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gay austin



A
Dash
Through
Gay Austin

vol. 3, no. 1

sept. 1978

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Harvey Neville

Tommy Connell, GCS' new Office Coordinator

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The Future of Gay Radicalism

BY GREG CALVERT

EDITORS NOTE: this article is a copy of a speech made at the Gay Freedom Rally in Austin's Woolridge Park on June 24, 1978.

Today I want to address myself to the question: Where is the gay movement at and where is it going? And to ask what is our relationship to other movements for change in America? Then finally, I want to ask the question: Will there ever be a broad movement for change that has the kind of spirit and unity and willingness to work together that will make fundamental changes possible in this country? Let me say that if we are to find the answers to those questions we need to understand what happened to that movement of the 1960's which called itself the New Left and which seemed for almost a decade to offer such hope for changing America before it tore itself apart.

I want to focus on an important aspect of those problems by telling a story:

In late 1970, after a year of watching what we had called the movement tear itself apart, I was living in Chicago and suffering from a very bad depression and thinking about going to work as a psychotherapist (at least partially because I couldn't afford to see one). One morning I read an article in a Chicago newspaper about a psychiatrist in Boston who was working with Vietnam vets who'd come home from the war and freaked out or cracked up. And he recounted some of the stories told by those men about their experiences in Vietnam. One of those stories made an indelible imprint on my consciousness. It was the story of a GI who had been driving a truck down highway 1 in South Vietnam. There was an ARVN soldier along the side of the road on crutches with one leg missing from battle wounds. And this Vietnamese soldier--this "ally"-- was trying to flag a ride. So the truck stopped and they picked up the Vietnamese soldier and drove on down the road. And the Vietnamese soldier was so grateful that he reached over with his hand and squeezed the leg of one of the GI's in a gesture of thanks. And then the soldier, the one who later cracked up and was in treatment with the Boston psychiatrist, became enraged and started yelling "You fucking queer" and with the help of his buddies pitched the Vietnamese amputee out of the truck and killed him.

WHEN I READ that story, I was overwhelmed with a sense of grief and despair and my depression got much worse. Because what that story did was trigger a lot of feeling inside me about what it meant to grow up in America where men were taught to be afraid of their tenderness toward each other and where that conditioned fear was then manipulated to make men into obedient soldiers, willing to fight and kill in wars that were not in their interest, to maintain a system of domination and power which reassured their shabby ego's that they were part of a manly enterprise of which they could be proud. I was also increasingly depressed because I had to face the fact that the very movement of American young people, who struggled to stop that war and of which I had been a part and to which I had given the best I knew how to give, had embodied many of the same sexist values which warped the minds of those soldiers in Vietnam---so much so that I got trashed for being gay by both male and female com-

rads in the very organization (SDS) where I had spent several years of my life as a full-time organizer. So much so that women left the movement en masse to avoid the psychological damage inflicted by macho leadership.

That story about the Vietnam soldier, together with the experience of betrayal in the American New Left, symbolized for me a situation of apparent hopelessness in which the possibility of breaking out of the vicious cycle of what America had become seemed completely unrealizable. And I'm sure that my feelings were shared by many activists, especially women and gays who had suffered from both the casual day-to-day sexism or the more calculated, occasional brutalities of that movement of the 1960's, were also shared by many sensitive straight people.

Just as the movement of the 60's was falling apart, two newly vitalized forces for change were beginning to emerge in a powerful way. Feminism and gay liberation were beginning to raise in the arenas of culture and politics the very issues which their predecessors had failed to face and which challenged the very foundations of macho dominated sexist movements. Out of these new movements was emerging a vision of personal, cultural, and political change that promised a fundamentally different direction for society and suggested the possibility of a truly holistic politics, infused with a truly revolutionary culture.

THUS, JUST as the new left of the 60's was dying, something new was being born which contained the seeds of a vision of human liberation which could only arise when the issues of feminism and gay freedom were addressed.

It has taken most of the decade of the 1970's for us to absorb and elaborate the impact of the transformation. And although we sometimes feel that too little has been accomplished, we need also to appreciate the immensity of the progress which has been made.

Once again in 1978 there are winds of change blowing in this country. Once again in Austin and elsewhere people are talking together and finding ways to work together where that hasn't been possible for six or eight years. Once again, after the bankruptcy of the Nixon conservatives has been followed by the impotence of the Carter liberals, Americans are starting to ask basic questions and point to answers that suggest fundamental solutions. What's more, this time around we're part of it.

As we try to understand what lies ahead of us--the challenges and the tasks--there are pitfalls we might be wary of. In the newness of the moment, we must go beyond the temptation to hide in new ghettos or to erect new walls. We must not live on the comfortable edge of the village where we were once sent as outcasts, but make our home in the center of the city--in the open center of public. Let us not turn the discovery of ourselves as gay people into a new trap.

continued on page 7

violence in gay austin

Everywhere at Once

By BOB

I'm back. Was I gone? Lots has happened here.

I have a dull, pressing pain in my head, near the top, and a teasingsore throat. It could be the heat here, the climate. I've been gone three months, and I'm not used to it. But it also could be gonorrhea. I don't know.

