

COMMUNITY NEWS

DECEMBER 1974

Dallas / Fort Worth

Vol. 1, No. 4

AN APPEAL FOR BLOOD

AURA Sponsors Gay Community Blood Bank

By Ken Cyr
Blood Pool Chairperson

A year and a half ago a tragic fire in New Orleans took the lives of more than 30 of our sisters and brothers. Severely burned survivors of the fire were rushed to local hospitals. Massive quantities of blood were needed in an effort to save their lives. An appeal went out to New Orleans citizens for blood. Many people responded . . . however, the attitude of many more was "Why should we give blood to save the lives of a bunch of perverts?"

A few months ago, a Fort Worth sister was critically injured in a traffic accident and during a long hospitalization required numerous blood transfusions. Many gay people, especially from Agape Metropolitan Community Church, responded to her need by donating blood to replace that she had used.

In Kansas City last month, a 21-year-old man was beaten and shot by three "queer

bashers." Doctors used 144 pints of blood in a futile effort to save his life.

These incidents have made us painfully aware that the Gay Community must be prepared to care for its own. We can begin now to build a blood reserve that will meet the emergency needs of our community whether it is an individual crisis or a community-wide tragedy.

YOU CAN HELP. Arrangements have been made with the John Peter Smith Hospital Blood Bank, 1500 South Main, to set up a blood account to be known as the "AURA Pool." Donors are needed to build up an adequate reserve. (Our immediate goal is 100 pints.)

The Blood Bank is open seven days a week, 24 hours a day, for the convenience of donors. (Free parking is provided in the lot south of the hospital on every day except Sunday.)

Please specify that your donation is for the "AURA Pool." Donors must be between the ages of 18 and 66. You should have eaten a meal sometime within six hours or less of your donation. The blood technician will take your temperature, blood pressure and pulse and will ask you questions about your medical history. Blood cannot be accepted from persons who have a history of hepatitis, tuberculosis or kidney disease. You may be asked to show some form of identification; however, all blood bank records are confidential.

As an incentive to donate now, the management of T.J.'s Back Door and the Other Place is offering a free pitcher of beer to every donor to the "AURA Pool." After you donate, the technician at the blood bank will give you a blood donor card. Present this card to any bartender at either bar, and you will be given your free beer. We commend T.J. for his community spirit and cooperation.

**WE NEED YOUR HELP NOW . . .
YOU MAY NEED OURS LATER.**

TEXAS HAS IT ALL!

If you're Gay, you should feel right at home in Texas. You can choose to live in **Dike** or **Fairy**, or perhaps settle down at **Gay Hill** or even **Queen City**.

You can have either **Loving** or **Friendship** . . . or, if you're in the mood, just **Trickham** (pronounced trick-em).

There's both a **Fruitvale** and a **Fruitland**, but more militant souls might want to retreat to **Stonewall** (County).

If it's entertainment you desire, you can try **Browning**, **Comyn** or **Climax**.

But whatever you're looking for, you're sure to find it in Texas.

(All of the above are actual places in Texas and are listed in the Texas Almanac.)

WAYNE RIBBLE, well-known Fort Worth gay community leader, gives the first pint of blood to AURA's community blood drive.





BOOK REVIEW By Scott Stebelman

the LIBRARY

"P.S. Your Cat Is Dead."

James Kirkwood is a very funny novelist, but behind all the humor of *P.S. Your Cat Is Dead* lies a serious theme: self-growth implies self-acceptance.

Kirkwood's characterization of the hero, Jimmy, is somewhat deceptive. We learn from the first couple of pages that Jimmy has been having an intense love affair with Kate, a girl who dominates him everywhere except in the bedroom. We also learn that his best friend, Pete, the only guy he can relate to, is bisexual. Pete propositions Jimmy, who respectfully declines, but when Pete has a heart attack and suddenly dies, Jimmy is so emotionally shaken that he never really recovers, no, not even when he goes off to Mexico with his new friend, the burglar Vito. Coincidence piles upon coincidence, and we soon discover that Vito is gay, too.

How does Jimmy respond to Vito's gayness? Not quite like the heterosexual he thinks himself to be. When he first catches Vito ransacking his apartment, he beats him unconscious and then ties him up. At this point a strange, uncomfortable emotion overwhelms him: he feels funny "holding someone in my arms—a phrase

of closeness, affection, even. None of this, of course, but there was a certain intimacy that was, well, eerie." Or when Vito, helplessly bound, asks Jimmy to take his (Vito's) penis out so he can urinate, Jimmy becomes furious and Vito aptly retorts, "You afraid you might like it?" Even giving Vito a drink of water becomes filled with sexual overtones for Jimmy, who cannot meet Vito's eyes when he does it.

It is not mere coincidence that Jimmy's best friends are gay, nor is it accidental that Kirkwood makes him an actor. Jimmy has been "acting" all of his life—he is 38 years old and still believes that he will become a star; he thinks he can accept his aunt's money without being obligated to her; he thinks he can rationally talk two dangerous sadists out of raping Vito; but most important of all, he "acts" as if he were exclusively straight.

Vito is crucial in Jimmy's development, for he offers him not only money, which means independence to write that long-dreamed novel, but also the opportunity to discover his gayness. Unlike Aunt Claire, Vito does not use money as a bribe; he does not expect Jimmy to have

sex with him in return for the gift. He leaves that decision freely up to his friend ("if I get into your knickers, you'll do the unzipping"). Jimmy may not realize it as the novel ends, but his decision to accept Vito, renounce "acting," and run away to Mexico may be the first step towards self-acceptance. The climate in Mexico is very hot, and you can't write all the time.

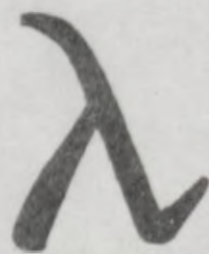
P.S. Your Cat Is Dead is in paperback and published by Warner Paperback Library.

