



NEWS CLIPPINGS
\\ 1970S \\

**More to
the Story:**

Chase Brexton
Health Care's
History

Baltimore Group Celebrates 3rd

A Brief but Effective History

by Jim Becker

This month, the Baltimore Gay Alliance celebrates its third anniversary. During BGA's brief history, it has been a strong advocate for gay people in Baltimore and throughout the state, working hard to dispel myths and to fight prejudice. Few expected BGA to grow so fast and become so effective in such a short time, especially considering that the group was organized by a straight woman and an out-of-state gay activist.

BGA has proven to be a somewhat unique gay organization. At a time when most activist groups are almost entirely white male dominated, BGA has continually had a high percentage of women and blacks in leadership positions. This is to its credit, but BGA remains uncomfortable. Baltimore is 50% black, yet the membership is overwhelmingly white male. BGA is not relating sufficiently to blacks and women, and it must do so if it is to grow in strength and increase its legitimacy as

representative of gay people in Baltimore. This is imperative if BGA is to remain successful.

BGA's past achievements have been noteworthy. It has held very successful dances, picnics, skating parties, and other social functions; published a newsletter; operated a switchboard information and referral service seven nights a week; lobbied for gay rights in Annapolis; organized street rallies; provided a speakers bureau as part of its community education outreach effort; operated a library of gay literature; monitored the media; and much more. But BGA is not content merely to repeat the past.

Because the gay community of Baltimore has grown in strength and self-awareness over the past three years, BGA has found it difficult to serve to best advantage both the social needs and the political interest of Baltimore's gay community. Accordingly, BGA was pleased when a new group, the Gay Community Center of Baltimore, Ltd.,

was organized in March 1977 as a non-political, social, and community organization. It is hoped that GCCB will be able to take advantage of tax benefits afforded to such nonpolitical groups.

office, library, and other community outreach programs are now planned and run by GCCB.

GCCB has received a \$10,000 federal grant to operate a gay VD clinic. The clinic will open April 15, with services being provided at 2233 Saint Paul St. every Tuesday and Thursday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Additionally, GCCB has plans to open a gay community center and coffeehouse.

BGA will continue its past work but with primary emphasis on the political sphere. It is hoped that this organizational change will make BGA more efficient. However, any organization is only as good as the people who run it. More people are needed to do the political and social work. Most members feel that they get more out of their involvement with BGA and GCCB than they put into it. There is real beauty in the unity everyone feels when working toward a common goal. For information on meeting times and dates, call the Baltimore Gay Switchboard any night from 7 p.m. to midnight (301-235-4357).



Recognizing GCCB's potential for more efficient use of funds, BGA has moved to donate all of its assets relating to purely social and community interests to this new group. The switchboard, speakers bureau, dances and other social functions, biweekly forums,

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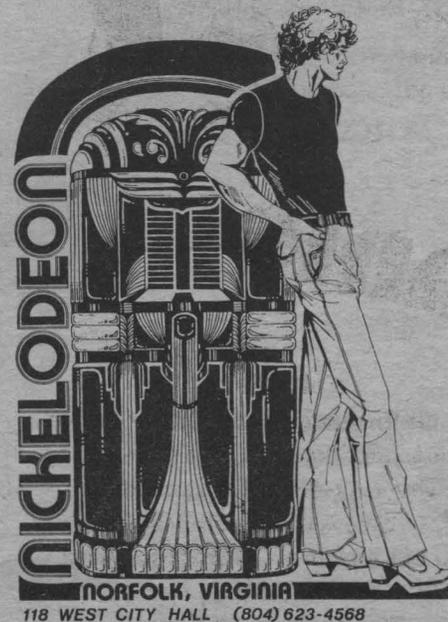
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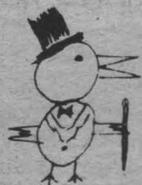
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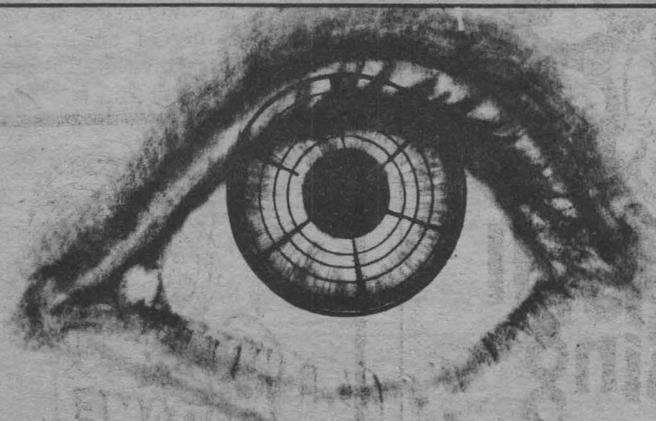
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FALL 1978
GAYZETTE

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P.O. BOX 13438 BALTO. 21203
SWITCHBOARD 235-HELP

**REMARKS FROM THE GRAND OPENING CEREMONIES
OF THE GAY COMMUNITY CENTER**

Tonight is a night of celebration and pride for our community. Three and a half years ago Baltimore did not have a visible gay community; we were not then united in a common struggle—the struggle for gay rights. Some of us visualized, however, a unified, proud gay community and we wanted a center, a meeting place for our people.

GCCB is only here because we cared about ourselves as a people, as a minority striving for pride and dignity. There are a number of people I wish to thank personally tonight.

Jim Becker—Providing our Switchboard services for 3 years.

Paule Bennett—First Fund Raising chairperson.

Mike Brenner—Worked for our CETA grant.

Lou Hughes—Co-ordinator of the bi-weekly Forums.

Debbie Kachelries—First Secretary and Fundraiser co-chairperson.

Rob Lance—Co-ordinator of our social functions.

John Love—Resident Lawyer.

Bob Marks—Organized first gay rally.

Bo McDonald—Health Clinic co-ordinator.

Jeff Meyer—Liaison with Johns Hopkins University.

David Nash—Organized first Gay Youth group.

Glenn Plaskin—Resident Pianist—Gave first benefit concert.

Stan Peed—Secretary.

Andre Powell—Started Essex gay student group and then formed one at Towson.

Dana Rethemeyer—Second President—Provided us with a meeting place in his apartment for three years.

Rex Schneider—Costume designer for our T-shirts. Designed posters and donated money to us from Hopkins film series.

Harvey Schwartz—took us around from building to building for the last three years until we just had to find a place to call our own.

Tim Tasker—Former chairperson of Legal Committee for BGA and co-ordinated our block parties on 31st St.

Norman Thomas—financial wizard and treasurer.

Kathy Valentine—Co-founder of BGA. First legal action chairperson for BGA and former Vice-President.

Gail Vivino—Wrote the grant enabling us to get a VD Clinic. Spoke before the Community Relations Commission which was instrumental in their supporting a bill for gay rights. Current Vice-President.

Silas White—First Treasurer, and office sitter for BGA and now GCCB.

There are many other people who have helped us; some have moved to other states, hopefully helping other gay community groups form. Some of our bar owners have been quite supportive, Walter from the Gallery, Connie of the International Disco, Odell Brock from Odells and Cal Shuman from Marys. The two staff doctors who are donating their time at the Gay Health Clinic. And lastly I extend a special and warm thanks to you the community for supporting us.

— Paulette Young, *President*

GAY HEALTH CLINIC

Since May Baltimore has had a Gay Health Clinic for sexually transmitted diseases. The clinic is operated by the Gay Community Center of Baltimore, Ltd. at the Metropolitan Community Church, 2233 St. Paul Street. The clinic is open every Tuesday and Thursday, 6-8 PM.

At present the clinic is staffed by two nurses, two doctors, a coordinator and volunteers. Clinic services are free, but donations are accepted to help keep the clinic going. The clinic hopes to expand its services in the future, the major problem now being that it lacks the funds to pay malpractice insurance for additional physicians.

The incidence of gonorrhoea, syphilis and hepatitis is clearly on the rise in the gay community. The clinic staff urges everyone to get regular routine checkups, noting that much of venereal disease—even gonorrhoea—is asymptomatic. Protect your health, be fair to your friends!

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2233 St. Paul Street (23rd & St. Paul Streets)

Hours: Tuesday and Thursday
6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Fee: Free (donation requested)

A little trouble now may save you a lot of problems later.

THE BLADE

Serving Gay Men and Women Throughout the Washington-Baltimore Area

NINTH YEAR

JUNE 1978

NUMBER 6



Gay Pride Week '78 tops this month's calendar of events—page 27

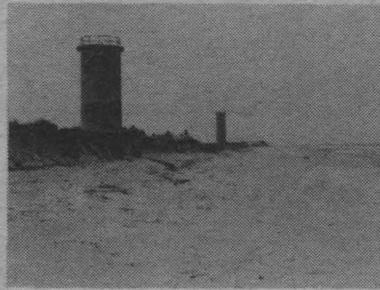
Those of you familiar with this beach resort landmark can guess what's in store on—page 17



Vignettes of Houston: capturing the essence of what's right for women—page 10

News: City council chairman responds, Gay Pride Week resolution nixed, Black lesbian feminist speaks out, and more—pages 2-6

Disturbed Peace: Brian McNaught deals with self-hate—page 21



How to Block D.C. Rights Repeal

by Lou Romano

WASHINGTON, D.C.—D.C. gay leaders are calling on gays and their straight supporters to urge four key City Council members to approve an amendment that would prevent Washington's gay rights law from being subjected to initiative and referendum.

The amendment, which is attached to a bill setting guidelines for future city initiative, referendum, and recall elections, cleared its first major hurdle last month when the Council's Government Operations Committee passed it by a 4-to-0 vote.

If the measure is adopted by the full Council in sessions scheduled for later this month, opponents of gay rights would be barred from placing the gay rights clause of the D.C. Human Rights Act on the ballot for repeal. Efforts to repeal gay rights ordinances have succeeded recently in Miami, Fla.; St. Paul,

Minn.; Wichita, Kan.; and Eugene, Ore.

The amendment passed by the D.C. Council's Government Operations Committee declares that the Board of Elections and Ethics "shall refuse to accept" petitions calling for an initiative or referendum if a petition "authorizes, or would have the effect of authorizing, discrimination for any reason other than that of individual merit . . ."

The amendment goes on to exempt all the protected categories included in the D.C. Human Rights Act, including "sexual orientation," from being included in a petition if discrimination would result from law repeals or other changes specified in the petitions.

Introduced by Councilman Marion Barry, the amendment has been strongly endorsed by Council members Arrington Dixon, Hilda Mason, John Wilson, and Polly Shackleton. However, gay representatives say support will likely be needed from an additional four key council members in order to overturn a possible veto of the legislation by Mayor Walter Washington.

The four councilmembers for which support is now being sought are Council Chairman Sterling Tucker, Councilman Dave Clarke (D-Ward 1), Councilman Jerry Moore (R-At Large), and Councilwoman Wilhelmina Rolark (D-Ward 8).

"Phone calls and letters are the two most effective means of letting council members know how their constituents feel," Mayo Lee, president of the D.C. Gay Activists Alliance, said in urging gays to contact their council members.

The proposal to exempt Human Rights Act provisions from initiative and referendum was introduced by Barry, at the urging of the Gay Activists Alliance.

"I approve wholeheartedly of the initiative and referendum process," Barry

Continued on page 3

Va. Gays Fight Archaic Liquor Laws

by Fred Parris

A statewide campaign to eliminate anti-gay provisions of Virginia's Alcoholic Beverage Control Act is being initiated by the Virginia Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights Political Action Committee.

The initial phase of the VCLGR effort will be a statewide letter-writing campaign this summer to the three Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission members, a VCLGR spokesperson said. All Virginia supporters of gay rights will be urged to write the commissioners to recommend elimination of the ABC code's anti-homosexual provisions.

Two sections of the ABC code have been singled out as especially discriminatory towards gay persons. The first, section 4-37, states that "the Board may suspend or revoke any license issued by it if it has reasonable cause to believe . . . that the place occupied by the licensee . . . has become a meeting place or rendezvous for users of narcotics, drunks, homosexuals, prostitutes, pimps, panderers, gamblers or habitual law violators [emphasis added]."

The second objectionable provision, section 4-58.10, provides that "no licensee shall knowingly employ in the licensed business any person who has a general reputation as a homosexual, panderer, gambler, habitual law violator, person of ill repute, user or peddler of narcotics or person who drinks to excess or any 'B-girl.'"

Any changes in the ABC code must ultimately be approved by the Virginia General Assembly, a VCLGR spokesperson noted. However, obtaining the support of the ABC commissioners is felt to be vital for the changes to receive legislative approval.

Several legal arguments have been cited by VCLGR representatives in urging elimination of the code's references to homosexuals. The first is that while other categories of persons cited in the two sections are criminals *per se* under Virginia law, homosexuals are not. Specific sexual acts are illegal in the state, but it is not a crime to be a homosexual in Virginia or any other state.

VCLGR leaders also believe section 4-37 to be unconstitutional because it prohibits freedom of assembly and because section 4-58.10 is an unwarranted governmental intrusion on an employer's right to hire who he or she chooses based on merit.

The three ABC commissioners to whom letters should be sent are Robert W. Jeffrey, Archer L. Yeatts, and Commission Chairman T. Rodman Layman. The mailing address for all three is:

Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission, P.O. Box 27491, Richmond, Va. 23261.

In order to monitor the effectiveness of the letter-writing campaign, the VCLGR Political Action Committee is requesting that persons writing the commissioners send copies of their letters, and the responses of the committee, to the Political Action Committee, VCLGR, P.O. Box 5522, Richmond, Va. 23220.

This summer's letter-writing campaign to the ABC commissioners represents the second phase of an overall effort to change Virginia's anti-gay ABC regulations. Earlier this year, testimony criticizing the regulations was presented at ABC commission hearings in Alexandria, Richmond, Norfolk, and Roanoke.

The Courts: A Last Refuge?

by Larry Bush

For gays in Eugene and St. Paul, where referendums to repeal gay rights won by depressingly larger-than-expected margins, election night defeat was redeemed by an expression of the will to continue. Almost spontaneously, gays joined in a candlelight march that reaffirmed their presence and pride and renewed their demand for equal rights. In each city the march ended when it reached the steps of the U.S. Courthouse. It was, in effect, a plea for sanctuary in the refuge of the courts and away from popular prejudice, as well as an act of hope that in the courts public passion would not sway justice.

Increasingly gays have been turning to the courts to challenge a system set up to discriminate against them — as

lesbian mothers or gay fathers fighting child custody battles, as employees fighting dismissal, as adults fighting for the privacy of their bedrooms — in short, for the rights most other Americans take for granted.

In some of these cases gays have won and precedents have been set that are helpful elsewhere. In others, judges have backed off from examination of the Constitutional questions involved in the issue in gay rights. In May, for example, the U.S. Supreme Court once again refused to hear a case involving state sodomy laws, thus still leaving the question unresolved as to whether the Constitution protects the right to privacy when it involves adult consensual sexual practices.

The court battles for gay rights have

not resulted in a national landmark case equal to "Brown versus the School Board of Topeka," which galvanized the black civil rights struggle in 1954 with the decision that separate was inherently unequal. It has produced enough cases, however, to keep the battle alive and encourage gay activist lawyers.

A corps of dedicated gay lawyers are pressing cases through a number of organizations, from the American Civil Liberties Union to the newer gay legal task forces. In Washington, for example, the D.C. Feminist Law Collective serves gay causes. In New York, the Lambda Legal Defense Fund was formed as the first national gay legal staff to fight for gay issues. In San Fran-

Continued on page 25

Letters

Respectful Disagreement — Council Chairman Tucker Replies

The March 1978 issue of *The Blade* carried a story on page 6 about the D.C. Mayor's race. I am writing to express my respectful disagreement with a sentence in the first paragraph: "Even the minority of activists who express some interest in supporting Tucker concede that Barry's past record on gay rights is the strongest." The article, in part, then gives examples of Mr. Barry's record and mine to support this erroneous conclusion.

Let's look at the facts. A year ago, in April 1977, when Anita Bryant was preparing her anti-gay rights offensive in Dade County, Florida, I wrote a letter to the Dade County Commissioners in opposition to the attempt to overthrow that county's human rights law. Prior to writing that letter, I met with a group of gay activist representatives in my office to discuss not only the Dade County situation but the state of gay rights and activities in the District. I have every reason to believe that my views were perceived by the participants as strongly supportive of gay rights.

In June 1976 and again in May 1977, I voted for D.C. Council resolutions proclaiming Gay Pride Week in the District. Incidentally, the Council's legislative records show Councilman John Wilson as the sponsor of both the 1976 and 1977 Gay Pride Week resolutions; they do not indicate co-sponsorship by anyone, including Mr. Barry, your article notwithstanding. You acknowledge my leadership role in the passage last year of legislation reinforcing Title 34 with respect to the rights of homosexuals in the District and I appreciate that acknowledgment.

In addition to my strong Council record in support of gay rights, I spent 20 years in the civil rights movement and the local Urban League, speaking out every day for the human rights of every citizen of our community.

In sum, I submit that no candidate's record on gay rights is stronger than mine and I appreciate this opportunity to take my case to your readers.

Sterling Tucker
Chairman
Council of the District of Columbia

Little Reason for Pride?

After attending the planning meeting for Gay Pride Day '78 last evening (May 17) I feel the need to express a few thoughts. If last evening's events are representative of the D.C. Gay Community then I see little reason for there to be 'Pride.' Again as in past years and other meetings I have seen our community fight with itself over who was to be the spokesperson for the so called community, as to who spoke for whom. It seems that there is the ever present desire for every group to want to be the leaders.

Last night was unique in that for the first time in my memory members of the Black Gay community were present and willing to work with the rest of the community. Unfortunately there seemed to be little space for them to be heard. Their major concern appeared to me to be one which this city so urgently needs to face, i.e., unity between black and white gays. The conflict over who was to determine the 'theme' of the celebration was again evidence of all of us wanting to be 'Chiefs'. Thankfully no theme was chosen and therefore no one won.

It seems that all of us will come out for a party, come out for a celebration, but when it comes to coming out to work, to listen, and to care for each other many of us would rather go 'boogie.' Our disorganization, our infighting, and our ambivalence is the greatest weapon we are offering those who would seek to deny any rights to gay persons.

I would ask you to do only one thing, stop and think about what is important to all of us.

The Rev. Larry J. Uhrig
Pastor, Metropolitan Community Church
Washington, D.C.

