



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

# The Wisconsin Light

## U.S. Sending AIDS Brochure to Every American Household

Washington, D.C.—The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services on May 4, 1988 released the eight-page brochure "Understanding AIDS," and announced that it will be mailed to every American household by June 30.

The brochure, which presents the essential facts about AIDS in direct, easy-to-understand language, will reach 107 million households at a total cost of \$17 million. The mailing was mandated by Congress last December.

**AMERICA  
RESPONDS  
TO AIDS**

"This is a 'first' in the history of our country — the first time the federal government has attempted to contact virtually every resident, directly by mail, regarding a public health crisis," said HHS Secretary Otis R. Bowen, M.D. "the mailing is in response to the unprecedented challenges of AIDS."

The brochure includes a message from U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop,

M.D., urging Americans to "read this brochure and talk about it with those you love."

The brochure was developed over a five-month period, beginning with focus group meetings in cities around the country, as well as consultation with 288 organizations interested in AIDS, to determine which information people needed most.

To ensure accuracy, the brochure was reviewed extensively by government physicians, led by Assistant Secretary for Health Robert E. Windom, M.D.; Surgeon General Koop; and James O. Mason, M.D., director of the Centers for Disease Control.

At the same time, language was kept "simple and direct to be understandable by the widest audience," Dr. Bowen said.

A number of organizations have also reviewed and endorsed the final brochure, including medical and public health associations and groups representing minorities, older Americans, people with AIDS and education professionals.

Referring to language in the brochure about transmission of AIDS, Secretary Bowen said that to achieve its purpose, "this brochure cannot mince words — and it doesn't."

TURN TO AIDS, PAGE 13

## 600 RALLY IN DUBUQUE TO SUPPORT GAY RIGHTS

By Terry Boughner

Dubuque, Iowa is west of the Mississippi River and, to this eastern city-boy, that means THE WEST where the deer and the antelope do their thing. But Saturday, April 30, there weren't any western fauna cavorting about — at least as far as I could see, only hundreds of Lesbians and Gays coming from all over the country to celebrate our dignity and assert our rights in this little river town.

This was Dubuque's second Gay Pride March sponsored by the city's chapters of

the National Organization for Women (NOW) and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. Last year's march, held September 19, and attended by approximately 60 people, was cut short when some locals led by the Reverend William Dix, pastor of the Apostolic Christian Church and Sandra Kirkbride, a self-described "anti-abortion activist" hurled eggs, rocks and obscenities at the marchers.

Dubuque Chief of Police, John Mauss told **Light** that he had no knowledge of any rock throwing the previous year, but as to



Madison's 10 Percent Society marched in the Dubuque parade.

## Pride Committee Announces Logo

The logotype design for Milwaukee's first Lesbian/Gay Pride celebration has been completed and submitted to the Pride Celebration steering committee for application on T-Shirts, banners, and assorted paraphernalia associated with the production of the Pride celebration.

The artwork was conceived and produced by Shafer Design, a Milwaukee-based graphics and illustration studio which has been proudly serving our Lesbian/Gay community since its inception in 1985. Some clients include Meridian Music Distributors, Iceberg Records, Hurricane Productions, Grapevine, Lambda Rights Network, and the Cream City Foundation.

Mary Shafer, proprietor and principal designer of Shafer Design, stated that she was pleased to be able to serve the community once again by donating the time, labor and materials to the Pride committee on this job. "I realize that a project of this scope and magnitude takes a great deal of time and effort on everyone's part, and that most of this input is generated on a volunteer basis. Since my schedule doesn't permit me to donate any time for volunteer activities, I figured this was a way I could help out in my own area of expertise, and at the same time ensure the celebration of having quality design to represent it. This was especially important to me as a professional, because it's my feeling that so many really worthy causes have images that suffer from lack of good quality visuals, and that's a shame."

Shafer went on to say that she believes that the Gay community, like the rest of

American society, is becoming more visually sophisticated in this, the Age of Communication, due to a proliferation of visually-oriented technology such as video, MTV, claymation, and computer graphics. She feels that the more we, as a community, continue to evolve in this visual sophistication, the better chance we have to make ourselves visible as a force to be reckoned with. It's a lesson learned long ago by politicians and by Madison Avenue, and a relatively inexpensive one to employ.

Shafer Design is located, along with several other Gay-owned businesses, in the Milwaukee Enterprise Center, 2821 N. 4th Street, Milwaukee.



## Pride Committee Has Great Hopes

By Don Clabots

After several months of active involvement with the Milwaukee Lesbian/Gay Pride Celebration Committee (Pride Committee) in keeping with a personal commitment to the project, I feel the need to present several observations at this midpoint. This project was not unlike any other new project or venture and got off to a slow start with a lot of exuberance and frustrations being vented from all directions. The original concept (which still holds) was to provide an opportunity for all members of our community to participate and have input into the development of the Pride Celebration planning activities within an organized framework and, at the same time, allow each to do their own thing. It is unfortunate that so much time and energy has been unproductively spent in developing and negotiating all the guidelines for organization efficiency when that time and energy might have been used for activity planning.

As a member of the Steering Committee

TURN TO PRIDE, PAGE 2

## Norquist Appoints Burke to Task Force

Sue Burke, a regular feature writer for **Wisconsin Light**, has been nominated by Milwaukee Mayor John Norquist to the Common Council's Task Force on Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence.

In addition to being a regular contributor to **Light**, Burke who is openly Lesbian, is the editor of **The Sherman Park News** and was editor of **Out!** Wisconsin's former Gay/Lesbian newspaper. Burke served on Governor Earl's Council on Lesbian/Gay Issues from 1983-1985, was Milwaukee Woman of the Year, 1982, for the National Organization for Women (NOW) and served as NOW's Chapter Co-ordinator from 1980 to 1982. She was also the recipient of the 1985 Pacesetter Award from the Cream City Business Association, Milwaukee's organization for Gay/Lesbian business and professional people.

The Task Force which was established by the Common Council in 1979, is a 21 member group and includes the Milwaukee Chief of Police, several representatives from the District Attorney's Office as well as representatives from service providers such as Milwaukee's Battered Women's Shelter. According to Terry Perry, Co-ordinator of the Task Force, these are individual memberships.

Perry told **Light** that two appointments are required by law; one by the Common Council and one by the Mayor. Burke is Norquist's nominee. Perry extolled Burke for her outstanding qualifications and noted that her nomination marks the first time that a Mayor has named an outside person to the Task Force. Perry told **Light** that Burke will "be keeping the Mayor abreast of developments" on the Task Force.

Burke's nomination must be approved by the Common Council but Perry sees no problem with this. She expects confirmation to come in June.

The Task Force meets every third Thursday with committees meeting ad

TURN TO BURKE, PAGE 2

eggs? Yes, there were eggs. "However," Mauss said, "I have a different perception of a crowd throwing eggs than one throwing rocks."

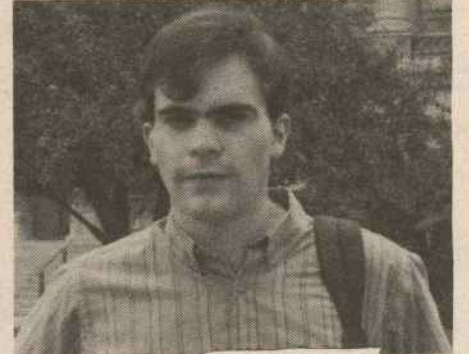
Mauss admitted that last year's police response was "inadequate." There was only "one uniformed officer assigned and when he saw that eggs were being thrown, he called for another (officer). In the end, there were only two."

This year, things were different. While Mauss declined to say exactly how many officers had been assigned to the rally and march, informed estimates were that there were between 25 and 30. This included officers on foot, in patrol cars, and sheriff's deputies. The police were polite, professional and are to be commended for their work.

TURN TO DUBUQUE, PAGE 12

## Wagner Elected to County Chair

R. Richard Wagner, a Dane County Board Supervisor, District Six, who is openly Gay, was elected as Chairperson of the Dane County Board by a 25-16 vote in a hotly contested election. Dane County which includes the state capitol of Madison



Supervisor Jim McFarland

has a large number of openly Gay/Lesbian elected officials. The County of 350,000 is governed by the 41 member board elected from districts and a separately elected County Executive.

Serving on the Dane County Board with Wagner, who was first elected in 1980, are Supervisor Kathleen Nichols, District Two

TURN TO WAGNER, PAGE 14

## Inside:

Editorial .....	Page 3
Politically Speaking .....	Page 5
Sisternews and Views .....	Page 6
A Boy of Summer .....	Page 7
Fiction .....	Page 8
Sports News .....	Page 9
Religious Outreach .....	Page 10
Medically Speaking .....	Page 11
Our History .....	Page 13
Classifieds .....	Page 14

## PART TWO INDEX

Theatre .....	Page 18
Music .....	Page 20
Books .....	Page 21
Travel .....	Page 26



# Pride

Continued from Page 1

and a Co-Chair of one of its Sub-Committees who has attended ALL of the meetings, including the initial December, 1987, CCF Calendaring Session at which the idea was first presented to the Community, I would like to address some of the issues which have been reported in your columns. We have read with great interest, Doreen Riley's letter in the April 8 edition of this vitally important community newspaper and thank her for her candor and bringing these issues to light. It was difficult for the reader to discern the major complaint or problem which she related — there were so many. Nonetheless, let's look at and focus in on some of the important issues raised.

Admittedly, there are some very major differences in the Lesbian and Gay community (is this a surprise to anyone?) Both gender components of the Community are equally responsible for any problems with respect to any perceived differences. This problem has been with us in Milwaukee, at least, for as long as I can remember and probably since the beginning of time, in any place. However, I don't feel this fact is what is in question. What is being debated, it seems to me, is a philosophical difference in terms of a perceived power struggle or a problem identification as evidenced by the umteen inuendos to all the "isms" and "ists", whatever they be known as. (More about power and control later). This kind of debate is certainly healthy in terms of identifying everyone's need to be aware of and to deal with all the sensitivity issues involved. In response to this issue, the Steering Committee thought it would be a good idea to investigate the possibility of offering a professionally-run sensitivity session to be provided to anyone, not only committee members. This type of training is done by some of the most respected organizations throughout the world and, perhaps, should have occurred in our forum prior to organization of the ML/GPC. There are those, however, who do not approve of this type of training and would argue against its implementation. Ideally, as responsible members of any society working together toward any common goal, we would hope that everyone would want to act responsibly toward each other but, apparently, some of us didn't make the grade. Simply put, **Respect Breeds Respect**. So much for Utopia!

Let us now look at the feeling of who was uncomfortable at a viewpoint which was articulated. (The issue of whether or not "the viewpoint represented a majority of Lesbians in attendance" is not addressed, since there was not a polling of the members nor other evidence of such fact). However, the statement about a "leader of the separatists" was, of course, one person's comment and did not reflect a majority view of the leadership nor a majority of the Committee. It might be added here that many people at the meeting were uncomfortable and felt embarrassed about this and not just those involved in the verbal exchange. I would also agree that this comment certainly was out of order and not in good taste. An accepted fact of life is that statements are made in every public arena which are offensive to someone at some time.

### AWAKENING PRIDE

A new day is dawning — it's coming real soon;  
in the closet or not, you can sing a new tune.  
You can stand with pride, you won't be alone;  
GAY PRIDE celebrations will set a new tone.

Gays and Lesbians will gather from all over these parts,  
for fun and festivities where new friendships can start.  
So grab your friends and come on along,  
we're singing a new tune, come and learn the song.

The song says we're worthy, we're important, too;  
this means everyone — including YOU!  
We can stand together to show others around;  
We won't be put down, we're no longer bound.

Now if you're afraid and want to stay out of sight,  
remember homosexuals, too, have equal rights.  
Your anonymity will be respected as such,  
but we'll really miss you very much.

So come on along and join in the fun —  
a wonderful day with lots of sun.  
Beautiful people will be here on that day;  
it's an experience you can't throw away.

—Peggy Fernandez

Copyright 1988 by ML/GPC  
Written for exclusive use of ML/GPC Committee  
in connection with the 1988 Pride Celebration.  
(All rights reserved.)

About the ideas of a "Drag Show" and "Slave Auction" as possible fundraising events. The idea of a "slave auction" was FIRST presented by a Lesbian in a sub-committee meeting as a possible Womyn's Only event. The implied objection to a "Drag Show" does not necessarily represent a majority view of members of both genders, to which anyone who attended the April 15 AIDS Benefit Show at Jet's can attest. That show's emcee was certainly not a WHITE MALE nor was the show so successfully received by an entirely WHITE MALE audience. It is also interesting to note that not all of the show's participants were White Males (Thanks, Diane). This event certainly was the epitome of GAY PRIDE and a beautiful show of community support and humanity, despite RACE or GENDER and whether or not one enjoys drag shows. Not all the funds raised by this successful event came from White Males, but then there will be those who will also object on the basis of whose picture is on the money or which sector of the community benefitted the most from this event! What might be interesting here is a summary of statistics about AIDS. What is probably a truism about White Males is that statistically speaking, it's probably a safe bet that AIDS affects White Males on a disproportionate basis. For those persons who are bent on being negative or destructive about anything which attempts to undo some of the injustices (presumably caused by White Males) in our society, think about who AIDS affects the most. Fortunately, there are the tens of thousands of dedicated volunteers and professionals who have rallied to bring this problem to an end — the caring people left to take up this cause who would scoff at the idea that the disease is any panacea to the "ists" of our society. Who are they who dare to take up this cause and give so unselfishly to others less fortunate than themselves?

Riley is correct and most would agree that "White Men" are not the majority and they do hold the most positions of power. No argument here, but who said that this is fair or shouldn't change? We also need to realize, of course, that change doesn't come easy or overnight. The questions is "What are you doing to change attitudes, and how are you doing it?"

And yes, there are White Males — and Gay ones, too, who object to the numerous 'phone and jerk' ads. The question implied that there seems to be an objection to the publisher's policy of selling ads. Oh no, look again! The issue which contained Riley's letter — And Probably Paid for Printing It — has Six Very Large Full Pages of them — Not Including The Gigantic 2-Page Centerfold. I'm not too terribly impressed or excited about them myself, but then I can choose to be my own person about it and ignore the message. I'll just page on to find something I can be positive about and remember that it is also a fact in our society that Advertising Dollars Make It All Happen And Possible For Us To Read And Comment About All The Injustices Without One (White Male) Roosevelt Dime or (White Female) Susan B. Anthony Dollar from any reader. (Pun intended in order to point out that it isn't too difficult to find something to be negative about or to complain about an injustice being perpetrated on one person or group by another). It would seem that it would have been a more efficient use of time and energy to be working on

TURN TO PRIDE, PAGE 5

# Milwaukee's 10% Society Active, Involved and Concerned

By Guy Hoffman

Recently, I conducted an interview concerning Milwaukee's Gay and Lesbian community with a freelance reporter. When this reporter needed to check back with me to verify some quotes, I was made aware of a situation that I found extremely disconcerting. This was that members of the Gay and Lesbian community made negative reference to the Ten Percent Society at UW-M.

It was asserted that Ten Percent was not political enough. I have never been this aggravated before to actually write a public response, but there is always a first time.

To begin with, in the four years I have been associated with GLC/Ten Percent, there has never been a claim of being political. Such a situation has always been avoided since the organization is social support oriented. That has been the focus and how we are registered with the University.

Ten Percent Society underwent its recent name change for the aforementioned reason — social support. It was not an easy or hastily made decision. The greatest reason for the change was that the group interacts with many closeted individuals who are afraid of being seen going to a meeting of a group whose name identifies it as Gay/Lesbian. Doesn't every member of the Gay/Lesbian community deserve the chance to develop their identity? An affirmative answer to that question was the consensus for the decision to change the name.

Not that the group needs to prove itself but here is a small sample of the make-up of Ten Percent.

- 16 years in existence
- 8 consecutive all-campus and community pride celebrations
- A minimum of 75 talks over the last four years with classes about being Gay and Lesbian. Speakers include those addressing positive mental health, AIDS religion, and yes, even political issues
- Social events such as dances, picnics, potlucks
- Referrals and peer counseling, telephone and in-person.

The list continues. When I speak of the group, I acknowledge the small core of 4-5 persons each year who carry the bulk of the

work. These are people who carry a full credit load, work between 20-40 hours a week and still find time to give to Ten Percent. They receive little or no community support and a lot of criticism from the Gay/Lesbian community! There are times when I felt that the group was better supported by the straight community both financially and morally.

In the last issue of *Light*, the author of "Sister News and Views", Jamakaya, asked for response to her column. I won't assume to speak for everyone in Ten Percent, but, in my opinion, her column needs a response.

Who does she think were the volunteer ushers at the Fest City Singers' concert? Was she at the Dubuque Pride rally? Members of the Ten Percent Society were.

To answer her question as to what Ten Percent Society means, I think that the answer to that can be found in the Kinsey Report.

Jamakaya and others should stop criticizing and get on with the effort of building our community.

In ending, I would like to warn the community that there are many members of our community who would destroy us from within. They pretend to represent or work for all of us yet, in reality, they are self-serving with a private agenda. They are never seen working while always having something critical to say. They serve no one else but themselves at everyone else's expense. In today's society "silence equals death."

# Burke

Continued from Page 1

interim. It co-ordinates community education efforts, the regular training of police recruits, judges and provides education to college campuses and is seeking to develop an independent sexual assault unit within the police department.

Burke told *Light* that she was excited and pleased by her nomination. "I hope to do all that I can to do some good for people," she said.

We here at *Wisconsin Light* congratulate her and wish her every good fortune in her new task.

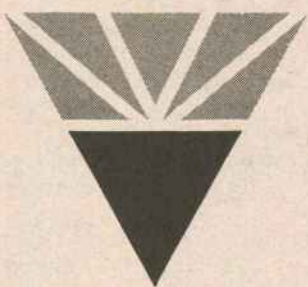
Clean City  
Chorus  
p.p.r.e.s.s.i.e.n.t.s.  
Dinner With a Twist  
p.p.r.e.m.i.e.r.c.o.n.c.e.r.t  
Saturday June 25th • 8 o'clock  
733 N. 8th Street  
\$5.00 • \$6.00 at the door  
(414) 277-0434  
124 N. Water Street  
Milwaukee Wisc. 53202

Copyright 1988 by ML/GPC  
Written for exclusive use of ML/GPC Committee  
in connection with the 1988 Pride Celebration.  
(All rights reserved.)



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

# The Wisconsin Light



Executive & Editorial Offices  
1843 N. Palmer  
Milwaukee, WI 53212  
(414) 372-2773

## PROFESSIONAL STAFF

**Publisher**  
Jerry Johnson  
**Executive Editor**  
Terry Boughner  
**Book Review Editor**  
Jeff Kirsch  
**Typographer**  
C.S.P., Incorporated

## COLUMNISTS

Fr. James Arimond, David Callentine, Roger Griminger, MD, Marc Haupt, Jamakaya, Karen Lamb, Ph.D., John Michael Roberts, Morgan Summer

## REPORTERS

Gene Brzenk, Ph.D., Sue Burke, Shawn Duffy, Michael Lisowski, Bill Meunier, Daniel S. Thompson, Ron Stanley, Jerry Warzyn.

## CONTRIBUTORS

Patrick Franklin, Tycho, Lisa Keen, Lou Chibbaro, Jr., John Ward, Marc Dyer, Diane Daniel, Jack Sturdy.

## INTERNATIONAL CORRESPONDENT-MEXICO

Francis J. Reich

## ADVERTISING

Jerry Johnson  
(414) 372-2773

THE WISCONSIN LIGHT is published monthly by NOVO GRAPHICS, LTD., with offices at 1843 N. Palmer, Milwaukee, WI 53212. Advertising and copy deadline is the first Friday of the month. Opinions expressed by writers in WISCONSIN LIGHT are not necessarily those of the publisher, editor, or our advertisers. Any reference made to any individual or organization should not be construed as an indication of the same's sexual or affectional orientation or preference. All copy, text design, photos, and illustrations in advertisements are published with the understanding that the advertiser is fully authorized and has secured proper written consent for the use of names, pictures, or testimonials of any living person, and WISCONSIN LIGHT may lawfully publish and cause such publication to be made; and the advertiser agrees by submitting said ads to indemnify and save blameless the publication of any error that may be contained in said ad. WISCONSIN LIGHT does not accept any responsibility for any claims made by advertisers. The entire contents of WISCONSIN LIGHT are protected under the Federal Copyright Act. Reproduction of any portion of any issue will not be permitted without express permission of NOVO GRAPHIC, LTD. Legal venue is Milwaukee County, Wisconsin. ©1988. Printed in the U.S.A.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

First-class subscription rate is \$25.00 for Twelve Issues.  
Third-class subscription rate is \$15.00 for Twelve Issues.  
Foreign subscription rates available upon request.

