

DEGENERATION IN THE NATION

A WEEKLY FORUM FOR THE BOSTON AREA

Gay Community News

25¢

VOL. 1 NO. 8 AUGUST 11, 1973

SUSPECTS RELEASED

The following is a transcript of a call received and broadcast on Gay Way Radio program of Thursday, August 2.

Elaine Noble: Hello

Caller: Is this Gay Way?

Noble: This is Gay Way.

Caller: You people been tearin' down the structure of family life in this country just a little bit too long for me. And I want to know whether you have any decency left, or any belief in the Holy Bible, and the Ten Commandments of God, you understand that? I tell you, I've never seen anything so filthy and disgusting; you tools of the International Communist Conspiracy that tear down this country and slave it to the Communist police state. I tell ya, you're destroyin' the home, which is the basic unit of society. You represent all filth and disgust in this country.

Noble: Sir, You're wonderful, and I hope you get everything you wa...

Caller: You! I'm "wonderful" you, you mouthpiece of Communism. And I tell you, you have your day now, because soon you all gonna be through! You freaks is out of style in this country, the only problem is, you don't know it yet. That's why you're so pitifull (click)

AWK! A GAY

Dr. Harold J. Ockenga (pronounced Ock-en-gay) in a sermon preached Sunday evening, July 15, at Park St. Church, used the increasing acceptance of homosexuality, along with such things as abortion, Watergate, and pornography as "evidence of increased corruption and degeneration in the nation in the areas of truth, integrity, honesty, and dependability."

Attempting to shock the congregation and show this degeneration, Ockenga continues "Today, homosexuality, which was not even spoken of in public a few decades

ago, is now supported by homosexual churches, ordained homosexual ministers, gay parties & groups. Recently in Denver a protest was made in the papers over police breaking up a meeting of 200 homosexuals. In the Harvard Crimson ads are taken by gay people for gay parties, and gay groups are openly promoted."

Liberally spiced with biblical quotes, Ockenga attempts to prove the "Fall/Flood/Collapse" may be near, yet out of this will come a new determination to build a moral, godly society.

(See React)



At the present time the Arboretum murder "is at a temporary standstill," reported Lt. Det. Arthur Kelly of the Homicide Dept., Boston Police Dept. and working on the case. The survivor of the incident, Stephen Tucsher, is currently under psychiatric care and is no longer considered a credible witness. Tucsher positively identified two suspects but shortly rescinded the claim and referred all police queries to his doctors. This led to their release on personal recognition.

Robbery is still considered the motive for the crime. Lt. Kelly stated that there are a number of "Fag Roliers" who frequent gay bars and other gay populated areas with the intention of robbery. "These Bums haven't any fear of criminal apprehension because they expect no retaliation from their gay victims."

Lt. Kelly adamantly stated that this crime or any other gay-related crimes cannot be solved without the co-operation of the gay community. He feels that there were at least 30 other individuals in the vicinity of the Arboretum when the crime took place who have not yet come forward with information. "In a few weeks someone will appear with substantial information and more energy will be put on the case. There is no statute of limitation on murder cases and this case will remain open until it is solved."

NOTICE

In the continuation of the Charles St. Meetinghouse financial drive, a rummage sale will be held in the near future. The Meetinghouse is asking for contributions from the community to make this event a success. No articles are too small - everyone must have something. Bring all those rummagables as soon as possible to the Meetinghouse and leave them with/for Randy.

DANCING "OBSCENE"

Last Tuesday (31 July) Allison Mitchell, cast member of "Coming Out" and two friends were forcibly ejected from the Fathers Three Bar on Charles Street for the alleged "obscenity" of gay dancing in a straight bar.

Ms. Mitchell and her friends, Janice and Sky, had entered Fathers Three to take advantage of a special reduced drink rate for women. When Janice and Sky started dancing, a bartender turned the music down to a level too low for either listening or dancing.

In response to Ms. Mitchell's question as to why the volume was lowered, the bartender replied that they wanted "no obscenity." Maintaining that mixed couples danced in the same manner, Ms. Mitchell proceeded to dance with her friend Sky.

RAP BEGUN

During the interview with Police Lt. Det. Arthur Kelly (see other article) he was quite candid and appeared to be sympathetic to the plight of gays.

