



Give the People Light and they will find their own way.

# The Wisconsin Light

## House Subcommittee Postpones Hearing Sought by Anti-Gay Extremist

Washington, D.C.—After the public response to press reports that a congressional panel would hold a hearing sought by anti-Gay extremist Lou Sheldon, staff members from the U.S. House of Representatives have told the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) that the hearing will be postponed.

The reason given HRCF for the postponement was so that efforts could be made to ensure fairness and balance in the selection of witnesses.

At the end of August, staffers for Rep. Peter Hoekstra (R-MI), chair of the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee of the House Economic and Educational Opportunities Committee, had confirmed claims that Sheldon made in an August fundraising letter that the subcommittee would hold a hearing on September 12.

In the direct mail letter for his Traditional Values Coalition, Sheldon communicated his intentions to use the taxpayer-funded forum to attack local school efforts to prevent AIDS, violence and suicide, and sought donations to mount a \$25,000 media campaign to publicize the event.

### Put People with AIDS in Camps

In an interview with the *Los Angeles Times* published November 26, 1989, Sheldon called for men, women and children with HIV/AIDS to be confined to concentration camps he called "cities of refuge."

In 1986 and 1988, he backed discriminatory anti-Gay initiatives sponsored by Right Wing extremist Lyndon LaRouche.

### Public Outcry

"I don't think Lou Sheldon realized what an outcry there would be when the public got wind of his extreme agenda," said HRCF Political Director Daniel Zingale. "Sheldon has made it his mission to single out Lesbian and Gay Americans for discrimination. Lesbian and Gay youth are at high risk of bias-motivated violence and suicide, and it is incredibly mean-spirited that Sheldon wants the Federal Government to forbid local communities from dealing with these vulnerable young people in a fair and compassionate manner. Targeting at-risk youth for discrimination in school is about as low as you can get."

Some communities have adopted modest programs to address the epidemic of violence and discrimination against Lesbian and Gay youth in schools. Sheldon claims that such local efforts can either make straight kids Gay or prevent Gay kids from turning straight.

## Fallout Continues Over Dole's Return of Log Cabin Campaign Contribution

Washington, D.C.—A Gay Republican congressman who has endorsed Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole for president started out being critical of Dole for returning a contribution from the Log Cabin Club, a Gay GOP group.

"Are you rejecting the support of anyone who happens to be Gay?" Wisconsin Rep. Steve Gunderson said in a letter to Dole made public Wednesday, September 6. "If this is so, do you intend to now reject my support and request those on your staff who happen to be Gay to resign?"

Dole's campaign recently said it was returning a \$1,000 contribution from the Log Cabin Club, an organization of gay Republicans.