## Office Hours:

Monday-Friday-9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.  
24-hour recording

# The Wisconsin Light



Serving  
America's  
Gay Rights State

## EDITORIAL

### GAY YOUTH NEED OUR HELP

There are several items in the paper this month that, in our opinion, are or should be of special interest. One is certainly the article on the California based Gay/Lesbian youth help group known as GLASS. It is hard really to over-state the terrible plight of these kids — who are us — who either run away or are thrown from their homes for the sole and only reason that they are Lesbian or Gay. These are the 12, 13, 14 and 15 year-olds — and older — who know what they are and have no way to cope with it. So they run to the streets of the cities, nice kids, cute often, just like us because they are us and have nowhere to turn because they are us. They have little education, no skills, no love. All they have is their bodies and these they sell. Few of them survive. Drugs, AIDS, you name it, takes its toll and, in what is a multimillion dollar business, a lot get shipped out of the country to places like Bahrain where they end their lives forced to do what is impossible to describe.

In this regard, we have no way to commend too highly Gay Youth Milwaukee (GYM) and organizations like it, for what it is trying to do. For those who may not notice the article about GYM's recent dance, take a look. That is only one of the many things the group does under dedicated and responsible adult guidance to try and give support and structure to the lives of young Gays and Lesbians. Because of GYM and its counterparts elsewhere, Gay and Lesbian teens who are denied by a homophobic society the normal outlets of social interaction, are given an opportunity toward growth and self-acceptance.

There is no people on earth or in history that has not held its children dear. In most cases, there are family structures and other means to initiate them "into the tribe." In our case, the case of Gays and Lesbians, these structures are mostly absent but we have no less a responsibility toward them. We must do what we can for they are our's and they have nowhere to go except to us.

## LETTERS

### TO THE EDITOR:

Yesterday I pulled a "Gay dollar" out of my wallet and I read your newspaper Vol. 1, No. 6. Both acts seem distinct and yet are intimately connected and if you bear with me, I will try to explain. In your column "From the Editor's Desk" you addressed those of us who did notice the "proliferation of phone service ads" and asked us to keep in mind that it brings in revenue necessary for the expansion of your services. I guess I can't even begin to imagine the pressure you must be under in order to get **Light** off the ground but knowing that there is a lot of pressure, especially financial, I can understand that full page color ads bring in money. And yet because you went out of your way to explain that decision, I can only believe that you are also with those of us who are not comfortable with those ads and the system they represent.

As I said, though, yesterday I pulled a "Gay dollar" out of my pocket and used it to buy a Madison newspaper. As I handed it to the salesperson I chuckled thinking about the hands it passed through until it came to me and the wallets and purses it would continue to see. It is a good idea representing the buying power of the Gay and Lesbian community, a subtle reminder of our presence here. On the way out of the store I also picked up a copy of **Light**. When I got home I sat back and picked up your newspaper first. In it I was confronted by two opposing worlds. The one world was reflected in the articles dealing with internment camps, Fag-bashing, and homophobic Christianity, the other world in the articles on culture, history, and solidarity.

I fear, however, that the first world is the dominant one at whose hands the second one suffers. These are very real hands, as real as those hands through which the "Gay dollar" had passed until it reached me. The second world to which we belong struggles and does what it must to survive. We get financial support from places which might make us feel compromised in some way. And yet that second world is the world of the "Gay dollar." We have control over that money and it is time that we took that control into our own hands. The "Gay dollar" should cease to be a representational act and should become a dollar of action.

I see in publications like yours a valuable service in forming and furthering our community through which we can develop a Gay dollar that represents our solidarity. In this manner the war on AIDS and the greater war on Homophobia can succeed. Your paper as a light, helps direct the flow of the Gay dollar to businesses, agencies, and events within our community that might otherwise fold under the pressure of that first world. I cannot return the other newspaper, nor should I blind myself to its news but I can choose to spend my Gay dollar more wisely. For this reason I am sending a check covering subscription costs with the hope that others will follow my example and in doing so free you from any future decision you may find compromising. I wish you the best.

—Randall Halle  
Madison, WI.

### TO THE EDITOR:

I would like to give my compliments to Doreen Riley's letter to the editor in the April-to-May issue. I agree with everything she expressed, and I also want to answer a question she asked: yes, I object to the full

page ads for the same reasons she does.

Unlike Ms. Riley, I wish to start on the "Leather Brotherhood" article in the March-to-April issue, (vol. 1, no. 5) because it exemplifies my main criticism of the Gay movement. The Gay society reflects the attitudes and values of the mainstream patriarchal society.

The sexual slavery expressed in the brotherhood article is no different than economic slavery. The article's claim, "some psychologists tell us that violence is part of sex" is not convincing. Nothing is more degrading to sex than violence. The article is correct when it points out that roles are forced upon us. But I think there is something wrong with the way society forces roles upon us. The article uses this terrible example of society's role playing to legitimize the role playing of the leather brotherhood.

Other examples such as "slave auctions", "Gay beauty pageants", and "drag shows" show me that Gay men are no different than the society that I am so against.

One glorious bit of hope can be found in the articles by Jamakaya and, in general, the Lesbians. The Lesbians are moving in the right direction. They are very inspirational. Listen to them and look at what they are doing.

—Steve Ottosen  
Madison, WI.

### TO THE EDITOR:

As usual, the current issue of **Wisconsin Light** was informative and enjoyable reading.

I do have a comment, however, on the recent beating in Ft. Atkinson. Never will I understand why an obviously Gay-looking man would go into a red-neck bar and face problems.

When there is a bar in town that welcomes Gay people, support it. Being visibally Gay not only hurt the young man but probably hurt the Fort Lounge as well. Small-town Gays have enough problems without "their" bar getting adverse publicity.

Faunting Gay hurts our community because straight people too often associate Gay with those who are visible. As we know, the majority of Gay people would never be detected in our society. Toning down Gay behavior in public would probably benefit all of us.

—Name withheld upon request  
Sheboygan, WI.

### TO THE EDITOR:

We just received volume one, number 6 of **The Wisconsin Light**. This is the first issue I have seen. It's a good-looking paper.

I was a bit shocked by the story "Concentration Camps Being Set Up." I've heard talk of the possibility of such camps coming about, but this comes closer to being specific than anything I've seen before.

We just finished our 12th anniversary issue... which kept me overly busy for the past two weeks. But now that it's finished, I've got a long (4-day) weekend, so once again have a little time for writing letters and tending to other personal business that I often don't get done during the cycle of getting the paper ready.

Again let me say your paper looks great. Congratulations!

—Jack Kelly  
Managing Editor  
OUT FRONT  
Denver, Colorado

## The Editor's Desk

Let me try and answer a few questions about the production of the paper that have arisen and, I think, deserve an answer.

First of all, the paper costs several thousand dollars a month to get out. This includes printing, typesetting and the various things associated with photos but does not take into account such things as typing ribbons, paper, phone bills, mailing costs, gas for the car used in distribution and various other — nearly innumerable other — of what might be called, "incidentals." The result is that as of this writing, the paper has yet to break even.

These are our expenses for a "free" paper. I have not mentioned the labor done on a volunteer basis by the entire staff which includes the publisher and editor. I want to say that ordinarily one gets paid for the use of one's talents and that **Light** has, in my opinion and in the opinion of others we have heard from across the country, one of the finest and most talented group of people writing for us that it is possible to imagine. There is no praise high enough, no commendation too worthy to be given them. These people's dedication is hard to believe, yet it is there — and all freely given.

But, despite that, as somebody put it, "You gotta have somethin' to pay the freight." In this case, what "pays the freight" — money — comes primarily from

TURN TO EDITOR, Page 26

### TO THE EDITOR:

We read the article on Amnesty International entitled "Amnesty Int'l Ignores Gays" which appeared in the April 8, 1988 edition of **The Wisconsin Light**. What you have written in the article in regards to Amnesty International policy is true. As you may know, Amnesty International is an international organization, and policies are accepted by consensus by all the countries involved. The United States contingency has always suggested a change in the policy to include Lesbians and Gay men as prisoners of conscience when they are imprisoned for their being Lesbians and Gay men. However, an overwhelming number of countries, who are more conservative, have not agreed that the policy be changed.

We are sympathetic to the issue of Gay men and Lesbian rights, and we are ready and willing to write letters on behalf of those who are imprisoned unjustly. But we cannot use Amnesty International stationery in doing so until the official A.I. policy is changed. Please let us know if anyone who is a Gay or Lesbian person is in imprisoned unjustly, and we will start writing letters on his or her behalf.

Thank you for your interest and just criticism.

—Don Timmerman  
Local Group #106  
Amnesty International USA

### TO THE EDITOR:

Over the past year, there has been much concern expressed about the lack of AIDS Prevention information being provided for Milwaukee's Gay community. I apologize for this, not by saying that what we have been doing isn't important, but by admitting the scarcity of prevention programs in the Gay community cannot continue. MAP may have let other priorities distract it from the crucial goal of Gay community education, but with your help this will change.

By AIDS Prevention Education, I am not referring to only a stack of pamphlets on cigarette machines in bars, a poster in a bathroom or a flyer handed out at a community event. I am talking about an integration of AIDS prevention information and programming into the Gay community. This is a major effort. And MAP cannot do this alone. The only way for this to succeed is for many organizations to work together.

MAP has AIDS information and some financial resources, but we do not have the person-power or your credibility in the community, which is necessary. We need your help and support.

If you are concerned about AIDS prevention in Milwaukee's Gay community and want to work together on this issue, I urge you, or your representative, to attend a planning meeting. MAP has taken the responsibility to begin planning the first event, a community-wide forum in June. A similar event was co-sponsored by MAP and CCBA in 1985. If you are interested, attend the planning meeting at the MAP office, 315 W. Court, Thursday, May 26, 1988, 6-7:30 P.M. I look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

—Susan E. Dietz  
Executive Director  
Milwaukee AIDS Project



# Greens Worldwide Respect Gay/Lesbian Rights

By Sue Burke

Liberal "tolerance" of Lesbian and Gay rights is not enough, according to Dennis Boyer of Madison, a Green co-convenor in Wisconsin. "Anything that's positive to people is liberating," he says. Gays should be accepted.

"There's a Gay village in any city," says Bill Hurrell of Green Bay, another Wisconsin Green. "That's the kind of differences that add spice to life. If anything, the Greens say 'more.'"

"Everything is diverse," explains Helen Loschnigg-Fox of Madison, an ecological feminist. "It isn't just that we should tolerate differences. We should encourage them."

Frank Koehn, a member of the Bayfield County Board in northernmost Wisconsin, is the first Green elected to public office. He opposes condemning Lesbians and Gays. "You can't eat the fish out of the Great Lakes and 400 Class A trout streams. We should be talking about that, not about the way people live."



A new, grassroots political party was formed in West Germany at the beginning of this decade that is different from any ever seen before. It has surprised and confused traditional politicians. It is spreading all over the world, and has come to Wisconsin.

In West Germany, Greens were different from traditional politicians in the way they dressed, the way they campaigned, and the way the Green party was organized.

Most of the members of the new party were activists from peace, ecology, feminist, and leftist causes, including Lesbian and Gay rights. The party is held together, one member says, because "we are

fighting for survival."

The party began organizing in 1978, and two years later held its constitutional convention. One of the early organizers, ecologist Herbert Gruhl, coined the slogan "We are neither left or right; we are in the middle."

"Four pillars" support the party's policies: ecology is foremost, followed by social responsibility (including the rights of women and minorities), grassroots democracy, and nonviolence. Decentralization, postpatriarchal values, and spirituality are also common principals among members. The Green party's symbol is the sunflower.

In the U.S., a Green Committees of Correspondence was founded in 1984 after a working weekend gathering of 200 activist organizers, and theorists met in St. Paul, Minn.

Subsequent meetings have defined the purpose of the Committees of Correspondence (a name used by organizing groups in the American Revolution) as helping support local organizing efforts, but there is no agreement on what else to do, and no national party exists yet.

Ten key values support U.S. Greens: ecological wisdom, grassroots democracy, personal and social responsibility, non-violence, decentralization, community-based economics, postpatriarchal values, respect for diversity, global responsibility, and future focus.

Unlike traditional political parties, not much more structure exists for the Greens. The only way to understand Greens in Wisconsin, Boyer said, is to talk to a number of people active in the movement. "Greens are really loathe to have somebody put words in their mouths."

Wisconsin has 50 co-conveners, Boyer said, and 11 local Green groups, with more than 800 people on its mailing list.

Boyer, who works for a labor union, visited West Germany in 1986. He described the Greens there as a coalition that formed a political party, pulling together under one umbrella a number of causes.

"People developed a kind of synthesis philosophy that all these things are related at the root," a "holistic" philosophy. In the U.S., Greens have been concerned with issues like bioregionalism, ecofeminism, and intentional communities.

Greens are different from environmentalists because Greens try to understand "how we can best live close to things without harming them," he said, and consider humans as part of the living system rather than at the top of the hierarchy dominating others.

Greens question the standard view of the "good life" of material abundance. Unlike the Left, Greens focus on production rather than distribution, and are committed to grassroots, local-based and run economies.

"Greens start from the presumption that politics needs a shot in the arm of ethics and long-term values," Boyer said. They set values and then apply them to a given circumstance, opposing the "arrogance that there is always a right answer."

Some deep ecology Greens consider the spiritual side and try to reach non-linear thinking.

In Germany, Boyer said, Greens are respectful of Lesbian and Gay issues, believing that lifestyles, housing, and familial choices belong to individuals. Greens support cultural experimentation.

In Wisconsin, he said, Greens are rural-based and have not had much input from Gays. This is the Gay rights state, he said, but he is not sure Wisconsin Greens have gone far enough in probing what Gay rights issues are.

Walt Bresette, a Red Cliff Chippewa in Bayfield County, founded the Lake Superior Greens, the first Greens in Wisconsin, two years ago.

It started, he said, with Jessie Jackson. Bresette was a delegate for Jackson to the Wisconsin Democratic Party's 7th Congressional regional caucus.

"I was real excited about the whole process," he said, until the "real powers" took over, and did not allow Jackson's message to be heard.

Disheartened and disenfranchised, Bresette said he "declared his independence" from the two political parties the next year on July 4, his birthday. He announced the start the Lake Superior Greens, working with Frank Koehn, also a former Democrat.

There were issues the Green needed to act on. The U.S. Department of Energy was looking for "a soft spot" to dump nuclear waste, Bresette said, treaty rights were being challenged, and "people were not prospering under Reagan."

"We counted no noses," Bresette said. "We kept no names. We kept no membership lists. We said these are the things that needed to be done and anyone who wanted to help could jump in."

Thousands of people turned out for the nuclear waste hearings. A treaty rights support group was formed. Koehn ran for the county board and won.

"While it's not all hanging on a Green hanger, it's all part of what Green politics is," Bresette said.

"As an Ojibwa (Chippewa), I see emerging out of this new politics something that native people have always talked about." Green philosophy is "synthesizing itself" out of what is "old, natural, and

good for the earth and good for the ecosystems."

A Native American view "naturally and organically" fits into Green politics, he said.

Barry Commoner, E.F. Schumacher, and others are "tools" for people to use," he said, along with traditional values of his tribe and other tribes.

Bresette hopes the Green network will continue to grow, and praised Boyer for sacrificing his time to help.

"I would hope additionally we can get people elected to local office." Bresette plans to run again for his tribal council.

Helen Loschnigg-Fox of Madison's Center for Land Studies, said she doesn't like the term ecofeminism, although it is often used to describe Greens. "I don't get the difference. I always thought feminism was ecological."

As a feminist, she said, equal rights are not enough. "I never did want in (the system). I always did want out."

These ideas can be threatening, she warned. "This is going to take a total change in the way we perceive things. It is not a reform movement." Some people may have to realize their lifestyle, with pre-packaged, prepared products and conveniences, might not be ethical. "This makes people awfully uncomfortable."

But, she said, "there's a joy to this ecological feminist approach." Some male  
TURN TO GREENS, PAGE 7

Less Stress...Less Pain...  
Better Posture...

More Pleasure !!

discover

Rolfing®



Before

Rolfing® is bodywork that frees stress and tension from the muscles, and balances and aligns your body. The result is a body that looks and feels GREAT - day after day.



After

Joe Laur and Associates

Basic and Advanced Rolfing®

200 West Silver Spring Suite 300

Joe Laur - Advanced Certified Rolfier  
Lance Slaughter - Advanced Certified Rolfier  
Brian Moore - Certified Rolfier

For More Information and to arrange for a Free Consultation (\$25 value) call

961-7100

## 600 GAYS AND LESBIANS RALLY AND MARCH IN DUBUQUE



Scores of Wisconsinites participated in the Dubuque, Iowa Gay/Lesbian Rights Rally and March on April 30. The events organizers, Ginny Lynns and Stacie Neldaughter are pictured at the center.



## POLITICALLY SPEAKING

## Jackson Campaign Organized Gays on State Level

By Bill Muenier

The Gay/Lesbian effort on behalf of Jesse Jackson in the Wisconsin primary proved that it is possible to be victorious even while being defeated. Jackson may have finished 20 percent behind Mike Dukakis but the success or failure of a campaign is not measured only on the basis of the number of votes it garners. For in reality, if we view campaigns as a means to attain a political objective, what matters most is whether or not those objectives are achieved.

I was honored to be able to work with many of you throughout the state as the Jackson Campaign Co-ordinator for Wisconsin's Gays and Lesbians. I spoke with dozens of you long distance, but I know that there were hundreds of others whom I did not get a chance to speak with, let alone meet.

Those people who served as local co-ordinators know what we accomplished. They know the deep sense of pride that can only come from a job well done. But many of you probably only saw the election night results and chalked this effort up as a defeat. Nothing could be further from the truth. OUR ROLE IN THE JESSE JACKSON CAMPAIGN WAS AN UNQUALIFIED SUCCESS AND A TREMENDOUS VICTORY FOR THE LESBIAN/GAY COMMUNITY.

This campaign marked the first time that we have organized for any candidate on a statewide basis, using the same techniques, the same literature, the same ideas, exchanging information throughout the state, helping each other to turn out the vote for Jesse. Many told me that it would be impossible for us to get Gays/Lesbians throughout Wisconsin involved. "In many parts of the state there are no organizations, no political leadership, no experienced activists," I was told by one Gay leader. To some extent he was right, but I believe a spirit that is more important than formal structure exists. There is a growing sense of pride and willingness to fight back against oppression. We were able to tap that spirit.

And tap that spirit we did. There were over 40,000 phone calls made for Jesse Jackson within the Gay/Lesbian community, but who also carried the Jackson campaign to the straight community as well. Getting all of this accomplished in four short weeks provided complete proof of the power of the Gay/Lesbian community.

In many places Gays and Lesbians were the campaign organization. In Superior, our community went door to door and to shopping malls with 3,000 tabloids. In Stevens Point they did the same. Over 3,000 tabloids went out in the shopping malls of Green Bay, Door County and the Fox Valley thanks to the Gay community. In Whitewater, Monroe, Fort Atkinson, Richland Center and Marshfield too, we were the Jackson organization.

There can be no doubt that our effort had an impact on the results of the election and a lasting effect on our efforts to attain equality. Bob Burns, the Wisconsin Jackson campaign Press Secretary wrote me "There is no doubt that the calls, mailings, events, canvassing and broad involvement of the Gay/Lesbian community had in the campaign paid off big on election day... all contributed to his strength in areas where "insiders" told us repeatedly we would be shut out." What Bob Burns put in writing many others were saying and thinking. Our effort clearly won us respect and friends.

The Jackson campaign encompassed a large number of groups ranging from minority groups and organized labor to community organizations, peace activists and environmentalists. I never got tired of hearing about their amazement over our role. A peace activist from Madison told me that everytime there was a campaign event, Gays and Lesbians were there. A labor leader in Milwaukee expressed the same sentiments and then added, "I hear you even have people in Superior and Beloit. I never realized how many of you there were." In the small hours of the morning, shortly before the election when an Inner City Minister wondered aloud if the "Gays were holding up their end." He was taken to task by a staffer and a volunteer. After they told him what we had done and who I was he came over hugged me and whispered, "God Bless the Gays

and Lesbians."

Perhaps the final conclusive proof of our success came from Jesse's opponents, Governor Dukakis and Senator Gore, both of whom, in the final days of the campaign, were heard publically proclaiming their agreement with Jesse Jackson that much more needed to be done to fight AIDS. That these two men who had previously all but ignored us would make those statements on the South Side of Milwaukee before a conservative audience speaks directly to the issue of whether or not Gay and Lesbian involvement in political campaigns can have an impact. No one on the Jackson staff could remember either of them ever bringing the subject up on their own before.