The Dance Goes On At The Encore!

Dallas — Contrary to a recent rumor, The Encore at 4516 McKinney has not lost its dancing license. For several weeks now, different versions of the rumor have been circulating in Dallas. One version claims the vice squad is on the rag and is out to get the gay community by hasseling the bars with the first victim being the popular Encore. Another says that a competing and vindictive bar owner reported to the authorities that the Encore's dancing license had expired.

As it is with all rumors, these have some basis in truth . . . but truth was severely distorted by the embellishments of imagination. The truth, and reason for the rumor, is that the Encore's owner, Joe, forgot to renew the dancing license when it expired August 24. Until November 9, when he was formally notified by the police, Joe remained unaware of the lapse. It was that Saturday when the rumors began. By the following Thursday, the Encore has a renewed dancing license — and \$165 in fines and a plethora of rumors.

COMMUNITY NEWS



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Community News is published by the Northern Region of the Texas Gay Task Force (Communications Committee) and by AURA (Awareness, Unity and Research Association), not for profit but as

a service to the Gay Community.

Opinions expressed in *Community News* are those of the individual writers and do not necessarily reflect the views of this publication, AURA, the Northern Region of the Texas Gay Task Force, or of their members.

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 7318
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SUBSCRIPTION RATE is \$3 per year, mailed in plain envelope.

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AD RATES available on request.



Robert Gibson

Fort Worth MCC Has Program for Deaf

Agape Metropolitan Community Church of Fort Worth now has its services interpreted for the deaf by Robert Gibson who once was deaf himself. Additionally, Gibson teaches sign language classes on Tuesday evenings for those who wish to train themselves to better communicate with their deaf sisters and brothers. If you are interested, call (817) 534-9406.

DALLAS/FT. WORTH LEADERS MEET WITH WBAP MANAGER

Representatives of Agape MCC, AURA, Dallas DOB, Circle of Friends and MCC-Dallas met with Jett Jamison, manager of WBAP-TV, prior to the broadcast on NBC of "Flowers of Evil," a *Police Woman* episode depicting three Lesbians who run a rest home and rob and murder their elderly patients.

In spite of national and local protests, the offensive program was broadcast by NBC and shown locally by WBAP, Channel 5. A few changes were made by network officials prior to the broadcast and the word Lesbian was never used; however, one of the women was described as looking like a truck driver and depiction of the women as Lesbians was obvious throughout the show.

Representatives at the meeting were Rob Shivers, Ken Cyr, Marlon Pate, Rev. Ron Anderson and Rev. Jim Harris. The meeting was described as cordial but not

First International Gay Rights Conference To Be Held in Scotland

Edinburgh University (Scotland) will be the scene December 18-22 of the first International Gay Rights Congress.

At least 500 representatives are expected from western Europe, Yugoslavia, Hungary, third world nations, Australia, the United States and Canada.

The president of Senegal, the only head of state who has openly declared his homosexuality, has also been invited to attend, according to Congress organizer Derek Ogg, and representatives from the Soviet Union may also attend.

Ogg expects an international organization to grow out of the Congress. Such

an organization would be useful in applying international pressure on such groups as the United Nations and the World Health Organization and against discriminatory practices of individual nations.

The Congress will include sessions on younger gays, older gays, women's rights, the media and the relation of the gay struggle to the international labor movement.

Ogg began pushing the Congress after being elected president of the Edinburgh University Students Association on a gay rights platform. The Student Association is the official sponsor of the Congress.

TGTF Council Meets in Austin

Representatives of the four regions of the Texas Gay Task Force met October 5 in Austin.

Among the business transacted was the setting of the following dates for 1975 activities:

January 25-26 — Dallas meeting of both the Coordinating Council and the House of Delegates;

April 5-6 — Houston meeting of the Coordinating Council;

June 20-22 — 2nd Annual Texas Gay Conference in San Antonio and meeting of the Council and the House of Delegates.

Additionally, more specific boundaries for the Task Force's four regions were accepted by the Council, subject to approval by the House of Delegates in January.

Bill Buie of Integrity/Houston was named new coordinator of the communications committee. As a result, the new mailing address for the Task Force is Integrity/Houston, P.O. Box 16041, Houston, TX 77022. All organizations' monthly reports should now be sent to this address.

Organizational meetings were also held for the legal, self-growth and communications committees. Four committees are yet to be formed.

very productive; however, it is hoped by area leaders that a continuing channel of dialogue may have been opened.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS from the staff of Community News



CN STAFF, COVERAGE IS EXPANDED

Beginning with the December issue of *Community News*, an expanded staff should mean expanded coverage of Dallas/Fort Worth events and activities.

The new staff includes Richard van Cleve, business manager; Scott Stebelman, Dallas editor; Mark Elgin, Fort Worth editor; and John Chapman, art director. Other staff members remain the same.

Stick with us — we're in the process of becoming something really good!

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF DALLAS

3834 Ross Avenue
826-0291

Sunday Services:

11:00 a.m. & 7:30 p.m.

Thursday Services: 8:00 p.m.



GAY LAW

Section 21.06 Has To Go!

By Randy Beitel

On January 1 of this year a new Penal Code went into effect for Texas, and as most of you are probably aware (some painfully aware), several of its sections are aimed at those of us who engage in homosexual acts. By far the most pernicious of these is Section 21.06, which reads:

§21.06 HOMOSEXUAL CONDUCT

(a) A person commits an offense if he engages in deviate sexual intercourse with another individual of the same sex.

(b) An offense under this section is a Class C Misdemeanor.

Since Section 21.06 of the Penal Code defines deviate sexual intercourse as "any contact between any part of the genitals of one person and the mouth or anus of another person," any act of oral or anal intercourse between two consenting adults of the same sex is illegal, even when it is in the utmost privacy.