My tongue is not swollen. When Steve got throat gonorrhea his tongue swelled, and he had trouble speaking. Last I heard he was taking tablets and waiting for the swelling to go down. His doctor told his mother he had a staff infection. Or was it strep throat? I can't remember.

This is a violent place. At least it seems so. It's probably no different than any other.

In June, so I'm told, a friend of a friend of mine had it in mind to bring someone home with him. This friend of a friend, I hear, is blond and baby-faced. I imagine him with a tan, and blue eyes, though I can't say for sure, as I've never met him. He lived in an apartment, alone, as of June. I don't know where he lives now.

This friend, as I say, wanted someone to go home with him, to have sex. He likes Vaseline Intensive Care Lotion. I used to use that a lot, but I quit, partly because I was scared of what might be in it. Also, you can't eat it. At least I can't.

I don't know anything about the next part, so I won't speculate. I have thought about it, but I don't want to share my thoughts.

This friend of a friend was found stabbed 108 times.

The police say there was lotion all over the apartment, I'm told, and all over the body, particularly in the rectal area. They asked my friend if he could explain why that might be. They said others they had talked with were reluctant to discuss it. My friend didn't answer them. I don't blame him. I don't like rhetorical questions, and I'm sure they are worse

coming from police officers.

All the knife holes were in his back, someone told me. Someone else said his face was also bashed in.

I'm not sure I should believe all I'm told. Originally I was told the guy was stabbed only 20 times, a la Goodbar. It may be like that immortal fish story, about the big one that got away. No one ever told me that story, but I know it. I never liked fishing.

The grandparents of this friend of a friend knew he was homosexual. His parents didn't, at least not until after he was murdered. I don't know how they feel. They might have been close to him, which of course would make a difference, but circumstances make that seem unlikely. After all, they didn't know he was homosexual. My parents don't know about me, either. That says something, and then again . . . I do plan to tell them, perhaps in the near future, preferably before I get murdered. The odds are in my favor, I suppose.

Still, they haven't caught whoever freaked out and killed the friend of my friend. Work on the case has been slow. The police have some semblance of a description, and they have given it out to the bar owners in town.

Last week a bartender thought he saw someone who matched the description, and he called downtown. Two hours later someone showed up to check it out. I think the lead fizzled out.

My throat feels better. My head still hurts. I really don't think I have gonorrhea.

About a month after the murder, one of the kid's former lovers killed himself. I guess the murder wasn't the only thing on his mind. His business wasn't doing very well, I'm told. He had been depressed. I didn't know him, and as far as I know none of my friends knew him either.

The former owner of one of the local gay bars killed himself, too. The bar hadn't been doing well at all last spring, and just before I left (did I ever go?) the owner closed the place down, and put it up for sale, I guess.

They say he was under severe pressure. Something about back taxes, I have heard.

I don't know if the bar can be sold, at least as a bar. And of course if it does reopen there's no guarantee it will be a gay bar. It wouldn't surprise me in the least if it were straight. That would leave us with four bars, three bookstores, the baths, Pease Park, street cruising, and several social and political organizations. Oh--and the various and sundry tearooms situated across town, but those don't really interest me anymore.

I don't know. Somehow moving to San Francisco just doesn't seem to be the answer. We've lived there all our lives anyway. Just last year, a gang jumped a guy in a parking lot down the street, and murdered him in the name of Anita Bryant. He was a friend of a friend, too.

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MCC DEDICATES BUILDING

The Metropolitan Community Church of Austin dedicated its building 614 E. Sixth Street August 6.

Jeff Bishop, worship coordinator for Austin's MCC since the spring, was officially installed as Interim Pastor of the church by the Rev. Don Eastman, assistant coordinator of the South Central District of UFMCC and pastor of MCC Dallas. The South Central District includes congregations in Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma and southern Missouri.

The MCC Austin congregation has just completed refurbishing and air-conditioning the church building.

On August 4 the congregation approved its local by-laws and granted permission for incorporation of its board of directors. The church's petition for charter has also just been completed and church members expect to be fully chartered by October.

KTVV NIXES NBC'S 'SGT MATLOVICH' IN AUSTIN

After holding the made-for-TV movie 'Sgt. Matlovich vs the US Air Force' for nearly two years since filming was completed, NBC scheduled the show for Aug. 21. But unless you caught it on San Antonio's KMOL via cable, you didn't get to see the movie here in Austin, even though local newspaper TV listings indicated it would air at 8 p.m. Aug. 21, a Monday.

KTVV, Austin's NBC affiliate, apparently cancelled the film at the last minute, showing instead the Miss Texas pageant and a documentary on tornadoes. As late as the Friday before the show was to air, a KTVV spokesperson assured GCS that 'Sgt Matlovich' would be shown Aug. 21 at 8 p.m. as scheduled.

So why did KTVV cancel the first television program ever whose central theme concerned the human and civil rights of gay Americans?