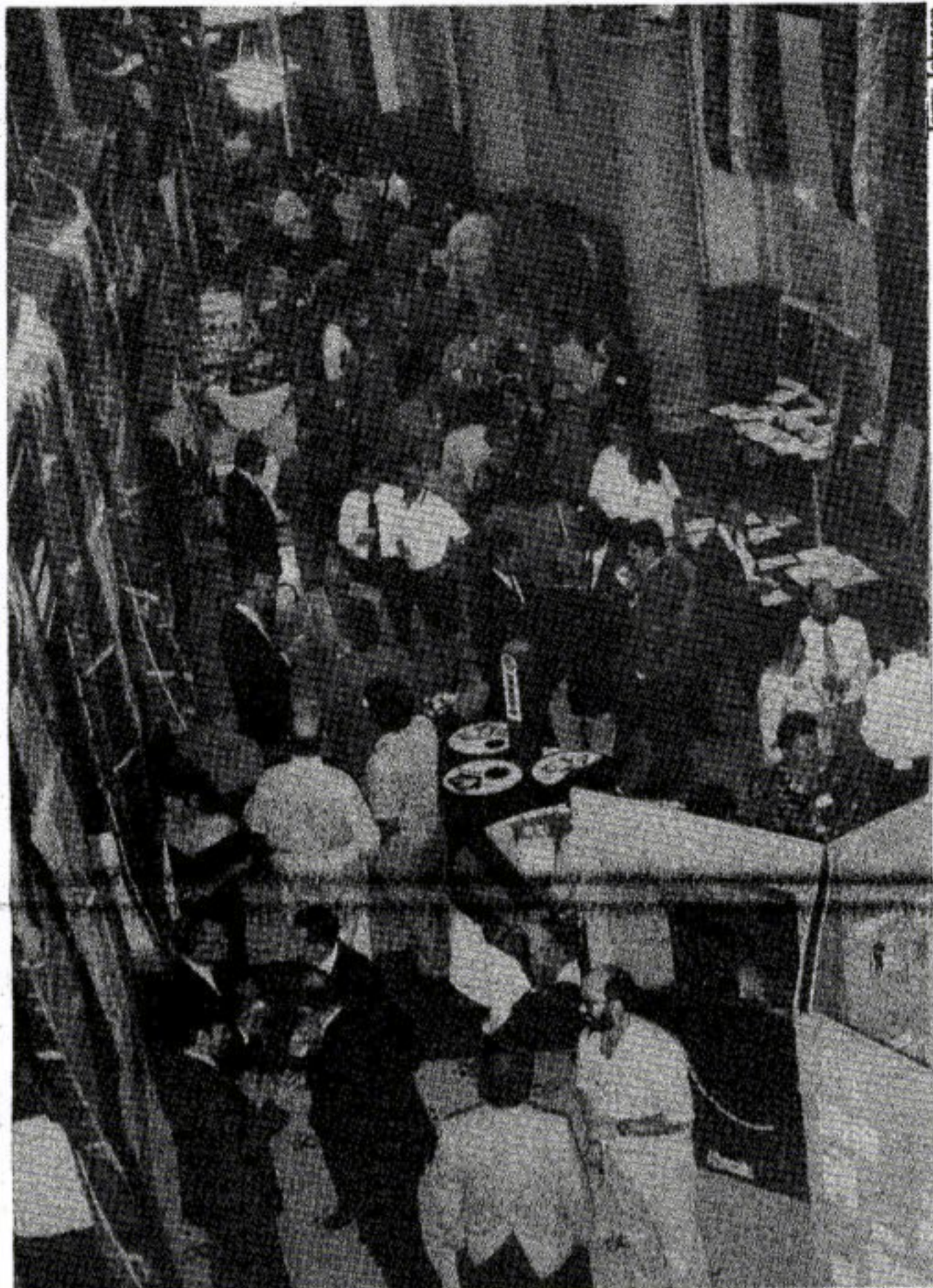
Dole spokesman Nelson Warfield said returning the contribution was "not about supporting discrimination but about rejecting the support of an organization" that supports same-sex marriages and allowing Gay men and Lesbians to serve openly in the military.

Log Cabin officials produced a letter showing that the Dole campaign had solicited the contribution, and said the campaign decided to return it only after media inquiries. Dole aides then said campaign finance chairman John Moran should not have sent the letter.

"The Log Cabin Club is Republican because they don't believe in the big-government policies of the Democrats," Gunderson wrote Dole. "They agree with you in balancing the budget, returning power to states and local government, and yes, even in promoting the family!"

"One need not be anti-Gay just to prove you

## Homophobic Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe, to Visit Milwaukee in October



Jerry Johnson

**Making History**—On Sept. 5, some 250 people attended the Milwaukee opening of "The Long Road to Freedom" history exhibit at City Hall. The exhibit then moved to the downtown library. The display will move to Madison where it will be on exhibit through October 30 at the Civic Center (See related photos on pages 5 and 6.)

are pro-family. I know of no Gay Republican (and frankly few Gay Democrats) who seek any special class or privileges. All we seek is the end to blatant discrimination in America."

Gunderson supported Dole's 1988 presidential campaign and was among the earliest members of Congress to endorse Dole's 1996 effort.

The Wisconsin congressman said Dole had a better opportunity than any other candidate to unite all elements of the Republican Party.

"Please assure me that my support of your

campaign has not been misplaced, and that the recent incident is not reflective of what a Dole presidency would look like," Gunderson wrote.

On Thursday, September 7, Gunderson announced that he had received what he described as "a lengthy and gracious call" from Dole the previous evening, "in which the Senator assured me that he has never, nor will he ever, advocated discrimination against any American."

Gunderson said Dole thanked him for his letter and reaffirmed his (Dole's) commitment to equal opportunity.

Gunderson quoted Dole as saying, "I don't want people discriminating against me because of my disability and I don't want people discriminating against anyone else in America."