While most gay people have violated Section 21.06 innumerable times, few if any of us have ever been busted for a violation of Sec. 21.06. Because of the constitutional guarantees against unlawful searches and seizures, the police are prevented from effectively enforcing Section 21.06. Rather, those gay people who are busted are usually busted under Section 21.07 for engaging in homosexual acts in "public places."

Consequently, one might conclude that Section 21.06 is a dead letter in the law, having little if any effect on anyone, but nothing could be farther from the truth.

As gay people, we are daily affected by Section 21.06 in myriad ways. Section 21.06 serves as the cornerstone of an all pervasive system of oppression against gay people, both legally and logically. Legally, Section 21.06 is the foundation upon which rest the laws against public solicitation, public lewdness and cross-dressing. Additionally the criminalization by Section 21.06 of any and all homosexual acts, no matter how private, rather effectively precludes recovery in a lawsuit seeking relief from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in housing or employment. It also makes the

entry and naturalization of gay aliens difficult, if not impossible, as well as making marriage, adoption and child custody proceedings unduly complicated for gay citizens.

As a matter of logic, homophobes use the fact that all homosexual acts are criminalized to bolster their otherwise sagging and fallacious arguments in favor of oppressing gay people. They argue that since the Legislature is the representative of all the people, and since the Legislature has said in Section 21.06 that all homosexual acts are illegal, and since the Legislature only criminalizes those acts which are bad, therefore all homosexual acts are bad. This reasoning is then used to premise an argument that since gay people engage in homosexual acts, which are bad acts, therefore gay people must be bad people, and we certainly don't want bad people teaching our children, working beside us, or heaven forbid, living next to us. It is this type of thinking in society which makes it difficult to get a jury to convict in an assault case where the victim is gay. It is this type of thinking which makes a gay person hide that fact from friends, family and employers.

There have been a few gay people who have expressed an opinion that since the police aren't busting them in private, and since they are getting along nicely by passing as straight at work and living the gay life in the bars, that things aren't all that bad, and that by working to repeal Section 21.06 we will rock their boat. But I find this argument most unpersuasive, for I am going to be a free, whole, proud and open person, and nothing short of this will ever satisfy me. Thus I am not willing to bow down to an oppressive society which wants to ignore the fact that I am gay by ostracizing me to the bars for my social life and by forcing me to play like I am straight whenever I am in their presence. Oppressive society has used Section 21.06 and similar laws for years precisely for this purpose, to keep gay people out of its sight, and in so doing, Section 21.06 has injured us all, no matter how well we have been "getting by."

These are but a few of the effects Section 21.06 has on the lives of gay people;

I hope to deal with these and others in depth in future columns.

The Texas Gay Task Force is planning a major effort toward repeal of Section 21.06 in the Legislative session which convenes in January. It will not be an easy task, and we won't get it accomplished by sitting on our asses. It will take some real work by some real gay people who are tired of things as they are, and who are ready to make some changes.

(Editor's Note: Randy Beitel is a law student who is interested in gay law. If there are areas of the law which you would like to have him discuss, drop a note to the editor.)

GAY SLANG

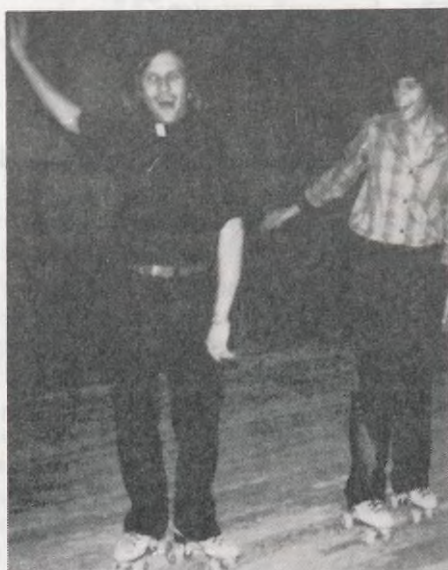
"DO IT!" Puzzle by Arlo

F	W	D	D	U	D	E	B	Q	S	A
L	T	K	G	R	U	I	C	R	N	P
H	X	O	A	P	T	T	N	E	H	I
N	S	G	A	Y	S	N	E	C	J	Q
O	H	I	L	Z	K	U	K	V	K	L
N	M	O	W	Y	Q	A	C	C	N	R
M	E	J	J	S	H	H	I	U	J	A
N	D	P	M	A	C	R	H	I	G	G
F	A	G	G	O	T	G	C	R	B	F
Y	R	A	M	J	U	E	O	E	L	B
U	T	C	G	I	B	P	S	V	F	A
M	F	I	V	O	E	E	F	O	Z	S
E	R	D	X	H	Y	F	T	L	L	D
L	W	U	E	X	E	S	I	U	R	C

The hidden words listed below appear forward, backward, up, down or diagonally in the puzzle. Find each of the hidden words and box it in as shown in the example.

AUNTIE	DUDE	JOHN
BOX	FAGGOT	LOVER
BUTCH	FLUFF	MARY
CAMP	GAY	QUEEN
CHICKEN	GREEK	TRADE
CLOSET	GIRL	TRICK
CRUISE	QUEEN	STUD
DRAG	HUNG	SWISH

Next Month: GAY LEADERS



HOOTCHY-COOTCHY form is demonstrated by Rev. Ron Anderson, pastor of Agape Metropolitan Community Church, to other skaters at one of the church's community "Gay Sways."

Fort Worth MCC Holds 'Gay Sway'

How long has it been since you went roller skating? Remember how much fun you used to have gliding around the rink to the swing and sway of the music? Now you can recapture those fun times out of the past with a "Gay Sway" being sponsored by Agape Metropolitan Community Church of Fort Worth.



