

calendar

11 sun

Amherst, MA — Film, Monday Morning Pronouns with filmmaker, Micki Dick-off. Hampshire College, Main Lecture Hall, 8pm. Admission free.

Boston — Am Tikva Chanukah Party, Frost Lounge, Northeastern U., 360 Huntington Ave., 7pm.

Boston — Boston Men's Center is organizing men's groups for consciousness-raising, mutual support, and a new look at men and their roles in society. Campus Free College, 14 Beacon St., 2pm.

12 mon

Boston — BU Women's Center benefit concert for Ella Ellison Support Committee. New Harmony Sisterhood Band. 9 pm, BU Morse Auditorium, 602 Commonwealth Ave. \$2. For more info call 353-4240.

Boston — Coming Out: An Introductory Course sponsored by the Gay Education Service and Emerson Homophile Org., 7:30-9:30pm. Call 277-2484 for info.

13 tues

Allston — Women's International Folk Dance, 7:30pm. Allston Congregational Church, Quint Ave., (near Comm. Ave. & Harvard St.). Call Laura 623-1462 for details.

14 wed

N. Cambridge — Local meeting for general discussion of the Massachusetts Gay Nurses' Alliance, 28 Clarendon Ave. For info call Fran 547-0864 or Bob 523-2557.

Boston — Metropolitan Community Church mid-week service, 7pm. Old West Church, 131 Cambridge St.

Boston — A Human Celebration for Liberation. The Boston Men's Center will host an evening of play for women and men at the Somerville Multiservice Center, 1 Summer St. (near Union Sq.) 7pm.

15 thurs

Boston — Sporters Annual Christmas Auction will be held today at 7pm to raise money for Christmas gifts for needy children.

Deadline for all Calendar items. Every-week and Quick Gay Guide is 12 noon each Wednesday for the next issue.

New York City — Gay Women's Alternative presents Gloria Steinem, The Universalist Church, Central Park West at 76th St. upstairs in the church in Baumont Hall.

16 fri

Boston — "Harvest of the Stars," a winter solstice ritual to renew our power in the struggle, to regain our cycles in nature, and to celebrate the goddess. Poetry, ceremonies, music, food. The Hedge School, 211 Bay State Rd. (off Kenmore Sq.) 8:30pm.

18 sun

Cambridge — The Gay Academic Union of New England will meet in the Shepard Room, Phillips Brooks House, Harvard, 4-6pm.

Boston — Stephanie Byrd and Charlie Shively, poetry reading at Stone Soup Gallery, Cambridge St., 8:30pm. Free.

19 mon

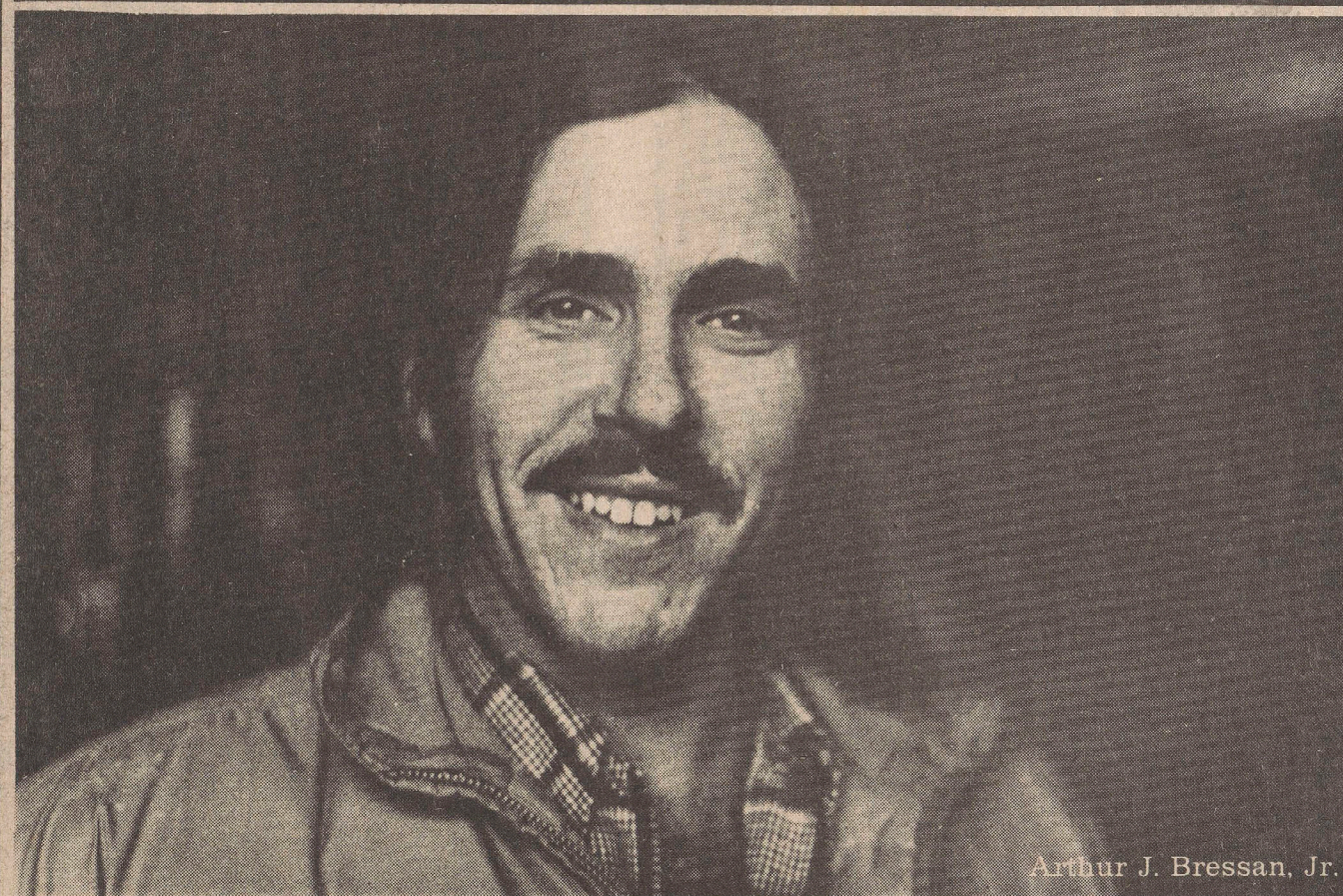
Portland, ME — We Are Ourselves a lesbian film for women only. 92 Bedford St., 7:30pm. For info call (207) 773-2981, Ext. 535.

gay community news

Vol. 5, No. 24 December 17, 1977

The Gay Weekly
35¢

A History of Sporters Maude on Gay People S.F. Mayor Promises Gay Commissioner Bressan's Gay U.S.A.



Arthur J. Bressan, Jr.

SPECIAL GIFT RATES

12 weeks \$3.00 (regular rate \$4.00)
25 weeks \$6.00 (regular rate \$8.00)
52 weeks \$11.25 (regular rate \$15.00)
2 years \$20.25 (regular rate \$27.00)

(These rates are for subscriptions within the USA. Add 20% for foreign.)

A card will be sent announcing your gift. If you need additional space, or don't want to cut up your GCN, send us the information on a separate sheet. This offer is valid through December 30, 1977. If the recipient is already a GCN subscriber, their subscription will be extended.

Your name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

First Gift Subscription

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Length of subscription _____
Gift card to read "From _____"

Second Gift Subscription

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Length of subscription _____
Gift card to read "From _____"



Mail with payment to:
GCN Subscriptions
22 Bromfield St.
Boston, MA 02108

All subscriptions sent in sealed, no-peek envelopes. Make check or money order payable to "GCN." Do NOT send cash through the mail. Our subscriber list is confidential, and is never sold or used except for mailing GCN.

gay community news

Vol. 5, No. 24

© GCN. 1977

(617) 426-4469

December 17, 1977

Voeller, Cox, Frank Speak at Harvard

NGTF Expects Changes in Gov't Policies

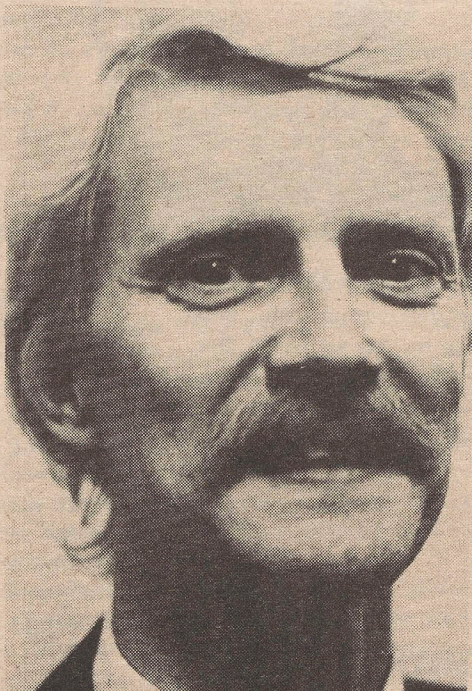
By Neil Miller

CAMBRIDGE, MA — The U.S. Bureau of Prisons and the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service will "fairly shortly" make a "complete reversal" of their anti-gay policies, National Gay Task Force co-director Bruce Voeller told GCN in an interview last week. The expected policy shifts are the result of meetings between the Task Force officials and the agencies, initiated since last spring's White House meeting with Carter Administration aide Margaret (Midge) Costanza. Claiming "excellent contacts with at least 10 different agencies," Voeller asserted that "the meetings with the various government agencies are progressing extremely well. We can't believe how well they're going."

According to Voeller, who was in Cambridge last week to address a colloquium at Harvard University, the U.S. Bureau of Prisons will soon end its ban on gay publications in the federal prison system. Both GCN and the National Gay Task Force publication *It's Time* are involved in a legal suit to force the agency to change its policy. Voeller said that meetings with director Norman Carlson and other agency officials will also bring an end to the barring of gay ministers from prisons and an end to "some of the special unfairnesses visited on gay prisoners."

"Often if you're gay," he observed, "you have to give up being gay to be considered for parole. That's a very common occurrence. In addition, denial of access to educational programs is often used against gay prisoners. We want to get rules that would make it absolutely impossible for gay people to be denied access to such programs."

Voeller asserted that the Immigration and Naturalization Department itself is "helping us actively" to change policy. "The stick-



Bruce Voeller, NGTF co-director.

point here is that Congress passed the law [barring gay people from entering the U.S. as immigrants]. It's not just administrative law." It is currently illegal for homosexuals to immigrate to the United States on the basis of 1) unfit moral character and 2) sex deviancy. When a federal court recently ruled the "unfit moral character" clause unconstitutional, Immigration and Naturalization head Castille "was persuaded not to appeal that decision. He agreed to make it official policy of INS that 'unfit moral character' is not a barrier, based on that court decision," said Voeller.

With the "unfit moral character" term no longer in place, NGTF is now attempting to remove the restrictions on the basis of "sex deviancy." "We found that the term comes from the U.S. Surgeon General, the U.S. Public Health Service," said Voeller. "So we got Jack Weinberg, the president of the



Harvard Divinity School professor Harvey Cox

American Psychiatric Association, and Judd Marmor and John Spiegel, both past presidents, to come with us for a meeting with the surgeon general." That meeting will happen within the next two weeks. "This is the definition used throughout the federal government, as a stumbling block. . . . That is the keystone of the whole arch."

Federal Gay 'Investigation'?

Voeller also told GCN that the Task Force is contemplating the introduction of a bill in Congress empowering the U.S. Civil Rights Commission to make a thorough investigation of homosexuality. "We are at a bit of a stalemate as far as the federal [gay rights] bill is concerned. . . . Until politicians' anxiety is calmed down, nothing much is going to happen there," he said. In view of this situation, "our notion at this point is that it might be best to get Congress to do this [empowering the

investigation]. Sometimes you need to start with something small to ease the way."

Sen. Alan Cranston (D-Calif.), a gay rights proponent and Senate majority whip, reportedly thinks chances for passage of such a bill would be "feasible."

'Overt' and 'Quiet' Violence

In his Harvard address, made before 150 people at the Graduate School of Education, Voeller turned his attention from Washington to the "overt" and "quiet" violence visited upon gay people. His litany of violent acts ranged from the murder of a gay activist in Tucson, the arson and vandalism against gay churches throughout the country, threats to the life of NGTF co-director Jean O'Leary at the Houston IWY Conference, to bomb threats to the offices of both the Task Force and the Dade County Gay Coalition. "These killings, stabbings, and arson recall Nazi Germany in the 1930s," said Voeller. "And virtually none of this has been reported in the national press."

The Task Force co-director cautioned gay people against violence, however. "We have heard calls for retaliation. We must not return violence with violence."

Characterizing the present education about homosexuality to be "ignorance and propagation of ignorance," Voeller urged the expenditure of research funds in the area of sexuality. "There has been nothing of any real value done since Kinsey," he said.

'Terror of Choice'

Voeller's address was preceded by short statements from Harvey Cox, Harvard Divinity School professor and author of *Turning East*, and Rep. Barney Frank. Cox attempted to analyze the roots of the backlash against gay people and noted "sexuality is the point people retreat to when everything is falling apart. . . .

Continued on page 6

San Francisco Mayor

Moscone 'Promises' Gay Police Commissioner

SAN FRANCISCO — Addressing 300 people at a Gay Community Forum at the California State Building, Mayor George Moscone promised his audience that "there'll be a gay police commissioner before I leave office." When asked by surprised members of the audience if this was a promise, Moscone replied, "If you don't trust me, it's not a promise." The mayor did say that he would not fill the current commission vacancy, previously held by a black, with a gay person.

Mayor Moscone also announced his support of city funding for a future Gay Community Center, explaining that the present Center is in a building that will be torn down for construction of a Performing Arts Center.

Establishing himself as his own gay liaison person, the mayor also announced that he was in favor of city



San Francisco Mayor George Moscone

funding for the Gay Freedom Day parade. Moscone indicated a willingness to try "to sell" the idea to the city's Chief Administrative Officer, but expressed a reluctance to do anything else to push the matter.

The parade committee in San Francisco, which Moscone called "an honest endeavor that gives publicity to the city," has applied for funds for three years in a row. In 1977, the application was denied on the grounds that the event was "politically controversial." The budget for the Publicity and Advertising Fund, already drawn up for 1978, does not include the Gay Freedom Day parade.

Moscone's meeting with the city's gay community comes after recent months of strong criticism from activists and community leaders. Reportedly a number of the mayor's aides have suggested that Moscone is

concerned about his failing strength in the face of a possible run for reelection in 1979.

Long an advocate of gay rights, Moscone has offered to appoint a gay veteran to the city's Manpower Commission in the immediate future. He also announced that he had gay people on his staff but that they were hired "because of their ability, not because they are gay." Moscone said he "did not believe in sending out these people [his gay staff members]" as his representatives, preferring "direct contact" with the gay community.

Prior to the mayor's forum, the Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club passed a resolution supporting San Francisco Police Chief Charles Gain. Moscone emphasized that he will retain Gain in office no matter what political pressures are applied for his ouster.

news notes

A JUDGE'S NEGATIVE COMMENT

ONTARIO — A judge on the Supreme Court of Ontario has taken a position in opposition to equal custody rights for lesbian mothers.

Justice Peter Cory was considering statements made by a father of three who said that his wife is a lesbian who espouses bisexuality. The judge stated that if this were indeed the case, "it could have a detrimental effect upon the children, and quite possibly, the mother should not have custody."

The judge indicated that the woman, a doctor of psychology at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, had a valid reason for leaving her home, but he felt that she had no cause for taking her three children with her.

The judge's comments have no binding effect on other custody cases, but activists are concerned. This is the first lesbian custody case in Ontario, in which the subject has been discussed.

SEPARATISM IN ENGLAND

LONDON — English lesbians have recently formed a group called The National Organization for Gay Women. At an annual conference held in Nottingham, the re-grouping lesbians decided to split from the Campaign for Homosexual Equality (CHE).

In an announcement at the conference, the lesbians issued a statement which voiced some assurances to CHE. "You are not losing us," the statement read. "We will be autonomous, but we will be alongside. So, as we go, wish us good luck, good will and goodbye in good heart."

The National Organization for Gay Women in England will set up regional coordinators in an attempt to become an umbrella group for lesbians in Great Britain.

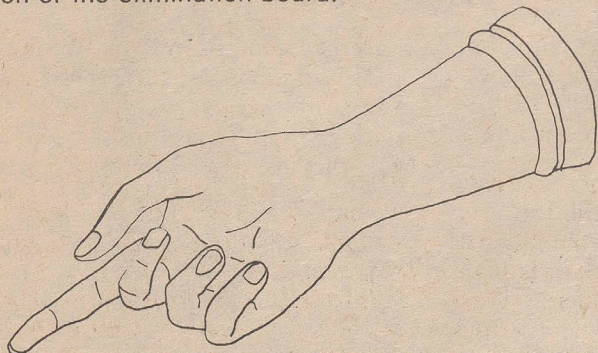
WAC'S SUIT DISMISSED

MONTGOMERY, AL — A federal judge has dismissed a suit filed by Marie von Hoffburg seeking reinstatement in the Army. She was discharged in July because of her marriage to a former WAC who says she is a transsexual.

