and voices were raised, the meeting was considered to be considerably more subdued than the previous one. Tommy Stewart attended the meeting, but did not respond to any accusations. "I didn't come here to speak," Stewart said, "I came here to listen." Stewart recorded the meeting on a portable tape recorder.

## Kentucky & Michigan Sodomy Laws Unconstitutional

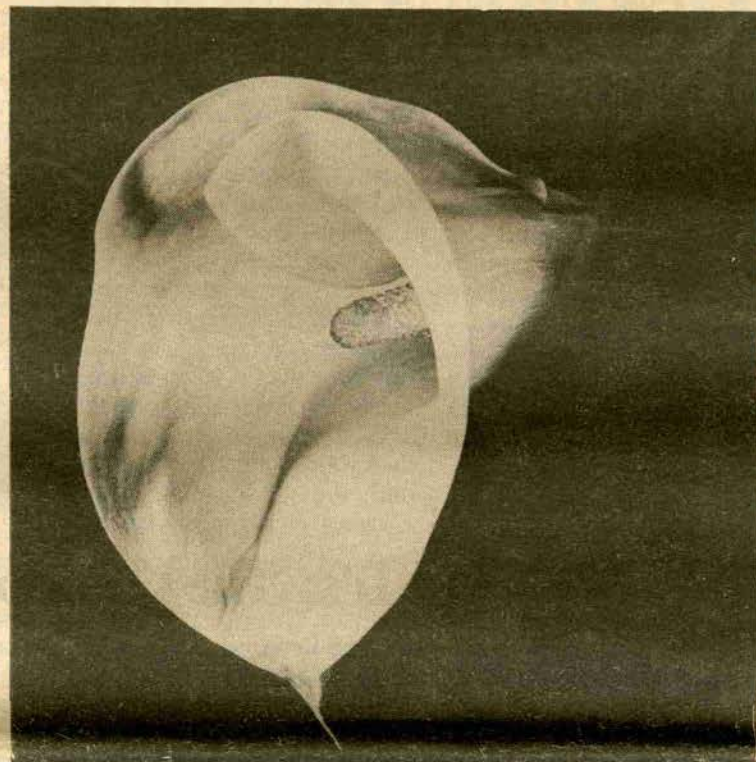
A trial court in Wayne Co. Michigan in July became the second court in a month to strike down a sodomy statute on state constitutional grounds. In reasoning similar to that used by a Kentucky court in early June, the Michigan court recognized that the state sodomy law and related so-called "gross-indecency" laws violate every citizen's right to privacy under the state constitution.

A broad range of plaintiffs from all over Michigan successfully challenged the Michigan law, including a 75-year old Lesbian, a Gay male couple, a Lesbian mother, an unmarried Gay man, a married non-Gay man, a bisexual woman, and a non-Gay disabled woman. All the plaintiffs told the court that, because of these laws, they have suffered a chilling effect on their behavior and fear of prosecution since, in Michigan, a sodomy conviction is classified as a felony and could result in up to 15 years in prison and a fine of \$5,000.

Wayne Co. Circuit Judge John A. Murphy ruled that the sodomy and gross indecency laws violate the plaintiffs' (and by extension, all sexually active adults') state constitutional right to privacy. The lawsuit also claimed that the laws—which define sodomy as "the abominable and detestable

Participants at the Aug. 20 GayRap felt that there was much more of the issue to explore. To facilitate a continuation of the dialogue, the Memphis Gay Coalition offered four of its excess meeting dates at the Community Center. MGC makes an annual donation entitling it to 24 meeting dates per year. Excess meeting dates are used for special events or other purposes. [See story on page 8.]

Stewart called for Huckabee's resignation in a letter to the MGLCC, saying that he "carelessly [involved] our Community Center in a clearly political situation." [See his letter on page 3.] The MGLCC Board has not officially responded, but Huckabee remains in office.



Robert Mapplethorpe's "Calla Lily" on display at Brooks Museum

## It's Filthy and Ya'll Know It

A Christian-owned and operated company which fills orders for customized balloons refused to print several hundred balloons intended to raise visibility for the Georgia Privacy Coalition's campaign to repeal that state's sodomy law. The Privacy Coalition planned to float their sodomy repeal message at the Atlanta Gay and Lesbian pride march and rally at the end of June. The Coalition's plans were burst, however, when the Balloon House of Iowa City, Iowa rejected their order.

In a letter from NGLTF's Privacy Project Director Sue Hyde, Balloon House manager Lynn Griebahn was asked to explain "this outright act of censorship by your company." Griebahn replied, "Because we are Christians, we do not print any material that is lewd, offensive, racist, immoral, wicked or evil. It is our opinion, from reading the word of God, that homosexuality is immoral, lewd, unclean and unrighteous. Because the Lord owns this business, we cannot accept business which displeases Him... Homosexuality is your game and it is filthy, disgusting and wrong. And you know it's wrong."

In Iowa City on June 23 for that community's Gay and Lesbian pride rally and march, Hyde quipped at the rally, "I was not aware that the Lord owned a balloon company or any other earthly commercial concern. If He did, however, I feel confident that He would consider this display of bigotry filthy disgusting and wrong. And Lynn Griebahn knows it's wrong."

Lynn Griebahn can be reached at the Balloon House, 918 Dearborn, Iowa City, IA 52240, (319) 354-3471.

## Editorial Policy

Gaze is published as a public service of the Memphis Gay Coalition and is produced by volunteers.

As a community newspaper, Gaze solicits contributions from its readers in the form of commentaries or guest editorials, letters to the editor, fiction, poetry, press releases, or articles. The editors reserve the right to edit such materials for length, clarity, punctuation, spelling, and grammar. If edited, every effort will be made to preserve the content and tone of the original. Gaze reserves the right to reject any materials submitted for publication. All submissions become the property of the Memphis Gay Coalition.

All materials for publication must be received no later than the 15th of the month preceding publication. Any material received after this time will be used at the discretion of the Gaze staff.

# Gazing

## Attack the Source, Not the Symptom

by John Stilwell and Allen Cook

The recent discussions on racism have raised a lot of questions and a lot of tempers. A plan of action is being worked on. But I wonder if we've identified the *real* source of the problem.

It is acknowledged that a problem exists in all the white Gay bars. But the problem is even broader than that. It exists in all Gay bars and in all straight bars. The problem has been defined as racism, but we perceive it more as a problem of controlling the complexion of a bar. In white bars, it's controlling the kind and number of Blacks that are let in. In Black bars, it's controlling the kind and number of whites that are allowed in.

Let's consider what kind of people (black or white) are being allowed into the bar. Despite what we'd like to believe, bar owners run bars to make money, not to provide a place for people to meet and "hang out." Bartenders want people who are going to tip well. They reward good tippers with better service. They also want to make a living.

So both the bar owner and the bartenders want people in the bar who are going to spend money. It would be ridiculous to go into a restaurant and expect to be able to just "hang out." If you aren't going to buy anything, you're going to be asked to leave. So why should one think you can go into a bar and "hang out" without spending money? Hanging around in the bar for a

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

period of time without spending money constitutes loitering, which is against the law. You will probably be asked to leave. If you consistently come into a bar and "hang out" without spending money, eventually, you won't be allowed in the bar at all. So one kind of person who is not welcome is one who has no money to spend or who has money but doesn't spend it—Black or white.

There is also the question of attitude. If a Black person goes to a predominantly white bar or a white person goes to a Black bar and enters the establishment with his or her ass on their shoulders because they expect to be treated badly, they probably will be. This attitude is going to be picked up by the door person, the bar owner, or the bartender and they are not going to be welcomed with open arms. There are enough problems that come with running a bar without taking on the added problem of dealing with someone who has a bad attitude. That person singles her/himself out as a potential troublemaker.

Then there is the perception of

who is a troublemaker. At a Black bar any white who comes in is immediately suspect. ("This guy or gal must be a plant to cause me trouble.") In white bars, the perception—real or imagined—is that the Blacks who get in cause a higher percentage of problems than the whites.

Then there is the question of numbers. You'll notice I have not tip-toed around referring to Black and white bars. Although I know no bar owner will ever say I run a white bar or I run a Black bar, each bar owner has identified and targeted the customers they want. A bar works at getting repeat business—and doing whatever it takes to keep those customers coming back. Either a Black or a white bar owner over a period of time can sense when the number of the other race is getting to the point that their target group starts becoming uncomfortable. That is when they start controlling the complexion of the bar by making it more difficult for certain groups of people to get in.

The current approach to solving this problem is to go after individual bar owners, one at a time, starting

with the one receiving the most complaints. We may be able to target a bar and we might even be able to force the owner to admit everyone and anyone without regard to race. But what will happen—and has happened in the past—is, if there are too many whites in a Black bar, the Blacks will leave and go somewhere else. Conversely, too many Blacks in a white bar will send the whites packing. The only way to make this forced integration work is to target all bars at the same time. Force all of them to cooperate by removing all racial controls. Then have some person or persons on duty constantly to ensure that the racial controls aren't still being used. If there is no place for them to escape to, the patrons will have to deal with one another.

And will that solve the problem? We think not. Because the patrons themselves are the problem.

Patrons, to a large extent, show their approval of the bar owners' actions, the bar owners have no reason to change their policies. (And that approval can be shown as subtly

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## ID's: The Letter of the Law

by Allen Cook and Vincent Astor

When admission to any establishment requires certain prerequisites, there is an opportunity for abuse, especially in the area of discrimination. What then are the areas of discretion a bar-owner has in selecting who may patronize his or her establishment?

According to the Tennessee Alcoholic Beverage Commission Code, an owner of an establishment which serves beer or liquor is **required** to do the following:

- establish and maintain procedures which will screen persons under 21 from obtaining alcoholic beverages. To this end, bars may establish age restrictions and require age specific identification at the bar's discretion.
- establish and maintain procedures which ensure that "troublemakers" are excluded from the establishment,
- to report all altercations or crimes to the police for investigation,
- to ensure that intoxicated people are not served.

The law further stipulates that a "valid" ID must be carried on one's person at all times in an establishment which serves alcohol. Unfortunately state law does *not* stipulate what is or is not a valid ID. If the bar owner admits and serves alcohol to someone who is underage, but has what appears to be a valid ID, he or she can still be held responsible and lose the permit.

People of all sorts with no ID are routinely turned away regardless of their apparent age. Betty Wray, who works at the back door for her sister Sharon at WKRB, says, "I have

turned away people whom Sharon has known for 20 years who have not brought an ID. I do spot checks every so often and ask for *everyone's* ID and there are no exceptions on those nights." Bar regulars know to the doorman or bartender are rarely asked for ID—they say they've seen it before.

Sharon also has a large collection of altered, bogus and borrowed ID's. It is her policy to confiscate questionable ID's and it has caused sticky situations for individuals who have been identified and admitted and then passed their ID back to some other person. Sharon says, "A policeman once told two underage patrons, 'It's for your own good. What if you have an accident? What if you are killed by a car? How do we know who to call?'" It is up to the person in charge, be they owner, manager, or even bartender, whether to ask or not and it is their right to demand an ID or refuse service. Recently, even Playhouse on the Square carded hundreds of its regular patrons during the run of The Rocky Horror Show.

If we concede that ID's are required by law, the question becomes "what ID's are acceptable?" On this the law is unclear. It leaves that determination to the owner of the bar.

The ideal identification is a driver's license. These ID's contain both a picture of the person and a birthdate. All bars accept these as a proper ID. Incidentally, for those who cannot drive or do not have a driver's license, the state of Tennessee offers an official ID containing the same information but which does

## I. D. Please...

A survey of all nine Gay and Lesbian bars in Memphis produced the following results in answer to the question: "What do you ask for and what will you accept?"

- Apartment Club: Driver's License (alternates at owner's discretion).
  - Barbara's: Driver's License.
  - Chaps: Driver's License, picture ID with date of birth, voter registration accepted as alternate.
  - Diva's: Driver's License, laminated form with birthdate (work or military acceptable), voter registration as alternate.
  - J-Wag's: Driver's License, legal picture ID, may request additional.
  - Oops: Driver's License, or an ID which describes you with or without photo (hair color, height, eye color, age, etc.), school, college or work ID's not acceptable.
  - Pipeline: Driver's License, any picture ID along with proof of age.
  - Reflections: Driver's License, legal picture ID, may request addl.
  - WKRB: Driver's License and corroborating ID (to back up the driver's license).
- (The non-driver State ID is legally just as valid as a drivers license.)

The proof necessary is first, proof of age; second, proof that the person carrying the ID is the person which the ID describes; and third, proof that the ID carried has not been altered in any way. The person checking the ID is responsible and must feel satisfied that these criteria have been met.

not license a person to drive. This is obtainable at any Driver Testing Center by going through similar identification procedures as for a driver's license and an \$8.00 fee.

A birth certificate is good identification for some things, but they really do not identify anyone since there is no picture.

An employee ID may have a picture, but rarely has a birthdate (remember, employers can be accused of age discrimination). Insurance, social security, welfare or food stamp, library, and credit cards have neither pictures nor birthdates.

It is the responsibility of the person in charge to determine whether the

ID presented is genuine, it is this person who will be liable if it is called into question and found to be a fake. Therefore, it is in their best interest to check as carefully as possible (a difficult task on extremely busy nights). If they are not satisfied, they will ask for further proof of age. This can lead to negative feelings and actions on both sides of the window, which only leads to suspicion by both parties. This responsibility is also very easy to abuse, the integrity of the person doing the identifying is important.

The other area of discretion, troublemakers and drunks, unfortunately requires a more subjective

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

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### Co-Editors

Allen Cook • John Stilwell

### Staff Writers

Vincent Astor  
Becky Caperton  
Reneé Greene

### Typesetting And Layout

Allen Cook  
John Stilwell • Vincent Astor  
Bryan Feuerhelm

### Circulation

Cecil McLeod • John Stilwell

### Advertising

Vincent Astor

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Gaze welcomes letters from its readers. Letters should be as short as possible and may be edited for length. Address your correspondence to Gaze, P.O. Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38173-0038.

## What If They Gave A Funeral And No One Came?

The deterrent that has kept our community behind others of the same size has reared its ugly head again—this time in the most final of ways.

George Wilson opened the first "George's" almost twenty years ago. It was at that original "George's" (on Madison Avenue) that female impersonators were given an opportunity to entertain us. We were, by the same token, given a place to congregate more openly, a place to meet new friends, and a place where we could be ourselves.

It was not without harassment that we were able to enjoy "George's." There were frequent police visits which usually meant turning on all the lights to check customers' ID's, fire department visits to be certain capacity regulations were not being broken, and much more frequent than any official visit were those made by some homophobic bigots set out to beat up a faggot or convert a Lesbian. It didn't matter what the situation, George seemed to know how to handle it—either with humor, finesse, or brute force, George handled it.

Then there was the infamous bust when the vice squad marched in, paraded across the stage and into the backstage dressing room, resulting in all the performers being carted off to jail. and for what? To find out it's illegal for a man to wear covering on his lips? Thank goodness for Chap-Stik—even the police MEN use that. There were bomb threats. There were derogatory, spray-painted messages on the walls out front, even before graffiti was coined a word.

In the face of all this resistance and adversity, George Wilson stood strong and tough for all of us. He is the reason behind no more police and fire department harassment. He is the reason we can dance together. He is the reason we are as free as we are today to be ourselves.

I'm sure no one realized it in the early '70s, but "George's" was a revolutionary place for us and George Wilson was a revolutionary man. Whether you know him or not, he paved the way for all of us.

The deterrent I speak of is apathy. Can we not find or re-vitalize some of the enthusiasm George gave us so freely? Can we not enter the 1990's with the vigor he had some twenty years ago? We obviously can not.

George Wilson died 6/6/90 and was buried 6/9/90. There were, perhaps, fifty in attendance at the funeral service and about half that

number formed the procession to the grave site.

Grace Perry  
Memphis

## Lambda Chorus Defended

I would like to respond to your "The Case of the Closeted Chorus" article in the July/August issue of *Gaze*. There are many specific statements I disagree with, in fact, there is very little I do agree with in the article. However, I wish to respond specifically to "As long as we let fear run our lives, we have no lives. We are going nowhere and doing nothing."

I am one of the teachers who was in the *Commercial Appeal* picture. Fear does not run my life. However, it does play a part in my life. For example, I am afraid when a person points a gun at my head.

I am going somewhere, and I am doing something very important with my life. I am going to a job that I love. (I have reservations using the word "job" when referring to my teaching—I enjoy it so much that it hardly seems like a "job".)

How many people do you know who, when work is done on Friday, can honestly say that they can hardly wait until Monday to return to work? I have said this many times; most important is that I sincerely mean it. I love teaching school.

I think of my profession as I would my children, if I were married with children. I love it. There would be **absolutely nothing** I would hesitate to do to protect my children. This is applicable to my teaching and to my students. I know that my students are benefiting from my teaching them, not only in the classroom but in the many extracurricular activities in which I am involved also.

I will no longer be a member of the Lambda Men's Chorus if I am expected to put it above my job and my life. Even though I love teaching in itself, it also enables me to have a house, a car, food, clothing, insurances...

Why are you so afraid of fear? I assure you that all fear is not bad. I am smart enough to know when to be afraid—and what to do to protect myself when I am. I cannot agree with the great American who said, "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself!" After all, is the fear of AIDS more horrible than the disease itself?

David, a "Proud," but  
"Realistic," Gay teacher

Why does a small group of Gay men singing intimidate and threaten John Stilwell? Why did John Stilwell viciously attempt to trash the Lambda Men's Chorus? It could be because he did not make the Jr. high school chorus auditions, and has pent up hostility toward choruses. It could be because he can't sing bass, baritone, or tenor thus disqualifying him

from being a part of a Men's Chorus, or could it simply be that the chorus does not sing the praises of John Stilwell. Your editorial in the July/August 1990 issue of *Gaze* was appalling. You wrote that the Memphis Gay Coalition formed an erroneous impression of what the Chorus was all about. My question is what MemphisGay Coalition? Don't fool yourself—six or seven white men have never been a coalition. Soon MGC will be a group that is representative of Memphis' diverse community and work toward meeting the needs of the total community.

