



THE NEWSLETTER

May
1987

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MAY MEETING TO FEATURE SPEAKER ON CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY AND THE GAY/LESBIAN COMMUNITY

CCBA's monthly dinner meeting on Wednesday, May 13th, will have as our featured speaker David Tarras, an Alcohol and Drug Counselor (certified by the State of Wisconsin), gestalt therapist, and Supervisor of Aftercare/Outpatient Services at Elm Brook Hospital. David will cover this field, with special emphasis on chemical dependency in the gay and lesbian community (a matter of concern to all of us) in a presentation entitled *Chemical Dependency: How Real? How to Know for Sure?* The dinner meeting will be held at Emerson's Restaurant (see details elsewhere in this issue).

CCBA WOMEN SUNDAY BRUNCH AND THEATER

On April 12, more than 20 women attended *On the Razzle* at the Fine Arts Theater at UWM; they enjoyed the comedy immensely. Prior to the theater production, about 15 women met for brunch at the Kenwood Inn, for conversation and socializing.

Find out what's going on in town with the CCBA women: we're about fun, friends, education, and about town! For more information on your kind of women, call Pat at 265-6531.

LOCAL NEWS

Spring Green outing is filling up fast! Join hosts Jan and Paul for a truly relaxing weekend, not in the rough (for those who wish to bring their jewels to be seen at the *theatre*) Sept. 19th. For more information call Jan or Paul at 444-9195. Costs will be \$50 per person, and this covers all fees and food!

Report on the April 10th CCBA first annual Fish Fry. Slightly less than 60 members joined us for the sperebly performed play *Trapped*. In addition, many new softball players were recruited for the CCBA team, year #2. (This year we hope to win more than last!) Food review: as withe last time at the *Steak and Stein*, when it comes to groups they don't quite seem to make it. Oh, well, perhaps next year back to ????

Bicycling enthusiasts? Join the Gay Bicycling Network by calling Bob at 963-9833 (evenings). Present plans include:

- a 20-mile tour leaving from Lake Park Pavilion on Sunday, May 3rd at noon;

- a 25-mile tour leaving from Hales Corners Park on Saturday, May 16th at 11 AM.

ALL abilities WELCOME! Future plans include a weekend camping trip to Sparta-Eroy (home of Gov. Thompson), Uecker's Ride, GRABAAWR, and SAAGBRAW. Come one, come all!

DINNER MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, May 13th, 1987

PLACE: Emerson's Restaurant; 809 W. Burnham

TIME: 6:00 No Host Bar; 7:00 Dinner; 8:15 Program

COST: \$12 prepaid/ pre-registered; \$14 at the door

PROGRAM: David Tarras, Counselor & Therapist
Chemical Dependency: How Real? How to Know for Sure?

RESERVATIONS: by mail to P. O. Box 92614
Milwaukee 53202; or call 962-5940.

MENU

Broasted Chicken

Roast Beef

Roast Pork

Potatoes

Vegetable of the Day

Salad Relish Tray

Beverage

VISA & Mastercard Accepted

NATIONAL NEWSNOTES

National March on Washington -- March Co-Chairs Kay Ostberg, Steve Ault, and Pat Norman have announced that Lee Bush has been hired to staff the national office for THE MARCH, scheduled for October 10-11, 1987.

Lee, 33 and a veteran of the recently completed Great Peace March, has a long history of marches in the tradition of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Further, the national leadership has announced the purposes and focus of THE MARCH. The top four are:

- Legal recognition of lesbian & gay relationships;
- The repeal of all laws that make sodomy between consenting adults a crime;
- A presidential order to be issued, banning anti-gay discrimination by the federal government;
- Passage of the Congressional Lesbian and Gay Rights Bill.

Others include references to AIDS education and non-discrimination, reproductive freedom and termination of racism in the U.S. and South Africa.

COUPLES, Inc. -- Over 1,000 couples plan to be joined or will celebrate their unions together (including CCBA President Karen Gutzler and life mate Pat Reddemann) on October 10, as a prelude to the official MARCH program in Washington, DC. If you would like to be one of those couples, contact Carey Junkin (213) 271-2945. In a recent release of information, COUPLES, Inc. has notified us that the Adolph Coors Company has once again shown discrimination towards gays and lesbians by excluding same-sex couples from entering the Coors Couples Run on Valentine's Day in Portland, Oregon. The American Heart Association in Oregon released a statement that it does not discriminate against gays or any other group ... that Coors set the rules of the race.