District Judge Robert Varner ruled that von Hoffburg had not exhausted all available avenues of appeal within the Army. The judge said that until that is done, it would be improper for the courts to intervene. He added that the way was still open for von Hoffburg to return to court if all those appeals were turned down.

Marie von Hoffburg filed her suit after being discharged on the recommendation of a review board that said she "showed homosexual tendencies." She was married to Kristiann von Hoffburg, a former WAC, in November 1976 by an Alabama judge.

In his ruling to dismiss the suit, Judge Varner said that the treatment of "homosexuals within any branch of the armed services is indeed a pressing concern of utmost importance." The judge pointed out that the Army "should be given the opportunity to fully evaluate its position and review the decision of the elimination board."



RAINBOW SOCIETY MEETS

NEW YORK — The National Rainbow Society of the Deaf will hold its second annual convention April 7-9, 1978 in New York City. The Biltmore Hotel will be convention headquarters and the site for all meetings and entertainment. The Empire Rainbow Alliance, the New York chapter, will host gay deaf men and women from across the US and Canada.

For information contact the Alliance's Guy Wonder, 147 W. 22nd St., Apt. 6, NY 10011.

STONE HOUSE GIFTS

BOSTON — The Elizabeth Stone House is seeking funds for its new therapeutic community for women. The collective is encouraging people to support its "alternative to the mental health care system," by making a contribution to the Stone House in the name of a friend or relative.

The collective will acknowledge receipt of the gift and send a card to the friend or relative indicating that a contribution has been made in her or his name. Any amount is welcome and all contributions are tax deductible.

The Stone House is a feminist mental health project in Jamaica Plain. It is currently focusing its work on the therapeutic community and laying the groundwork to reopen a refuge center for women who are in psychiatric crises. Several members of the collective are lesbian feminists and the House has provided supportive mental health care to many lesbian women.

For information about making a contribution as a gift or about the therapeutic community call 522-3417 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. or write to the Elizabeth Stone House, 108 Brookside Ave., Jamaica Plain.

THE NORTHERN RIGHTS

QUEBEC — The Quebec Human Rights Commission will recommend that "sexual orientation" be added to the Quebec Human Rights Charter. The Commission is the third such body in Canada to make this type of recommendation, following Saskatchewan and Ontario. The action came on the heels of a major demonstration held during the First National Congress for Gay Men and Lesbians in Quebec.

Gay activist Ron Dayman expressed pleasure at the action taken by the Commission. "The inclusion of the terms 'sexual orientation' in the Charter will be a first major step toward the recognition of the rights of the gay community," he said.

The Quebec Human Rights Commission has reportedly been discussing this issue for three years and has now put its recommendation in a letter to the Minister in charge of the Charter. The Human Rights Commission said that a recently completed annual report to the National Assembly mentioned that the Commission would be studying the "sexual orientation" issue in more detail.

PUBLIC FUNDS FOR SERVICES

LOS ANGELES — The Gay Community Services Center in this city has won additional funding for the coming year from the City Council. The six year old Center's current \$700,000 allotment is used to support no more than nine of the fifteen programs presently offered. The City Council action stated that any agencies currently recommended for funding which fail in their negotiation periods to comply with the terms of their contracts will forfeit their funds to an alternative list. The Services Center is among the priority organizations on that alternative list.

The city awarded \$300,000 to the Center under Title I in 1977 and renewed the contract for 1978. The Center itself then asked for \$531,000 under CETA Title VI, which allows for the hiring of skilled administrative persons. The city granted \$119,000 for three programs and allotted \$47,000 for five jobs for "women serving women."

During the coming months, the Center is planning an ongoing campaign for public funds as it begins its seventh year of "non-judgmental, inclusionary services to the people." The Gay Community Services Center has programs involving prison, parole and probation and community and educational outreach.

IT'S THE REAL THING

PHILADELPHIA — The Community Alliance of Philadelphia has decided to boycott the popular soft-drink Coca-Cola. The organization of more than 30 business, professional and civic leaders in the city's gay community took its action because of the company's connection with Florida orange juice.

A spokesperson for the Alliance charged that Coca-Cola owns 35,000 acres of orange groves which provide part of Anita Bryant's salary as the symbol of Florida orange juice.

This is not the first indication of a boycott of Coke. As reported in GCN (Dec. 10), "Hurricane Anita," a new disco in North Miami, has banned sales of the product from the bar.

CHURCHES WARNED

SACRAMENTO, CA — The California Attorney General's office has warned churches that their involvement in anti-gay political activity may jeopardize their tax-exempt status. That status bars the churches from attempting to influence legislation.

According to Edward Hollingshead of the Attorney General's office, if the churches take part in political movements that are aimed at changing laws, the status would have to be reevaluated by the state Franchise Tax Board.

The warning comes in the wake of State Senator John Brigg's efforts to initiate legislation designed to prohibit the hiring of know gay teachers. The proposal had been temporarily withdrawn by the anti-gay legislator following threats of a lawsuit.



MONEY FOR LESBIAN MOMS

CAMBRIDGE — The Polaroid Foundation has given a \$3,000 grant for "service to lesbian mothers" to the Janus Counselling Association. Donna Medley of Janus told GCN that Polaroid was the only company to respond favorably to the many proposals sent out during a summer fundraising campaign.

"What's interesting," Medley told GCN, "is that we requested the money for 'services for lesbian mothers.' We made the proposal such that it had to be acknowledged that any money would be going to the lesbian community — it didn't have a straight component. It feels damned good."

In its grant, Polaroid said it was "pleased to be able to participate with you in your efforts to provide a wide range of services for lesbian women." Janus counselling offers outreach services for all women in the Boston/Cambridge area with particular attention paid to the lesbian community.

Donna Medley said that the lesbian mother's group will be allowed to decide what to do with the grant. The group meets on Thursday evenings at 8 o'clock at the Cambridge Women's Center. For information, call Janus Counselling 661-2537.

"It's harassment"

Women's Community Health Fights Accusers

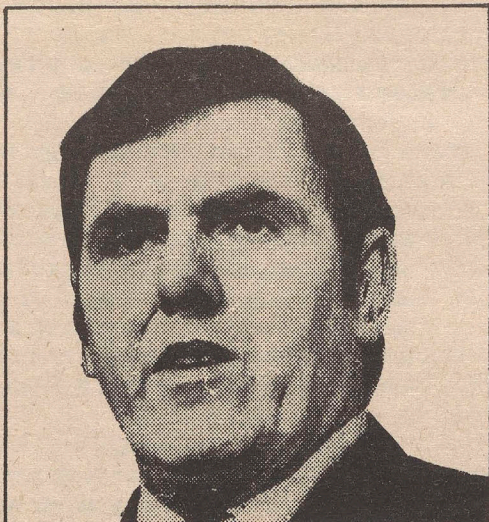
By Nancy Wechsler

CAMBRIDGE, MA — Women's Community Health (WCH), a private, non-profit self-help health center for women, has come under increasing attack over the last month from compulsory pregnancy and anti-abortion forces. The center performs abortions as well as provides gynecological care, well-woman health services, referrals, information-sharing groups, and political outreach work.

State Representative Raymond Flynn, co-author of the Doyle-Flynn amendment which would eliminate medicaid funds for abortions, is spearheading the latest attack on the women-run WCH. Flynn, long an opponent of gay rights, sits on the Post Audit and Oversight Committee of the Massachusetts legislature. That committee is presently investigating the workings of the Dept. of Public Health.

Flynn has made public accusations that the department is allowing unlicensed abortion clinics to operate in violation of the criminal laws of the state. He has accused the commissioner of Public Health of violating the law and has accused WCH and the Bill Baird Center of breaking the law.

Jill Wolhandler, a member of WCH responded angrily to Flynn's charges. "He has been on t.v. and basically called us an unlicensed abortion clinic,



Rep. Raymond Flynn

along with Bill Baird's abortion facility. This is not our view of things, nor is it our lawyer's or the Department of Public Health's. What Flynn and the committee are saying is that we are operating illegally because we don't have a clinic license. That's nonsense. It's harassment. It's an attempt to limit access to abortion."

There are three types of licenses under which health facilities operate in Massachusetts: a physician's license, a hospital license, and a free standing clinic license. WCH has been trying to obtain a free standing clinic license which would enable them to accept

medicaid payments for over 2½ years. They believe that the wait is not necessarily due to governmental red tape. Jill Wolhandler told GCN that they had "for a long time just dismissed everything as red tape. But when we had to file the same form over and over again — five and six times — we realized this wasn't just the bureaucracy but harassment."

The matter is now before state Attorney General Francis X. Belotti. He is expected to rule on whether WCH and the Bill Baird Center are in fact clinics and therefore operating in violation of the law. There is concern as to what action Belotti will take. The WCH's Judi Stein believes that "it is really questionable what he will do. He is known for his anti-abortion positions. He has been no friend to women of the state in the past. But it will be difficult for him to rule that the statute (defining clinics) is not overly broad."

Jill Wolhandler explained to GCN that the Attorney General could "put pressure on the Dept. of Public Health to bring charges against WCH, which could result in a restraining order, a suit to close us down, or fines or imprisonment for having operated a clinic. The potential threat is severe."

Gay People and Abortion

GCN spoke further to Wolhandler and Stein, both lesbians, about the

connections they see between the recent attacks on WCH and attacks on gay people and gay rights efforts. Stein and Wolhandler replied simultaneously: "They are the same people."

"It is an interesting connection," Wolhandler said. "People standing up and saying they want control over their bodies and their lives. It's an incredible threat to those in power." Wolhandler talked about how she felt personally, as a lesbian, working at a women's health care facility. "A lot of what goes on is focused towards reproductive control, which is not personally relevant to me unless I am raped — which is certainly a possibility," she said. "But this is such a clear area where women are being told that as individuals and as a group we cannot control our bodies. That fundamentally takes away control over what happens to our lives."

"As long as women's right to abortion is in danger, certainly my right to be a lesbian is threatened. For heterosexual women not to be concerned with lesbian and gay rights is equally short-sighted and not understanding. When any person's rights are threatened, that threat exists for all of us," said Wolhandler.

Gay Magazine Shocked at Charges

WOLF CREEK, OR — A controversy has erupted between *RFD*, the "magazine for country faggots," and the *Akwesasne Notes*, the newspaper of the Mohawk Indian nation. In a tersely worded letter to the gay publication, the people at *Notes* have asked that they be discontinued from *RFD*'s mailing list. *Akwesasne Notes* wrote that the reason it does not want to receive the magazine is because "it encourages a kind of human behavior which our elders consider not normal and a detriment to our way of life."

Adding that "the type of behavior" found in *RFD* has "a destructive effect on Indian culture," *Notes* called on the journal to "remove our name from your mailing list immediately."

In a statement to GCN, Jai Elliot of *RFD* said that the *Akwesasne Notes*' decision came as a "shock and disappointment." "We are appalled that *Akwesasne Notes* would try to pass us off in such a prejudiced, sexist way,"



read Elliot's statement. "To include us in a list of 'destructive effects on Indian Culture' as imposed by 'European western society' is to deny an important aspect of Native American culture."

The *RFD* statement contended that there is documented evidence that homosexuality was well integrated into many cultures including Lakota (Sioux), Cheyenne, Navajo, Mohave and Mandan tribes.

RFD added that the "type of behavior" the magazine advocates is the type of behavior that tribal elders and society have advocated throughout Native American history.

Noting a "great amount of respect and support" for the struggles of Native Americans, *RFD* has called on *Akwesasne Notes* to reconsider its decision and "to come to an understanding of the world around us and how we fit into it as a struggle we are all facing in America."

The Feminist Writer's Guild is Formed

By Pat M. Kuras

CAMBRIDGE, MA — On Dec. 4, at New Words bookstore, a meeting was held to inform local women of the Feminist Writers' Guild, a new national organization. The outcome of the meeting was the proposed launching of a New England regional chapter, to be the first branch of the national group.

Mary Mackey, a published writer and representative of the national organization's temporary steering committee, was at the meeting to discuss the Guild. She was joined by New England feminist writers Marge Piercy, Karen Lindsey and Rochelle Lefkowitz.

The Feminist Writers' Guild has its national headquarters in the Bay Area of California. Its stated function is to act as a support group and political body for women feminist writers. Noting that a total male group cannot honestly respond to women-produced work, the Guild plans to pressure awards committees and foundations into accepting more women on their panels. As stated in the Guild's first open letter to future members: "We will also publicly protest the small number of grants and prizes given to women each year."

On a more personal level, the Guild hopes to offer support in the shape of a

rural retreat for women writers, complete with childcare facilities.

The Guild will combat what it sees as the suppression of the work of lesbians and Third World women. These writers, the Guild said, are struck doubly hard with the prejudices of the conventional publishing world.

The Guild currently has about 200 members in California, while 150 women attended the Cambridge-based meeting. Most of the women were from the Boston area, but some had traveled from Maine and Connecticut.

The Guild membership fee is \$10 a year and checks should be made out to the Feminist Writers' Guild, PO Box

9396, Berkeley, CA 94709. Any woman who is serious about her writing, whether published or not, is welcome to join the Guild.

Interested New England women can attend a second meeting which is planned for mid-January. For more information, contact Karen Lindsey at 864-1615 in Cambridge.

VOLUNTEER

The gay community needs your support in many different ways. Join GCN on Thursday nights and help lay-out the paper.

— speaking out —

THE MESSAGE OF CHANUKAH FOR GAY PEOPLE

By Eric Rogers

In the rush of Christmas shopping, Christmas carolling, Christmas parties, Christmas trees, and Christmas Santas, the Jewish festival of Chanukah is overlooked. While most Jews consider Chanukah a minor religious holiday (it is the only important contemporary Jewish holiday that is not mentioned in the Bible — it's in the Apocrypha) there is a message in the story of Chanukah that is quite relevant to the gay community, a message that many Jews may overlook. As a Jew and as a gay activist, I find Chanukah to be an especially significant holiday.

Chanukah celebrates the victory of a group of Jews who maintained their cultural identity amidst an empire that was forcing assimilation on them. The story takes place over 2,000 years ago when a Syrian king named Antiochus had control of Palestine. Antiochus was afraid that the Egyptian king would try to take over Palestine, so Antiochus tried to encourage all the different cultures within the empire to merge their beliefs and traditions into a single culture that stressed the Greek traditions that Syria had adopted. When his "encouragement" did not show results, Antiochus put forth decrees that ordered the Jews to stop observing their religion and their customs. He wanted them to wear Greek clothes and believe in Zeus. He ordered the construction of a Greek gymnasium and insisted that the Jews spend less time in religious study and more time in athletics. If anyone was caught violating the orders, the penalty was death.

When the king's officers came to the small town of Modin to enforce the decree, they asked a town leader, Mattathias, to worship at their Greek altar. Mattathias insisted that he would not, despite the threats of the soldiers. When a Jew finally did go to the altar and worship as ordered, Mattathias' passions got the best of him and he murdered the man. Mattathias and his sons fled to the hills outside of town and became a guerilla band, hiding from the authorities and raiding the town. After three years of struggle, the Maccabees, as they were called, recaptured the city, drove out the Syrians, and rededicated the Temple. Chanukah celebrates the rededication of the temple and the victory of the Jews over the forces of Antiochus and his troops.

Now what's in all this history for gay people? While many people consider Chanukah a celebration of Judaic values over Greek values, this is an error. The Maccabees were fighting for the rights of all cultures to exist within the same empire. They were fighting for freedom for all people to have their own beliefs, their own traditions, their own lifestyle. I do not mean to say that the Maccabees would have supported a groups of gays within the empire — I seriously doubt if their religious-moral feelings were that permissive — but for 125 B.C. the Maccabees were pretty progressive.

Theodore Gaster, in his book *Festivals of the Jewish Year*, understands the relevance of the Maccabees to our contemporary society:

For what was really being defended was the principle that in a diversified society, the function of the state is to embrace, not subordinate, the various constituent cultures, and that the complexion and character of the state must be determined by a natural process of fusion on the one hand and selection on the other, and not by the arbitrary imposition of a single pattern on all elements. Seen from this point of view, Hanukkah possesses broad human significance and is far more than a mere Jewish national celebration. As a festival of liberty it celebrates more than the independence of one people — it glorifies the right to freedom of all peoples.

Gay people are not fighting for a society that is dominated by homosexuality, nor are we fighting for a society that is dominated by an emphasis on one's sexuality. Gay people are fighting along with feminists, blacks, and other oppressed groups, for the right to exist as full-fledged members of American society — with equal opportunity and equal rights. If America is going to assert truedemocracy, it must allow for diversification of lifestyle. Diversity will bring a richer, stronger culture — with people living lives they find comfortable and inspiring. Conforming to an arbitrary standard of cultural norms leads only to dissatisfaction, mendacity, and a weakened state.