Speaking of thanks, a number of people deserve some: Steve Jones in Green Bay, Barb Mooney in La Crosse, Scott Ford of the Main Bar in Superior, Tom Hytkamp of Maggies in La Crosse, Mark Kieliszewski, Stevens Point, owner Danny of the R-Bar in Wausau, Dave and Paul in Boas outside Richland Center (Jesse took Boas by the way), Rob Greenan in Madison, Mike Lisowski, Judith Coron, Sue Cook, Guy Hartman and Don Clabot in Milwaukee, Phil in Whitewater, Wade Williams, owner of the Old Fort Lounge in Fort Atkinson, Bob in Beloit, James S. in Racine, Debbie in Oshkosh, Jim in Marshfield, Tom in Monroe, John in Platteville, Steve in Hudson and special thanks to Rod's New Bar in Madison and to Del, and Tony and Club 219 in Milwaukee (especially Bob our fundraiser bartender) and of course our special thanks to everyone who made their calls, got out the literature, went to the rallies, donated money and in other ways helped. This effort truly was a great victory for all of us and all of you contributed to it.

## Alternative Family Bill in Trouble

By David Burrill

Madison's proposed alternative family rights ordinance has been scheduled for a public hearing and vote, but supporters privately acknowledge that they do not hold out much hope for its passage. The public hearing has been scheduled for June 7 at the regular Common Council meeting at 8:00 p.m., and the Council is expected to vote on the proposal that same night. Turnout for the public hearing is expected to be very heavy, and supporters and opponents are already organizing for it.

The proposal, which would extend to alternative families many of the same benefits that are provided to traditional families, has sparked much controversy ever since it was introduced in November of 1987 at the same time that one of its main co-sponsors, Ald. Jim McFarland, Dist. 8, publicly acknowledged that he is Gay. Alternative families, which could include unmarried heterosexual couples and their dependents, Gay or Lesbian couples and their dependents, or extended families with couples raising nephews or nieces, would be eligible for the same sick and bereavement leave benefits that are offered to employees with traditional families, and city workers would be able to include their alternative family members on the city's insurance plan. Alternative families would have to register publicly at the City Clerk's office, signing an affidavit swearing that they are in an alternative family relationship and are co-habiting, in order to receive the benefits.

While McFarland indicated in late November that he might be willing to accept a watered down substitute proposal if necessary to get something passed, no substitute was ever drafted and McFarland says he has no plans to do so now. This, he says, is because he was unable to find a substitute that would satisfy the five of the six undecided Alderpersons he would need to gain a majority of the 22 person City Council (seven are already co-sponsoring the ordinance). Furthermore, a coalition of supportive community groups, including the Madison Institute for Social Legislation, which initiated the city's study of the issue, the National Organization for Women (NOW)-Madison Chapter, and other organizations, so strongly opposes such a substitute that they would rather have no ordinance than the substitute. Organization leaders indicate this is be-

cause the substitute, which would simply add alternative family status to the city's equal opportunity ordinance with an exception for discrimination in provision of employee benefits for both the private sector and the city, would mean alternative families would register and publicly expose themselves, which could threaten their jobs and possibly even their well-being, without gaining any benefits.

However, one of the co-sponsors of the proposed ordinance, Ald. Wayne Bigelow, Dist. 1, has indicated he may yet introduce such a substitute and try to obtain the 12 votes necessary to pass it. He feels that by passing such a substitute, supporters can put a foot in the door, and critics of the ordinance will see that only those who are truly in committed relationships will register. This might allay concerns that there might be a significant fiscal impact on the city from the provision of family health insurance plans to alternative families of city employees.

According to McFarland, the problem has been that his public announcement of his sexual orientation generated an incredible amount of publicity surrounding the alternative families ordinance, and the homophobic response has been much stronger than that of those who support the proposal. While McFarland himself received many supportive calls and letters and no negative calls, several west side Alderpersons have received up to 60 calls (a very large number on one issue for an Alderperson) in opposition to the ordinance, and some even calling for McFarland to be ousted from the Council. "The result," McFarland says, "is that many of those who were sitting on the fence on this issue are unwilling to support even a watered down version of the ordinance."

Other observers are much more hard than McFarland. They claim that a number of "spineless liberals" on the Council, who personally support at least some form of the measure on the basis of concern for civil rights, are unwilling to publicly support it because they are afraid of a vocal but very small minority of constituents in their district, the majority of whom, while they may not support the ordinance, certainly would not care enough about it to throw out well entrenched incumbents. One supporter of the ordinance who demanded anonymity said, "It is similar to a situation in which a southern liberal Democrat might vote to overturn the Civil Rights Act of 1964 because, despite his personal feelings, 90% of his racist constituents felt it should be done: it is immoral!" These observers cite Ald. Judy Plaer Olson, Dist. 11, Ald. Sue Bauman, Dist. 7, and Ald. Eve Galanter, Dist. 10, as especially falling in this category.

While supporters may disagree on the reasons that the ordinance is unlikely to pass, they all agree that a huge turnout of supporters at the public hearing is absolutely necessary and could make a strong enough impression to convert at least some of the undecided members, if not the needed five to gain a majority. They also agree that Alderpersons, and the Mayor as well (who came out in opposition to the ordinance but has been known to reverse his position before — in fact he did many times on this very subject), must be contacted by more supporters so they can see there are as many adamant supporters in their districts as there are vocal opponents. Alderpersons can be contacted (without knowing which district one lives in) by calling the Common Council office at 266-4071; the Mayor's office can be reached at 266-4611.

## Tri-Cable Schedule

Locations of Editing, Studio, Post-Production Meetings: MATA, 1610 N. 2nd Street, Milwaukee, 278-8833.

May, 1988 (According to old schedules)

Cablecast Dates— 1st Tuesday of Month, 7pm — 5/3.

3rd Tuesday of Month, 7pm — 5/17.

Last Sunday of Month, 6pm — 5/29.

Production Meetings: Post-Production & Planning — At MATA, 4th Monday of Month, 7pm. New crew members come at 6:30pm.

June, 1988 (According to old schedules).

Cablecast Dates — 1st Tuesday of Month, 7pm — 6/7.

3rd Tuesday of Month, 7pm — 6/21.

Last Sunday of Month, 6pm — 6/29.

For more information call: Bryce Clark, 271-7812 (home), 272-0524 (work). Mark Behar, 277-7671 (home), 271-1558 (work).

## Pride

Continued from Page 2

correcting the injustices and having positive attitudes about correction in a spirit of cooperation rather than to being negative and hostile in conflict resolution. Personally, I'd have to applaud the efforts being expended to get this paper out on a regular basis with good quality reporting and editorial policies with a lot of community interaction. Thanks to Terry, Jerry and all others to dare to take a gamble and make this happen here so that others can take PRIDE in their environment and would have a medium in which to express it. Who Are They To Dare Such An Undertaking?

Another hard and cold fact of life is that a society must have rules in order to protect and respect everyone's rights which are agreed to and imposed upon all members, by a majority. However organized, a group must be governed by some rules of conduct and fair play which promote the majority view (by actual count), but which also protects the minority interests (Robert's Rules 101). For example, ML/GPC Committee meetings specifically allow for input and effort by ANYONE who wants to be involved, but is NOT a forum for a contest of wills. The only cost for membership is one's effort and level of positive involvement. Fisher and Ury of the Harvard Negotiation Project produced a summary of a workable process entitled, "Getting to Yes." The book (Penguin Books 1981) became a National Bestseller and is suggested reading for anyone involved in negotiating agreements and conflict resolution. As members of a minority we certainly have similar concerns and, therefore, need to work together to eradicate the oppression and strengthen relationships, but instead some are more eager to oppress one another further. It's this in-fighting which causes the most damage and advances the causes for the majority to be stronger in its oppression.

Finally, about ML/GPC and for the record: The Committee does not now have a White Male leadership. Two White Females and one White Male have agreed to co-chair meetings from this point forward on a rotating basis. Further, one Black Female was overwhelmingly selected to serve as a co-chairperson, but apparently declined, as we haven't seen or heard from her since. Who Are They To Dare To Implement An Alternative Form of Leadership And Organization?

It has never been said, nor implied, that the Committee and its implementation of two weeks of COMMUNITY PRIDE CELEBRATIONS will be ALL things to ALL PEOPLE, but rather would be an attempt for a cross-section and diversity of the various Lesbian and Gay members (either in groups or as individuals) working together on one goal in representing achievement and co-existence in the community and just being free to be free (and letting others do the same). We are all too familiar with the old adage that in conflict resolution people fall into one of two categories — Being Part Of The Problem Or Being Part Of The Solution. Solutions don't come easy or without understanding and trust and cooperation and care and hurt and hard work and, yes, ANGER. To be sure, we all have angers. What makes me most angry is seeing people demonstrate their anger and hostility by being destructive, instead of channeling this energy into being rehabilitative or working positively to rebuild or correct those injustices in a cooperative manner. Thanks to a new team of goal-oriented and dedicated hardworking individuals of ML/GPC from both genders, much of the prejudices which were identified are behind us as was evidenced by a very constructive working meeting of the Committee at the informal brunch on April 10 — no rules, no name-calling, no infighting — just good old-fashioned hard work by individuals getting along to get the job done. At the time this edition is going to Press, the Pride Committee will have held its first fundraiser — a combination of talents — which grew out of ideas presented from those actively involved. Having been involved in the planning, working cooperatively to make it happen, and then watching it all come together has been most gratifying. Members of our community can and do pull together and work cooperatively, each contributing a piece of the puzzle to make it all happen in a very professional manner. Thanks to all who helped! For those who

TURN TO PRIDE, PAGE 11



## Coming Out to Mom

By Jamakaya

It was definitely time to come out to mom.

About ten years ago, my mother was convinced I was living with a man. She got this impression after calling several times and hearing the husky voice of a strange person answering my phone. It was actually the voice of my lover, Diana (I'm a sucker for deep voices), and it was no longer something I could leave unexplained.

I had come out to my sister a few years earlier. I figured someone in the family ought to know. I'll never forget the distance between us as we sat on opposite ends of the couch and I began, oh so tentatively, to broach the topic. She listened carefully and was not entirely surprised by the revelation. Since then, she's always been supportive of my choice, right down to giving me her editorial opinions on my choice of women-friends!

Big sisters are supposed to be your confidante, mothers are a whole 'nother story.

I really didn't want my mother to be confused or misled about my lifestyle. I was becoming more involved in the feminist and Gay movements and didn't want to feel that I had to hide anything from her or worry about letting something slip. I called to tell her I had something serious to discuss. She was very curious and a little apprehensive about what it could be, but we set up a time to meet.

I thought a lot about how I should present it to her. It unfolded in a way I could never have predicted.

We met on a Sunday afternoon in her living room, sitting in chairs opposite each other. For someone known for her assertiveness, I completely wimped out and beat around the bush. After extensive preliminaries in which I told her I had put much thought into this, that I had felt this way all my life, that I hoped she would listen and understand and ask whatever questions she might have — ad infinitum, she finally asked that I get to the point.

"Well mom," I gulped, "I'm Gay."

There was a long, thoughtful pause before she replied.

"Aren't Gay women called Lesbians?"

I nearly fell out of the chair.

"Yes mom, I'm a Lesbian."

There was another pause and then lots of questions: Are you sure? What does this mean? Isn't it a lonely life? Why don't you like men? Do you have a special friend? An then a real heartbreaker: Was it something I did or didn't do?

"No, no mom, it was just always there. And I want you to know it's a good thing. It's the best part of my life. I'm very happy with it and I'd like to be able to share it with you."

We had moved much closer. I was seated on an ottoman in front of her. At times we touched each other and held hands — a profound moment in a family where the only touching has usually been the violent kind. That seemed light years away.

My mother started to cry.

"It's okay mom, please don't be upset..."

"I was just thinking of Gordon."



Jamakaya

"Gordon? Gordon who?"

"My special friend. The one who died from cancer."

Oh God. I remembered her talking about some guy. I never met him. I assumed he was a friend of a friend or a friend's husband or something. (My father had died ten years previously.) She was very upset and couldn't express what she was feeling. My family just does not talk about these things. Suddenly it dawned on me —

"Mother, were you involved with him?"

She was. Lots of pain and regret and guilt poured out. Although she mentioned him at times, she had never really explained the depth of their relationship. And being young and foolish, I never picked up on it. One just doesn't expect these things of their 55 year old mother!

She expressed guilt about the relationship, guilt flowing from her Catholicism — after all, they weren't married. I told her that if they loved each other she should feel no guilt or shame about it. We talked about love and companionship and commitment and the desire to express those things physically. I assured her that love that felt so right was nothing to be ashamed of and, in fact, ought to be celebrated. It all touched so tenderly on what I wanted to express about my own Lesbianism.

A lot of my mother's pain had to do with the fact that she never shared any of these feelings with anyone. How horrible to be alone with all this. My mother nursed Gordon through his illness and death and I never knew about it or gave her any support. How horrible!

The greatest tragedies are those resulting from miscommunications or things left unsaid between loved ones. Coming out to my mother opened communication channels and emotional depths I had never reached with her before. The moral of the story is, take the risk of coming out to someone you love. There are often happy endings and the dividends, in terms of growth and understanding, can be substantial.

Mom doesn't blink an eye anymore when I tell her I'm off to a Gay conference or when I bring my lover over for supper. She's absorbed so much in her life, she can handle anything. I tell her she's a regular Amazon and she just blushes.

Since it's May mom, this one's for you. Happy Mother's Day!

## JAPAN

By Hiroaki

Tokyo, Japan- Sometimes I feel depressed. Not the kind of depression that I would feel the need to commit suicide over, but sometimes I feel depressed. That strange, gray/blue feeling, when everything looks gray/blue. And why do I get this feeling now and then? Because I am gay and I worry... sometimes. Because I worry about my parents. They still don't know. It's hard to tell your parents, especially when they are religious, especially when you are an only/youngest child, especially when your parents are not just your parents but your friends. And being Asian culturally doesn't help at all. That, "I'll never see grandchildren" response is easily said. And it hurts... them... and me.

Some of my friends say "tell them, and come out". I know all the reasons that I should tell them. And perhaps I should have told them years ago. I, like many others that I know of, am not afraid of being kicked out. I live alone. I am not afraid of their anger. There is nothing they can do. I am not concerned about their money. I am self-supporting. BUT I AM AFRAID THAT I WILL HURT THEM. A terrible hurt. THIS AND THIS ONLY is why they still don't know. It is why I have kept my mouth shut, and continue to do so. I pray that they will find out for themselves, because then it may not hurt as much... the feeling of knowing while not really knowing. Maybe they suspect something, maybe. I hope so.

Because then they won't hint about my having a family, getting married, and all the other wonderful things that life is all about. I only want them to be happy, but I can't change. Which is why those who say that being Gay is a matter of choice are wrong in many cases. I can't change.

And when the so-called faithful come on television and say "you can change", I wonder. CAN I CHANGE?

My parents are worried that I will be alone in this world. That I need a life partner. They are right. But my partner will be another man. And as for children, we can adopt. It sounds crazy. It is crazy. The world is crazy. And to live in this crazy world we have to grab happiness whenever, wherever, however we can. Its called survival. And this is something that no one will ever teach you in any school.

When I hear other Asian Gays complaining about all the pressure they are under to "conform", I think "what about me?" The idea of life is to do good and be happy. If you are not happy, if you "conform" and are miserable, then you are not living, you are existing. And in Asia, especially in Japan, we have up until now done a lot of existing. Do we want to go through life for existence, or do we want to go through life for meaning? Because if I can resist getting married the way I feel about my parents, then you can too. No more "excuses", lying to yourself, telling yourself why you HAVE TO do something you know is wrong. You have to go with your "gut feeling". It's the only right way. It's your life, and your happiness. Your life, and your hell. Remember that always.

complete range of psychosocial services, from crisis intervention through intensive residential services, a thriving volunteer program called "Gay Big Brother/Lesbian Big Sister," and AIDS education and prevention project and a training component which provides consultation and training to other agencies serving high-risk youth.

At GLASS, Eddie started to change. He returned to school. He made friends. He got a part-time job and began to smile a little. His care is similar to Mitchell's. He came to live at the GLASS Arlington Group Home when he was 17. Since then, he has attended Los Angeles City College and gotten a job with an insurance company. "I have resolved inner conflicts concerning my homosexuality," said Mitchell. "The atmosphere (at GLASS) has taught me to be independent."

GLASS operates under woeful financial constraints. They receive no government aid and what is gained from private donations is terribly inadequate for the job they must do. For those interested in helping out, write: GLASS, 8235 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 214, West Hollywood, CA 90046.

Remember, our children are our heritage and few there are who care for them except us.

## PUERTO RICO

By Jose Toro-Alfonso

Hola, readers, women and men, of Wisconsin Light!

With this column I begin my monthly participation as a correspondent of this publication. From the warmth of the Caribbean, in Puerto Rico, I will be writing to you all each month to share ideas and thoughts on the subject of being Gay.

I invite you, my readers, to maintain contact with me through the page of *Light* and write, telling me of your thoughts and reactions about my comments. I do not know Milwaukee but it is my intention to acquaint you as much as possible with Puerto Rico; I am sure that many of your letters will include subjects that will be useful to both of our communities. Thus, do not hesitate to write.

Puerto Rico is an island, the largest of the Lesser Antilles, in the Caribbean. Our history reflects the influence of Spanish colonization, Black culture that came with the African slaves and the influence of North America that arrived after the Spanish-American War in 1898. In 1952 an act of the U.S. Congress established Puerto Rico as a Free State in association with the United States that made us American citizens with money and defense in common but with a Latin culture and language. English is our second language. We do not pay taxes to the United States and we do not vote for the president. We do pay local taxes and elect a governor every four years.

Our Latin culture is profoundly male-oriented, thus homosexuality is not at all accepted. We don't have a historical Gay liberation movement and we might say that we here are in a different process or situation from some states in the U.S. where Gay people have received their own space and rights.

However, the influences from the United States are opening for Gay people in Puerto Rico. We now have places that we can freely use, above all, in the metropolitan area of San Juan. We have a variety of discotecas, bars and lodgings that are frequented exclusively by Gay men and women. Unfortunately, we lack other places such as community centers, restaurants, libraries or other social gathering places which are free of rock music and cigarette smoke.

In our country there exist various developing Gay/Lesbian liberation movements, but most are small and not too outspoken. A few of these I am able to mention without seriously affecting their existence. They are: COUNIDAD ORGULLO GAY (1979), CIRCULO DE ESTUDIOS GAY (1981), COMMITTEE FOR THE RIGHTS OF GAYS AND LESBIANS (1982) and the most recent of all, the Colectivo de Concientizacion Gay of which I am a member. The importance of these groups is that they contribute and disseminated information and help to develop an active and positive attitude toward one's sexual orientation and to help overcome obstacles in our society created by religion, sexism, and, above all, homophobia. These contributions help our entire Gay community. Of course, this does not end here. This is just the beginning. To Gays and Lesbians who live today, it is our duty to provide and continue to expand our community and gathering more places for us.

Puerto Rico being the half-way point between North and South America, we share cultural influences from both worlds. This is reflected in many occasions among us who are Gays and Lesbians in the developing of new morality. We learn from the liberties of Gay people in the U.S., but it is difficult for us to integrate this lifestyle with our Latin American society. Without being aware of it, we internalize with ease the heterosexual norm and develop an attitude of rejection that limits us and our expression of wholeness of personality through our sexuality. Naturally we are speaking of internalized homophobia... but this is a topic for our next article.

The author is a Clinical Psychologist, Director of the Puerto Rican AIDS Foundation, a member of the Colectivo de Concientizacion Gay. If you wish to get in touch with him, write in either English or Spanish to Apartado Postal 4223, Hato Rey, Puerto Rico, 00919.

Write for *Light!*  
Call 372-2773

## GLASS Needs Help to Save Youth

Take the story of Eddie. His parents kicked him out when he was 14 years-old. His father said, "No faggots in his house." His mother said, "You know your dad." With nowhere to go and no one to care — he was, after all, Gay — Eddie discovered prostitution. He hated it but he could have some food and, on some nights, a bed to sleep in.



Eddie went to jail. An emergency shelter for kids took him but when they found out he was "queer", he was consigned to a psychiatric hospital. He tried suicide twice. Then GLASS found him.

GLASS is the Gay and Lesbian Adolescent Social Services, founded in 1984 to openly nurture, provide and care for Gay and Lesbian children. As Teresa DeCrescenzo, GLASS's Executive Director says, "It is a place where we claim our own children, self-identified Gay and Lesbian youth, and declare that we can and will take care of them."

The need is urgent. According to DeCrescenzo, the numbers of Gay and Lesbian kids like Eddie is increasing. More and more of "your children" are suffering on the streets without food, shelter, clothing or care. In addition, these kids have to cope with parental and peer rejection, confusion, depression and are, without doubt, the single highest population group at risk for AIDS." Who cares? Not too many. They're just Gays and Lesbians. That's all.

GLASS does care. Initially licensed by the State of California for one group home, the organization has expanded to include a second and third home where Gay and Lesbian kids can find a warm, dry place to stay, some good food and a friendly face that wants nothing more than to help them become adults accepting of themselves. In addition, to help in this work, there is a



## BROTHERS

By Morgan Summer

AS I WRITE this, I am alone in my room. It is a muggy spring night, and I'm wearing shorts and a loose-fitting T-shirt. There's a fan a few feet away from me, providing some relief. My room is on the second floor of my grandparents' house, and it is poorly ventilated. But the fan helps.