DIGNITY/USA -- Dignity has announced its 8th biennial convention at the Sheraton Bal Harbour Hotel in Miami July 23-26. Part of the agenda will be to discuss the September visit of Pope John Paul II and the response of DIGNITY/USA. Speakers at the convention, entitled "Celebrate the Freedom of the Children of God", will include: Dr. John Boswell; John McNeill, Sr.; Sr. Jeannine Gramick; and others. Dignity members will be joined by Metropolitan Community Churches membership for a historical joint worship service. Information from: (202)861-0017.

LAMBDA RISING, a leader in the sales of lesbian/gay publications nationally, has announced that they have issued a new WHOLE GAY CATALOG. Mention CCBA when you request their catalog.

NGLTF -- Declaring that "bankruptcy should not be the price for prolonged life", the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force is pressing Congress to make an emergency appropriation to pay for AZT for those persons not covered third-party payment plans. "Achieving federal funding for AZT treatments will be a major priority of the Task Force in the months ahead," stated Jeff Levi, NGLTF's Executive Director.

In detailed testimony before Congress in April, NGLTF sharply criticized the lack of response by the U.S.

Justice Department to the alarming incidence of anti-gay/lesbian violence. Anti-Violence Project Director Kevin Berrill urged members of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, and State to make violence against gay people a priority in fiscal 1988. Berrill noted a 37% increase in violence in many areas in 1986 over 1985.

NGRA -- In a major victory for people with AIDS, the California 4th District Court of Appeals unanimously held that the results of AIDS antibody tests cannot be disclosed under any circumstances without the subject's consent. The State forcibly drew Brian Barlow's blood after he allegedly bit two police officers at the 1986 San Diego Gay Pride March.

WINDY CITY PERFORMING ARTS -- Our sister city's renowned Windy City Gay Chorus will present "in Concert at Orchestra Hall" on Saturday, June 20, 1987, as part of the Chicago Gay Pride Week activities. They will be joined on stage by the Denver Gay Men's Chorus. Tickets available by calling the Chorus at (312) 871-SING.

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A LEGACY OF SURVIVAL by KAREN E. WANDREI, LCSW (Previously published and © by Bay Area Career Women)

It has been observed that there are as many different facets to lesbianism as there are lesbians. In part, our diversity stems from the family backgrounds which shape our religious, social, and political perspectives. A very unique perspective is held by the lesbian daughters of people who survived the Holocaust, a perspective which may help others who face difficult situations. Who are these women, and what do they have to share with us as a lesbian community?

During the Second World War, 11 million people were murdered by the Nazis. Five million were political dissidents, gays, and gypsies. Six million Jews -- two out of every three in Europe -- were also murdered. Of the three million Jews who survived, some fled east to parts of the Soviet Union, while others boarded ship to the Americas, Australia, and Israel. Half a million Jews remained in Nazi-occupied Europe, surviving the war in labor camps, fighting with small resistance groups, hiding out on their own in the forests, or confined for months and years to a secret pantry, attic or cellar. Only 75,000 people outlived the Nazi concentration camps.

At the end of the war, most survivors had lost their homes, family members, and culture. They wanted to go to new lives, to forget the nightmare they had lived through. Most married and had children. While over the years only a few people were interested in the effects of the Holocaust on survivors, almost no one was interested in the Holocaust's effects on survivors' children. Most children of survivors are now in their thirties and are over-represented in the professions, especially the helping professions. In 1979, Helen Epstein, a journalist and

child of a survivor, wrote a book entitled *Children of the Holocaust*. This book inspired many children of survivors to come together to talk about their experiences. It also stimulated researchers to study the effects of the Holocaust on the second generation. In support groups, children of survivors discussed how hard it was to get angry at their parents, to separate from them, to feel that their own suffering was valid. They shared what it was like to have no grandparents, to feel different from other American, even other Jewish, families. Some also discussed the tremendous pride they had in their parents, and the legacy this implied obligating them to do something special with their own lives. While some of the children of survivors were gay or lesbian, there was no visible presence of lesbians and gay men in children of survivor groups. Some lesbians and gay men have experienced homophobia in the predominantly heterosexual children of survivor organizations. At the First International Conference of Children of Holocaust Survivors in 1982, the steering committee was extremely reluctant to allow a workshop for lesbian and gay children of survivors. At the national conference in 1983, lesbian daughters of survivors felt totally invisible and out of place as *lesbians*. One leader of a children of survivors organization referred to a lesbian daughter of a survivor (a well-respected professional) as a "militant". In 1981, at the West Coast Women's Music Festival, a group of predominantly lesbian daughters of survivors had met at a workshop. A year later, concert pianist Henis Goodman (a Holocaust survivor) and her daughter Dovida (also a pianist) toured several cities. Although Dovida was not publicly out as a lesbian during the performance, her presence inspired other small groups of lesbian daughters to