While it is sometimes frustrating and exhausting to be a modern-day Maccabee, the victory at Modin should serve to inspire our fight against oppression. As I light the Chanukah candles this holiday, I understand the significance of this festival and I feel its relevance to my life.

("Speaking Out" is a column designed for the benefit of GCN readers. We encourage you to send your thoughts, ideas, feelings to Speaking Out, GCN, 22 Bromfield Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02108. The opinions expressed in the "Speaking Out" column do not necessarily reflect the views of the newspaper or those of individual members of the GCN staff.)

We should like to see GCN decide to spearhead a noisy street-beating omni-class boycott of orange juice, in general because every juice-packer in the country uses "Florida orange-syrup-concentrate," and Florida citrus in particular. Many of us hollered and stamped our ways thru' many a blizzardy anti-grape and anti-lettuce picket line for Cesar Chavez and UFW over the several years it took to make that boycott effective. And it eventually paid off precisely because you could see the protest, hear it and feel it. Gays are already one up on UFW's beginning horizons — our brothers and sisters in Europe have already given evidence of being ready to join a really creative push on our part. Now that we have learned that a nicey-nice gentlemanly parlour-petition-signing campaign nets a new two-year \$100,000/year contract for Ms. Anita, we should throw a picket line around the world. Reach out to friends and neighbors for such lines, reach out to the women of IWY, to the women of N.O.W., to the Non-Gay Men who are interested in changing the traditional territorial-aggressor image of the Hetero Male, to the Trade Union Militants of the PEOPLE'S ALLIANCE whose Board has a Gay Activist on it. The nonsense about not wanting to interfere with Anita Bryant's right to a job is one of several hypocritical weaknesses traditional to Middle-Class-oriented Civil Libertarianism.

It would be interesting and challenging if GCN occasionally could have John Mitzel do a critique of something like Eve Merriam's THE CLUB, reviewed by Jim Marko in the 11/27/77 issue. Marko, at one point in his interview with Ms. Merriam, says "Some of Eve Merriam's Gay Male friends also found the play to their disliking, especially a joke made in reference to the androgynous character of Johnny the page".

Though Marko makes commentary from a Gay perspective about other aspects of the interview, Ms. Merriam's surprise at the above-quoted reactions of her Gay Male friends he lets stand. Instead he might of opined — as for instance — "of course! No matter how sympathetic she may wish to be, no Hetero woman's consciousness is yet ready to comprehend Gay Consciousness — Female or Male". Again Marko describes Merriam's beautiful young page as "Androgynous". Did Ms. Merriam's play really characterize young Johnny merely as Androgynous? (That is — merely homosexual)? Or does she characterize him as GAY (which could be neither masculine or feminine but a new amalgam of BOTH?). These are new sociobiological concepts — true: but they need to be formulated wherever they can be made appropriate. Obsolete hetero-male-derived formulations such as "certainly the elements of masculine and feminine exist in each of us" have obscured the further developments and penetrations of liberated Gay Consciousness long enough.

GCN is a fresh breath of air — please keep it coming.

With loving respect,
Circle of Loving Companions
San Juan Pueblo, NM

kudos for cagan

To The Editors:

Just a note to let you know how much I appreciated the article on the IWY Houston conference by Leslie Cagan. This is precisely the kind of news/feature/analysis article which I find informative and enjoyable. It is very rare to find good, personal analysis of events that does not degenerate into chest-beating, pettiness, pomposity, or political doggeral. More than any other piece I've read about IWY, this gave me a sense of what it meant to have been there; and that, for me, is most important. I hope we see more of Ms. Cagan's work in your paper.

I also appreciated Mark Silber's letter, which set out feelings which I share about the inextricable nature of the feminist/gay issue. We gay men have our own struggle, to build our relationships with each other and with all other people, not to rely on sexist preconceptions, and to allow that wonderful male/female blend each of us has to flower.

And also, certainly not least, a sincere word of thanks from all of us at this office for your article under "News Notes" about our opening. One fact which you left out (and which you might not have known) is that our firm is made up of gay lawyers and legal workers. We think this might be important to some people in our community.

Sincerely,
Andrew R. Weiss
Anderson-Ward
Boston, MA

— community voices —

taste or bigotry?

Dear GCN:

Is Boston's so-called *Real Paper* anti-gay, even homophobic? I think so. Witness the total lack of gay-oriented personals in the *Real Paper*. Occasionally a "bi"-oriented personal is allowed to slip by their censors. Are gay and bi-personals rejected automatically as being "in poor taste"?

I'll always remember an *RP* classified for roommates that specified "no fags or Jews." Apparently the *RP* considers bigotry to be in good taste. And remember three or four years ago, while Watergate was still raging, the *RP* couldn't find a cover story more newsworthy than the sordid tale of a middle-aged freeloader who sponged off of Harvard and picked up women in the Square.

Many Bostonians and "expatriates" will agree, I think, that the *RP* has lost its claim to being the real Phoenix by both ignoring and insulating large segments of the community.

Sincerely your,
Stephen Baierwick

critical friends

Dear GCN:

At first we were going to save our pennies (New Mexico is a poor state; and our northern counties are among the poorest in the nation), to subscribe to GCN simply because it was the only apparent alternative we knew of to Creep Goodstein's *Advocate*. Then we read Spear's confrontational commentary on the "Richard Pryor Incident" from the Black perspective . . . and suddenly we began to feel that GCN's window on the Gay World was something we couldn't live without since no other Gay Media voice seemed to be so speaking. Now — again — Loftin Elvey's summary of the "Brill vs. Noble" battle . . . a neat wrap-up and right to the point. If a Gay *has* to be fool enough to allow himself (anyone used that before?) to muck around in the Legislative Games Arena — invented (as it was) AND MAINTAINED (as it is not only in Capitalist states but in Socialist states as well) by the *Hetero Male as Dominator* — she/he must expect to have to pretend to their roles and abide by their rules.



gcn contributors

Managing Editor
Acting News Editor
Features Editor
Office Manager
Circulation
Editorial Consultant
Classifieds
Graphics Editor
Distribution

Advertising
Manager
Advertising Rep.
Copy Editor
Typesetting

News Staff
Tom Hurley
Richard Burns
John Fowler
Harold Pickett

Promotions
David Peterson
Doug Berry

Harry Seng
Jim Marko
Annette Gagne
Tony Caporaletti
George Dimsey
David P. Brill
Nancy Walker
Steve Blevins
David Holland

Gregg Howe
Lisa Nussbaum
Robert Etherington
Xanadu Graphics Inc.

John Kyper
Nancy Wechsler
Dai Thompson
Neil Miller

Peter Martin

Features Staff
Tommi Aviccoli
John Glidden
John Mitzel
Marcella Jenkins
Robin Smith

Photographers
Betty Lane
John Scagliotti
Don C. Hanover III

Layout Staff
Robert Canterbury
Mark DeWolfe
Anne Johnston
Don Barrett

Friday Folders
Eileen MacPherson

Indexer
Ruth Pettis

Member New England Press Association
Gay Press Association
COSMEP

Eric Rogers
Gerry Takano
Michael Bronski
Sara Annie Fisher

Angela Russo
Ken Rabb
Ray Hopkins

Bill Shawcross
Ken Westhassel
Rick Hillegas
Bob Wellington

Gay Community News (G.C.N.) is dedicated to providing coverage of events and news of interest to the gay community. GCN is published weekly and copyright © 1977 by G.C.N. Inc., all rights reserved, reprint by permission only. Our main office is located at 22 Bromfield St., Boston, MA 02108. (617) 426-4469. Office hours: Mon.-Wed. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Thu.-Fri. 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

Opinions reflected in "editorial" represent the views of the editorial board. Signed letters and columns reflect the views and opinions of the authors only. Comments, criticisms, and information are always welcome from our readers: remember, it's YOUR paper!

Second-class postage paid at Boston, Mass.
Annual subscription rate is \$15.00.

MCC Minister Fasts Near Bell

By Tommi Avicelli

PHILADELPHIA — Protesting what he called the "murdering and slandering of gays," the Rev. Don Borbe, pastor of Philadelphia Metropolitan Community Church, staged a three-day fast by the Liberty Bell, the city's landmark symbol of the American Revolution. His action was sparked by the recent burning and vandalizing of four MCC churches, and the wave of killings of gay men in San Francisco. Rev. Borbe began his fast on Thanksgiving after receiving a two-page spread in the *South Jersey Courier-Post*, the largest paper in that area. Local Philadelphia newspapers were less generous. Only the *Evening Bulletin* — the more conservative of the three Philadelphia dailies — picked up the story. The reason for the lack of coverage might be found in the words of WPVI-TV (Channel 6) which said that one person fasting just wasn't news; fifty people fasting, however, would be news. One must bear in mind that this is the same media which prints or reports every piece of news they can scrape from the bottom of the barrel about Anita Bryant.

When Borbe first applied for a permit to use the area by the Liberty Bell for the fast, he was denied access to a place near Independence Hall where a large number of people would be exposed to his demonstration. The city chose, instead, to bury him nearly out of sight. However, the Irish Catholics were given the very same space requested by Borbe two days later for a rally in support of a Kensington youth, Pearce Patrick Kerr, who had been held prisoner in Ireland on suspicion of being a member of the IRA. Clearly, Philadelphia's Catholic mayor, Frank

Rizzo, had a hand in that decision.

Borbe's fast had several intentions, the most important of which was to call attention to the misconceptions being spread throughout America by Anita Bryant. One of these misconceptions, Borbe said, is that gays "are a violent people." I think Bruce Voeller of NGTF answered that one best when he said that gays are more typically the victims not the perpetrators, of violence.

"I was awakened on Saturday morning by someone busting up my signs," Borbe recalls. But, by the time he peeked out of his makeshift tent, "they were gone." Fortunately the damage was not permanent, and he was able to repair the signs. Later further harassment was offered by two security guards who poked sticks into his tent. But, Borbe said, they apologized after learning he had a permit.

Eventually Borbe moved to some steps nearer to the Bell where crowds of people passed on their way to and from the historic site. Though security guards gave him trouble about being there, Borbe's persistence and the intervention of a higher official avoided trouble. There on the steps he found himself exposed to children who came by in groups to snicker; and parents who, Borbe told GCN, "didn't wanna read my signs" or "get involved with the demonstration." A lesbian couple from Virginia came by to express support, a man donated ten dollars for the "cause," and a mother explained to her children as they passed that "these are gay people, they're being persecuted."

When the fast ended, Borbe told GCN that his health was fine.

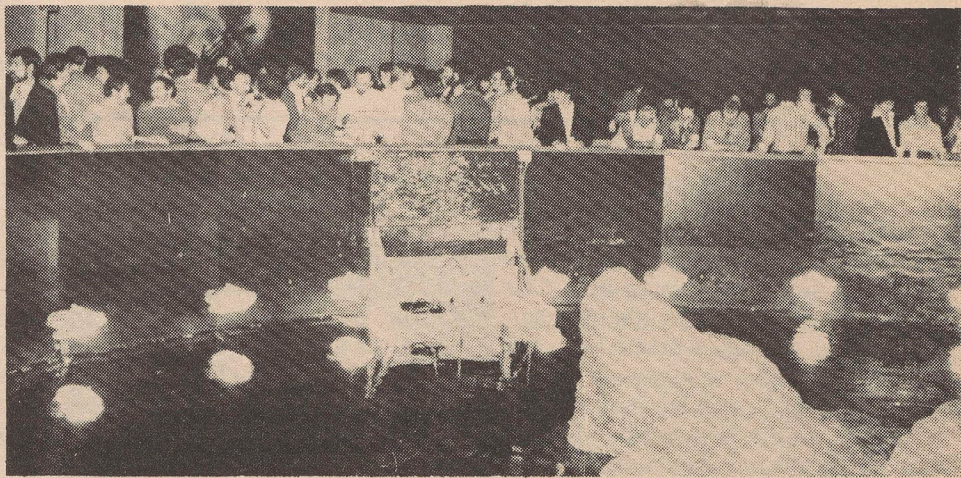
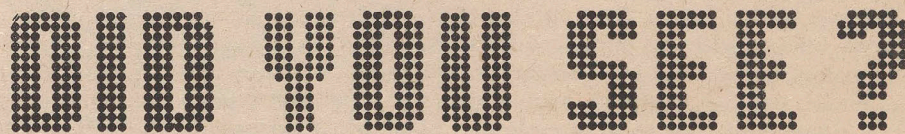


photo by Angela Russo

BOSTON — On December 6, hundreds of gay men, lesbians, and their friends enjoyed the *Big Splash* at the New England Aquarium. "Celebrating a year of growth," Gay Legislation and the Gay Business Association joined together for the fund raising effort. GCN was there and will have the complete story next week.



If a special prize were to be awarded for intellectual honesty among American businessmen, we know of no group more deserving of the accolade than the members of the Florida Citrus Commission. The commission voted unanimously last week to renew the \$100,000 a year contract for Anita Bryant, who has been the spokeswoman for the Florida citrus industry for the past decade.

Because Miss Bryant dared to express her views on the controversial issue of homosexuality, she was marked for retribution by the so-called "gay" activists and others who are willing to do their bidding. The hypocrites, while proclaiming their right to live in peace, sought to deprive Miss

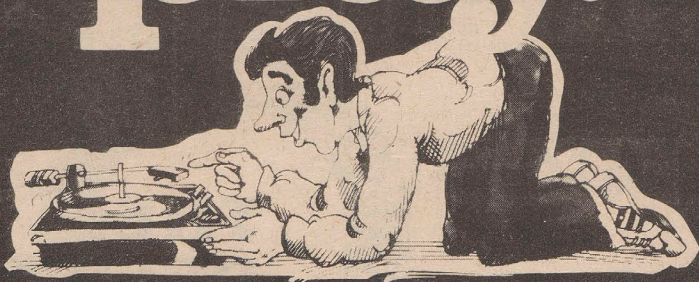
Bryant of her right to earn a living.

To their everlasting credit, the members of the Florida Citrus Commission voted unanimously to renew Anita Bryant's contract not only because of her value as a salesperson for Florida citrus but also because they believe she has a right to her opinions on controversial issues.

In an era when so many American businessmen are willing to sell their souls for a buck and unwilling to stand up for the principles in which they profess to believe, the Florida Citrus Commission has given a refreshing demonstration of the highest caliber of business ethics.

—an editorial in the *Manchester Union Leader*, Nov. 23, 1977.

Come play.



Listen to this week's specials at Tech Hifi:

PIONEER SX 450 - \$139

329 SYSTEM

KENWOOD 4070 - \$259

KENWOOD KR2600

MARANTZ 2230B - \$269

KLH 100 SPKRS

BIC 940 Table - \$135

GARRARD 630

tech hifi

Soundrooms you can play in.

240A Newbury Street, Boston
262-HIFI

Samson & Delilah



UNISEX SALON



860 Beacon St., Boston (near Kenmore Sq.)
266-7750 or 247-7619

15% Off, Free Brush or Conditioner with This Ad
HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



CENTURY AUTO RENTALS INC.

• Daily

• Weekly

• Weekend

Ask About Our
WEEKEND SPECIAL

- Must be 18 Yrs. or Older
- Customer Pickup Service Available
- Cash Deposits or Major Credit Cards Accepted

115 No. Beacon St.

Watertown, MA

923-9300

new york, new york

By Harold Pickett

By Harold Pickett

NEW YORK — James Ferguson's *Wonderful Lives!* ended its run at the Glines Theatre a few weeks ago. The play, a "musical fantasy about a gay man and a straight woman who are best friends and roommates and the men they love," extended into an Off-Broadway, Equity production after its initial showcase concluded with standing-room-only audiences and wide critical praise. Ferguson wrote the script, music and lyrics, produced, directed, and choreographed the show, designed the costumes and sets, and also appeared in a leading role.

Jim Ferguson has been living in New York City for ten years, since leaving Corpus Christi, Texas. As a child, he staged operas with his nine brothers and sisters, picked out symphonies on the piano, painted, sculpted, appeared as a singer with the local symphony orchestra, acted in plays in regional theater, and trained for the ballet — all of which contributed to making *Wonderful Lives!* the success that it was.

When I asked Jim recently about *Wonderful Lives!*, he said "There were so many things I was trying to do. On a personal level, I wanted to get out of the audition whirlpool and create something I'd have control over. Also, I wanted to try myself at various talents I'd discovered in childhood but never had a chance to develop. I wanted to write a good part for myself, too. While I was at it, on a political level, I thought I would cover areas that were being neglected. For instance, I had never seen a gay relationship, or even a gay character, that

remotely resembled my experience as a gay person in any play. And I was sick of 'happy endings,' meaning that the woman found her happiness not through personal fulfillment, but through marriage. I wanted to show a new kind of 'happy ending'.