So, I am alone. It's at times like these — on hot nights, knowing that I'll have trouble getting to sleep — that I wish I had someone to talk to. Really talk to; someone who would be there. Maybe I would glance across the room and he'd be there, lying on his bed, listening to his Walkman or doing some homework, in shorts and a T-shirt and bare feet on this warm night. Someone like that, about my age.

I wish I had a brother, on nights like these.

•••

IN THE GAY world — what I've seen so far, in my two years of being fairly open about my gayness — I've run across the wish to have a brother quite frequently. And to be honest, they involve sexual fantasies. And, well, hell, so would mine, I guess. But not just sex... what I would really like is someone to talk to. Someone to talk to when all the lights are dark in my room, and my brother and I would talk about stuff. Girls, most likely, and friends, cars, school, teachers, our wants, dreams, desires. And, I imagine, the topic of homosexuality would come up on it's own, in due time.

As for the sexual aspect — if there was any — I wonder what that would be like.

•••

I HAVE KNOWN many brothers, but three of the couples stand out in my mind. The first was two brothers that lived in the same clean, pure, virgin-white Milwaukee suburb that I do. And I had a crush on both of them. They both had wide, dark liquid amber eyes, absolutely perfect complexions, and firm, well-toned bodies. A two-year gap separated them.

And I swore — still do — that they were Gay. Gay together, that is.

I was over at their house a few summers ago (before the general populace of the Western world knew I was Gay) talking to the younger of the two. It was around dusk, and the temperature was around eighty degrees. He was wearing shorts (very short shorts) and a T-shirt. He was sitting, and I was standing on a tiny front porch. He — I'll call him Steve, here — was sitting in the doorway of the house. We were chatting, and suddenly he looks at me and says, "Stop lookin' at my crotch." I looked up as his hand brushed the crotch of his pants. He was grinning, and mischief was in his deep brown eyes. I almost drooled. And, somehow, nothing came of it.

A year later, I got to know two more brothers, the Rasks. I would go over to their house and me and the younger one — Joe — would walk to high school. It was a good few weeks; I would occasionally stop by a nearby Burger King and get some cheese and breakfast sausage croissants, and we three would eat them at the Rasks' small breakfast table — their parents had already left for work by the time I arrived — with the stereo blasting. It was fun, too. Sometimes Joe or his brother would eat in just his underwear shorts (hee hee). Then, they found out that I was attracted to boys, and that friendship ended. But all the time I was eating with them, in their kitchen and lounging around in their living room, talking about girls (not my choice) I was wondering if they were being close to each other in their attic bedrooms. As I had wondered with Steve, and his brother.

And now, in early May of 1988, The Year of My Graduation From High School, I know two more brothers, Dave and Dan. One is a senior, the other is a sophomore. I met them both at school; Dave, the older, was in my Psychology class. This semester — in these dwindling days of rage, high school rage and frustration — he is in my Government and Law class.

They both have long, blond-white hair, thin-muscled bodies, and are popular. Dave doesn't like his brother, at least that's what he tells me — he calls Dan a "little fairy." Dave adamantly denies any interest in homosexuality, claiming time and time again he is not on the (smile) "banana boat," as he calls it. He probably isn't, in my opinion, but I would bet that he and his brother — and the other four — have experimented with each other, sometime, somewhere, in silence.



Morgan Summer

•••

AM I BEING a tad perverted, talking about, technically, brother-brother incest? I don't think so. It just interests me. Like I said, I don't have a brother, so I can't imagine... a brother.

I realize that I'll most likely never find out about the six brothers in this article. But I think about them, and having a brother, and silent touches, on warm nights such as this, when I lie in the darkness and wonder about a feeling I will never know. The joys, tears, and longings of that special love.

Brotherly love. On warm nights, and the quiet sounds of young boys whispering and smiling in the dark.

## Greens

Continued from Page 4

deep ecologists can get grim, she said. Women can see "small solutions," beautiful and possible.

Bill Hurrle described Greens as "old hippie activists, people who just never gave up. We're all late 20th century people trying to get by as best we can."

He gave an interview by phone as he was caring for two small children and an ecology meeting was going on in the living room of his small flat in Green Bay.

He said he was born in Minnesota in the 1940s, and saw the "piggery" in the U.S. even as a child. "I saw the contry trashed. They went on knowing it wouldn't last forever."

"The factory system is hitting the way. Toxins are where it shows. Energy is going to hit the wall in oil. By 1990, 80% of the pumpable oil in the Middle East will have been used up, and OPEC (Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries) will be in the driver's seat again. Our whole house of cards will fall in. Reagan's last burst of testosterone will be of no value."

For Greens, he said, ecological values hold equal or greater value than economic values, and local issues have precedence over state and federal issues.

"A lot of Greens won't even get involved in politics at all. They'd rather shovel manure. They think the shit is too deep in politics."

Greens are aware of the spiritual element to life, "aware that they have souls to loose, that they're defending the foundation of their very being."

Greens try to pick a model after nature itself, he said, in contrast to the military patriarchal model managing the country. Greens are not for the "idealized notion" of a house with a white picket fence, 2.5 children, a dog and two cars. Greens are for households rather than families, "whatever holds the house together."

Bea Blank of Milwaukee is new to the Greens, although she has been following news of the party for some time and plans a trip to Germany later this year.

Many Greens are meeting as part of the Witness for Non-Violence for Treaty Rights and Rural Rights in Northern Wisconsin, a Milwaukee-based group. A Green group is still forming.

Greens look for issues close at hand, she said. In the Milwaukee River bioregion, lead in the soil might be that kind of issue.

She hopes Milwaukee peace groups will get involved. "I think that would be a natural connection here in the city. People groups already have a Green cast."

Greens are also "natural for women," Blank said. "You don't get into this dichotomy of right and left. That sort of fades out. Green fosters interconnectedness."

Frank Koehn, Wisconsin's only Green elected official, said "to be a Green in

## Milwaukee Youth Holds First Dance

Dancing, partying and lip-syncing the nite away, approximately 50 Lesbian/Gay youth and their friends 'caused it' on Saturday evening, April 23rd at Milwaukee's Foundation Community Center. Holding their first organized group effort of Gay Youth Milwaukee's (GYM) "The Nite to Cause It" was a gayla event indeed.

Many were apprehensive at, most likely, their first time ever partying as Gay/Lesbian young adults. Only a few couples initially braved the dance floor. Most had never shared a dance floor as Gay/Lesbian couples before, and were understandably hesitant. But soon the crowd loosened up, thanks to the expertise of the young DJ.

Talent abounded in at least seven lip-sync renditions ranging from two contrasting Madonnas, Dead or Alive, Natalie Cole, Jody Watley, Janet Jackson and Vanity (Nasty Girls). Future Mr. and Ms. Gay Wisconsin are gearing up already!

GYM wishes to thank all those who helped make "The Nite to Cause It" a success, especially John Clayton and the C'est La Vie staff, the Cream City Foundation's governing board for the Foundation Community Center, and the chaperones.

GYM plans to hold other events in the near future and hopes to broaden its members and friends through more social gayla affairs.

Gay Youth Milwaukee is a rap support group for young people 18 years of age and under. We meet every 1st and 3rd Saturday at the Milwaukee Downtown

northern Wisconsin is what is to be a Green anywhere else — to be outraged and outspoken. There is too much avoiding issues, too much compromise, to be anything else."

He described himself as the most outspoken on the county board on treaty rights, and still he get reelected. "Just having a candidate that can speak out without having to fear the consequences" makes a difference.

Green's should "think globally and act locally. We need to be Green in our own back yards," Koehn said.

In northern Wisconsin, he said, older conservative Republicans have been some of the most helpful members, and their involvement have keep Greens from being called Red. But he did not expect their support.

Poverty motivates many people in northern Wisconsin to consider the Greens, he said. "Times are hard. They're damned hard." One-third of Bayfield County residents live in substandard housing, one-third are on some form of relief, and up to 70% of the school children qualify for free meals.



"That's because there aren't any jobs. We can't have a 600 ship Navy and food on the table. I think people recognize that. Here people can barely pay their taxes. That's fertile ground for the Greens. That whole type of poverty makes people really afraid of finding no food on the table. That's what makes Greens successful philosophically."

To win his election, there was a "handful of people that called everybody they knew on election day." They got new people to the polls.

Library in the First Floor Meeting Room from 1-3 p.m. For information please call Michael Lisowski at 265-8500, or write: GYM, P.O. Box 09441, Milwaukee, WI 53209.

## Advocate Praises Tri-Cable Tonight

The Advocate, the national Gay/Lesbian magazine, in its May 10, 1988 issue, carried an article titled, "Out On The Airwaves," by Kate Walter.

Walter reviews new Gay/Lesbian cable TV programs across the nation, giving Wisconsin very favorable notice. After noting that Gay cable is not a strictly bicoastal affair, Walter writes that Milwaukee's "Tri-Cable Tonight" is one evidence that Gay programming is "a strong force in the Midwest."

"One particularly interesting feature of the program is 'Gaystory', a segment narrated by Dr. Terry Boughner... who finds setting appropriate to the explanations of his characters or events."

Milwaukee's Mark Behar, co-producer of "Tri-Cable Tonight" is noted as one of "several leaders in Gay cable programming," all of whom are commended for the "valuable role that Gay journalists play in asking officials and candidates questions that might not be posed otherwise."

Walter also praises Madison's "Nothing To Hide", a weekly hour-long show, as "one of the longest-running Gay cable programs."

"Nothing To Hide" is produced by Dave Runyon who takes his portable equipment on the road throughout the Midwest, taping interviews and live performances of interest to Gay and Lesbian viewers.

Greens offer a coalition with agreement of priorities, Koehn said, and Greens should set agendas of public debate. "People running for county coroner should say 'What are people dying of?' Up here it's cancer. There is a slaughter of cancer in northern Wisconsin. We should be asking why that is?"

Greens should "speak out and speak often." In northern Wisconsin, treaty rights are an issue, and Koehn is concerned that many people living there can't even see their racism. He suggested sending the bill for law enforcement expenses from the recent spearfishing season to the state Department of Public Instruction, because it is not educating students about the lives and problems of other kinds of people.

Nationally, Greens are growing fast, according to Dee Berry, coordinator of the Interregional Clearinghouse of the National Committees of Correspondence. In January, there were 80 local organizations, she said. Four months later there were 120, with 60 more organizing, and more than 3,000 active participants.

"We're not a political party, we're a movement," she said. The only decision made on national politics so far is not to get involved in 1988, she said, although some Greens are active locally.

"I think it's really important for Gays to be involved in Greens so that their issues are brought out," she said. A "strong contingent" was at the most recent national gathering.

Wisconsin Greens can be contacted at P.O. Box 3377, Madison, WI 53704. Nationally, the Committees of Correspondence can be reached for information about local groups at P.O. Box 30208, Kansas City, MO 64112.

## Greens Will Speak on women & peace

Eleanore Romberg, a Green party member of the Bavarian Parliament in West Germany and international president of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, will speak at 2 p.m. May 15 at the First Unitarian Church of Milwaukee, 1009 E. Ogden St.

The talk, free and open to the public, is sponsored by the Milwaukee branch of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. Romberg will speak on global women working for peace.

Romberg, from Munich, has long been active in peace and environmental issues. She is making a Midwest tour.

The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, founded in 1915, is based in Geneva, Switzerland, and has active branches throughout the world.

More information about Romberg's talk can be obtained from Bea Blank, 873-7359.



FICTION

# AUNT JESSIE

By Terry Boughner

Every Sunday Aunt Jessie went to church. In all of her 83 years she had never missed a service at the little red brick Presbyterian church three and a half blocks up Euclid Avenue from the great old Victorian house where she lived. Folks in the small river-town of Steelburg said that the house was far too big for one old lady, too much to take care of, they said. But Aunt Jessie, as everyone called her, had been born and raised in the ramshackle old place all covered with vines and gingerbread carvings and she fully intended to die there. People cared for her. She knew that. But they could just mind their own business as she did hers. What she did or didn't do was between her and her God.

Her Sunday morning routine never varied and hadn't since her husband had died 40 years before. Up at 6:00 which gave her time to fix coffee, strong as acid the way she liked it, before the paper arrived at 6:30. How impatient she got if the paper wasn't on time, as out of sorts as she was with her doctor who had tried to convince her that her coffee wasn't good for her at her age. Well, she paid precious little attention to him in most matters and his advice on coffee was no exception.

Usually she read the paper back to front, through all of its many sections, word for word, not missing a thing. Of late, however, it seemed to have grown bigger, larger than it had been in past years. It seemed harder to concentrate on the articles and she frequently lost her place, a fact which she attributed to her eyes not being what they used to.

The paper read, she went outside to check the weather for herself. This day, Easter Sunday, it was sunny, warm, with just a hint of breeze. Her Spring dress would do nicely. No matter that it was old and had seen many Easters, so had she and if she were any judge of such things, neither she nor the dress need worry much about another Easter. The thought was not unpleasant. That was the way of life and she was tired, so very, very tired. Perhaps if Steven had lived...? But it did no good thinking about that. It never did.

She dressed slowly, carefully putting on the old lavender dress and then, with due precision, pinned the brooch of opals that had been her mother's to her left shoulder. Well, if truth were served, she placed it a little lower down but in her mind it was on her shoulder. Words like "breast" and "chest" were cause for embarrassment even to think about.

Then, a few drops of April Violets cologne and she was nearly ready. There remained only to stop in front of the great pier glass mirror in the hall to place her hat properly on her silver hair and adjust the netting over her face and she was done.

She was pleased with the reflection looking back at her. As pleased as she ever allowed herself to be. Ramrod straight after all these years, she looked — even now, she could hear Steven say it — like a dowager empress. He was right as he had been about so many things — except... Except.

A deep sigh threatened to escape her but she caught it just in time and with effort, suppressed it. It did no good to grieve. No purpose was served. Yet...

How beautiful Steven was, both inside and out and how much, how very much she had loved him even if she'd never said it. Steven was the son of her only granddaughter. When she and her husband had been killed in that terrible accident when Steven was five, Aunt Jessie had taken him in and given him a home. Everyone, her doctor, even the minister, had advised against it. After all, they had said, how could a 68-year-old woman, set in her ways, handle a rambunctious little boy?

Aunt Jessie had paid no attention to any of them. Steven had no other living relations and so it was her duty to take him. It had been the wisest decision she had ever made. Steven brought new life to her. Oh, it hadn't been easy. Far from it, but he had given meaning and purpose to her that she had not experienced since her own son, Steven's grandfather, had been a boy at home.

For 13 years she had loved and cared for him and Steven had more than amply returned that love, always more open, more demonstrative than she was capable of being. How warm it had made her feel inside when he had gathered flowers for her and presented the bouquet as a surprise. There was a quick peck on the cheek and a gentle, "I love you, Maman," as he always called her. She, of course, would feign embarrassment and shoo him

away, but she believed that he could see right through her.

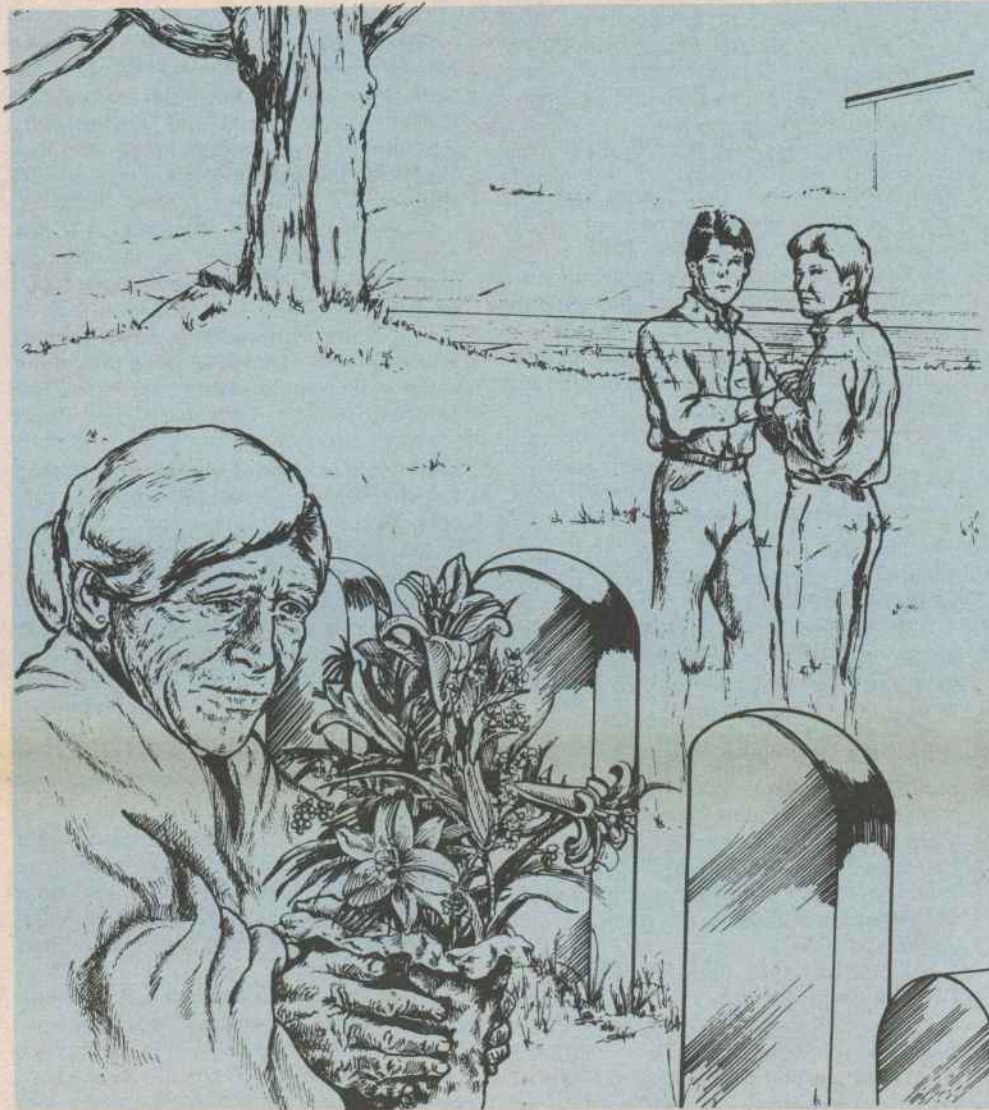
Then, when he was 18... she should have seen it coming. She should have known. Maybe she did. After all, there had been that time in the yard. Perhaps she should have said something to him? Maybe? But that wasn't her way. Still, if she had only spoken to him about it. Perhaps she even intended to. Then, one day, it was too late.

Aunt Jessie left the house. Across the street and next door, neighbors could set their watches by her Sunday morning departures — except, of course, today which was Easter. At least she hadn't forgotten that as she did so many things, it seemed. Today, she left 15 minutes early to be sure of her accustomed seat in the face

times, for what reason she did not know, she was tempted to say something to Mr. Whitiker about him but why? There was no sense, no sense in that at all. No use whatever in opening old wounds — or permitting anyone to know that they still bled as if they had been made yesterday and not two years before.

They were soon at the church. Aunt Jessie nodded, thanking the old gentleman graciously for the pleasure of his company, and made her way to her pew about half way up the aisle.

As always, no one would bother her, no one would speak. The assumption was that she was a prayer and, ordinarily, that would have been the case. But not today; not this Easter Sunday. There was too



of the crowd sure to be there as at no other time of the year. For these she must vary her schedule.

She turned right at the foot of her walk and started up Euclid Avenue, faintly amused as she had never ceased to be at the pretentiousness of the word, "Avenue," to describe the brick street overhung with ancient sycamores. She enjoyed the walk. There was always so much to see, today being no exception. Had Mrs. Sharp's roses survived the winter? (they had). Were the Kelso's tulips up? (They were). And Mr. Whitiker's lilacs, clustered about the porch of his gray frame house were in leaf. As usual in fine weather, Mr. Whitiker's short studdy figure was waiting to join her in the walk across Second Street to the church a half block away.

Aunt Jessie didn't mind the company although the old gentleman was something of a chatterbox. Steven had always liked him, often helping out with his garden even if, as Aunt Jessie had more than a passing suspicion, there was more talking than work going on. She had often wondered what they found to say to each other but, certainly, it had been none of her business to ask.

"Do you ever hear from Peter Rajid anymore?" Mr. Whitiker asked as they waited for a car to pass before crossing the street.

"No," Aunt Jessie replied, her voice calm as force of will could keep it. "Most certainly not."

"Funny," the old man observed. "Seems like you would."

The car had gone on its way now. There were no others so they began to cross. In the distance, Aunt Jessie could see the Kelps, the two Wagner ladies and Mr. and Mrs. Lynn coming down Euclid toward the church but she was hardly thinking about them. Her mind was on Peter. Several

much to think about, too much to worry her, so that she did not even notice the banks of magnificent white lilies grouped about the front of the sanctuary, proclaiming for all to see the triumph over death.