Community Center Support

Let us all pull together and build a community center that we may be proud of. We can do it if we mass together and raise the money needed; we can go first class too. We can hold benefits; we can ask the businesses that make money from us to give a little back. The potential is here—this is our chance to really work together as brothers and sisters in a common effort.

As a small businessman I would be willing to give 10% of any purchase price to the fund if a customer just mentions support of the

center. It's a start.

John Willard Ransdell
Out of the Closet, Uniquities
7702 Richmond Highway
Alexandria, Va.

Responsibilities

The last issue of the "Blade" was probably the most intensely significant issue published in months. Gay rights are being pushed back in time as a result of the recent repeals, and those nice warm feelings of "gay pride" are being frozen with a new intolerance towards gays. Every reader of this paper owes a large responsibility to themselves as wholesome individuals capable of respectable lives.

Perhaps coming out completely is a bit too risky for some of us because of legal constraints in employment. But, there are those

of us who do come out actively and show ourselves. And we're the ones who could surely use your support politically and financially.

So what should you do? You say you can't voice your opinions too loudly because of various risks, but you can send money, and you can become politically conscious of whom to favor in elections. We have money and influence, but if we don't use it we'll get no where.

My conscience is clear. I've written this letter, and I'm sending regular contributions to several gay organizations listed in this newspaper's directory. I only hope that after reading this letter, and thinking seriously about your responsibilities to yourself, you'll take a more substantial interest in your future as a gay member of society.

Louis Beckett
School Teacher

Changes Follow Blade Report

by Larry Bush

"The police were worried about things that just weren't happening — you know, like child molesting or that some guy was going to shoot another guy."

The remark, by a reporter explaining a change in the Harford County (MD) *Aegis's* treatment of arrest stories from the I-95 rest stop at the Maryland House, was a near echo of findings published in last month's *Blade*.

Since the investigation and publication of the *Blade* story last month highlighting the community-wide response to arrests of nearly 50 men for "perverted practices" at the public restroom, a number of changes have been made.

Arrest stories initially were afforded front page coverage in an effort to "let the community know who these men are." Arrest news is now carried on the inside pages. Police informed newsmen of the names of employers of the arrested men, and this information also was published. The state attorney's office now has directed the Maryland State Police to withhold that information.

Finally, the arrested men, who faced a

potential 10 year jail term and \$1,000 fine under the "perverted practices" penalty, are not now uniformly receiving permanent criminal records. First offenders now are being given probation before judgment, an administrative procedure with the practical effect of a guilty plea but which permits the arrest record to be wiped off the books after three years if there are no further arrests.

The Maryland House arrests first drew the *Blade's* attention when newspaper accounts indicated that the public restrooms had been listed as a meeting place in a "Washington underground gay newspaper." The reference, which police admitted had come from them, was carried in news stories in Washington, Baltimore, New York and reprinted as far away as San Francisco. In addition the *Advocate*, a nationally distributed gay publication, apparently used the same story. The *Blade*, however, was unable to find any "Washington underground gay newspaper" which had carried information on meeting in public restrooms along Maryland highways.

THE BLADE

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CONTRIBUTORS

A.E. Acosta	Herb Gingold	Kerry Richie
Kandy Allen	Noel Gillespie	Lou Romano
Joan E. Biren	Ellen Levi	Galen Ross
Jim Brooks	Brian McNaught	Robin E. Smith
Larry Bush	Bary Maddox	James D. Wagoner
Bopper Deyton	Fred Parris	Phil Wong-Cross
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THE LETTER & THE LIFESTYLE

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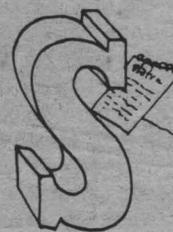


THE PUBLIC ADDRESS

SOCIETY would like to issue the following statement:



Therefore... as the OPEN MINDED, FREE THINKING SOCIETY that we are, we have agreed to re-examine our Views.



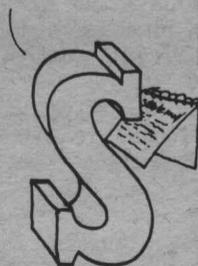
In recent years a cross section of prominent sociologists, acclaimed psychologists as well as a sizable faction of politically influential figures have succeeded in twisting SOCIETY'S arm...



However, (off the record,) regardless of what those Quacks want us to think...



In an updated consensus of opinion, it appears obviously unpopular that we should continue to look upon HOMOSEXUALITY as an illness.



We STILL believe that a couple of HETEROSEXUALS who hate each other are MORE NORMAL than a couple of Queers who love each other.



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D.C. RIGHTS REPEAL

Continued from page 1

told his Council colleagues in a memorandum. "Yet it has been well documented that if basic rights were subjected to public vote, they could, in some cases, be taken away."

"Studies have shown that the Bill of Rights could not even pass in some places, if it were subject to public vote," Barry said. "Therefore, this amendment will assure that the initiative and referendum process would never be used to interfere with basic civil and human rights."

Committee members voting for the amendment were Barry, Dixon, Mason, and William Spaulding. Spaulding surprised gay representatives since he had not stated a position on the proposal prior to the vote. Spaulding noted, however, that he was "reserving" the option to change his mind on the measure during the full council proceedings.

Councilman Douglas Moore, who has pledged to organize a referendum campaign to repeal the D.C. gay rights ordinance, is also a member of the committee, but did not attend the session in which the Barry amendment was voted on.

By 4-to-0 votes, the committee also approved a series of additional amendments submitted by both Barry and Mason which the two said were designed to strengthen the goal of preventing human rights from being subjected to public vote and to clarify language of the first amendment.

The enabling bill, to which the amendments are attached, is designed to help implement the D.C. Referendum, Initiative, and Recall Act, which was passed by District voters last November and approved by Congress earlier this year.

At the time of the *Blade* deadline, no major opposition to the proposal had surfaced based on opposition to gay rights. However, concern about the legality of the proposal has been expressed by staff members to several council members.

GAA's Lee said he believes the amendment conforms to the requirements of the Referendum, Initiative, and Recall Act based on provisions giving the City Council authority to set guidelines for elections.

Endorsement of the proposal has come from a number of city organizations and community leaders. Among them are the D.C. Chapter of the National Organization for Women; the local chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union; the D.C. Statehood Party; the Rev. David Eaton, pastor of All Souls Unitarian Church; D.C. school board member Frank Schaffer-Corona; and Dr. Marjorie Parker, a black civil rights leader and former City Council member who authored the original D.C. human rights law, Title 34.

City Council Defeats Gay Pride Resolution

by Lou Romano

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The D.C. City Council twice turned down a resolution declaring June 11 to 17 as Gay Pride Week in Washington, breaking a three year tradition of officially endorsing the city's annual gay pride celebration.

The measure, introduced May 30 by Councilman John Wilson, was first rejected as a ceremonial resolution, which, under new council rules, requires unanimous approval. Council members Douglas Moore and Wilhelmina Rolark voiced opposition. Wilson then reintroduced the resolution as an emergency measure, noting that there was not enough time for the Council to consider the resolution under formal council procedures, which take a full month.

The emergency measure was then rejected as the result of a 6 to 6 tie—two votes short of the 2/3 majority needed to declare a measure an emergency. The action killed the measure's chances for passage in time for the June 11 celebration at 20th and S Streets, N.W., near Dupont Circle.

Among council members who voted against the emergency measure were Chairman Sterling Tucker (D-At Large) and Arrington Dixon (D-Ward 4). Contacted later through spokesmen, Dixon and Tucker said they support a gay pride resolution on its merit, but were opposed to using the emergency resolution route for passing it.

"Since we knew for a year that this was coming and that it would be controversial, there was no reason to go outside the legislative process," Tucker said during council debate. "This sounds like a manipulation. I resent it."

Wilson, sharply disagreeing with Tucker, said the council's legislative process was clearly being followed and that many similar emergency measures have been approved by the council.

Councilman Marion Barry (D-At Large) accused Tucker and others who opposed the emergency resolution of trying to avoid voting on the gay pride issue. "I think the record should be clear that if you want to vote no, you should vote no. But don't blame it on

procedures."

Several sources associated with the council and with the D.C. Gay Activists Alliance, which was not involved in the lobbying effort for the gay pride resolution, said they believed a lack of preparation on the part of gay pride organizers rather than any sign of new anti-gay feelings among members of the city council, is responsible for the resolution's defeat.

"In my opinion, all council members acted predictably," one GAA member said. "Clearly, not enough attention was given to strategy," he said.

Black Lesbian Feminist Speaks Out

by Janice Eklund

"I operate in a context in which two words are always to be viewed positively: those words are feminism and lesbianism."

Barbara Smith—a Black, lesbian, feminist critic—became the center of some controversy at Howard's fourth annual National Conference of Afro-American Writers in May. Smith spoke as one of a four-member panel on "Black Women Writers and Feminism," but questions aimed at the panelists in the discussion period following the presentations were primarily directed to her.

Smith is a fellow at W.E.B. DuBois Institute for Afro-American Research at Harvard University. She has published book reviews in the *New Republic*, *Second Wave*, and *Ms.* She describes herself as an "activist as opposed to an ivory-tower intellectual" who believes in the "dynamic model of scholarship." Ignorance about Black women writers and the fact that, "All segments of the literary world, whether establishment, progressive, black, female, or lesbian do not know, or at least act as if they do not know, that Black women writers and black lesbian writers exist," bothers her, and she links the lack of Black lesbian writing to the state of Black women's culture and the restrictions imposed by Black women's oppression.

The relative newness of a Black feminist movement means that many people are ignorant that it even exists or are unfamiliar with the special concerns that make many Black feminists want to bond together. The feminist or the Black people's movement each can see the oppression of sexism or racism as primary and ignore the dual concerns of those who must face both in their daily lives. When these oppressions are compounded by heterosexuality, the hurdles are even higher. "Heterosexual

Others on the council who voted against the motion to consider the gay pride resolution an emergency measure were Douglas Moore (D-At Large) Jerry Moore (R-At Large), Willie Hardie (D-Ward 7), and Wilhelmina Rolark (D-Ward 8).

Those voting for the motion were Wilson, Barry, Nadine Winter (D-Ward 6), Polly Shackleton (D-Ward 3), Hilda Mason (Statehood-At Large), and David Clarke (D-Ward 1).

William Spaulding (D-Ward 5) was absent during the vote.



Barbara Smith

photo by Jim Seret

privilege is usually the only privilege that Black women have." The Howard audience's difficulty with Smith may have resulted in part, from the relative novelty of many of her ideas. This was the first time that Barbara Smith had been invited to speak to a Black audience.

Smith's lecture was given prolonged applause (several people gave her a standing ovation), but the discussion which followed made it quite clear that many people in the audience were totally unfamiliar with her position or simply found it unacceptable. One prolonged comment dealt with the possibility that "If we endorse homosexuality, then we have endorsed the death of our people." The woman who made this comment was a psychiatrist.

Howard took a bold step (apparently) when they invited Smith to come from Massachusetts (she lives in a Black feminist collective in Roxbury) to speak. Certainly, Black feminists and/or Black lesbians need new forums. Perhaps, then, there will be more reality to Smith's desire for "Black women and Black lesbians somehow not to be so alone."

WARNING

There has been an increase in attacks on women in the bar areas. Be alert when you go out at night and travel in groups of three or more. When you go to a bar, be as totally prepared to defend your self as possible. Never leave a bar alone or drunk, and remember that you are extremely vulnerable to attack outside a bar.

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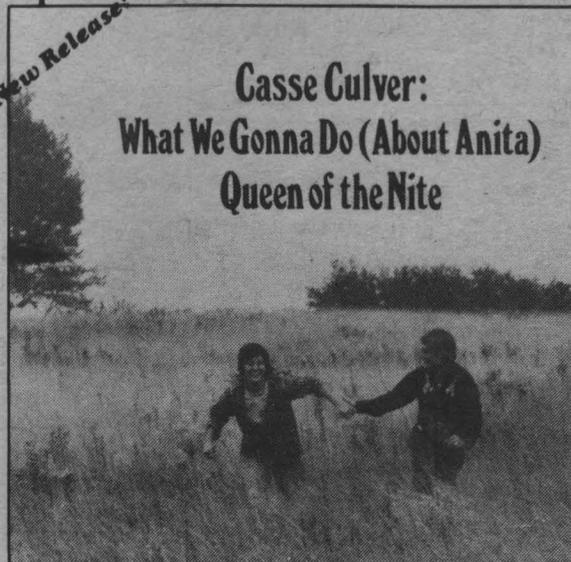
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Photo by JEB

Gay Health Issues Aired at National Conference

by A. E. Acosta

Over two hundred lesbians and gay men employed in the health professions attended the first National Gay Health Conference, held at All Souls Unitarian Church from May 19 through 21. The conference presented its first Jane Addams-Edward Brown Memorial award to Dr. Evelyn Hooker, whose pioneer studies in the early fifties disproved the then-prevalent theory that homosexuals are inherently ill-adjusted.

Dr. Hooker received the award during an emotion-filled ceremony on the last day of the conference. An address by Dr. Paul Wiesner, Director of VD Control at the Federal Center for Disease Control, preceded the presentation.

The participants, who came from as far as Hawaii and California, earlier had heard a panel composed of their openly gay colleagues discuss their experiences in their respective fields. Then, on the second day, they split into small groups to discuss health issues that concern the gay community, such as relationships between gay people and their parents, alcoholism, sex education, homophobia, gay adolescents, and aging in the gay

community.

Several of the participants remained in Washington after the conference closed to lobby their members of Congress for legislation that will help meet the health needs of gay people.

Dr. Hooker first began her research in 1954 under a grant from the National Institute of Mental Health. She chose 30 gay men who were not in therapy and a control group of 30 straight men. She then gave them personality tests, which were later examined by a panel of clinicians who did not know the sexual orientation of the subjects. The clinicians rated each man's level of adjustment from superior to disturbed. As many gays were rated superior as were straights, and the same number in each group was rated disturbed. When Dr. Hooker read the results before the American Psychological Association Convention in 1956, she began the long process that culminated in the removal of homosexuality from the APA's list of mental illnesses in 1973.

Dr. Hooker announced that, if her health allows, she will do a follow-up study of the surviving participants in

the original interviews, with whom she still keeps in touch.

Dr. Wiesner commended the conference for its role in presenting the needs of the gay community before the health care bureaucracy.

With the audience's assistance, Dr. Wiesner prepared a list of priorities on gay health needs, which he will present to the CDC. He stressed, however, that he could not promise any specific action. The conference was sponsored by the

National Gay Health Coalition, which comprises 10 gay professional caucuses.

NGHC will present the Jane Addams-Howard Brown Memorial Award annually to individuals whose work in the health field has benefited lesbians and gay men. The award is named after Jane Addams, an early feminist who devoted her life to improving the lot of the urban poor; and for the late Howard Brown, a New York city health commissioner and one of the founders of the National Gay Task Force.

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I want to extend my best wishes to the gay community during Gay Pride Week. The District draws much of its strength and vitality from the rich diversity that exists among its population. As a member of the Council of the District of Columbia, I shall continue to support and uphold the protections extended to all people by D.C. Law 2-38, the "Human Rights Act."

Hilda Mason,
Councilmember-at-Large



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District Update

DIXON ANNOUNCES FOR COUNCIL CHAIRMANSHIP

Arrington Dixon, D.C. City Council member for Ward 4, announced he will run for chairman of the D.C. City Council in this fall's elections. The only other declared candidate in the race is D.C. City Council member Douglas Moore, an advocate of repeal of D.C. anti-discrimination laws protecting gays.

Dixon's announcement, made before more than 200 friends and supporters at the Frederick Douglas home in Anacostia, included an open challenge to Moore's political philosophy and style.

"Chairman of the City Council is not an office for the Lone Ranger!" Dixon said. "Anyone who assumes the Office of Chairman, with any serious intention of delivering to the people of this community, has got to have a commitment to working with others."

The need to work together, Dixon told the crowd, extended to the city at large. "If we don't continue to encourage every segment of society to remain in this city the only source of revenue that will be left is our shrinking tax pockets," Dixon said. Dixon scored those "who would still rather play to our differences with the hope to divide us."

D.C. City Council member Polly Shackleton and D.C. City Council member Jerry Moore, a Republican, joined the crowd in cheering Dixon's candidacy. Among those holding "Dixon for Chairman" placards was Washington gay activist and D.C. Human Rights Commission member Frank Kameny.

"He [Dixon] has a strong track record

in support of our community and he has kept all his political bargains with us," Kameny told the *Blade*.

GAA CIRCULATES QUESTIONNAIRE

"How can we protect our gay rights laws?" is the title of a questionnaire being circulated throughout Washington's gay community by the D.C. Gay Activists Alliance.

The purpose of the questionnaire, according to GAA president Mayo Lee, is to solicit ideas for developing a "winning approach" to potential election referendums designed to repeal Washington's gay rights law.

"It's clear that gay communities in four other cities have failed to come up with a successful approach to preventing gay rights laws from being removed," Lee said. "I believe we must develop strategies now rather than wait for a referendum battle here."

Lee urged interested persons to send their suggestions to GAA, P.O. Box 2554, Washington, D.C. 20013.

DHR STAFF RECEIVES GAY AWARENESS TRAINING

Approximately 25 staff members of the D.C. Department of Human Resources (DHR) went through 2 days of training in April to help them deal with situations involving homosexual behavior among young people entrusted to DHR supervision.

The training was conducted by a team of four professional psychologists and

counselors under the auspices of the Metropolitan Mental Health Skills Center. The Gay Activists Alliance had been planning and negotiating with DHR for such training for more than a year. GAA's interest began following newspaper accounts of gross abuse of a gay black adolescent by DHR staff at the Children' Center in Laurel, Maryland.

LARGE TURNOUT FOR ANTI-RAPE MARCH

Eight hundred people marched from 16th and Harvard Sts., N.W., to Dupont Circle on Saturday, April 29 to denounce violence against women. The

march, sponsored by the D.C. Area Feminist Alliance, Rape Crisis Center, and the Task Force on Abused Women of the Women's Legal Defense Fund topped off "Anti-Rape Week."

"Anti-Rape Week" (April 23-29) was proclaimed after the Crisis Center urged the D.C. City Council to adopt a resolution in favor of the march. The week included 10 public workshops dealing with all aspects of rape. Over 200 people attended the workshops, which included information on sexual harassment at the workplace, black women and the anti-rape movement, battered women, media violence against women, Latin women and rape, women who fought back, and child sexual assault.

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Wrap Up

Presbyterians Deny Ordination to Active Gays

SAN DIEGO—The General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church has rejected the recommendations of its special task force on homosexuality and ruled that openly practicing gay persons are not eligible for the denomination's ministry.