On Friday, September 8, New York's RETURN TO LOG CABIN, PAGE 16

## Clarenbach Comes to Madison on Victory Fund Tour

**Madison**—The Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund has issued an invitation for everyone to join Victory Fund Executive Director David Clarenbach at "Recognizing Our Own." Clarenbach is coming to Madison as part of his nationwide tour.

Special guests will include Rep. Tammy Baldwin, Scott McCormick, Mark Pocan, Judy Olson and Michael Verveer.

The event will be held at Olbrich Botanical Gardens, 3330 Atwood Avenue in Madison on Thursday, September 21, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. There will be a donation of \$35.

Please RSVP by September 18<sup>th</sup> to Cathreen Godre at (608) 259-0234.

## Gay Youth Milwaukee Members to Meet With Clinton Liaison in Washington

**Milwaukee**—Gay Youth Milwaukee (GYM) members Jason Jellison and Lateasha Nelson will have the opportunity to meet with President Clinton's liaison to the Gay community, Marsha Scott, in Washington, D.C. on Tuesday, September 19.

Jellison, and Nelson, along with GYM Director Michael S. Lisowski, will be attending the Fall meeting of The National Advocacy Coalition on Youth and Sexual Orientation (NACYSO) in Washington from September 17-19 along with approximately 75 members nationwide, including about a dozen young people.

The meeting with Scott, who was appointed

**Milwaukee**—The President of Zimbabwe, Robert Mugabe, is coming to Milwaukee, according to a spokesman for International Business and Commerce, Inc. He will be appearing on Wednesday, October 25 as the keynote speaker for the Second Annual International Workshop on Trade and Business between Africa and the United States. The two day conference takes place at the Ramada Airport Convention Center. Mugabe's speech is scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m.

As reported in the last two issues of *Light*, Mugabe lashed out at Gay people, calling them "sodomists and sexual perverts," who should be rounded up and put in jail.

In a speech reported by the Associated Press, Mugabe likened Gay people to "beasts" and called on his people "to hound them."

"If dogs and pigs don't do it," Mugabe said, "why should human beings?"

At an international book fair being held in Zimbabwe, Mugabe banned an exhibit of Gay-themed books, shocking some participants and sparking a boycott.

In response, 70 U.S. Congressmen sent Mugabe a letter of protest, accusing him of bigotry.

To that, Mugabe responded, "Let the Americans keep their sodomy, bestiality, stupid, foolish ways to themselves."

In an August 22<sup>nd</sup> visit to South Africa, Mugabe was greeted by pro-Gay demonstrators, one of whom said that Mugabe "must come to this country and learn from the human rights culture here."

Besides the International Business and Commerce, Inc., other sponsors include: Association of Commerce, African-American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Milwaukee, University of Wisconsin;

Marquette University Center for International Studies;

U.S.-African Chamber of Commerce; the Corporate Council on Africa;

And the County of Milwaukee.

Members of the Planning Committee include: Peter Beitzel, Vice President, Business Development, Metropolitan Milwaukee; Francis Boyd-Thomas, Milwaukee Public Schools; the Brady Institute for Democracy and Public Values, Marquette University; Leonard Jackson, Milwaukee County Economic Development, Division of Public Works; Eugene Johnson, Director, DBE Programs, Wisconsin Department of Transportation; and Sandra West, Outreach Coordinator, Center for International Studies, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee.

According to the sponsors, the October conference in Milwaukee will be attended by some fairly big names from beyond the state and nation.

These include U.S. Secretary of Commerce Ron Brown and Andrew Young, former U.N. Ambassador in the Carter Administration and now Chair of the South African Development Fund and Patricia Lipton, Executive Director, State of Wisconsin Investment Board.

Several dozen high government officials from Africa as well as some representatives from American banks and industries interested in expanding trade with African countries are expected to attend.

The International Business and Commerce, Inc., is located at 606 W. Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 508, P.O. Box 17063. The fax number is (414) 289-7775. The voice phone number is (414) 289-8339.

by Clinton in June, 1995, will include all the youth participants and some of the adult participants in the conference.

Jellison, 18, lives in Brookfield and works at AfterWords Bookstore. He also writes a regular column in *Wisconsin Light*.

Nelson, 21, has been in GYM since she was 14 years-old and currently works as a manager for McDonald's. Both will be paying their own expenses.

GYM members will be participating in NACYSO workshops on "Community Youth Development" as well as ones on legal issues affecting LesBiGay youth. They will be receiving

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