*If God be
for us, who
can be
against us?
Romans 8:31*

AGAPE' METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

2800 Purington
Fort Worth, Texas

Phone: 817-534-9406

Office Hours:

Monday — Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

PASTOR

Rev. Ron J. Anderson

New Pastor Named At Dallas MCC

The Metropolitan Community Church of Dallas has named the Reverend James C. Harris as pastor of the 150-member congregation.

A native of Fort Smith, Arkansas (and also formerly of Dallas), Rev. Harris brings with him a varied and colorful background as a Baptist minister, U.S. Army Reserve 1st Lieutenant, and former member of the executive board of the Teamster's Union Local 208 during the time he was a heavy duty truck driver. Rev. Harris has also previously served in MCC congregations in Santa Monica and North Hollywood, California.

Rev. Harris has stressed his particular outreach as being to "all human beings who have been ignored or suppressed within their former church affiliations, with special concern for women, blacks and Chicanos."

The Dallas MCC, located at 3834 Ross in Dallas, will be host of the General Con-



Rev. James Harris

ference of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches in 1975.

The first skating party was held November 25 at Holiday Roller Rink at 2920 Carson in Haltom City. A second "Gay Sway" was scheduled for December 9 from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. at the Holiday Rink.

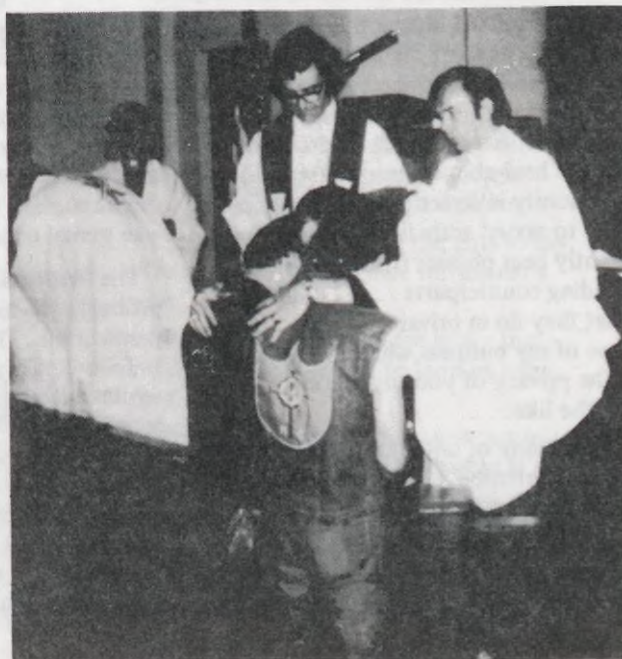
The music department of Agape MCC, sponsor for the activity, has indicated to

CN that the sway will be a monthly activity. Tickets are \$1.50. Information about future dates can be obtained by calling the church office at (817) 534-9406.

DIGNITY — Dallas/Fort Worth
469-6669

MCC DISTRICT CONFERENCE

MCC South Central District Conference was held in New Orleans October 18-20 with representatives from Metropolitan Community Church groups in Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston, Oklahoma City, Tulsa and New Orleans. A Holy Communion at St. Mark's Methodist Church concluded a weekend series of meetings, services and social activities.





Rappin' with Rip

By Rip Corley

The Desexualization of Homosexuality

The first series of articles that is to appear in this column is to deal with the sexualization aspect of homosexuality. As is evident to many members of the homophile community and also to many of our heterosexual counterparts, there is an overabundance of sexual acting out within our community. This is due to many and varied reasons, each of which will be dealt with individually in subsequent articles.

Too often a relationship is made or broken on the basis of the ability of a partner's sexual performance, when such a very small part of our life is spent between two sheets. Much of the conversation we hear about the activities of our community is directly or indirectly related to sexual activities. We even frequently hear phrases from our understanding counterparts . . . "I don't care what they do in private," . . . or, "it is none of my business what you people do in the privacy of your own home" . . . and the like.

Also, many of our legal problems are sexually oriented, i.e., it is not illegal to be homosexual, but rather it is the sexual acts in themselves that are illegal. It is this type of statute that gets misconstrued and causes uneasy lives for many gays.

Much of this problem is our own fault, however. If we take a careful look at our community, we will see an overabundance of sexually oriented "stuff." Most of our social outlets are sexually oriented, or at least have sexual overtones. Take the bars, baths, parks, T-rooms, beaches, etc. . . . all are places of frequent sexual contact or sexual pick-up places. Therefore, much of the mass media reporting and literature lean on the sexual theme.

We must recognize that we are responsible for the behavior, reputation, and growth of our community. In order to change the over-emphasis on sex, we may well have to experience a desexualization process. It is, therefore, beneficial to examine some of the areas that promote undue sexual connotation.

The first deals with the sense of touch, probably the most basic form of communication. The short article immediately following is a reprint of an article I wrote several years ago dealing with touching.

"I don't know how to touch him . . . I used to . . . but now I've forgotten how." Touch . . . one of the most basic forms of communication, has become a lost, or at

least confused affection with all too many gays. For some mysterious reason, gay plus touch equals sex, or at least a prelude thereto.

Take a typical bar situation. Two gays meet, decide to trip the light fantastic on the dance floor, and there go the roaming hands and rushing fingers. What is wrong with us? Why are so many of us unable to touch one another, just for the sake of touching . . . or being touched; to hold someone just because we desire to hold or to be held; to kiss someone and relate, "Hey, I like you; you're nice!" Unfortunately, this is an all too frequent trite prerequisite for bedroom play.

A baby, well-nourished, kept clean and free from the more physiological needs, will die if deprived of the touch that communicates love. Most of us have (or at least had) that communicative ability and could carry it out without participating in a gang-bang in the nursery. We still have that need. The baby will really die; we, out of that chronological infancy, die, too, but not physically. We lose that most important part of humanism that says, "Hey! There's more to me than the attributes between my legs. Find it, find me, grow with me."