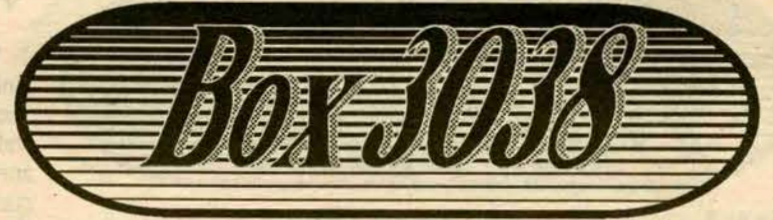
One thing that we do agree on is that the real enemy is fear. The enemy is on your back, that's the weight you feel as your heart fears change. Change for the better, change that will not allow you and a few others to control the LMC or any other group. No! I am not a member of the LMC, but I do sing because I'm happy.

Martin N. Hurley  
Memphis

I wish that you had known my grandmother. Miss Lillibet never graduated from high school, never drove a car, never set foot in a supermarket, and never believed for a moment that the giant leap for mankind was anything more than a giant hoax, yet she possessed the biggest heart, the softest lap, the gentlest touch and sensibilities, and the most serene wisdom I have ever experienced.

Miss Lillibet loved to dig in the dirt. In the early morning, as she donned her gingham bonnet, she would often remind me that everything she knew, she learned in the garden. She grew peas and corn and okra, of course, the usual Southern garden fare, but she took her greatest pride in her flowers. She loved her pink four o'clocks and phlox, her purple and white iris, her snapdragons and Queen Anne's lace and giant hollyhocks. I would join her for a while as she moved slowly and silently among the colors until the sun got too hot or the urge to climb something became too great. She would stay and play her grandmother game until it was time to prepare the feast of fresh vegetable and hot cornbread that she always called "Southern dinner."

In the afternoon she would make phone calls to ill friends or relatives or "do her correspondence" until the bobwhite's call announced the coolness of early evening. Then we would move to the swing that a befriended Watson's spice salesman had spent an entire morning suspending from the ancient oak that shaded the side lawn. And we would swing, my head in her deep, soft lap, and sing old songs and make up stories that I still remember. We would name the clouds and debate creation and imitate the songs of birds that she would name. We would laugh or cry together as we looked at pictures of dead relatives. but through it all, she taught me the truths that she had learned by digging in the dirt.



She taught me that children, like dogs, know when you like them and when you don't. She taught me that goodness is rarer than gold, that good sense is rarer than intellect, that the

when we attempt to make a rose of a cornflower.

Sincerely yours,  
Thomas Cook

*"... the worst thing a man can do is to intentionally hurt another human being for no good reason."*

best men always have bellies, that no man's voice compares to the songs of birds, and that the human heart is the last frontier. She was always fond of reminding me never to trust anyone who says, "We always treated our people good."

Darkness would signal supper, the warmed-up leftovers from "Southern dinner" with something sweet as finale. Then I would play with china animals in a clothespin corral while Miss Lillibet would crochet or embroider or paint bone china sets, an art that she warned was dying. The Bible came next, at least a chapter or two, and then bed. Until I got too old, we would snuggle together under the sweet warmth of a handmade quilt, tossing until we spooned just right for deep, peaceful slumber.

I hope, Mr. Stilwell, that my reminiscence has not bored you too much. In the South we tend to talk and drink far too long. But I felt the need for you to understand that I could never have let Miss Lillibet know that I am Gay. Not because I am ashamed, no indeed, or afraid. The rest of my family knows. My boss and most of my coworkers know. All of my friends know. But Miss Lillibet died in blissful ignorance of my sexual preference and my Lambda Men's Chorus membership because, as she was so fond of saying, the worst thing a man can do is to intentionally hurt another human being for no good reason.

I also hope, Mr. Stilwell, that I do not offend you when I write that I wish you had known by grandmother because then you would never have assumed that a man who joins a Gay chorus must necessarily come naked out of the closet or that recognition by an unaware friend, coworker, or relative during a performance in a densely populated part of a park can necessarily be dealt with later. As a leader in the Memphis Gay community and as an editor empowered with the printed word, you, sir, must understand that flowers, like people, like Gay people, like Gay men who love to sing in the company of other Gay men, come in all sizes, shapes, colors, and temperaments. And they all bloom at different times. But because we love flowers, we are tolerant of their differences and love them all the more because they are unique. No purpose is served, Mr. Stilwell,

## Stewart Calls for Huckabee Ouster

The following letter was received by *Gaze* with a request for its publication.

Mr. Bill Huckabee, President:

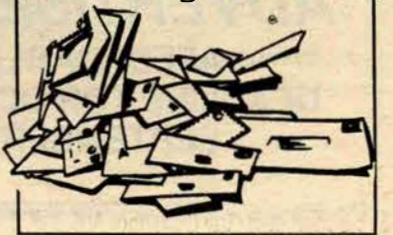
The purpose of this letter is in response to your signature as the Community Center President, on a document that is being distributed to various organizations and individuals within the Gay Community. Our community center should, in my opinion and that of other individuals, remain unbiased on all political and religious issues.

Because you have signed this document as President, and not as an individual, you placed the Community Center and officers in a situation that could damage the initial goals and objectives for which the Community Center was founded. I want to emphasize the fact that the subject of this document is not the issue to which I am opposed, rather, it is concern over what this may do to the reputation of a project that our community has needed for many years. And I do recognize that you have the right to disagree with anyone you wish, but, only as an individual, not as President of a neutral organization.

In protest of you carelessly involving our Community Center in a clearly political situation, I have instructed all of my businesses to withdraw any and all support for the Community Center and any projects involving same. This policy will remain in effect until the Community Center's Board has received and accepted your resignation as President and Board Member of the center. At that time, the center will receive my full support both personally and through my businesses.

Tommy L. Stewart

More Letters on  
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## Ethics Committee Rules on Barney Frank

Washington, DC, — The House Ethics Committee voted July 20 to formally reprimand Rep. Barney Frank (D-MA) for activities surrounding his relationship with a male prostitute. The reprimand is one of the least severe actions which the Committee could have taken. Published reports indicate that a majority on the Committee had wanted an even less severe letter of reproof, but in order to have a unanimous decision, the majority gave in to members of the Committee who wanted a more severe action.

A reprimand is far less severe than censure or expulsion.

The Ethics investigation began when Rep. Frank was accused by Steve Gobie, a prostitute, of using his services. Rep. Frank asked the committee to conduct an investigation of his own actions to determine if he had violated any rules of the House of Representatives.

Frank is widely viewed as one of the brightest and most effective members of Congress. "Even during the Ethics Committee investigation, Barney remained a vigorous force in the legislative arena," said McFeeley.

All members of the House of Representatives are up for re-election in November of this year. In the last election—the first after he had publicly acknowledged his being Gay—Rep. Frank won with 70 per cent of the vote.

Polls in his congressional district indicate he has retained the loyalty of his constituents. In recent weeks, his more serious Republican challenger withdrew from the race, giving every indication that he thought the election could not be won.

Rep. William Dannemeyer (R-CA) failed in his attempt to push for the expulsion of Rep. Frank from the House when the Ethics Committee report came to the House Floor.

## NEA Staff Meets With Activists After Gays Charge Agency With Homophobia

Washington, DC—National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) officials met on July 13 with Lesbian and Gay activists following charges that the NEA's recent denial of grants to four artists was motivated by anti-Gay bias.

On June 30, the NEA rejected four out of eighteen grants unanimously recommended by the agency's peer review panel. Three of the four artists—Holly Hughes, John Fleck, and Tim Miller—are openly Lesbian or Gay artists whose work addresses, among other subjects, issues of sexuality. The fourth applicant, Karen Finley, is a feminist performance and visual artist whose work strongly confronts sexism and homophobia.

In response to the NEA's rejection of the artists, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD), American Civil Liberties Union Lesbian and Gay Rights Project, and Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund demanded a meeting with NEA Chief John Frohnmayer. The activists charged that homophobia had motivated his actions in rejecting the artists' applications.

Gay activists subsequently met with agency staff at the NEA offices in Washington, DC. Chief Counsel for the NEA Julie Davis insisted that the Gay and Lesbian content of the artists' work did not play a part in the rejection of their grant applications. Davis also denied that Frohnmayer made statements attributing the rejection of the grants to "political realities."

Frohnmayer was quoted in the *New York Times* on June 30 as saying that "political realities" made it likely he would have to veto some NEA grants.

"If the NEA is genuinely interested in refuting charges of anti-Gay bias, they need to take strong positive actions," said GLAAD's Gewandter. "We suggested a good first step would be for Mr. Frohnmayer to issue a statement affirming his commitment to funding Gay and Lesbian artists."

## ADVERTISE IN GAZE

AFFORDABLE RATES  
DEADLINE FOR OCTOBER ISSUE  
SEPTEMBER 15, 1990

## Western Union Backs Down

Washington, DC — Western Union Corp., which earlier this year was sharply criticized by Lesbian and Gay rights advocates for their attempts to overturn the San Francisco Lesbian and Gay rights ordinance, has issued a revised non-discrimination policy for its employees which specifically includes sexual orientation.

In a statement signed by Western Union's President and Chief Executive Officer, Robert J. Amman, the company states that its policy of equal opportunity "is founded on sound business judgment and our belief in respect for the individual. We depend on the full and effective employment and development of qualified persons regardless of race,

color, religion, sex, age, national origin, sexual orientation, physical or mental handicap or veteran status."

Earlier this year, Western Union's attorneys had sought to have the San Francisco Human Rights Ordinance overturned as unconstitutional, rather than address the merits of an anti-discrimination suit which had been brought against the company by a former Gay employee, Armand Ertag. HRCF, whose "Speak Out" program had expected to do over \$300,000 worth of business this year with Western Union, canceled its account with the company, citing the legal action and its implications for the community.

HRCF officials indicated that they do not have immediate plans to re-

turn to Western Union, but that the company's positive steps would make it a possibility in the future. "We terminated their services because we felt that we could not do business with a company that was working to undermine the best interest of our community," McFeeley stated.

"However, the company's steps now demonstrate heightened and genuine movement on their part. Their opposition to anti-gay discrimination — which will be prominently posted in Western Union work-places — is important. We are about the business of changing attitudes and policies and we happily embrace this expression of equal opportunity by Western Union," McFeeley noted.

## Continental/ AMEX Bias Charged

Gays and Lesbians have been excluded from a new promotion offered by American Express and Continental Airlines.

Continental Airlines and American Express are offering a special deal to OnePass members who are American Express cardholders. OnePass is Continental's frequent flyer program. Between now and September 15, OnePass members who charge Continental airline tickets to foreign destinations on their Amex cards will receive a companion ticket free.

But wait. Before you jump to the phone to make your reservations, you better consider this: "companion" and "family member" are defined several times in the promotional materials as someone who shares the ticket-purchaser's last name. That rules out most Gay and Lesbian partnerships.

This is not the first time this has happened. Several years ago, Lambda Legal Defense Fund sued TWA over a similar issue. TWA ultimately settled, agreeing to drop marriage and blood relationship as requirements for benefitting from their promotions.

Continental Airlines evidently believes that by employing craftier language, they can evade being seen as biased. But any business practice that gives straight couples and families benefits denied to Gay couples and families is discriminatory—no matter how sneakily it's worded.

In response to complaints, American Express has made an agreement with Continental Airlines that future joint-promotions will be worded in such a way as to accommodate Gay and Lesbian couples. We have been unable to reach anyone at Continental, however. We have no guarantees that future Continental promotions done without American Express will accommodate our relationships.

To put your two cents in, write Mr. Earl Quenzel, Staff Vice Presi-

dent, Marketing Programs, Continental Airlines, P.O. Box 4607, Houston, TX, 77210-4607. Or call 713-834-5000.

## Contributions Help Elect Pro-Gay Candidates

Washington, DC — The Human Rights Campaign Fund political action committee (PAC) has contributed \$276,650 to candidates running for Congress with six months remaining in the election year. The Campaign Fund's goal is \$525,000 to pro-Lesbian and Gay candidates running for U.S. Senate and House of Representatives.

In the last election cycle (1987-88), the Campaign Fund contributed \$405,000 to candidates running for office. This year's goal represents nearly a 30 per cent increase over

1988.

"Our effectiveness on Capitol Hill is due not only to our lobbying and constituent field work, but also to the impact the Lesbian and Gay community has in Congressional elections all over the country," said Eric Rosenthal, political director of the Campaign Fund. "Candidates running for office from the Pacific Northwest to the Southeast look for support from the Campaign Fund and from Lesbian and Gay Americans in their local communities."

Republicans have received 12.5 per cent of Campaign Fund contributions so far. Seventeen per cent have gone to women and 21 per cent to people of color, well above their percentages in Congress.

"We expect that by the election at least 20 per cent of our contributions will go to Republicans, as they did in 1988," said Rosenthal. "Our disbursements to women and people of color will remain high as well."

## Special Meeting: Racism: The Discussion Continues

Community Forum Sponsored by the Memphis Gay Coalition



The Second Monday of the Month Through  
December 1990, The Community Forum Will  
Continue

7 PM at the Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center,  
1291 Madison  
(Sept. 10, Oct. 8, Nov. 12, Dec. 10)

## Passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act Hailed

Washington, DC — In a stunning setback for Sen. Jesse Helms (R-NC) and Rep. William Dannemeyer (R-CA), the U.S. House and Senate reversed their previous votes allowing discrimination against food-handlers with AIDS and gave final approval to landmark legislation giving federal protection against discrimination to people with AIDS and HIV-disease. President Bush has signed the bill into law.

The turnaround votes in Congress followed a month long campaign to overturn the previous votes.

Tim McFeeley, Executive Director of the Human Rights Campaign Fund, a national gay lobbying group, hailed the passage of the bill and the defeat of efforts to discriminate against food handlers with AIDS. "The passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act is an historic landmark in the history of the AIDS epidemic. It is the most significant effort on the part of the federal government to decisively protect people with AIDS and HIV disease from irrational discrimination," McFeeley stated.

The fate of the Americans with Disabilities Act had been in doubt since the House passed an amendment in May giving employers the right to reassign or dismiss employees with HIV who came into contact

with food. In June, a motion by Sen. Helms to instruct Senate conferees to accept the discriminatory language was passed in the Senate.

A House and Senate Conference Committee rejected the language, however, and further floor fights over the language were expected. To insure that the discriminatory language was not reinserted in the bill, the Campaign Fund orchestrated its national campaign to lobby Congress against the food handlers language backed by Helms. "We strongly opposed the discriminatory language being pushed by Helms. It could have set back years of work that has been done to educate people that they cannot contract AIDS from food," McFeeley noted.

"We were on the verge of passing a bill to prohibit discrimination against 43 million disabled Americans, including those with HIV infection and AIDS. Jesse Helms and the National Restaurant Association were holding the bill hostage to their prejudice and we could not sit by silently while they did so," he said.

Instead the Campaign Fund decided to raise public awareness of the bill and the effort to discriminate against food handlers. They contacted thousands of Lesbian and Gay businesses around the country, calling on them to contact their senators

and representatives.

When Congress returned from Washington after the July 4th holiday, the Campaign Fund organized a Capitol Hill press conference and mobilized other groups in the disabilities community to take the lead in opposing the Helms language. Working with a diverse coalition of disability, public health, labor, religious and civil rights groups, including the National Organizations Responding to AIDS, the Campaign Fund delivered paper lunch bags to Congressional offices with the message, "The National Restaurant Association is out to lunch on the Americans With Disabilities Act."

When the bill came before the Senate for final passage, Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-UT) — who had supported Helms' earlier proposal — offered an alternative amendment that would allow employers to remove employees from food handling jobs only when they have infectious diseases that, unlike AIDS, are transmitted by food. Those diseases would be placed on a list each year by the Secretary of Health and Human Services. Sen. Helms offered an amendment to the Hatch language requiring AIDS to be included on the list. After extensive debate, the Helms amendment was rejected 61-39.

When the bill reached the House floor, Rep. Dannemeyer (R-CA) moved to send the bill back to the Conference Committee with instructions to reaccept the Helms proposal. His motion was rejected 224-180, and the bill was approved 337 to 28.



## Lesbian/Gay Couples Report Widespread Discrimination

In a national survey, 71% of 1,266 Lesbian and Gay couples said they had experienced at least one type of discrimination as a couple, and 39% had experienced three or more types.

The statistics were released in the May/June issue of *Partners Newsletter For Gay & Lesbian Couples*. The publishers, who developed the survey, collected responses in 1988 and 1989.

"Gay couples who have sought equal treatment for their relationship unfortunately will not find these statistics surprising," said Stevie Bryant, who edits and publishes the bimonthly newsletter with his 10-year-partner Demian. "But we hope that the information will impress upon elected officials and other policy makers the severity of the problem."

Discrimination was most frequently reported in connection with employment benefits. However, the problem was not universal. Eight percent of the respondents said their employers provided partners with an employee benefit of some kind. Five percent said their employer provides health insurance for their partner.

Judging from the results, same-sex couples face likely discrimination wherever they seek equal treatment. For example, almost half of those couples who had arranged to parent children through adoption of foster parenting programs said they faced discrimination in the process.

Women reported significantly more discrimination than men. Fully 75% of women reported relationship discrimination of some type, as compared to 65% of men. This may be partly attributable to the added discrimination Lesbians experience as women.

Reports of discrimination also were significantly higher among couples who were more open about their relationship, more strongly committed, more politically liberal, and together more than one year. These couples presumably are more inclined to have asked for or expected equal treatment.

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**TUESDAY \$2.00 Optional BEER BUST 8-12 - FREE PIZZA 8-10 PM**

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Sandwich order**

**THURSDAY 8PM-3AM FREE Pitcher BEER with any 12" Pizza Order**

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY - BEER BUST 11PM-3AM**

**Lorretta & Co. Show at 1:15 AM, \$3.00 Cover**

# Memphis

## The Normal Heart Opens Oct. 4

Rehearsals are underway for the October production of Larry Kramer's play *The Normal Heart*. Performance dates are Oct. 4, 5 and 6 at 8 PM and Oct. 7 at 2:30 PM at Theatre Works, 414 S. Main. Dennis Massey will direct and the cast includes Dennis, Bernie Gwyn, Richard Johnson, Vincent Astor, Kevin Palmer, Wally Dreesen, Sean Farrell, Jimmy Gray and David Williamson.