Aunt Jessie sat, hands folded, resting properly in her lap, her back straight, face impassive and eyes closed. No one must know. No one must see the turmoil going on inside her head.

Why should Peter ever return? What in merciful heaven would he hope to accomplish? He had left. That was good. That was the way it should have been. By leaving he had said it was over and done with in Steelburg and with her. By leaving, he had admitted his guilt, the cross he would have to bear for the rest of his life. Let him carry it. It was his to shoulder. He must never, never return. Never!

With great strength of determination, she composed herself and by the time of the first hymn, "Jesus Christ is Risen Today", she had managed to gain some semblance of control.

She raised her eyes just as the choir in their dark red robes swept past, opened her hymnbook to the proper page and joined the rest of the congregation as it rose to its feet at the completion of the first verse. Usually she sang along with everyone else but today, she felt the slightest bit dizzy and the words seemed difficult to read. Of course, she knew the words by heart but she had always enjoyed reading them as well. Today, that wasn't possible.

Then, she thought she heard murmurs, whisperings, coming from around her. Nothing irritated her so much as the low mutter of voices in the congregation during service and she turned her head to silence them with a proper glare.

Looking, she saw what she imagined that the whispering was all about for among the

late comers was Peter Rajid walking up the aisle. In shock and pain, she watched as he seated himself directly across from her. She turned her head away and then, unable to help herself, turned again to look. This time she saw Peter's deep, dark, penetrating eyes staring back at her.

He smiled hesitantly, a little fearfully, as if not sure of the reception his expression of recognition would receive. For a brief moment, Aunt Jessie thought of ignoring him or sending him a furious look. After all, she had every reason to hate him, but she could not bring herself to treat him that way. So she nodded, but keeping a rigid mask of impassivity over her features. Then she returned to following the service.

The order proceeded as always. The minister's sermon was probably edifying although Aunt Jessie could not have said. In fact, she had heard not a thing, thinking only of Peter sitting directly across the way from her. He had not been so close since he had come to Steven's funeral.

The sermon finished, the third and final hymn began. Suddenly, Aunt Jessie heard a noise and looking, saw that Peter had begun to leave. She knew, oh, how well she knew, there would be looks, glares, arched eyebrows, whispers and then, after the service, questions that she would find difficult to avoid.

Quickly, Aunt Jessie closed her hymnal and replaced it in its rack on the back of the pew in front of her. Then, as the congregation began the second verse, she left her seat and started down the aisle toward the door of the church, looking neither to her right nor her left. Before she reached the entrance, she had determined the exact words she was going to say to him.

Once outside, she blinked her eyes at the bright sunlight and tried to find him. He could not have gotten far. Then she saw him standing on the sidewalk across Euclid Avenue looking back at the church.

"Peter!" Aunt Jessie called. "Peter! Wait! I would like to speak with you."

He made no movement, no sign, no acknowledgement whatever that he had heard her. How handsome he is, she thought, the only difference being that Peter was dark where Steven had been blond.

She walked hurriedly down the church walk, cross the street and stood to confront him.

"What are you doing here?" Aunt Jessie asked, her voice full of the bitterness that she had lived with for two years. "Why did you come back here? Why, may I ask? What did you think you could accomplish? What did you think..." She stopped, pain gripping her heart like an iron claw digging into her flesh.

"I don't know," Peter said sadly. "I just thought..." He paused, obviously in pain himself. "I... I wanted to see you again and my home, where I grew up, you know? I wanted to go to that church again and most of all, I guess, I want to..."

Aunt Jessie interrupted him with a wave of her hand. "You think all would have been forgiven and forgotten?" her tone, harsh as she intended that it should be. "If you think that, you were badly mis-..."

"No," Peter broke in, his voice heavy with sadness and regret. "No. I guess I knew that nothing would be. It never is, is it? It's just that... Oh God, Aunt Jessie, I couldn't help what happened. Don't you think I would have if I could? Don't you think I..."

But Aunt Jessie wanted to hear no more. **TURN TO AUNT JESSIE, PAGE 12**



3576 S. Clement  
Bay View 52997  
(414) 482-1616  
NEW HOURS  
Mon.-Thurs.  
11 AM - 6 PM  
Fri. 11 AM - 9 PM  
Sat. Noon-4:00 PM

Come in and see what's new! Wide selection of womyn's jewelry, womyn's music, tyedyes by Di, Books, mugs, buttons, posters, bumper stickers, pottery and now available — Men's Music And Much More!

Updates on Concerts, Ticket Info/Outlet



## Many Cities Joining Milwaukee Classic Softball Tourney May 27-29

Plans are being finalized for the annual Milwaukee Classic Softball Tournament to be held over Memorial Day weekend. As of press time approximately 20 teams had committed to enter the tournament. Teams participating will come from Toronto, Chicago, Minneapolis, New York, Boston and Milwaukee.

Softball action will commence on Friday, May 27 at Mitchell Park and West Milwaukee fields. All games will be over by Friday evening so that players will get a chance to rest up for full days of play on Saturday and Sunday. The championship games are scheduled for Mitchell Park on Sunday afternoon, May 29.

Players will arrive at the host hotel, The Hyatt on Thursday, May 26. A reception area will be set up to welcome the players and to provide orientation. A managers meeting will be held that night.

Friday night promises a special event for all players from out of town. A "Taste of Milwaukee" is to be held at La Cage from 6:00 to 9:30 p.m. Free food representing

some of the cities most famous ethnic groups will be provided. An evening of entertainment is planned featuring some of the area's most notable entertainers. While players will be admitted free to this party, fans may also attend at a nominal fee of \$5.

Sunday night will feature the Awards Banquet to be held at the Top of the Marine restaurant in the Marine Bank building. Classic planners are excited about the location and the entertainment planned for the banquet. Non-players may also attend the banquet although tickets will be limited.

The Milwaukee Classic Committee is seeking volunteers to assist in making the tournament a success. Help is needed in the following areas: transportation, food tent, and beer tent. Food and beer will be available at Mitchell Park during the entire tournament, so there always is a need for volunteers. Anyone wishing to assist in the tournament should contact Tom Salzsieder at 273-3594 or Jerry Warzyn at 672-6866.

## Milwaukee's Saturday Softball Beer League [SSBL] Started It All

By Bob Mellg

The hundreds of fans who come out on a Saturday to see the Gay/Lesbian softball League do its thing are seeing the results of 11 years of hard work. A lot of us really aren't aware of what has gone into the top notch games we see each week. Frankly, I didn't either, so I sat down with Tom Salsider and in a few hours I had a new appreciation of the struggle and the thought that has become our community's Saturday afternoon activity.

Tom has been there from the beginning. He now serves as the league's 3rd Commissioner. We poured over old "Milwaukee Calenders", program books and press clippings. What emerged is a story we should be proud of as a community.

Our city has been the wellspring of national leadership in softball. Ron Burbey has also been there since the start and now serves as National Commissioner. SSBL has been playing ball for 11 years. Here are some highlights of the league and the Milwaukee Classic which it operates on Memorial Day Weekend:

...1977- 1st four teams begin play,  
...1978- Formal rules and League organized.

...1979- National Association organized with Milwaukee playing leading role,

...1980- Wreck Room Classic (now the Milwaukee Classic) becomes international as Canadian teams enter, along with teams from the Twin Cities, New York, Chicago and Connecticut.

### Social Volleyball Continues

Opportunity to play social volleyball exists in Milwaukee each Thursday during May. Milwaukee GAMMA sponsors its regular social volleyball sessions from 8:00 - 10:00 p.m. at UWM's Englemann Gym located at Hartford & Maryland. Play is available to players of all abilities. Cost is \$1.50 for GAMMA members and \$3.00 for non-members. Plan to attend a Thursday session and limber up for summer outside play.

...1981- League grows to 11 teams,  
...1982- 24 teams play in the Wreck Room Classic,

...1984- It takes 2,500 lbs of kitty litter to make field playable for Classic 6 — 25 teams enter,

...1985- We host 1st Women's World Series with 11 teams and also hot Men's Series 9- 32 teams in all come to Milwaukee,

...1986- SSBL takes over Wreck Room Classic as its own project,

...1987- Recreational Division added to league,

...1988- League has four women's teams, 5 Recreational and 3 Competitive teams.

By any standard that's a pretty good record for Milwaukee softball. In starting the Classic, we helped others to get organized across the country. We helped everyone see the need for a National Organization, and pioneered the manner in which almost every other tournament is being run.

### Classic First in the Nation

What do you do on a cold winter's night way back in 1979 when a couple of buddies are having a drink? Well if you're Tom Theis, Arturo Olazabal, Norm Schmadl and Tom Salsider — you start up a softball tournament. Having a drink and tossing around a few ideas was the beginning. It all grew from there. First challenge — how to get teams from out of town to come to Milwaukee — Solution- get a copy of Damron's, look up a few selected bars, write them a letter and sit back hoping they will respond. Three teams did.

The first classic was played with four local teams and three guest teams. New York swept the tournament — but something new had been accomplished and word began to spread. Since then 8 Classics have been held with two years out to host the World Series. Today, every major city in North America has a holiday tournament — and it all started here.

The features of the Classic are first the  
TURN TO SOFTBALL, PAGE 13

## MIL-MA-IDS Bowling Tournament A Great Success

One hundred and sixty-nine bowlers traveled to Sun Prairie, Wisconsin on Saturday, April 23 to participate in the annual MIL-MA-IDS Bowling Tournament. The 9 pin tap tournament attracted bowlers from Chicago, Milwaukee, Madison, St. Louis, & Upper Michigan. Bowling was held at the Prairie Lanes followed by an awards buffet at The New Bar in Madison.

Rochelle Crucci of Milwaukee took top honors with a 3 game total of 956 (with handicap). Rochelle missed a perfect 300 game in the 10th frame when she ended up with an 8 count. Taking second place was Kim Young with a 853 total. Gene

Burroughs took third place with an 805 total, followed by Terry McFaul with an 800 and David Nuernberg with a 794.

Prizes were awarded to the top twenty bowlers. Merchants in the Madison area donated several of the top awards. Cash prizes were also made.

The Awards Buffet packed The New Bar with bowlers, many of whom stayed in Madison for the weekend. Bob Doornek, Tournament Director, announced that the annual tournament would return to Milwaukee in 1989. Plans are already underway for the event, which is a fundraiser for AIDS projects in Milwaukee and Madison.

Final standings were as follows.

1. Rochelle Crucci	956
2. Kim Young	853
3. Gene Burroughs	805
4. Terry McFaul	800
5. David Nuernberg	794
6. Tim Turrence	792
7. Bob Gliniecki	789
8. Jim T. Lawver	785
9. Richard Muscolino	778
10. Tim Fisk	777
11. Rob Maloney	776
12. Bill Vogell	773
13. Mark Feja	767
14. Lon Beebe	767
15. Fred Heath	762
16. Early Quintana	760
17. Bruce Stocks	756
18. Todd Muma	755
19. Steve Noble	755
20. Bruce Nitsche	752

## Softball Season Opens

Saturday, April 30 was opening day for the Saturday Softball Beer League (SSBL) of Milwaukee. Sunny skies and warm temperatures greeted the players as they commenced a 10 week schedule followed by playoffs for World Series action to be held in Dallas in August.

Four teams opened play in the Women's Division. Fannies defeated the Beer Garden team by a score of 9 to 5. However, the Beer Garden team bounced back to defeat Station II by a score of 13 to 4. A new team from Your Place, the Flaming-o's narrowly defeated Station II by a score of 6 to 5.

A strong team from the Raiders opened play in the competitive division with two victories. They defeated Ballgame by a score of 22 to 6 and Your Place by a score of 17 to 8.

In other action, La Cage defeated the Wreck Room 26 to 6 and Club 219 edged the Wreck Room by a score of 17 to 16. Ballgame bounced back from its defeat to clobber Club 219 by a score of 29 to 2. A strong team from M&M's easily defeated a new team from Cream City Association.

Games are played most every Saturday at the fields located in Mitchell Park just behind Milwaukee's famous domes. Plan to take in a game or two during the season.

Following opening day games was an SSBL league fundraiser hosted by the YP Flaming-o's at Your Place. The bar was packed by players who enjoyed food and beer as well as the fine weather. Funds raised will be used to sponsor teams in the World Series in Dallas.



Kim Young and Rochelle Crucci

## Spring Bicycle Tours Planned

Milwaukee's Gay Bicycling Network (GBN) is planning a Southern Jaunt that leaves from the Grant Park Golf Pavillion at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 22, 1988. The route is a thirty-mile round trip over easy terrain. On Saturday, June 4 the GBN will leave Lake Park Pavillion at noon for a breezy ride to Port Washington. On the fifth of June we'll join Uecker's Ride (50 miles), meeting at the south-west corner of 5th and Michigan at 8:00 AM (ugh!). An overnight camping trip to the Sparta-Elroy trail is in the works for Saturday and Sunday, June 18 and 19th. For more information, please call Bob at 963-9833 (evenings).

## Racine Bike Outing Set for May 22

The Biking Network sponsored by Milwaukee GAMMA plans an outing on Sunday, May 22. A 30 mile roundtrip on the Racine County Bike Trail will begin at 1:00 p.m. at the Grant Park Pavilion. Bikers are encouraged to meet at the Pavilion at 100 Hawthorne Avenue prior to the 1:00 p.m. start. The ride will be cancelled in the event of inclement weather. Contact GAMMA at P.O. Box 1900, Milwaukee, WI 53201-1900 for further information.

**MR. VANTASTIC**  
MOVING & STORAGE  
Call 964-9955



The Milwaukee Beer League playing at Mitchell Park.

### MILWAUKEE SATURDAY SOFTBALL BEER LEAGUE SCHEDULE

#### May 14

12:15 Raiders vs Beer Garden  
1:30 Wreck Room vs M & M's  
2:45 Club 219 vs. LaCage  
4:00 Cream City vs Club 219

Flaming-o's vs Fannies  
Flaming-o's vs Raiders  
Wreck Room vs Cream City  
LaCage vs Ballgame

#### May 21

11:00 Station II vs Cream City  
12:15 M & M's vs Station II  
1:30 Dallgame vs Wreck Room  
2:45 Ballgame vs Raiders  
4:00 Raiders vs Your Place

Fannies vs M & M's  
Wreck Room vs Beer Garden  
LaCage vs Fannies  
Your Place vs Club 219  
Club 219 vs Flaming-o's

#### June 4

11:00 Club 219 vs. Wreck Room  
12:15 M & M's vs Cream City  
1:30 Cream City vs Ballgame  
2:45 Your Place vs Ballgame  
4:00 Flaming-o's vs Station II

LaCage vs M & M's  
Wreck Room vs LaCage  
Beer Garden vs Fannies  
Station II vs Beer Garden

#### June 11

11:00 LaCage vs Raiders  
12:15 Raiders vs M & M's  
1:30 Station II vs Your Place  
2:45 Your Place vs Flaming-o's  
4:00 Beer Garden v Cream City

Flaming-o's vs M & M's  
Ballgame vs Beer Garden  
Fannies vs Ballgame

#### June 18

Rain Date



## The Gay Spiritual Quest...

By Fr. James Arimond

I first visited a Gay Bar when I was 29 years old. I entered the bar in "fear and trepidation" expecting to find over-sexed, half dressed, drunken homosexuals engaged in unspeakable activities. What I found, however, once my eyes accustomed themselves to the dim lighting, was quite the opposite. Men and women sitting around in a very nicely appointed decore, engaged in quiet conversation with soft up-beat music in the background. "1000 East", at least as I remember it, was a wonderful bar. Friendly bartenders, well-dressed patrons, good music, good drinks and munchies and, above all, pretty intelligent conversation.

An older priest friend introduced me to the bar and many of his friends, and it wasn't long before I was visiting my "private club" about once a week.

What I found so fascinating was the level of conversation and the topics of interest. In general there was very little communication time spent on "sports", "cloths", "Gossip", "the physical attributes of fellow patrons" and that sort of thing. More often than not we talked about philosophy, literature, education, music, the arts and we always seemed to end up talking about religion and theology. (I don't want to sound snobbish, as if other subjects such as sports, clothing, etc., were somehow too vulgar! They're not and I certainly enjoy such conversations. It was just that I was genuinely surprised at the variety of topics discussed and the interest that seemed to be shown by Gays/Lesbians to the subject of religion.

I'm not sure I could still find that same interest today. I now visit Gay bars about once or twice a year. Obviously most of the folks I see there now are "new faces". I don't engage in long conversations anymore because I don't recognize friends and I'm rather shy, and secondly, because I haven't found an atmosphere with the "soft music", unless I'm willing to sit outside on the patio. But I wonder, are the wonderful conversations still going on?

I tried to analyze why the Gays/Lesbians

were so interested in Philosophy and Theology. I don't think I ever came up with a definitive answer because all such ruminations lead to stereotyping. Still there are some threads of thought which seem to weave their way throughout Gay/Lesbian life.

Gays/Lesbians tend to be sensitive people, perhaps because they have had to be discerning, even as young children, when growing up in a repressive society. Being sensitive, they tend to look beneath the surface of things and ask important questions about the meaning of life.

Secondly, being brought up in a religious atmosphere and then learning that their religious denomination somehow frowns upon them and/or their orientation, perks up their interest in what religion is all about. This forces many Gays/Lesbians to go beyond "denominationalism" in a search of a God who accepts them as they really are. They look for God in his/her purity and simplicity; they search for the creator and sustainer and not just the God whom demoniations tend to create in their own image and likeness.

Thirdly, I have found that while many Gays/Lesbians may not be too concerned about "orthodoxy" (Correct belief), they are very concerned and interested in "orthodoxy" (correct action). They have a tendency to live the scriptures in their daily lives instead of just arguing about those scriptures. Gays/Lesbians, in general, have never been big segregationists or bigots. They demonstrate compassion, charity and understanding to people in need; they have tendency to fight for justice; they are accepting of peoples' differences and, in general, have a pretty healthy sense of responsibility. Oh, I know, there are stereotypes too, but I believe that there are kernels of truth found in every stereotype, good or bad.

I do hope that the "heavy" conversations are still taking place because when we're all alone and we turn the lights out, we all know that there is more to life than just the tinsel. Keep thinking.

—Fr. James

## AIDS Volunteers Recognized At Memorial Luncheon

By Michael S. Lisowski

On Saturday, March 26th, over 50 volunteers, staff and PWA's attended a Volunteer Recognition Day Program in Madison as part of Gov. Thompson's AIDS Awareness Campaign during the month of March.

The luncheon was held at the Inn On the Park and was attended by approximately 150 people from the various AIDS service organizations in Wisconsin: The La Crosse AIDS/HIV Program, The Center Project, Inc., The Milwaukee AIDS Project, The Madison AIDS Support Network, and the State of Wisconsin AIDS Awareness Month Advisory Committee.

Volunteers were served an appropriate "thanksgiving" meal of turkey, dressing and cranberries. The program included a welcome and thank you from Nancy Kaufmann, Deputy Director of the State Bureau of Community Health and Prevention, who was representing both Gov. Thompson and Tim Cullen, State Secretary of the Department of Health and Social Services.

Rev. Ken South, who was formerly Director of AID-Atlanta, and a consultant to the Presidential Commission on HIV, delivered the keynote address. Rev. South

emphasized how the AIDS crisis, as deadly as it is, is able to empower our communities to organize and work together in fighting this disease and caring for those who are living with AIDS. The country is able to emulate the proud work and organization of the Gay male community which quickly banded together to fight AIDS some 5 years ago.

A highlight of the luncheon program was the videotape presentation of Wisconsin's Best TV Stories on AIDS— an anthology of 12 of the best TV stories on AIDS compiled from Milwaukee, Madison, Green Bay and Eau Claire TV stations.

Shortly afterwards, a Memorial Service was held in the Capitol Rotunda attended by over 200 people. The deeply moving experience was climaxed by the somber tolling of the bells of the Grace Episcopal Church across the street from the Capitol at the conclusion of the service. As everyone stood in the cold wind and overcast skies, listening to the toll of 169 chimes for those who have so far died from AIDS in Wisconsin, many were seen embracing and crying as they remembered those close friends, family members and loved ones who have died.

## Milwaukee Sets AIDS Memorial Service May 30

The Milwaukee AIDS Project will once again co-sponsor with Mobilization Against AIDS, our local Candlelight Memorial Service. This year is the Fifth Annual International Service. MAP and other cosponsoring AIDS service organizations across the U.S. are making special efforts to organize nondenominational services in support of people with AIDS and to call to respectful memory persons who have died of AIDS. Services will take place all over the United States and a number of other countries, on Memorial Day, May 30th.

At present, the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) is in the process of service planning. This year's service will be:

### AIDS CANDLELIGHT MEMORIAL

Memorial Day, May 30, 1988

7:30 PM

Kenwood United Methodist Church  
New Hope

Metropolitan Community Church  
2319 East Kenwood Blvd.  
Milwaukee, WI

Milwaukee has responded enthusiastically in the past services. This year, more members of our community and state have been touched by this terrible disease, inviting us all to remember, to heal and to support. MAP and our community hope to see you there in love and support.