Reach out and touch somebody's hand. Find what's attached to that hand, find out what's inside. It is most likely beautiful.

Sex is important. So is love. The two are not necessarily analogous in toto. When was the last time you searched for a *person* first, who might with time and growth become a sex partner in a dynamic relationship, as opposed to a sex object that might become a person.

If one's mindset regarding touch is that it must be sexual in connotation, this person is demeaning to himself, and equally as tragic, he is demeaning to another.

Reach out . . . communicate . . . understand — touch him . . .

RC

♦ ♦ ♦

I trust the readers of this column will not feel that this is an article designed to scold; for indeed it is not. The thrust of this column will be to provide channels of communication that will question and examine all of our behaviorisms and hopefully generate comments and reflections from you the readers, allowing our exchange to generate new perspectives.

View from the Front

By Allen Reid

IF YOU NEEDED HELP, WOULD THERE BE ANYBODY THERE?

Five little letters — M-O-N-E-Y — that's all that stands between the Gay Movement and success.

There are an estimated 200,000 gay people living in the Metroplex. If each of those people gave only one dollar to the gay organization of her/his choice, there would be a battle chest approaching a quarter-million dollars with which to combat bigotry, fear and oppression and provide for the very real needs of members of our community.

We need gay community service centers . . . We need our own V.D. clinics . . . We need programs for the elderly . . . We need to provide help for abused gay youths . . . We need programs for gay alcoholics and gays with drug problems . . . We need emergency short-term housing for gay transients and for our unemployed brothers and sisters . . . We need public education programs . . . We need a 24-hour staffed gay crisis line and information switchboard . . . We need to be able to provide legal assistance . . . We need to have counseling services and self-growth sessions . . . We need to establish gay employment programs . . . We need full-time

staff members . . . *We need a heckuva lot!*

What we have, however, are some dreams of what could be — and a deep sadness that our brothers and sisters in need must be turned away because we have *no staff . . . no facilities . . . and no money.*

What we have is a terrible feeling of despair and frustration in knowing that 200,000 people could help . . . but haven't.

What if you ever needed help . . . would there be anybody there to answer your telephone call . . . to talk to you . . . to try to give you answers?

Right now, while you don't yet need help and think you probably never will, why don't you do something to make sure that there will always be somebody there to help those who desperately need it.

Give a few dollars to one of the organizations in this area . . . just so they'll be around in case you ever need them.

Others need them now. Won't you help?

NOT FOR LESBIANS ONLY

By Sue Harris

Some of my best friends are men. To some as a Lesbian, I should be a "man hater" who grimaces at any male who might talk to me or worse yet, try to touch me.

Not so! My thing with men started about twenty-five years ago! There was this one gentleman who would talk to me for hours or give me extra attention like fixing my cereal before I was headed off to school with a hug. He is my father.

Then, as I grew older, I took up with a blond-haired lad who became my closest friend. He let me play with his trucks, and he played with my dolls. I still love my big brother a great deal.

When I first expressed my Lesbianism, I was concerned that all of these feelings would be taken away from me. But I now know that I would not be a whole person without these feelings.

So for my father and brother, and my brothers of today, I will forever guard these relationships.

and By Kay Wilson

I contend that gay relationships encounter the same problems as straight marriages. Anytime you live with someone, you are going to find hassles.

Some people remember to put the cap back on the tube of toothpaste, while

Sign Language



others do not. Some people like mayonnaise on both sides of their bread, and some like it on one with mustard on the other.

While those may sound like minute problems, I have seen them cause mammoth arguments.

Generally, after one of these mayonnaise arguments, one of us decides to leave. It is usually Sue who packs her tennis shoes, three pairs of underwear and the only tube of toothpaste in a small overnight case and heads for the door. I always intercept her before she gets too far. I mean, if she did walk out, I'd have to go to work with halitosis and yellow teeth.

I'm not really sure what we say that keeps us together. I mean, we're not bound legally by any piece of paper.

I sure as hell don't have the guts to say, "We have to stay together for the cat's sake."

Sometimes I think we are lucky that we don't have a license to bind us together.

The gay marriages that stay intact usually do so because both people want it that way. When that is the case, it makes it a little easier to stick around, even when someone you know doesn't remember to put a coaster under the glass they have just set on your newly polished end table.



DENVER POLICE AGREE TO END HARASSMENT

Denver — Top police brass and attorneys for the Denver Gay Coalition have signed a court agreement which, if adhered to, may end two decades of open hostility between Denver vice squad officers and homosexuals.

Among other items, the agreement calls for a stop to police harassment of homosexuals, equal enforcement of public indecency laws against all persons and appointment of a police "liaison" officer to resolve misunderstandings between gays and police.

The agreement, filed October 3 with the Denver District Court Judge Robert E. McLean, was the result of a massive lawsuit filed in June 1973 by the Gay Coalition against the city and its police officers. The lawsuit asked for a court order prohibiting the police from continuing an alleged "deliberate campaign of arrest, harassment and intimidation" of gay persons.

GAY PEOPLE IN THE CHURCH TO HOLD CHICAGO MEETING

The National Task Force on Gay People in the Church has announced plans for a national consultation March 4-7 in Chicago to coincide with the March 1975 session of the Governing Board of the National Council of Churches.

Attendance at the consultation will be limited to gay persons currently involved in gay liberation activities within mainline denominations and the Roman Catholic Church. One purpose of the consultation is to publicize and support the work of the gay caucuses now functioning within 12 denominations.

More information about the Task Force or the consultation can be obtained from Rev. William R. Johnson, executive director of the Council on Religion and the Homosexual, 83 McAllister, Suite 421, San Francisco, CA 94102.

New Law School Welcomes Gays

(Los Angeles) — The People's College of Law of the National Lawyers Guild, a new community-oriented law school which welcomes and actively seeks gay and other minority group students, opened September 3 of this year in Los Angeles.