*The Normal Heart* was first produced in New York in 1985 and deals in a no holds barred manner with the beginnings of the AIDS epidemic in New York in 1981. Larry Kramer was a co-founder of Gay Men's Health Crisis in New York and the author of *Faggots* in 1987. He is a nationally known activist, author and screenwriter and this play is considered to be largely autobiographical. Its contemporary was *As Is*, the AIDS play which moved to Broadway and has been produced recently in Nashville. It was produced in Memphis in 1986 with support from ATEAC.

*The Normal Heart* is a very strong drama. The emotions, frustrations,



The cast of *The Normal Heart*

heartaches and heroisms of the pioneers of AIDS activism are displayed in no uncertain terms. Central to the play is the personal relationship between Ned, the radical activist, and Felix, the less-than-out journalist who becomes a victim of AIDS himself. As with *Boys in the Band*, audience members feel that they know each of the characters in the play. This makes the message even stronger and the cry for help and understanding, not only for those living with AIDS but for all Gay people, more poignant.

All door proceeds will go to the ATEAC PWA Assistance Fund. All expenses are being underwritten by donations and the sale of program ads.

## Brothers and Sisters Want You!

Are you looking for a few good men, or women? We are! Are your Friday nights dull and listless? Our's aren't. So do we have a deal for you??? The Brothers and Sisters Bowling League, Memphis' only all GAY and LESBIAN bowling league, is looking for a few good men and women to bowl in our league. It's a great way to meet new friends and have fun. You don't need to be an expert bowler to join. In fact, this league is a sanctioned handicap league that will give you extra points based on your average. This way everyone bowls basically on the same score level.

Last year we enjoyed our most successful season to date with 14 teams, and our league sanctioned over 100 bowlers for the local bowling associations. Competition was hot and heavy with the team of Stiff Competition winning the league championship. Sharon Wray's sponsored team of WKR bowlers came in second.

This year, as in past years, we will be bowling at Big Daddy's Poplar Plaza Bowling lanes, located in the Poplar Plaza Shopping Center off Poplar and Highland, next to Kroger's grocery store. There are 20 lanes, and our goal is to fill them all with teams.

Bowling will start Friday, 7:00 pm, Sept. 7, 1990. The season will last for 24 weeks, with the Championship Roll-offs and Jackpot Night

on March 8, 1990. Each individual who joins must pay a \$7.00 sanction fee (a one time charge), and nightly bowling will cost \$7.00 per person for three games of team bowling. Each team is comprised of 4 individuals of any combination; two male, two female, all male, all female, etc...

At the end of our season we will give out our team and individual award trophies, along with prize money for the Jackpot Night roll-offs. To qualify for this all you need to do is bowl on a team throughout the season.

We challenge all GAY and LESBIAN related organizations, businesses, and especially bars to sponsor teams. Your sponsorship can include the use of your organization's name for the team, and also shirts for your team members. Last year's only sponsored team was from WKRB, and this year we would like to see the business competition come to the bowling lanes. This is a great way of showing Memphis that our GAY community can compete in one of our nation's biggest participation sports.

Our organization is also looking for a sponsor for an All Star team to participate in the regional, and national GAY Bowling Tournaments this year. For more information come to our first night of bowling anytime after 6:00 pm; our league officers will be there to help form teams and answer questions.

# IT'S OK To Be GAY

M E M P H I S



# GAY & LESBIAN

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## Hooterville Newlyweds Give Wedding Gifts To ATEAC, Ask You To Do the Same

June bride Bobbie Jo Bradley and her new husband, Steve Elliot, were married recently at the Shady Rest Hotel of Petticoat Junction, and graciously gave all their cash gifts to ATEAC. Now before you think you've awakened in a NIC at night nightmare, all this took place in Memphis, during a mock wedding which was part of the second annual Petticoat Junction theme party held in June by a group of about eight hosts and a cast and crew of twenty young men and women of the Gay community. Close to 150 guests hooded dressed as their favorite characters from the old Petticoat Junction, Green Acres, and Beverly Hillbillies TV shows, during which a tongue-in-cheek "show" and mock wedding were performed after which a gift-opening ceremony unearthed several unusual items. The hosts realized that they could be of some benefit to ATEAC without calling their party a "benefit" by making it known that any cash gifts would be donated to ATEAC. Of the \$605.00 raised, \$175.00 was given in cash by guests as they entered and signed a guest book at the Shady Rest Hotel desk manned by a demanding beautician character. The remainder came in checks as wedding gifts.

Now the point here is that you don't have to have a benefit to raise money for a cause and they've been doing this sort of thing in Houston, Dallas, and New Orleans, etc., for years. One simply has a cocktail

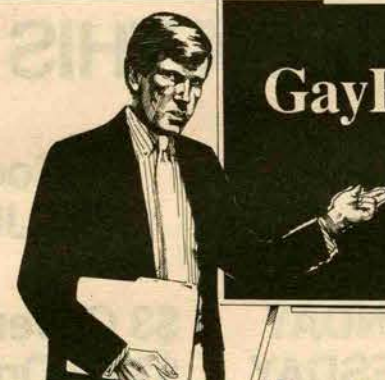
party for ten intimate friends or a bash for eighty and denotes on the invitation that each guest might like to bring five or ten dollars or whatever, that will in turn be given to such and such cause. It's kind of like "partying with a purpose," and high time Memphis joined in. So get out those guest lists and mix up some punch. Whether you raise twelve

dollars or \$200.00, you and your friends will feel better about yourselves in the long run than if you'd just had drinks, redone your hair and gone out to stand around in a smoky bar till all hours, which you may or may not do afterwards anyway. But, you'll feel better in the morning!

—The Cast & Crew of Petticoat Junction 1990

### REMINDER

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Gay Men Should Not Give Blood



"Health and Disability Insurance for the Gay and Lesbian Community"

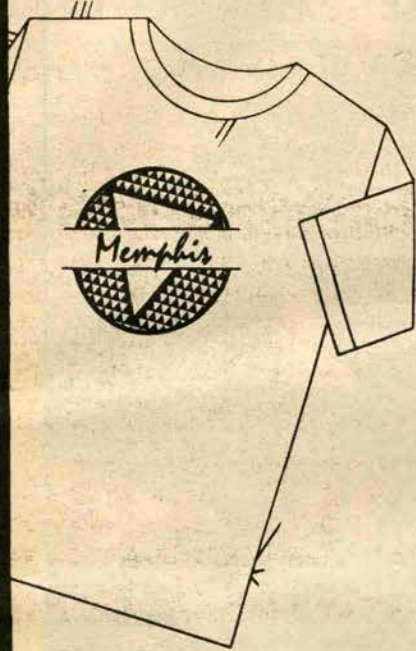
Monday, Sept. 17, 7 PM

Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center, 1291 Madison

Facilitator: Charles Butler, CFP

Free Information Provided by IDS/American Express  
GayRap is a service of the Memphis Gay Coalition

# 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**  
**P.O. Box 3038**  
**Memphis, TN 38173-0038**

Also Available at the Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 1291 Madison Avenue

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# Memphis

## Mapplethorpe Photos On Display at Brooks Museum

Two exhibitions of contemporary art containing photographs by the late Robert Mapplethorpe are currently on exhibition at Memphis Brooks Museum of Art. The Wil and Sally Hergenrader Collection of Contemporary Art is a portion of a private collection belonging to Mr. and Mrs. Hergenrader containing numerous contemporary works in various mediums. *From Manet to Motherwell* is an exhibition of Artists' Books from the collection of Isabel and Charles Goodman.



The Hergenrader collection contains *Calla Lily*, 1987, a dye transfer print (see front page) of the type of photograph for which he was justly famous. It measures 18 1/4" square, and is beautifully colored. The Artists' Books collection contains *A Season in Hell* by Arthur Rimbaud with eight hand-rubbed photogravures by Mapplethorpe. The image shown in the exhibition is a nude, rear view. This brings to mind those other images which gained him such recent notoriety. This book is among those given to Brooks Museum by the Goodman family and will be available for exhibition and study

from now on.

This is a unique opportunity for Memphians to view two such diverse works by this famous Gay artist. The Hergenrader collection will, unfortunately, close on Sept. 2. The Goodman family books will be exhibited until Sept. 9 but many, including *A Season in Hell*, will remain in the permanent collection. A lecture by Andrew Hoyem will take place Sept. 9 at 2:30; he published several books in the exhibition, among them, one of the most unusual of all: *Self-Portrait in a Convex Mirror* by John Ashbery, 1984.

## Memphis Hosts Psycho-Social AIDS Conference

Washington, DC—Over 250 Memphis area health and mental health caregivers received training about the psychological and social impact of AIDS on people with the disease, on their family and friends, and on health care workers themselves.

Memphis hosted the AIDS Community Training (ACT) Project, directed by the American Psychological Association (APA), and funded by the National Institute of Mental Health. The ACT Project was established in 1988 to conduct a series of trainings in medium-sized cities over the course of three years. The ACT Project Training in Memphis on July 26-28 at the Memphis Airport Hilton was the ninth training in that series.

Targeted for training were staff of hospitals, community health and mental health care agencies, substance abuse treatment programs, community outreach agencies, pastoral care centers, hospice organizations, home health care agencies, visiting nurse associations, local volunteer AIDS service organizations, student health services, outpatient clinics, and local and state health departments. Training was also directed to private practitioners, to community-based leaders and edu-

cators, and to faculty, students and interns at university programs in psychology, social work, medicine, nursing, and other health-related disciplines.

The ACT Project Training is organized to promote regional linkages between organizations and individuals crucial to comprehensive systems of AIDS-related care. Linkages are promoted by structured networking activities between community-based care organizations and professionals, health care delivery institutions, and health and mental health practitioners and educators.

A special feature of the ACT Project Training was a Symposium on AIDS In Ethnic Minority Communities July 26 with no charge to participants. The Symposium focused on treatment, education, service and prevention issues of relevance to communities of color. This specialized training is a particularly important aspect of the ACT Project's overall educational effort because health and mental health care services targeting communities of color tend to be less available and less well developed than services for Euro-American communities. While this problem is related to broader issues like poverty, access to health care, and institutional racism, it also

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arises from the erroneous and widely held belief that AIDS is a Gay, white male disease. Although this belief is changing, the change has occurred more slowly in medium-sized cities like Memphis where there have been fewer AIDS-related training efforts directed toward providers working in communities of color.

## MGC Extends Racism Discourse

The Memphis Gay Coalition (MGC) has offered four of its excess meeting dates at the Gay & Lesbian Community Center (MGLCC) to extend the discussion of Racism in the Gay Community begun at the last two GayRaps. Vincent Astor, acting President of the Coalition, made the offer after those attending the Aug. 20 GayRap agreed that the issue had not been completely explored. The additional meetings are scheduled for the second Monday of each month through December.

The MGC has contracted for 24 meetings per year at the MGLCC, but has only used the ones designated for GayRap. The Coalition agreed to pay the Center for 12 additional meetings per year and to provide the space free to new organizations or special events. The Coalition's business meeting still takes place at the Main Library on the first Monday of each month.

"The 'Racism in the Gay Community' GayRaps were attended by an extraordinary number of people," said Astor. "We hope to continue the dialogue by offering these meetings." Astor said that previous scheduling

## National Coming Out Day Committee Being Formed

Oct. 11, 1990 is National Coming Out Day. Various cities across the U.S. are in the process of planning coming out day events, Memphis won't be left out. If you are interested in being on the NCOD committee to help plan events for Memphis please call 521-9525.

NCOD T-Shirts and sweat shirts may be ordered by sending \$16.00 (T-Shirt) or \$30.00 (Sweat Shirt) plus \$3.00 postage and handling to: NCOD, P.O. box 15524, Santa Fe, NM 87506 or calling (505) 982-2558.

of GayRap topics precluded using the third Monday slot.

## Wagettes Pass \$10,000 Mark

by Reneé Greene

Those crazy girls from Madison Ave. are at it again! A year ago the story goes, a few regular customers of J-Wags set out to raise money for PWA's. They uttered a rash statement to the effect that a bunch of old drunks could get together and raise \$10,000 or more in a years time. There were few believers though. Undaunted, these crazy people set out on their task. For Jim Easter, Jerry Attoaway, Mattie-Mae Sanchez, and Granny Weaver, it must have been a tiring, but rewarding period. They have worked very hard and deserve our thanks for their efforts.

The most recent of these events, a fundraising show at Barbara's Ballroom, was a huge success—which is to say that at show's end the place was full of weary, overheated performers, and the urn was stuffed

with money. Including pledges, this benefit raised over \$1,400 to go towards ATEAC's PWA fund.

It was a wild gala affair, as is the norm for a Wagette function. Miss Victor/Victoria emceed the show, which was put on by a large cast from many parts of our community. Of course, the Wagettes presented offerings of their talents. From Chaps David and Milt brought Sweet Thang to the stage. From Oops Big Mary came strokin in as Butch Cassidy. J-Wags sent Miss Lorretta, Crystal Jo Jennings, Reneé Greene, and Miss JC to the arena. Miss Gay Memphis 1990 was on hand as she discoed through the aisles. One of the most moving, heart-rending events was when the infamous Billie Jo Casino came to the stage and shared with all some of her personal feelings about this terrible plague. I don't know if there was a dry eye in the house, my sight was a bit blurry at the time.

Isn't it amazing what a few people can accomplish with heart and determination? Congratulations Wagettes

continued on page 9



## Billie Jo Bestows 1990 Awards

by Reneé Greene

The incomparable Billie Jo Casino hosted the 7th annual BJC Awards the evening of July 29 at WKRB in Memphis. Entertainment was provided by several prominent Memphis performers including BJ's protege Crystal Jo Jennings; Miss River City, Michelle Marie; former Miss Reflections, Kirby Kincaid; Misty McEntire; and Liz Carrington.

And now, here are this year's winners: (no names have been changed to protect anybody.)

**Lesbian Of The Year:** Sandy Shea.—Other nominees were Hollywood and Ann Myers.

**Queer Of The Year:** Granny Weaver.—hands down winner.

**Miss Overton Park:** Brian W. — with mention to Lady Vic, Wormy, and Tiger Tanner.

**Bootstrap Award:** Mike Frost. This award goes to a person who has overcome adversity and put themselves back to right.

**Disc-Jockey Of The Year:** Lee Hill—his third consecutive award in this category, the other nominees were Melena and Wolfie.

**Sponge Award:** Dennis L.—who we are told can soak up more liquor than a case of Bounty. Keep trying Sandy and Jim, there's always next year.

**Lifetime Achievement Award:** Michelle Marie.

**Bartender Of The Year:** Michael Williams (Barbara's)—the fastest and most courteous suds-slinger in town.

**The Spoon Award:** Phyllis N.—by a narrow margin over Vic and Michelle.

**Couple Of The Year:** Sharon and Kelly.

**Most Promising Entertainer:** Kirby Kincaid—given to the performer showing the most promise of being somebody in this town. Former winners include Crystal Jo and Fiona Fury.

Last, but not least, the surprising winner of The Bar Of The Year: Reflections Dance And Show Bar.

Many thanks to Billie (Memphis' Transy Of The Year) for yet another fun-filled evening. We hope to be in attendance at a great many more.

## Waggettes

*continued from page 8*

on crossing the \$10,000 threshold, and on behalf of all those you've helped, a sincere thank God for people like you.

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# Spectrum

## The Personals Offers Unique AIDS-Related Services

The Personals Computer Bulletin Board System is announcing new AIDS services to the general public. The Personals has served registered users in the Memphis Gay community since 1985. Now The Personals is offering its extensive AIDS information without having to register on the system. All that is required is a personal computer with communications software and a modem. To access the AIDS services simply enter "AIDS Information" when the system prompts you for a user name. No password is required. The system will then ask you for information about your computer terminal. On-line help is available if you are uncertain about your terminal. Before calling be certain to set your system for 300, 1200, or 2400 baud using 8 data bits, 1 stop bit, and no parity. The data phone number is (901) 274-6713 (this number is for computers and modems only—no "voice" help is available at that number) or you can write The Personals, P.O. Box 40381, Memphis, TN 38174-0381 for more information or help.

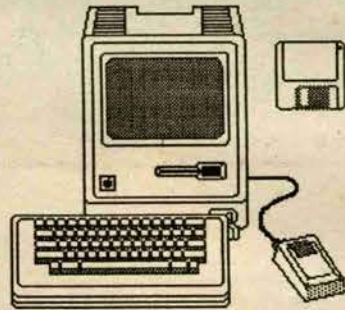
The Personals is fully committed to providing the Memphis community with comprehensive current and historical AIDS information and personal support for those affected by AIDS and to make that information and support available 24-hours a day.

By supplying virtually instant access to both the most current and archival information, The Personals offers a unique service to Memphis. No other service in Memphis provides such a large quantity of information 24-hours a day.

Through membership in GayCom (an international network of 18 Gay systems) The Personals has gained access to an impressive and unique collection of AIDS publications, services, and support forums.

Over 5,000,000 bytes of disk space are dedicated to storing AIDS-related periodicals. Current issues of *Aids Treatment Newsletter of the Documentation of AIDS Issues and Research Foundation* and *People With AIDS Coalition Newslines* are available for reading on-line. Other publications available include *Positive Hope—Newsletter for HIV Positive Members of the Navy and Marine Corps*, and *Bulletin of Experimental Treatments for AIDS* published by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, plus current reprints from the FDA Electronic Bulletin Board.

The comprehensive *AIDS Bibliographic and Abstract Service*, compiled and distributed by North



ern Lights Alternatives, provides over 4,200,000 bytes of AIDS reference data. It is considered the definitive AIDS reference source and is provided on-line as an exclusive service of The Personals.