General Manager of KTVV Al Tanksley told GCS that he made his decision to cancel the show based on his perception of viewer interest. He said further that at the time of the decision he did not know that the film was based on fact nor that it was an NBC premiere movie. Tanksley said that NBC usually promotes its movies very heavily before their first run and further that NBC almost never premieres a movie in the middle of August. Tanksley said that no one at the TV station consults the gay community or reads the gay press and that he had been unaware of the importance of the Matlovich case to the gay community.

Leonard Matlovich, awarded the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, two commendation medals and a meritorious service medal as an officer of the US Air Force during the war in Viet Nam, was honorably discharged from the Air Force in October, 1975, seven months after having told his commanding officer that he is homosexual. Matlovich's court battle to rejoin the Air Force is still before a US Court of Appeals.

MCC MINISTER LICENSED TO PERFORM 'HOLY UNIONS'

The Rev. Dr. Jeff Bishop, Interim Pastor of MCC Austin, is licensed by UFMCC to perform Holy Unions, and lists the following requirements for those wishing to be united in Holy Union.

- Each party must be legally single, widowed or divorced at the time of the union. If a person has been previously married to a person of the opposite sex, the divorce decree must be final. If a person has previously had a Holy Union, that Holy Union must have been officially dissolved under UFMCC proceedings.
- The two parties must have lived together for at least one year.
- The two parties must not be involved in an 'open relationship'.
- Both parties must be regular participants in church worship services, whether at MCC or another church.
- Both parties must be of legal age.
- Both parties must as a couple attend three counseling sessions with the minister with each session spaced at approximately a two week interval.
- The minister's honorarium is \$25, which does not include the cost for use of the church.

LESBIAN/GAY DEMOCRATS OF TEXAS HEAD TO STATE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION IN FT. WORTH

In preparation for the semi-annual Texas Democratic Party state convention, over fifty gay delegates and alternates have formed a new organization called the Lesbian/Gay Democrats of Texas. The caucus may be contacted through the Texas Gay Task Force, Box 2036, Universal City, Tx., 78148, telephone (512) 655-3724.



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MORE NEWS . . .

VENEREAL DISEASE #4

Now along with the old favorites of gonorrhea, syphilis and herpes, there is a new disease benching sexual athletes.

Giardiasis, caused by the intestinal parasite *Giardia lamblia*, has been linked to male homosexual activity. According to researchers, the ailment may be contracted following rectal intercourse with either oral-genital or oral-rectal sex.

Symptoms to be on guard for include nausea, abdominal cramps and fecal tumult.

NEW AUSTIN LESBIAN FEMINIST NEWSLETTER

OUR TIME HAS COME, a lesbian feminist newsletter published once each month in Austin, provides information and serves as a forum for the diversity of views held by lesbians.

The newsletter is committed to political action and to helping to create a real sense of the lesbian community.

Our Time Has Come will also include poetry and short stories and other examples of artistic and creative lesbian self-expression.

The publication is a project of the Our Time Has Come collective, and open collective of four lesbians. Pick up a copy at the Common Woman Bookstore or at WomenSpace.

" . . . I HAVE LIVED AND SLEPT IN THE SAME BED WITH ENGLISH COUNTESSSES
AND PRUSSIAN BAUERINNEN (farm women) . . . NO WOMAN HAS EXCITED
PASSIONS AMONG WOMEN MORE THAN I HAVE . . . "

-- FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE, in one of her letters



NIGHTINGALE

ANOTHER PLACE N TIME

By Amme Hogan

We roun n roun n up again
go lickety split so fast
in light at window
Glass twixt us n it
Shelves line up go lickety split
n fall the lamplight
s fighting light at window
n glass twixt it n it
go crackety pop
s tiny tongues's slivers
n lickety split we here again
n lickety split
n lickety split
n lickety slit
we here again go roun

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THE NEW GAY RADICALISM
continued from page 3

An even greater mistake would be to assume that any model from the past can tell us exactly what gay freedom means in this time and place. We must be willing to explore and discover the ever new in our gay humanness and what treasures it holds both for ourselves and all humankind. No one can provide those answers for us. Neither Buddha nor Jesus nor Baba Ram Das--nor Marx, nor Lenin, nor Chairman Mao has the final word on human growth and freedom.

Liberation is both an intensely personal experience and a social process. Those who treasure the personal without involvement in the political sphere run the risk of escapism. Those who talk of politics divorced from the struggles and unfoldings of the human heart run the risk of dogmatic irrelevance.

I feel that as gay men and lesbians we have a special role to play in this exciting process. Not the game of "better than." Not the arrogant role of vanguard. But the special role that comes from the special experience of being gay.

Change in this country is not going to be complete without us. The human spirit will not be free until the fear of us is overcome. And without that, human beings will never know who they truly are--will never finally be able to look at themselves in the mirror of society without fear. They will never experience that coming home to an acceptance of

the fullness of the human experience which includes the joy of the gay experience.