He offered an apology for the behavior of certain police towards individual gays and the gay community in general. A suggestion given was that gay people should get involved with the individual police district Community Relations Group Raps held monthly. The groups were formed a few years ago to improve police-minority group feelings and to establish rapport. All district leaders meet at police headquarters regularly to discuss their individual district meetings.

All gay people are encouraged to get involved with these district meetings. District 1 representative is Sgt. John Gottshuck, and in District 4 Sgt. Wood. Please contact these people for time, day, and place if you are interested in improving police-gay relations.

The bartender informed them that they would have to leave, but when pressed for a reason told them to see the manager. A man claiming to be the manager arrived and rather than reply to the question threatened to call the police. Ms. Mitchell returned to her seat to finish her drink awaiting their arrival.

A bartender informed her that she could not finish her drink and with the aid of two others grabbed Ms. Mitchell by the throat, arms, and legs and threw her out the door, causing bruises on her throat and arms.

In calling the police to lodge assault and battery charges, Ms. Mitchell was informed that the "manager" had never made good his threat to call. A hearing on Ms. Mitchell's charges is set for August 15.



Gay Community News is published weekly through the sponsorship of the Charles Street Meetinghouse. GCN is dedicated to providing coverage of events and news of interest to the greater Boston gay community, as well as stimulation of event oriented opinion within the community.

News and opinions reflected in "REACT!", the editorial column, represent the majority view of the editorial board. Signed letters and columns reflect the view of the author only. The material in this paper does not necessarily represent the views of the Charles Street Meetinghouse. Comments, criticisms and information are always welcome from our readers.

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NOTICE

HELP with the election on Aug. 14th. We do not have much time left in Michael Amato's campaign. We need people to work! If you can give any time at all, call 536-6197, or come into the HUB office at 419 Boyl., Rm. 509. Your future in the gay community depends upon the effectiveness of this person's campaign.

NOTICE

At this time GCN would like to make an earnest plea for people to volunteer their services for layout and paste-up. If you have any experience in this field and would like to volunteer your energies on Tuesday evenings (around 6-10PM), GCN would be more than glad to welcome you into the growing gay community movement.

ANOTHER FRIEND

GCN would like to inform our readers that at least some of the members of the psychiatric profession have finally got it together. The following are excerpts from a letter received by Randy Gibson, minister at the Charles St. Meetinghouse.

"(I would like)...to write to you about my philosophy of treatment, since I consider that the value system of a psychiatrist will have an influence upon those whom he treats, even were he to wish otherwise."

"It has become increasingly evident to me that the 'straight' world is attempting to force on homosexuals a value system in which heterosexuality is superior, and it is quite evident that the heterosexual majority controls the decision-making process which affects the homosexual's lives. I believe that we are both attempting to clarify and rectify these and other forms of personal and social abuse as they affect women, blacks, students, etc."

Perhaps this attitude on the part of the psychiatrist from McLean Hospital will be an encouragement for gays who are confused about their sexuality and instructive to those in the psychiatric profession to re-evaluate their position on homosexuality.



DOINGS

A Lesbian Therapy Research Project is currently forming at the Women's Center in Cambridge. The group, open to all women, meets every Tuesday from 7 to 9PM.

The workshop is examining and re-evaluating psychotherapeutic theories and practices from a feminist viewpoint. The aim is to produce, by working collectively, a training manual for counseling gay women. Any interested woman should contact the Lesbian Therapy Research Project, c/o Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge, or call 354-8807.

Classes in self-defense for gay people began on Monday, Aug. 6. Participants were given an introduction to boxing techniques. Two instructors skilled in boxing and karate will be present each week on Sunday and Monday nights at 7:30PM at the Charles St. Meetinghouse. Interested women and men are urged to attend on one of those nights each week. Classes are free. Loose clothing and comfortable shoes should be worn. Nuff said.

REACT !!!!!!!

The sermon by Dr. Ockenga at Park St. Church (see news article) cannot go unnoticed. It is almost hard to conceive that right across Beacon Hill from Charles St. there could exist an individual in such a position filled with such hate and intolerance. It is especially dangerous guised as it is in self-righteous holiness.

Almost any discerning individual could find cause to be revolted by portions of this sermon, but we will only deal with the slurs directed against the gay community.

It would be useless to argue Ockenga's point. He feels gays are degenerate and are helping to promote the fall of society. It's YOUR society, Dr. Ockenga and if your sermon represents that society, it should have fallen long ago.