While refusing to approve ordination for sexually active gay persons, the Assembly stated that persons with homosexual orientation, even if openly declared, could become ministers as long as they remained celibate. Homosexual acts *per se* however, were branded as sinful and contrary to God's will.

The decision came at the 190th General Meeting of the 2.6 million-member denomination and followed lengthy discussion of the issue.

Second Law School Bans Discrimination

ST. PAUL, MINN.—The Hamline University School of Law here has become the second U.S. law school to specifically ban discrimination in admissions and hiring on the basis of sexual orientation, reports *Gay Community News*.

The action, which came one week after the repeal of the city's gay rights ordinance, was approved unanimously by the law school faculty. The faculty also endorsed a resolution putting the school's placement office off limits to employers who discriminate because of sexual or affectional preference.

In a related move, the dean of the law school distributed a memorandum stating that decisions involving hiring and promotion of gay persons would not be affected by the outcome of the city referendum.

In March of 1978, the New York University School of Law announced similar regulations regarding the use of its placement services.

Spanish Priest Censored

VALENCIA, SPAIN—A Carmelite priest who wrote a best-selling book about his homosexuality has been ordered not to say Mass by his bishop, reports *The Body Politic*.

Father Antonio Rosella was subjected to the ban after the publication and national distribution of his book *All the Parks are Not a Paradise*. The book sold out in bookstores across Spain and was a contender for the nation's top literary award, the *Planeta rize*.

O'Leary Appointed to NYC Commission

NEW YORK CITY—Jean O'Leary, co-executive director of the National Gay Task Force, has been appointed to the New York City Commission on the Status of Women by Mayor Ed Koch.

Ms. O'Leary, who has just completed a one-year term on the President's Commission on the Observance of International Womens Year, is 1 of 14 persons recently named to the 38-person commission and the only publicly identified lesbian.

Commission to Investigate Irish Rights Violations

STRASBOURG, FRANCE—The European Commission on Human Rights has agreed to officially consider whether Northern Ireland's statute prohibiting consensual adult homosexual activity violates the European Convention on Human Rights, reports *GPU News*.

The Commission's action followed a charge by a gay Northern Ireland resident that the country's present law breaks Convention articles guaranteeing the right to privacy and prohibiting discrimination. Northern Ireland is a party to the Convention through Great Britain.

A Commission ruling is expected on the appeal before the end of 1978. Meanwhile, the Northern Ireland Standing Commission on Human Rights has declared reform of the present sex law as "a matter of urgency."

Fundamentalists Threaten Recall

SAN JOSE, CALIF.—Anti-gay fundamentalists here are threatening to recall four city council members who recently approved a proclamation endorsing "Gay Human Rights Week," the *Philadelphia Gay News* reports.

The threat was made by Rick Harrington, a 26-year-old community college dropout who is the leader of the San Jose "Committee Against Gay Pride Week." The committee, which consists

largely of local fundamentalist ministers and their congregations, was formed after the city council declared the week of June 18th as "Gay Pride Week."

At a city council meeting following the initial "Gay Pride Week" proclamation, members of the anti-gay committee packed the council chambers to demand its repeal. They enjoyed a moment of triumph when, at the request of its original sponsor, the council overwhelmingly voted to rescind the "Gay Pride" endorsement.

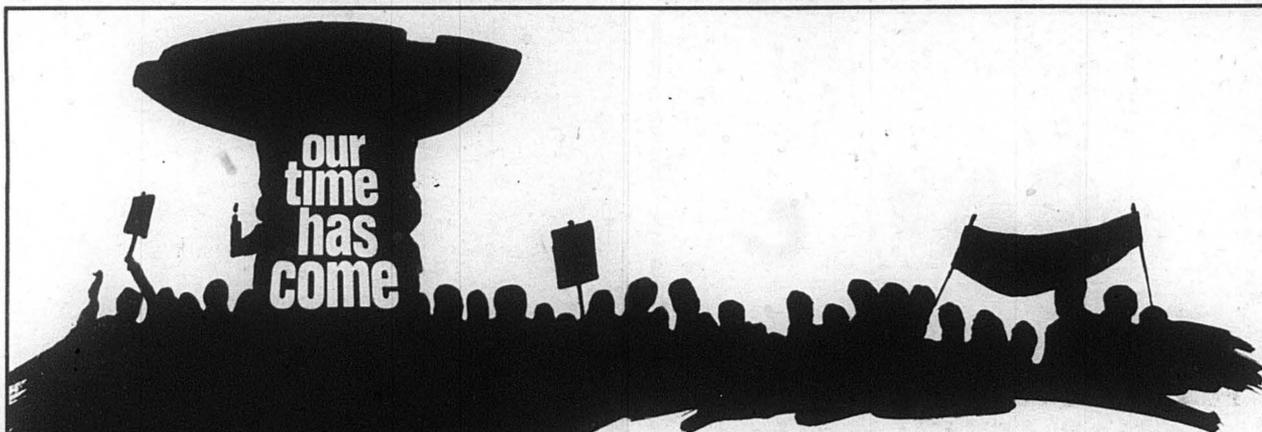
This pleasure quickly turned to wrath when the council went on to approve a new, substitute motion endorsing a "Gay Human Rights Week" for the same period. Harrington later announced his intention to initiate recall proceedings.

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—SAN FRANCISCO
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GAY VOTE '78 PROJECTS

Gay Group Recruiting Teens

by Galen Ross

Anita Bryant once said that since homosexuals cannot reproduce, they must recruit. That is exactly what one group here in Washington is doing—recruiting.

No, they're not out hustling their "straight" contemporaries, trying to turn them gay. But they are actively looking for other gays of their age group to join in their ranks.

The group is called Gay Youth, and that is exactly what they are. With one's 21st birthday as the cut-off point, Gay Youth is looking for other young men and women in the metro area to meet and socialize with them in a supportive gay atmosphere.

After a successful celebration of their fifth anniversary at the Fraternity House in April, the group has set June as their "membership month," and it is looking for ways of reaching other gays in the area to let them know that they exist.

At their annual spring picnic and barbecue, held May 20 at the home of Gene Baker, an ardent supporter of the group, several Gay Youth members told the *Blade* of their future plans, the way the group functions, and their vision of the place Gay Youth holds in the gay community at large.

While Gay Youth has only been in existence for the past five years, they have seen many changes take place in the group during its short lifetime. Beginning as an informal get-together on the park benches at Dupont Circle, the group now meets regularly on Saturday afternoons at 3 p.m. in the mezzanine of Lambda Rising, 2012 S St., N.W.

Fluctuating from a low of five mem-

bers to their present 40, the group has experienced "growing pains" associated with expansion and greater numbers. While the age of 21 is their cut-off point, at which time a member "graduates" into adult gay society, their bottom line is open ended. The youngest member of Gay Youth at this time is 14.

Basically, Gay Youth is a social organization. "I see it as a place to go—a place to be with other gay people," Roland F., a spokesman for the organization, told the *Blade*.

Besides the spring picnic, recent activities have included an outing to Kings Dominion, rap sessions with representatives of both GAA and Lutherans Concerned for Gay People, and discussions of their plans for Gay Pride Week and other business.

Besides their obvious social function, Gay Youth also provides help and support with such "growing up" problems as how to deal with parents finding out about their child's gayness, hassles with school officials, and other day-to-day issues involved in growing up gay.

"We try to be there when we're needed," Richard, the recently elected president of the organization, said. He pointed out, however, the difficulties involved in reaching other young gays.

Gay Youth, he explained, attempted to publicize their existence in many of the area's high school newspapers, only to face unrelenting opposition from school officials and some faculty advisors. "It was a frustrating experience," Richard said.

The issue arose last November when Gay Youth asked the Lambda Rising bookstore to take out ads in area high school newspapers announcing the time

and meeting place of the youth group as well as advertising the bookstore itself. A similar ad ran two years ago in seven area high school papers.

This time, however, school administrators stepped in to block the ad, and in some cases overturning decisions by student staffers. Of the 65 high schools contacted this time, only two—both in Montgomery County—ran the ad.

The controversy, however, did have its positive side—the *Washington Post*, upon learning of the quashing of the ads, ran a story describing the incident, the group, and some of its activities. What at first appeared to be a major setback turned into a positive public relations tool. The *Post* story had the

desired effect of making the group's existence known in a much more dramatic way than ads in the high school newspapers ever would have done, Richard said.

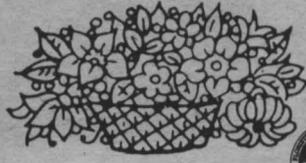
Gay Youth has a very active summer planned. They publish a periodic newsletter with activities listed, and many of their functions are also covered in the Calendar section of the *Blade*.

The group extends a warm welcome to all gay youth in the metro area, and encourages them to get in touch. Interested parties are asked to leave a message with Lambda Rising (462-6969) or call the Gay Switchboard (638-4611) to reach a Gay Youth representative.

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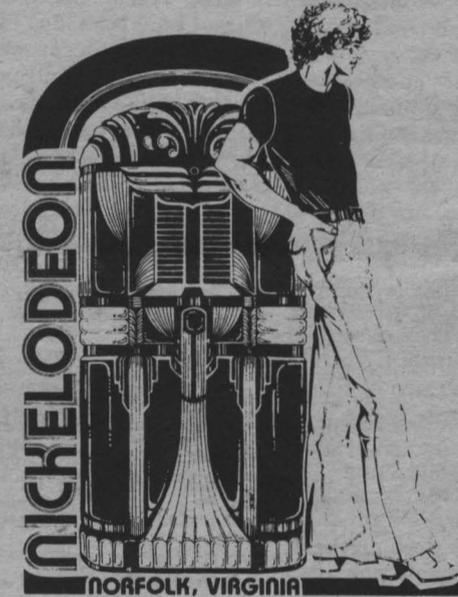
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Vignettes

Editors Note: Houston, Texas—November 1977—was the scene of the International Women's Year Conference, a milestone in the long struggle for women's rights in this country. The delegates to that conference approved a number of resolutions, one of which strongly supports gay rights, and sent them to the White House for action. By early summer, President Carter will be forwarding to Congress his recommendations for implementation of those resolutions.

Barbara Jean was an observer at the Houston Conference. In the following series of vignettes, she shares experiences that capture the essence of what made the conference such an uplifting event for so many women.

Hopefully, this foreshadows a strong stance by Carter in his recommendations to Congress including unequivocal support of the gay rights resolution.

by Barbara Jean

I called to a delegate just about to enter the plastic security-check tunnel at the Baltimore airport, "Be careful, it makes you sterile." She looked back and grinned and said, "If that's the case, I'll walk through twice."

We met again, at the end of the National Women's Conference, at the same Baltimore airport, and I asked if she was having trouble with reentry into the real world. She nodded and said she needed time to digest the intense experiences of the conference. She was about to call her husband and children and ask them to give her time alone once she arrived home, to make no demands for a few hours. So we introduced ourselves, talked politics, and managed to extend the end of the conference and avoid a return to reality for 30 more minutes. I wished Phyllis West good luck in maintaining her euphoria. We exchanged phone numbers, and added one more link to the women's movement chain.

OUTSIDE COLISEUM

Betty and Therese, two attractive mothers from the Texas Panhandle, who said they were "members of a potential NOW chapter," stood in a half-mile ticket line surrounding the coliseum. They described their experiences at an anti-Equal Rights Amendment religious meeting in their home town of 6,000. They attended in order "to try to present the minority viewpoint."

Therese said, "We dressed dowdy, plain but sweet, and wore only plain gold wedding bands, no diamonds. We each took one-fourth of a Valium so we wouldn't say 'shit'. We told them we were mothers, had breast fed our babies, and were now den mothers."

Betty told the participants that she did not like the implication that women who are for the women's movement and the ERA are not also for family and religion. She told them, "My husband is supportive of the women's movement and he encourages me, we have a partnership household, and I balance the checkbook because I do it better."

A teenage woman interrupted us to buy a "We're the People Our Parents Warned Us About" button from me, and I asked her if she would show it to her parents. She replied, "They have to find out sometime." I cautioned her to be careful about telling

them, and after she left Betty and Therese asked me why I had said that. I replied that I thought she was going to come out, tell her parents she's gay. Therese noted that the young woman had been wearing a wedding band, and I held up my left hand and said I was too, but it was just a pretty ring. She asked if I was gay and I said yes. We talked about what a

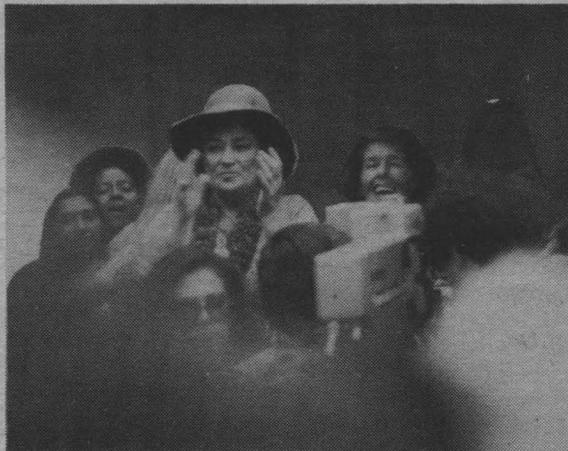


photo by Arlene Alligood

destructive person Anita Bryant is, and other subjects, and I eventually dealt with one of their stereotypes by saying I was divorced but had been happily married.

They told me about overhearing women talk about their fear of being attacked by homosexual women, and I said the idea of attacking women was unbelievable to me because there are lots of appealing gay women all around, and I like the specialness of the club, I like it the size it is. They accused me of elitism and we all laughed. Later I said I had to go, there were lots of straight women I had to seduce, and I walked to the NOW hospitality suite on the tenth floor of the Hyatt Regency.

The Equal Rights Amendment is a constitutional amendment that was written by Alice Paul, a suffragist, in 1923, and introduced by Congresswoman Martha Griffiths and passed by Congress in 1972. It has been ratified in 35 states and has to be ratified by 3 more states before March 22, 1979, in order to become part of the U.S. Constitution. If it is ratified, it will prohibit discrimination on the basis of gender.

NOW HOSPITALITY SUITE

We crowded in front of a big television set and cried along with Bella. Her benign and satisfied smile was beautiful to watch. We applauded and shouted as though we were participants in the coliseum instead of television viewers, but then the opening speeches were dynamic and quickly pulled us into the excitement of the conference. Liz Carpenter introduced a cross-section of delegates who were on stage with her. One assertive delegate called from the floor, "Where's the lesbian?"

Barbara Jordan pulled out all the gospel stops. When she said, "This is a time for foot soldiers, not kamikaze pilots," we all tightened our shoe laces in preparation for a long march. Barbara Jordan ended her speech and received a stomping ovation. She sat down. She stood up. She smiled as much as she ever smiles. Then Rosalyn Carter walked over to Barbara Jordan, took her hand and led her to the other first ladies. Betty Ford shook her hand. Ladybird enthusiastically shook her hand. Coretta King suddenly broke protocol, rushed up and hugged her with her whole body. I shouted, "Finally!" I wanted women leaders at this conference to hug each other, because that's part of our strength, one source of endurance and patience, and it has nothing to do with sexual preference. If I had a good camera, I would have devoted my time to photographing women relating to each other: the touch, the arm on the shoulder, the deep conversation, the shared smile. It isn't the beginning and end of feminism, but it sure is an important part of sisterhood.

INSIDE THE COLISEUM

Since the conference was 99 percent female, the men's bathrooms had "WOMEN" temporarily printed on the doors. A Black woman was drying her hands as she said wryly, "Well, they were right. They said if we pass the ERA, this would happen." And she looked over at us and the urinals.

A delegate argued in support of the ERA. She said she was there for divorced women who can't earn a decent wage, for widowed women who can't get their inheritance, for the men in 35 states who had the guts to vote for the ERA, for men who are home taking care of the children so their wives can be at the conference, and for men who aren't afraid of equal rights for women.

My body shivered suddenly at the sound of a voice at the microphone, as an older woman said with great weight: "My name is Susan B. Anthony." Silence became a roar. She went on to say, "The benign spirit of Susan B. Anthony The Great is hovering over this meeting tonight," and my glasses fogged. She told us that Alice Paul is the spiritual heir of Susan B. and that failure is impossible. At that moment I know I was taking part in an historical event. We were all there, together, in a noisy convention hall as we passed the ERA resolution.

The atmosphere in the coliseum was quite different during the debate on the sexual preference resolution. There was a feeling of tension and concern in the air, and a great deal of curiosity about which issues would be openly debated. The hard fact is that the ERA will be more difficult to pass if the anti-ERA group succeeds in linking the ERA with compulsory hiring of lesbian teachers and other nonsense. Betty Friedan surprised many women by coming out in favor of all women's rights. She buried the lavender menace once and for all, while Ellie Smeal put everything in political perspective. Then sympathy and sisterhood prevailed.

At the moment the sexual preference resolution passed, I lost all feelings of detachment and sense of myself as separate from other members of the audience. I stood with my arms outstretched waving a

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"We Are Your Children" sign and a balloon that read "We Are Everywhere." I cried. I grinned. I jumped up and down and stood still. I absorbed the thousands of people who were cheering with me, gazed down at ecstatic women's faces, and watched happy couples hugging (who had previously been holding hands and looking worried). Many non-gay women had changed their views during that debate so I had the pleasure of celebrating lesbian power with thousands of women.

A soft-spoken woman in a velvet jacket said with awe, "We're out of the closet now," and I was amused by the contrast between her quiet understatement and the uproar around us. A young Houston lesbian held her edge of a gigantic "Lesbian Rights" banner and cried with her whole face, but kept her eyes open so she could watch. The dozen women holding the banner shouted in unison, "Thank You Sisters." Hundreds of balloons were released and danced upward. We ran outside for a brief candlelight ceremony with Ivy Bottini and a few television cameras. Maxine Feldman led us in singing "Amazon" and we floated as high as the bobbing balloons.

HYATT REGENCY LOBBY

I sat in the carnival atmosphere of the Hyatt lobby, watching the bulbs on the elevators chase up and down, as though counterbalanced. When one goes up, one goes down. I watched the people.

All around cheerful men from another convention were failing to score. The gay women never even saw them. The non-gay women were talking strategy so hard that their automatic flirt reflex had shut down.