One night six years ago I was driving down Nob Hill in San Francisco with my lover. It was our first night in town and we saw these two guys about sixteen years old walking down the sidewalk with their arms around each other and looking very much in love. Suddenly they just stopped in the middle of the sidewalk and put their arms around each other and nugged and gave each other a long kiss. And I started to cry--both for joy because it was so incredibly beautiful and for the grief of not having had that chance and courage and freedom when I was sixteen.

Right now I want to make up for all I missed by witnessing something about 200 times more beautiful than what we saw that night in San Francisco. Because I want you each to turn and hug your brother or your sister and give them a big kiss. Right now! Yeah, that's right. Right now here in our hometown in Austin, Texas. And let everybody know we've come home to ourselves here today. And that we intend to stay, and that we intend to be very gay.

(Editor's note: And at just that moment during the Gay Freedom Day Rally in Wooldridge Park, we all turned one to another, and gaily abounded. And it was good.)

GREG CALVERT lives in Austin and works here as a gay psychotherapist. He was a long-term activist in the New Left and in 1966-67 served as National Secretary of the Students for a Democratic Society.

He is co-author with Carol Neiman of A Disrupted History: The New Left and the New Capitalism (published by Random House, 1971). He is currently working on a new book, The Politics of Openness.



drawing by David Dole

PLACE A
CLASSIFIED AD
IN GAY AUSTIN

SEE BACK COVER
FOR DETAILS

A Gay Night on the Town

By SCOTT LIND

YOU FEEL that thirst. Something to slake it, to cool it down. You're thirsty and restless. You want something to do. You've finished registering for classes, or maybe you late registered, or maybe you completed adds and drops, or it's the first night after class and the thought of remaining at home and attacking that Accounting textbook makes you . . . restless.

You're gay. You wouldn't want to be any other way. Or you're a lesbian, and no straight frat guy's going to pull his macho power trip on you. To be like the others, to emulate Silly Willy or Betty Baptist, that isn't you. You have your own life to live, and you're determined to make it good.

So you're restless. You want to meet people. What to do, you ask, what to do. And the answer as if by magic comes to you.

But where, you might ask, where?

This article is not, I assure you, some absurd Coke commercial. Perhaps you've heard it on the radio, the Sahara Desert and all that. No, I am not some disembodied voice trying to sell you some Coke. I do not deal in that. Coke I am not downgrading. Far from it. Coke certainly has its place, at parties and such. But not here. To partake of this has little to do with gayness or straightness. Coke is thus consigned to the Sahara winds.

THIS ARTICLE will relate: 1) where to go and 2) what to do once there. But first a word on Austin.

Back some years ago, six to be exact, I wished to attend the exalted UT. Certain people warned me in advance that all sorts of devilish evil things inhabited that fabled land: hippie longhairs puffing weed, dealing all sorts of drugs. Card-carrying communists fomenting demonstrations against Nixon and a certain war. And most dreaded of all, monstrous ho-mo-sexuals seducing every young innocent in sight; these, I was told, I would have to watch out for because they came in various disguises. I took my informants' advice quite literally. I kept my eye out. And like those people said, these homosexuals were everywhere: marching to anti-Nixon demonstrations, advocating socialism and even smoking weed at various locales while others stayed home and attacked their Accounting textbooks. I discovered Barton Springs and Hippie Hollow, and most importantly, found out that the Pearl Street Warehouse could be found nowhere on Pearl Street.

Times have changed. Austin's gay bars now include the Hollywood, the Austin Country, the New Apartment, the Private Cellar, and the Tap.

We shall take a quick journey to these bars. So, in line with T.S. Elliot, "let us go and make our visit."

THE HOLLYWOOD

Located at 304 W. 4th St., the Hollywood is the place to go, particularly if you are a woman. It advertises itself as a women's bar, but if you are a man you also are cordially welcomed. This disco bar has plenty of room to dance and two levels of tables to sit down and talk. It has all the atmosphere and trimmings of a rustic, down home bar with all the urban, but tastefully subdued, modernity of lights and effect. A good sound system drums the disco beat, but you never feel overwhelmed, unless you wish it.

DRESS IN your denims and feel at home drinking a longneck, juice or gin-and-tonic at the bar, before which looms a barback-to-ceiling mirror that looks as if it had been there since the old days. Potential friends left and right of you. The ceiling is miles high and the spaces add to this feeling of laid-back comfort. Take a look at photographs of women as you enter. All you have to do is let the mood carry you. It'll take you to good times. Or play some pool at the corner of the bar.

The cover charge on weekend evenings is good, as well, to you: 50¢ in these inflationary times is a comforting thought. Sorry, but no Coors sold here. Check this place out. It's on the up and up.

THE AUSTIN COUNTRY

The AC still reigns as Austin's most popular disco. But it's more than that. Large and spacious it definitely is with three main areas. One area comprises the dance floor; expect to writhe along with the others surrounded by "sensurround sound", which means amplified bass and big, big speakers. For your enjoyment, check out the central bar area with brown carpeted floors and an area of steps at one wall with large pillows where you can flop after you have tired yourself out dancing. A big-screen TV lies at one corner of the pillows if you want diversion. A large aquarium demarks its separation from the third area reserved for pool freaks.