We no longer need your approval of our sexuality & lives, Dr. Ockenga and if homosexual churches & Crimson (oh my god, Harvard.) ads shock you, hold onto your seat, cause you haven't seen anything yet, brother.

GCN is sending Dr. Ockenga a copy of this issue. Undoubtedly, he will be shocked at the very existence of such pornography. It may even give him material for his next attempt at interpreting God's will.

We've done our part, now you, our reader, can do yours. A line to Dr. Harold J. Ockenga, c/o Park St. Church, Park St., Boston, will be noticed.

FOCUS ON:

The WOMEN'S CENTER, 46 Pleasant St. in Cambridge offers a number of activities and programs for all women and some which are of special interest to Lesbians.

For instance, Lesbian Liberation meets every Thursday night at 8:00. This is primarily a discussion group.

In October, the Women's Center School will begin a new series of classes. The emphasis here is on women teaching women about women. A variety of courses will be offered: literature, history, and many more, including specifically Lesbian topics. All women can call about Oct. 1st for a full listing of courses and times. Classes will run for eight weeks.

Self-defense for women is an important concern of the Center. For further information about courses now in progress and/or beginning some, please write: Self-Defense for Women P.O. Box 146 W. Somerville, Mass. 02143

Another on-going program of the Women's Center is Emotional Counseling. Both crisis intervention and long term counseling are offered. A spokeswoman for the Center added that at least one-half of the counselors are Lesbians. All women may come to the Center or call (354-8807) at any time to avail themselves of this service, or for further information about any of the Center's many activities and programs.

Excerpts from the Journal of Mzz. Rita Digest

August 6th, 1973

Dear Journal,

Well, it happened again. I decided what with all the muggings and rapings going on I should definitely learn some sort of self-defense if I should ever be mugged or hopefully at least molested. Putting on what I thought was a very smart self-defense attire I went to the Charles St. Meetinghouse where the workshop was being held. Upon arriving I was shocked to find I was the only woman there! I decided that it was the women who were doing all these pervo crimes thus accounting for their absence. During the lecture I noticed that several mats had been placed about the room. Putting it all together in my head I very politely excused myself and called the Boston police and told them who I was,

where I was, and that I thought some very unnatural acts between the same sexes would soon be taking place and that they should come immediately. Not wishing to be thought of as a prude I went back to the workshop. As luck would have it they had begun without me! Hoping to get in on a little piece of the action before the cops arrived, I tore off all my clothes and threw myself on the nearest mat. At once twelve male bodies were upon me pinching and scratching the very life out of me! Just then the bulls arrived and after much explaining by the instructor I was taken to Mass. General with a broken arm and a dislocated hip (I'm always losing things!) Good news, I just talked to that nice young intern (the one that looks like Tom Jones) and he says I may be out of the hospital in time to face the morals charge brought about by the community. Oh, what shall I wear? Until next time sweet prince, Affectionately,

Rita

DID YOU SEE?

SINGLE MAGAZINE
(August issue, page 76)

In this first issue of SINGLE, a magazine which is "an endeavour to reach individuals who by choice or by chance find themselves single in a marriage-oriented society", Michael Emmett premieres a regular column entitled "The Gay View".

Discussing the question of homosexual lifestyle, and directing his remarks towards the straight single, Emmett produces a somewhat rambling, soft-sell, yet personal attempt to show that there is no such thing as a homosexual lifestyle. Homosexuals as a group, he relates, are just as varied as heterosexuals, and the only basis of community above sexual preference, is the sharing of all of oppression. In the most effective portion of the article, Emmett deals with the "fake liberal attitudes". In conclusion, the author nebulously deals with the necessity of coming out publicly vs. the resulting problems, and leaves the solution to the dilemma to something called "imagination." (?)

Hard core liberation it isn't, but it is another interesting vehicle to change attitudes. We will have to wait to see if he can use this vehicle to its full effectiveness.

THE HUMANIST

On Page 15 of the July/August issue of the HUMANIST, a journal of humanist and ethical concern, is an in-depth article entitled "AC/DC: The Bisexual" by Don Clark. GCN finally located a copy of this periodical at the Out of Town newstand in Harvard Square and would like to bring Clark's comments and opinions to your attention.