The school is specifically designed to meet the need of an inexpensive educa-

tion for people who are generally excluded from the legal education process.

Tuition is \$350 a semester with some financial assistance available. Next classes will enter in January and September of 1975. Additional information can be obtained by writing Step May, People's College of Law, 2228 7th St., Los Angeles, CA 90029, or calling (213) 661-5135.

LOS ANGELES CENTER GETS \$1,182,000

(Los Angeles) The Gay Community Services Center of Los Angeles has been granted \$1,182,000 from local, state and federal sources to fund six center projects.

The largest, \$1 million from the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, is for a Gay Women's Alcohol Recovery Program. Another \$130,000 has been awarded by the Los Angeles County Health Department to extend the Center's successful venereal disease clinic. A \$30,000 grant from the California Regional Medical Program will enable the Center to expand its medical services to treatment of general medical problems. A \$12,000 grant from the L.A. Regional Family Planning Project is to be used in dealing with the problems unique to gay women and men who are involved in heterosexual marriages.

Two other grants of \$5,000 each are to go to the Center's drug and alcohol abuse program.

GAY UNITED FUND FORMED FOR BOSTON

(Boston) A Gay United Fund is being established for the Boston area by a group of individuals concerned about the lack of funds available to gay organizations and the amount of time that must presently be expended by individual organizations to raise operating revenues.

Organizers of the fund, believed to be the first attempt at a federated gay fund raising and disbursement project in the nation, stressed that they would "seek out money from places where it's not coming from now — foundations, businesses, large scale benefits, and individuals," and would not compete for money that individual groups are already getting.

TEXAS GAY UNITARIANS ORGANIZE

Texas members of the first major church in the United States to support gay rights have organized Texas Unitarian-Universalist Gays to unite gay people within the Unitarian-Universalist Church.

According to a statement from the group, T.U.U.G. is an affiliated member of the Continental Gay U-U Caucus. The Caucus worked within the church in Canada and the United States to help develop a church office to deal specifically with gay concerns and also guided the Unitarian-Universalists to publicly support gay rights, the first major church body to do so.

Goals of the new Texas organization are "to reach other gay U-U's to create a sense of fellowship in Texas and to work within the church to further gay Unitarian-Universalists' place in the church."

The group, headquartered in Austin, is a charter member of the Texas Gay Task Force and has worked closely with other gay groups in Austin and in the rest of the state. Members of the group have met with Austin church leadership and presented a forum service on being a gay Unitarian.

T.U.U.G. urges all Texas gay Unitarian-Universalists (or others interested in liberal religion) to contact them by writing: T.U.U.G., c/o Den Milam, 2501 San Gabriel, No. 6, Austin TX 78705.

DEFENSE FUND FORMED FOR LESBIAN MOTHERS

The Lesbian Mother's National Defense Fund has been formed to provide legal help and financial support. The address for sending contributions or obtaining information is 1941 Division, Enumclaw, WA 98002.

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Highlights & Disappointments

By Ron Stone



HIGHLIGHTS. Recently at a gathering of friends from the office, the conversation somehow had turned to the Houston mass murders. This subject seems still to be a popular one in some circles. One blond haired dude, who by the way is very proud of his German ancestry, made the comment, "Well, what else do you expect from faggots." Whereupon his date for the evening (who is a friend of mine) turned to him and said, "And I suppose all Germans kill Jews." A feeling of silence went through the room, and before the evening was over, the feeling towards Gays had improved about 100%. With friends like her on our side, awareness is surely spreading. It made me realize that people do care about our plight, and whether it is verbal or not, more and more people are becoming our defenders.

DISAPPOINTMENTS. Did you ever hear the phrase, "He is his own worst enemy."? It has occurred to me that often we are our worst enemy. You will find few critics more severe on gay people than gays themselves. They not only find fault with other gays, but it sometimes seems that we actually look for faults. Think back about how many times you have called someone an old queen, or said, "look at that nellie thing." We need to have pride in ourselves . . . or how else can we seek respect from anyone else. Next time, if you think something bad about someone, don't say it; or better yet, say something nice instead.

HIGHLIGHTS. I recently had a friend who is a hair dresser tell me that when he decided to go into that business he knew people would assume that he was gay. And even though he was gay, he still found it hard to accept in the public eye. He told me, however, that as time went on and he became established in the business, "I wasn't expected to be anything but human, and no one made any great demands." It is wonderful when a gay person finally realizes for himself that no one expects him to be anything "but human," and he knows that he can truly face the world and become a part of humanity in his own right!

DISAPPOINTMENTS. An organization that is desperately working for the gay cause to help you when you need help is slowly dying for lack of funds. AURA of Fort Worth is in need of funds to help you. There are calls in the middle of the night, "I am in jail; can you help me?" or "I am lonely. Is there a place in the

world for me. Talk to me, please." It would be so sad if for a lack of a few dollars the answer had to be "No, we aren't able to help you. Sorry." They are not asking for a lot of money . . . a subscription to the paper would help. Collect aluminum beer cans and deliver them to the AURA office. Give a dollar or the price of a beer. You CAN help, and there is no reason why you can't. Workers are needed for the paper. Dallas is getting behind the paper, and we are planning to work towards making this something we can all be proud of. Isn't it time you were out and doing for someone besides yourself? And, besides, this way you will be helping all of us. Help a little or a lot. O.K.?

THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT

(Continued from Page 11)

sequel, *Funny Lady*, starring **Barbra Streisand**.)

However, moviegoers can certainly stay busy. All-star disaster epics are "in" this season with *Airport 1975* and *Earthquake*. **Steve McQueen** and **Paul Newman** star in *The Towering Inferno* from **Irwin Allen**, the producer who started the catastrophe cycle with *The Poseidon Adventure*. *Gold*, another large-scale venture, features a fantastic mine flooding sequence and stars **Roger Moore** (who also returns once again as James Bond in *The Man With the Golden Gun*.)