When I say "pool," I don't mean a swimming pool, though that might be a good idea for later expansion. Being a disco freak myself, I have thought more than once of wishing to submerge myself in a pool so as to return to the dance refreshed.

IF YOU DESCEND some stairs to the side of the dance floor, you'll find yourself outside listening to the twittering of birds in trees. Yeah, the patio's a good place to cool off.

Cover charge has lately been increased to \$1.00 six nights a week (closed Monday), and \$2.00 for after-hours Friday and Saturday nights (2 - 4:00 a.m.).

Check this place out. I promise you you'll go back, barring some economic disaster. Drag shows Thursday evenings. Free beer Wednesday nights from 10 - 11:00 p.m. Other specials, too. Oh yes, you'll find it at the northeast corner of E. 7th St. and Red River.

THE NEW APARTMENT

Call it simply The Apartment, or attach the word "New" to it, and you arrive at the same place. You can find it at 29th and Rio Grande with a large, but not always ample, parking lot. It looks like a house with a fence fronting it (you go in through the back way). At the red light, it's there, right across from the Rome Inn. An eatery called the Louisiana Purchase looks as if it were attached to the Apartment. No cover charge, and it's open from noon to 2:00 a.m.

If you're into leather (Austin still doesn't have a real leather bar yet), you can find like-minded and suitably attired people here. Overall, the dress is casual and fits with the dominant rough-hewn wood motif of the walls.

THE BAR HAS ample sitting space and you cannot imagine friendlier people. The two pool tables in a separate room are always hopping. In another room sits a juke box for those who like country-western or disco. Another room houses those who like playing cards, though I do wonder how anybody can see whether they're holding a three of clubs or a king of hearts in such darkness. If you want some of that good ol' Austin air, just move to the back (or should one say, the front?) patio with your longneck or whatever you brought to drink.

Don't worry if you have trouble finding parking space; you know what that means. You're destined to pass your time here in good cheer. Cheers. Check out happy hour 4 - 8:00 p.m. Check out other specials too numerous to name.



The Austin Country: Inside and . . .



photos by Carr Strong

Outside

austin's gay bars

Harvey Neville



GCS: serving gay austin for 3 years

GCS Peer Counseling Coordinator Tommy Connell rapping with Kelly Kay

By ART MORRIS

GAY COMMUNITY SERVICES opened its doors at the University Y in Austin on August 1, 1975.

But the organization was actually born across the Drag as a group of UT students who called themselves Gay People of Austin. The People moved to 2330 Guadalupe when the University Y recognized them as a viable group serving a previously neglected part of the Austin community, and offered office space in their headquarters above Sommers Drug.

A totally volunteer organization, GCS is staffed by and for the gay people of Austin and Travis County. Counseling and information services, available to both telephone and walk-in inquiries, make up the bulk of GCS' day-to-day activities.

Although some of our counselors may be professional, they all function at GCS as non-professional peer counselors, relying on personal experiences and their own common sense in reacting to and discussing gay people's lives and problems.

Many of those who call or come to GCS for peer counseling are gay people in the process of coming out who need to talk to someone in a non-judgmental position who understands their problem.

In more complex situations, GCS operates a referral system using psychiatrists and psychologists screened by the organization so that we know they are supportive of gay people. GCS also makes referrals to other professionals, such as dentists, doctors and lawyers.

FREQUENTLY, non-gay groups are interested in having contact with gay people as a learning experience. The GCS Speakers Bureau provides speakers to any group requesting them. Frequent requests arrive from UT, St. Edward's University, Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos, Austin Community College, Southwestern University in Georgetown and Huston-Tillotson College. Church groups, high school classes, and local TV and radio stations have also called upon GCS for speakers.

Our newspaper GAY AUSTIN has been published for over two years, starting out as a four page mimeographed newsletter, and gradually growing in quality and support. Published on newsprint for nearly a year now, the paper has subscribers in Texas, California and Utah.

Published monthly and distributed in Austin free, Gay Austin may be found at any of our advertisers' establishments, at GCS, in bookshops along the Drag, and in the Austin/Travis County Collection of the Austin Public Library.

Since its inception, GCS has sponsored a Friday night Rap Group which meets at 8:00 p.m. in the GCS lounge above Sommers Drug on the Drag. A good place to meet gay people in a quiet atmosphere, the Rap Group is open to everyone. Discussion ranges from coming out to promiscuity, relationships, and whatever else the group wants to talk about.

The only Austin gay organization with a permanent telephone line, GCS acts as a clearinghouse for information significant to other gay organizations including the Austin Gay Political Caucus, Austin Human Rights Coalition, Austin Lesbian Feminist Organization, UT's Lesbian/Gay Alliance, Texas Gay Task Force, Lesbian/Gay Democrats of Texas and Metropolitan Community Church.

Pertinent information is recorded on the answering tape which is available on the phone when GCS is closed.

Included in the Gay Community Services Directory and Source Book published by the National Gay Task Force, GCS is funded by private donations, the advertisers of GAY AUSTIN and the United Urban Council of Austin.