A fragile young woman in a mohair sweater and pleated skirt handed me an issue of *Coyote*, a newspaper published by the organized prostitutes in California. The masthead reads: "An Intermittent Journal of A Loose Woman's Organization." She said she feels less exploited when she gets \$100 an hour than \$120 a week as a secretary doing typing. Her statement made me uncomfortable because I'm a classic exploited typist, but I'm also uncomfortable about screwing for a living. She said she had to make more than a secretary's salary in order to raise her family, and that neither of her husbands had been much help. I asked her if she felt she exploited men and she replied, "Yes, sometimes."

While standing in front of a spinning display of desserts at the coffeeshop, waiting to pay one dollar an ounce for frozen yogurt, I met Shirley, a delegate from Michigan wearing a "Jewish Women's Caucus" button. When she found out I was from Virginia she congratulated me on the recent defeat of an anti-ERA delegate from Alexandria who had been in office for over 20 years. Word gets around fast when

women organize politically and vote an anti-ERA state delegate out of office.

EXHIBIT HALL

I met Dorothy, Eva, Sibyl, and Peggy at a large table in the cafeteria of the exhibit hall. They're from Phillis Schlafley's home town, Alton, Ill. They talked about how she lives in a 40-room mansion, and was a precinct committeewoman for the county Republican party but was not active locally. Her children go to a private school in St. Louis and are gone from early Monday to late Friday. She was on the YMCA board and opposed integration. Eventually the board voted to integrate and Phyllis resigned. She was the vice president of the National Federation of Republican Women's Clubs and wanted to be president in 1967,

"Coretta King suddenly broke protocol, rushed up and hugged her with her whole body. I shouted 'Finally!' I wanted women leaders at this conference to hug each other, because that's part of our strength, one source of our endurance and patience, and it has nothing to do with sexual preference."

but the nominating committee did not select her. She objected, ran anyway, and was defeated. She now heads the Stop-ERA campaign that has succeeded in pitting women against women by using fear tactics.

Eva went on to tell me that the Women's Political Caucus had a fundraising benefit in the mansion next to Phyllis' in October 1977. She said, "Some people wanted to spit in her back yard so we provided them with an opportunity to do so, at a \$5 charge for the privilege." Eva went on, "We have an ERA Information Center and had the words of the Equal Rights Amendment cut out in large letters and displayed so it can be read from a passing vehicle."

Hazel was sitting among the flowers in the Hawaiian exhibit. She had flown at her own expense in order to counter the anti-ERA delegation from Hawaii. She said that the Hawaiian International Women's Year meeting had elected anti-ERA delegates because about 4,000 church women were bused in from a Mormon community at Laiea. Men orchestrated this effort by using thumbs-up and

thumbs-down signals in order to tell the women how to vote. They have films of it being done. She said, "I came to show support; I don't even know where our delegation is." Roundtrip airfare is \$438.

As I stood at the *Quest* (feminist journal) exhibit a coed from southern Illinois told me hurriedly that the Ku Klux Klan men who punched four women were themselves chased away from the convention by 30 women.

ERA RALLY OUTSIDE CITY HALL

Houston's women's advocate, Nikki Van Hightower, said we were having this conference to "put the government on notice that we live here too!"

Feisty Florence Kennedy said "If you think we can change this society without hurting someone, you're mistaken." She plans to raise \$20 million so we can have our own television network because "begging and pleading" will not get us anything. We were asked to make lists of sexist advertisements and mail them to her in New York. She is planning an "action" against the top 125 national advertisers.

Willie Burrow is a dynamo Black woman. She chanted to us: "a woman I was born to be, a wife I try to be, a mother I have to be, a Black I must be, a minister I'm called to be, and intelligent I happen to be." She spoke to the Black women: "We cannot stand idly by and allow white women to stand alone to fight for women's rights in the world. Nobody will save us, for us, but us!"

She reminded me of a Black woman at a lesbian caucus meeting who shouted, "Black women and third world women no longer consider themselves third world—we're First World Women!" That was the first clue I had that minority women would be leaders in quantity and quality at the conference. There was no feeling of WASP women making space for minority women. The minority women were there in force, taking their own space. The women in wheelchairs would run right over you; the "Viva La Mujer," "Coyote," and "Fesbian Lemonist" buttons were everywhere.

Kate Millet was an exciting last speaker. She said, "We now have something we never had before, a mass-based women's movement. We are in an entirely different stage of our growth. After all, 20,000 women got on some kind of moving vehicle and got to Houston. It is important that this new movement be a minority women's movement. It has not been big enough or democratic enough—and too pale of face."

Judging from what I saw at the conference, the women's movement is like a female United Nations, only livelier, and I came home convinced that we have the guts and organizational power to get women into the Constitution by 1979!



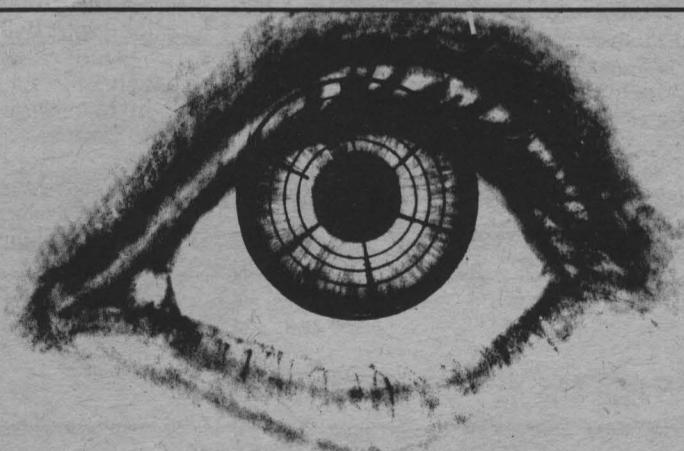
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BUTT

OUT OF THE CELLULOID CLOSET AND INTO THE BEDROOM... Tom Dowling, who writes about movies (at least that's what his job description says) for the Star, told AFI's Adam Reilly to sit on it for including Laurel and Hardy in the series on Homosexuality in the Movies. Dowling insists there was no funny stuff going on with Laurel and Hardy and furthermore, L&H represents the fine old American tradition of buddy-hood. BUTT thinks clever Adam Reilly deserves a great big kiss for doing the series. We also wanted to mount a retrospective but didn't know how.

THAT WILL BE \$5 IN QUARTERS, PLEASE... David Bowie is just getting so into movies these days. After falling to earth in his last film, David just may get down into the dirt and practically go underground. David now wants to work under Werner Fassbinder (Fox and His Friends was just a taste, my friends), and David and Werner are talking about making a movie soon. Both of them like the idea of "Threepenny Opera," and David is already practicing his version of Brecht's "Moon of Alabama." We always liked a southern exposure.

I'LL SQUEEZE FRUITS FOR A LIVING... Cornelia Wallace, George's ex, wants Anita's job pitching for Florida citrus. One thing Cornelia said was in her favor was her background in water sports (you remember, she used to water ski at Cypress Gardens). Meanwhile Anita has a day with Jimmy You-Know-Who at the June Southern Baptist Convention in Atlanta. We seem to

remember something about Baptists going down into the water, too. BUTT was born again, too, because it didn't get it right the first time.

FROGGY WENT A COURTIN', HE DID GO... Unable to believe that any woman could turn down a Frenchman, three Jacques assaulted and raped two Belgian women camping in the south of France. Although the women rebuffed the men (with hammer blows to the head, no less), it took French justice four years to decide that it was indeed rape. The clincher: the women were lesbians, who slept together nude. It was, are you ready, apparently the first rape conviction in France. Seems all other cases have been dropped to lower charges in the belief that women eventually succumbed to the charm of their attacker. Lesbian psychology, however, more or less precluded this argument, as even the Defense noted: "We're in Provence. These men are not capable of understanding the psychology of such women." The psychology of the men, however...

I CAN PASS WATER BETTER THAN YOU... Just when New York thought it might have to hire women firefighters, a consulting firm came in with a new test that is ever so fair (and square) that disqualified every one of the 400 dear little things who applied. None of the self-avowed women (personal questions like what sex are you were answered by applicants rather than tests) could pass a "rigid" test of strength, endurance or agility. BUTT thinks the NY Fire Department just set a new record in agility.

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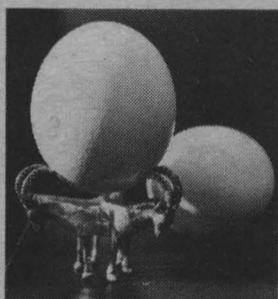
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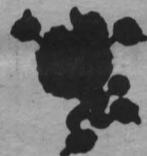


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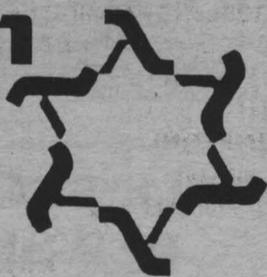
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NIGHTLIFE

Curtain Up

By Noel Gillespie

Late spring has become our regular big opera season. For several years it has been the time for the two week New York City Opera run at the Opera House (May 2-14) and the Metropolitan Opera as the opening week (June 5-10) of the Wolf Trap lineup. This spring has also seen the successful—financially and artistically—month of D'Oyly Carte Opera (April) at the Opera House and a galaxy of other local events by professional, semi-pro, and amateur groups. Unfortunately, one of the more enterprising local companies, the Harford Opera (Towson and Bel Air, Md.) has cancelled this summer's season.

The Met's program at our Vienna, Va., outdoor facility includes three of this season's new productions: "Rigoletto" (June 5, 8), "La Favorita" (9) and "Don Giovanni" (10). "Favorita" will feature mezzo-soprano Bianca Berini (a big hit here in the 1976 stanza in "Aida" and "Gioconda") substituting for ailing Shirley Verrett. Other works to be seen are "Boris Godunov" (7), "Cavalleria Rusticana" and "Pagliacci" (6), and "Madama Butterfly" (10).

One of the most unusual operatic events of the year is set for July 15, when the University of Maryland offers a concert performance of "Tristan und Isolde," starring an American pair: well-known Heldentenor Jess Thomas and youthful Roberta Knie. Other operatic activity at Wolf Trap includes three performances of Gilbert and Sullivan's melodious "Gondoliers" (July 13-15) by the young members of the Wolf Trap Company with a guest stint by the impeccable Donald Gramm. In Baltimore, Saul Lilienstein (former music director of Harford) conducts Sousa's "El Capitan" (on an inner harbor barge, Aug. 1) and Eastern Opera Theatre's staging of "Marriage of Figaro" (Goucher, Towson, Md., Aug 5-8).

In musicals, this is the summer of the "Music Man." It will be the next attraction at Harlequin (Opening July 6); Maryland University's summer Musical Theatre Workshop will offer a production starring Bobby Van (July

25-29) and a version with Tony Randall will close Wolf Trap (Aug. 29-Sep. 3)—that's a lot of trombones! Meanwhile, the latest attempt at a dinner theatre in downtown D.C. opens June 16 (at the Almas Temple, 1315 K St. N.W.) when the Encore! Dinner Theatre bows with *Fiddler on the Roof*.

Another current activity worthy of more community support (both specifically gay and generally entertainment oriented) is the burgeoning cabaret circuit in D.C. and environs. The Waaay-Off Broadway has been presenting a series of first-rate acts at very low prices in a refurbished setting that is attractive, comfortably cool, and attentively served but with markedly variable response in terms of audience size. One of the finest entertainers to appear here, Ms. Dorothy Collins, whose firm and cultivated voice enhanced a high-quality program was both badly reviewed and poorly attended. Hopefully better support will be forthcoming for future attractions such as the British music hall bombshell Tessie O'Shea (June 6-11), famed chanteuse Hildegarde (13-18), stylist Lesley Gore (27-July 2), and popular Barbara Cook (July 11-16).

Out at the Hayloft Dinner Theatre (Manassas, Va.), there is a brand new cabaret facility, the Starloft, featuring the premiere of the revue *Get Happy*, a kaleidoscope of the varied songs of Harold Arlen. Sung and acted by a talented foursome (Richard Beneville, Beverly Cosham, Michele Mundell, and Larry Beckler) and with the brilliant piano arrangements and accompaniment of Robert Tartaglia, this is an evening to please the discriminating lover of popular music, classy entertainment, and fancy sandwiches. If we don't support quality acts like these, we only have ourselves to blame if they stop.

Speaking of eating, the former Grande Scene at the Kennedy Center has reopened (along with its two companion restaurants) as the Act III. Extensive remodeling has taken place physically and gastronomically. The menu is shorter, more reasonable, and available later (until half hour after the final curtain), except Sundays, with nightly specials. Another satisfying din-



The inimitable Eartha Kitt returns to Washington on Monday, June 26, to do a benefit concert for the Gertrude Stein Democratic Club. Proceeds from the concert, which occurs on the eve of the ninth anniversary of the Stonewall riots in New York City that sparked the rise of the gay liberation movement, will fund GSDC's Gay Vote '78 project and other club activities.

Kitt, a controversial figure throughout her career, is in the midst of a much-heralded comeback. In the late 60's Kitt was subjected to investigations by the FBI and CIA after making strong remarks condemning the Vietnam war, at a White House reception hosted by then president Lyndon Johnson.

Earlier this year, while appearing in the Kennedy Center engagement of "Timbuktu," Kitt visited several gay clubs and was outspoken in her criticism of Anita Bryant's anti-gay crusade.

The Stein Club benefit concert will be held at 8 p.m., Monday, June 26 at the Warner Theatre, 13th & E Sts., N.W., Washington. Tickets are available through Ticketron, by phone charge at 737-2220, Lambda Rising, Leather Rack and Cinema Follies. Ticket prices range from \$7.50 to \$30. The \$30 tickets include admission to a reception with Eartha after the show. For more information, call 462-6969.

ing experience can be had with the revised Fraternity House menu. Sunday evening dining there features the excellent pianism of Clark Bennet (of the Kennedy clan), and the voice of Dana Vance will be the lounge feature on Friday and Saturday evenings in June.

After dinner at the Act III, you could do no better than attend the first US appearances of the Ballet Nacional de Cuba (thru June 11 at the Opera House) if you can manage to get tickets. Headed by legendary ballerina Alicia Alonso, the company will present their recensions of the classics "Giselle," "Coppelia," and "Les Sylphides" plus a variety of short pieces—mostly new to this country. Next in the Opera House will be the hit Broadway all-black version of the *Wizard of Oz*, (*The Wiz*, until July 31). Or you could enjoy the alternating giddy (*Gracious Living*, thru June 10) or bloodcurdling (*Dracula*, June 12-July 15) entertainments at the Eisenhower.

THEATER CALENDAR THEATRE

Arena (Main), *Duck Hunting*. Arena (Old Vat Room), *Trompers* (to June 11); Burn Brae, *Showboat*; Colony 7, *Last of the Red Hot Lovers*; Ford's, *The Robber Bridegroom*; Harlequin, *Odd Couple*; Hayloft, *Burlesque '78*; Lazy Susan; *My Fair Lady*; national, *Annie*; New Playwright's, *White Horse/Black Horse*

(to June 18), Joselovitz's, *Exile in Conscience* (19-20) Shakespeare & Co., *Fantasticks*; Wolf Trap, *Gypsy* with Angela Lansbury (19-24); Annapolis Summer Garden Theatre, *Mame*; Barksdale Theater (Hanover, Va.); *Red, Hot and Cole*;

Baltimore—Corner, Murray Kappelman's *The Medal Winner* (June 10-July 3); Fells Point, Joseph Hayes' *Impolite Comedy*; New Mechanic, *Dracula* (to June 10), *Gracious Living* (June 12-July 1).

DANCE

George Washington Univ., Nancy Meehan Demo (7); Goucher College Aud. (Towson, Md.), Maryland Ballet Gala with stars of Royal Ballet and American Ballet Theatre (June 21); Jose Limon Co. (July 7-8); Washington Project for the Arts, Stray Cats Dance Co. (June 7); Wolf Trap, Dance Spectacular (Janacek) from Spoleto Festival in Charleston, SC (June 12-13).

MUSIC

Patti Labelle, Carter Barron (16-18); Johnny Maddox, Ragtime Piano (Il Porto restaurant Alexandria, June 6-Aug. 6); National Symphony, Concert hall (9-10) and Wolf Trap (16-17 and 29-30); New York Philharmonic, Concert hall (15-16); Merriweather Post Pavilion (Columbia, Md.), pops concerts of various kinds all summer long.

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MUSIC

On the Record

by James D. Wagoner

ON THE RECORD will be a regular feature of the Blade in which I will be reviewing and recommending new releases in a broad range of styles and tastes. Hopefully, you'll find this advice useful when making choices in the increasingly expensive and crowded record market.

It's summer—you've got a sunburn that would embarrass a lobster, blisters on your feet from running the full length of Rock Creek Park and a disco beat that just won't leave your head. If this sounds familiar, you may be spending a few days in bed for a little rest and relaxation. You can still keep that balmy mood however, if you settle down with the right music.

Start with *Sakura: Japanese melodies for Flute and Harp*, (Columbia M34568), Jean-Pierre Rampal, flute; Lily Laskine, harp. This unusual refreshment will quickly soothe your bruised eardrums, and replace those jungle rhythms with a feeling that closely resembles inner peace. To the Japanese, mellow is not just a mood, it's a philosophy. For those of you who generally find oriental music just a little too foreign to be appreciated, this recording may hold several nice surprises, since it represents an interesting compromise between Eastern and Western compositional styles and performance practices. The harp, except for a few romantic glissandos, has been transformed into a well tempered koto, and the flute quite often affects the quality of the traditional Japanese wooden flute. Delicate nuance and crystalline punctuation have been deftly balanced, by Ms. Laskine, with Mr. Rampal's sensitive virtuosity. The combination produces an almost mystical eroticism at times. Only when the music focuses too closely on its Western impurities does the mood become contrived and boring, and this is the exception rather than the rule. All things considered, I found this recording to be an intriguing and enjoyable cultural compromise.

Another record guaranteed to fill you with warm summer breezes is *Tommy Reilly: harmonica*, (Argo ZRG 856). Reilly's sparkling performance has been backed up firmly by the Academy of St. Martin-in-the-Fields under the expert direction of Neville Mariner. The harmonica is one of those peculiar instruments that, by its very nature, conjures certain descriptive images and feelings in any American listener. This recording represents just one of the many steps it has taken towards cultural growth, and the eventual disintegration of the harmonica's folk associations. In the pieces by Jacob and Moody there is a constant alternation between rhythmic pastorelle and wistful melancholy. While these pieces are charming, I feel they should have been split up because of their obvious similarities of style. Besides, it would have been nice to have the two "serious" pieces separated by one of the lighter ones. The only truly disappointing piece on the record was the Tausky "Concertino," which I found to be an incredibly lifeless collection of romantic cliches and cold mechanical

displays. To impressionistic devotees, the Vaughan-Williams "Romance" will undoubtedly be an engaging frieze of sculptured sound. Generally Reilly has been quite successful in broadening the scope of the harmonica, while retaining its unique individuality and charm.