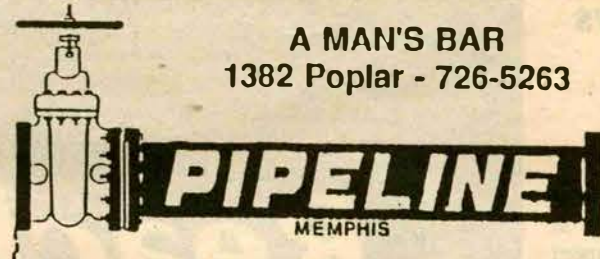
*Surviving and Thriving with AIDS: Hints for the Newly Diagnosed*, is the highly acclaimed collection of articles and essays edited by Michael Callen and printed by the People with AIDS Coalition in 1987. By permission, The Personals offers 98% of this valuable resource on-line. *Surviving and Thriving with AIDS: Volume 2*, printed in December of 1988, is also available.

The Personals also offers two very special message areas that are shared with the other GayCom systems. These two areas allow Memphians to communicate actively with others across the continent about AIDS. "Survivors" is a "Dear Abby"-type message area that is shared with all 18 GayCom systems, providing an anonymous outlet for the thoughts and emotional concerns of those surviving with AIDS. "Survivors" gives users a support group-like atmosphere. "Talking About AIDS," a general AIDS discussion echo area, is a recent addition to the GayCom network. It offers an international public forum for discussing a wide variety of AIDS-related topics including new treatment techniques, medical referrals, and information resources while providing anonymity.

"The Bookshop," an on-line bookstore combining tele-computing with mail order techniques, provides a quick and easy way to order AIDS and other publications that are difficult, if not impossible, to purchase locally.

There are also several special sections devoted to Substance Abuse recovery including its vital role in stopping the spread of AIDS.

Through this variety of data services, The Personals provides the most current information available from National Institutes of Health, Centers for Disease Control, Gay Men's Health Crisis, and countless other resources across the nation.



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**HOME OF TSARUS**  
**MONTHLY EVENTS**

## It's Not Miller Time in Dallas

The Dallas Gay Alliance decision to boycott Miller beer as well as Marlboro cigarettes (both owned by Philip Morris, Inc.) received a boost when the Gay bar owners' association, the Dallas Tavern Guild, joined activists by removing the products from their bars. "We appreciate the Guild's awareness of how profits from Miller Beer sales flow into the pockets of Jesse Helms through parent Philip Morris; political action committee or contributions to the Jesse Helms Leadership Center in North Carolina," Bruce Monroe, DGA president said.

Miller and Marlboro products are no longer present in most of the Gay

bars in the Dallas area.

"We asked Miller representatives lots of questions about their self-proclaimed support of the Gay and Lesbian community," Monroe said. "But we found that it was not so much a commitment to our community, as it was a marketing strategy to sell more beer. We need Miller to stand up to Jesse Helms and let the country know that bigotry and hatred will not be tolerated by corporate America," he said.

Miller Beer, the number one selling beer in Gay bars, has stated it has a strong commitment to Gay rights, but has failed to provide any detailed list of corporate contributions to Gay

causes. "Miller says it has contributed between \$300,000 and \$600,000 to AIDS-related or Gay causes, but we have not been able to substantiate it," Monroe said. "Even so, if Jesse Helms were not in the U.S. Senate blocking AIDS funding, we would have seen a \$300 million to \$600 million response on the part of the government," Monroe said.

Miller has tried to avoid a national boycott, saying the Dallas decision was merely a "local service problem." Activists claim that the incentive to include Miller has been brewing for several weeks and that Miller's time had run out.

## Black Gay and Lesbian Organization Named—B-GLAD

by Martin Hurley and Tony Horne  
 Throughout the summer, interested Black Gays and Lesbians began meeting to form a new organization. On July 22, 1990 "Black Gay and Lesbian Alliance for Dignity" was the name chosen for our group. Since then the name B-GLAD has been chanted through out the Gay and Lesbian community.

On Sunday, Aug. 19 during our business meeting, interim officers were elected and several committees were formed. Joy Booker and Tony Horne were unanimously elected to serve as interim co-chairs of B-GLAD.

We feel that our presence in the Memphis Gay and Lesbian community has already been felt. On

Aug. 15, two of our members along with two members of BWMT/Memphis participated on the Bev Johnson Show. This talk show is broadcast over radio station WDIA 1020 AM. The topic was Homosexuality/Homophobia. The panel received many calls from the Gay and Lesbian community as well as the heterosexual community. Ms Johnson was supportive and sensitive to our community. She said she would address more issues concerning the Memphis Gay and Lesbian community on her show which has a listening audience in TN, LA, MS, AR, and MO.

On Saturday, Aug. 25, B-GLAD co-chair Joy Booker, along with Richard Johnson, pastor of Holy Trinity Community Church ap-

peared on the Christian talk show "Christianity In Focus." the show was hosted by James Sanders and broadcast over radio station KFTH 107.1 FM. The call-in talk show was on Homosexuality and Christianity. Joy and Richard gave insight to the Gay perspective of Christianity.

In the spirit of creating a unified Gay and Lesbian community in Memphis, B-GLAD is willing to work with the entire community. We are presently involved in increasing awareness concerning homophobia, internalized homophobia, racism, and many other issues that affect our community. Although B-GLAD's consciousness raising rap sessions *see B-Glad on page 19*

# MGC Offers Free Memberships

The last two GayRaps which have dealt with racism in the Gay community have probably been attended by more people than the previous five combined. This, of course, indicates that racism is a hot topic.

Much of the discussion has centered on what I would call "institutional racism," that is, racism practiced by the institutions of the Gay community. Fingers are pointed especially at the Gay bar owners who are alleged to practice discrimination by requiring more identification of people of color to get into bars than whites. It has also been implied that both the Memphis Gay Coalition and the Aid to End AIDS Committee have discriminatory racist policies, practices, or attitudes. Members of Black and White Men Together have alleged that the "old-line White Gay males who have controlled the Memphis Gay Coalition [and] *Gaze* newspaper... for many years" have entered into some sort of conspiracy to support this institutional racism.

In fairness, it should be pointed out that GayRap itself is a function of the Memphis Gay Coalition which has paid the Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center for the use of its space. This newspaper publicized the meeting. It seems to me that as conspirators of silence we would more likely try to ignore the issue than spend money to purposely expose it.

Throughout the years, the members of the MGC Board of directors have bemoaned the fact that MGC has had to field accusations of racism and sexism because its membership is predominantly white and male. In part to broaden its base, the Coalition offered "associate memberships" (with full voting privileges) to "any member of a Gay organization." All that was necessary was for the requesting organization to present the proposal to its membership, vote to become associates, and forward the names of those individuals within the organization who wished to be members. All Coalition dues were waived for associate members.

Three years ago, the Memphis Gay Coalition offered members of all the Gay organizations in town a free associate membership in the Memphis Gay Coalition. At that time, The Gay Women's Social Group, the Bowling League, and Agape New Life Church joined as Associate Members. Only the Gay Women's Social

Group has continued its membership over the past three years.

The Memphis Gay Coalition has several levels of membership. A Contributing Member pays \$5.00 for one year. This membership entitles the individual to full voting privileges. It was specifically designed so that even if a person were economically disadvantaged, they could still participate. The Subscribing Membership (\$8.00) essentially makes anyone who subscribes to *Gaze* a full voting member in the Coalition. Sustaining Memberships are \$20.00 a year and Household members pay \$35.00 a year for two members. Supporting Members are those who make a donation of \$20.00 or more to any Coalition Project: The Gay Switchboard, *Gaze* newspaper, or GayFest. Sustaining, Household, and Supporting Memberships include a subscription to *Gaze* and discounts on Coalition sponsored events and items the Coalition sells.

Associate Memberships are equivalent to Contributing Memberships, including full voting privileges, but cost the Associate Member nothing. In upgrading to a higher membership, the Associate Member gets a \$5.00 discount. For example, an Associate Member can become a Subscribing Member and get a subscription to *Gaze* for \$3.00.

The Associate Memberships were specifically designed to encourage participation. No additional investment is required aside from the time invested to participate.

The Memphis Gay Coalition is making this offer again to all the established Gay or Lesbian organizations in Memphis. If your entire organization would like to join, send us a list of your members. (If individuals are concerned about being put on a mailing list, we can send their membership cards and any other mailings to the organization's mailing address.) In case some groups can't get a consensus from their membership, we would also like to make this offer to the individual members of the various organizations. If you would like to become an Associate Member of the Memphis Gay Coalition with full voting privileges, please fill out the coupon below. Be sure to include your group affiliation and the name and phone number of an officer, board member, or chair-person who can be called to verify your membership.

We're Celebrating Especially for You  
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We will send you our Check for 0.50 cents per call, for each call you make to 1-900-820-8017. Just send a self-addressed, stamped envelope and a copy of your phone bill to:  
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This offer starts September 1, 1990, and may be withdrawn without further notice.

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FIND OUT FOR YOURSELF!  
NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, Sept. 3, 1990  
7:00PM Meeting Room B  
Main Library—Peabody & McLean**

**Join The  
Memphis Gay  
Coalition**



Clip and mail to: MGC, P.O. Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38173-0038

I'd Like to Join the Coalition as:

- A Contributing Member (\$5.00)
- A Subscribing Member (\$8.00, Includes a Subscription to *Gaze*)
- A Sustaining Member (\$20.00, Includes a Subscription to *Gaze*)
- A Household (2 People) (\$35.00, Includes a Subscription to *Gaze*)

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

*Yes, I would like to become an Associate member of the Memphis Gay Coalition for free.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

I am currently a member in good standing of the following Gay or Lesbian organization: \_\_\_\_\_

You may contact \_\_\_\_\_  
Name/Title

at \_\_\_\_\_ to confirm my membership.  
Phone Number

Associate memberships in the Memphis Gay Coalition are available free to members in good standing of other local Gay or Lesbian organizations.

**Memphis Gay Coalition**  
P.O. Box 3038  
Memphis TN 38173-0038

# The Help Page

## You Don't Have to be an Emotional Victim

by Becky Caperton

At work, Jill, a successful copy-righter, acts with competence and authority. In private life, however, when interacting with her mate, she becomes dependent, self-effacing, and demands nothing less than total commitment. Jill's pattern: she becomes involved with dominant, aggressive, self-absorbed women and then worries about losing them and feels exploited when she does. This type of woman will never provide Jill with the kind of commitment she finds necessary. Still, she always seeks the same kind. Tim, a thirty-two-year-old middle management executive, has always had an enormous sense of financial responsibility for his mother. Because he gives so much of his paycheck to her, he can rarely afford to date. Recently, she discovered that his mother had been depositing her Social Security checks in a healthy bond fund, while living off the money he had been giving her. Tim feels "taken" and resentful but cannot stop his unnecessary

giving to Mother.

John and Michael are a mutually exploitative couple. Their pattern: When John has a problem, he wants Michael to help solve it. When Michael has a problem, he craves sympathy and support. In real life, John gives Michael what he wants - practical help. Michael gives John the empathy that Michael desires. Each provides what the other doesn't want. Each feels empty, disappointed, betrayed.

Jill, Tim, John and Michael differ in age, appearance, talent, and economic success, but share the quality that affects their entire way of life. They are emotional victims. Aloud, they wonder, "Why did THEY do this to me?" On the outside, they feel martyred and miserable, victims of people and forces beyond their control. But often they suffer needlessly because they lack the realization that they can change.

Are you an emotional victim? At some time or another in life, we all become victims of some outside

event - for example, fire, bad business circumstances, illness, crime. The less fortunate of us will be victims of abusive or deliberately cruel people, sometimes even those we have a right to trust. These are sad, sometimes even tragic circumstances, usually filled with a sense of personal violation.

There is a second, even more common kind of victim: those of us who consistently set ourselves up to lose in the ordinary course of living, of being engaged with life, with interacting and relating to people. Our sense of defeat comes from the way we relate to other people. Our sense of defeat comes from the way we relate to other peoples and ourselves. If we tolerate the intolerable, cooperate with people who take advantage of us, imagine what is not true, bring about difficulties by our behavior, or magnify a situation that is already difficult for us into something much worse, we are emotional victims, doomed to an experience of continual pain, suffering, anguish.

It is to this so common type of victim, rather than to the victims of crime, abuse, and misfortune, that I address this column. In the next several issues, we will take up the everyday problems of essentially normal people, which most of us are, and show how to deal with these problems in life through new psychological techniques. Do you let your victim-promises limit your life or your potential and often destroy you as a person? Do you suffer when you don't have to? The goals of this column are to teach you that you don't have to be a victim and how to accomplish your own devictimization.

## NAMES Project Chapter Hosts Quilting Bees

On Sept. 12, the Memphis Chapter of the Names Project will host the first in a series of monthly quilting bees. The goals of these quilting sessions are to help family members and friends in the process of creating a quilt panel for a loved one lost to AIDS.

Many times we have heard people say, "I can't sew" or "I don't know where to begin" or "I can't possibly do this on my own." We will provide the space, the sewing machines, and some materials to help them begin the healing process for their grief. This will be an opportunity to work in a supportive atmosphere among people who care.

The quilting bees will be held in the Production Room of the American Red Cross at 1400 Central Ave (Rom 304) and will run from 6-9 PM. Once completed, local panels will be displayed or used for educational purposes for 90 days after which they will be submitted to the National Names Project to be added to regional displays of the AIDS Memorial Quilt.

The NAMES Project, sponsor of the AIDS Memorial Quilt, was established in June 1987 in San

## Now You Can Designate Your United Way Contribution to ATEAC

This year United Way is allowing donors to designate all or part of their contributions to ANY non-profit organization—even agencies not among United Way's 58 member agencies.

To designate your pledge, ask your company's United Way coordinator for a "designation card", fill it out, and return it. Remember, you must ask for the card specifically.

A Public Service of Gaze

## Insurance Topic of September GayRap

The Memphis Gay Coalition will sponsor its monthly GayRap on Monday, Sept. 17 at the Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center, 1291 Madison, at 7 PM. The program topic is "Health and Disability Insurance for the Gay and Lesbian community." Charles Butler, CFP, will facilitate the discussion. Charles has specialized in financial and tax planning for the Gay and Lesbian community since 1984. Free information on topics of concern to the Gay and Lesbian community will be provided by IDS/American Express. Plan to come and share your opinions and concerns.

Francisco's Castro District. Its goals are to graphically illustrate the impact and human toll of AIDS; to provide a powerful expression of love, grief, pain, and anger for those who must confront AIDS in their daily lives; and to raise the desperately needed funds to support those who are living with AIDS and their loved ones as this epidemic continues unabated.

Like the glow of a candle in the dark, The Quilt lights our way through this time of darkness. If you have lost a loved one or friend to AIDS, please help us let their love light our way by making a panel. For further information, call our office at (901) 725-0371 or write The Memphis NAMES Project Chapter, P.O. Box 34576, Memphis, TN 38184-0576.

## MAC Announces Grants

The Memphis AIDS Coalition, one of the recipients of last year's Heartstrings proceeds, has announced three grants totalling \$5,000. A total of \$12,000 has been reserved to fund AIDS-related educational or direct service projects of local organizations.

Funded projects for the first round include:

- \$2,000 to ATEAC for funding of a food pantry for PWA's.
- \$2,000 to ATEAC for funding of the Stop AIDS Project.
- \$1,000 to the Mid-South Chapter of the American Red Cross for development of special outreach materials for the local native American population.

The Grants Review Committee was composed of Kim Moss of the Midtown Mental Health Center, Sloan Young of the Northeast Mental Health Center, and Larry Clay of the Burroughs-Wellcome Corporation. Their recommenda-

tions were unanimously approved by the MAC board of Directors.

A request for proposals, not to exceed \$2,000 for each project, has been extended through Sept. 15. For an application, write Memphis AIDS Coalition, Grant Review Committee, 1400 Central Avenue, Memphis, TN, 38104.

## Benefit Patrons Aid Lady Vic

by Reneé Greene

A benefit to help Victor/Victoria was staged at Barbara's on Aug. 17. Lady Vic was injured a few weeks ago, resulting in a broken bone in his foot, and a cast up to the thigh. Unfortunately, we will not be seeing much of her for a few months... on stage, that is.

This show was not just for her friends to participate in; it was open to anyone who possessed the compassion to help a fallen peer. The girls in this show deserve a special round of applause and should take great pride that they were there for a person in need.

Vic would like to express his deepest thanks to all the girls—Billie Jo Casino, Crystal Jo Jennings, Loretta, Reneé Greene, Mattie Mae, Granny Weaver, Milt and Sweet Thang, Big Mary, Misty Wright, Lawsum, and Miss Taria. And thanks to all those who so generously donated time and money to make this happen.

This show raised over \$300 to help pay his living expenses while recuperating. It was a good start, but he still needs all the help we can give him. Anyone interested in helping can contact Loretta for information. They say she is accepting cards, flowers, gifts, cash, foodstamps....

What if it were you ???

Jocelyn Dan Wurzburg  
Attorney at Law  
Mediator

## Parting Mediation

There is a better way to settle differences than a costly courtroom battle. You can control the decisions that affect your family, your finances, your business, and your life through *mediation*, a voluntary settlement process. A mediator is an impartial person who helps people in conflict make practical, informed decisions to resolve the issues before them.

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Memphis, Tennessee 38103

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## Kiss This

Wednesday, August 8, 7:00 pm, the Mid-South Coliseum. Heavy metal fans abound. More leather outfits, long wigs, and make-up are present here than a Saturday night at both The Pipeline and Reflections Showbar. There's an electricity in the air as the crowd prepares to see a legendary Rock And Roll Band. Kiss is in town tonight! The show is complemented by not just one, but two warm-up bands: Slaughter and Danger-Danger. The crowd outside is eagerly anticipating the event, a great many wonder aloud as to what the stage setting is. Word is it's full of cat-walks, lasers, pyro-technical devices, smoke, explosions, and the like, and perhaps the most unique background ever - a sphynx wearing shades.