GAY COMMUNITY SERVICES is open daily from 6-10 p.m. upstairs over Sommers Drugstore at 2330 Guadalupe. The phone number is 477-6699.

A restaurant for gay austin

By HARVEY NEVILLE

Have you ever tried to enjoy an excellent dinner at a posh Austin restaurant with someone whom you are really close to (or want to be) when suddenly your stomach starts feeling queasy? It's a common feeling. You have realized that your wait-person is rushing you through the meal, and that most of the people around you seem to be feasting their homophobic eyes on the two of you rather than minding their own business.

Want relief?

GO DOWN to the Private Cellar Restaurant on E. 6th St. tonight (unless it's Monday) and enjoy the good company, low prices and generally well prepared food. The PC restaurant is brought to you by the same folks who run the popular bar by the same name (which is adjacent to the eatery).

The restaurant has given new life to the old building which the Waller Creek Catering Co. vacated a year ago. Diners can take in the sidewalk sights marching by on Sixth Street through beautiful glass doors. The dark hardwood floors, brick walls and softly lighted interior work together to produce a romantic mood. You can also enjoy dinner with a view on the back balcony which overlooks the patio behind the PC bar.

GEORGE, the proprietor, opened his restaurant on Aug. 4, and says that business has been good. So good, in fact, that the dining hours are about to be expanded from 7 until 11:00 p.m., to 5 until midnight. The PC restaurant is also open afterhours on Fridays and Saturdays until 4:00 a.m.

Entrees range from Chef's Salad (\$2.95) to Chateaubriand (for two) at \$12.50. The variety of dishes and their prices compare favorably with the selection of many equally (or more) expensive restaurants.

You can depend on four standard entrees whatever day you go. In addition to the Chef's Salad and the Chateaubriand, there's Shrimp Scampi (\$5.95) and Roast Pork.

Carr Strong



The Balcony at the Private Cellar Restaurant

Chef Howard also prepares three specials daily, and the diner may be offered anything from a large portion of Crab Newburg (\$3.95), to Chicken Fried Steak.

MOST SERVINGS are moderately sized and are accompanied by a soup and salad. Unfortunately, the vegetables taste as if they were an afterthought, or at least forgotten while everything else cooked.

The Private Cellar restaurant provides a long-awaited service for Austin's gay community. The food itself might actually take third place to the concept of a gay restaurant, and to the warm, comfortable atmosphere which has been established at PC's eatery.



The Enchanted Pooes of Farathastan

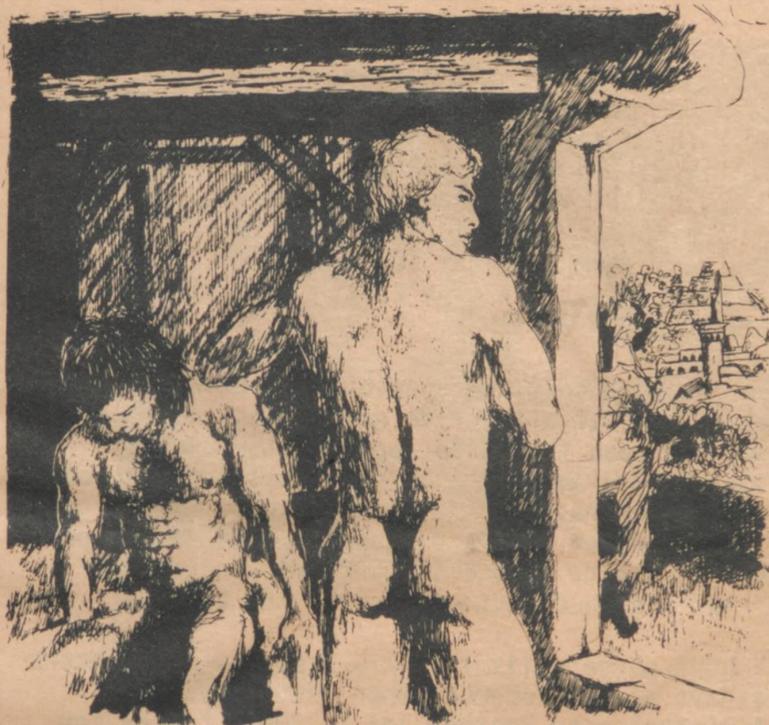
an epic fantasy by Stephen Atkin



White, gold, silver, and emerald towers peaked and shone as the dawn sun broke free of the giant dunes of the eastern desert and struck the oasis city of the god Calam-an-der, Farath. Ah Farath, blessed of the four desert winds, pool of Solestera-mafe, capital of its own far flung empire of sand and sea, fire and jewels, of all the cities, of all the lands, she is acknowledged fairest.

She and her allies control the western world. Farph to the west, land of a powerful and ancient mystery, peopled by the winged Farphians, acknowledges her rule. Dunderstag to the north and its sturdy folk bow to her crown. Even the proud sea people of Aka-hua are allied to her power while retaining their independence. Only Gath to the east across the wide sea of Abawath and the unknown lands beyond dare challenge her sway, yet stay the dogs of war for fear of her power. But soon this power will be shaken, perhaps to its doom...