## DAVID L. CALLENTINE

Wisconsin Light wishes to express its deepest regret at the passing of the Reverend David L. Callentine, 38, the pastor of Milwaukee's New Hope Metropolitan Community Church. Reverend Callentine died on Saturday, April 30, 1988 at 2:00 a.m. at Milwaukee's Columbia hospital of complications due to AIDS.

Reverend Callentine was a regular columnist for Wisconsin Light having written articles on religion for the paper since its founding.

Wisconsin Light expresses its sorrow to Reverend Callentine's spouse, Victor Reichmann, his family and his many friends. He will be greatly missed.

## MCC Saddened by Death of Pastor

The congregation of New Hope Metropolitan Community Church of Milwaukee, is deeply saddened by the death of our pastor, David Luther Callentine. David entered eternal life on Saturday, April 30, due to complications of AIDS.

David's vision and commitment led to the formation of a congregation that attempts to minister to all people, but has a special ministry to the Gay and Lesbian community of Milwaukee. David believed and taught that God's love included Gay and Lesbian people. David's God celebrated committed, loving, emotional and sexual unions between same-sex couples. This same God has called us all — rich and poor, young and old, white and black, straight and Gay — to serve others who are hurting, and in the name of Jesus, help raise people beyond crippling labels to their status of children of God.

We will miss our pastor and friend, but David's vision and hope for our congregation will not die. This space which has graciously been donated by the Publisher and Editor of the Wisconsin Light will continue to be used by New Hope M.C.C. to communicate the message of God's love and power to all who will read it. The



Jerry Johnson

DAVID L. CALLENTINE

mission of New Hope congregation will live as David now lives with the Eternal! We are soon to begin the task of locating and calling another pastor to be our spiritual leader. We will continue to worship in the chapel of Kenwood United Methodist Church every Sunday evening at 6:30 p.m. Interim pastoral and spiritual leadership is being provided.

We will continue to meet to be empowered by God's Word of hope and forgiveness. We will strive to remain open to the call of God to serve our brothers and sisters in the entire human community. We will continue to meet Christ in the communion meal and with Christ, the entire company of those who now reign with Christ, especially for us, David Luther Callentine. We will continue to invite and welcome everyone of you who desires to begin, renew, or grow in your relationship to God who loves you for who you are!

In tribute to David, we wish to share this poem written by one of our members:

## A Tribute to David Luther Callentine

He came out of nowhere, a sight to behold  
So strong and virile with talents untold;  
Determined to win at this game called life  
Nothing could stop him, no matter the strife.

His attitude positive, his willingness true  
He wanted to give to all that he knew.  
His eyes were so sparkling, his smile so proud;  
He started with nothing, but then drew a crowd.

He had a message he wanted to convey  
to so many people, especially the gay.  
He wanted to tell them to stand with pride,  
"You are who you are, there's no reason to hide."

Homosexuals are people with desires and cares,  
Stand up and be counted, if you would dare  
And if you couldn't, in the open come out,  
"You're still someone special, without any doubt."

He passed 'round the message of forgiveness and hope,  
Many people who were trodden, began to cope.  
They held their heads high as they began to see,  
They could be themselves, they could be free.

He didn't see his dream, totally fulfilled;  
He laid the foundation, so others could build.  
His energy waned, as an illness took hold;  
AIDS racked his body, it became very bold.

With so much to offer, cut down in his prime;  
Something had stopped him what a terrible crime.  
A disease more powerful than all of mankind;  
Leaves anger, sadness and frustration behind.

AIDS' path is wide in its worldwide wake,  
But it leaves behind goodness which death cannot take.  
The memory of David is planted real deep,  
His message lives on for us all to keep.

We cry at his passing, it's a normal thing;  
I can hear his laughter, in my ears it rings.  
He no longer suffers, his faith was so strong;  
So in our sadness, we honor him with song.

—Peggy Fernandez  
April 30, 1988

### OBITUARY POLICY

Wisconsin Light publishes obituaries of members of the Lesbian/Gay community as both news and a community service free of charge. In many cases, we depend on relatives and/or friends of the deceased to

notify us of the death and provide us with a photo, information about the deceased's involvement in the community, and plans for memorials. If you wish to report a death, please send the information to Light or phone us at 372-2773.



## MEDICALLY SPEAKING

# AIDS Provokes the Great Moral Debate of the Century

By Roger Gremminger, MD

In this column, I would like to address some of the societal issues raised by AIDS. As we are all aware — at times painfully so — AIDS has stirred up a great deal of controversy and has led to a lot of debate. Because AIDS have forced society to deal with some very uncomfortable issues — homosexuality, sexual behaviors, IV drug use, death — a great deal of discussion is very useful as members of society explore all different aspects of these issues. I like to think of the discussion and debate as the Great Moral Debate of the Century. We all need to participate in this debate. We all need to resolve the conflict these issues bring out both in society and more importantly within ourselves. This requires very careful, in-depth study and clear thinking. For truly, there are no simple answers to the issues and those who propose simple answers are frequently speaking from unreflected beliefs, conditioning, prejudices, and biases which much be challenged. But we must be sure to challenge in such a way so as to engage these people in the Great Moral Debate.

In any debate, there are two sides. And I would like to describe the people and their thinking on the two sides of the AIDS debate. It must be remembered that this is an artificial contrivance on my part and we may actually identify with some of the thinking on both sides of the issue. But I present this to aid in clarifying how the sides line up. The two groups are the Religious Idealists and the Cultural Phenomenologists or Realists.

The Religious Idealists are the people who start with ideals. They know how they want society to be and want to keep their society at that ideal level. They feel very strongly about the religion and the value system it supports. And they seek to apply that value system to the entire culture. Ethics relates to the observance of that value system and people are judged to be either moral or immoral as there is only one right way of living. Ethics is seen as dictating sexual and private behaviors but is not usually applied to business behavior. Since idealists are frequently raising children, education of these children is very important. And the value system is important for their children to learn and adopt early in life. The idealists will make every effort to protect their children from knowledge of other people's or even their own personal behaviors which do not meet their ideal. The idealists can generally be considered to be high-minded, good people, controlling, many times rigid, and at times out of touch with reality. The idealists are governed by the desire to do good things and are crippled by the guilt of personal failure. On the AIDS issue, the idealists have tried long and hard to keep themselves distanced from AIDS and have recently become quite suspicious of the scientific community about the reality of AIDS and the spread of the HIV virus. The Religious Idealists will cry out about guilt and blame and are very worried about condoning "aberrant" behavior.

Enter the Cultural Phenomenologists or Realists.

The Cultural Phenomenologists or realists start with phenomena — what they see to be actually happening. "What is" is their starting point. The realists do recognize value systems but they see that different cultures and subcultures in society have different value systems. They accept people where they are and try to move people to a better way of living. Ethics relates to people's choices of behavior as those behaviors are in keeping with the individual's wholeness and the common good of the group. The common good requires a balance of cultural elements and the individual's choices need to fit best into the context of that balance. Individuals are not judged to be immoral but choices are. The realists are strong advocates and conscientious users of situational ethics. The realists are concerned with subcultural specific education which moves groups in a better direction. A problem is when the educational material gets into the wrong hands. What is appropriate for sexually active (possibly sexually addicted) individuals is not meant for pre-sexually active teens(?) Realists are generally considered to be open-minded, rational, but sometimes permissive and too accepting. Realists are governed by thought and fact. In the AIDS controversy, realists cry hysteria and fear



Roger Gremminger, MD

and hate mongering.

When we enter the different controversies about AIDS, the debate runs as follows:

On education, the idealists wish all materials to be unoffensive and acceptable to all. The realists say that such educational material is meaningless to many groups and ineffective. The idealists would not educate IV drug user how to protect themselves by using clean needles much less dispensing clean needles. Realists point out that New York City has over 200,000 addicts but only 35,000 treatment slots. Many addicts wanting treatment are put on waiting lists. Thus as an interim measure, they must be educated to protect themselves. The idealists in effect say let them die. The realists say "But that is not moral."

On prostitution, the idealists say we must wipe out this cancer in society and aim for abstinence and monogamy only. The realists say that every culture and society throughout history has had prostitution and that there has been no "abstinent or monogamous" society ever. The goal is committed monogamous relationships. But prostitution will always be present and prostitutes can make the moral choice of having all clients use condoms. The idealists rebel at this line of thinking and cry moral decay of society. But the realists say we already have it.

The issues and debates can go on and on. And I would like to encourage you to play with these ideas. For only with careful and thorough, clear thinking will we arrive at the correct way of solving and getting through the controversies. The first and most important step is to resolve within ourselves the conflicts and ambivalences we feel. Once we have done this, we can engage others in discussion and debate. This is most important and none of us can afford to avoid the controversies or ignore the issues. We **must** be participants. Hopefully, the end result will be a better and more enlightened society for all.

—Best wishes, Roger

## MAP Planning AIDS Forum

The Milwaukee AIDS Project, a service of the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, in its continuing efforts to provide prevention education and support to the Gay community, is sponsoring a community forum.

MAP has been fortunate enough to secure the services of Mr. David Winters of New York City's Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC).

Mr. Winters will bring his vast knowledge of the AIDS issue from a city where AIDS has reached epidemic proportions. There have been over 10,000 confirmed cases of AIDS reported, along with estimates of over 500,000 more HIV infected persons. These figures dwarf Wisconsin statistics, but whether we are talking about 10 cases or 10,000, the need for public awareness remains. Wisconsin will never reach the high numbers experienced in New York or San Francisco, and through education efforts such as these, we run a better chance of keeping our number's down.

Through research, home care, public education forums, and countless other public services, GMHC has helped ease the burden of PWA's (Persons with AIDS), persons who are antibody positive, the "worried well", and the general population. Mr. Winters will address the audience on various issues of dealing with AIDS.

The date, time and location of this forum will be announced in the next issue of

Wisconsin Light. Please watch for them.

Remember: Our best defense in the war against AIDS is understanding exactly what it is that we are fighting, and what we need to do to continue the battle. Please plan to attend so that you may help MAP fight the fear with the facts... For further information, feel free to call the MAP offices. In Milwaukee county, dial 273-2437. Outside the Metro Milwaukee area, dial 1-800-334-AIDS. —John Luedtke

## Pride

Continued from Page 5

missed any part of it, there will be more in the weeks and months to follow. In addition to actually raising money to offset costs, the interim fundraisers will address three very important issues involved in the final ML/GPC planning activities: (1) raising community awareness; (2) identifying community needs and interests; and (3) development of teams cooperatively working together (as individuals) in various activities.

The questions to each of us now are: "What is YOUR solution to getting the job done, and what are you contributing or doing about it? Are you, too, waiting for someone else to take the lead so that you can lay back, point the finger and make accusations about losing power and control, and otherwise not being a part of the solution?" Before you answer, consider what any activist already painfully knows: "With power and control comes a lot of responsibility, hard work, headaches and potshots by sideliners along with countless personal sacrifices." One principle of working together is that "In Order To Get Along, You Have To Be Willing To Go One Step Beyond Halfway."

My personal challenge to everyone is: Share in the power, control and glory AND the effort. After all, we're all equal. There Are No Free Lunches — Freedom, Power And Glory Can't Be Bought At Bargain Basement Prices.

C'MON, GET INVOLVED! There's lots of work (and room for improvement) for each of us.

WHO ARE WE TO DARE TO GET INVOLVED? Who, indeed! WE ARE WHO WE ARE AND RIGHTFULLY PROUD.

## AIDS Survivors Group Formed

Survivors with AIDS, Inc. (SWA) is a new group formed in Milwaukee to help those stricken with the disease. According to SWA's president, Tom Hamilton, the focus of the group is not on education or life care but rather on survival and longevity.

Past activities of the group have included a workshop for Persons with AIDS, ARC and those who have tested HIV positive. The workshop included Dr. Paul Turner, MD and Dr. Ian Gilson, MD who spoke to the participants about treatments available and the research now taking place. In addition, Stephanie Ciaccio, RN and Diane Howser, RN talked of their personal observations on the correlation between attitude and optimism and the patient's response to treatment and their probable survival.

Future activities will include related workshops and programs for the general public; AIDS patients and HIV positive people; to provide anonymous peer support for AIDS patients and HIV positive people as well as their loved ones; to help provide employment for AIDS, ARC and HIV positive people as well as retraining to integrate them back into the mainstream of society; to provide support and services to the infected population as needs become known and solutions are identified by the board.

Hamilton made it quite clear that SWA and the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) "are in no way in competition." Hamilton said that MAP and SWA "will be working together on many projects."

SWA is now in strong need of volunteers as well as in urgent need of funding over the next three or four months.

Those interested in helping should contact Survivors with AIDS, Foundation Community Center, 225 S. 2nd St., Milwaukee, WI 53204. You may also write to P.O. Box 23400, Milwaukee, WI 53223. Phone number is (414) 271-2627.

**SURVIVAL  
OF THE BRADY EAST STD CLINIC  
DEPENDS ON RECRUITMENT  
OF PHYSICIANS  
OR  
LICENSED RESIDENTS  
WHO CAN HELP  
ONE-TWO NIGHTS PER MONTH  
— STIPEND AVAILABLE —  
Can You Help?**

**Can You Refer Us to Such  
Professionals Who Would Help?**

Please Call:

Medical Director, Dr. M. Huffman

963-1395

Or Write:

Dr. M. Huffman  
Brady East Clinic  
1240 East Brady Street  
Milwaukee, WI 53202



## Dubuque

Continued from Page 1

The rally began around noon in Washington Park in the center of town. It was an absolutely beautiful day, warm, sunny, and from the beginning it was clearly evident that last year's numbers would be exceeded by far. People milled about, greeting old friends and introducing themselves to new ones, sending up cheers when buses appeared, bring participants from Minneapolis and elsewhere and chanting, always chanting, "No More" and other slogans. There were banners everywhere, all colors, some elaborate, others, homemade, but all proclaiming the pride of Gaydom.

Around the fringes of the park, people stand looking, staring and you can't help wondering what they think of all this; of Lesbians and Gays in celebration assembled, coming from New York City, Chicago, Madison, Milwaukee and Miami, San Francisco and points in between.

A reporter from the local Telegraph Herald looks at all this and asks **Light** wonderingly, "What did you all come here for?" and is amazed that the rally and march have received national attention in the Lesbian/Gay press. He also asks why "do a lot of people hate you?" Later I'll have a more adequate answer than the one I gave.

There were speeches by Ginny Lynns and Stacie Neldaughter, the chief organizers of the event, Rep. Tom Jochum, (D-Dubuque) and others urging Dubuque to be "the best city it can be" and promising to "return to Dubuque until we no longer need to." Then with the singing of "We are a gentle, angry people," the march began.

There were no bands, no floats, just people, 575 of us by the official count, walking eight blocks through the city singing, chanting, holding high the banners calling for our rights and liberation.

I look around a bit nervously. Will there be eggs, rocks, worse? But all I see on the roofs high above the street are TV cameras staring down. On the street corner stand four kids with their bicycles, pointing, snickering. Further on, as we march past the Knights of Columbus building a woman and man stand looking out, gimlet-eyed over all. If looks could kill...

I look back at the crowd stretching away three blocks or more and I think of the marches for civil rights in the '60s and I understand now, more, far more than I ever did then, of the Black experience. This is the right of the people to peaceably assemble. It is guaranteed in the Constitution, so they say.

Around a corner and there, in a pickup truck, sitting on beach chairs as if for a picnic, are two women with four little kids. As the marchers pass, the women, their faces each a blister of hate, scream out obscenities and flick the finger at us. The kids smile shyly, a little perplexed, perhaps, at the whole thing, and wave. But they have been taught, carefully taught. They know now it's okay to hate. They don't know why, but they've learned it's alright. Later on, they will be given reasons. I think of the reporter's question about why some people hate us and look for him but he's nowhere to be found.

The march moves on through the Spring afternoon. "2-4-6-8-, how do you know your kids are straight?" Someone from up on a parking garage throws an egg, just missing a **Light** staff member and his lover. Later, the cops will say there were no eggs thrown anywhere along the route. "Faggots and dykes and queers, oh my!"

Back at Washington Park, the crowd, elated with the success of the march, listens to speeches of greeting from various Lesbian/Gay groups from across the country. There's music, people relax on the lawn. Some set out picnic lunches while the little refreshment cart on the corner which we are told is Gay run, does a land office business in big cold cups of lemonade.

Beyond the confines of the park, the observers are back, standing like some crows on a fence, with the solemn faces of sentinels guarding the town. A clutch of teenagers on the edge of the park tries to engage whoever will, in a debate. Two, who I later find out are from New York, a Lesbian and a Gay, take up the challenge. It goes nowhere as those things seldom do, but I hear one girl — 17? 18? — say, "What a shame. Like a lotta girls like me want men." She turns to the boys with her and winks broadly then she turned back. "You queers don't wanna make it with women."

About that time, the cops came along to send the teenagers on their way. One of the boys shook his head. "Take a gun and shoot 'em."

## Aunt Jessie

Continued from Page 8

"You were the cause. You could have prevented it. You let it happen."

Peter wilted, his handsome, even features looking poor, pathetic, lost.

"Maybe. I don't know. I've thought about it, lived with it, gone over and over it in my head. I don't know. All I know is that I loved Steven so much, so very much. he was my life, my soul, everything. Since he's been gone, I've done little more than survive. And why? Just to find out what Hell is? To find out that it's trying to live when one half of you is dead. Can't you understand that, Aunt Jessie? Do you know what it's been like?"

Slowly Aunt Jessie nodded, but not trusting herself with words, sounds that would reveal the terrible, awful, wracking torments that for the past two years had been hers and hers alone to hold inside her while she had maintained herself erect, impassive before the town. Finally, she inhaled deeply.

"I loved him too," she said quietly, almost to herself.

"Steven loved you, Aunt Jessie, but when we fell in love and knew it for what it was, he became afraid of you, of what you'd think, of what you'd say. He was tormented by that and we talked about it over and over again. I tried to convince him to tell you. I offered to go with him when he did. I..."

"Not me," she said. "No. No. It was the town, the people here and what they'd say. That's what he was afraid of. That is what he could not tolerate, could not live..."

"Not the town, Aunt Jessie," Peter said quietly, gently. "Not the town. We could have left that but he couldn't leave without your knowing and he couldn't handle it if you did. In the end, he killed himself."

Aunt Jessie nodded, clutching and unclutching her hands in front of her. "All this time I have blamed you. I believed that if you had never entered his life, never existed, nothing would have happened. I believed you could have prevented it, his death. I have hated you. I have hated you greatly and now there is something you must know. Once, that last summer, when Steven believed I was away, I returned early and saw the two of you in the backyard. You were holding him and I observed Steven as he kissed you. It did not repulse me. I did not find it shameful."

"Then why didn't you say something?" Peter asked gently.

"I don't know," she answered. "Steven and I were unaccustomed to speaking of things intimate to ourselves. In such matters as love and affection, I always believed that distance was best. I never, have never until now, understood that in distance there is separation and..."

"And separation," Peter said as he completed her thought, "is hell."

Aunt Jessie nodded slowly, tears beginning to well up in her old gray eyes. She had never cried before, not, at least, since childhood, not even at Steven's funeral. She had never permitted herself that or any other show of emotion and now, it was as if a dam had broken, a blister had burst, pouring its pus-filled liquid into the sun of Easter morning. Then she took Peter into her arms and kissed him gently on the cheek.

"My Steven," she whispered. "My Steven. My Steven. My Steven," saying the name over and over again as if she had never uttered it before.

Slowly she recovered, allowed her arms to fall to her sides and then stepped back.

"Where are you going? What will you do?" she asked.

"I will not be separated anymore, Aunt Jessie," Peter answered. "That's what Easter is all about, isn't it? The end of separation?"

Aunt Jessie nodded, not really understanding what he was saying. They parted then because there was no more to be said. The old lady started walking, as she always did, down Euclid to Second where she turned right and away from her house. A block later, she stopped at Cora's store to buy a pot of Easter lilies. Then she crossed Richland to the cemetery where Steven was buried. The grave was not far inside, not too far for an old lady to trudge carrying her little pot of Easter flowers. Soon she was there.

She stood looking down at the well-manicured plot with its room for eight graves. There her husband was buried. There were her son and his wife. There, too, were her granddaughter and grandson and there they had buried Steven. She knew each grave so well, so very well, each rectangular mound of earth marking a

place where a piece of her lay buried.

Silently she counted them off. There were six. She knew that. Why then did there seem to be seven? Why was the site right next to Steven's grave taken? Or seem to be? She counted again, nodding her head as she accounted for each one. The sixth was Steven's and right next to it...? She blinked her eyes in the bright sun. The mound of earth indicating a seventh grave was still there and it looked fresh; as if it had just been dug and the sod replaced only that day. But that, of course was impossible, absolutely impossible. There could only be six graves. The gardener must have somehow disturbed the ground. Either that, or her eyes were playing tricks on her again.