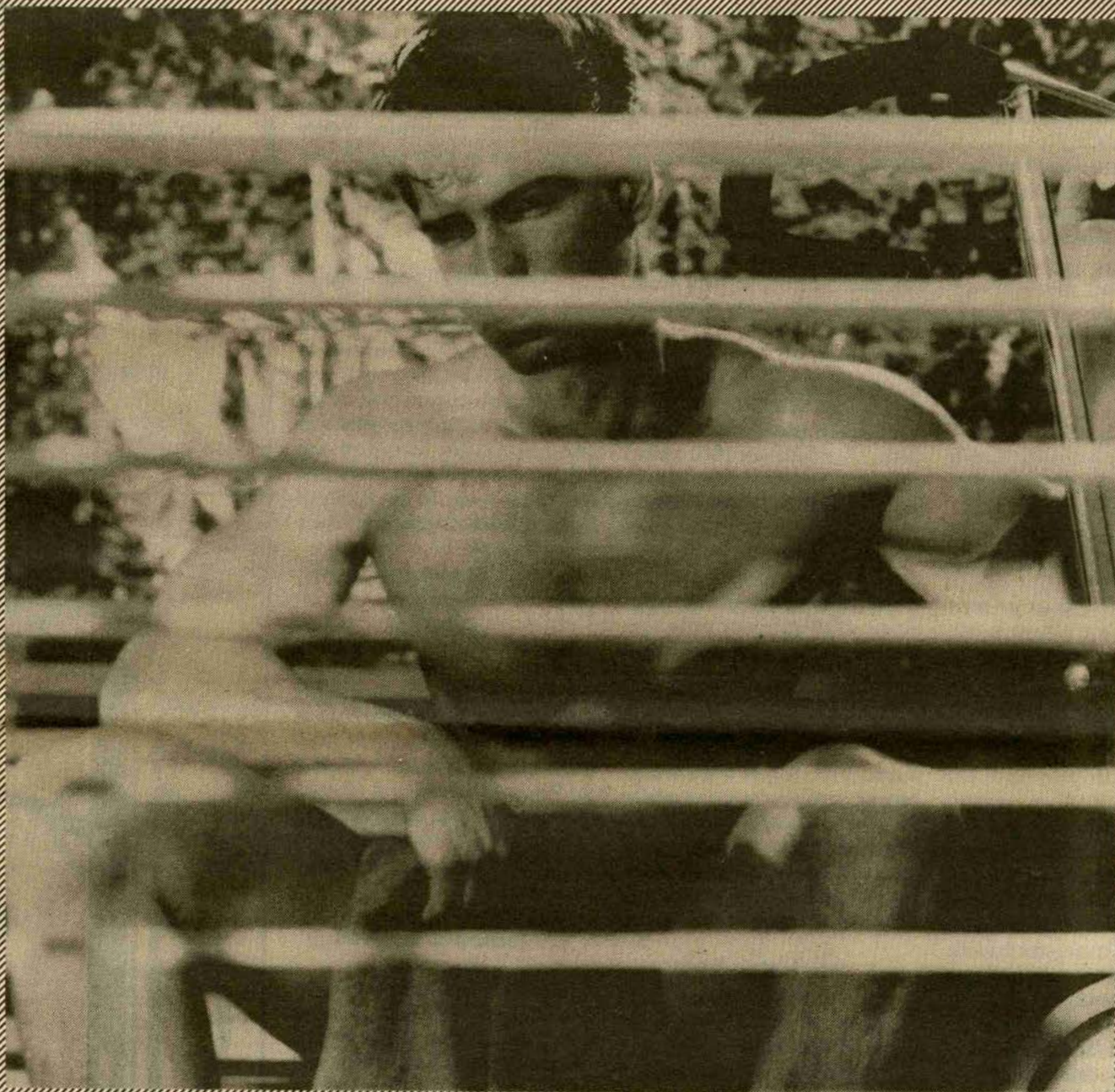
*Crystal Jo Jennings (left) and Hetti McDaniel relaxing after the Slaughter/Danger-Danger and Kiss Concert during which they made a cameo appearance on stage.*

7:30 pm — Slaughter takes the stage and begins this jam-fest. A few moments into the show, two "fans" appear on stage. However did these two gorgeous red-heads get up there past the security guards? It matters not how, they're all over the stage; while one is hugging Dana Strum by the keyboards the other seems to be conversing with vocalist Mark Slaughter center-stage, then it's back to visit Blas Eliot the group's drummer. Meanwhile, the band keeps playing their metal-hit "Up All Night" not missing a beat. Eventually somebody comes out and escorts the leather-clad lovelies off the stage, but not out of the coliseum. Instead of being ejected they are shown to a couple of seats in the front row, where they can enjoy the rest of the show.

It proves to be an excellent concert, in spite of the city council's censorship statute. Fans were treated to an evening overflowing with sights and sounds, possibly one of the best Kiss concerts ever seen.

What, you may ask, of the two sexy young ladies who inspired this story? Several spectators approached them to get the scoop even before the show has ended. And is it a scoop!!! For these "girls" names are Hetti McDaniels and Crystal-Jo Jennings and they were hired by none other than Kiss band member to make their appearance that night as part of an inside game between the hard rocking groups. The girls are quite adept at appearing before audiences, after all, these guys are two of the hottest

# I WANT YOU!



# 1-900-LOVE-MEN

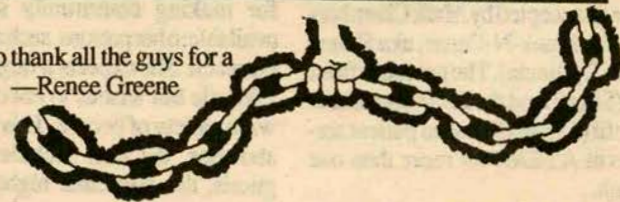
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female impersonators in the Mid-South.

As for them, they declare, "We had a fantastic time here tonight, everybody was so nice to us. It was truly a thrill appearing on that stage

before such a huge diverse audience, and we can hardly wait to come back!" Yes, the word is that this is just the first of many such appearances for Crystal and Hetti at such events. On behalf of the girls we

would like to thank all the guys for a great show. —Renee Greene



# Quick Clips

No soapbox this month, there's just too much going on.

## We Told You So Department

Our psychic sources being correct once again, the Wagettes did indeed have a benefit at Barbara's the last part of July. \$1445.25 was donated to ATEAC.

Billie Jo Casino did indeed have her awards the first weekend in August, without informing us, therefore she has no beef whatsoever this go-round. We were occupied in St. Louis with two gentlemen friends of ours at the time anyway. Nyah. Fortunately, Renee Greene was present and has kindly covered the event for the newspaper on another page.

Billie Jo will be honored at a benefit show on her behalf on Sept. 9 at WKRB, this will probably be a large gathering of entertainers ranging from back then to right now.

Yet another event of which we were not informed was the benefit for Lady Vic held at Barbara's in mid August. An unfortunate accident has caused her to be presently unable to work, so many of her friends gathered to aid her in her distress. Thanks again to Miss Greene for covering this, haven't we been pleading for assistance from the glitter segment for years now? Her stories are in the local news section, after all, this is designated space.

Speaking of benefits, a benefit for Multiple Sclerosis was held in the heat of the afternoon at Chaps on August 26. \$700 was raised that afternoon and we know more than one Gay saloon which is participating in the Ugliest Bartender contest. Billy Bulliner took the plunge into the world of S & M (Sequins and Mascara) for the first time and Lady Vic MC'd from a wheelchair. Our own come first but Gays and Lesbians have huge hearts and open pocket-books for mainstream charities too.

Aphrodite, that same evening, held their Camp and Variety show at WKRB. A donation from their over \$700 raised will be made to ATEAC's Patient Assistance Fund.

It turns out that the Rocky Horror Show benefit was the most fun and best attended show of the entire run. Things happened that night onstage and in the audience that happened neither before or since and the cast had more fun than the audience. A tasteful arm bouquet was presented to the company on behalf of ATEAC and was accepted by Mark Chambers (aka Dr. Frank-N-Furter, aka Henna Rintz-Holliman). The proceeds from this (\$2742) and the Playhouse Cares benefit (\$1384) financed patient services at ATEAC for more than one month.

## Party Girl Department

We missed the Luau at the Pipeline due to senility but we enjoyed the revolving palm tree motif later that evening. We were told that it was an immense success and have seen a very Mapplethorpe-esque photograph of the pig used (?) during the festivities. We cannot, out of delicacy, describe it but it should be viewed.

We missed Tsarus Trash Day at the Pipeline due to a mixup about the time. We imagine it was successful as a fundraiser, we haven't heard, but we did hear it was enjoyed by those who attended.

However! We made it our business to attend the Night of a Thousand Whores party, after all, it was on a Tuesday and we didn't have to work. The estimate of 1000 whores was liberal but we were assured there were at least 200. Plus one old broad who spent the evening with Scriptures in hand, thumping and being scandalized the entire time. One decent Christian woman provided the necessary exception to the rule. We witnessed no virgins nor sacrifices, just a lot of insipid grins on the faces of otherwise handsome young men, who for some reason had yard goods hanging out of these self same insipid grins. We are cognizant regarding these new practices among the youth of today but remain perplexed all the same. Good taste has nothing to do with being a TOQ so you may shut up, Claire, before you even think what you are about to say.

## Music of the Night Department

So we did see Phantom of the Opera. So get over it.

We ventured forth a couple of weekends ago to scope out a new bar of which we had heard only rumours. We found Diva's to be a most pleasant and surprising place. Mimi, the owner, boasts with pride about the three dance floors, three bars and convenience facilities (there are never enough powder rooms and this place has six!). The entry is a split level with the main dance floor in the back, surrounded by reflective surfaces using much colored lighting throughout. The nice surprise is the rear section, a low-noise room complete with dance floor and large bar, which is intended for socializing and conversation. There is a kitchen available and Mimi has lots of plans for making community services available to her patrons, such as AIDS outreach. She expects a large Black clientele but wishes to encourage a wide variety of people. This is also a showbar, the cast includes many guests, this particular night we ran

into Sharita Whiteside and Tina Templeton, both performers known to us as of the highest calibre.

We returned to Madison Avenue to catch the appearance of Miss Black Gay America at the Apartment. It was our first experience of a show at this location, though we had visited this enormous disco several times previously. The staff and MC's certainly know how to enjoy themselves behind the microphone. The stage at the Apartment has a beautiful broken mirror backdrop and there is plenty of space for large dance numbers as well as room for performers to get close to the audience.

We have not yet substantiated any rumours concerning Frank Cooper's new location-to-be. We are looking forward to seeing it and attending (we still love grand openings).

## That Time of Year Again Department

Do real leathermen and women wear all that stuff in Memphis in September? You bet your sweet bippy. It is once again time for the Wings Club Flight 6 run which will take place Labor Day weekend. Many events will take place, the centerpiece being the Mr. Southern Leather Contest to be held at Chaps on Sept. 1 at 10 PM.

Later in September is Tsarus' Aida 13 run Sept. 21, 22, and 23. This is an outdoor, out-of-town run, though this club provides a bunkhouse for those who prefer that to roughing it in tents and whatnot. It is advertised as a fun and unusual weekend in the country. Information and applications can be obtained at the Pipeline and at Men of Leather.

Lest we forget, congratulations to Vance Reger, Mr. Great Plains Drummer 1990 (two titles—check those shoulders).

## Woman on the Street Department

The Pipeline will have a Flashlight Night on Friday, Sept. 14. There will be no lights burning throughout most of the bar and a flashlight will be included with the cover charge. There will also be drink specials. They are anticipating another big benefit affair on Hallow'een.

WKRB will host Connie, Cheryl and Lisa on Sept. 2 as well as the Billie Jo Casino benefit on Sept. 9.

The Apartment will have a special show featuring, among others, Tenisha Cassidine, Wendy Rachelle and Charrell Ventura on Sunday, Sept. 9.

A wake is planned for Sept. 8 to celebrate a notorious local Lesbian masseuse's 40th birthday. Film at 11.

Diva's will hold its first Miss Diva pageant on Saturday, Sept. 22.

Thanks to all the boys and girls from Hooterville for giving Gay Memphis a lesson in creative benefits. What a sweet notion!

Renee Greene also tells us that Loretta and Company is becoming a very popular show. As if Loretta herself could possibly be more

popular.

Do not forget to put the upcoming production of The Normal Heart on your calendar. Performances are Oct. 4, 5 and 6 at 8 PM and Oct. 7 at 2:30 PM. All door proceeds go to the ATEAC PWA Assistance Fund. This is true Gay community theatre, the first production of this play in Memphis.

## Inevitable Parting Shots Department

And please, please, remember your ID. Please make sure it is legitimate and unquestionable. We will all have a better evening because of it.

Ta, ta.  
Lady A.

## New Carpenter in Memphis

### ALL CUSTOM CARPENTRY

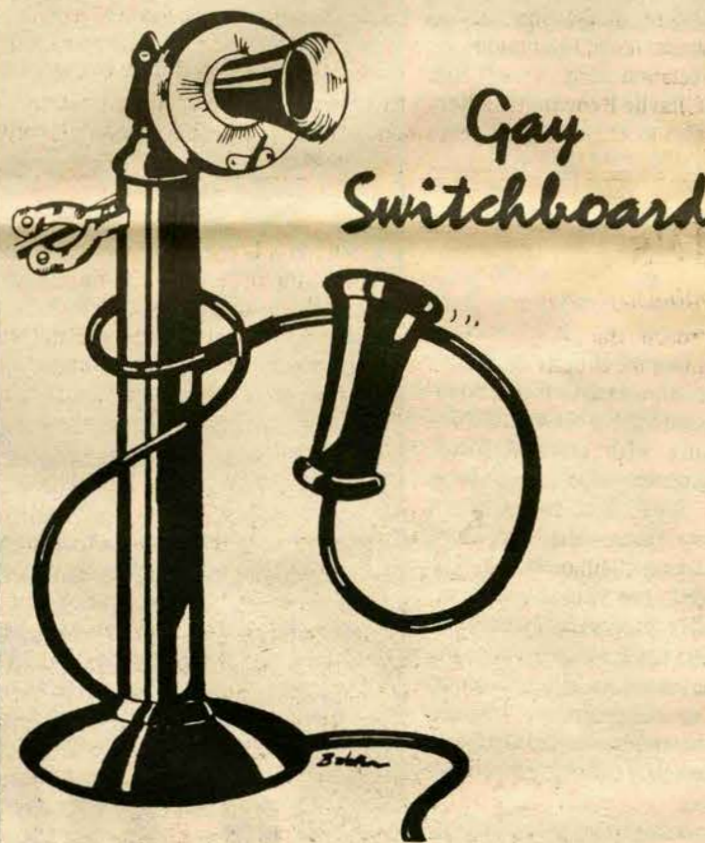
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FOR INFORMATION, LEAVE MESSAGE AT 382-9446



## 324-GAYS

7:30 - 11 Nightly

Information

Referrals

Counseling

Volunteers are needed to staff the Gay Switchboard. If you can spare one evening a month in the comfort of your own home - we can use your help. Call us at 454-1411 for more information.

(This is not a dating service or a phone sex line.)

# George Wilson—His Friends Remember

Compiled by Vincent Astor

I promised you last month that you would hear a few stories about the late George Wilson from some of his friends. Space is short this month, even with a larger paper, so this will be the first installment of the best I have gathered.

**B. J. Hefner:** B. J. remembers a time when many people traveled regularly to New Orleans, Mobile and Biloxi for Mardi Gras and Krewe related events, particularly the New Orleans Krewe of Apollo. (Memphis had a chapter of this Krewe for a while.) She remembers a stop on the way at a Holiday Inn. It was late, and there seemed to be a lot of patrons at the motel, so the travelers wondered if they could get a room. George handled the situation by making a remark about "Uncle Kemmons" to a person at the front desk and how he would not be happy if this group could not be accommodated. His identification showing him to be George Wilson produced a flurry of bowing and scraping that this Holiday Inn (not in a large city, of course) had not seen since its opening, plus an elegant suite for the travelers. It just so happens that the founder and president, at the time, of Holiday Inns was named Kemmons Wilson. No relation whatever, of course.

**Charlie Brown:** Charlie briefly alludes to a time in years past when

most of the Gay socializing in Overton Park took place in a men's rest room located adjacent to Rainbow Lake (actually a water bearing lake at the time). The original facility was neither cosmetic nor hygienic—a real dump. George at one point had a stereotype fit and hung tasteful curtains in the bathroom to make it more pleasant and homey. It is not remembered how long they lasted.

**Spencer:** Spencer tells perhaps the most famous story of all. George and Spencer were traveling to see friends who had a place deep in the country—the kind of place where you have to mark the driveway to tell it apart from the other 999 dirt driveways on the same road. These friends decided to mark the driveway with a blowup of the notorious photograph of Marilyn Misfit which became a post card and an icon of George's. (This is the same poster which hung in the hall at GDI.) Not only was Marilyn officially on the street corner but the local town newspaper (Richmond, IN) took notice. In the "Who's Visiting Whom" column, without which no small country town newspaper is complete, there was an account of the out of town visitors which included a very flattering description of Marilyn and described her as "areal firecracker". It was, after all, July 4. George was very astonished at the time and it became one of his own very favorite stories.

**Carolyn Marbury:** Carolyn remembers two episodes both typical and humorous. There was a weekend excursion to Sardis lake, and several tents were set up on a small island near the main beach. George set up a fortune telling tent with himself, in costume, as the gypsy fortune teller. Many of the curious sought out the beautiful blonde gypsy and Marilyn told a bunch of people's fortunes, many of them said to be young and handsome.

At one time, George was very fond of a Thunderbird, which he had traveled all the way to Corinth, MS, to buy. One fine evening he was joyriding and sippin' in Riverside Park, a favorite haunt of his. He returned home very late bearing a live duck from the lake in his arms and one of those yellow or orange street cones on his head—a la Mother Goose. The new pet was discovered to be not a duck but a goose. During the time it lived in Carolyn's backyard (several days) it put the entire household in terror of their lives. It had begun by decorating every inch of upholstery in the Thunderbird in a most bird-like manner. Since this was a hot fowl, the household decided that they needed to smuggle the goose back into the park by means of the same Thunderbird. This was finally accomplished along with a hasty getaway.



## ID's

*continued from page 2*

approach. Bar owners are responsible for the actions of their patrons to a large extent. If a person is assaulted in a bar, the bar owner can be sued. If a bartender serves a person already intoxicated, he or she and the bar can be held responsible if that person leaves the bar and has an accident. Liability insurance is a real issue to bar owners.

The biggest bone of contention, discrimination-wise, is the apparent practice of requiring more ID's of patrons of color than of white patrons. A white person might get in with one picture ID, while a person of color might be required to come up with three picture ID's.