Zathra rose quickly, as was his habit, and walked to the window. Dawn was already high. Below, the shimmering city of Farath floated on a sea of morning mist which began to thin even as he gazed. Today was the wedding feast and he and Akaca were to serve as the royal guard of Prince Abefeyman. There was no time to linger.

He turned to the bed.

"Wake up Akca, no time to lie in today," he said, then turned back to the window and began to brush his hair.

Akaca rose from the pallet, yawned, and stretched his powerful brown arms. He was from Akca-hua and possessed the rich brown skin and the deep, heavy muscles, the unruly black hair and blue-green eyes that were native to the hearty sea folk.

Zathra, still standing at the window, was a native of Farath, born to the royal family and was taller and leaner, with the golden skin, pale blue eyes, and white-blond hair of his people.

"What's the hour and why the hurry?" asked Akaca, fighting back another yawn, his voice still thick with sleep.

"Time for us to be up, that's the hour. We're due at the city gate before the guard changes and that's less than an hour away," answered Zathra, "So be quick about it."

Akaca stepped from the pallet and into his brief rapa cloth pants, then walked over to Zathra, who had also donned his.

"Well Zath," he said, "I guess this guard business is an honor and all, but I'm going to miss our morning exercise."

Zathra laughed. "You'll get used to it over the next couple of days I expect," he said as he put his arm over Akaca's shoulder and guided him out the door, "We'll be run so ragged by the end of today all you'll think of is sleep."

Still laughing he and Akaca set out for the city and, tho they knew it not, on the first steps of an adventure that would lead their world to the brink of extinction.

to be continued.... -



A GAY NIGHT ON THE TOWN

continued from page 9



The Private Cellar Restaurant

Familiarity breeds carelessness
 but we are careful with each other
 tonight in strangerways.
 If you knew me better you
 might be hurt by my care of a stranger
 But tonight you are the stranger
 just as my lover was once a stranger.

-- Anne Hogan

THE PRIVATE CELLAR

What can one say of the PC but "Wow...." one has to say more than that, certainly, but go down there any day at 2:00 p.m. and you'll know exactly what I mean. The cut, frosted glass at the bottom of the stairs prefigures the allure of the place. The PC's right across from the Stallion bookstore, so you can hardly miss it. It's at 709 E. 6th St., one-half block west of IH 35.

The bar is both cozy and spacious, a remarkable combination. Lots of attractive wood tones and windows looking out upon the patio above Waller Creek. Outside, tables among the banana trees provide added comfort. After having done a look-around there, come back in and watch people playing pool at either pool table. Sip a nice cool drink and get a glimpse of Paul Lynd's signed photograph over the bar.

HAPPY HOUR perpetually from 2 - 7:00 p.m. Free beers Wednesdays at 10 (remember when Wednesdays were spent listening to Brother Joe T. "Howdy" pray for the damned inside the Big Tent?), and incredibly low 10¢ draft on the patio Monday nights. If you get hot sipping the brew out there, just sidle inside and catch the cool air.

Check this place out. Check other added inducements. Sunday at 7:00 p.m. is after-Hippie Hollow hours at the PC with free beer and hot dogs.

George, the proprietor, has also opened a restaurant next door, and serves dinner daily 5 p.m. til midnight (closed Monday), and a brunch on Sunday, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. The PC restaurant is open afterhours (midnight til 4:00 a.m.) on Fridays and Saturdays. Sounds pretty good, if you know what I mean. Just the right atmosphere to enjoy the right food.

THE TAP

The Tap? Where's that? I confess that I have yet to traverse that place, but I hear it's an extremely cozy bar with all types of interesting people. Rumour has it of drag shows Wednesday nights. It's in the same block as the Greenhouse at W. 36th St. and Guadalupe. This has to be "mystery locale" number one. It's time we checked it out.

Meanwhile, have a good time, and enjoy while you have the energy to do so. Two for the road, and all that.

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Carr Strong



Running in Pease Park

WHETHER YOU'RE a once-a-week jogger, an all-around jock or a professional cruiser, Austin is the place to be.

Hike and bike trails almost completely encircle Town Lake (the Colorado River) from South Riverside's "Apartment City" all the way to Zilker Park. One path leads from Westerfield Park (at Enfield and Mopac) south along Mopac to the river.

For shadier, more cruisy running, head for Pease Park, the verdant 14-block strip fed by Shoal Creek just west of Lamar Blvd. between 15th and 29th Streets. Long the outdoor headquarters of gay Austin, illicit activity in the bushes has cut down since the City of Austin cleared out the underbrush a few years ago.

Few swimming holes are as beautiful as Zilker Park's gigantic, spring-fed Barton Springs Pool. Women may swim topless here, and many of the straight men now sport bikinis.

Although at Barton Springs only 176 lengths equals the English Channel, serious lap swimmers stroke away at Deep Eddy Pool, off Lake Austin Blvd. a couple of blocks west of Mopac. Deep Eddy is also a spring-fed pool.