You now have a choice in recordings of Steven Sondheim's *A Little Night Music*, with the release of the movie soundtrack, (Columbia JS35333). Each of the recordings is entertaining because of the variety of interpretations taken by the different performers (There are several repeats, such as Len Cariou and Hermione Gingold). Of course the most frequent point of comparison is in the approach to "Send in the Clowns," Sondheim's only big hit to date. My favorite Desiree has always been Glynis Johns (Broadway Cast, Columbia S32265). Her throaty voice is full of an indescribable sense of emptiness—the loss of a last chance for love. Jean Simmons, (London Cast, RCA LRL1-5090), tends much more towards an acidic sarcasm, only loosely grasping the subtleties of the piece. Obviously, Liz Taylor's rendition, from the movie, is the most controversial, since she can't change her cologne without someone commenting. Her interpretation was warm and sincere, if just a little overacted.

I was disappointed in the screen adaptation of the music, regardless of Oscar. It seemed totally unnecessary to remove the quintet or change "The Glamorous Life" from a zesty ensemble to a tedious solo. If you haven't seen the movie, the pacing is positively deadly, which must have had some effect on the music. Only once did the music become really animated, in "A Weekend in the Country," and that was flawed by the sluggish tempo of Erich's solo, not to mention Christopher Guard's inability to sing the part at the higher key in which it was originally written. Dianna Rigg (Charlotte), stole the show with her subtle inflections of language and characterization. Too bad it couldn't have been a bigger heist, because her "Every Day a Little Death" is by far the best of the three recordings. If you don't have *A Little Night Music*, I suggest you first get the Original Cast Album, then consider the movie soundtrack. If you only hear the soundtrack, you'll never know how much you're missing, but it's well worth listening to. No one, however, should do without at least one recording of this masterpiece of the American musical theatre.

I found Gotham's first release (Dream Records) to be a little dry and lifeless. Perhaps it's merely because they're so energetic on stage, but I think there's more to it. The recording was simply overproduced and badly mixed. Often those vibrant close vocal harmonies were hidden by intricate instrumental combinations and a heavy hand at the mixing board. Perhaps in the future they'll aim for a little less orchestral flash and more vocal emphasis. I hope so. It's a shame not to be able to hear those platinum voices above the clamor, or to have them turned into mellow mush by a slap-happy recording engineer. Meanwhile, Gotham is the finest male vocal group around, and I'll take them any way I can.



Casse Culver fans will be pleased to know that Casse is releasing a new 45 this June with "What We Gonna Do (About Anita)" and "Queen of the Night." The 45 was recorded on Casse's own label—"Sweet Alliance Music"—and was produced with Boden Sandstrom (sound engineer for "Womensound"). The record will be available at Lammas, 321 7th St., S.E. and Lambda Rising, 2012 S St., N.W.

photo by JEB

DISCO FEVER

by Bary Maddox

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Grand Tour—On Such a Winter's Day (Butterfly)

Several weeks ago, Butterfly Records, with little fanfare, released this slickly produced and marvelously melodic record. Grand Tour is a pleasant change of pace, a cross between, MOR music, geriatric disco, and lively hustle music. The album is not only danceable but really nice to listen to, which is why Butterfly Records is quickly establishing itself as one of disco's most innovative labels. Grand Tour is a step away from hardcore disco—just warm, rhythmic, harmonious sounds. Best cuts are "The Grand Tour" and "Flight to Versailles." Highly Recommended.

Don Ray—The Garden of Love (Polydor)



Shades Of Cerrone—this is another monster from the home of synthesized disco: Munich Germany. The long-sought-after import version of Don Ray has been released in the States by Polydor. Ray's album, while not terribly different from Cerrone's past efforts (Ray has been Cerrone's arranger since day one), still captures the essence of excellent disco music: strong bass lines, catchy hooks, and never-ending rhythm. The whole album will make you dance. It's hot, hot, hot.

Thank God It's Friday—Original Soundtrack (Casablanca)



T.G.I.F. reads like the Who's Who of dance music. Artists include Diana Ross, Donna Summers, The Commodores, Love And Kisses, Patti Brooks, Santa Esmerelda, D.C. La Rue and

many more. Consisting of mostly new material, the biggest drawback of the three-record set (2 LPs 1 Disco disc) is that by the time Casablanca is done raising the price (it's already been raised to \$14.95 list) you may need financial assistance to acquire it. Donna Summer's rehash "Je t'aime" is terribly disappointing, but the newly remixed Diana Ross "Livin', Lovin', Givin'" and Patti Brooks' "After Dark" help you get over the heartbreak. The movie in which Ms. Summers makes her acting debut is sure to make this LP a smash.

Patrick Juvet—Got a Feeling (Casablanca)



A well-orchestrated Bee Gee's sound alike that well could be a sleeper 'til the album's single "Got a Feeling" breaks. The only drawback is the LP's lack of variety, and one can't help but feel a little cheated by 14 minutes of "I Love America" on the flip side (luckily not the original). Listen before you buy.

Love Committee—Law & Order (Gold Mind)



An R&B disco sequel to First Choice's "Armed & Extremely Dangerous" LP by a male quartet. Very reminiscent of early Trammps—or better yet, for those in the know of old Philly Devotions. Several nice tunes include "Law and Order," "Cheater's Never Win" (released a year ago, when this album would have sounded more current), and "Pass the Buck." Worth a try.

TOP 10 DISCO LP's

(Based on overall album—not individual cuts)

1. Linda Clifford—*If My Friends Could See Me Now*
2. Don Ray—*The Garden of Love*
3. Love & Kisses—*How Much, How Much I Love You*
4. Voyage—*Voyage*
5. *Thank God It's Friday*—Soundtrack—Various Artists
6. Saturday Night Band—*Come On Dance, Dance*
7. Roberta Kelly—*Gettin the Spirit*
8. Village People—*Macho Man*
9. U.S.A. European Connection—*Come Into My Heart*
10. Grand Tour—*On Such a Winter's Day*

VACATION

A Delightful Oasis

by Nick Wilding

Nobody will deny that today's Washington is an exciting place to live. The boomtown atmosphere of the Nation's Capital brings gay people flocking from across the country to take advantage of the city's innumerable job opportunities, growing cultural attractions, and relatively tolerant attitude toward gays.

But for all the advantages, there is one thorn in D.C.'s side which cannot be denied. The third circle of hell cannot be more miserable than Washington in summer. And P Street Beach is not enough. Thus, for many of us the only option is escape—as often as possible. Fortunately, within reasonable commuting distance, a delightful oasis awaits us.

Situated on the Atlantic Coast just below Delaware's historic Cape Henlopen, quaint Rehoboth Beach is less of a "gay resort" than a resort which happens to attract gays. Despite its pretentious billing as "the Nation's Summer Capital" by the Chamber of Commerce and the insistence of merchants and townspeople on reassuring everyone that it is a *family* resort, Rehoboth is truly a fun town.

Getting There

Perhaps you own your own plane. If so, you can wing your way from National in less than an hour. If not, you will probably join the rest of us in the 150 mile Eastern Shore Marathon by car. Caution—the beach routes constitute one giant speed trap. Remember, all those little Maryland and Delaware towns depend on \$25 speeding tickets to beef up the town coffers. With any luck and without speeding the trip takes just under 3 hours. Another alternative is the bus. A one-way Trailways ticket is

only \$11.90 and you arrive in the heart of town.

Where to Stay

There are many fine hotels and motels, ranging from the expensive Henlopen Hotel through the moderate Atlantic Sands and Oceanus to the less expensive Sea Esta. Bar guides still list the Sandcastle as a gay hotel; when the sad truth is that it burned down several years ago. Rooming houses are also available. The Nomad Village motel and cottage complex is a 20 minute drive south of town near Bethany Beach. Long popular with gays, the Nomad offers a bar, a pool and a very private beach. Make reservations early: Rehoboth has virtually a 100% occupancy rate in season.

Dining

Greater Rehoboth offers everything from haute cuisine to downhome cooking. The Back Porch Cafe (Rehoboth Ave.) lends a transplanted Georgetown atmosphere to gourmet cooking (at gourmet prices). The Avenue Restaurant (Rehoboth Ave.) and the Dinner Bell Inn (Christian St.) are institutions. They offer home cooking (usually from home grown produce) at reasonable prices. For fine Italian cuisine, visit the newly opened Ann Marie's on 2nd St., 1/2 block south of Rehoboth Ave. The "Nicoboli"—house speciality at Nicola's Pizza (First St.)—is a real treat and you can bring your own bottle—honest. Grotto Pizza and Louie's (Rehoboth Ave.) are also recommended. Seafood lovers will think they are in hog heaven, but of the many seafood houses the Happy Crab and the Crab House are the most reliable. For superior Chinese food dine at the Peking Garden. The last three restaurants are all located on U.S. Route 1, just outside town.

The Beaches

The primary gay beach is commonly called Carpenter's Beach in honor of the family whose beach house overlooks the wide strip of land just below the southern end of the boardwalk. (The Carpenters are members of the DuPont family and occasionally throw eggs). On a holiday weekend 300-400 gays



photo by John M. Yanson

Abandoned WWII watch towers point the way to Rehoboth's gay North Beach.

converge on Carpenter's Beach. It is a social beach. People play cards, frisbee,

or participate in that Carpenter's Beach institution, the ever-present volleyball game.

North Beach, which is just above town in Cape Henlopen State Park, is quieter, but a fair number of gays take advantage of the more isolated surroundings. Some just sunbathe nude; others see "action" behind the dunes in the shadow of two abandoned WW 2 watch towers. Caution should be exercised. Although there has been no harassment in recent years, park police do occasionally patrol by jeep.

Bars, Etc.

Located at the end of Bellevue St. just over the town line in adjoining Dewey Beach, the Boathouse opened two years ago and quickly established itself as the premiere gay nightspot. The bar is divided into two distinct areas: on one side is a cruise bar and restaurant with good food; on the other side is a disco with a very respectable sound system. The weekend cover charge (\$3) is good for two drinks. The Boathouse is packed on weekends and has a good crowd on weeknights.

The Nomad, which was mentioned earlier, was the original gay bar in the area and has been popular for many years, although the bulk of the crowd has been lost to the Boathouse.

After the bars close (last call is 12:30 by law, but both bars stay open until almost 2 a.m.) some of the crowd heads

Continued on page 19

FILM

Word Is Out

a review by Larry Puchall

If enough people get to see *The Word is Out*, the world could very easily become a much nicer place in which to live. A grand statement to make about a film, to be sure, but only slightly hyperbolic. For, on its broadest level, the film, the lead-off in the American Film Institute "Celluloid Closet" series, is a testament to the survival and triumph of the human spirit. To listen to Richard tell of his nervous breakdown and 25 shock treatments after the break-up of his heterosexual marriage and then to see him at the end of the film perched on an open car as a San Francisco councilman, smiling and waving to the Gay Pride parade crowds, is joyful; to listen to Whitey tell of her adolescence spent in a state hospital and to see her later, happy and smiling, sawing down a huge tree branch with her friends, is joyful. All of the 26 men and women interviewed in the film have confronted their personal nightmares and have flourished and grown stronger for having fought and won. Straight people need to see this so that both the pain and the triumph can become real for them. Gay people need to see this so that we never forget the struggles of the past nor become complacent about the future. Pat Bond, a comedienne who nearly steals the film, says she fears it could all happen again as she talks of the 500 WACS dishonorably discharged after the Korean War and the McCarthy-like inquisitions in which lesbian servicewomen were pressured to betray each other. She fears that those of us who are out now will wind up one day on somebody's list of "card carrying" homosexuals.

The film is also a testament to the beauty of our diversity and our unity. The rainbow of faces on the screen makes it impossible to cling to

stereotypes yet, despite all the differences, we come together in our common efforts to preserve our self-esteem in the face of overwhelming pressure. It is this process that *The Word is Out* primarily focuses on.

It is fascinating how, for so many people in the film, heterosexual marriage and extended psychiatric treatment were a part of that process. The efforts to conform, to fit in, the prayers to God to "make me straight" appear again and again in the film. The salvation for the interviewees arrives when they are able to reject the brainwashing and the guilt and "come home" to themselves. One of the most touching moments in the film occurs when David describes how his first love affair with a man overturned the idea he'd been carrying all his life that he was incapable of loving. No one in the film seems to feel they have reached Nirvana necessarily but they all seem to be embracing life instead of hiding from it.

The film is the collective work of six men and women who call themselves the Mariposa Film Group. It is remarkably well-edited (though occasionally one wishes certain conversations were not cut off) and photographed. It slows down in places but never comes to a standstill.

In a sense, *The Word is Out* is a cinematic first chapter in the expanding chronicles of our lives as they really are. As such, it has genuine historical significance; for regardless of whatever becomes of us in this unpredictable, often ugly world, the film will stand as a celebration of life, as a portrait of those who said "yes" to life when all too many others would have them say "no".

"Word Is Out" opens its D.C. commercial run on Wednesday, July 5 at the Janus Theatre, 1660 Connecticut Ave., N.W. (near Dupont Circle). For more information, call 232-8900.



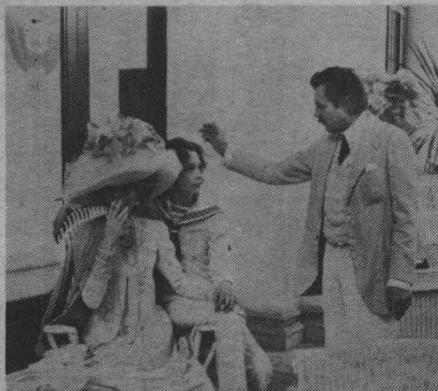
"Fortune and Men's Eyes"



"The Gang's All Here"



"Some Like it Hot"



"Death In Venice"

The American Film Institute retrospective, "The Celluloid Closet: Homosexuality in the Cinema," continues through the month of June and into early July. A complete program guide for the entire series is available from AFI. Call 833-9300 for more information (see, also, the May 1978 issue of the *Blade*).

BOOKS

A Novel of Passion

a review by Larry Puchall

NARROW ROOMS by James Purdy.
New York: Arbor House, 185 pp.,
\$8.95.

Some works of fiction seek to illuminate our sense of our world by means of a realism that takes us to the unseen core of that world through its outward, familiar appearances. Others, like this latest novel by James Purdy, do just the reverse: the darkest themes of our existence are played out in a "negative" world which paradoxically facilitates our perception of them. It is this paradox that lies at the heart of all noteworthy fantasy—myth, science fiction, fairy tales, legend, etc.—and raises it above the level of mere diversion.

Narrow Rooms is a novel of passion, of the potency of attraction and the intertwining of love and violence. These phrases tend to have a melodramatic ring to our sophisticated, all too well-controlled ears. And yet passion does exist; emotional powers that overwhelm rationality do, on rare occasion, touch us. Perhaps only (and fortunately) fleetingly, perhaps only in dream, these forces play their role in human existence. The problem faced by the writer who would scrutinize these forces lies in developing a framework for them that will override our resistances to the "unrealistic." The use of the "negative" world of fantasy and legend is often the chosen solution that permits an author to explore emotions that are too powerful, too feared perhaps, to exist comfortably in the world in which we move.

The scene of the novel is ostensibly a West Virginia town, remote yet large enough to have its own social hierarchy with a right and wrong side of the tracks. Yet description is kept to the barest minimum—we see a farm, a field, some houses. We could be anywhere, anytime, despite the scaffolding of time and place Purdy provides. Each of the four young gay men in the novel is driven by a passion to possess, to surrender, to worship and despise. They play out their story of awful death and torment at a level of intensity of which most of us have but a dim, heavily

sheltered awareness.

I hesitate to divulge much of the plot since the power of the novel derives in large measure from its ability to draw one deeper and deeper into the horrible yet gripping world of these men and to build the suspense into a wrenching conclusion. The prose style is sparse and unelaborated, as one might expect. *Narrow Rooms* is essentially a horror tale, a dark legend, and like most of this type, the story is the main ingredient. I doubt if this novel will be to everyone's taste; because of its extremes, one encounters, occasionally, that voice of reality that rejects the plot as simply absurd. For some, that feeling may be insurmountable. But if one can still that inner voice long enough, one will be rewarded by a journey into a harrowing "negative" world that ends up in our own.

THE REVOLT OF THE PERVERTS
by Daniel Curzon. San Francisco:
Leland Mellott Books, 213 pp., \$3.50,
paper.

In the preface to his collection of short stories, Daniel Curzon offers us brief explanatory notes on each story; he states that he wants people to read his stories as he wrote them. He need not have bothered. Most of the stories are so transparent, so ordinary that it is difficult to see how they could move readers to the multiplicity of interpretations Curzon wants to guard against. While not completely without interest, most of the characters in the story are "types" or variations on types; they tend towards the sexually driven yet emotionally shallow types who go through life with cynicism and dread of aging. "Hatred" is probably the most richly developed of the stories, based on the author's unfortunate relationship with a successful female writer. Curzon seems to have been motivated in this work to provide a panorama of gay characters "in an honest portrayal of ourselves;" certainly a worthy intention yet without a solid grounding in character, subtlety and nuance, it yields little in genuine literary interest.

(Books are available at Lambda Rising Book Store, 2012 S St., N.W.)

The Good Life

Metropolitan Life, by Fran Lebowitz.
E.P. Dutton, 177 pages.

a review by Chasen Gaver

Fran Lebowitz started me reading backwards. Ever since I picked up on her "I Cover the Waterfront" column on the back cover of Andy Warhol's *Interview* magazine, I've begun to read periodicals finish to start. Now, I'm pleased to report, E.P. Dutton has collected 6 dozen of Lebowitz's best comic written bits in a book called *Metropolitan Life*—so now the reader can have her cover to cover, coming or going!