Consider the following scenario: A 30-year-old person approaches a bar for admission. For whatever reason, he is not carrying an ID. When asked to produce one, he refuses stating that he is over 21 and looks it. Since the bar has a policy (and the state a law) which requires an acceptable ID for admission, the doorman refuses the person admission. Is the doorman discriminating? Yes, but legally. If the prospective patron engages in an argument with the doorman, could he be considered a troublemaker and barred from admission? Yes, legally.

Consider a second example: This same 30-year old person approaches the bar for admission. He has only a

driver's license, a library card, and an employee ID. According to the bar's policies of three picture ID's, he would not be admitted. Fair? No. Discriminatory? Only if the bar admits others on one or two ID's of equal validity. The trigger seems to be not the bar's policy, but its application of the policy. If the prospective patron was a person of color and a pattern of discrimination could be proved against other people of color, a public accommodation discrimination lawsuit could be filed since racial minorities are protected under the Civil Rights Act of 1964. (Incidentally, a bar which posts a "We reserve the right to refuse anyone service" sign would not stand a chance against provable discrimination.)

A further problem may be cultural. It may be true that Blacks have fewer of the "acceptable" ID's than white or that they are reluctant to carry or produce them. This is just as true of closeted Gay whites entering a Gay bar for the first time.

What is needed to eliminate the ID problem is a consensus among all establishments requiring ID's as to what those ID's should be. Furthermore, these "acceptable" ID's should be communicated to the public in the form of a sign at the entrance, and ALL patrons should be required to show them. Until this happens, no one will be immune from charges of racism or discrimination—real or imagined.

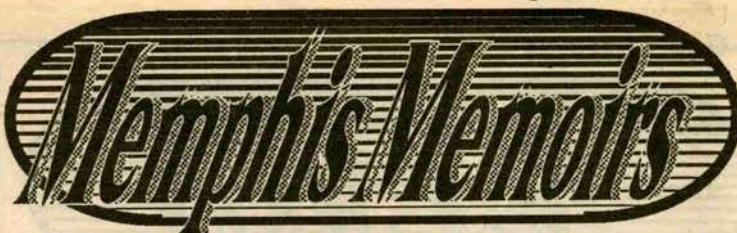
## Source/Symptom

*continued from page 2*

as not expressing disapproval.) Who are the bar owners going to listen to? Some hot-headed, outraged, liberal activists who don't even patronize their bars or their regular customers?

As Gay men and women, we have experienced prejudice because of our sexual orientation. We like to think that this makes us less likely to discriminate against some one else. But we are also the product of our environments and the vast majority of us were raised with racial prejudice. Many of us work at controlling that prejudice and bigotry. Others let it have free rein and don't even think about apologizing for it.

Everyone has their own opinion of how to deal with the problem. We think attacking individual bar owners one at a time will just move the problem from one location to an-



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other. Bringing all the bar owners together to cooperate in forced integration would be an impossible task. We believe that most bar owners will not allow an outside group to dictate how to run their bars. (In all fairness, we know nothing about running a bar. It is their livelihood and—good or bad, right or wrong—most of them have been doing it successfully for years.) And finally, if something happens in their bars, it's the bar owners' home, business, and personal property that stands to be lost, not ours.

We believe the problem has to be attacked at the source, the patrons themselves. Discrimination in the bars will end only when our individual prejudice and bigotry ends. When a majority of regular patrons expresses disapproval of a bar owners' policy, that policy will change. When the majority of regular patrons are so outraged at the discrimination being practiced at the door that they

get up en masse and leave in disgust, then the bar policy will change.

And we, as a group of concerned citizens, can't accomplish that until we start working together. When individual groups can stop sniping at one another, when we can start talking civilly to one another, when we can start listening to one another, when we can break down the barriers that exist between our groups, then we can work at working together—in cooperation—not one or two groups trying to dictate the actions of all the other groups. And we've got to agree to disagree and still find a common ground.

When we can do that among ourselves, then we can attack the problem of the bigoted bar patrons. When we resolve the problem of the bar patrons, there will be no need for bar owners to discriminate. If the regular patrons disapprove of it and won't stand for it, the bar owners simply won't do it.

# Box 3038

## Bray Retaliates

To Whom It May Concern:

It has recently come to my attention that some one(s) in the Gay community consider me to be a "power hungry bitch". It is no surprise that I do not know the identity of the perpetrator(s), seeing as that they do not have the guts to call me this face-to-face.

I would like to say to them, when was the last time you got up on a cold winter, or hot summer day to act as an escort and support for women in their struggle to control their own bodies. When was the last time you took your lunch hour to appear before a group of college administrators as an openly Gay man, in the hope that by your example, they may be more sensitive to the needs of their Gay and Lesbian students. When was the last time you appeared on TV or the radio, to publicly condemn the violence perpetrated against our people. When was the last time you took five days of your life, and your hard-earned dollars, to attend a conference to learn better ways to serve your community.

Oh! there are a lot of other things I could be doing with my time and money, I would be glad to have more time to myself, but I am doing what I do because it is important!. It is important for our continued survival on this planet, if you do not believe me, ask the Gay teenager who committed suicide, or the young woman who was beaten to death by her father because they were notified of her decision to have an abortion.

If working to give back to people the power to control their own lives, to wrestle that control from the likes of Helms, Falwell, Dannemayer makes me a "power hungry bitch", then I will wear that title proudly. I shudder to think where we would be if the struggle were left up to you.

I challenge you to put up or shut up! I am in the phone book, give me a call sometime and I will be glad to set you up to do something constructive for our community, rather than providing you a target for your frustrations and fears.

Rick G. Bray

## Project Inform Praised

Project Inform, a San Francisco-based organization, was my personal twig to help me float out the storm of finding out I was HIV positive. Being in denial of declining health, I had learned nothing about AIDS. Whenever it was mentioned, I shut down. Finding myself uninformed and totally ignorant of the disease, I read anything I could find—mostly outdated literature. My support group, mostly medical personnel,

talked in clinical terms I did not know. Finally a patient in the local hospital I was visiting gave me Project Inform's phone number.

Project Inform helped me to become my own expert on HIV disease. I feel confident in my doctor's recommended treatment (it mirrors recommendations in PI literature). Education of myself has cut through a lot of the tension created by doubt that ignorance creates, thus lowering my immune system further. Thanks Project Inform!

Name Withheld by Request  
Memphis

## The Gay 90's Have Returned

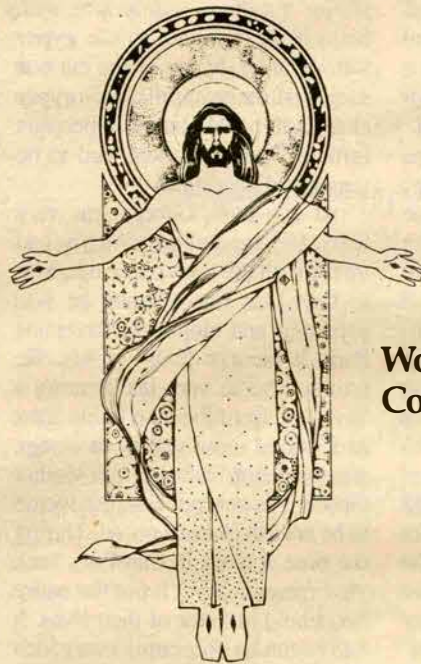
Here is an article I thought you might be able to use regarding my impression of the Gay and Lesbian Pride Parade in San Francisco 1990.

Now I have heard that the VFW parade at Smakover got a little wild a few years back but I am here to tell you that it was nothing compared to the Gay and Lesbian Pride Parade in San Francisco this year.

This was the 20th anniversary of the parade. It seemed fitting that since I have been out of the closet exactly the same amount of time, that I attend. I will always be glad that I did.

The parade was to start at 10:00. I was there by 7:30 and already the crowd was gathering and continued to swell as same sex couples walked up hand in hand. The numbers eventually reached an estimated 300,000. Standing where I was, I quickly met people from Denver, Houston, Boston, and Birmingham. The whole air was upbeat and full of anticipation. Sharing the curb with me were a Jewish grandmother, Rose and her grandchildren, Mollie and Nathan. Rose said, "the kids just love the Gay and Lesbian parade—even better than the Shriners."

Marching to a slogan that heralded a new climate of defiance and resilience—"The Future Is Ours"—the four hour parade was draped in festive optimism. It literally started with a huge ZZZOOMMM as tradition dictates, the procession is led by the Women's Motorcycle Contingency (better known as "Dykes On Bikes"). There were some two hundred 200 riders with some of the biggest, brightest, and most chrome-laden cycles I have ever seen. They were driven by "Motorcycle Mamas" resplendent in outfits of chains and leather. On the passenger seats of many were beautiful "Lipstick Lesbians", some of whom wore nothing more than garter belts and heels. In the next group were the "Dykes With Their Tykes On Trikes" and then alone woman on her bicycle with a sign that said, "Menopause



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Cycle." What a way to start a parade! It was just starting but let me tell you that Pine Bluff would have to go some to top this.

The honorary Grand Marshalls were two women and a man who recently were ordained as the first openly Gay and Lesbian ministers of the Lutheran Church. Their individual churches may now face expulsion from their governing body.

The 350 or so entries in the parade ranged from high camp to ridiculous to outrageous to deeply touching and poignant. There were Gay Cloggers, groups of Gay and Lesbian Hispanics, Asians, Chinese, a large number of Gay Mormons ("Bet You Thought All Mormon Men Were Straight"), and a group called "Clean and Sober" ("We Now Remember Who We Date"). A deaf group signed "I Love You" as they walked by.

Mayor Art Agnos was there as were various elected officials and candidates. Tom Amminio, comedian and openly Gay teacher ("That's Mr. Faggot To You, Kid"), rode in an open car proclaiming his candidacy to the school board. There were Gay and Lesbian judges and people who had been appointed to various positions in state and city government by the current administration. Health care givers ("I Am A Gay Doctor" or "I Am A Gay Nurse") walked with their charges, "People with AIDS". Some were pushed in wheel chairs. ACT UP (AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power) were highly visible in their T-Shirts of "SILENCE=DEATH".

PAWS (Pets Are Wonderful Support) were there with their animals. Gay and Lesbian veterans were there and part of The Quilt was carried along with signs of "We Will Remember". A bi-sexual group pro-

claimed: "We Are Not Fence Sitters, We Are Bridge Builders" and the Gay Runners' Banners said: "Run, Run. There Is A Sale At Macy's". There was something called "Dykes From Hell" whose purpose I did not catch but I could see right off that I probably would not be welcomed at their meeting. It was hard to miss the Gay and Lesbian punkers with their spiked hair of pink and teal. Topless women and bare-bunned men were everywhere.

One of the more elaborate floats was a giant aquamarine peacock with gold fluttering wings. On top of this were perched "Empress Marlana" and "Emperor Simon". Marlana, with her Texas sized hair-do, was several inches taller than Simon and outweighed him by 50 pounds. There was a visible paunch under the blue sequin gown. It was now high noon and her five o'clock shadow was beginning to show through the Mary Kay make-up. You know what they say—"Drag is NOT a summer sport."

There were frequently wry social commentaries. A man slathered in pink neon paint carried a huge cross saying: "Martyrs For Art." He wore a flag motif loin cloth and tasteful pink pumps. He also bore a pained expression. I am not sure if that expression was from the weight of the cross or the three inch heels. With him was "Sadie, The Rabbi's Lady." Her poster carried an expressive in Yiddish which Rose explained to me with great glee. Behind these two were dozens of blind folded, gagged marchers muttering, "Defeat Jesse Helms," a reference to the conservative Senator's art censorship campaign.

Gay and Lesbian fire fighters rode in or walked beside their trucks. Gay

and Lesbian police marched in front of "Prostitutes United." Women in construction were there ("You Do Not Need A Dick To Lay A Brick"). A huge truck filled with male and female body builders went by.

One of the largest crowd pleasers were the "Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence" led by Sister Boom Boom. Rose said the Sisters were a particular favorite of Mollie and Nathan. Two skaters moved through the melee. One, a bride proclaiming: "Only Six More Days To Become A June Bride", and the other, a bridesmaid whose banner said: "Dip Me In Chocolate And Feed Me To The Lesbians."

A cable car carried a group of elderly Gays and Lesbians. There were mounted cowboys ("If You Can Rope Me, You Can Ride Me" and "Real Cowboys Do Not Collect Fiesta Ware"). Parents of Gays and Lesbians marched under the messages: "We Love Our Gay Children" and "If You Are Single, Would You Like To Meet My Lesbian Daughter?" There were Gay grandparents with their grandchildren. Two men pushed a baby stroller, one carrying a diaper bag stating: "Our Son Was Born On Gay Pride Day 1989."

One could not help but marvel at the diversity of the Gay and Lesbian community and its straight supporters. Maybe when little Nathan and Mollie grow up the "Future Can Indeed Be Ours."

Jim Norcross  
Little Rock





## ACLU Supports Gay and Lesbian Rights

by Julie Berbiglia, Administrative Assistant, ACLU of Tennessee

While staffing the ACLU of Tennessee booth at the Lesbian and Gay Pride Rally in Nashville this year, I had several people ask me what ACLU has done in the area of Gay and Lesbian rights. I would like to take this opportunity to re-introduce the ACLU to the Gay and Lesbian community of Tennessee and ask for your support in our continued efforts to protect the privacy rights of all individuals.

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) is the nation's foremost advocate of individual rights—litigating, legislating, and educating the public on a broad array of issues affecting individual freedom in the United States. The mission of the ACLU is to protect and defend the rights of the people that are guaranteed in the United States Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the constitutions of the various states. The ACLU strives to extend these rights to include those who have traditionally been denied those rights.

Time and time again, the ACLU has stood alone as the only non-Gay organization speaking up in a strong, clear voice for the civil rights of Lesbians and Gay men. ACLU national board policy holds that "homosexuals are entitled to the same rights, liberties, lack of harassment, and protections as are other citizens. The right of individual privacy, free from government regulation, extends to sexual conduct, heterosexual or homosexual behavior, of consenting adults." In 1986, the ACLU became the first non-Gay civil rights organization to endorse full domestic partnership rights of Lesbians and Gay men—including the right to be legally married.

The ACLU Lesbian and Gay Rights Project initiates litigation and educational projects from the organization's national headquarters. The Project acts as a resource center for dozens of precedent-setting Gay and Lesbian rights cases handled by ACLU affiliates around the country. The *Hardwick* case, challenging state sodomy laws, was developed and litigated by the ACLU of Georgia.

The national AIDS Task force facilitates the development of legal strategies and the exchange of information among ACLU lawyers working nation-wide on some of the country's major AIDS discrimination cases. ACLU policy supports voluntary and anonymous HIV testing, confidentiality of medical records, and the inclusion of HIV status in anti-discrimination laws. We oppose all compulsory treatment, testing, segregation, and reporting of names of individuals based on HIV status.

The ACLU of Tennessee has a strong history of protecting Lesbian and Gay rights through our lobbying, litigation, and education programs. We drafted legislation and spear-

headed lobbying efforts to include AIDS/HIV status under Tennessee's anti-discrimination laws. In the 1988 legislative session, the ACLU successfully opposed legislation that mandated AIDS testing and reporting of HIV+ status. Our national offices and local affiliates supported the federal Hate Crimes Statistics Act.

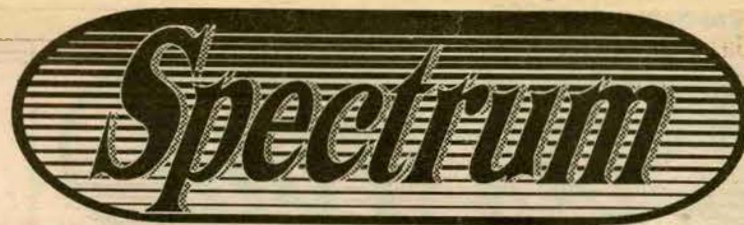
In 1982 we successfully supported the right of the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga Students for Gay Awareness to obtain the status as a campus student group and to share in the resources available to all other such organizations. The ACLU worked extensively with the Privacy Project of National ACLU Lesbian and Gay Rights Project, Tennessee N.O.W. and other groups to organize the Tennessee Gay and Lesbian Task Force (TGLTF). The Gay Advocacy Project, formed in 1981, was organized by the ACLU and the Memphis

Gay Coalition to inform Gay men and Lesbians of their rights during arrest. We continue to work closely with the Tennessee Gay and Lesbian Alliance (TGALA).

In 1988 the ACLU of Tennessee organized a statewide hotline for reporting incidents of Gay and Lesbian discrimination and harassment. Our telephone intake staff and volunteers provide support, advice, and referrals to Lesbians and Gay men across Tennessee who experience discrimination in employment, housing, treatment by law enforcement, healthcare, and other areas of civil liberties.

ACLU of Tennessee staff and volunteers speak out at schools, churches and synagogues, public meetings, legislative hearings, and to the broadcast and print media about the need to protect and expand Lesbian and Gay rights.

For more information about the ACLU of Tennessee, please contact us at P.O. Box 120160, Nashville, TN 37212. For information and referrals concerning civil liberties issues, call (615) 320-7142.



## Memphis Gay Coalition Plans Annual Elections

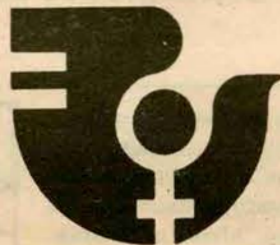
The election of the Memphis Gay Coalition's officers and board of directors will be held at the Annual Meeting Monday, Oct. 1 at 7 PM. The meeting will be held in Meeting Room B at the Memphis Public Library at Peabody and McLean.

In keeping with the by-laws, a nominating committee was appointed at the meeting held Monday, Aug. 6. The committee consists of John Stilwell, Don Griesheimer, Matthew Presley, and Cecil McLeod. The committee will meet before the Sept. 4 meeting to prepare a list of recommendations for the four officer positions and the three at-large board positions. The committee is also charged with presenting nomi-

nations for a special election to fill the positions left vacant by two resignations.

Due to the Labor Day holiday, the next meeting of the Memphis Gay Coalition will be held Tuesday, Sept. 4 at 7 PM. The meeting will be held in Meeting Room B of the Memphis Public Library at Peabody and McLean. At that time, the nominating committee will present its recommendations for both the regular election and the special election. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor. This is the only time nominations will be accepted. The election and special election will be held Monday, Oct. 1.