Jim has been involved in gay politics 'since my coming out at 17. I wanted to do something effective. I wanted to change minds. While I thought it was important to provide positive role models for gays and women, my actual target was straight, middle-class people. I wanted to give them an experience of liking and identifying with gay people and women who have dared to run their own lives. I wanted the characters to be appealing to all kinds of people.'

He continues: "I want to change public opinion. The ugly fact is that middle-class straights are in the majority, at least in the voting majority. If we're going to change those ridiculous sodomy laws, the majority is going to have to know that we are safe. One way to do that is to lure them into the theatre, entertain the hell out of them, and slip them a dose of radical politics before they know what happened."

Jim admits that the play is extremely romantic. "I want to count us in on the dream. I love all that romantic stuff and I'm tired of seeing it given over entirely to straights when we experience the same stupid, fabulous, rhapsodic feelings in our own relationships. I'm tired of gays who swoon over old movies and don't have the consciousness to take that quality of romance out into their own lives. They rob themselves of the magic of being in

love. We can walk off into the sunset, too — we got legs!"

Jim discussed his many jobs and the difficulties he experienced with the Glines production, saying that in the run there, "I exhausted myself by taking on too many capacities. Certainly my effectiveness in each capacity was reduced by physical limitations. My body nearly gave out. During three weeks of the run, I was performing with walking pneumonia, but I had no choice other than to perform because we didn't have the budget for stand-bys. I took on all those capacities to begin with because I knew I had the ability for each one, but I was fool enough not to acknowledge nature's laws in terms of physical possibility. There's only so much one person can do in any given time-span.

Policy Changes

Continued from page 1



State Representative Barney Frank

When the show goes to Broadway, I intend to limit my participation to the roles of author/composer/lyricist. Since I want to make sure the production realizes what I have in mind, I want to be out front to see it."

As to the future, Jim states that "*Wonderful Lives!* is going to Broadway." The production at the Glines was a skimpy test-run where I found out what works and what I wanted to rewrite. I've almost completed revisions, and am getting it together with a manager and a lawyer to sell the play to a producer. We've proved marketing viability by attracting a wide audience. We've gained tremendous critical acceptance. All we need is a million dollars and a brilliant producer! That's not much to ask, is it?"

We are retreating in an obsessive way to issues we can control. . . . There is a real terror of choice in our society at this point and questions about sexual orientation are the ultimate terror."

Rep. Frank spoke optimistically about the possibility of enacting gay rights legislation in Massachusetts. "Gay people in Massachusetts have organized a healthy political movement close to success," he said. In the 1978 elections "it is quite possible to make enough of a difference to alter the balance and send a message that voting for gay rights is a good thing." The "task is political; it is winnable; the result is in doubt," he maintained.

GCN is the voice of the gay community and we cannot exist without your help. Can you write? Can you lay-out a newspaper? Do you want to learn. Call us: 426-4469.

Great Prices **gypsy wagon** free treats

unique clothing jewelry gifts crafts
hats sweaters shawls scarves
tapestries blankets dolls
ornaments & more

new arrival: alpaca goods from bolivia

204 hampshire st. camb. open evenings & sun
354-7830

PAPERBACKS
BOOKS
RECORDS
GAMES
TAPES
GREETING CARDS

SIGHT & SOUND

Featuring
Women's
Records
Free Parking
Open Eves.

CHARLES RIVER PLAZA (617) 523-5195
173 CAMBRIDGE STREET BOSTON, MASS.

SEASON'S GREETINGS
from
TANYA'S HILL SHOP

the pack & bag shop
(swell gifts for all)

125 Charles St.
Boston

THE HOUSE
RESTAURANT

Gourmet Italian Restaurant
12 Wilton St., Allston 783-5701

"The House is for lovers, or even friends, with time on their hands and hunger — for fine food."
David Brudnoy

Off Cambridge St. near Harvard St. open 5 to 11 pm, closed Mondays, free parking, air conditioned, all major credit cards honored, serving beer and wine, vegetarian dishes

Drinks 2 for 1 thru Christmas
at the Delivery Entrance

12 Wilton St., Allston
783-5701

THE DELIVERY ENTRANCE

it's different

Tony Bosco, creator (there is no other appropriate word) of the excellent 'House' restaurant in Brighton, recently opened a bar in the basement of the same building, called 'The Delivery Entrance'. Predictably, the design of the place is wonderful: a low-beamed ceiling, warm quarry tile floors, stone and rough-panelled walls; a dim room filled with pillows for provocative lounging, wicker chairs and palms set on oriental carpets, a few discreet games.

—Joseph Cain, *In Touch*

Men & Women 7 Nights 5-1

Maude Goes To A Gay Bar

By Nancy Walker

"Maude" aired in Boston on CBS (Channel 7) at 9:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 3. On this episode we saw Dr. Arthur Harmon, Maude's neighbor and weekly foil, taking all the stereotyped homophobic positions against gays in an effort to close a gay bar that had recently opened in the neighborhood. Maude, of course, took the stereotyped "liberal" positions — with no more *genuine* awareness of the underlying significance of her behavior and words than Harmon had of his.

Harmon asked Maude if she "approved" of homosexuals. She replied, "That's like asking if I approve of dwarfs."! Later when he went into the hackneyed discussion of keeping kids away from gay teachers, Maude said, "Kids don't copy their teachers' sexual habits." "How do you know?" Arthur asked. "I had a nun for a teacher," was her rejoinder — and a very excellent one, by the way.

When Arthur was confronted by Maude's grandson Philip about his opposition to the gay bar, Arthur said that gays are *sick* and should not be out at bars *enjoying* themselves. They should be "home *alone* feeling ashamed of themselves," he declared. The boy noted that Harmon's logic was more than a little frayed around the edges.

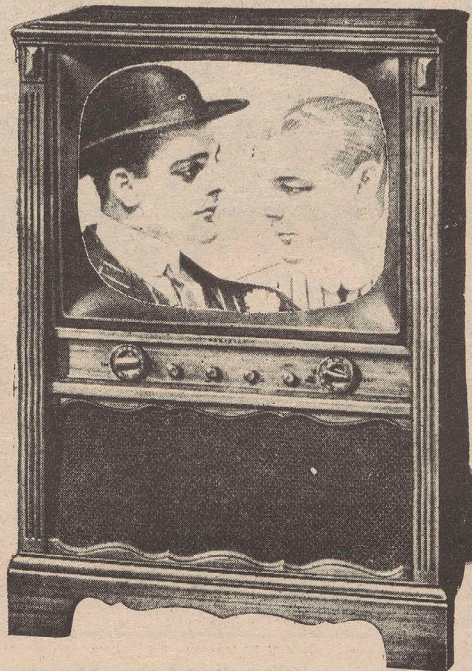
After bringing out the fact that all Arthur's negative attitudes towards gays were based on absolutely no first-hand experience, Maude got him to

agree to visit the bar with her. Maude, her husband Walter, and Arthur all wound up at the bar which was shown as a quiet, conservative, "decorous" place, certainly above reproach by any middleclass standards.

Arthur looked around and was annoyed because the patrons were not "acting gay." When Maude emphasized the propriety of their behavior, he said that after a few martinis they would indeed start acting gay. She quipped, "After a few martinis, Anita Bryant would start acting gay."

Despite the thoroughly acceptable atmosphere of the bar, Harmon kept harping on the fact that there were ordinances in the town of Tuckahoe prohibiting lewd conduct, etc., that could be invoked in order to close the bar. He asked the bartender if he knew about those ordinances and the bartender said that he did know, but that the bar was not located in Tuckahoe. He said that the Tuckahoe town line was across the street.

Now a very interesting twist occurred. Harmon immediately retreated from his hard-line position. He was only interested, he said, in seeing that the law was carried out. If this particular bar was not breaking the law, there was no further need to agitate against it. Harmon had not learned anything about the reasonableness of gay people or their right to congregate in bars, but he at least seemed willing to abide by laws that



did take those things into consideration.

Just as Maude, Arthur and Walter were leaving the bar, a man entered who was on the board of the hospital where Arthur worked. This man had been introduced earlier in the program as being influential in the matter of promotions and Arthur had boldly asked him to be considered for the post of Chief of Surgery. When he almost bumped into the man, Arthur stammered excuses about being in the bar, but the man simply said, "Let it be our little secret." Then he bellied up to the

bar and asked for "the usual."

Thereby hangs the tale. The man of influence, power and respect, the man to be pleased and placated, was a member of the sexual minority. The lesson is unavoidable.

It could be argued that such things as comparing homosexuals with dwarfs, and any number of one-liners (Arthur heads a group of people opposed to the bar who call themselves "Fathers Against Gays Society." Maude says, "F-A-G-S?") were detrimental to the image of gays as dignified human beings. Perhaps. But "Maude" is a sitcom, and if getting laughs becomes subservient to the goals of any cause, no matter how worthy, the show will fail. And if the show fails, we, as gays, will lose a strong and valuable ally.

THE LESBIAN TIDE

**ANALYSIS INTERVIEWS
NEWS REVIEWS POETRY**

... the oldest lesbian publication in the U.S. (since 1971)
... the largest lesbian publication in the U.S. (6,700 circulation)
... by and for the national lesbian, feminist, and gay communities.
... \$6.00 yr. (6 issues), \$10.00 institutions, \$1.25 sample
... for advertising and bulk distribution rates write:

TIDE PUBLICATIONS - GCN
8855 Cattaraugus Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90034
(213) 839-7254

MEN'S NIGHT
TUESDAY, DEC 13

WOMEN'S NIGHT
THURSDAY, DEC 15

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE WE'LL BE OPEN TO 11 PM

Unique Gifts

Fine Stationery

Distinctive Cards

Elegant Calendars

Cranberry Cocktails

Member GBA

COPLEY FLAIR 583 BOYLSTON ST.

the evolution of sporters

Last week Sporters observed its twentieth anniversary as a gay bar. The celebration party was the occasion of much reminiscing about the origin and history of Sporters. GCN talked to various long-time patrons of the bar and past and present managers. The following is a sketch of what the bar has meant through the years, what people remember of the old days at Sporters.

By Tom Hurley

It is not easy to find the first time unless you are with a friend who knows the way. The directions are regarded as a joke: stand on the Cambridge Street side of the Boston Holiday Inn and look directly across the traffic toward Beacon Hill. You will see a sub shop and to the left two plain, reddish brown doors. There is no sign, no other distinguishing characteristic. Cross the street and enter through the door close to the sub shop (the other is an exit). You are in Sporters, known from Europe to San Francisco and celebrated in John Reid's *The Best Little Boy in the World* as the classic Boston gay men's bar.

The inside is neat, clean, but only slightly more eye-catching than the exterior. The front door opens into the largest of three rooms with the main bar at its center. A mirror runs the length of one wall; a pinball machine and stools with a large clock above them line the other. To the right of the middle room is a smaller area with three pinball machines, a tiny opening to the sub shop, a juke box, and a small bar. To the side of this area are the men's and women's rest rooms (a distinction wryly noted and cheerfully ignored). On the other side of the main room is the "new room," L-shaped, with some tables, a bar, a pingpong table, a pool table that is replaced on Sunday afternoons by a piano for a sing-along.

Physically there is just not much here to capture the imagination: No light shows, no mirrored halls, no special gimmicks. Most of the red brick walls are adorned only by an occasional banner (GAY LEGISLATION 1977), notice (Warsaw Mime Theater), or object (a pair of tennis rackets). Nothing flashy.

Apart from its decor, so ordinary that it calls attention to itself, what makes Sporter's the bar it is are the men who frequent it. You must look at the crowd to understand what this bar is.

Stand at any one point on a Thursday, Friday, Saturday night from eleven to two, or on Sunday late afternoon and early evening, and almost everyone will sooner or later walk past you. Sporters' layout leads one to make a grand tour around and around the three main rooms: Up the aisle from the front door, past the juke box and bathrooms, back into the middle room (at one point ducking, if you are tall, to avoid the low-hanging air conditioner), through a doorway into the "new room," glancing toward the pingpong table and passing the pool table, out again into the middle room and back to Go. Around and around, slowly, quickly, jostling, pushing (probably a hundred people are following this route at any one time), stopping, starting, like rush hour traffic on the Southeast Expressway. This is the sport of Sporters. Everyone does it: White and black men, older men, younger men, the hairy and the shaven, the large and the small, hippies and realtors, Republicans and Trotskyites,



photo by Angela Russo

the unemployed and the shopkeepers, college students and their professors, longtime residents of Beacon Hill and kids from the suburbs, smokers and non-smokers, drinkers and non-drinkers, the bold and the shy.

No type dominates. That is the point. Jack Rubin, Sporters current manager, says he deliberately chooses bartenders to represent this variety and sure enough the men behind the bars resist one classification as much as the men in front. As if to underscore this intention, the juke box plays a somewhat varied selection of top forty and disco tunes laced with Judy Garland and Peggy Lee.

So the men themselves give this bar its character. They come here to play pool, pingpong or pinball; talk with friends; stand alone waiting for that lovely man to step up. They cruise intently, sometimes, as the night wears on and the smoke thickens, just for a stool to sit on or a wall space to lean against somewhat apart from cigarettes. Some men arrive slightly before the rush is on, grab a stool and sit for hours, holding court while their friends stop by for a chat. Some men just sit and watch the men watch each other.

Men have been coming here for twenty years this past November; some of them for many years before that, when Sporters was mixed straight and gay. There has been a bar called Sporters here since 1939. No one knows where that legal name came from, but the nickname, "The West End Tennis Club," came into use about the time the bar went exclusively gay. "Twenty years ago," explains

Don Graichen, who runs the check room and is the unofficial bar historian, "people were so in the closet that they wouldn't mention that they were going to Sporters because Sporters was 'questionable'." But the nickname caught on in recent years after Jack Rubin has given it semi-official status by printing up West-End Tennis Club T-shirts. And there are those tennis rackets on the wall.

One man who has been coming to Sporters since 1940 and who now tends bar — call him Joe — recalls the very early days when Tony and his family ran the place. There was sawdust on the floor. After rehearsals of his theater group, Joe and his friends would come to the bar, drink five cent beers, eat thirty-five cent antipasti and play cribbage. It was a neighborhood bar. The local winos rolled in. Artsy folk came down from the Hill, lesbians and gay men mixed in with straights without a problem. There was tolerance of difference, Joe notes, but you had to restrain your affection. There were "no obvious gestures. Remember, honey, this was the old days."

In the early fifties Ray, who now works the small bar, and his lover Bob started a pizza shop in the space where the smallest room is now located. They named it "Sebastian's" after their dog. The bar clientele remained mixed for most of the decade. "At 5 O'clock you'd come in here and see truck drivers at the bar, lesbians and gay men in the booths or just standing around," says Jack Rubin. In those days the bar served only beer and wine — mixed wine drinks like the Orange Flip (wine

and orange juice) were big favorites.

But "as Beacon Hill changed, so did the bar," Jack says. More gay men moved to the Hill. In November 1957 Bob White (the "founding father" of gay Sporters, Jack calls him) and Marty Callinan started the process that made Sporters a gay men's bar. According to Jack, White initiated a dress code that required women to wear dresses and skirts. Lesbians were understandably angry, but they apparently gave in. Today you occasionally see a woman in the bar. One of the few women regularly seen in Sporters is Mary Faith, who plays the piano on Sunday afternoons. The famous Mary Brown of coat room fame retired this year after seven years with the bar.

An after-hours fire in 1959 closed the place down for several months. No one was hurt, but the place was badly damaged. Bartenders and clientele together moved up the street to the Royal Cafe in what used to be Bowdoin Square. When they moved back again to the rebuilt Sporters, the bar's gay male identity was established.

During the sixties and earlyseventies, managers Bob White, John Dugan, Paul Bentley, and Jack Rubin saw the bar through several different changes. The pizza shop was converted into the small room. Last year more walls were knocked down and the present "new" room was created. In 1970 Sporters started serving Bloody Marys for Sunday brunch, then liquor on Thursday night. Now liquor is served all the time, although beer still seems to be the favorite.

One of Joe's favorite memories was the "political atmosphere" during the 1960 Presidential campaign. The bar was, not surprisingly, overwhelmingly and enthusiastically for John Kennedy. There were, however, two Republicans among the regulars. On election night, Joe recalls, one of the Republicans had been sitting throughout the evening in a buttoned-up overcoat. When JFK's victory became apparent, the man rose and flashed open his overcoat. From side to side the lining was covered with Republican campaign buttons. Holding his coat wide open, he strode proudly toward the door and exited.

Jack Rubin is proud of the bar's support of many causes: needy kids, Elaine Noble, Barney Frank, gay legislation. "All the clientele get behind what the bar supports. The support of the bar customers is fantastic. To me that's a high point." On December 18 Jack takes his good memories with him when he leaves Sporters to manage the Townhouse in Provincetown. Tom Curley will become the new manager of Sporters.

Though its crowd has changed and expanded, Sporters retains the character of a neighborhood bar. Many customers come from the Hill and other areas within walking distance. Many other men — from Quincy, Newton, Somerville, and East Boston and places farther away — regard Sporters as their bar of choice. Many men speak of the community atmosphere as one of Sporters' attractions.