"The Bisexual" has many interesting statements. On the awareness of social scientists Clark says, "The assumption that lack of conformity equals mental illness is extremely dangerous." His approach toward treating homosexuality and bisexuality objectively in studies is that if you focus on discovering the roots or causes of the sexuality, then "you must start with the prejudice that the variety of sexuality under study is sick or there is no sense in making the study of it." His estimate of people that fit into his definition of bisexuality is, "something near 50 per cent of the male population has either given homosexuality a try or would consciously like to, exclusive of the 4 per cent of the population that is exclusively homosexual." His comment on Gay Liberation reads, "many of us will not be free until the Gay Liberation

movement has succeeded."

Dr. Clark expresses the importance of self-acceptance as a prelude to happiness in this last quote, "I am proud to be myself and feel no need to hide any part of myself from my neighbour."

HUMAN BEHAVIOR (August issue p. 44)

An article entitled "Gay Activists & Mental Health" deals with the work of two West Coast gay psychologists: Martin Rogers & Barbara Bryant. As founders of a new national organization called the Association of Gay Psychologists which runs a speaker's bureau, encounter groups & counseling services, they have been particularly effective in speaking engagements before groups of straights.

The article primarily deals with their techniques used before these groups, such as a form of role playing where two individuals from the audience are asked to pretend that they are gay, while Rogers & Bryant subject them to the usual put-downs.

An informative article on the work of gays within the psychology field, reading this article would be especially useful to gays who speak before groups.



Attention fashion plates, trend setters, and anyone interested in clothing their glorious bodies in utmost class - Gay Community News T-shirts are now available at our CSMH offices and by mail.

The shirts feature a tastefully designed variation of our front page logo silk-screened in black ink on 100% virgin cotton. They were designed and executed entirely by hand by our reasonably skilled staff of artsy elves, working under terrible conditions in dank,

dirty, hollow trees somewhere out on the Common. If these T-shirts don't sell they have threatened to loose a plague of tacky trolls and other uncool mythical denizens of the forest upon us.

We're selling these little darlings (the shirts, not the elves), in S, M, or L, for \$2.50; if you order by mail, throw in another 50 cents for postage and hassling. Mark the envelope "Attn: T-shirts" and send it to GCN, c/o 70 Charles St., Boston, Mass. 02114.

THE HOSENPFEPFER ~column~

by J. Ralf Green

The forties live! All those wonderful, tacky, escapist musicals live; not in scratchy, cut up, spliced up black and white prints of Busby Berkly movies but in India, where the film industry turns out over three hundred shows a year, most of them musicals which out-tack the tackiest of ours. HELEN - QUEEN OF THE NAUTCH GIRLS is a half-hour short detailing

the career of the biggest star of these extravaganzas. This is a beautifully produced piece of film with many scenes from Helen's triumphs, which put Ruby Keeler and Anne Miller to shame. The Indian filmmakers know how to make escapist entertainment and they throw all the modern technology at their disposal to the task. On seeing HELEN...I find it hard to believe that an American distributor in need of material hasn't latched on to some of these shows. Even without subtitles or dubbing, they should find a large and appreciative audience; fads may come and fads may go, but tackiness is forever.

Something else that seems to go on and on is the public's desire for horror movies, and vampires in particular. JONATHAN is easily among the top five blood-suckers of all time. This film has not only some interesting new twists on the old Dracula story, some really incredible photography of some really gorgeous settings, but some wonderfully unintended humor. Several critics have found anti-fascist undertones in JONATHAN, and I must admit, the head vampire looks like a combination of Adolph Hitler, Sid Caesar, and David Frye, but if politics was the movie's only excuse for existence it would have been stillborn. JONATHAN transcends these meager attempts at "social relevance" and moves into a realm of fantasy rarely captured on film.

This is not to say it is without shortcomings. A good deal of the acting is quite mediocre; the subtitles are not too well done; there are some elements that obviously do not fit. But these are easily overlooked in view of the overall impression of care and love that went into the film. I'd like to particularly mention the camerawork; I don't believe I've ever seen a camera move with such fluidity, such a feeling for the inter-relationships among cast, setting, and audience. The images on the screen flow across the consciousness leaving their collective mark on the viewer.

But don't believe me, see JONATHAN as soon as it comes back. Besides, I've left a few surprises unmentioned.