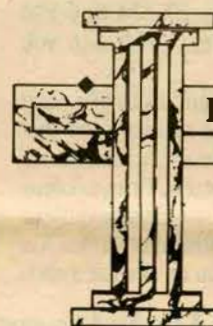
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# Spectrum

## Memphis' First Feminist Bookstore to Open in September

Imagine a place in Memphis where you can find the latest women's newspaper, or the new CD by your favorite Olivia artist. Imagine a place where you can browse through great fiction while you sip tea with your friends on a rainy Saturday afternoon while your kids play happily nearby. Imagine a place where you can find just the right pendant for your best friend's birthday without having to wait six weeks for a catalog.

Sound too good to be true? Well, our dreams are about to become reality. Meristem\*, Memphis' first feminist bookstore, will open September 15 at 930 South Cooper in the Cooper-Young district. Meristem will stock the very best in books by, for, and about women, as well as music, crafts, and jewelry.

Meristem, whose motto is "Books & more for women & their friends," will have a large Lesbian and Gay section and a large selection of materials about women of color. It will have women's history and biographies, as well as loads of fiction. Looking for some mysteries, futuristic or escape reading? Meristem will have those, too. Meristem will also have a special children's section which will specialize in non-sexist, non-racist, non-homophobic children's books. And, the section will be stocked with toys so kids can play and read while parents shop.

Meristem will also have materials on recovery, humor, parenting, health, AIDS, politics, ecology, feminist theory, and spirituality. Other topics will include older women, women and the arts, and sex and body image. In addition, the store will stock journals, magazines, and newspapers, as well as information about concerts, organizations, and upcoming events.

And, of course, Meristem will be bringing you the finest in women's music, in live concerts and on tape and CD. Two fine musicians from the women's music festival circuit, Jamie Anderson and Mimi Baczewska, are already scheduled to perform at the store in October. In addition to stocking books and music, Meristem plans to showcase women's talent in the visual arts such as painting, sculpture, photography, etc. Meristem will have an ongoing collection of beautiful hand-crafted jewelry for sale, as well as periodic art shows by local artists. And, the store will also stock some crystals and magic items for ritual and pleasure.

Meristem is made possible through generous contributions of time, money, energy, and expertise

from many community volunteers. Some women have built bookshelves or loaned furniture; others have designed or built or painted or provided legal or financial advice. Still other folks have provided enthusiastic support through the many months it has taken to see this store move from a fantasy to a reality. Store owners Vickie Scarborough and Audrey May would like to thank all the women and men whose enthusiasm, hard work, and vision have made Meristem a reality. The owners would also like to thank Southern Wild Sisters in Gulfport and the staff of the other women's bookstores throughout the U.S. who provided advice and inspiration.

Meristem will officially open its doors for business on Saturday, Sept. 15 for the Cooper-Young Festival. Store hours will be Wednesday through Saturday 10 AM to 6 PM and Sunday 1 to 5 PM. See you there!

\* The "meristem" cells of a plant carry the plant's memory, so that when a cutting is made, it remembers what type of plant it is. Thus, a coleus plant will always create more coleus cells, no matter how many times it is cut. This is similar to women's abil-

## All My Relations

by Kerrel Ard

As this world continues to evolve, many people are reconnecting, or connecting for the first time, with Mother Earth. On this Land, the Turtle Island (America), there has always been a people who are the true children of that connection. The people, as we native Americans call ourselves, gave many gifts to the white-skinned strangers—gifts of food, medicine, skills, and friendship. To the people of black skin brought here against their will we opened our homes as sanctuary and made them part of our tribes.

Much has changed during the last three hundred years. There has been much pain, suffering, and death among the races. Hate and prejudice have taken over the hearts of many people of all colors. Yet the gifts still flow through us. Now that the strangers to this land have ingested the spirit of Turtle Island for several generations, through the food and water the land provides, some have begun to look to the people as teachers and guides in touching the earth and their own souls.

Gay and Lesbian native Americans have a very special place in this flow of gifts. Randy Burns, of the Northern Paiute tribe is current of Gay American Indians, Inc. In his preface to the book *Living the Spirit: A Gay American Indian Anthology* he said:

ity to pass on women's culture from generation to generation and to "keep on keeping on" no matter how many times we are cutoff at the root. In this way, the name "Meristem" symbolizes our faith in the ability of women to endure and pass on our collective knowledge and experience, generation after generation.

"When the U.S. Supreme court cited millennia of moral teaching in support of Georgia's sodomy law and the Vatican declared homosexuality intrinsically evil, they must not have been thinking of American history and American morals. Because, throughout America for centuries before and after the arrival of Europeans, Gay and Lesbian American Indians were recognized and valued members of tribal communities. As Maurice Kenny declares, 'We were special!' ...

Gay American Indians were a part of all these communities. We lived openly in our tribes. Our families and communities recognized us and encouraged us to develop our skills. In turn, we made special contributions to our communities. ... At the same time, Gay American Indians face double oppression—both racism and homophobia. ... Members of our community, some who are pipeholders themselves, have been excluded from Sun Dances—... On reservations, Gay and Lesbian Indians face rejection and harassment.

This is not surprising, however, considering the efforts of Indian agents, missionaries, and boarding schools to suppress all forms of traditional Indian culture. Many Indian people have been taught to be ashamed of such roles as the berdache (Gay male). Indian leaders, even traditionalists, have adopted the attributes of the



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Come browse our Lesbian/Gay fiction reading room!

**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.

### SEPTEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| Tues. Sept. 4  | CR Discussion Group, 7:30 PM                                   |
| Sat. Sept. 8   | Game Party Night, 7:30 PM                                      |
| Sun. Sept. 9   | Board Meeting, 1:30 PM at Ed's                                 |
| Sun. Sept. 16  | Hot, Homy, & Healthy Playshop, 7 PM                            |
| Tues. Sept. 18 | CR Discussion Group, 7:30 PM                                   |
| Sat. Sept. 22  | Pot Luck-Style Dinner  |
| Mon. Sept. 24  | Open Forum, Main Library, Peabody & McLean, 7:30 PM, Mtg. Rm A |

For details on September Activities 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

white society toward Gay people..."

In the face of a changing world and with old traditions as a base, I offer an opportunity for Gay and Lesbian people of

American Indian descent. Let us come together and reclaim what is our birthright. If you are interested call (901) 432-2860. Ho Mitakuye Oyas-in.

## Agape New Life Church Calls New Head Pastor

by Bill Tracer

The first Sunday of September marks the beginning of a new period in the life of the Memphis Gay and Lesbian Christian community. Agape New Life Church has called a new head pastor, to be officially starting on Sunday, Sept. 2. He is John Wayne Tolley, a 41 year old Gay man, coming to us from Fort Wayne, Indiana.

He brings with him an impressive list of credentials: He is a PhD Candidate at New York University in the school of Education; He has a Masters of Ministry in Religious Communication from Christian Theological Seminary, Indianapolis, Indiana; and a BA in English Literature and Art History from Indiana Central College. For the last sixteen years John has served as the Minister of Drama at First Presbyterian Church of Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Now life has brought him to Memphis, a change with which John is pleased, for it affords him the opportunity to bring his talents for special ministries to the Gay and Lesbian community here. Brother Tolley states that his desire is to serve a congregation that is interested in building a faith community where people with spiritual concerns can reclaim their heritage as children of God. So many in our community have been pushed away from this heritage by the heterosexual dominated mainstream church where the power of homophobia all too often takes hold. Together with our congregation, John is anxious to welcome anyone who wishes to "come home." Under his new leadership he

envisioned Agape New Life Church to become even more of a Christian community in the reformed tradition with a strong ecumenical outreach.

From his visits earlier this year, John came to see two standards which characterize the Agape New Life congregation. These are reaching out to those in need and the healing of parishioners who feel disenfranchised by contemporary religious institutions. Brother Tolley is eager to continue and expand this outreach and spiritual healing, by a three pronged method: "Proclamation", "Education", and "Evangelism" through which the healing of both the individual and community can take place.

Sunday, September 16th, there will be a special welcome Pot Luck Dinner honoring Brother John Tolley. We will worship at 11:00 AM followed by the dinner at 12:00 noon at 405 N. Cleveland # 3. All are welcome. For more information call 327-4145, or on Sunday morning 276-1872.

### Agape to Hold Bible Sessions

By Bill M. Tracer

Aside from welcoming a new head pastor, there are other big plans in the works for the month of September at Agape New Life Church. Every Wednesday night in September and the first in October at 7:00 pm, there

will be five special sessions on the Bible and Homosexuality. We have held similar study sessions in the past, however these discussion oriented meetings include new research, with the material organized more clearly.

The topics will be scheduled as follows:

- Sept. 5 "The True Story Behind Sodom and Gomorrah"
- Sept. 12 "Leviticus Disarmed, (Law of the Old Covenant, Not the Present One)"
- Sept. 19 "Orientation: A Question of

What Comes Natural to an Individual"

- Sept. 26 "The Case of the Most Blatant Mistranslations in All of the Bible"
- Oct. 3 "Homosexual/ Homo-affectional Love Stories in the Bible."

These meetings are free and open to the public. We encourage everyone to come and learn of the truth of our God of love, not of condemnation. For more information call 327-4145, or on Sunday morning 276-1872.

### B-GLAD

*continued from page 10*

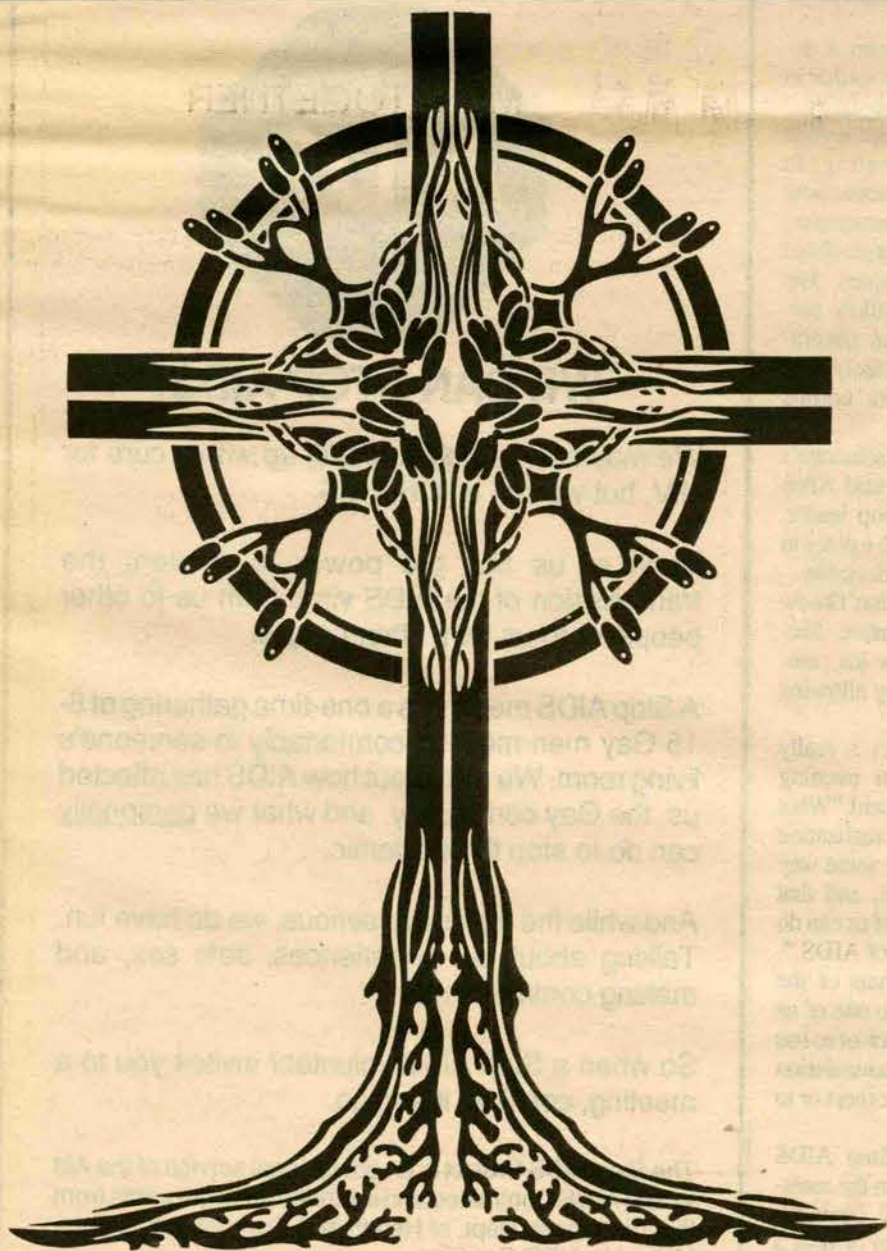
will be geared toward addressing the concerns and issues of people of color, our membership is open to everyone regardless of race, creed, color, gender, sexual orientation, religion, social or economic status, or physical challenges.

Our September Calendar includes a CR on "Internalized Homophobia" Sunday, Sept. 9 at 4:00 PM at Diva's located at 492 S. Main. A business meeting will be held on

Sunday, Sept. 16 at 4:00 PM at the Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center at 1291 Madison. We have a game night planned on Saturday, Sept. 29 to be held in a member's home. We are very excited about what B-GLAD is doing and invite you to be a part. If you are interested you may write to B-GLAD, P.O. Box 1921, Memphis, TN 38101 or call 327-3943 or 948-2345.

In the world around us things can sometimes get very dark, but always remember where ever you are, what ever you're going through, B-GLAD.

***B-GLAD's Activities are listed in the Gay Community Calendar on page 22***



*Come help us welcome*  
**Rev. John Tolley**  
*as our new pastor.*

*Sept 16, 11 AM*

*An afternoon of fun, food and fellowship.*

***Agape New Life Church***

405 N. Cleveland, No. 3

Memphis, Tennessee

Phone: 276-1872

# Health/AIDS

## Bush Signs Landmark AIDS Bill

Washington, DC — Standing in the bright morning sun on the South Lawn of the White House, President George Bush signed landmark legislation July 26 which will protect people with AIDS and HIV disease from discrimination. The bill, the Americans with Disabilities Act, outlaws discrimination against 43 million Americans with disabilities — including people with AIDS — in employment, transportation and public accommodations, such as restaurants, shops, and theatres.

"This is an immensely important day," the President said before signing the bill. Among the guests at the historic bill signing were five representatives of the Human Rights Campaign Fund, the largest national Lesbian and Gay political organization.

This marked only the second time in American history that a President has invited openly Lesbian and Gay Americans to the White House for an official ceremony. Earlier this year, President Bush invited several openly Lesbian and Gay Americans to the signing of the Hate Crimes Statistics Act.

The Campaign Fund was a key member of the coalition which supported the bill and mobilized the successful national opposition to efforts that would have excluded HIV-positive food handlers from the bill. HRCF Lobbyist Karen Friedman, who helped organize the fight to protect the food handlers, was one of the invitees.

Accompanying her was Stephen Welch, a person with HIV disease, who, in a personal meeting with the President and Mrs. Bush late last year, was able to directly inform the President of the need for anti-discrimination protections for people

with AIDS and HIV. Among the other openly Gay invited guests was the Reverend Don Eastman, Chair of the AIDS Interfaith Council and an Elder in the Metropolitan Community Church.

"Pres. Bush deserves great credit for his leadership in pushing for these protections. His outspoken opposition to discrimination against people with AIDS is sending a clear message that discrimination is wrong," McFeeley said.

The President's invitations to Lesbian and Gay Americans earlier this year caused considerable controversy among members of the Far Right. The White House invitations for HRCF representatives and other openly Lesbian and Gay Americans has also generated dissent. One conservative was quoted in today's Washington Times stating that the decision to invite HRCF to the White House is "further evidence that the Bush Administration gives lip service to social conservatives while making policy decisions in favor of the homosexual lobby."

While not specifically mentioning AIDS or any other disability included in the legislation, the President spoke eloquently of the need to end discrimination of all kinds in the United States. He stated that the Americans with Disabilities Act "brings us closer to the day when no American will be denied their basic right of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness... We must not and will not rest until every American man and woman with a dream has a chance to embrace it."

"We will not accept, we will not excuse, we will not tolerate discrimination in America," the President stated.

## ATEAC Slates Buddy Training

The Aid to End AIDS Committee has announced a "buddy" training class for September 21-22, 1990. A "buddy" is an emotional support volunteer for a person with AIDS. ATEAC's buddies are assigned to a client with AIDS or HIV infection on request when available.

According to Rita Underhill, coordinator of the Buddy program, recent increases in the number of ATEAC clients needing a buddy has necessitated the training.

Buddies are requested to spend at least 4 hours each week with their client providing social or practical assistance. Activities can include such things as talking, grocery shopping, taking them to the movies or a restaurant, or whatever. Buddies also provide a liaison with ATEAC in determining other service needs provided by the organization.

A monthly support group for the buddies allows volunteers to interact with other people providing emotional support to ATEAC's clients. "It's important that the buddies have a place to talk about their experiences since they are bound by our rules of confidentiality," said Underhill.

"It takes a special person to be a buddy," she said. "Some people enter the program because they want to help and are overwhelmed by a client's situation. Our training is designed to provide them with coping skills so that they don't get burned out. It is also important that they know the 'rules of the road' so they don't get too emotionally involved," Underhill stated.

To become an ATEAC buddy, contact Ms. Underhill at 272-0855.

## HIV-Infected Person Sues Insurance Company For Bone Marrow Transplant

New York, NY—A man with advanced HIV infection brought suit in July in state court asking for an emergency order to require his insurance company to pay for the treatment that could save his life. The judge will have to determine who should make critical decisions on payment for needed health care—patients and their doctors, or insurance companies.

The lawsuit, filed in New York State Supreme Court by Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund, charges the insurer, Empire Blue Cross/Blue shield, with refusing to pay for a bone marrow transplant for Thomas Bradley, in violation of his insurance policy. Empire has refused to pay because it says the procedure is "investigational," even though

FDA and New York State's Medicaid Program have approved it. The lawsuit asks the court to immediately order the company to pay for the procedure so Mr. Bradley can get treatment before it is too late.