Not everyone feels comfortable with the changes. Jim, who's been coming here since 1954, misses some aspects of the old days. It is a busier, louder place now. "I could come here and read," he explains wistfully. "I could come here for a quiet drink." Now the press of people and the "cruisy" atmosphere



photo by Angela Russo

Continued on page 12

bressan's "politics of celebration"

By Michael Bronski

It is becoming more and more apparent to gay people that accurate, acceptable, and positive media images of ourselves are going to have to come from ourselves. We can not count on the goodwill of Hollywood, ABC, or Time magazine. They are in the business of making money and will peddle any image that suits the public's taste. Gay people are tired of being invisible. We want to see ourselves and up till now no true images of gays have been available.

In the past years the gay press has provided an alternative to Time and now gay filmmakers are providing an alternative to Hollywood. Aside from the gay male erotic film (which has a long established history) there have been few gay films made — A Very Natural Thing, Black Star, Monday Morning Pronouns — but there are more being made all the time. The newest, a documentary by Arthur Bressan titled GAY USA recently had its press screening in Boston.

GAY USA uses footage from this year's gay pride marches and footage from the first Gay marches in 1970 to create what it calls a "backdrop and a metaphor for the emerging gay consciousness." It is a full length, color feature and was made for the amazingly low sum of \$11,000. This was possible because all of the labor — from original concept, through camera work, to editing — was donated by over 85 people. And all of the proceeds of the film beyond costs are going to go to the Artists United for Gay Rights Fund and will be shared equally by lesbian and gay male causes. So not only is this a film made by gay people, but also one that actively seeks to support the gay community.

Arthur Bressan, the film's director, who was in Boston for the screening, talked a bit about the film's beginnings and where he hopes it is going.

GCN: When did the idea of doing this film first occur to you?

AB: On the night of June 7. That was the day that the Bryant vote went against gay rights and has come to be known as Orange Tuesday. I was pissed off at the vote and chagrined at the mild sort of guilt that most of my gay friends seemed to be feeling. I was marching in a demonstration in San Francisco and decided to make a film in response to all these things.

GCN: What was your original conception for the film?

AB: I originally had the idea that if faggots and dykes were marching in San Francisco that night there must be similar feelings in gay people all over the country. And that Gay Pride Day demonstrations this year would be the largest ever and they were. But my original idea for the film was to see gays marching in six or seven big cities all in the same film.

GCN: Are you pleased with the result?

AB: I'm about 95 percent pleased with the film. As a filmmaker I can see a few spots here and there where I'd like to go back and get 250,000 people to march again so that a few of the shots might be perfected. But for a feature film shot in one day, and dealing with twenty to thirty major issues in gay life I'm more than pleased with GAY USA.

GCN: With the dearth of gay films I should think that audiences would love the film.

AB: They dig the movie. Gay women like the fact that women occupy fifty percent of the screen time and that the feel of the film is balanced. People who

have been in the movement for years and years like the fact that the film deals with the history of gay liberation, and treats it as a growing, evolving process — not just a reaction to Dade County. Judging from audience participation, gay people have a deeply emotional response to the film.

GCN: The footage of the 1970 parades is particularly interesting. Not only for historical context, but also as a contrast to today. How did you get this footage?

AB: The footage of the first Christopher Street demonstration parade came from Lilli Vencenz. She made a film called *Gay and Proud* and sent me a release on her footage so that I could recut it for GAY USA. Filmmaker Pat Rocco, in Los Angeles, sent me the Christopher Street West footage of his collection. All of this was typical of the nationwide cooperation that I got from both gay and straight people.

GCN: GAY USA would be of interest to both straight and gay audiences, but because it deals with gay people some bookers or distributors might feel that it is too parochial. What do you see as a future, not only for GAY USA, but for the distribution of gay oriented films?

AB: Any outfront gay film, whether serious or frivolous, faces an uphill battle in America. Distributors are unsure. They know that gay women and men are "out there somewhere" but they are leery and doubtful about risking money to reach the great gay "silent minority." They ask me "do gays want to see gay films? Do straights want to see gay films?" The distributors are, for the most part, sitting in their offices waiting for the dollars and cents to answer those questions.

GCN: Do you think that gay people are as unsure as the distributors?

AB: Unfortunately I think that most gay people take their media cues from

the straight world. They decide what they are going to see and how they are going to react from the critics in essentially straight newspapers and television shows.

GCN: Do you think that the fate of GAY USA is dependent upon the straight press?

AB: With GAY USA I didn't feel that I had the time, or the inclination to wait for straight and establishment gay media validation. So we are distributing GAY USA two ways. Very slowly it is being released theatrically, through established local distributors. And believe me that is a slow process. In Miami the local (straight) newspapers rated GAY USA "R" (restricted) just because it had gay in the title. On a grass roots level we are making the film available at a nominal rental to gay organizations, student groups, and religious affiliates so that gay people and their straight friends can see GAY USA now.

GCN: Would this be for private or public screenings?

AB: The plan is simple. A gay group rents the film for \$100 and then sets up the screening and keeps whatever money is collected in admissions or donations. The funds raised can then be used by gay people to help fight their local battles with the Briggs and Bryants that are cropping up all over America.

GCN: Has this started happening yet?

AB: We've sent a print to Wichita, Kansas. As soon as they passed their gay rights bill a conservative backlash began to recall the politicians who got the bill passed. The whole Dade County referendum syndrome was starting again. Sympathetic TV stations wanted positive gay images, strong gay images to air. There are not many on film, so we sent GAY USA and it will play there very soon.

I see the film as entertainment,

"Any outfront gay film, whether serious or frivolous, faces an uphill battle in America. Distributors know that gay men and women are 'out there somewhere' but they are leery and doubtful about risking money to reach the great gay 'silent majority.'



Scene from GAY USA

educational, and a celebration. Gay people, their supporters, and even their enemies, can actually SEE that there are millions of gay people in America. And that they can't be swept under the rug by pulling a lever in a voting booth. I think that that is GAY USA's most powerful, enduring message. That it actually shows you, and proves by showing, that gay people exist on ever racial, economic, and religious level. This is a message that can reach even the uneducated and unenlightened masses of people. It is a message that goes through the eyes and the heart — not necessarily through the head.

GCN: It's easy to get sympathetic people to watch a film. But how will you get the film to straight audiences?

AB: Short of substituting it unannounced at Radio City Music Hall we've been attempting to get it screened in validating situations like archives and museums. The film had its Canadian debut at the Cinematique Pacifique in Vancouver. Hopefully the Museum of Modern Art in New York will include it in their daily program of new films.

GCN: Have you had trouble with any of these institutions?

AB: The Pacific Film Archive in Berkeley turned down GAY USA as a program inclusion because it was "politically demeaning to gay people." You can imagine my surprise when I was told that "politically demeaning" referred to the fact that "too many people were saying that they were having a good time and were happy." But if we can get the film shown in some situations like the Museum of Modern Art, it will reach an ostensibly straight audience. Of course the closet is ever present, and who can say who is straight or gay in an audience?

GCN: Any marketable product that is aimed at the gay audience is in danger of being co-opted by the mass media. Do you think it's possible to make and sell a gay movie that won't give in to this pressure?

AB: I think that it's not only possible but should be done soon. Gay people should not let dominant culture ruin success, fulfillment, or self realization for them. There is nothing inherently bad about a commercial success — so long as the gay artist can control the elements in his creation. There will be a time when gay films will be seen by millions of people gay and straight. There is nothing wrong with having a mass audience for your work. So long as you don't have to sell out your vision to get it up there on the big screen.

GCN: Do you see GAY USA and gay art in general as being "political"?

AB: So long as we view politics as rhetoric and political action as voting and watching the seven o'clock news we will not see the innately revolutionary nature of being gay. That's why I made GAY USA. For at least one day of the year gay people put aside the real and pressing differences that make them separatist, anarchist, or capitalist and get it together to show with their bodies, with their actual presence that they are there and that they are of one inclination — that is, being openly and proudly gay. In GAY USA we've tagged that "the politics of celebration."

GAY USA is opening in commercial theatres around the country. It will open in Cambridge at the Friday and Saturday midnight shows at the Orson Wells Theater on Feb. 3 and 4 and will play again on the following weekend.

Play Of Ideas With A Touch Of Humor

ROSENCRANTZ AND GUILDENSTEIN ARE DEAD, By Tom Stoppard, is being performed by The Meeting House Theatre Company through Dec. 18 (Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights) at the Charles Street Meeting House, 70 Charles St., Boston.

A Review by Nancy Walker

Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead provided one of the most intellectually stimulating evenings I have spent in the theater. The play is not easy to classify because it deals with ideas about events and situations rather than with the events and situations themselves. The characters do not grow and interrelate as one would expect in anything other than the Theater of the Absurd or Surrealism. Yet the play is neither Theater of the Absurd nor Surrealistic. *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern* presents in a cleverly constructed dramatic style many of the philosophical questions raised in Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, in which Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Hamlet's friends, sent for by King Claudius (Hamlet's step-father-uncle) to try to find out from Hamlet why he is acting so strangely. They are minor characters in Shakespeare's tragedy, but Tom Stoppard uses them to wrestle with the unanswerable questions that sooner or later tease the minds of all thinking individuals: Who are we? Where are we going? What is death? (That is one of the questions gone over many, many times.) How does fortune (fate, chance, luck) affect us? How much



Stephen Christopher as Hamlet, Jeffrey Jans as Guildenstern and Roger Harkenrider as Rosencrantz in The Meeting House Theatre production of *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern*.

control do we have over our own destinies?

The difference between appearances and actuality is one of the major themes of the play, while Hamlet's famous speech starting, "To be or not to be," seems (though it is never directly quoted) to be the base on which the entire play is built.

During Stoppard's play, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern go to the palace in Denmark, are ordered by the king to try to fathom Hamlet's behavior and wind up on a ship going to England. Throughout the play they keep encountering a troupe of players

whose leader interacts with them to bring out much of the humor and pathos of the piece.

Many key scenes from *Hamlet* are played (in Shakespeare's language) or alluded to, but the significant action of *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern* is simply the inexorable passage from home to palace, to ship bound for England. It is reported at the end of the play that Rosencrantz and Guildenstern have been killed there.

The play's lines are full of endless implications, endless food for thought. The actors discuss acting and the

creating of illusions, thereby allowing the playwright to make some inside jokes about his art.

Though the weighty intellectual content of the play might seem at first off-putting, the performance is in fact extremely engrossing, thanks to the enthusiasm and tempo of the acting. Jeffrey Jans as Guildenstern, Roger Harkenrider as Rosencrantz and Michael Pavelecky as The Player are outstanding. They make lively fare of essentially non-dramatic material.

The whole production is impressive and well worth seeing because it is a very superior rendering of an exceedingly difficult play. *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern* is a comedy, despite all the seriousness of its philosophical delving. The pacing and delivery of the actors (coached by Mark Healy) allow us to enjoy the difficult concepts as theater even while we are trying to grasp the play's larger meaning.

One word of warning: if you are not familiar with Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, you should read it before you see *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern*, and when you see *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern* remember that it is important to listen very carefully.

This play is one in a series being given at the Charles Street Meeting House, a landmark of the Gay Community in Boston. Randy Gibson (Minister of the Meeting House) has been instrumental in bringing the theatrical events before the public. In

Continued on page 11

MARCOZ
Antiques & Jewelry
281b newbury street boston 262-0780

the underdog
best hotdog in Boston
6 bow street
harvard square
Open seven days a week.
11:30 A.M. - 1 A.M.

Contact Lenses
Hard \$100* Gas Perm \$150* Soft (B&L) \$175*
(Credit Cards Accepted)
Also, no-boil and astigmatic soft lens.
Call For Consumer Info
353-1550
Dr. Richard T. Montross
665 Beacon Street, Suite 303
Boston, Mass. 02215
*Single vision lenses exclusive of professional fees.

art 1 X-RATED ALL MALE CAST
204 TREMONT ST. BOSTON 482-4661
WRITER'S DELIGHT
Peter Berlin in
THAT BOY
& 2nd Hit

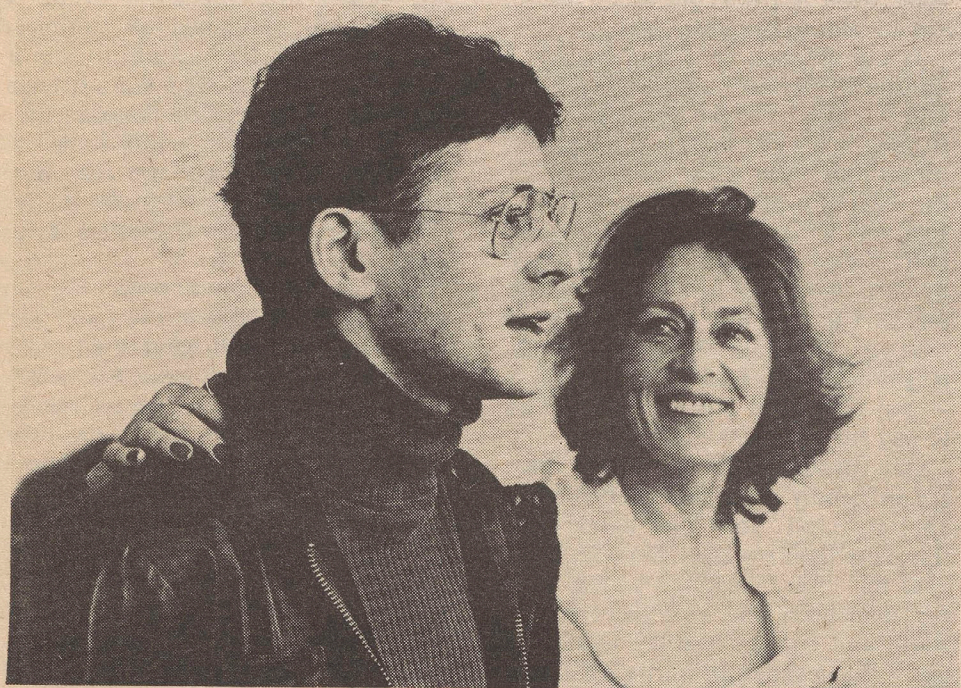
THE GAY GUY'S GUIDE
SO. STATION 423-4340
Direct From New York
1 **Surelick Holmes and Hot House** (X)
2 **HELD OVER IN 3-D HEAVY EQUIPMENT** (X)
Boston's Best All Male Shows!
Free hot and cold beverages for our patrons
Friday Night Midnight Show

CAMBRIDGE EYE ASSOCIATES
1174 Mass. Ave.
Harvard Square
547-6080
Optometrists
Comprehensive eye exams
All Eyeglass Frames \$15
Single Vision Lenses \$22
CONTACTS: Including eye exam, fitting, materials and 6 months unlimited office visits
Hard \$150.00
Conventional Soft \$195.00
Semi-soft and Oxygen Permeable \$200.00
All services rendered by eye doctors
Mastercharge
Medicaid Welcome

"a special evening of theatre..."
—Kevin Kelly, Boston Globe
VIVECA IS BACK!
VIVECA LINDFORS & KRISTOFFER TABORI
in the World Premiere of
"MY MOTHER... MY SON"
BOSTON REPERTORY THEATRE
One Boylston Place, Boston
Charge! 1-800-223-1814
Student Rush Res 423-6580
ARTS Vouchers Group rates

GREEN LEAF FLORISTS
NOT JUST A PLANT STORE
Funeral Designs — Hospital — Birthday — Anniversaries —
Holiday Centerpieces, and any other special occasion.
Located in the Heart of the New South End
Flowers and Plants For All Occasions
All Major Credit Cards Accepted
Flowers Wired Anywhere In The World
Delivered Locally
478 Columbus Ave., Boston 247-3500

Lindfors And Son Miss With New Play



Kristoffer Tabori (left) with his real-life mother Viveca Lindfors. The team is starring in the Boston Repertory Theatre Production of *My Mother . . . My Son* which is now running. For reservations and information call 423-6580.

MY MOTHER . . . MY SON, with Viveca Lindfors and Kristoffer Tabori, is having its world premiere at the Boston Repertory Theatre. The production is directed by Paul Austin.

A Review by Jim Marko

As *My Mother . . . My Son* winds ever so slowly to its welcome end, Viveca Lindfors languishes against a mirrored pole in a short scene from Chekhov's *The Sea Gull*. Staring wild-eyed at the ceiling, she laments: "You

have no idea what it's like being on the stage when you are dull." Well, Viveca, you have no idea what it's like being in the audience when the play is dull.

What you can try to do during the seemingly interminable evening at the Boston Rep is endure. *My Mother . . . My Son*, as conceived by Lindfors, her son Kristoffer Tabori, and director Paul Austin, is nothing more than an English Literature course-inspired collage of the writings of various authors. The evening begins, hopefully enough,

with a portion of Whitman's *Leaves of Grass* and ends two hours later with Brecht's *Maria*. In between we are treated to bits and pieces of the works of such diverse writers as James Joyce, Paul Zindel, Phillip Roth, Marcel Proust and Patti Smith.