Lebowitz's writing style can best be described as *haute mock*. She has her finger on the pulse of the vein of absurdity that flows through much of modern American life. Note, for example, several titles of essays:

- "Guide and Seek: I'm O.K., You're Not"
- "The Nail Bank: Not Just Another Clip Joint"
- "The Primary Cause of Heterosexuality Among Males in Urban Areas: Yet Another Crackpot Theory"
- "Not in the: Mood Jewelry"
- "Notes on 'Trick'"

"Notes on 'Trick'" is a parody of Susan Sontag's award winning essay: "Notes on Camp." Lebowitz focuses on a series of tongue-in-cheek numbered observations:

8. Although the male Trick is more prone to stealing than is the female, neither sex can be trusted alone in the same room with an invitation to a party at Halston's.
15. The mistreatment of Tricks is the revenge of the intelligent upon the beautiful.
18. Occasionally a Trick will succeed so spectacularly that he will make the transition to person. When this occurs he will assume a truly amazing imperiousness of manner. People love to feel superior to their past.
29. Tricks like you for what they aren't. You like Tricks for what you haven't.

There is nothing Lebowitz won't rib, so be prepared to gasp when she tackles the issue: "Children: Pro or Con?" and

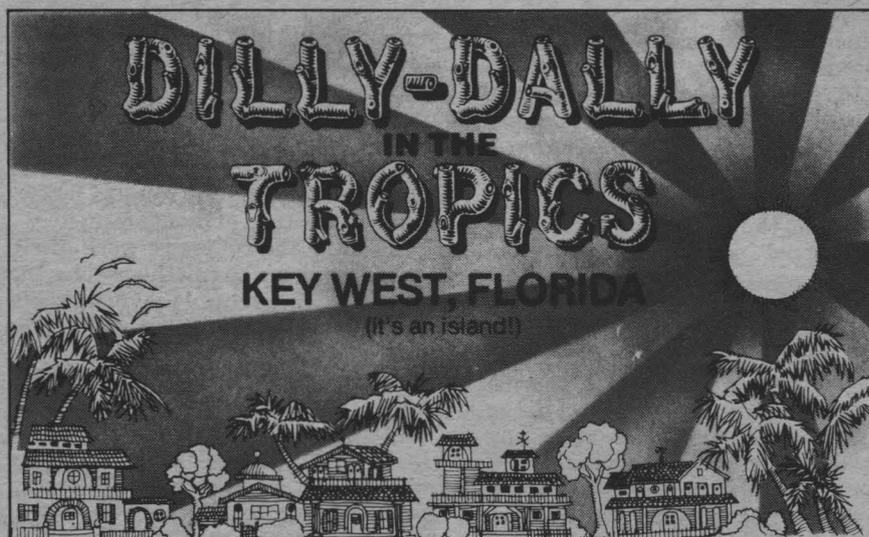
cites the fact: "Children are rarely in the position to lend one a truly interesting sum of money." Or on "Disco Hints: The New Etiquette" she advises: "Should you find the heat unbearable you can just take that bandanna out of your back pocket and blot your forehead. Just be sure you put it back on the right side."

Metropolitan Life is the kind of book everyone who ran away to the city (and somehow, accidentally, managed to survive) should purchase to send home—as a sure-fire way to make sure all those people we ran away from *stay right where they are!*



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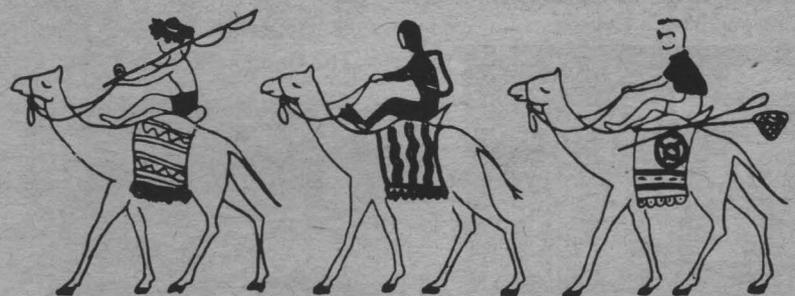
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The Circulator

GAY ON THE JOB

by Robin E. Smith

A few weeks ago, The Circulator decided it was safe to come out on her job. After all, she had just received a merit raise, a perfect midyear rating, an office with a window, and stationery with her name on it.

She decided not to come out in a conspicuous way; at 9:17 a.m. one morning she simply mentioned to two women colleagues at the coffee pot that the paper they were writing on the legal status of women omitted any mention of lesbians.

"Lesbians?" giggled Colleague No. 1. "I believe in tolerance for those people, but, I mean, who thinks of them? Have you ever met one?" said Colleague No. 2.

"You're talking to one," replied The Circulator, and returned to her office.

At 9:35 a.m. The Circulator's secretary buzzed her; the president wanted to see her in his office. The president told The Circulator that he believed in tolerance for everyone.

At 10:35 a.m. The Circulator received a phone call from the Women's Studies Project, asking her to give a luncheon talk on "Deviant Women" because the speaker on "Lower Socioeconomic Environments" had failed to show up. After The Circulator finished her talk, she asked for questions. Colleague No. 1 said that she hoped The Circulator wasn't planning to have children, wouldn't she feel guilty raising a child like herself? Colleague No. 2 said that she thought The Circulator was very brave and had given an informative

talk. They both found excuses for not accompanying The Circulator down the hall on the way back to their adjoining offices.

When The Circulator returned from lunch, at 1:13 p.m., she found a message saying that her boss wished to see her. He told The Circulator that he didn't want to upset her, but that the project was having serious funding problems, and he might have to terminate her job to save money. He said he knew he could count on her to be a Good Trooper and Understand His Position.

The Circulator's secretary stopped The Circulator in the corridor outside of her boss's office at 2:05 p.m., and handed her a note from the Personnel Director requesting her to come by at her earliest convenience. On the way down to Personnel, The Circulator noticed two workmen in her office doing something funny to her window.

In Personnel The Circulator was kept waiting for almost an hour. She finally saw the Personnel Director at 3:00 p.m. The Personnel Director said that she had received several serious complaints from The Circulator's boss in the recent past about The Circulator's poor work habits, and had been asked to fire The Circulator. However, as a gesture of mercy, the Personnel Director and The Circulator's boss had agreed to list her dismissal as a lay-off due to loss of funding. The Circulator asked why she had received a perfect midyear rating. "That was yesterday," replied the Personnel Director. "Your work has been

deteriorating steadily since 9:00 a.m. this morning!"

When The Circulator got back to her office at 3:47 p.m., she discovered that the workmen had walled up her window. There was a message on her desk to call Accounting as soon as possible. Accounting told The Circulator that they had received a request to process her two-weeks severance pay, could she remember how much sick leave she'd accumulated in the last month?

The Circulator called her boss, but his secretary told her he'd left for a symposium in Kansas and wouldn't be back for three weeks. The Circulator then called the president, but he was at a conference in New York City.

At 4:15 p.m., while The Circulator sat at her desk trying to reach the president in New York City, four men from the Mailroom walked in, disconnected her phone, dismantled her bookcase, took down her plants, and carried

her furniture away.

As The Circulator sat on the carpet of her office, clutching the phone, her two Colleagues came by. They said they were sorry to hear that The Circulator was no longer getting along with her boss, but that they were certain someone as bright as The Circulator could always find another job.



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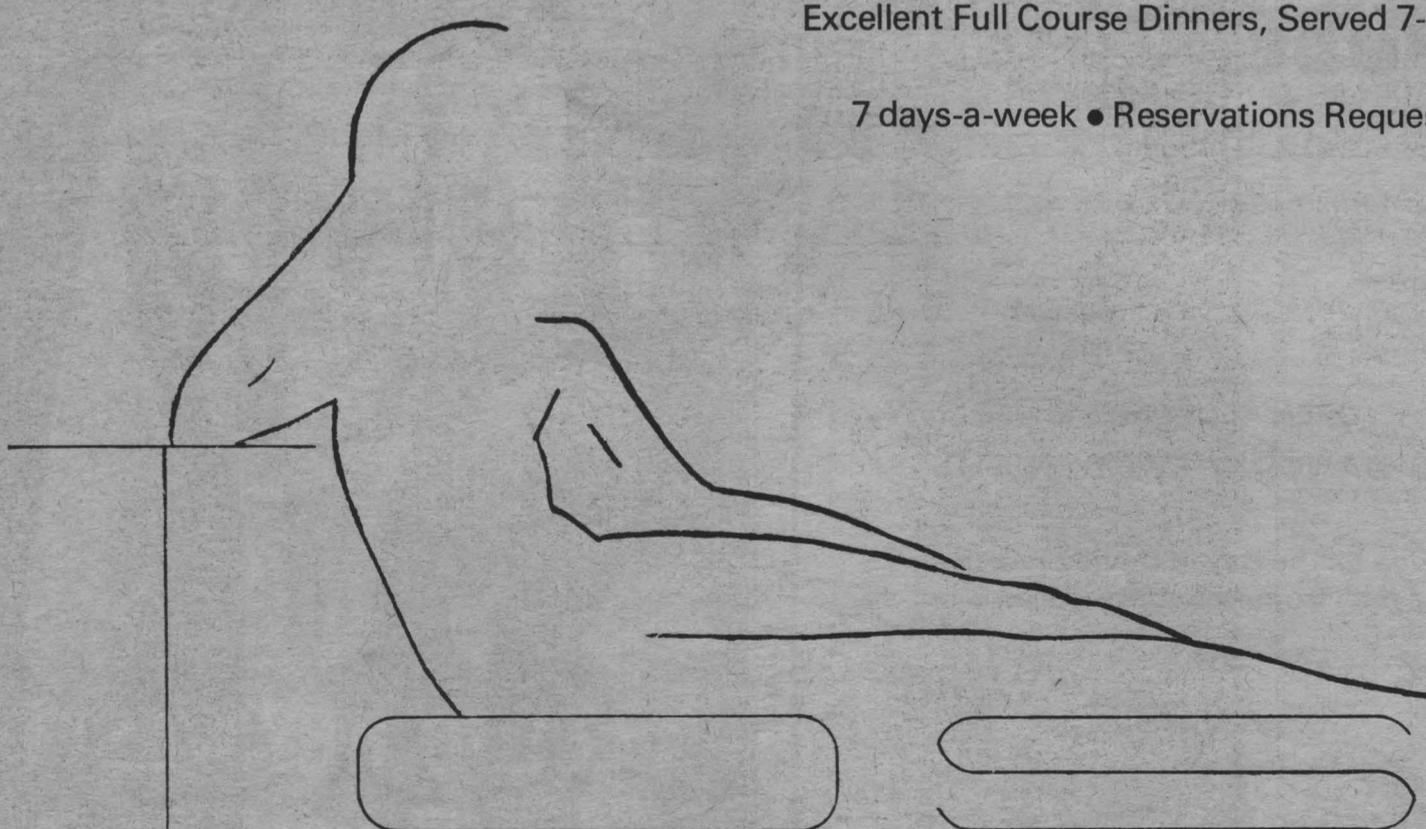
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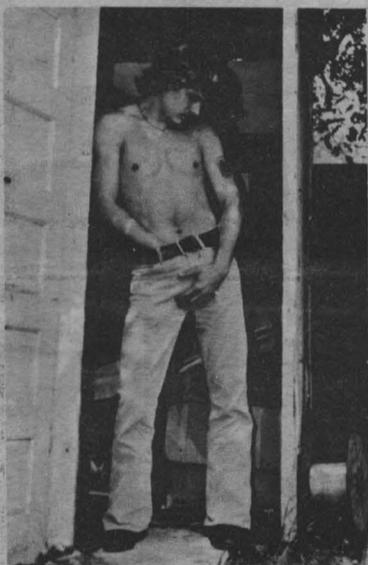
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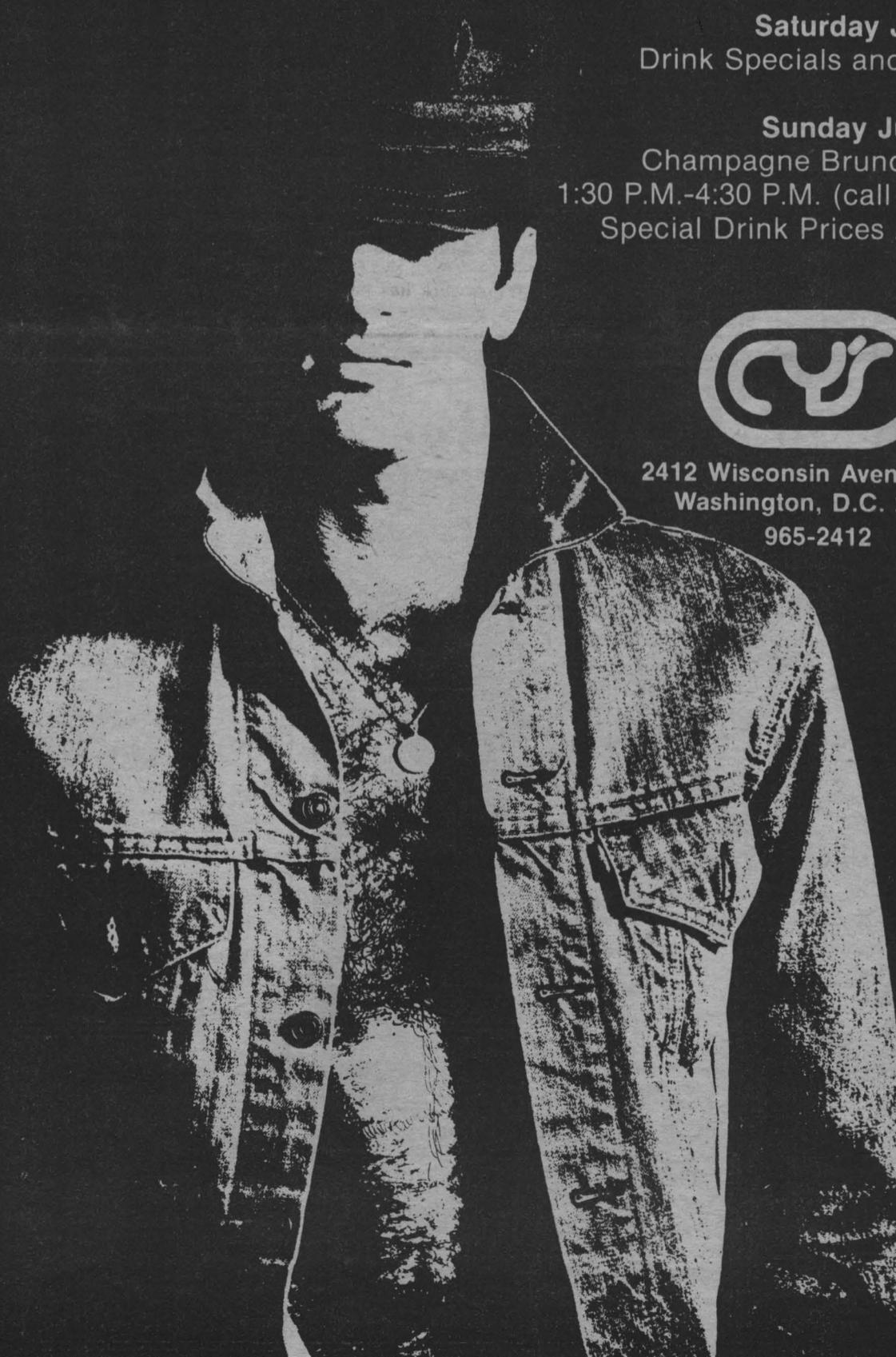
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Disturbed Peace

by Brian McNaught

The greatest threat to the full liberation of gay men and lesbians is self-hate. More frightening than any loss we may suffer in a public vote; more intimidating than the antics of the vice squad, the pervasive lack of self-love in the gay community promises to keep us in our place.

Self-hate is not unusual for minorities. It merely means that we have subconsciously accepted all of the garbage which has been heaped upon us since we were children. Blacks, Jews, women, the aged and the handicapped have done the same. Look at the statistics on deaths in the black community. The overwhelming majority of deaths result from black men killing black men. The handicapped are far more critical of each other than are the non-handicapped.

In his latest book *The Gay Theology*, fundamentalist minister Kent Philpott insists he hears from thousands of gay men and lesbians from across the country who want to be saved from the

horrors of being gay through the "love of Jesus." Anita Bryant has announced that she, like Philpott, will set up centers across the country to help homosexuals help themselves.

Are these lesbians and gay men who write Bryant and Philpott "phoney" homosexuals? No, they are people like you and me who mistakenly believed the dehumanizing elements of gay life were intrinsic to their sexual orientation. They decided there must be something a little "queer" and "unnatural" about being gay for why else would gay people treat each other with such disrespect. Why do they never see gay men or lesbians smile in the bars? Why are they always treated as a sex object rather than a whole person with feelings and interests? Why do their friends not offer them the same courtesy on the phone, in their home or at a party as they would straight friends? Why else do "faggot" and "dyke" sound like "dirty words" when gay people use them against each other?

KEEPING US IN OUR PLACE

Organizers of some gay protests against obviously blatant police entrapment, such as in Boston and Cincinnati recently, have suggested the reason for the poor turnout is the feeling among many gay people that we deserve anything we get in terms of punishment. The self-hate, they suggest, prompts an emotional masochism.

If the people who testified in Philpott's book or who wrote to Anita Bryant for help loved themselves they would see clearly that all of the horrors they experienced in gay life were the result of ghettoization, not a sign of their sickness or an indication of God's wrath.

One of the most meaningful messages being presented today to minorities throughout the world is the *Theology of Liberation*. Its proponents insist that truth can only be seen through the spectrum of everyday activities. They say that interior liberation is far more important than the fight against repressive laws.

Eric Fromm, in the *Art of Loving*, says that self-love, the key to interior liberation, requires: Care, Respect, Responsibility and Knowledge. Before a person can love himself or herself they need to *know* themselves. They need to strip away years of brainwashing so that they can come to grips with the truth of who they really are. For gay persons this means taking the trouble to read some of the many books which show conclusively that homosexuality is not a mental disorder nor condemned by God. The facts are there to be digested and until they are consumed we starve ourselves to death on a diet of neg-

ativism.

Once a person develops a healthy appreciation of their basic goodness and normality, they are lovable. As is true with all things we love, when we begin to love ourselves we begin to *care* for ourselves, *respect* ourselves and take *responsibility* for ourselves. From that moment on we will never be oppressed. People are not oppressed without their consent. In respecting our basic goodness we begin to insist that other people treat us with the respect due every living thing. We refuse to be used as a sex object which is tossed aside when the mission has been accomplished. We insist friends respect our privacy and the rules of decorum. You don't let people call you in the middle of the night. You insist they arrive on time for dinner when the dinner hour has been announced. You guarantee that you will be paid at least as much as a heterosexual counterpart for speaking engagements or professional tasks performed and you make sure you are paid on time. Not to do so is to communicate loudly "I am unworthy of respect."