Warner Brothers has only one release between now and year's end, *Freebie and the Bean*, a comedy starring **Alan Arkin** and **James Caan**.

From Paramount comes **Richard Kiley** as *The Little Prince* and **David Hartman** in *The Island at the Top of the World*. From Universal will be a remake of *The*

Front Page with **Jack Lemmon**, **Walter Matthau** and **Carol Burnett**. On the zany side is **Mel Brooks'** *Young Frankenstein* and *Phantom of the Paradise* with **Paul Williams**.

Other films that could be in line for an Oscar include: Agatha Christie's mystery, *Murder on the Orient Express*; *Lenny*, with **Dustin Hoffman**; *The Klansman* with **Richard Burton**; and *The Tamarind Seed* starring **Omar Sharif**.

NOTES: U.S. tours on the way include **Led Zeppelin**, **Paul and Linda McCartney** and **George Harrison** . . . **John Davidson** got all dolled up (in drag) for a recent roll in the *Streets of San Francisco* television series . . . **Cher Bono** receives \$26,000 monthly from **Sonny**.

. . . A poll of English fans named **David Bowie** Number 3 in the Best Male Vocalist category and Number 1 in the Best Female Vocalist contest . . . **Carol Channing** has been giving dinner parties for **Martha Mitchell**.

Fort Worth N.O.W. Forms Lesbian Task Force



The Fort Worth Chapter of the National Organization for Women has formed a Lesbian Task Force.

Object of the Task Force is to gather data on how the needs and problems of the Lesbian Community can best be met in today's highly structured and often times oppressive society.

We need and welcome your ideas and participation. For information about meetings, etc., call the number listed below Monday-Saturday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and leave a message for "Sam."

(817) 536-0441

DIRECTORY

DALLAS

Act III, 3115 Live Oak, 824-9043
 Bayou Landing, 2609 N. Pearl, 742-9521
 Crews Inn, 3220 N. Fitzhugh, 526-9320
 Encore, 4516 McKinney, 526-9328
 Entre Nuit, 3116 Live Oak, 823-0423
 The Forest, 3236 McKinney, 526-9200
 Highland, 3018 Monticello, 526-9551
 Marlboro, 4100 Maple, 526-9487
 Old Plantation, 3717 Rawlins, 528-6550
 One Way In, 2509 N. Fitzhugh (women)
 824-9227
 Ramrod, 3224 N. Fitzhugh, 526-9110
 Sundance Kids, 4025 Maple, 526-9173
 Swinger, 4006 Maple, 526-9295
 Terry's Ranch, 4117 Maple, 526-9524
 T.J.'s, 3307 McKinney, 526-9368
 Three Plus You, 3014 Throckmorton
 (women) 526-9438
 Villa Fontana, 1315 Skiles, 823-0372
 The Fifth Wheel, 1212 Oak Lawn, 742-
 742-0010

ALSO in Dallas . . .

Studio 9 Theater, 4817 Bryan, Dallas,
 823-0447
 Bachelor Quarter Baths, 3116 Live Oak,
 Dallas, 823-0432
 Club Dallas Baths, 2616 Swiss, 821-1990

FORT WORTH

Other Place, 2307 W. 7th, 335-0586
 Purple Lady, 3029 S. Main, 927-9881
 Rawhide, 4016 White Settlement Rd.,
 737-0248
 651 Club, 651 S. Jennings, 332-0417
 T.J.'s Back Door, 5536 Jacksboro Hwy.,
 (rear) 624-0630

AMARILLO

My Way, 523 E. 10th, 373-4792

WICHITA FALLS

Club 315, 315 N. Scott, 322-0866
 Carousel, 703 Travis, 322-0832

LUBBOCK

David's Warehouse, 2402 Marshall St.,
 762-1165

(Readers: If any of these listings are not correct, please contact Community News)

FREE BEER!

The management of T.J.'s BACK DOOR and The OTHER PLACE has joined in support of AURA's BLOOD DRIVE by offering a free pitcher of beer to every person who donates a pint of blood to the AURA Pool (see article in this issue) at John Peter Smith Hospital Blook Bank, 1500 South Main Street in Fort Worth. Please present your blood donor card to the bartender at either T.J.'s Back Door or The Other Place for your free pitcher of beer.

T.J.'s Back Door

5536 JACKSBORO HWY. (Rear)

The Other Place

2397 WEST SEVENTH

WANTADSWANTADSWANTADS

WANTED: MALE ROOMMATE

Over 25, to share house with man with two children. Meals and laundry. Sincere working man only. Eulless, 283-3310.

THIS SPACE IS FOR YOUR AD . . .

sell it, give it away, or just meet new friends.

DON'T HAVE ANY MONEY to help support the Gay Movement? Collect aluminum cans. AURA will accept either the cans or the money. Call (817) 838-2095.

GOOD GAY MUSIC

from Paul Wagner

Paul's Album: TO BE A MAN

featuring

"But I Love You"

"No One But You"

"As a Friend"

"To Be a Man"

"Need Your Gentle Love To"

Only \$4 postage paid from

AURA, P.O. Box 7318, Fort Worth,
 Texas 76111



DIANA was named top female impersonator at the Halloween costume contest at T.J.'s Back Door, one of many such contests held at Fort Worth and Dallas bars. Also shown are other winners from T.J.'s. Many area bars are also planning contests and other activities for New Year's Eve.

ON THE BEAT WITH BEATTY



On the Bar Scene, we have several new places opening, and all are doing well. Joe's Other Place opened a few weeks ago. I should say they had their grand opening a few weeks ago. They have been open going on two months. There was a lot of preparation and most of it was taken care of by the boy with a million dollar smile (David). Joe tells me he turned into a carpenter, plumber, electrician and painter overnight. It took longer than that to complete all of these chores, but with the patient coaching of Joe Elliot, it all eventually came about. David is the bartender, but they also have a couple of barmaids that lend to the pleasant atmosphere while diligently going about their duties. The place is big, clean and conveniently located with a large parking lot. Haskell and Lemmon is only a short skip from the Forest and T.J.'s and close to the Ramrod and Crews

Inn.