To what end? To what purpose? None. In bloodless, energyless, and self-indulgent performances, mother and son Lindfors and Tabori give us little more than snapshots from a dog-eared family album. We see these two cavorting, reacting, loving, and hating, and yet in the end we are not allowed to know these people.

My Mother . . . My Son is a thoroughly disconnected piece of theater that is most uninteresting except when it is being played for laughs. Even then, however, the performances seem little more than forced exercises by the

unexciting Lindfors-Tabori team.

One cannot help feel that *My Mother . . . My Son* is a collection of tired, over-used acting class assignments. It is as if these two actors decided to combine their graduation night efforts at Stella Adler's drama school. Stella would not be pleased.

Nothing works in the Rep's newest production. The minimalist set by Franco Colavecchia looks like everybody's idea of the latest Bloomington's window. The lighting is superfluous and almost laughable as the warmly colored spots seem in a constant state of flux. The incidental music, presented in a manner reminiscent of the game show *Name That Tune*, is uninspired from the Strauss waltz to the theme from *Rocky*. The entire show is uninspired.

Rosencrantz

Continued from page 10

fact, he is the producer of *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern* as well as co-creator (with Roger Harkenrider) of the Meeting House Theatre Company.

If you appreciate having your grey matter tickled, I urge you to run to the Meeting House Theatre to see *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*. It is a tremendous achievement for this fledgling repertory company which came into existence in the spring of 1977. Your support could help make



this mixed gay and straight troupe a permanent fixture in the community.

DiRocco's Cabaret

Frost Rd.

Tyngsboro, Ma.

NEW YEAR'S EVE

Saturday, December 31, 9pm-2am

Open Bar Fantastic Buffet Party Favors

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

\$17.50 per person Call for Reservations 649-9186

Christmas Party

Sunday, December 18

A Holiday Gift to Our Customers

Complimentary Buffet at 8pm

Patti O'Keefe, Judy Bankston and the Mainliners

Sporters

Continued from page 8

make it impossible to read except in the afternoon and early evening, and the juke box stops only when someone inadvertently kicks the plug out of the socket, or Jack Rubin holds forth over the PA system.

In fact, the Sporters crowd is generally conservative about what goes on in the bar — "fear of change" is the way Don Graichen phrases it. One area where conservatism is strongest is drag. With few exceptions, no one does it in Sporters. Indeed, drag queens are the one major segment of the gay male population conspicuous by their absence in the bar. Last year the Fort Hill Faggots for Freedom attempted to change the dress code, but Jack Rubin stood by the bar's tradition. "Personally I agree with Fort Hill," he explains, adding that he'd like to have a bar where all lesbians and gay men — of whatever costume preference — would feel comfortable together. But he does not see mutual tolerance as the temper of the times. Rubin admits he's responding to the strong feelings of his older gay patrons (the "GDAR" — "Gay Daughters of the American Revolution" as the staff refers to them — with affection). But he is also worried about the effect of drag on bars.

Other changes have set the patrons to grumbling. When Sporters began serving hard liquor, many customers were appalled. "I did away with Black Label beer and two of my customers wouldn't drink here any more," says Rubin; Black Label is now back in the coolers. When the new room was com-

pleted, Rubin experimented with a dance floor. Before that, one of the first things a newcomer learned about Sporters was that dancing was strictly forbidden. In spite of some complaining and surreptitious shuffling near the juke box (almost as traditional as the sanction it rebelled against), patrons grew accustomed to the style of a "cruise" bar. "The 1270 for dancing, Sporters for prancing," ran an ad several years back.

The dance floor was a disaster. Although a few people wiggled self-consciously around the space, most people wandered in from other parts of the bar, looked at the empty space as if they were staring into a vast abyss and retreated quickly to some corner of the bar where they felt more at home. Dancing in Sporters? It violated the fundamental character of the place. A firm "no" to that. The pingpong table was brought in; now Rubin boasts he's got "the only disco pingpong table" around.

Even the new room itself has proved suspect. Some patrons like it, but others simply pass through on a periodic cruise and return to their base of operations: near one or the other bars, near the juke box, in a favorite

doorway, or on one of the middle room's window seats (a wonderful place from which to get an Olympian view of almost the entire bar).

Is the absence of a sign outside a tradition? "By now I guess it's a tradition," says former manager Paul Bentley. "We had signs in the past, but people took them down for souvenirs." But Bentley later adds that the lack of a sign was a concession to the Beacon Hill Civic Association, which asked Sporters not to flaunt it on Cambridge Street. The staff brags about the good relations between the bar and its neighbors — represented by the BHCA — but this seems a considerable price to pay for good relations.

Gay wisdom has it that Boston bars are unfriendly or at least reserved. The Sporters' staff does not agree with respect to their own bar. Don Graichen likes the "warm feeling" of the help, the managers, the customers. "Yeah, warm and friendly are the words I'd use." When the staff knows a friend is in the hospital, he explains, someone

from the bar goes to visit. Anybody who gets bounced out of here is not just pushed into the street — he is walked home, or put in a cab. "Cameraderie" is the word Joe uses to sum it all up. Friendly may seem like a strange adjective for Sporters to anyone nervously avoiding hard cruisy looks or nervously cruising with no response. And no two ways about it: the games of cruising are part of Sporters style.

But friendly must seem like an appropriate adjective to the many men who come back night after night, week after week, year after year, for twenty years now, to meet or make friends, goof around, pass a few hours. The staff is friendly ("Your bartender makes a bar," Joe observes). No intimidating hard looks when you step up to the bar. The Sporters crowd will criticize the bar, make jokes about it, have a bad night and vow never to return, but they come back. They say it's the only place to go. The West End Tennis Club is their clubhouse.

• Save this Ad for 10% Courtesy Discount for repairs only

LESTER'S T.V.

TV-Radio-Phonos-HiFi-Color

Expert Repair & T.V.s & Stereo — at lowest prices ANYWHERE! We also buy and sell used T.V.'s Outside antenna installation a specialty. Mass. Tech. Lic. 981.

Old fashioned service at an honest price!

Free Pickup and Delivery

15 REVERE ST., BEACON HILL, BOSTON
Tel. 523-2187

John's Lounge

49 Belmont St., Route 123

Brockton, MA

Proudly Presents

GUYS OR GALS

Debuting Fri., Dec. 16th

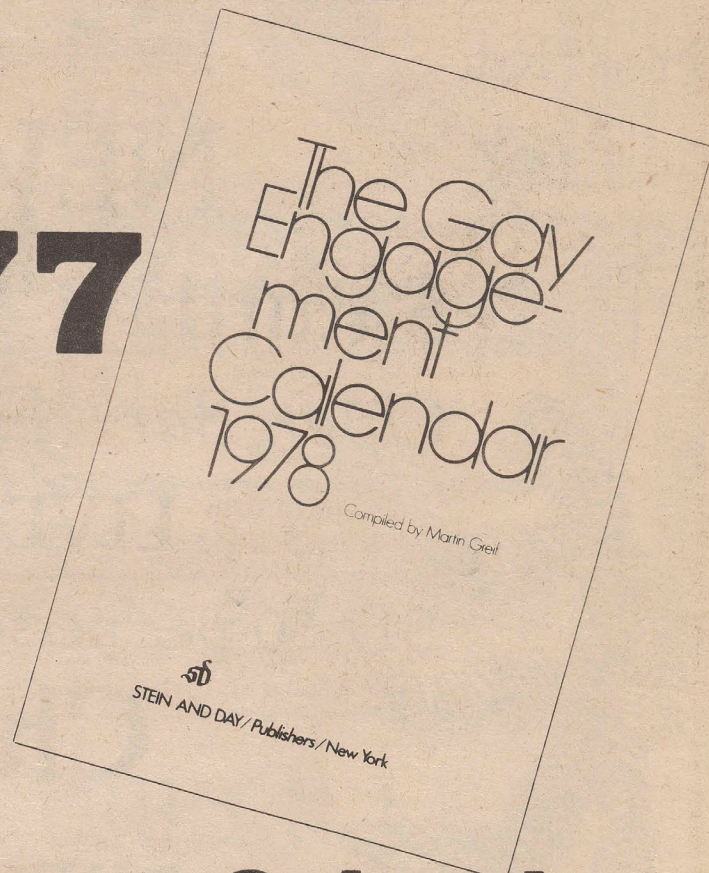
Featuring

SAMONE SARAE AND MONIQUE CARDIN

9 p.m. Two Great Shows

\$1 Cover Charge

How did you ever make it through 1977 without it?



The 1978 Gay Engagement Calendar IS NOW AVAILABLE AT COPLEY FLAIR

583 Boylston St.

Boston

Member GBA

people, places and flings

By Eric Rogers

The **Big Splash** was no skinny dip! Despite falling snow and icy roads, over 1,000 people ventured out into the cold, harbor gales to join the warmth and festivities in the Aquarium. The sharks and sting rays in the main fish tank seemed to enjoy the "party of the year" just as much as the celebrants. Although they couldn't enjoy the bar or the table snacks, more than one aquatic creature was seen grooving to the disco sounds. And when the fuses blew, the electric eels were only too happy to help out.

Entertainment went on throughout the Aquarium all evening. **Linda Gerard** was on hand, singing songs from her about-to-be-released album. **Laura Sheppard**, in mime make-up, stalked around the ramp all evening, providing strollers with amusement that the guppies couldn't provide. Many local gay groups and businesses set up tables and distributed information. The **National Lawyer's Guild** chatted with me about legal rights and law suits, in case I ever need the information. I stopped by the table with the women of **Hibiscus Records** who are distributing **Olivia Records** in this area. They had on hand new records by **Linda Tuillery** and **Joanna Cazden** and had news of others soon to be released. Our own GCN booth was conveniently located by the exhibition entitled "Diversity of Fish," which I find apropos.

Celebs were on hand, shaking hands and pulling out raffle tickets. **Joe Martin** and **Linda Carford** made short and sweet speeches. **Elaine Noble** and **Barney Frank** were all smiles,

representing the State House along with **Jim Smith** of Lynn, **Karen Swanson** of Brockton and **Caroline Stouffer** of Hingham. **Jack Cole** from television's "up and coming 7" whisked in and whisked out. All in all it was a wonderful and exciting evening and I hope it won't be the last bash that **Gay Legislation** and the **Gay Business Association** throw our way.

I had another wonderful evening last week, celebrating **Sporters** 20th birthday. The bar was packed full of festive men, dancing the lindy-hop to tunes like "Runaround Sue" and "Breaking Up is Hard To Do." The midnight dinner was a special treat and the little souvenir pin with the bar's logo on it will keep this memory alive for quite some time. . . . **Sporters Christmas Auction** for the benefit of needy children will be on Thursday night, Dec. 15, at 7:00. **Jack Rubin** will be doing the auctioning and I'm sure there'll be lots of useful items to bid on. Be sure to join in this special gift of giving. . . . Shortly after the auction, on Dec. 17, we'll be bidding farewell to **Jack Rubin** and **Robin MacCormack** who've kept us so happy at **Sporters** for the past few years. They're off to the **Town House** in P'town and, while we'll certainly miss them around the Hub, we'll be sure to drop in for a visit while we're on the Cape.

Chaps has "Gone Bananas!" and the new decor will brighten up your winter. At the opening fiesta last Saturday, **Queen Suki** with a flower lei around her neck, ruled over her bartenders who were decked in "Castro drag" — safari hats and bright tropical



shirts. The ceiling is painted into a jungle fever and palms and ferns will be arriving next week from France. Four neon bananas, in various stages of undress (unpeel?) are hanging throughout the bar and there's a striking mural of a tiger and a unicorn frolicking on the savannah. The kick-off party was made particularly pleasant for this reporter by the table of delicious hors d'oeuvres, bananas, and lox. . . .

Olga Broumas will be reading from her award winning poems on Sunday, Dec. 18, at **Bread and Roses** in Cambridge. There'll be two readings, at 3:30 and at 7:00 and tickets are \$4. . . . It was quite a night over in Radcliffe Yard last week. **Bruce Voeller** of **NGTF** was speaking and **Barney Frank** & **Harvey Cox** were doing the intros — a speech therapist's delight. . . . **Bette Midler**'s at **Don Law's Paradise**, 976 Commonwealth Ave. in Boston Jan. 3-8. Get your tickets early or you'll have to shuttle off to New York and catch **Bette** at the **Copacabana**.

Parties, Parties, Parties . . . Happy 8th Birthday to **DOB**. To celebrate the occasion, the women of **DOB** will be

having a party Tuesday, Dec. 13, at eight p.m. at the **Saints**. There will be birthday cake and cheese, as well as a warm sharing of community spirit. . . . **Together** will be throwing their Christmas Cheer party next Sunday, Dec. 18. The evening will include a show by the **Illusions**, Christmas gifts, and an open bar between 8 and 9 p.m. Don your gay apparel and get on down to **Together**. . . . **Copley Flair** is open special evenings this week, Tuesday, Dec. 13 is Men's Night, and Women's Night is Thursday, Dec. 15. In addition to their array of gifts and holiday cards, there'll be special cranberry cocktails for all who drop by. . . .

Clearspace, a community center for all of us — gay men and lesbians — will be having an open steering committee meeting for anyone interested in developing the center. Drop by 96 Beacon St. from three to five p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 18. For more info, call 277-2484. . . . **Sister Courage**, Boston's independent feminist newsjournal, is reorganizing and won't be publishing during January and February. During the deep of the winter, we'll miss their input and information. . . . And if you're looking to escape winter's frigid temperatures, spend an evening at **Tony Bosco's Delivery Entrance** in Allston. They keep a roaring fire going for patrons to get that toasty-warm feeling in their toes and until Christmas you can get two drinks for the price of one.

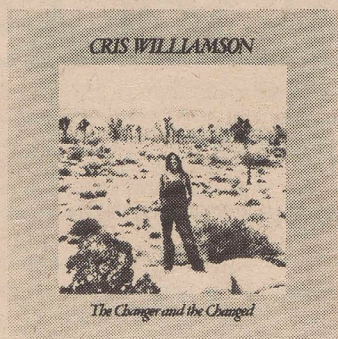
As we near the year's end, reflections of past seasons creep up on us. Although I know "Deep in December, it's nice to remember," purge those past demons and enjoy the whirl of holiday happenings.



MEG CHRISTIAN



TERESA TRULL

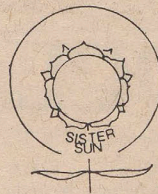


CHRIS WILLIAMSON

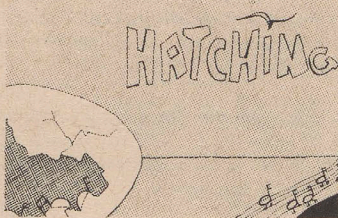
LESBIAN CONCENTRATE
A LESBIAN ANTHOLOGY OF SONGS AND POEMS



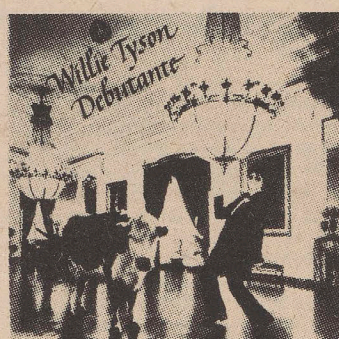
LESBIAN CONCENTRATE



Joanna Cazden



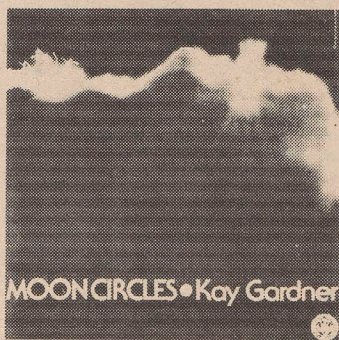
JOANNA CAZDEN



WILLIE TYSON



CASSIE CULVER



KAY GARDNER

women's music

DISTRIBUTED
THROUGH

HIBISCUS RECORDS

AVAILABLE AT:

NEW WORDS, 186 Hampshire St., Cambridge

100 FLOWERS, 15 Pearl St., Cambridge

SIGHT & SOUND, 173 Cambridge St., Boston

IEDclassifiedCLASSIFIEDclassifiedCLASSIFIEDclassified

personals

!HOLIDAY SPECIAL!

All non-display
Classified ads

HALF PRICE

(maximum of 6 weeks)
Orders must be postmarked no
later than Jan. 1, 1978.
Include this coupon with order,
no discount given without it.

(regular rate applies
to box rentals)

AGAPY MOU, IATRE
The wind is blowing
The snow is snowing
So how come we are
nowhere going?
All my love, Porcupine

NOW PLAYING

Meeting House Theatre Company Pro-
ductions of *Rosencrantz and Guilden-
stern Are Dead* and *The Bald Soprano* at
the Charles St. Meeting House, 70
Charles St., Boston. 523-0368. ATS ac-
cepted. *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern*:
Thurs., Fri., Sat., 8pm; Sun. at 7pm. *Bald
Soprano*: Wed.-Sat. at 9pm (25)

BARBARA G.