Once you have affirmed your basic goodness, the atrocities being perpetuated in the United States with our silent consent become intolerable. And that's when the movement begins to take form.

More powerful than orange juice or beer boycotts; more meaningful than ordinances which withstand public referendum, self-affirmation is our most potentially-effective instrument for liberation. As such, it has to become our top priority.

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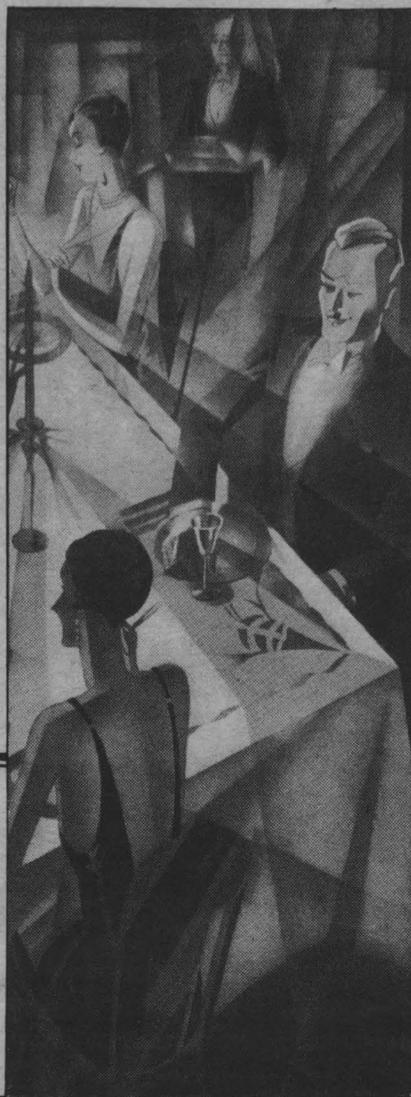
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Dear Counselor:

I work at an institution of higher education. One of the benefits of the job is that employees are able to attend classes with tuition remission. Spouses of employees and their children are also eligible for this tuition remission. It can potentially add \$2,000 to an employee's income whose spouse attends classes (more if college-age children are also enrolled). Question: since I am unable to claim these same benefits for my brother to attend classes for my lover, if I have one) doesn't the policy of tuition remission for spouses and children of employees discriminate against the single employee?

Jim

Dear Jim,

If the school where you work is in the District of Columbia, then it would be subject to the District of Columbia Human Rights Law of 1977. Chapter 11, Section (a)(1) makes it unlawful for an employer to discriminate against any individual with respect to his/her compensation, terms, conditions, or privileges of employment.

Under the circumstances you describe, the employer-school is giving additional fringe benefits to married persons. This is an unlawful discriminatory practice based on marital status.

An employer can be exempt from these provisions of the law only if it can prove that such business cannot be con-

ducted without being exempt. I doubt if your employer could meet that burden of proof.

Dear Counselor:

I spent 17½ years of my life in the Air Force. I have three honorable discharges and a fourth which was undesirable. I am now 47 and tired of hiding the fact that I am gay. I know the military is upgrading discharges and I would like to get one if possible. Also, after 17½ years of service to my country I think I deserve more. Is it too late to upgrade my discharge?

A Gay Vet

Dear Vet:

No it is not too late, assuming that your last discharge was for homosexual activity which did not involve force or coercion. Until recently, if more than 15 years had elapsed before one applied for an upgrade, procedural restrictions made upgrading difficult. However, by federal statute, the 15-year limitation has been waived until January 1, 1980. So, even if you have an undesirable discharge dating back to the 40's or 50's you are entitled to a hearing if you apply for it before 1980.

Currently, the pattern in homosexual cases, not involving violence, is to upgrade the discharge to an honorable one. Previously, the policy was to upgrade such discharges to a classification of "general," which is not equivalent to an

honorable discharge, but the "general" discharge would still entitle the veteran to VA benefits.

It is interesting to note that under the Navy's new directives, the "rating" which is given to an individual and which ultimately determines the type of discharge given is now being based on the individual's service performance. In other words, if you were in the Navy and got a dishonorable discharge for being a homosexual and you requested an upgrade in your discharge, your upgrade would be based on your service performance and not based on your sexual orientation. The above procedure appears to be an unwritten rule in the other branches of the service also. And, Department of Defense regulations are now applying liberal standards to old cases, which will also be in your favor.

With regard to privacy, you should not be concerned. The procedures provide for hearings that are not public, and case files are not available to the public until the names have been deleted. The hearing boards appear to be treating people decently regardless of their sexual persuasion. Generally, inquiry and interest into your sex life should be irrelevant.

It is advisable to have civilian counsel, as procedures under military law are quite complicated. Also, with the increased number of applications being received by the Discharge Review Board and Boards for Correction of Military Records, civilian counsel can help en-

sure that the Boards do not act arbitrarily in your case.

Legal fees should not exceed \$500. In fact, the fees should be less. If you are indigent or qualify for free legal counsel, you might contact the Veterans Educational Project, 1346 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. for assistance; call the Military and Draft Law Panel of the National Lawyers Guild (547-0880); or if you are economically constrained, check with the Neighborhood Legal Services in your local community.

You should act now. Attorneys handling many of these cases suggest that, as the volume of applications reaching the Boards increases, there is a greater likelihood the Boards will not hold hearings; instead they will quickly process the application papers. This may or may not be to the veteran's advantage. It would be advisable for any vet who falls under the above situation to take immediate action to secure an honorable discharge.

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The Courts: A Last Refuge?

Continued from page 1

cisco, the Gay Rights Advocates is earning high marks for its efforts in California state courts and federal district courts in the region.

Unlike 20 years ago, when almost all court battles for civil rights were waged in federal courts, gay rights cases stand as good a chance in state courts as they do in federal courts. This accounts in part for the lack of a landmark case setting precedent throughout the country.

"When you bring a lawsuit action on Constitutional grounds, you can go into state or federal court," says Barbara Levy, Lambda's Executive Director. "Until very recently the choice was to go to federal court because they were more enlightened. Because of the present make-up of the Supreme Court this is not necessarily the case. In liberal areas it may be that to go to the state courts is better."

The differences in the handling of sodomy cases provides a good example of the divergence between some state courts and the U.S. Supreme Court. Around 30 states still carry sodomy laws on the books, and in most states the laws are used almost exclusively to prosecute gays. Most of the states without sodomy statutes repealed the

"Private personal acts between two consenting adults are not to be lightly meddled with, by the State, for the right of personal autonomy is fundamental to a free society."

—New Jersey State Supreme Court, December 1977

old laws in criminal code reforms, but in some cases the laws were thrown out by the state courts. This is not necessarily the last word, however, as was proven in Florida. That state statute on sodomy was thrown out by the State Supreme Court but may well reappear after the Florida legislature completes efforts to redraft the law using more precise language.

In Virginia efforts to repeal the law through the legislature were unsuccessful, as was a court challenge. When an appeal to hear the case was

turned down by the U.S. Supreme Court, "Doe versus the Commonwealth's Attorney" took on new significance. It was mistakenly believed that in not hearing the case, the Supreme Court had in effect ruled that states could proscribe private consensual sexual activity between adults.

The Court apparently felt that the potential for misuse of the "Doe versus Commonwealth" as a precedent was so great that a clarification was needed. It took the opportunity in a 1976 ruling on an unrelated case, "Carey versus Population Services, International," through the use of a footnote.

In Carey, the Court said, "We observe that the Court has not definitely answered the difficult question whether and to what extent the Constitution prohibits statutes regulating such (private consensual sexual) behavior among adults."

That footnote — saying that the verdict is not yet in — now stands as the most important statement the Supreme Court has made on an issue affecting gay rights.

Some state courts are not reluctant to extend guarantees beyond precedent set by the U.S. Supreme Court, and thus become more attractive battlegrounds. Last December the New Jersey State Supreme Court extended the privacy protection of the Constitution to a couple having sexual relations in a parked car. The verdict, while applying only to New Jersey, can be cited elsewhere for the value of its scholarly opinion. It says, in part, "Private personal acts between two consenting adults are not to be lightly meddled with by the State, for the right of personal autonomy is fundamental to a free society."

The value of a precedent on private sexual activity such as sodomy extend beyond the question of such laws alone, as was clear in the Matlovich-Berg appeal against the U.S. military discharge policy towards gays heard in the U.S. Court of appeals for the District of Columbia on May 15.

At the outset, the three-judge panel noted that earlier rulings favoring the military policy of discrimination against gays in the service "did not have the benefit of the Carey case decided by the

Supreme Court." The wash-over effect of leaving open the question of protection of private consensual sexual activity thus clearly entered into the question of employment discrimination.

The Defense Department, for its part, tried first to maintain that the Supreme Court had ruled against sodomy, but when all three judges severely questioned its interpretation, fell back to the position that "These acts enjoy no constitutional protection." The significance of the exchange was to put a burden on justifying discriminatory policies in the light of possible privacy considerations.

"We observe that the Court has not definitely answered the difficult question whether and to what extent the Constitution prohibits statutes regulating such (private consensual sexual) behavior among adults."

—U.S. Supreme Court, June 1977

The Court of Appeals now has the two cases, one against the Air Force and one against the Navy, under advisement. It can return the cases to the lower district court, rule against the case, or for it without regard to Constitutional questions, or take the opportunity of examining the Constitutional issue that the Supreme Court has yet to decide.

While the decision will have a definite impact on the lives of gays in the military service — Defense Department records show 1,458 U.S. service personnel were discharged last year for either homosexual tendencies or homosexual behavior — it also would have a strong impact on the rights of gays to employment in the private sector.

The rights of employment are increasingly being upheld in court cases and provided the incentive for the protection gays in the U.S. Civil Service enjoy. But such protections are not immune from the passions of political fads, such as that which ended up putting gay rights to a referendum in four cities.

This fall California voters are expected to be asked to consider the Briggs initiative, which seeks to overturn a court verdict through the referendum process, a fact which may shock gays who have begun to think of the courts as a last refuge from referendums.

The referendum would change language on which the California State Supreme Court ruled that the private lives of gay teachers did not affect their employment rights. The Briggs amendment rewrites that language to specifically require discrimination against not only all gay teachers but all teachers who advocate gay rights. "The risk you run is that it would be upheld in court later," says Levy.

While California voters ponder whether to reverse their State Supreme Court, gay victories in other areas have helped to create favorable verdicts from courts on other issues.

In its April newsletter, Lambda announced that it had successfully defended a Pennsylvania State University professor who was dismissed, among other reasons, for being "an admitted homosexual." Because of an earlier decision by the Pennsylvania chapter of the American Association of University Professors in defense of homosexuals, Penn State's president determined the dismissal was a violation of policy. Lambda expects the decision to receive major play in Pennsylvania and to have a "profound effect on the treatment of homosexual teachers in the future."

Similarly, changes by the American Psychiatric Association to remove

homosexuality from the list of disorders played a leading role in changing U.S. policy on gays becoming naturalized citizens. With Lambda approaching the issue through the courts in challenges to a denial of citizenship application and an effort to deport a gay resident not yet a citizen plus the National Gay Task Force working through U.S. government administrative channels for changes, the government moved quietly to change policy. Citizenship applications no longer ask if the applicant is homosexual, and they no longer consider that information in determining "moral character." The deportation move has been halted.

The general question of moral character and stable personality addressed by the APA in removing homosexuality from the list of disorders also enters into family court decisions regarding child custody. In the past, homosexuality was always considered to be grounds for denying custody and frequently for denying visiting rights altogether. Today it is different.

"Every situation is reviewed individually, and the effect of precedents is not as strong," Shepherd Raimi of Lambda's office said. "Generally courts are becoming disposed to saying lesbian mothers are still the best fit parent. The cases are falling about half and half," Raimi said.

Further progress in the courts will depend in part on a continuing effort in the political sector, since the weight of public opinion can be felt in the court, gay lawyers say.

"If in litigation, you have no legislation to rely on, you don't have as strong a case," Levy says. "Legislative activity is extremely crucial."

Leonard Graff has had experience with both approaches. As a student at Michigan state, Graff worked at getting East Lansing to pass the nation's first gay rights bill. Today, as a lawyer, he thinks the courts must play a larger role.

"It is more likely to come about quicker in the courts. Look at the civil rights cases. The courts decided Brown versus Topeka in 1954, but Congress didn't act until 10 years later with the Civil Rights Act of 1964."

However, Graff points out that the work of passing more anti-discrimination ordinances can't be bypassed. "The Supreme Court is not going to be the leader. When anti-discrimination statutes are in not 40 but 140 cities, then they will see the trend."

Mayo Lee, also a lawyer and president of the D.C. Gay Activists Alliance, emphatically agrees on the importance of the legislative process.

"Gay people have no constitutional rights as far as being gay is concerned and that's the bottom line. The courts are not going to write that in. We have to have national legislation such as an amendment to the 1964 Civil Rights Act."

Notwithstanding his own preference for political action, Lee also sees a clear need for more court actions to support the political process.

"We have to try to get some good legal precedents," Lee says.

The outlook for getting those "good legal precedents" depends on a number of factors: finding the right cases to fight, willingness of defendants to persevere through long, drawn-out court battles, the ability of groups such as the Lambda Legal Defense Fund to obtain enough contributions to pay expensive court costs, and so on. More than most gays facing the initial disappointment of referendum battles realize, it also will depend on the will to continue the fight through the political process and educating the public.

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Community Notes

NORTHERN VA. NOW CHAPTER CONVENES TASK FORCE

The Northern Virginia Chapter of the National Organization for Women has convened the chapter's first Sexuality Task Force. The task force has already set up its spring-summer program of activities.

On June 11, the task force will participate in Gay Pride Day in Washington, D.C. It will again staff an information and fundraising table. On July 15, task force representatives will go to the Richmond, Virginia Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights meeting to volunteer their services as a "resource" and an "action" group. The task force will also be setting up "rap" groups and presenting educational programs in Northern Virginia.

Anyone wishing to join the task force can call Barbara Jean at 979-5712 or Jackie Gilbert at 960-4717.

DRINKING BEHAVIOR COUNSELORS JOIN GAY CLINIC

The Gay Counsel on Drinking Behavior has merged with the Whitman-Walker Clinic in a move to broaden the gay community health services of both organizations. At present, GCDB activities will continue to focus on community education, promoting awareness of alcoholism as a high risk to gays, and on providing an outreach to persons concerned about their own drinking behavior or the drinking habits of their partners.

Longer-range plans of the Whitman-Walker Clinic include medical and counseling assistance for withdrawal from alcohol and other drugs, outpatient therapy, and self-acceptance group experiences for recovering addicts and substance abusers. Special programs for lovers and emotional partners of persons with drinking or drug problems are planned.

The Gay Counsel on Drinking Behavior began in November 1977 as an education and referral agency for the Washington, D.C., gay community. Counselors are available each Monday evening (6 to 8 p.m. at Lambda Rising), and speakers are provided for all inter-

ested community groups. Donations to support GCDB should now be made to the Whitman-Walker Clinic.

The Whitman-Walker Clinic is the successor to the Gay Men's VD Clinic and expects to assume operation of the GMVDC next fall. The Whitman-Walker Clinic recently received a grant from the District of Columbia to expand community health services, and the move to link with the GCDB is seen as part of that goal.

SUMMER FANTASY BALL TO BE HELD

The second annual Summer Fantasy Ball in honor of D.C.'s Gay Pride Week will be presented by Paramount Plaza on Sunday, June 18 at the Pier, beginning at 8 p.m. Last year more than 700 people attended. Some went home with one of the raffle prizes; all went home with memories of the fun and entertainment.

This year, Paramount Plaza again brings together many different entertainment groups such as Club Madame, the Gay Miss Americas, and the Paramount Players, to create an evening of amusing surprises. Again, many businesses will contribute useful prizes to show their support and thanks to the gay community.

As a result of the Ball, Paramount Plaza was able last year to contribute to the 1977 Gay Pride Block party and also made another contribution to help get the 1978 Gay pride festivities under way.

BROTHER, HELP THYSELF

On June 18, 10 area gay leather/levis clubs will end D.C. Gay Pride Week '78 with "Brother, Help Thyself," a charity drive to be held from 2-7 p.m. at Cy's, the Exile, Louie's, and the Eagle. The Gay Switchboard and the Gay Men's VD Clinic are the beneficiaries. The campaign's slogan sums up the clubs' intention to help the gay community; all gays are invited to participate.

Action will begin at all the bars at 2 p.m., and each bar will have on-going activities all afternoon. The day's highlights are a 50/50 raffle (the winner gets half the pot, expected to reach \$5,000), an erotic art auction, the Mr. Rooster

Contest, a leather/levis-disco fashion show, a disco dance contest (with \$100 prize), a poker run (best hand of cards gets \$100), Macho Roulette, numerous door prizes, and much more.

At 3, Cy's will hold an erotic art auction. Art will be on display at the bars prior to June 18. Advanced bids may be placed by calling John at 988-5799. Items will be sold before and after the auction as well.

At 4, the Exile will host a leather/levis-disco fashion show. A disco dance contest will begin before the fashion show and end after, with a run-off for a \$100 prize. Go-Go boys will provide on-going entertainment.

A Western Saloon Show is the theme at Louie's, where at 5 patrons will play Macho Roulette. The winner gets three exciting hours with their favorite bar-

tenders. Obscene phone calls may be purchased, and there will be disco dancing all afternoon.

At 6, the Eagle will hold the Mr. Rooster Contest. The winner will be chosen by the audience, who can purchase votes for their favorites among the humpy over-35 contestants. Between 6:30 and 7:00 the poker run winner will be announced. Those attending all four bars will receive two cards at Cy's, and one card at each of the other bars. The sealed envelopes containing the cards are to be turned in at the Eagle prior to 6:30. Best poker hand wins \$100.

At 7, the 50/50 raffle will be held. The winner receives 50 percent of the take, with the other half going to the Switchboard and the Clinic. Club members are now selling tickets. Club members will man the bars, and all tips will go to the charities. Posters are on display in area bars, where flyers giving more details are also available.