Clip out and save:

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

If you want a fair chance and don't want to be intimidated into revealing information about yourself that may cause you problems at a later date, know your rights and what you should do when arrested. Incidentally, you must be informed of these rights under law by the arresting officer, police have been known to forget such things.

1. You have the right to remain silent.
2. If you choose to speak, anything you say can be used against you in a court of law.
3. If you decide to answer questions, you may stop at any time.
4. You have a right to talk to a lawyer before answering any questions, and have him present in the event you decide to answer questions.
5. If you cannot afford a lawyer, one will be provided for you by the Commonwealth without cost to you.

CLASSIFIED

For sale - amp/tt combo. (1 piece), good condition, good sound. Hoping for over \$50, will take highest bid. Spkrs. extra. Also lge selec albums \$1 ea. Contact Ralf @ GCN or 868-5729.

LAWYERS RESPONSIVE TO GAY-RELATED CASES:

Rook, Roth and Rubino
7 Water Street
Boston 02109 742-0144

Crane, Inker & Oteri
(Ask for Kevin Keating)
20 Ashburton Place
Boston 227-4882

Jim Hamilton
Dave Lamson, Lawyers
One Court Street
Boston 523-3716

Featherston, Homans, Klubock & Griffin
45 School Street
Boston 227-7830

Zalkind, Silvergate
65 Atlantic Avenue
Boston 742-6020

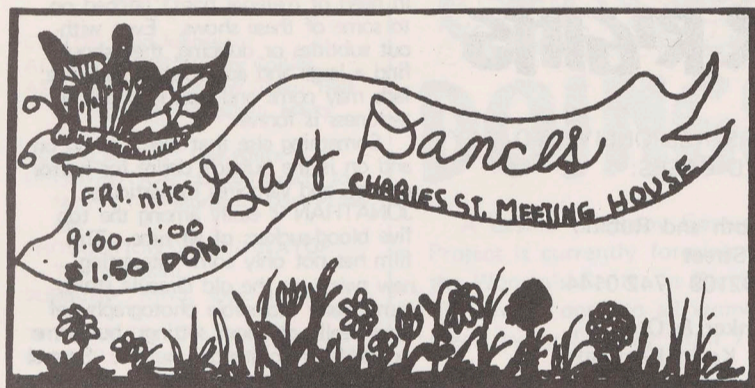
The Women's Law Collective
698 Massachusetts Ave.
Cambridge 492-5200

The Homophile Union of Boston (HUB) has volunteered to keep a record of assaults on gay people in Massachusetts. Such records will be maintained strictly for statistical purposes. One need not identify oneself to HUB should one not want to. Call HUB @ 536-6197.

CALENDAR: AUG. 9 - 22

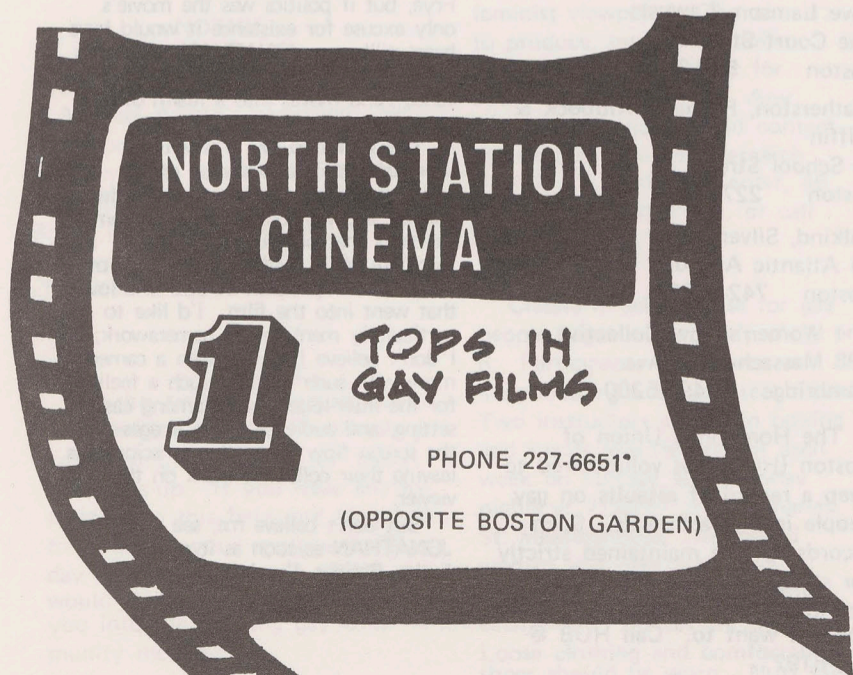
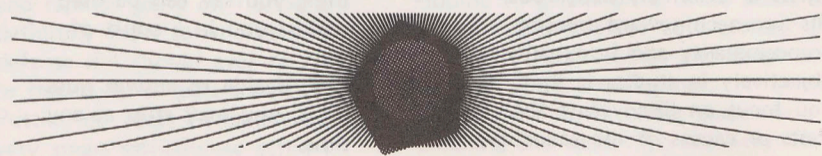
NOTE: * INDICATES THAT MORE INFORMATION ON THIS EVENT IS ELSEWHERE IN THIS ISSUE.