Located on Fitzhugh across from the Barrel is the new One Way In, which also had its grand opening a few weeks ago. It was very successful, and Carol and Glen are happy with their crowd. It's mostly women, a lot of them former customers of Mary's Barrel, which has been sold and converted into a neighborhood bar. The One Way In is located in a club which had been closed for some time. Pat and Glen were satisfied with most of the decor as it was, so it required very little going over. It's a big oval shaped bar with a good-sized dance floor and a pool table. The bar bourbon is great. Try it!

As we go to the other end of the beat up toward the Oaklawn area, we find the old Mother's Blues has changed again. Scott is the manager of the Old Plantation located on Rawlins just off Oaklawn. He

put a lot into that old place including some of his heart. The Old Plantation has two bars which are quite different from one another. In the main bar, they have two bartenders who are running all the time. There are booths around the outside wall and in the center is the dance floor. The theme is rock. The back bar is my favorite with its Western atmosphere, pool tables and a honky-tonk piano, Blue Ribbon on tap and cute bartenders.

Dallas is once again blessed with a delightful blond boy from Tennessee behind the bar at the Marlboro. His name is Larry, and if you should come in without a smile, he'll give you one of his. There's 15-cent beer (Coors) on tap and free peanuts on Mondays.

Terry's Ranch has a new attraction. The Slave Auction is held at 11 p.m. every Monday. They now have \$200 bills with Terry's Ranch stamped on them for use in the auction. Come on out and see a real Western bar. Something special happens every night. I hope they never take "Cotton-Eyed Joe" off the juke box.

The Crews Inn features a new face with a body to match and a personality of charm. His name is Gary. It's a toss up as to who gets more attention, Gary or Jason. Jason is another fairly new face and is an eye catcher himself, as well as a good dancer.

THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT

by Jay Alexander

"My idea of a great night spot," someone once said, "is bed." But if you don't have one readily available — here's a brief schedule of other area entertainment:

Fort Worth Community Theatre (Scott Theatre), *The Constant Wife*, January 9-18.

Granny's Dinner Playhouse (Dallas), June Allyson in *My Daughter, Your Son*, Dec. 4 for a six-week run.

Windmill Dinner Theater (Dallas), Marjorie Lord in *Finishing Touches*, through December 15. Henry Gibson in an adult

comedy beginning December 17 for five weeks.

Crystal Palace Dinner Theater (Dallas), *Godspell* starts December 10 and runs through February 15.

Country Dinner Playhouse (Dallas), *Sweet Charity*, now through December 15; beginning December 17, *Tab Hunter in Here Lies Jeremy Troy*.

Theatre 3 (Dallas), *Whispers on the Wind*, now through January 5.

OPERA — WRR-FM (101.1) — live broadcasts from the Metropolitan Opera House in New York every Saturday at 1 p.m.

December 7 - *Romeo Et Juliette* (Gounod); December 14, *Death in Venice* (New) (Britten); December 21, *Jenufa* (New) (Janacek); December 28, *Turandot* (Puccini); January 4, *L'Italiana in Algeri* (Rossini); January 11, *Madama Butterfly* (Puccini).

Perhaps the most eagerly awaited new movie is *The Godfather, Part II*, in which Al Pacino assumes underworld power after the death of Marlon Brando. This Paramount production leads a mere trickle of new films set for Christmas openings, compared to a deluge of up to 24 releases that was common several years ago.

To qualify for the Oscars, there doubtless will be a number of last-minute year-end bookings; for example, Robert Mulligan's *The Nickle Ride* may go in December instead of January. *Law and Disorder* with Carroll O'Connor will be Columbia's only release until 1975. (After that, look for a landslide starting with the *Funny Girl*

(Continued on Page 9)

Hey — How About a Little Cooperation!?!

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE OWNERS AND MANAGERS OF DALLAS AND FORT WORTH GAY BARS

Community News wrote to every gay bar owner/manager in the Metroplex offering to cooperate with gay businesses in Dallas/Fort Worth. We sent you a sample complimentary copy of our publication and offered to publicize your activities, run features and pictures on your "personalities" and report on other news of interest to bars and those of our community who support them (all at no charge to you).

More than a month has passed, and *only one* bar has even bothered to respond (although each letter contained a simple "yes-or-no" questionnaire and a **stamped** envelope in which to mail any response).

We can only hope that your lack of response and interest does not reflect a lack of concern for the gay community and the people (we assume) who put their money into your pockets.

Because we have had no response from you to our initial contact, our staff (limited though it is) will now begin the time-consuming task of trying to visit each of you personally to determine your interest, if any.

Please let me remind you that *Community News* is not published for profit and is not published to benefit anyone except those people who are members of the gay community. It is published by a coalition of members of Dallas and Fort Worth gay organizations as a service to the gay community in this area.

Community News will somehow continue to be published with or without your cooperation — but we sincerely believe it would benefit us all to work together. We want *CN* to represent you equally as it strives to represent all elements of the Dallas/Fort Worth "Gay Scene."

We're trying to help. Won't you cooperate with us?

Gayly,

Allen Reid, editor

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Allen Reid



THE PURPLE LADY

WEDNESDAY IS GUYS' NIGHT

Free Draw — 8 to 9

Thursday Beer Bust
7 o'clock

Sunday — 8 to 9
Draw 25c — Can 40c

DANCING

3029 South Main

Ft. Worth

927-9881

THE CALENDAR is coming!!!

LET US KNOW about your meetings and special activities (organizations, churches, businesses) and we will list them on The Calendar. Watch for it next month!