Naturalists spend hot days sunning at Hippie Hollow on Lake Travis, where nudity is the accepted convention.

Gay Community Services sponsors volleyball every Sunday at 5 p.m. in Ramsey Park (at 44th St. and Burnet Rd.). The Private Cellar provides free beer every second and fourth Sunday of the month.

And just formed is the Capital City Athletic Club, a group of gay sports enthusiasts which plans to challenge other gay athletic clubs around the state in baseball, swimming, and field sports. Call GCS at 477-6699 for information on joining.

WOMEN/SPACE is a counseling and information center for the women of Austin. It provides a variety of services for women such as walk-in counseling, legal and medical and birth-control information, and information about community resources. **WOMEN/SPACE** also coordinates rap groups and consciousness-raising groups. Phone 472-3053.

gay
austin
at
play

Carr Strong



Playing volleyball with Gay Community Services

LEGAL SERVICES at reasonable fees

The Legal Clinic charges \$15 for your initial consultation session with an attorney. There is no time limit. If you want or need additional services we will supply you with a written fee quotation. If you don't wish to go on with a case after consultation you are under no further obligation.

• UNCONTESTED DIVORCE (NO PROPERTY OR CHILDREN)	\$ 90
• UNCONTESTED DIVORCE (WITH PROPERTY OR CHILDREN)	150
• UNCONTESTED DIVORCE (WITH PROPERTY & CHILDREN)	175
• NAME CHANGE	45
• BANKRUPTCY, INDIVIDUAL	225
• BANKRUPTCY, HUSBAND AND WIFE	275
• SIMPLE WILL, INDIVIDUAL	40
• SIMPLE WILLS, HUSBAND AND WIFE	60

The legal fees quoted above do not include court costs. These fees are for cases filed in Travis County between June 1, 1978 and September 1, 1978. Fees for legal work outside of Travis County will be higher. The Legal Clinic also accepts criminal cases and civil cases not listed above. Please call for an appointment. No legal advice will be given over the telephone.

Hours: 9:00-5:00 weekdays. Weekends and evenings by appointment.

Vivian Mahlab

**Legal Clinic at 501 W. 12th St.
Austin, Texas 78701
512-478-9332**

weekly

september

MONDAY-SATURDAY Happy Hour at the New Apartment, 4:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

MONDAY Lambda AA, 209 West 27th, 8:00p.m. Free beer, the New Apartment

TUESDAY Lesbian rap group (open), Womenspace, 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY Showtime, Austin, Country, 10:30 p.m.

FRIDAY Womenspace programs with discussion; coffee at 7:00 p.m., speakers at 8:00 p.m.; see weekly Rap group, Gay Community Services (open), 8:00 p.m.

SUNDAY Happy Hour at the New Apartment, noon-8:00 p.m.

Volleyball sponsored by GCS, Ramsay Park, West 44th at Rose-dale, 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Free keg of beer every second and fourth Sunday (donated by the Private Cellar). Come on out!

After Hippy Hollow Hour, free beer and hot dogs, 7:00 p.m., Private Cellar.

Metropolitan Community Church services, noon and 7:30 p.m., 614 East 6th.

- 15 -Womenspace: Depression and Women, Jan Wetzel of the UT School of Social Work. 2330 Guadalupe, 8pm.
15 -Democratic Party State Convention, Ft. Worth.
16 -Democratic Convention continues.
17 -Texas Gay Task Force meets in Ft. Worth. Call (512) 655-3724 for details.
-'Sebastiane' and 'A Very Natural Thing' screened at the Varsity Theatre, Guadalupe at 24th St.
18 -Films at Varsity Theatre (see above).
20 -GCS monthly meeting. Officers to be elected. 2330 Guadalupe, 8pm.
22 -Free VD Clinic for men and women. Club Austin, 308 W. Sixteenth St., 10pm-midnight. Sponsored by GCS, Texas Dept. of Health Resources, Private Cellar and Club Austin.
-Womenspace: Running in Austin, Kay Hart of Austin Runners Club. 2330 Guadalupe, 8pm.
23 -Deadline for contributions to GAY AUSTIN.
29 -Womenspace: Nutrition and the Politics of Food, Lynn Hayden of the Community Nutrition Institute. 2330 Guadalupe, 8pm.

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I WOULD LIKE TO PLACE A _____ WORD CLASSIFIED IN THE _____ ISSUE OF GAY AUSTIN. \$3.00 FOR 20 WORDS, 10¢ EACH ADDITIONAL WORD.

I WOULD LIKE TO PLACE AN ANONYMOUS WORD CLASSIFIED IN THE _____ ISSUE OF GAY AUSTIN. GCS WILL KEEP MY NAME CONFIDENTIAL AND NOTIFY ME OF ALL RESPONSES. \$4.00 FOR 20 WORDS, 15¢ EACH ADDITIONAL WORD.

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Additional words: _____

MAIL THIS FORM TO: GAY COMMUNITY SERVICES (Classifieds), 2330 Guadalupe, Austin, Tx. 78705; or drop it off at the GCS office between 6:00 and 10:00 p.m. daily.