"Every day that goes by for Mr. Bradley without this operation risks his life," said lead counsel Mark Scherzer, a Lambda Cooperating Attorney in private practice in New York City.

"This case presents a key issue for health care in the 90's," said Lambda staff attorney Evan Wolfson. "Who should decide what treatments are to be used, patients and their doctors, or insurance companies with built-in conflict of interest? Time and time again, as in our fight with them over the drug AZT, we have

seen insurance companies try to avoid having to pay the costs of caring for people with AIDS and helping to stop the progression of HIV illness. We hope the court will act swiftly, not only to save this man's life, but to make it clear that doctors and patients make the medical decisions, not insurance companies."

Mr. Bradley's doctor stated in sworn court papers that, because Mr. Bradley has a twin for a donor, he is an excellent candidate for the bone marrow transplant, a standard treatment for patients with congenital immune deficiencies. "As an identical twin, Mr. Bradley is fortunate to have a special treatment option. Through a combination of bone marrow transplantation and intensive chemotherapy, he has a reasonable chance of reconstituting his immune system and of setting back his level of HIV infection." Doctors estimate a 90% rate of survival and improvement with this operation.

## Stop AIDS Project Gears Up for Fall

Since its inception in late July, the Stop AIDS Project of the Aid to End AIDS Committee has held eight meetings aimed at stopping the transmission of AIDS. An additional six to eight meetings are scheduled from the middle of September through October.

The Stop AIDS program is designed to bring Gay men together in "an experiment in communication." Potential meeting guests are invited to a small group meeting in someone's home to talk about how AIDS has affected our community; what we, as individuals, can do about it; and safer sex techniques. The groups are designed to allow participants to talk about an uncomfortable subject which rarely gets discussed in depth in our normal course of life.

"The groups are held in someone's home for two reasons," said Allen Cook, a Stop AIDS group leader. "First, we want to provide a place in which people feel comfortable—many of the participants don't know each other when they arrive. Secondly, the host can show his commitment to the project by allowing the use of his home."

"Many people expect a really depressing afternoon or evening discussing AIDS," Cook said. "What they get, I think, is the realization that other people feel the same way they do about safer sex, and that there is something each of us can do to stop the transmission of AIDS."

One of the main tenets of the meetings is that while no one of us can stop the epidemic, each of us has the power to prevent the transmission of the virus—from us to others or to us from others.

Volunteers for the Stop AIDS project are recruited from the meetings. "You can't really convince someone else to come to or host a Stop AIDS meeting if you've never

attended one," Cook said.

The Project is based on a San Francisco program which is partially credited with reducing the annual infection rate there from 18% to less than 1%. Funding comes from the

Tennessee Department of Health and Environment and the Memphis AIDS Coalition.

To register for a Stop AIDS meeting, call Allen Cook at 454-1411.



### WE CAN STOP AIDS!

We may not be able to come up with a cure for HIV, but we can STOP AIDS.

Each of us has the power to prevent the transmission of the AIDS virus from us to other people or to us from other people.

A Stop AIDS meeting is a one-time gathering of 8-15 Gay men meeting comfortably in someone's living room. We talk about how AIDS has affected us, the Gay community, and what we personally can do to stop the epidemic.

And while the topics are serious, we do have fun. Talking about our experiences, safe sex, and making commitments.

So when a Stop AIDS volunteer invites you to a meeting, consider it and go.

The Stop AIDS Project is an educational service of the Aid to End AIDS Committee and is funded through grants from the Tennessee Dept. of Health and Environment and the Memphis AIDS Coalition.

WKRBB Presents

A TRIBUTE TO

*Billie Jo Casino*

A Legend Lives On



Sunday  
September 9, 1990  
9:00 PM  
\$2.00 Donation

All Star Cast  
Then & Now

Anyone wishing to perform, call Sharon  
Wray (278-9321).

All door proceeds & tips will be donated to Billie Jo.

# 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.

**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 ad listings. Infopixpak \$3.00: NYWC, 59 West 10th, NYC

10011.

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

**Ozark Bed/Breakfast** 5 wooded acres of privacy in a fun vacation area. Exclusive resort for men & women. Hot tub. Country club privileges. Greenwood Hollow Ridge, Rt 4 Box 155, (501) 253-5283, Eureka Springs, AR 72632.

**GAY COUNTRY INN** with 19 charming rooms, 100 scenic mountain acres, pool, hot tub, hiking/skiing trails, spectacular fall colors, peace, and privacy. We're your perfect vacation choice year around! **HIGHLANDS INN**, Box 118MT, Bethlehem, NH 03574. (603) 869-3978. Grace and Judi, Innkeepers.

**Oil Portraits** by local artist from sitting or photo. Very reasonable prices. Call (901) 452-9818.

Call for Records. The First Annual Book of Lesbian World Records will be published in 1991. These are non-competitive herstorical records. All Lesbians are welcome to make their accomplishments, humorous or serious, known. All notarized, released entries will be published. Send leg. S.A.S.E. to: Color Pink Productions, 1918 Lake Shore Ave # 32, Oakland, CA 95606.

Gay and Lesbian American Indians who are interested in coming together with others of like heritage for support call (901) 452-2860.

Very cute GWM, 20, searching for the right boyfriend/lover. Interested? Contact: Boxholder, P.O. Box 411, Collierville, TN 38027-0411.

Plumbing contractor needed to install underground natural gas line (about 150') for ATEAC office. Contact Angie Dagastino at 272-0855 to bid.

Athletic WM, new to Memphis, looking for others for fun and friendship. 4520-3 Summer Avenue, Box 140, Memphis, TN 38122.

GWF with 9-year-old daughter wants to share house with female. Large home, good East Memphis neighborhood, big kitchen, jacuzzi, and home-cooked meals available. No drugs. 682-7856. Ask for Millie.

2 GWM's, 32 and 35, seeking Ole Miss alumni/students for attending Oxford football games and for sharing tailgate parties. Interested write: K.R., P.O. Box 241181, Memphis, TN 38124.

GWM, 24, 6'3", bl/bl, 190#. Looking for same, age 19-28. Looking for a masculine type guy for dating; occasional weekends, cuddling, affection. College students welcome. No fats or fems. Write Dept F-9, Box 3038, Memphis TN 38173-0038.

Attractive GWM, 5'7", 130#, seeks same, age 22-38 for relationship with man of good character. Have variety of interests from music to movies to plays to sports to travel. Must show qualities of both aggressiveness and submissiveness. I do not like bars. Must be non-smoker and employed. No effiminates, drugs, or overweights. If you are looking for sincerity, then this ad is for you. Photo requested. Dept. H-9, Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38173-

0038.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY SHAGGY!!!** I will always Love you...Forever. He's My Shaaagy...Yes He Is! Love, Bam-Bam.

BiWM, 61, Herpes Victim wishes to meet same or couple. Very oral-plus. Any race for sensual times. Full length photo and phone. P.O. Box 30335, Memphis, TN 38130.

Attractive young professional seeks good-looking stud. Must be endowed, in shape, masculine, friendly, experienced, and discreet. Send replies with photo to: Boxholder, P.O. Box 12223, Memphis, TN 38182-0023.

GBM, 23, 5'10", 160#, professional, financially secure, educated/career oriented. Raw passion for music, theater, arts. Seeks GWM 19-30 with similar interests for a sincere relationship. Send letter, phone, or photo. Lex, P.O. Box 3229, Memphis, TN 38173-3229 or call (901) 327-5434.

GWM, 22, 160#, 6'1", straight-acting. Seeks same 21-28 years. No fats, drugs, smokers, barflies. Looks brains, talent, conversa-

# September 1990

Sun                      Mon                      Tue                      Wed                      Thurs                      Fri                      Sat

Every Sunday Worship Service Agape 11 AM Holy Trinity 11 AM, MGLCC			Every Wednesday Worship Service Agape, 7 PM		31 • Wings Flight 6 begins (through 9/2) • Gay Bowling League, Big Daddy's, 7 PM	1 • Mr. Southern Leather, Chaps, 10 pm
• Connie, Cheryl, Lisa, WKRB 2	LABOR DAY 3	• Memphis Gay Coalition, 7PM, Main Library, Room A • Lambda Men's Chorus, 7:30 PM, MGLCC • BWMT CR, 7:30 PM 4	• HIV Testing, 5-7 PM, MGLCC • "Homosexuality & the Bible", Agape, 7 PM 5	6 • Video Night, MGLCC, 8 pm	7 • Gay Bowling League, Big Daddy's, 7 PM	8 • BWMT Game/Party Night, 7:30 PM
• Catholic Lesbians, 6 PM, Call Faith 324-6949 • B-GLAD CR, Diva's, 4 PM • BWMT Board Meeting, 1:30 PM • Billie Jo Casino Benefit, WKRB, 9PM 9	10 • MGC Community Forum, MGLCC, 7 PM	11 • Lambda Men's Chorus, 7:30 PM, MGLCC	12 • HIV Testing, 5-7 PM, MGLCC • "Homosexuality & the Bible", Agape, 7 PM	13 • Video Night, MGLCC, 8 pm	14 • Gay Bowling League, Big Daddy's, 7 PM • Flashlight Night, Pipeline	15 • Gaze Advertizing and Copy Deadline • Meristem Grand Opening, 930 South Cooper, 10 AM-6 PM
• B-GLAD Business Meeting, MGLCC, 4 PM • BWMT Hot, Horny, & Healthy Playshop, 7 PM • Agape Welcomes Rev John Tolley, 11 AM 16	17 • GayRap, 7PM, MGLCC	18 • Lambda Men's Chorus, 7:30 PM, MGLCC • BWMT CR, 7:30 PM	19 • HIV Testing, 5-7 PM, MGLCC • "Homosexuality & the Bible", Agape, 7 PM	20 • Video Night, MGLCC, 8 pm	21 • Women's Coffee House, MGLCC, 8 pm • Gay Bowling League, Big Daddy's, 7 PM • Tsarus Aida Run (thru 9/23)	22 • MGLCC Board Meeting, 11:30 AM • Pot Luck, \$3 w/dish, \$5 w/o dish MGLCC, 7 pm • BWMT Pot Luck Dinner • Ms. Diva, Diva's
23	24 • BWMT Open Forum, Main Library, Peabody & McLean, Mtg Room A,	25 • Lambda Men's Chorus, 7:30 PM, MGLCC	26 • HIV Testing, 5-7 PM, MGLCC • "Homosexuality & the Bible", Agape, 7 PM	27 • Video Night, MGLCC, 8 pm	28 • September Gaze due out • Gay Bowling League, Big Daddy's, 7 PM	29 • B-GLAD Game Night

tion, honesty ONLY! Prefer Students. Interests: Theater, Film, writing, exercise. Write: Dept. M-9, Box 3038, Memphis, TN 38173-0038.

GWM wanting young white stud, 19-32 years, well-hung, hairy for fun, games who is oral passive. ASU student preferred. (501)932-7184.

Attractive semi-retired professional, GWM 63, 5'9 1/2", 155, salt-pepper/brown, varied interests, bottom, seeks special man, aggressive, dominant top, 40-55, for fun relationship. Letter, photo, phone to Nick Adams, P.O. Box 2767-Suite 261, Jackson, TN 38302.

GWM, 5'9", 162#, br/bl, sincere,

dependable, discreet, home-oriented. Seeks GWM 21-39 with similar qualities for movies, dinners, theater, travel, friendship/1:1 relationship. Reply to: Box 38185, Memphis, TN 38183.

Lonely WM 33 wants to meet WM 20-35 for friendship/relationship. Reply to Ron Dyer, 308 S. Broad # 27, Lexington, TN 38351. Send photo.

Looking for Bobby Sanders who use to work at the Quik Mart on Whitney. This is Hoyt Hancock. Please call me at (501)763-7306. I want to see you.

Attractive, sincere, GWM, 21bk/br, 5'6", 135# looking for special man 21-? for lasting relationship. No fats or fems. Write or call

Buddy Winders, 193 Hurdle Circle, Holly Springs, MS 38635.

Arkansas-GWM, 26, 5'10", 180, brown/blue, masculine, attractive, discreet, hairy, sensitive small town guy. Enjoys cars, home, outdoors, etc. Want same 20-40 for friendship/relationship. No drugs, bars or games. Hairy a plus. Write A.R., P.O. Box 384, Salem, AR 72576.

Young Professional GWM. New to area. 5'11", 170#, album hair, hazleeyes. Told very cute. Wants to meet GWM's 18+ for friendship and going out, possible relationship. Call Jeff (901)324-3869.

GWM Wanting white butch stud 19-32, hairy and well hung for fun and games. ASU student pre-

# Classifieds

ferred. Call (501) 932-7184.

Mykonos, Ibiza, Rio, Amsterdam, Bangkok, and quiet, romantic evenings at home. If you prefer these to the Memphis bar and drug scene, contact this GWM, 5'11", 160#, br/bl, cute, 35, at P.O. Box 365 Hemando, MS 38632.

GWM, 41, 5'4", 154#, sincere, caring, loving, seeks GWM 28-50, for friendship or possible relationship. Strictly on the level.

Reply to Bud, 1701 North Avalon #128, West Mphs, AR 72301.

**Have you ever had the feeling that no one will be exactly what you are looking for? Well, I am a GWM, 30, 6' br/br, nice looking, honest, sincere, and full of love. Looking for GWM, 25-50 for true friendship/relationship, who is tired of game playing. Phone Scott at (601) 489-8023 anytime after 6 PM. TAKE A CHANCE!**

## 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.  
**Diva's:** 492 S. Main - 529-9081.  
**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 7:00 PM, 405 N. Cleveland, Suite 3, Memphis 38104 - 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.  
**Black Gay & Lesbian Alliance for Dignity (B-GLAD):** Box 1921, Memphis 38101 - 327-3943 or 948-2345.  
**Brothers & Sisters Bowling League:** 1161 Poplar Ave #15, Memphis 38105.  
**Colors:** Box 1921, Memphis 38101.

**Conference For Catholic Lesbians:** Faith, 324-6949.

**Gay Women's Social Group:** Lee, 327-6165.

**Holy Trinity Community Church:** Box 41648, Memphis, 38174 - 726-9443. Worship Service Sundays at MGLCC, 1291 Madison, 11:00 AM.

**Into The Light (Women's AA):** Meets Sundays at noon, Thursdays at 8PM 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.

**Memphis State University Students for Gay & Lesbian Awareness (GALA):** GALA c/o Office of Greek Affairs, MSU 38152.

**Minority Prison Project (MPP):** For information: John Prowett, 1526 Court Street, Memphis 38104.

**Mystic Krewe of Aphrodite:** Box 41822, Memphis 38174-1822.

**Names Project Memphis:** Box 34576, Memphis 38184-0576 - 725-0371.

**National Organization for Women (NOW):** Box 40982, Memphis

38174-0982 - 276-0282.

**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.

**Transvestite-Transexual National Hotline:** (206) 623-1549 24 hrs.

### PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

#### Counseling

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

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

**Bob Hughes, MS:** Counseling, Codependency/A C O A, Wholistic Healthcare 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. Gullledge, Attorney At Law:** 208 S. Heard Street, Senatobia, MS 38668 - (601) 562-8738.

**Susan Mackenzie, Attorney At Law:** 100 N. Main, Suite 3310, Memphis 38103 - (901) 525-0417.

**Jocelyn D. Wurzburg, Attorney At Law:** 1903 Lincoln America Tower, 60 North Mid-America Mall, Memphis 38103 - (901) 527-3795.

#### 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.

**Wildhare Graphics:** 344 North Watkins, Memphis, TN 38104 - 278-8437.

#### Realtors

**Steve Solomon, Affiliate Broker, Davies-Sowell, Inc.:** 54 S. Cooper, Memphis 38104 - (901) 278-4380.

### MISCELLANEOUS

**Airport Bookmart:** 2214 Brooks Rd E. - 345-0657.

**Cherokee Adult Book Store:** 2947 Lamar - 744-7494.

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

**Getwell Book Mart:** 1275 Getwell - 454-7765.

**Getwell Adult Book Store:** 1617 Getwell - 745-9054.

**Meristem: Feminist Book Store -** 930 South Cooper - 276-0282.

**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. 6:00-7:00PM, WEVL FM 90 - Box 41773, Memphis 38174.

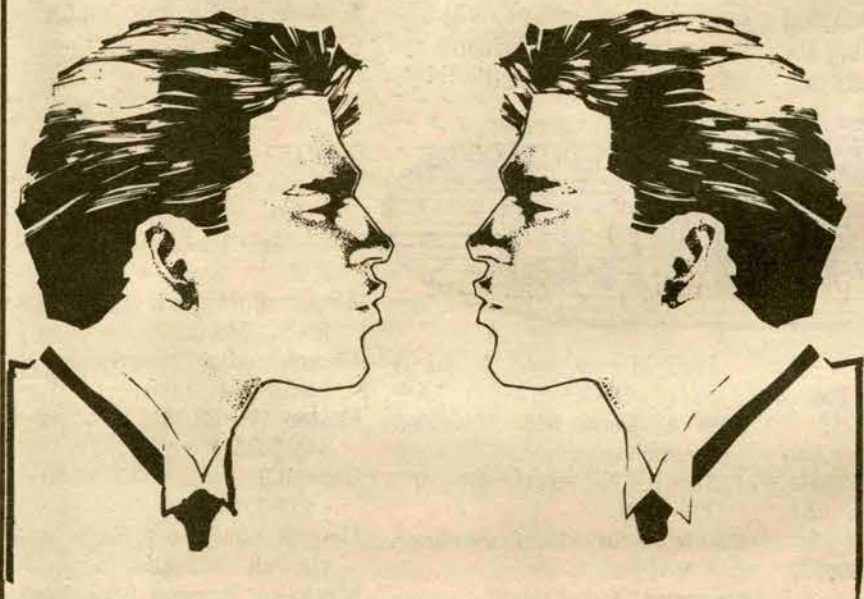
**Gaze:** Monthly newspaper published by the Memphis Gay Coalition - Box 3038, Memphis 38173-0038 - 454-1411.

**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.

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