Bk r'ced. Let. 2. Many thanx for 1st.
2nd??? Do not agree re bk rev. Art raises
mundane to higher level. BS is BS. How
could you stand them 2? Don't tell me K
sides w/u.

SANDI
1. 4. 3.

JOAN (26)

STANLEY ST. GEORGE

Better I hope??? Better I trust. P's father
out of hosp. Mon. (12/5) so far so good. Be
well. With love.

KEENE PTRBRO MLFRD NASHUA

Am I the only gay Episcopalian in New
Hampshire? Have snow tires — need
friends. P.O. Box 304, New Ipswich, New
Hampshire 03071 Amen. (24+)

P.J.M.

Bless you for your kind words re pie
letter. Would you believe Gregg and Harry
"read" for me for it? They said I "over-
reacted." Ah youth. . . So glad I hit you at
birthday time. We had first snow today.
Yuk. Stay warm and well. With love, N.

DEAREST MOONBEAM

Your rays give the rosebud life

Love,

Starshine

BOSTON-CAMBRIDGE
College instructor gdlk personable GWM
30 wants someone to show him around
Jan 2-5 in exch for same in San Francisco
Bx 34213, SF, CA 94134. (25)

ARTHUR EIZE

Seems so much like home. I wish it were.
Home is so distressing. What do you
suppose that woman did with all the
notes she took??? Ansa.

GWM 24, 5'11", 150 lbs, br. hr. sks GM
21-? fr FRNDSHIP, SEX-? Have many int
esp quiet times, good smoke, have apt in
Bos. It's going to be a long, cold winter!
Why not write and lets get to know each
other. Photo apprec. GCN Box 848. (25)

"Les sanglots des violons de l'automne."
m'inspirent a rechercher un jeune
compagnon principier pour l'hiver.
Francais ou american J'espere que vous
accepteriez cette invitation extra-
ordinaire au voyage! Si vous voulez un
rapport de qualite avec un homme mur et
debonnair. Je propose, au debut, des
cocktails dans une ambiance elegante
pour une recontre joyeuse. GCN Box 849.
(24+)

GAY LEGISLATION

NEEDS YOUR HELP, MAKE A DIFFER-
ENCE. For information call 742-4811 or
write Gay Legislation, Box 8841 JFK Sta-
tion, Boston, MA 02114. (48)

Discreet attractive prof GWF age 38 lo-
cated North Shore area would like to
meet persons interested in friendship
and sharing thoughts. GCN Box 844. (24)

NOTHING SUCCEEDS LIKE SUCCESS
Try a GCN Classified and get to know
what good is! If you see gays walking
around the streets and smiling it's
because they've tried it and liked it! Be
the first on your block to have your very
own GCN Box.

QUANTUM THEORY

How much is too much? Cum laude,
Horatio. (24)

F AND S IN NEW HAMPSHIRE

Long silence not result of lack of interest.
Lots of sickness, moving, superabund-
ance of work, etc. Do hope all is well with
you. NW. (24)

HITCHHIKING

Have you had any unusual experience on
either end of the thumb? Scary?
Romantic? Fun? GCN is doing a story on
the experiences of gays hitchhiking.
Send your stories to GCN Box 843 or
leave a tel. no. and we will get back to
you. (22)

ATTENTION "SENIOR IN YEARS"

If the gentleman who wrote in August
asking about correspondents will tell me
how to get in touch with him and forward
his mail, I will gladly run his penpal ad.
Write Nancy, GCN Classifieds, 22 Brom-
field St., Boston, MA 02108. (24)

If you wish to respond to a box number in
any of our ads, send to GCN Classifieds,
Box _____, 22 Bromfield St., Boston
MA 02108.

services

Snyder and Weinstein
Attorneys and Counsellors at Law
240 Commercial Street
Boston, MA 02109 (617) 227-8000 (26)

ATTENTION STUDENTS ET AL

Expert editing done on all your work. No
more embarrassment over errors. Also
typing of finished product. Typing only,
75c per double-spaced page. Editing
negotiable. Call Nancy 266-7880, leave
message, keep trying. (c)

APARTMENTS CLEANED

On a weekly basis. Call Bob 266-8190 or
Brad 367-0660. (19)

APARTMENTS CLEANED

Reliable, efficient, call 241-7535, ask for
Mario. (c)

MASS. BAY COUNSELING ASSOCIATES

INDIVIDUALS, COUPLES
& GROUP COUNSELING

For Quincy and Newton call 472-1331
For Blackstone Valley or Narragansett Bay Area
CALL (617) 883-8220 FOR APPT.

Light housekeeping done by the hour or
the job. Call Greg at 367-1822 evenings.

BEACON TOURS

(FOR ALL TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS)

160 Comm. Ave. (Vendome Mall)
Boston (617) 247-1832

PRINTING: The kind your mother would
approve of: neat, clean, not too expen-
sive, and produced with a smile. Bro-
chures, letterheads, business cards —
we do most kinds of printing. Also type-
setting. Call us. Xanadu Printing,
661-6975.

GAY BUSINESS PERSONS

Tired of dealing with many sales people?
Have problems deciding where to invest
your money for business promotions? D.
Bellavance Agency will help you. Free
consultations. Call 739-2200. A Board
Member of the Gay Business Associa-
tion. (c)

TYPING

Manuscript, thesis, term paper, authors,
legal work — all kinds of typing done by
expert professional typist. (75 wpm) 80c a
page. Call eves after 5, 241-7535 or days
at GCN, 426-4469. Ask for Tony. (c)

HASSLE-FREE PSYCHOTHERAPY FOR NH GAYS

Ethical-Confidential

Individual & Couples

Judith Sigler, Lyn Foley

(Both MSW, ACSW)

By Appointment

(603) 224-5600

Concord

PERSONALITY PROFILE

from writing. Send writing sample, \$10.00
to J. Benson, Graphologist, 30 Franklin
St., Braintree, MA 02184. (25)

HAIR CUTTING— SETTING CURLING By RON

899 Boylston St., Boston
267-7383

HOLIDAY CLEANING

Have your house cleaned and ready for
the holidays. Experienced, efficient
women. Call 625-8054 after 6. (25)

for sale

FIND A LOVER™ GAME

Finally, a game for all gay people. \$9.00.
Carol Chaney Productions, Box
1337-GCN, New Haven, CT 06505. (25)

3 APT HOUSE FOR SALE

Income and investment FHA in very good
cond with excellent tenants next to Car-
melite Cloister Mount Pleasant Ave, Rox-
bury. 266-6947, vy reas. (24)

LESBIAN WALL CALENDAR

Black and white photographs of 1st
Michigan Women's Music Festival with
well-designed sun and moon signs. Send
\$4 + 30c mailing to WOMEN'S FESTI-
VAL CALENDAR 1978, Box 1662, Saska-
toon, Saskatchewan, Canada. (24)

Conway NH 1/2 A. lot water/utis 3 lakes nr
5 ski areas \$250 down ez repaymt swap
Capel/Fire Isle or?? Box 519 Springfield
VT (802) 885-5258 days. (24)

apartments

LARGE APARTMENT

7 nice rooms in Allston \$300.00. Call Tony
Bosco 783-5131. (c)

APARTMENTS

Nice, inexpensive, all sizes, close to pub-
lic trans in Allston. Tony Bosco 783-5131,
783-5701. (c)

ELEGANT VICTORIAN APTS.

South End — Beautiful one and two bed-
room apts in newly restored Victorian
Townhouse. High ceilings, elegant
carved mahogany detail. Marble fire-
places, wall-to-wall carpet, dishwasher/
disp., laundry, heated. Owner-occupied
premises. Available Jan. 1. Rent:
\$325-450. Call 267-8262. (24)

SPACIOUS ROOM

will be available in about a week, in all-
gay-male South End townhouse. Extra
large, sunny, closets, wall-to-wall carpet-
ing. Laundry facilities in bldg. Call Dave
661-6975.

GIVE YOURSELF A PRESENT

Spacious, renovated 1 bdrm apt, living rm
w/bay window, dining area, attractive,
convenient street, \$315/mo incl. util. Call
267-5410. (24)

ELEGANT 9 ROOM DUPLEX FOR RENT
1st floor: walnut paneled living and
dining rooms, den, music room, kitchen,
1/2 bath and granite porch. 2nd: 3 1/2 huge
bedrooms, 2 full baths, kitchen, foyer and
railed deck. 3 working fireplaces (7 in all),
parking, gas heat and electric included.
Rent \$850 per month. (2 months security.)
Located in fine area of Newton Corner, 1
block — Watertown-Boston car line. 3
blocks — Boston express bus. Resident
management is gay and believes only
gays would have true appreciation and
creative ability to make this a "Home
Plus." Call (617) 965-3822. (24)

Large rm w/kitchenette, high ceiling,
nicely furnished in quiet bldg, attractive
and convenient SE street. \$40/wk. Call
267-5410, 6-8pm. (24)

Modern 4 room apt in split level ranch in
Stoneham, min to Rt 93 and Boston. \$300
monthly includes heat and elec. Call
438-9274 evenings. Females pref. (24)

roommates

Prof. or Grad Student, BiWM or GWM,
wanted to share 2 bed, mod. apt. Natick/
Framingham line — close to Bos. A/cond,
gym fac. Call 879-6707. (11)

Two women looking for two more for
sunny, spacious apt in Jamaica Plain
near T. Mixed gay and straight. Share veg
meals, interest in the arts, women's
music. 522-3246 evenings. (23+)

Arlington GF sks GF to share 2 bdrms
furn apt 107.50 mo. inc ht. Call Cynthia
646-6815 or 1-667-6674. Keep trying. (23+)

2 GF need 3rd for quiet, sunny 3 bdrms
in house — res. area, Bri. No cigs, no
more pets. Rent \$95 + . Call 782-3539 eves
and wknd. (26)

Share apt near Brook House Jamaica
Way with working male 27, own room, St.
parking near MTA. \$113.50 + util.
232-9274. (24+)

Urgent—M F roommate needed for
immed. occ. We r 2 (GM + GF) BU mus.
majors. Rent \$113/mo. ht/hw inc. Call
after 5—ask for Mark or Ellen 254-1818.
(26)

Dining is west, Gertrude and Alice
looking for a 3rd nr Inman Sq. Rent is
alright/straight \$75 + util. Cubists
need not apply. Call 628-3870. (25)

M or F roommate wanted to share W.
Somerville apt w/GF and GM. \$87.50 +
utilities. Nonsmoker pls. Call 628-9213.
Available Jan. 1. (25)

GM seeks room in household, Camb.
area. Call 864-8306 ask for Ralph.

job op

WANT A REAL CHALLENGE?

Be a force in the community—GCN
seeks a NEWS EDITOR. Call Harry or
Tony at 426-4469 or send resume to GCN,
22 Bromfield St., Boston, MA 02108. (c)

Press operator, experienced & depend-
able, with some camera skills. Full-time
position in a gay-owned business doing
offset printing and graphic arts photog-
raphy. Initiative and problem solving abil-
ity a must; gender and orientation are
unimportant. Call Manager, Xanadu Print-
ing, 661-6975.

Experienced keypunchers needed for
work on sexuality survey. Contact
Don Barrett at Box 761.

TYPIST (TYPE) NEEDED for a job that
embraces not just a keyboard (and its
only similarity is that the keyboard is the
same), but thinking while your fingers fly,
working for gay-owned and operated
Cambridge company. You must have
literary judgement, good spelling, fleet
digital and mental ability. You will learn a
skill which will serve you well the rest of
your life. This is a good job for someone
with capability, and a desire to be
challenged and grow mentally. Write fully
about yourself to GCN Box 860. Do it
now!

APPRENTICE +

Did you begin to read at about age 5? Can
you use the English language well, spell,
type? Are you mentally & manually dex-
terous? I seek male companion/best
friend/lover who is together, a hard
worker, quick learner, who will live with
me, sharing joy and contentment. In
return I will teach you a trade which will
support you comfortably the rest of your
life. Located Greater Boston. Write fully
about yourself; pix helps. GCN Box 69.

Experienced carpet layer needed for job
at Fenway Health Center, 16 Haviland St.,
Boston. Call 267-7573, ask for Kevin Cun-
ningham. (23+)

rides

Adventuresome woman lking for con-
genial rider to share leisurely trip to New
Orleans leaving approx Jan 1. Call Muffy
at 776-3997. (25)

wanted

GCN is always in need of office furniture,
paint, sofa, file cabinets, shelves and any-
thing that is in good repair for our office.
To donate contact Tony at 426-4469. (c)

We need a driver with a van or truck to
donate time & truck (we'll pay gas) to help
pick up donations for GCN. Call Tony at
426-4469. (c)

COMIC BOOKS WANTED

We pay top dollar for pre-1974 collections
also any and all underground literature.
Call 10am or 9pm (617) 429-1299.

instruction

Want to form small recorder group in
New York City. Call (212) 499-8708.
Bennett. (24)

movers

The Jim Clark Moving Co.
Licensed-Insured-Professional
24 hrs./day—7 days/wk.—No O.T. charges
Local Jobs—Local Rates 354-2184

LIBERATIONS ERA
Kelly's Amazon Movers
Strong, Honest and Fast
From \$8 to \$15.00. 492-1533 (24+)
Moving and Hauling, Women and Truck.
\$6/woman hour plus \$6/truck hour. Please
call between 3 and 6pm Friday or Monday
only. SHANA 492-1956. (24+)

penpals

ATTENTION INMATES

If you desire penpals, please contact
M.C.C. of the Rockies, POB 9536, Denver,
CO 80209. (c)

IFIEDclassifiedCLASSIFIEDclassifiedCLASSIFIEDclassifi

We get many requests from gays in prison to put pen pal ads in for them. Limited space prevents us from printing as many of these ads as we would like to, since the prisoners do not have the funds to pay for their ads. We will print more if anyone out there is willing to contribute. For each \$3 we receive we can print one more pen pal ad. Send checks to Penpals, GCN Box K92. (c)

Wite M, 20, very lonely, attractive & active, interested in sincere correspondence. I'd be a true friend. Steve Gard 143-026, P.O. Box 511, Columbus, OH 43216. (22)

22 yr old gay inmate wants to know that someone is concerned. Would like to hear from people of any national, religious or philosophical background. Interests are music, chess, poetry, most sports. Astrological sign: Taurus. William D. McLindon, 137-848, P.O. Box 45699, Lucasville, OH 45699. (22)

Lonely, want to reestablish contact with the gay world. 25, 5'5", 145, blond hair, ocean blue eyes. Emerson Jackson 036557, P.O. Box 747, Starke, FL 32091. (22)

Lonely 28 yr old Aries sks correspondence w/together dudes interested in sincere & lasting friendships. 6', 176, well formed muscular build, considered gd lkg & well endowed. A letter & friend wd be warmest Xmas present possible. Roger Lowe, 132-785, P.O. Box 45699, Lucasville, OH 45699. (24)

organizations

LUTHERANS
ALC, LCA AND Mo. Uniting for justice, love, understanding in our church. Lutherans Concerned (for gay people), Box B-19114A, Los Angeles, CA 90019.

SUPPORT LESBIAN MOTHERS
Lesbian Mothers National Defense Fund, 2446 Lorentz Place, W. Seattle, WA 98109. (206) 282-5798. Membership \$5.00.

MCC PROVIDENCE
More than a sexual being? Have mind, heart, soul? Get it all together at Metropolitan Community Church-Providence. Services 7pm Sunday, 134 Mathewson St., Rev. Marge Ragona, pastor. 272-9247. (2)

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST GAY CAUCUS OF NEW ENGLAND has been formed. We are an inclusive group of religious liberals who seek to provide opportunities for community building among gay people. We meet Sunday evenings at 7:00 p.m. at the Arlington St. Church. For more information, contact Bob Wheatly at the UUA Office of Gay Concerns, 25 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02108, or (617) 742-2100. (c)

BOSTON GAY CATHOLICS
Dignity/Boston sponsors EXODUS MASS, a liturgy for gay and concerned Catholics every Sunday at Arlington Street Church (Boston), Boylston St. entrance at 5:30 pm. For info, contact Dignity/Boston, 355 Boylston St., Boston, MA 02114. Tel. 536-6518. (35)

NGTF NEEDS YOU
Join with the largest, fastest growing gay civil rights group in the country! The National Gay Task Force works with a professional staff on media representation, national legislation, information clearinghouse, religious reforms, corporate non-discrimination statements, more! Help support our work — join now. \$15 membership (\$5 limited income) includes Newsletter. NGTF, 80 Fifth Ave., Rm. 506, New York, NY 10011.

GAY ACTIVISTS ALLIANCE NJ
—Men and women — Militantly gay — militantly proud — Join us at 176 Kansas St., Hackensack, NJ, every Fri. at 9 p.m. Political action caucus Tuesdays at 8:30 p.m. (201) 343-6402.