Aunt Jessie died three days later. No one was sure of the exact date for no one had seen her since Easter. Concerned for her, several of the neighbors had broken in and found her, sitting in her old chair still wearing her lavender dress and holding a pot of Easter lilies in her lap.

The doctor said that a heart attack had killed her but local gossip was never quite sure. Mr. Whitiker opined that it was a brain seizure that had carried her off. After all, hadn't everyone seen her rush suddenly from church on Easter for no reason at all and then seen her talking to herself on the other side of Euclid Avenue?

"Poor thing," Mr. Whitiker said as he looked over her casket. "Probably thought she was talking to Steven."

## Ben-Shalom Fights Army Again

When Drill Sergeant Miriam Ben-Shalom became the first admitted homosexual to be reinstated into the armed forces on September 12, 1988, she might have thought that her historic 12 year challenge to the military's exclusionary policies against homosexuals in the service were over. However, despite a further ruling won by Sgt. Perry Watkins in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals which declares as unconstitutional the Department of Defense's regulations barring homosexuals from service and reenlistment, the Army has chosen to bar Ben-Shalom's reenlistment under those very same regulations when her current tour of duty ends August 10, 1988.

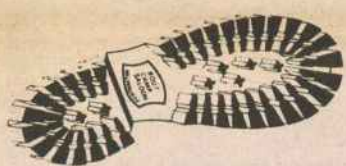
Ben-Shalom and her attorney, Patrick Berigan, will be filing motions in the Federal District Court in Milwaukee on May 3, 1988. Ben-Shalom will be seeking a restraining order which will prohibit the Army from discharging her based on current regulations relevant to sexual orientation. She will also challenge the constitutionality of current regulations in much the same manner that Sgt. Watkins did. It appears that either Watkins or Ben-Shalom will eventually go before the United States Supreme Court, due to the DOD's obdurate and myopic refusal to eliminate such selectively discriminating regulations.

Despite the bar, however, Ben-Shalom will be doing active duty work through the 84th Division's Leadership Academy this summer at Fort McCoy, a military reservation located near Tomah, Wisconsin. From June 24 to July 9, 1988, she will be training new drill sergeant candidates and July 16 through the 24th, she will be completing another phase of training in a leadership course. Although the bureaucracy of the military regards Ben-Shalom as being "unfit to serve, a detriment to the morale of the service, a threat to national security," and as the "only Lesbian in the Army," she is, never-the-less, apparently well-thought of by both male and female enlisted personnel and officers with whom she works. There are no questions concerning her professionalism as a soldier or drill sergeant or her abilities as an instructor; there are no allegations concerning misconduct or morale problems in the units where she serves. She is apparently regarded as being an excellent and knowledgeable soldier.

Ben-Shalom first received word that a bar was pending against her earlier this year in March; she received written confirmation of the bar April 8, 1988, although she has exceeded all expectations in "up-training" procedures, was an honor graduate of a leadership course, and has met every challenge the Army has offered her since her reinstatement.

Ben-Shalom appeared on May 4, 1988 on the national **Geraldo Rivera Show** with Sgt. Perry Watkins and other members of the uniformed services who identify themselves as being Gay or Lesbian.

**MR. FANTASTIC**  
MOVING & STORAGE  
Call 964-9955



**BOOT CAMP SALOON**  
MILWAUKEE'S  
LEATHER / LEVI BAR

209 E. National  
Milwaukee, WI  
414-643-6900

## LAW &

Wills  
Probate  
Probate Avoidance  
Partners Separation  
Agreements  
Bankruptcy  
Real Estate  
Traffic Defense  
Drunk Driving



"If it concerns you,  
it concerns us!"

ATTORNEYS  
Carol L. Law and Warren J. Klaus

## LAW & KLAUS

In Memorial of Jill Klaus  
Free Living Wills

FREE FIRST MEETING  
with attorney regarding any legal matter.  
Call for an appointment. Available weekdays,  
weekends and evenings.

CPA Services Available

5665 S. 108th Street  
Hales Corners  
529-2800  
Ample Street-Level Parking

## KLAUS

Custody  
Visitation &  
Divorce  
Personal Injury  
&  
Workers  
Compensation  
Title XIX  
Ask Us!!



# OUR HISTORY

## Homosexuality Thrived In Ancient MAYA Culture

By Terry Boughner, Ph.D.

In the lush, jungle-filled valleys of what is now Yucatan and northern Guatemala, the Maya built their civilization. They were old, contemporaries of the ancient Romans, flourishing 1,000 years before the Aztecs entered the Valley of Mexico and, at their height, 1100 years before the Incas built their empire in Peru. They erected great cities or, as some would call them, ceremonial centers such as Tikal, Chichen Itza, Uxmal and others, characterized by towering, flat-topped pyramids on which, stood palaces and temples to their gods. They developed a system of writing, composed beautiful poetry, calculated the solar year more accurately than would be possible until the 20th Century and described the yearly cycle of Venus — which they thought was a man — as having 584 days (The actual cycle is 583.92 days).

None of this takes into account the magnificent works of art for which they are justly famous — or their numerous other achievements. But, what is important for us to know is that, like 88 of the 99 Indian cultures who have left records, they accepted and institutionalized homosexuality.

According to Bishop Diego de Lando in his *Relacion de las Cosas de Yucatan*, written shortly after the Spanish conquest, the Mayan attitude toward homosexuality was rooted in their religion. This told them that all reality was what might be called, "a community of gods and man" or, to put it another way, between the spiritual and the physical, there was no barrier (Pardon me, if I think we have a lot to learn from them).

The two realms interacted constantly in all areas of life. In the case of homosexuality, the spirits would tell a boy whether he was, as we would say, Gay or straight. Not to follow that spiritual direction, was believed to be a serious breach of what was thought to be "natural." Nothing is recorded in this regard about women. Both the Maya and the Spanish chroniclers were equally male-oriented.

In many Indian societies, there were ceremonies of one kind or another in which a youth revealed whether he was Gay or not. However, among the Maya, a young man simply informed his parents who took him at his word. If he were Gay, they considered it a great honor because his chances of success were considerably enhanced. According to Judy Grahn in *Gay is Very American*, the spiritual heart of Indian leadership was Gay. Donald Cory in *The Homosexual in America*, points out that the evidence indicates that the Maya priesthood was drawn from among Gay men. Thus, as in many other ancient societies, among the Maya, homosexuality was thought to confer on a man a special sensitivity in regard to spiritual matters.

The youth, having said that he wanted another male for a spouse, a marriage was arranged. Like many of us, the Maya Gay youths choose their partners with an eye to beauty. As their sculptures show, they admired a well-formed, muscular body which they had much opportunity to observe because of the "ex." This was a loincloth, five fingers wide and long enough to be wound, several times, about the waist. Then, it was passed between the thighs to be fastened in the back. As additions to the body-beautiful, the Maya liked tattooed front teeth and eyes that were slightly crossed.

According to de Lando, who is completely horrified by it all, the marriage ceremony included the blessing of a priest, a feast and a general rejoicing. The two young men would then go to their new house which had been erected by their families for them. All this, says the Bishop, "as if it were as God intended, a man and woman and not two men."

Once married, the two men were expected to be monogamous. If one or the other strayed, the guilty party was killed and his spouse suffered infamy and disgrace for being so inadequate as to let the breach happen. No wonder jealousy was freely and openly expressed. As de Lando writes, a jealous lover punished his spouse by pinching his arms or ears. In extreme cases, he rubbed his partner's body with chili pepper while he slept.

While there were probably many Maya equivalents of Alexander the Great and Haephestion, only one story has survived. Bird Jaguar was the king of Yaxchilan in the 8th Century, A.D. He was married to a young man named Moon One and,

together, they shared the rule of the city and extended its power far and wide. During their reign, prosperity and good order were established in Yaxchilan. When Bird Jaguar died, Moon One ruled alone. But, perhaps understandably enough, he did not live long. When he died, he was buried with his spouse in a common grave.

Modern archeology may have revealed yet another story. In the 20th Century, excavations of the Maya city of Tikal, scholars opened a tomb in which were the remains of a man judged to be in his 40's and a younger man in his 20's lying side by side. Patrick Culbert, in his *Lost Civilizations*, quotes informed opinion as saying that the two "were probably relatives." Maybe. But perhaps, history, written from a Gay sensitivity, as it seldom has been, might offer another answer. A Gay novelist with a genius for the romantic would, I think, certainly find material for inspiration.

There is much evidence in the surviving carvings of what one archeologist refers to as "sodomy among the Maya." But much too has been lost, destroyed, as was reported by the University of Mexico, by Spaniards who thought that to allow such art to exist would only encourage "the nefarious sin" of homosexuality. A great deal of that which was remained was chisled away in the 19th Century to satisfy the complaints of American tourists concerning "Indian obscenity."

Still, what exists today of Maya art depicting our story allows us to reclaim part of our history. For those who would yet call them and us, "unnatural", perhaps Alred Lord Douglas's statement bears repeating. "If everything that diverges from the normal is to be considered unnatural, then genius and beauty must be considered among them."

## AIDS

Continued from Page 1

In his letter to readers, Surgeon General Koop also says: "Some of the issues involved in this brochure may not be things you are used to discussing openly. I can easily understand that. But now you must discuss them. We all must know about AIDS."

- The brochure includes short sections on:
- What AIDS Means to You
  - How Do You Get AIDS? How Do You Get AIDS From Sex?
  - You Won't Get AIDS From Insects — Or A Kiss
  - The Difference Between Giving and Receiving Blood
  - What Kind of Behavior Puts You At Risk?
  - What About Dating?
  - Do Married People Get AIDS?
  - What Is All The Talk About Condoms?
  - What Does Someone With AIDS Look Like?
  - Should You Get An AIDS Test?
  - The Problem of Drugs and AIDS
  - AIDS and Babies
  - Talking With Kids About AIDS
  - Helping a Person With AIDS

Secretary Bowen said a prime goal of the brochure is to "make clear that it is behavior that puts people at risk, not their identification with one group of people or another. No one is exempt from AIDS if they choose risky behaviors, yet virtually everyone can protect himself or herself from AIDS by choosing safe behaviors."

Americans will begin receiving the brochure in the mail about May 26.

In addition to 110 million copies of the brochure to be printed in English, another 4 million will be printed in Spanish. The Spanish-language version will be mailed to households in Puerto Rico, and will be distributed widely through non-mail distribution in the 50 states.

The mailing to all households is part of HHS' "extensive program of AIDS prevention and public education," with spending totaling \$315 million this year, Secretary Bowen said. Most of the funds are used to support state and local activities. In addition, HHS supports a toll-free AIDS hot-line now receiving about 120,000 calls per month; the National AIDS Clearinghouse which has averaged about a million pieces of literature mailed per week in response to requests; and the series of public service announcements, "America Responds to AIDS."

## Softball

Continued from Page 9

Gemuelikit (warm friendship and good times) that has been Milwaukee's trademark since old Sol Juneau. Secondly, the opening ceremonies are always so impressive, it starts the weekend off with a tone that has class act written all over it. Finally everything comes together when 400 people jam the Crystal Ballroom for the final banquet. The friends everyone makes at Milwaukee meet in other cities at other tournaments, but they just never seem to forget the great times they had in Brew City.

It took 2 years for one of our own to win the Classic, but M&M won it all in 1980. Milwaukee teams also won in 1981 and in 1983 as the Wreck Room came out on top.

This year 20 teams will be in Milwaukee, although a possible blow early threatened to sink this long time event. In 1979 Milwaukee worked to get Chicago teams here, since then they have been a staple and have had some great teams. This year however, Chicago is having its own tournament — and yes, its on Memorial weekend. The Classic committee worked extra hard to assure that we would have enough good teams to keep our Classic going. After all — why shouldn't they succeed, it all started with a copy of Damron's guide. After eight years a great national following has been developed and that has saved the Classic.

While we are a relatively small big-city, the Classic has put our name on the forefront everywhere as an example of solid organization and sharp new ideas. It has accomplished something more — it's been good for Milwaukee's Gay/Lesbian community and our national image.

### Two World Series Have Been Held in Milwaukee

Why in the world would you volunteer to host a World Series, when you already have an event that is national in scope? Well, because you were asked and the national organization was impressed with your organizing ability. So, in 1979 the World Series came to Milwaukee with the Rusty Nail of LA taking the honors. Since then another series — Series 9 has been held here.

Series 9 in 1985 was a huge undertaking. Two series were run side by side. Besides the regular men's series, it also encompassed the 1st Women's World Series. I

guess it's true even in softball, when you want to start something off right — you come to Milwaukee — right? Right! In that series 32 teams were in Milwaukee.

Its a real tribute to SSBL that it was possible to pull off both tournaments. Just imagine the arrangements for ball fields, hotels, printing, etc. Then umpires shuttle service, welcome parties and the list goes on — That's Leadership.

How has the quality of our softball been? Well, in 8 World Series our teams have placed 4 times and are always within the top four. That's national class softball, folks. This year SSBL is sending 3 teams to Dallas. That's the kind of depth the league has.

I began to wonder as I talked with Tom, how with all the organizing going on, does anyone find time to actually play softball? He assured me that dedicated people make the time when they believe in something. I think its been proven, that that's been the case here.

### Showing the Way

That's been Milwaukee's tradition. Perhaps because we are a smaller city, we can get together more easily and perhaps we aren't subject to the many factions of larger cities, but whatever it is — Milwaukee knows how to do it right.

Not satisfied with the way things are, the league is innovative. Last year a recreational division was created so more players could enjoy the game. This year 4 women's teams are participating in their own Division, thus qualifying them for consideration for the World Series and one of those 4 will be going.

Ever since 1979 games have been played on Saturdays at Mitchell Park behind the Domes. After the games players retire to sponsoring bars to celebrate wins and drown a loss with "Skip and go NAKEDS". Everyone is invited to join the action on the fields or at the bars. Plan on being there next Saturday.

### WINNERS

#### Milwaukee Classic and Series

1978	Classic I	New York Eagles
1979	World Series 3	LA Rusty Nail
1980	Classic II	M&M
1981	Classic III	Wreck Room Chaps
1982	Classic IV	Pendulum, San Francisco
1983	Classic V	Wreck Room Chaps
1984	Classic VI	L.A. Criffs
1985	World Series 9	Huston's Briar Patch
		— Wreck Room 2nd Place
1986	Classic VII	Mpls. Cloud 9
1987	Classic VIII	Mpls. Cloud 9, Competitive Div. and Boston 1270 Rec. Div.

## SSBL WELCOMES PLAYERS AND FANS TO THE 11th ANNUAL MILWAUKEE CLASSIC MAY 27-29, 1988



Games played at Mitchell Park (27th and Pierce) and West Milwaukee Park (50th and Burnham)

### Championship Games Sunday at Mitchell Park

Food, Beer, and Soda available at the parks

#### Milwaukee Food Fest

Friday, May 27, 1988

La Cage (2nd and National)

6:00 to 9:00 P.M.

Admission \$5.00







**JUST THE TWO OF YOU...**

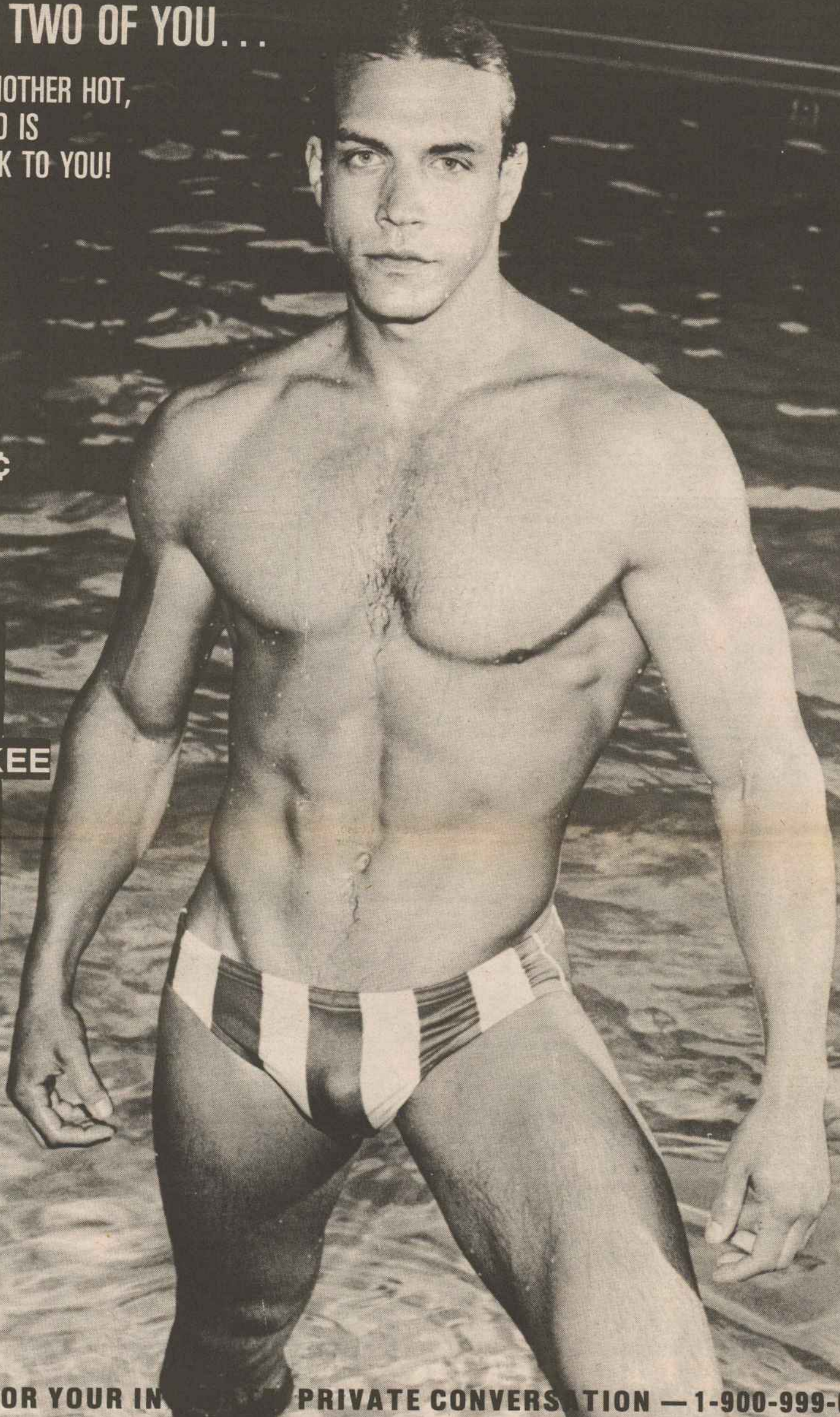
TALK WITH ANOTHER HOT,  
GAY MAN WHO IS  
READY TO TALK TO YOU!

**ONLY  
75¢**

THE FIRST  
MINUTE + 45¢  
FOR EACH  
ADDITIONAL  
MINUTE.

**NOW IN  
MILWAUKEE  
AND  
METRO  
AREA!**

THOUSANDS  
OF HAPPY  
MATCHES  
REPORTED...  
THIS IS THE  
PLACE TO BE!