—Doug Wright

Gay Directory

WASHINGTON

METRO AREA (202)

- ACADEMY AWARDS CLUB (drag) 920-2091
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS (gay groups) 737-7811, 979-8118, 337-5156, 244-2274, 466-2323
AL-ANON (gay group) 280-4744, 979-8118
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY GAY COMMUNITY.
ANNAPOLIS GAY COMMUNITY Mark (301) 643-2598 or Jim (301) 761-3797
AWARDS CLUB OF WASHINGTON (drag) 296-0893
BISEXUAL RAP GROUP Carol, 223-2535
BRETHREN/MENNONITE COUNCIL FOR GAY CONCERNS Box 24060, D.C. 20024
CAPITOL METRO RAINBOW ALLIANCE (deaf gays) Gal- laudel College, Kendall Green, Wash., D.C. 20002
COALITION OF BLACK GAYS 596-5865
COALITION OF GAY SISTERS (COGS) Hotline (Columbia, Md.) 997-1593
DC WOMEN'S CENTER 347-5078
DIGNITY (gay Catholics) 332-2424
EARTH ONION WOMEN'S THEATER 667-3795 or 347-4700
EMERGENCY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES (24-hour) 629-5222
"FRIENDS" Radio Program 234-4287
FRIENDS OF GAYS 232-3915
GAY ACTIVISTS ALLIANCE (GAA/DC) 667-5139
GAY COUNSEL ON DRINKING BEHAVIOR 840-9585, 332-4960
GAY ALLIANCE OF PRINCE GEORGES COMMUNITY COLLEGE (301) 336-6000, ext 505
GAY HOTLINE 547-7601
GAY INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE 363-3881
GAY LAW STUDENTS 462-9086
GAY MEN'S COUNSELING COLLECTIVE 638-4611
GAY MEN'S VD CLINIC (Sat, 11:30 a.m.-3 p.m.) 338-3363
WASHINGTON FREE CLINIC (mon-Thurs) 965-5476
GAY PEOPLE OF COLUMBIA, MD 997-1593 M, W, Th 7:00-10:00 p.m.
GAY PEOPLE OF GEORGETOWN, Box 942, Hoya Sta., Georgetown Univ., D.C. 20057
GAY PEOPLES ALLIANCE/GEO WASH U. For info call 659-2796
GAY SPEAKERS SERVICE 363-3881
GAY STUDENT ALLIANCE OF U. OF MD (COLLEGE PARK) 454-5830
GAY SWITCHBOARD 638-4611, 7:30-10:30 p.m.
GAY WOMEN'S OPEN HOUSES, Arlington 671-3762, Wheaton, Md. 942-7548, 946-6512
GAY YOUTH 638-4611
GERTRUDE STEIN DEMOCRATIC CLUB 362-8710
HENRY STREET (drag) 234-6494
INTEGRITY WASH (gay Episcopalians & Friends) 291-2060, 583-2158
LUTHERANS CONCERNED FOR GAY PEOPLE 659-3633, 6-10 p.m.
MALE HETEROSEXUAL FEMMIPHILE HOTLINE (301) 776-8832
MARRIED GAYS ASSOCIATION 596-5865
MATTACHINE SOCIETY 363-3881

- METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH 232-6333
MCT MISHPOCHEH (Jewish gays) DC 547-4562, VA/DC 979-9239
MYSTIC KREWE OF APOLLO P.O. Box 14065, D.C. 20044
NATIONAL GAY STUDENT CENTER 265-9890
NATIONAL PRISON PROJECT 331-0500
NOW SEXUALITY TASK FORCE 466-2934
OPTIONS, INC. Group counseling for gay men & women, Dottie or Tom, 379-1817 or 931-3279, eves.
PARENTS OF GAYS 468-0091 or 726-3223
PARENTS WHO ARE GAY 596-5865
PRESBYTERIANS FOR GAY CONCERNS 483-4486 (eves. & wkends.)
RESTON GAY RAP GROUP (703) 860-8873 or (703) 476-4348 Mon-Fri, 6-9 p.m.
STONEWALL NATION MEDIA COLLECTIVE 234-4287
UFMCC WASHINGTON OFFICE Suite 210, 110 Maryland Ave., NE 543-2260
UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST GAY COMMUNITY 483-0742
WALT WHITMAN REPUBLICAN CLUB 333-4163 (eves.)
WOMEN'S LEGAL DEFENSE FUND 638-1123
WOMEN'S RAP GROUP (gay & straight) 347-5078, 521-3199

BALTIMORE (301)

- ALTERNATIVE PRESS CENTER 2958 Greenmount Ave., Balto 21218
BALTIMORE GAY ALLIANCE PO Box 13438 Balto 21203, 235-4357
COALITION OF BLACK GAYS 997-3541
DIGNITY (gay Catholic group) 547-0707
GAY ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS 467-4667/467-6133
GAY CAUCUS OF YOUTH AGAINST WAR & FASCISM 366-3713, 2402 St. Paul St., Balto. 21218
GAY COMMUNITY CENTER OF BALTIMORE 837-3755
GAY SWITCHBOARD OF BALTIMORE 235-HELP, Mon-Fri, 7 pm-midnite, Sat & Sun, 1 pm-midnite
GAY TEACHERS OF MARYLAND Box 12, Randallstown, Md. 21133—(301) 889-6872/521-2590
JEWISH GAYS 685-0736
JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY GAY CAUCUS 243-4435/243-7092
LESBIAN COMMUNITY CENTER 235-8593
MARRIED GAYS ASSOCIATION 997-3541
MARYLAND GAY RIGHTS COALITION Box 7109, Balto. 21218
METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH (MCC) 366-1415, 2233 St. Paul St., Balto 21218
NEW AMERICAN MOVEMENT Gay men's group, 366-7120
NEW EASTERN STANDARD TIMES (newspaper) Box 3416, Brooklyn, Md. 21226
PARENTS OF GAYS 366-7274/483-4042
PARENTS WHO ARE GAY 997-3541
PROFESSIONAL RESOURCES ORG. 358-1498
THE ULTIMATE WOMAN Meets Thurs. at 7:30 pm at MCC 366-1415
TRANSVESTITE/TRANSEXUAL HELPLINE (301) 776-8832
WOMEN: A JOURNAL OF LIBERATION 235-5245, 3028 Greenmount Ave., Balto 21218
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CALENDAR

EVERY WEEK

Mondays

- **Gay Counsel on Drinking Behavior**, Lambda Rising, 2012 S St. NW; information and referral about drinking problems; 6-8 pm
- **Women's Caucus Meeting**, Gay Students Alliance/U of Md (College Park), Student Union, room 3102. 7 pm. For more info, call 454-5830
- **Women's Rap Group**, DC Women's Center, 17th & M Sts. NW (Summer School bsmt); 8 pm.

Tuesdays

- **Gay Alliance of Prince Georges Community College, meeting**; Largo student center, conf room 3; 10-11 am. For more info, call Rick 336-6000, ext 505
- **American University Gay Community, meeting**; various locations; 8 pm. For more info, call Dave 667-5096
- **Baltimore VD Clinic, check-ups**; 2233 Saint Paul St, Balto; 6-9 pm. For more info, call 837-3755

Wednesdays

- **Coffeehouse, Gay Peoples Alliance/GWU**, Marvin Center, 21st & H Sts. NW; 5th floor lounge; 8 pm
- **Prayer Service**, Metropolitan Community Church, Chapel of 1st Cong Church, 10th & G Sts. NW; 8 pm
- **Group Counseling**, co-led by gay male & female professionals; minimum fee: 8:30-10 pm. For more info, call Dottie or Tom, eves, 931-3279 or 379-1817

Thursdays

- **Rap Group**, sponsored by Metropolitan Community Church; weekly topics; Garden Room, 1st Cong. Church, 10th & G Sts. NW; 8 pm. For more info, call 232-6333
- **Gay People of Georgetown meeting**; Lauinger Library, Georgetown Univ, room 156B; 9 pm
- **Baltimore VD Clinic, check-ups**; 2233 Saint Paul St, Balto; 6-9pm. For more info, call 837-3755
- **Discussion Group, sponsored by Dignity/DC (gay Catholics)**; 8 pm. For more info, call 332-2424 (see ad this issue)

Fridays

- **Women's Coffeehouse**, Gay Students Alliance Women's Caucus/U of Md (College Park); Student Union, room 0124; 8 pm. For more info, call 454-5830
- **Gay Students Alliance/U of Md** (College Park); coffeehouse, Student Union; 9 pm-midnight. For more info, call 454-5830

Saturdays

- **Gay Men's VD Clinic**, bsmt of Lutheran Church, corner Volta & Wisc Ave. NW, Georgetown; 11:30 am-3 pm. For more info, call 338-3363
- **Gay Youth Meetings**; Lambda Rising Bookstore mezzanine, 2012 S St. NW; 3 pm

Sundays

- **DC Metropolitan Community Church service**; 2:45 pm (see ad this issue)
- **Dignity/Richmond chapter meeting** (gay Catholics); 809 Floyd Ave, Catholic Campus Student Center, richmond; 6:30 pm. For more info, write: Dignity/Richmond, Box 5351, Richmond, Va 23220
- **Baltimore Metropolitan Community Church service**; 2233 Saint Paul St.; 6:45 pm. For more info, call 366-1415
- **Mass for Gay Catholics**, Dignity/DC; 7:30 pm (see ad this issue)
- **Volley ball**, organized by Dignity/DC (gay Catholics); P St Beach, cor P & 23rd Sts NW; 2 pm

MONDAYS

June 12

- **Prayer Group**, Dignity/D.C. (gay Catholics); 8 pm. For more info, call 332-2424 (see ad this issue)

June 19

- **Gertrude Stein Democratic Club, meeting**; Fraternity House, 2122 P St., NW (rear); 8 pm

June 26

- **Baltimore Gay Alliance, business mtg**; SE cor. of 28th & Calvert Sts. (entr. rear bsmt); 8 pm.
- **Prayer Group**, Dignity/D.C. (see June 12)

TUESDAYS

June 13

- **Walt Whitman Republic Club, mtg**; Capitol Hill Town House, 506 8th St., SE; 8 pm. For more info, call 333-4163, eves.
- **Gay Activists Alliance, mtg**; 1st Cong. Church, 10th & G Sts., NW; 8 pm

GAY PRIDE WEEK EVENTS

Sunday, June 11—Sunday, June 18

WASHINGTON

Sunday

- **NOON 'TIL DUSK**: Entertainment—Casse Culver and the Belle Star Band, Hysteria, Holly Near, Red Shoes Walkin', Dana Terrell and "Les Femenique," Carolyn Gaines and Pat Fitzgerald; display booths and presentations by area gay community organizations; lots more! 20th & S Sts., N.W.

Every Day, Mon-Fri

- **"Gay USA," a film** sponsored by the Gay Peoples Alliance of G.W.U., to benefit the Gay Men's VD Clinic; Bldg. C, 2201 G St., NW, Rm. 103; 7:30 pm. Adm. \$2

Tuesday

- **Poetry Reading, with Chasen Gaver and Ed Cox**, sponsored by the Gay Activist Alliance and Gay Peoples Alliance/G.W.U.; Marvin Center, 21st & H Sts., NW, Rm. 405; 8 pm.

Thursday

- **1st Annual Beaux Arts Nose Ball**, sponsored by "Out" Magazine; The Pier, 1824 Half St., SW; 9 pm. Adm. \$4

Saturday

- **Gay Pride Picnic**; BYOB & BYOF (food!); P Street Beach, cor. 23rd & P Sts., NW; 12 Noon.

Sunday

- **Leather/Levi Clubs fund raiser**, at Capital area bars; see "Brother, Help Thyself" article on previous page.
- **"A Summer Fantasy Ball,"** presented at Paramount Plaza (Theatrical); Dancing, entertainment, raffle prizes and costume contest; The Pier, 1824 Half St, SW; 8 pm; \$3 donation. For more info, call 823-9226

June 20

- **Reston (Va.) Gay Rap Group, mtg**; Browns Chapel, Rte. 606, Reston; 7:30 pm. For more info, call 860-8873 or 476-4348, m-f, 6-9 pm.

June 27

- **Parents of Gays, mtg**; call 486-0091 or 726-3223
- **VD Testing for men**, by Gay Men's VD Clinic; Cy's, 2412 Wisconsin Ave., NW; 10-11 pm.

WEDNESDAYS

June 14

- **"Friends" Gay Radio show**; WPFW, 89.3 FM; 9-10 pm.
- **Bar Night**, Dignity/DC (gay Catholics); Court Jester, 2321 Wisconsin Ave., NW; 10 pm.

June 28

- **"Friends" Gay Radio show**; WPFW, 89.3 FM; 9-10 pm.
- **Women's Open House**; Arlington (Va.); 8 pm. For more info, call 671-3762

BALTIMORE

The Gay Community of Baltimore is happy to announce its 3rd annual Gay Pride and Freedom Week—

Sunday

- **Rally**, at Hopkins Plaza; noon-2 pm.
- **Ecumenical Service**; Metropolitan Community Church, 2233 St. Paul St.; 6:45 pm.

Monday

- **Grand Opening of Gay Community Center of Baltimore**; 2133 Maryland Ave., (downstairs); 8 pm.

Wednesday

- **Traveling Gay History Show**; Gay Community Center, 2133 Maryland Ave.; 8 pm.

Thursday

- **International Potluck Dinner**; Gay Community Center, 2133 Maryland Ave.; 8 pm.

Saturday

- **Coffee House**; Gay Community Center, 2133 Maryland Ave.; 9 pm.

Sunday

- **Gay Block Party**; 400 block of E. 31st St.; noon-8 pm.

For more information on above events, contact: Lew Hughes, 484-2562 or 667-3103

THURSDAYS

June 1

- **VD Testing for men**, by Gay Men's VD Clinic; Olympic Baths, 1405 H St., NW; 7:30-9:30 pm.
- **Baltimore Gay Alliance Forum Discussion**; Gay Community Center, 2133 Maryland Ave., Balt; 8 pm. For more info, call 235-HELP.
- **Married Gays Association, mtg**; 8 pm. For more info, call 596-5865

June 8

- **VD Testing for men**, by Gay Men's VD Clinic; Club Bath, 20 'O' St., SE; 7-9 pm.

June 15

- **VD Testing for men**, (see June 8)
- **Married Gays Association, mtg**; (see June 1)
- **Baltimore Gay Alliance, Forum Discussion** (see June 1)

June 22

- **VD Testing for men** (see June 8)

June 29

- **Baltimore Gay Alliance, Forum Discussion** (see June 1)

FRIDAYS

June 2

- **MCT/Mishpocheh (Jewish gays)**; service & social; Christ United Meth. Church, "I" St., NW (betw. 3rd & 4th); For more info, call 547-4562 (DC), 998-5332 (Va.)
- **Reston (Va.), Gay Rap Group, mtg**; Browns Chapel Rte. 606, Reston; 7:30 pm. For more info, call 860-8873 or 476-4348, m-f, 6-9 pm.
- **Worship, friendship & education**; Dignity/DC (gay Catholics); 2210 F St., NW; 7:45 pm. (see ad this issue)

June 9

- **Jewish Gays of Maryland, mtg**; Gay Community Center, 2133 Maryland Ave., Baltimore; For mor info, call 528-0398
- **Integrity/Wash. (gay Episcopalians)**; pot luck dinner, eucharist, business mtg. & fellowship; St. Thomas Church, 1772 Church St., NW; 8 pm.

June 16

- **MCT/Mishpocheh (Jewish gays)**; service & social (see June 2)

June 23

- **Integrity/Wash. (gay Episcopalians)**; eucharist, business mtg., fellowship (see June 9)

SATURDAYS

June 3

- **Picnic**, MCC of Baltimore; Wyman Park, Balt.; 12 noon. For more info, call 366-1415

June 17

- **Strawberry Festival of Jazz**; MCC of Baltimore; Gay Community Center, 2133 Md. Ave., Balt.; For more info, call 366-1415

SUNDAYS

June 11

- **Pot Luck Dinner**, Metropolitan Community Church; Fellowship Hall, 1st Cong. Church, cor. 10th & G Sts., NW; 5 pm.

To list your event(s) in the Blade Calendar for the next issue, covering July 3-Aug 7, forward complete information to the Blade office by Monday, June 19. For more information, call 785-3009, 12-5 pm, weekdays.

GAYELLOW PAGES™

The National Edition includes listings for the entire U.S. as well as Canada. Published November and May; \$5 third class, \$6 first class; outside North America \$7.

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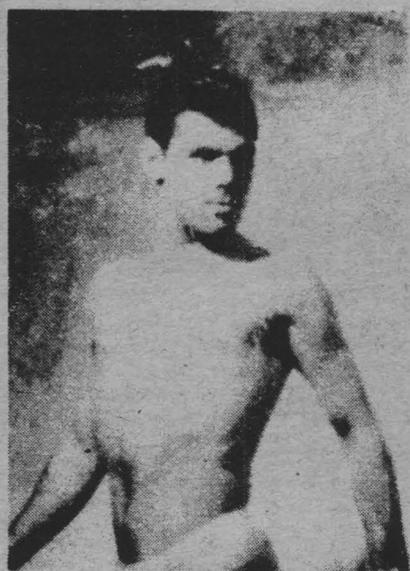
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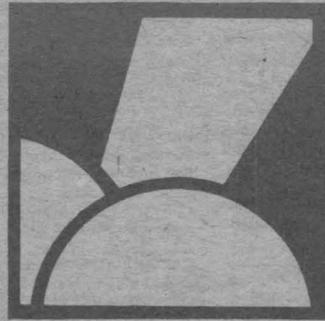
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VD Has New Home in Baltimore

The Gay Community Center Clinic has moved to the new South Wing of the Center at 22nd and Maryland Avenues. The move is an effort to provide the Baltimore community with a larger, more modern facility with expanded services.

Since its founding in April of 1978, the Clinic has treated over 1,000 patients. The service is available to any gay man or woman for diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of sexually transmitted diseases. It is advised that all active gays have a VD checkup every 4 months. The checkup consists of a blood serology for syphilis, oral-geni-

tal-anal cultures for gonorrhea, and an examination for warts.

The Clinic staff consists of a director, assistant director, two physicians, two physician's assistants, a clinical microbiologist, a registered nurse, and a number of receptionists and clerks.

The Clinic's financial survival depends on donations from patients, support from GCCB and other gay-oriented clubs and organizations, and the Baltimore City Health Department. The move has triggered a need for goods and services that are financially impossible to meet, therefore the Clinic is asking the gay community for their

support in dollars, donations, and volunteer services.

To create a clean, pleasant atmosphere the Clinic needs good clean furniture (chairs, sofas, tables, lamps, rugs, etc.), office furniture (desks, chairs, an operable typewriter, etc.), an air conditioner, plants, pictures, mirrors, wallpaper and fabric. Volunteers are needed for minor carpentry work, light custodial work, painting some wall murals, upholstery, and sewing.

The Clinic's new schedule is 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. every Tuesday and Thursday. For more information call 837-5446 during the above hours.