INTEGRITY MAINE AT LAST!
Gay men and women all ages meet twice monthly in private home. For time and place write: Integrity, Box 283, RFD Damariscotta, Maine 04543 or telephone (207) 563-5856. Keep trying. (26)

The **GAY NURSES' ALLIANCE** needs your support if you are an RN, LPN/LVN, or student nurse. Basic membership is \$5.00 per year, which includes a subscription to our newsletter. (Contributions greater than \$5.00 are encouraged and appreciated). Many states are in need of coordinators to help organize local chapters. An apathetic nurse misses out on learning and growing experiences. Get involved! For more info, please write: GNA, P.O. Box 530, Back Bay Annex, Boston, MA 02117 (20)

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF WORCESTER, church service at 6 Institute Road, 2 p.m. Sundays.

756-0730. The 3rd year begins.
Metropolitan Community Church of Boston, services each Sunday at 7:00 p.m. (hymn sing 6:45), 131 Cambridge St., Boston (Old West Church). Edward T. Hougen, pastor. Office 523-7664. All persons are welcome.

COMING TO S.F. BAY AREA?
Stanford Gay People's Union welcomes you. Social hours, rap group, peer counseling, programs, parties. Phone (415) 497-1488; mail to Box 8265, Stanford, CA 94305.

CONSCIOUSNESS RAISING
Men, 40 and older, have problems different from young Gay Activists. Small discussion group forming NYC. Call (212) 242-8112 or write Burdick, Apt. 1C, 270 W. 25th St., NYC, NY 10001.

In New Jersey, the Gay Activist Alliance/Morris County meets every Monday at 8:30 p.m. using facilities of Unitarian Fellowship, Normandy Heights Rd., Morristown, NJ. Info: (201) 884-0653; 347-6234.

publications

CALIFORNIA SCENE, 9th year. Single copy \$2.25. Six issues \$10. Articles of general interest and news of all California plus photos, theatre, movie reviews and book reviews. Box 26032, Los Angeles, CA 90026. An independent, GAY OWNED magazine. (c)

Collector wishes to acquire back issues of Arcadia, Better Life, Hermes, Puberty Rites, Ben. Xerox or photocopies acceptable. GCN Box 846. (24)

CORRESPONDENTS WANTED
in states other than New York to cover local news. Background and experience not nearly as important as good judgment and ability to write standard news journalism. Still no pay yet. Contact Bruce Gelbert at Gaysweek, 216 W. 18 St., NY, NY 10011. (212) 929-7720. (21)

Before you stop trying to find a lover try us. Advice, Fantasies, Personals. Twelve issues \$10; sample \$1. *You're Not Alone*, P.O. Drawer 8398CH, Atlanta, Ga. 30306. (c)

FOCUS
A monthly journal of fiction, articles, poetry, book reviews, etc. by, for and about gay women. 1 year subscription (12 issues) \$6. Sample copy 60c. Always sent in plain envelope. Focus, Box GCN, 1151 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, MA 02138. (c)

GAY SCENE — The Picture Homophile Monthly in 8th Year of Publication. News From Everywhere; Movement News; King's Reviews (Stage, Screen, Book & T.V.); D.D.'s Best Bets; Lesbian Life; Articles; Nude Plaything of the Month; Religious News; Personals; and More. Send \$1 for sample copy. \$8.00 for 12 issues (in Plain Envelope) To: REGIMENT, Box 247, Grand Cent. St., NYC 10017.

FOCUS, journal for gay women, needs contributors. If you write short fiction, essays of interest to lesbians, or poetry, please send it to FOCUS, C/O DOB, 1151 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02138. There is no payment, but it is fun to see your work in print, and you do get free copies of the issues in which your work is published. Include SASE for return of material not accepted for publication. (c)

BOSTON BAR GUIDE

BAMBOO LOUNGE 30 Avery St. Food, Mixed. BOSTON EAGLE 88 Queensberry St. 247-9586 Leather, Men, Thurs. Club Nite, Sunday Brunch 3PM, Movies Mon. & Tues. 8PM CARNIVAL LOUNGE 39 Boylston St. 338-7159 Dancing, Mixed. CHAPS 27 Huntington Ave. 266-7778 Food, Men. CITADEL 22 Avery St. 482-9040 Dancing, Men. CLUB 76 76 Battery March St. 542-3377 Food, Women and their friends. COMMUNITY CLUB 252 Boylston St. 247-9308 Noon to 2AM, 7 days a week. Dancing, Games, Food.	DELIVERY ENTRANCE At The House Restaurant. 12 Wilton St., Allston 783-5701 Men & Women. "It's Different." HARRY'S PLACE 45 Essex St. Dancing, Men. HERBIE'S RAMROD ROOM 12 Carver St. 338-8577 Leather, Men, Sunday Brunch 7PM, Thurs. NAPOLEON CLUB 52 Piedmont St. 338-7547 Dancing Fri., Sat., Sun. Men. PARADISE 180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge Talking, Mostly Men, 864-4130 PLAYLAND 21 Essex St. Men (Some Women). 119 MERRIMAC 119 Merrimac St. 523-8960 Dancing, Men, Tues.-Thurs. Buffet 9-11PM RAINBOW ROOM 15 Lansdowne St. Disco Dancing, Men.	SAINTS (Call 354-8807) Women. SOMEWHERE 295 Franklin St. 423-7730 Disco Dancing, Mixed, Sunday Brunch 12-2PM. SPORTER'S CAFE 228 Cambridge St. Food, Men, Saturday Brunch 5PM, Movies Mon., 3PM, Sunday Brunch 3PM. STYX 20 Blagden St. 247-3910 Disco Dancing, Men. THE SHED 272 Huntington Ave. Leather, Men, Sunday Brunch 4PM. TOGETHER 110 Boylston St. Disco Dancing, Mixed. 1270 1270 Boylston St. 261-1257 Disco Dancing, Mixed (Mostly Men). TWELVE CARVER 12 Carver St. Men.
---	--	--

Quick Gay Guide

BOSTON AREA (Area Code 617)

Access (Cambridge Hotline)	661-3900
Am Tikva	524-1890, 628-3986
Cambridge Gay Political Caucus, P.O. Box 218, E. Cambridge 02141	491-0968
Cambridge Women's Center	354-8807
Charles Street Meetinghouse	523-1081, 354-8807
Civil Liberties Union of Mass.	742-8020
Daughters of Bilitis, 1151 Mass. Ave., Cambridge 02138	661-3633
Dignity, 355 Boylston St., Boston, MA 02114	536-6518
Elaine Noble (Rep.)	727-2584
Evangelicals Concerned	894-3970
Fag Rag	536-9826
Fenway Community Health Center	267-7573
Fengay, c/o Tom Nylund	267-1066
Gay Academic Union of New England, P.O. Box 212, Boston 02101	492-3353
Gay AlAnon, Greater Boston	471-6884
Gay Business Ass'n (Job Bank), 102 Charles St., Boston MA 02114 Suite 129	739-2200
Gay Community News	426-4469
Gay Educational Service (Human Achievement Foundation), P.O. Box 398, Allston 02134	277-2484
Gay Hotline 3-12pm, Mon.-Fri.)	426-9371
Gay Legislation, P.O. Box 8841, JFK Station, Boston 02114, 73 Tremont St., Rm 224	742-4811
Gay Men's Center, 718 Beacon St.	247-7312
Gay Nurses' Alliance-East, P.O. Box 530, Back Bay Annex, Boston 02117	
Gay People of UMass/Boston	287-1900 (X2396)
Gay Professional Women's Assn., Box 308, Boston U. Sta., Boston 02215	
Gay Recreational Activities Committee (GRAC), c/o GCN Box 8000	
Gay Speakers Bureau, P.O. Box 2232, Boston 02107	354-0133
Gay Way Radio (WBUR, 90.9FM)	353-2790
Gay Youth Advocates, 70 Charles St.	227-8587
Gender Identity Service	864-8181
Good Gay Poets	536-9826
Harvard-Radcliffe Gay Student Assn.	498-2014
Homophile Community Health Service Integrity, P.O. Box 2582, Boston 02208	542-5188
Janus Counseling for Lesbians, 21 Bay St., Cambridge	661-2537
Lambda of Middlesex, P.O. 1165, Framingham, MA 01701.	
Nites and weekends	877-8550
Lesbian Liberation, c/o Women's Center	354-8807
Lutherans Concerned for Gay People	536-3788
Massachusetts Feminist Federal Credit Union, 186 1/2 Hampshire St., Cambridge	661-0450
Metropolitan Community Church	523-7664
MIT Homophile League, rm 50-306	253-5440
National Lawyers Guild, 595 Mass. Ave., Cambridge 02139	661-8898, 661-6358

National Organization for Women	267-6160
New Words Bookstore	876-5310
Northeastern Gay Student Org., c/o Student Activities Office, 255 Eli Ctr. Older and Other Gays, c/o GCN, Box 1500, 22 Bromfield St., Boston 02108	

Outreach Foundation for crossdressers, transsexuals and gender dysphorics, 102 Charles St., Suite 433, Boston 02114	
Project Lambda	523-0368
Project Place	267-9150
Sexual Health centers of N.E., Inc., 739 Boylston St., Boston 02116	266-3444
Fr. Paul Shanley (Exodus Center)	333-0146
Tufts Gay Community, c/o Student Activities Office, Medford 02155	
Unitarian Universalists Office of Gay Concerns, 25 Beacon St., Boston 02108	742-2100
Women's Alcoholism Program, 1348 Cambridge St., Cambridge 02139	661-1316
Women's Community Health in Cambridge	547-2302

EASTERN MASS. (Area Code 617)

Dignity Merrimack Valley	
P.O. Box 348, Lowell 08853	
Everywoman's Center, Box 949, 14 Center St., Provincetown 02657 (4-6pm)	
Lesbian Support Group, Mercy Otis Warren Women's Center, 298 Main St., Hyannis 02601	771-6739
Martha's Vineyard Gay Group	627-5370
Montachusett's Gay Alliance	342-5963
Box 262, Fitchburg 01420	
New Bedford Women's Clinic	999-1570
Provincetown 24-Hour Drop-in Center	487-0387
Survival Crisis Line	471-7100

WESTERN MASS. (Area Code 413)

Berkshire Community Gay Coalition, Box 493, Pittsfield 01201	528-9433
Common Women Club, 78 Masonic St., Northampton 01060	584-4580
Everywoman's Center, Amherst	545-0883
Gaybreak Radio (WMUA-FM, 91.9)	545-2876
Gay Women's Caucus, Amherst	545-3438
Lesbian Union, 9th floor, Campus Center, UMass, Amherst 01003	
People's Gay Alliance, RSO 368 Student Union, UMass, Amherst, 11002	545-0154
Southwest Women's Center	545-0626
Springfield Gay Alliance	732-9315
Together, Box 427, Forest Park Sta., Springfield 01108	
Valley Women's Center, Northampton	586-2011

CONNECTICUT (Area Code 203)

"Come Out Tonight," Box WYBC/Yale Station, New Haven 06520	
CT Gay Task Force, P.O. Box 514, Hartford 06101	522-5575
Dignity/New Haven, P.O. Box 3712, Amity Sta., New Haven 06525	
East Conn. Gay Alliance, Norwich	889-7530
George W. Henry Foundation, Hartford	522-2646
Gay Alliance at Yale, Box 2031, Yale Station, New Haven 06520	436-8945
Gay phone counseling (eves.), New Haven	436-8945

Gay Switchboard	522-5575
Gay Women's Collective, Women's Center, U-118, University of CT, Storrs 06268	486-4738
Hartford Gay Counseling	522-5575, 232-5110
Institute of Social Ethics/National Gay Archives, 1 Gold St., Suite 22B, Hartford 06103	547-1281
Kalos/Gay Liberation, Hartford	568-2656
MCC/Hartford	232-5110, 522-5575
New Haven Lesbian Rap, 148 Orange St., New Haven	436-0272
The Church of the Eternal Flame Universal	527-2656
UConn Gay Alliance, 211 Student Union, U of CT, Storrs 06268	
Yalebians, Box 2031, Yale Station, New Haven 06520	436-8945
Wesleyan Gay Alliance	635-3035

RHODE ISLAND (Area Code 401)

Brown University Gay Lib, 305 Faunce House, Waterman Ave., Providence 02912	
Office hours: Noon-1pm weekdays	863-3062
Dignity/Providence, Box 2231, Pawtucket 02861	
Gay Help Line	751-3322
Gay Community Services of R.I., 55 Eddy St., rm 306	
Gay Women of Brown, c/o Sarah Doyle, Women's Center, 186 Meeting St., Providence, 02912	863-2189
Integrity, Box 71, Annex Sta., Providence 02801	
MCC/Providence, 134 Mathewson St.	751-6023
MCC Innovative Ministry (terminally ill, aged and handicapped), Rev. Michael Nordstrom	272-8482
Providence Gay Group of AA	231-5853

MAINE (Area Code 207)

CMGA, Box 2242, Augusta 04330	
Confidential Drug and Alcohol Rap Group, Box 4542, Portland 04112	
Gay People's Alliance, 92 Bedford St.	773-2981
University of Maine, Portland 04103	ext. 535
Growing, Sober and Gay, Box 893, Waterville 04901	
Maine Freewoman's Herald, 193 Middle St., 3rd floor, Portland 04111	774-6071
Maine Gay Task Force, Box 4542, Portland 04112	773-5530
Maine Lesbian Feminists, Box 125, Belfast 04915	
Mainly Gay, Box 4542, Portland 04112	773-5530
The Wilde-Stein Club, Memorial Union, University of Maine, Orono 04473	

NEW HAMPSHIRE (Area Code 603)

MCC-Extension, 292 State St., Portsmouth 03801	382-4678
Nashua Area Gays	673-5315
NH Lambda, Box 1043, Concord 03301	228-8542
Northwood Women's Group, G. Ball, Box 273, RFD 1, Manchester 03104	
NOW Lesbian Rights Task Force, 4 Valentine Hill Rd., Durham 02834	

VERMONT (Area Code 802)

Counseling-Support for Gay Women, c/o Susan Katz, South VT Women's Health Center, 187 N. Main St., Rutland, VT 05701	775-1518
Gay Student Union, Univ. of VT, Burlington 05401, M-F, 7-9 pm	656-4173
Women's Center, 182 Main St., Burlington 05401	863-1236

NEW YORK (STATE)

Affirmation (Unitarian Universalist Gay Caucus), 34 Chestnut Rd., Delmar 12054	
Capital District Gay Community Center (7-11pm), 332 Hudson Ave., Albany 12210	(518)462-6138
Capital District Gay Political Caucus, Box 131, Albany 12201	(518)462-6138
Dignity/Integrity/Rochester	
42 Tyler House, 17 So. Fitzhugh St., Rochester 14614	(716) 232-6521
Empty Closet Collective, 1255 University Ave., Rochester 14607	(716) 271-6750
Gay Alliance of The Genesee Valley, Inc., 713 Monroe Ave., Rochester 14614	(716) 244-8640 or 244-9030
Gay Brotherhood of Rochester, 713 Monroe Ave., Rochester	(716) 244-8640
Gay Liberation Front, U. of R., Wilson Commons, Rochester 14607	(716) 275-6181
Gay Task Force, 713 Monroe Ave., Rochester (Mon. 7pm)	(716) 244-8640 or 244-9030
Hamilton-Kirkland Gay Alliance, Box 80, Hamilton College, Clinton 13323	
Lambda Univ., Box 131, Albany 12201	(518)462-6138

Lesbian Resource Center, 713 Monroe Ave., Rochester 14607	(716)244-9030
NY State Coalition of Gay Organizations, Box 131, Albany 12201	(518)462-6138
Stonewall Society, Poukeepsie	(914)473-3857

NEW YORK (CITY) (Area Code 212)

Ass'n of Gay Social Workers, c/o Ron Ginsberg, 345 W. 21st St., apt. 1-A	234-8683
Church of the Beloved Disciple, 348 W. 14th St., 10004	242-6616
Gay People at Columbia, Columbia U., 10027	280-2574
Gay Teacher's Association, 204 Lincoln Pl., Brooklyn 11217	789-8176/499-1060
Gay Switchboard, Box 805, Madison Sq. Sta., 10010	777-1800
The Glines, 260 W. Broadway	925-2619
Lambda Legal Defense, P.O. Box 5448, Grand Central Sta., 10017	758-1905
Lesbian Herstory Archives, P.O. Box 1258, 10001	
Lesbian Switchboard	741-2610
MCC/NY, 201 W. 13th St. 10011	242-1212
National Coalition of Gay Activists, P.O. Box A-711, Grand Central Sta., 10017	
National Gay Task Force, 80 Fifth Ave., rm 506	741-1010
Oscar Wilde Memorial Bookshop, 15 Christopher St.	255-8097
Tri-base Collective	533-4492
West Side Discussion Group, 37 Ninth Ave.	675-0143