THU	7:30PM 9:00PM Nite	Effeminst Men's Rap @ Project Place Gay Way Radio, WBUR (90.9FM) Project Place Gay Crisis Line, 267-9150	9	THU	7:30PM 9:00PM Nite	Effeminst Men's Rap at Project Place Gay Way Radio, WBUR (90.9FM) Project Place Gay Crisis Line 267-9150	16
FRI	9:00PM	GCC Gay Dance, Upstairs CSMH, \$1.50 don.	10	FRI	9:00PM	GCC Gay Dance, Upstairs, CSMH, \$1.50 don.	17
SAT	11AM-8PM 8:00PM	MCC Flea Market, Old West Church Good Gay Poets, Ellen B. Davis, CSMH	11	SAT	8:00PM	Good Gay Poets, Sal Farinella, CSMH	18
SUN	*7:30PM 1:00PM 5:30PM All Day 8:00PM	Gay Defense Class, CSMH DOB Softball, Magazine Beach, Cambridge Interfaith Mass, Beacon St. & Mass. Ave. MCC Spiritual Renewal Day, Old West Church GCC Open Mtg., CSMH	12	SUN	1:00PM 5:30PM 6, 7, 8:15PM *7:30PM	DOB Softball, Magazine Beach, Cambridge Interfaith Mass, Beacon St. & Mass. Ave. MCC Mtg., Serv., & Fellshp. Hr., Old West Gay Defense Class, CSMH	19
MON	*7:30PM 8:00PM	Gay Defense Comm., CSMH MCC Women's Ministry Rap Group, call 266-7491	13	MON	*7:30PM 8:00PM	Gay Defense Class, CSMH MCC Women's Ministry Rap Group, 266-7491	20
TUE	*All Day *7:00PM 7:30PM 7:30PM 7:30PM 8:00PM	Special Election Les. Therapy Rs. Proj., Women's Ctr., Camb. HUB Rap, 419 Boyl., Rm. 509 DOB Women's Rap, 419 Boyl., Rm. 323 MCC Bible Study Group, 266-7491 for info. Gay Rollerskating, Ballarou, Medofrd	14	TUE	*7:00PM 7:30PM 7:30PM 7:30PM 8:00PM	Les. Therapy Res. Proj., Women's Ctr., Camb. HUB Rap, 419 Boyl., Rm. 509 DOB Women's Rap, 419 Boyl., Rm. 323 MCC Bible Study Group, 266-7491 for info. Gay Rollerskating, Ballarou, Medford	21
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QUICK GAY GUIDE

American Civil Liberties Union	227-9469
Boston Gay Youth	536-6197
Charles St. Meetinghouse	742-0450
Daughters of Bilitis	262-1592
Dignity/Boston c/o 1105 Boyl. St., Boston, Ma. 02215	
Fag Rag	536-9826
Gay Community News	523-8729
Gay Community Center	491-5669
	288-8765
Gay Media Watch	868-5729
Gay Speakers Bureau	547-1451
Gay Way Radio (WBUR 90.9FM)	353-2790
(Contact Elaine Noble or John Lawrence)	
Good Gay Poets	536-9826
Homophile Community Health Service	266-5477
Homophile Union of Boston	536-6197
Lavender Hour (WBCN 104.1FM)	261-8526
(Contact Andy Kopkind or Littlejohn)	
Lesbian Liberation (c/o Women's Ctr.)	354-8807
Metropolitan Community Church	266-7491
Project Place	267-9150
Fr. Paul Shanley	267-0764



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