(Continued on next page)

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come together to discuss their unique experiences. These events marked a turning point for the newly emerging community. While sharing much in common with other children of survivors, lesbians feel that they have some unique experiences. In many ways, coming out as a lesbian is the worst thing these women could have done to disappoint their parents. For most survivors, to get married and have children was the only way they knew to provide meaning to their lives. This was also seen as a way to defy Hitler -- to carry on the Jewish race. Lesbian daughters must cope with the guilt and pain of causing their parents even more distress when the decline to marry and produce grandchildren. One set of parents wrote their daughter the following letter:

"I thought we went through the worst that could happen to a human, the Holocaust. But what we are going through now is ten times worse. I always was afraid of things like marriage out of faith, but never suspected that a tragedy could happen to us. We didn't survive Hitler to raise almost in poverty children to see such nachas. Sending us to Israel isn't far enough; you are sending us to hell, to death."

Lesbian daughters also feel that there is a positive legacy to their experiences. One wrote, "I am amazed that out of the nightmare of the Holocaust, I have gained something. The pain and horror have served to provide a special strength not only to remember the victims of the Holocaust, but

to teach and understand why it is important to remember."

In addition to this appreciation for the joy of life and a commitment to social justice, lesbian daughters have much to share with the gay and lesbian community. They provide a role model of people who came out in spite of very difficult family situations. Also, because of their knowledge of the Holocaust, they provide a historical perspective on what it is like to be oppressed as a social outcast. Victims of the Holocaust, even those who came from countries in which the pre-war treatment of minorities was fairly enlightened, found that their rights were often not observed, both by the Nazi invaders and by their own governments. They also found that being highly assimilated into mainstream society or being able to pass as Gentile did not protect



them. These are important lessons to remember as we struggle with sexual preference issues, and when our rights as lesbians are threatened on many fronts.

FROM THE TREASURER

All billings have recently gone out. If there is an error in your amount due, please call your Treasurer, Chris, at 483-9516. We have experienced some problems and apologize for the confusion. Our billings are now current.

I would especially like to thank people for promptly paying dues invoices; as you know, this is our primary source of income. Considered advertising in our newsletter? The ad rates haven't changed in 5 years! Business members get a 10% discount, but anyone can advertise.

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C.C.B.A. CALENDAR

May

- 3 CCBA Women 2:00 UWM Alumni House
Donna 774-7992
- 5 Business Enhancement Steve 273-4444 or
Ralph 445-5552
- 12 CCF Calendaring Meeting Don 276-2204
- 13 Dinner Meeting Sally 962-5940
- 14 Women's Steering Committee Pat 265-6531
- 18 Board Meeting Karen 265-6531

June

- 2 Business Enhancement Steve 273-4444 or
Ralph 445-5552
- 9 CCF Calendaring Meeting Don 276-2204
- 11 Dinner Meeting Sally 962-5940
- 14 Wine Tasting Ci 278-0328
- 16 Board Meeting Karen 265-6531
- 25 CCBA Women: Special AfterWork with
live entertainment & refreshments:
Villa Terrace Pat 265-6531

July

- 7 Dinner Meeting Sally 962-5940
- 12 Wine Tasting Ci 278-0328
- 14 CCF Calendaring Meeting Don 276-2204
- 22 Board Meeting Karen 265-6531

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CCBA NEWSLETTER

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CCBA MEMBER NEWS (AND INPUT) REQUESTED

Elsewhere in this issue, as in every issue, you may read articles about other CCBA members (Business, Charter, Individual, even Associate). Those articles could be about you! Why haven't they been? Because it seems we never hear about these things.

Have you received an honor in your field (or has your business)? Have you been written up in a business or trade journal? Have you been promoted; or appointed to a new post? *The Newsletter* would love to run the good news; but we can't if you don't tell us. Please, let us know. Also: is there anything in this issue of *The Newsletter* that particularly pleases or displeases you? If so, please write. Even if it is simply a letter to the Editor, your input is vital to the improvement of this publication, and this organization.