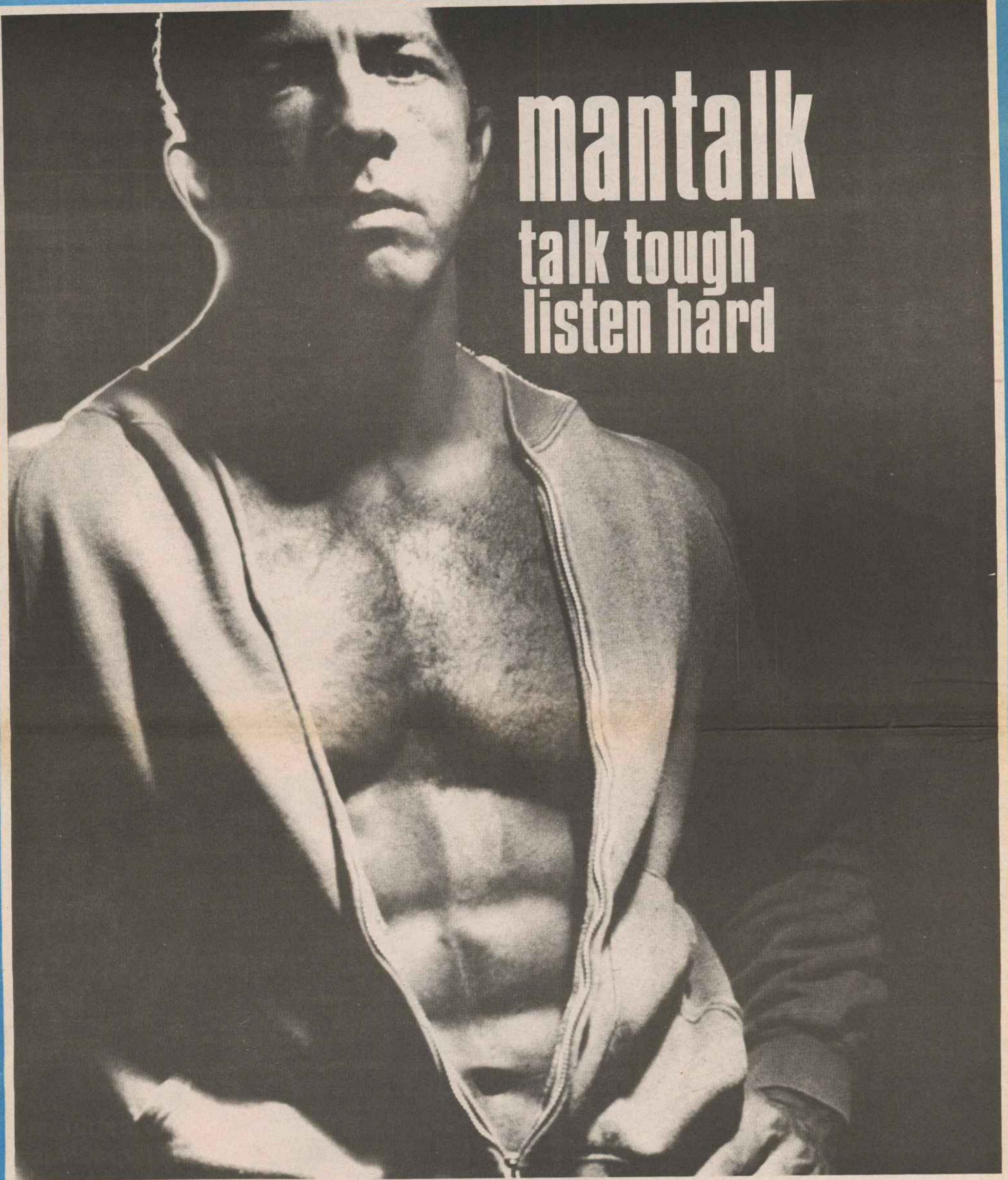
FOR YOUR IN... PRIVATE CONVERSATION — 1-900-999-6338



**1-900-999-6338**

**MEET**





**mantalk**  
talk tough  
listen hard

- **LIVE ACTION**
- **24 HOURS**
- **TRADE SCENES  
WITH UP TO  
EIGHT  
OTHER GUYS**

**NOW IN METRO MILWAUKEE**

Get in on the action by calling

**1-900-999-4600**

MANTALK only 95¢ first minute, 45¢ each additional minute. You must be 18 or older.



# The Light LIVELY ARTS

## “Make A Promise — A Year of Hope” Dinner/Fundraiser May 15

“Make A Promise — A Year of Hope.” This year’s fundraising dinner to benefit the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) will be held at the posh Wisconsin Club, 900 W. Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee, this Sunday, May 15.

Cocktails will be served from 5 to 6:30 with Wynn Hackett at the Piano Bar. Guests will be able to participate in a Silent Auction during the cocktail hour (see accompanying article for details of the auction). A dinner of prime rib will be served at 6:30. Cost of the dinner and the evening’s entertainment is \$40 per person, and many local organizations have subscribed for tables of ten.

WOKY Radio’s Debby Young will host the entertainment which is scheduled to begin at 8. Kathy O’Hara and Diana Laffy who brightened last year’s show return to sing and strum their catchy songs and patter. Pageant Productions will present a “Hello Dolly Review” and Mr. and Miss Gay Wisconsin will also entertain.

Both of Milwaukee’s Gay and Lesbian choruses will perform, individually and

together. “Some people felt that the music at last year’s concert was too solemn, and this year the music will be considerably more upbeat,” according to Chairman Patrick Prudlow. The original Fest City Singers will begin with “Strike Up the Band” in a rousing march against AIDS with solo dancers, Andrew, Jeanette, Erico and Gene. The chorus will also present an uptempo version of “I Could Have Danced All Night.” The Cream City Chorus will then sing “The Greatest Love of All,” and “I Love Myself.”

In a finale, both choruses will join forces in singing a Walt Disney Medley and “Together.” The choruses and entertainers will then invite the entire audience to join in singing “That’s What Friends Are For.”

“The entire evening is intended as family entertainment,” according to Prudlow, “one that is tasteful.”

Tickets for the dinner are available at the Milwaukee AIDS office (MAP), for more information, call 278-AIDS.

## Chicago’s Lionheart Theatre Performing May 20-21

Lionheart, a Chicago based Gay acting group, will perform in Madison and Milwaukee during May. Lionheart’s purpose is twofold — to provide an opportunity for Chicago area Gay playwrights to produce their plays and to raise money for Gay service organizations. The Lionheart idea was conceived en route to the 1979 Gay Rights Parade in Washington (just outside Munsee, Indiana). Rick Paul, a professional scene designer from Chicago was the driving force for getting Lionheart on the road to success. Lionheart has performed in bookstores, parks, schools, theatres, and bars around the country and the world. As of late, Lionheart has been performing on an on-off basis around the Chicago area.

While in Madison and Milwaukee, the group will perform a series of three one-act plays. The groups repertoire will begin with a play entitled *A Layman’s Guide to Safe Sex*. The play was written by Jeff Hagedorn (who also wrote *One*, the first AIDS play in the nation) who is a playwright from Chicago. *Layman’s Guide* is a witty and detailed “handbook” on how to make love not death. Within *Layman’s Guide* you’ll find the do’s and don’ts of loving in both straight and Gay combinations. A second play — *Dikes Who Date*, portrays a woman in the midst of a life crisis while being interviewed at a video

## Scott Stewart Directs Chorus to Perfection

“Stop,” he says firmly with a wave of his hand and a disarming smile.

Milwaukee’s Cream City Chorus stops in mid-note.

“There’s two e’s in ‘been,’” he reminds them. And the choir, which is celebrating its first birthday, again, takes up the piece they are rehearsing for their Spring concert on June 25 to be held at Milwaukee’s Centennial Hall.

“He” is Scott Stewart, the chorus’ director, a man of masculine good looks and infectious, yet intense smile, dressed in army fatigues and an off-white sweater with a shawl collar. He has been with the Chorus since its founding, coming originally from Oshkosh.

His style reminds an observer of that of a true teacher, guiding, prodding, commending, urging and most often, the smile which seems to say, “I know the work in this but I’m with you all the way.”

Later, in the basement of New Hope United Church of Christ on Milwaukee’s South Side where the Chorus is rehearsing,

dating service. The play is serious and insightful. The play, written by Susan Lersch, manages to address fundamental questions of life and its uncertainties. The final play that Lionheart will perform is entitled *Nobel Intentions*. Written by Lawrence Bommer and Rick Paul, the play manages to address the area of research and AIDS. Are researchers motivated by human “good-will” intentions or are they just out to see who can get the Nobel prize first? Lionheart’s stop in Madison and Milwaukee will bring the premiere performance of this play which was recently written.

In Milwaukee Lionheart will perform on Friday, May 20th at 10 p.m. at The Ball Game located at 192 S. Second St. Donation is \$4. The proceeds will benefit the Brady Street Clinic. For more information contact Bob at 273-2950.

Lionheart will perform in Madison on Saturday, May 21st at 8 p.m. at the Madison Senior Center located at 330 West Mifflin St. Donation is \$5. All proceeds will benefit The United — Madison’s only Lesbian and Gay social service agency. Tickets can be picked-up at The United office, Four Star Fiction and Video, A Room of One’s Own, Orange Tree Imports, and Begonia’s Book and Bakery. For more information contact The United at (608) 255-8582.

Stewart takes a break and over a soda and cigarettes, talks a bit about himself.

He is a graduate of the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music where he studied under the famed Margaret Hawkins and Ken Schermemhorn. Currently he serves as Associate Conductor of Milwaukee’s Florentine Opera Company.

Why is he with the Cream City Chorus, TURN TO STEWART, PAGE 20



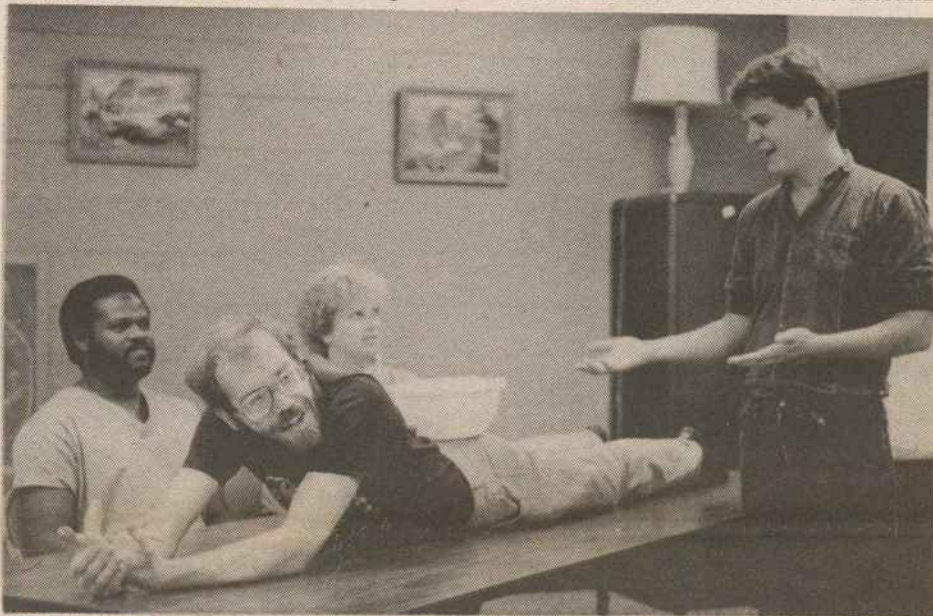
Scott Stewart

## Madison Gay Theatre Opens Albee Plays

By Jeff Kirsch  
for SPEAK ITS NAME

Madison— After a slim schedule in 1987, the Madison Gay Theatre Project (MGTP) has this year expanded its productions and is back on its feet and ready to go.

According to Artistic Director Darrell Wagner, three productions are slated for the remainder of 1988. First up will be a pair of one-act plays to be presented May 13, 14, 20 and 21 at the Neighborhood House on South Mills St. in Madison. The two plays are Edward Albee’s *Zoo Story* and an original work, *Married, Filing Separately*, written by Wagner and Ben Doran, Director of Audience Development



Allen George, Ben Doran, Victoria Thomas and Jim Roy perform “P.S. Your Cat is Dead”.

for MGTP. Their play, centering on an university student and a “working guy” who is also a drag queen, deals with the former’s coming out to his parents when they appear for a visit.

Following the one-acts, next up on MGTP’s schedule is Noel Coward’s *Design for Living*. Auditions are scheduled for July 21 and 23 and performances, one of which will form part of the Festival of the Lakes, for September 2, 9, 10, 16 and 17.

The final production of the year is tentatively scheduled to be Jane Chambers’ *A Late Snow*. Auditions are to be September 29 and October 1, performances November 11, 12, 18 and 19. The cast will be comprised of eight women and Wagner is still seeking a woman to direct the play. Those interested in directing, as well as in volunteering for MGTP in any capacity, may call Wagner at (608) 271-1352.

MGTP’s schedule also leaps into 1989, when, on February 26, it will sponsor the annual Mr/Miss Gay Madison Pageant, as it has done since 1983.

MGTP was founded in 1982 by Michael Bruno and Wagner, who earned a B.A. in theatre from UW-Whitewater, with emphasis on costume design and directing as well as a minor in vocal performance. MGTP soon moved away from stand-up comedy (Bruno’s forte) into “regular (Gay) theater,” according to Wagner. Early presentations included Robert Patrick’s *The Holy Hooker* and *The Nice Girl* at the Isthmus Playhouse and *Three Plays for a Gay Theatre*, by playwright and novelist Richard Hall, presented at the Marquette Neighborhood Center. Wagner describes these performances as “far from the best we’ve done,” but adds that “they gave us a decent foundation.”

Wagner says that the company hopes to do more “mainstream plays” with Gay characters or plays which can be given a different perspective on the original script. An example of the latter was MGTP’s performance of *Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, in which MGTP interpreted the text and relationships differently.

A recent audience survey also indicates that potential theater-goers want to see more specifically Gay themes, controversy and works about being Gay in the Midwest.

Wagner notes that the latter are particularly difficult to find, one reason for which he and Doran wrote their own play.

Wagner says that the company actively solicits scripts and has received many from New York and Chicago. “We try to combine what’s being written with what we can do.” But problems, such as cast size and prohibitively large royalties, often crop up. These aren’t the only difficulties for Wagner. A scheduled 1987 production of *Gertrude Stein, Gertrude Stein, Gertrude Stein* had to be canceled when a hold was put on releasing scripts; the first scheduled production of *A Late Snow* had to be nixed when difficulties ensued with the executrix

of Jane Chambers’ estate.

Even when plays have made it to the stage, things can go awry — “typical theater stories,” Wagner says laughingly. After unloading the set for *Virginia Woolf* in a -44 degree windchill factor, MGTP had to cancel two of its three performances when the audience numbered but one person. When the play was finally presented, an actress’ knee “gave out,” forcing her to remain seated on a sofa for the duration of the performance. On another occasion, a lighting technician fell asleep during a performance and the lights failed to go down at the play’s end.

MGTP now has a core of “four or five” regularly participating volunteers. While the number is small, Wagner is nonetheless pleased, not surprisingly for those who know that Wagner himself essentially was

TURN TO THEATRE, PAGE 19

## Women’s Music Set for June 2-5

By Jamakaya

The 14th Annual Women’s Music Festival will be held June 2-5, 1988 at the Bloomington campus of Indiana University. In addition to an impressive array of concerts and performer showcases, the Festival sponsors Spirituality and Writers’ Conferences and the National Emerging Women’s Art Exhibit.

The lineup for the evening Mainstage Concerts features: Lucie Blue Tremblay, Adrienne Torf, Diedre McCalla and Teresa Trull on Friday; Rhiannon, Connie Kaldor and Casselberry & DuPree’ on Saturday; and Jasmine, MUSE-Cincinnati’s Women’s Choir and Kay Gardner and the Rainbow Chamber Orchestra on Sunday.

Afternoon Performer Showcases introduce local and regional performing artists to a national audience. Ten new acts will make their national debut this year, including the Wisconsin favorite Kitty Barber who will appear in the Friday Showcase.

Sonia Johnson, America’s most famous excommunicated Mormon (for supporting ERA), will speak on “Revolutionary Acts of

TURN TO FESTIVAL, PAGE 19



## THEATRE

### Theatre X Opens "History of Sexuality" in New Home

By Geno

Audiences attending "A History of Sexuality" presented by the Theatre X Company actually get three shows for the price of one. First of all, upon entering the Theatre at 158 N. Broadway, theatre-goers are greeted by The Hall of Sexuality, a documentation of sexual themes in a variety of art forms — photographs, paintings, found objects, weaving — (bet you didn't realize that condoms could be put to so many varied artistic uses).

Then there is the theatre building itself, now the Company's permanent home. The bare brick of the walls throughout provide a warm textured backdrop for the art works in the spacious lobby and entrance hall. The luxury of space allows the troupe to have a creative, professional acting arena separate from another entity which will offer cabaret performances, light refreshments and food, and specialty shops. Howard G. Taylor, owner of Webster's Bookstores, will open an outlet in this center.

But the auditorium itself with its new Black Box Theatre is the focus of the whole installation. With its complex lighting system, roomy stage area and raked seating, it has the flexibility and comfort that assure professional and varied productions. This flexibility was demonstrated in the mixed media and style of "A History of Sexuality" in which the first act takes place

in the private theatre of the Marquis de Sade in an 18th-century chateau, the second act is presented totally on six television monitors, and the third act has a brainstorming session taking place in a modern sales board room with all the participants sitting around an Art Deco table in their underwear.

The first act theatricals of the Marquis who gave us the word *sadism* is a real attention getter as he, his wife, his servants, and a priest reenact all the variations on the sex act that their fertile imaginations can dream up. The sex is simulated but disturbingly convincing; and, sad to say, rather comic too, as de Sade felt the sex act ultimately is.

The five principals — Deborah Clifton, John Kishline, Flora Coker, John Schneider, and John Billingsley — are dazzling as they hazard all of the juxtapositions of experimental theatre ranging from *commedia dell'arte* to Victorian melodrama to Theatre of the Absurd. David Schweizer, Theatre X Guest Director has provided his strong visual style for two other "X" productions — "My Werewolf" by John Schneider and Samuel Beckett's "Happy Days."

This production runs through May 29th on Wednesdays through Sundays at 8 p.m. For information and reservations call 278-0555.

Others in the cast include Diane Ragains, Susan Hofflander, David Rice, John Kuether and the Junoesque Cristiane Young. David Abell is the music director and Stephen Wadsworth is the stage director.

The Skylight Theatre is located at 813 N. Jefferson in downtown Milwaukee and performances are presented Wednesdays through Sundays with evening and matinee performances. Phone 271-8815 for tickets and further information.

### There is a Mystery on Mitchell St.

No, the butler didn't do it. In fact, audiences at the musical "Mystery on Mitchell Street" will be asked to solve the mystery and decide which of several possible solutions to be presented as an ending.

The play with story and lyrics by Dale Gutzman and musical score by pianist Jack Wilson is set in a bridal shoppe on Mitchell Street in the 1930's (why has Mitchell Street become the home of such a string of bridal shops?), and the plot involves a jewel thief, his wife who is poisoned, and the disappearance of a fortune in diamonds. The production and acting style are meant to suggest a 1930's movie.

"Murder on Mitchell Street" will open June 1st at the PAC, Todd Wehr Theater for a run of fifteen performances, through June 18, according to Archie A. Sarazin, PAC Managing Director. Tickets for the musical mystery are \$8 and \$12 and are available at the Performing Arts Center box office, 929 N. Water St., or through PHONECHARGE, 273-7206 or 1-800-472-4458 (Wisconsin residents only). There is a \$2 handling fee on all Phonecharge orders. Group discounts are available for all performances.

### Womonsong Holds Concert May 21

**Madison, WI.**—Womonsong, Madison's feminist choir, presents an extravaganza of music and fun at 8 p.m. on Saturday, May 21, at the Barrymore Theatre, 2090 Atwood Ave., Madison. The program is a benefit for Lunatech, Madison's women's technical production company. Performers include Womonsong; Sapha, a vocal-instrumental group playing jazz-reggae-blues influenced women's music and original compositions; The Fairytones, a barber-shop-style vocal group; and The Raging Hormones, who defy description. Tickets are \$6-10 at the Barrymore and A Room of One's Own Bookstore.

Contact Kate Hibbard (608-255-7997 or 262-2811) for more information.

### Boulevard Ensemble Is Actor Oriented Theatre

First of all, The Boulevard Ensemble is a theatre, not a musical group.

And secondly, it is one of Milwaukee's newest and possibly most exciting theatre companies, located at 2250 S. Kinnickinnic in the Bayview section of Milwaukee. It was founded a little over a year ago by Mark Bucher, the current general director and administrator, and his friends, Michael Kane and Barb Danner, all of whom attended UW-Milwaukee together.

The company's first home was St. Michael's Waiting Room and Cafe. But when that closed six months ago, the little group moved its operations to Bayview.

hopefully. "We've been doing it so far," he said. In the first year, all the plays paid for themselves meaning, the theatre broke even, and there were no losses that were not to be expected in beginning a business.

One of the things that helps is that the theatre is an all-volunteer effort. All the players, including Bucher, have other jobs. Oh sure, they hope for the day when they can get paid for their efforts, but, for now, these professionals are content to work out of their love for the satisfaction of doing it.

The future? Dreams? Bucher leans back in his chair with a "Wow" look on his face. "Well," he says, "we don't want to get too



Kate Nowicki and David Silverster in a tense scene from the current production "Hello, Goodbye," during a rehearsal.

Why Bayview? Bucher told *Light* that Bayview was "a natural. The people here are ready to support the arts. They're hungry for it." And, he adds, most of the audience in the 35 seat theatre comes from Bayview which Bucher describes as "the other eastside."

Bucher told *Light* that the Boulevard Ensemble is "an actor oriented theatre", concentrating on a "very high level of acting" and "very strong scripts." The company has little interest in effects such as lighting and scenery but prefers scripts that show growth in relationships such as *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*.

Currently, the company has a half dozen people whom Bucher calls "the core group", and another half dozen associates and a large group of supporters.

Can the theatre survive? Bucher smiles

big — no more than a 100 seats. We want to enlarge the actor core. I guess that's about it for now."

Last year, the theatre company had a three-show season — November to May. A similar schedule will be followed for the '88-'89 season. The current production is "Hello & Goodbye," which runs through May 22. During the Summer months, the group will present a Dark Monday Series that will feature The Metro String Quartet, staged readings, performance art, exhibitions and lectures.

The Boulevard Ensemble is always looking for new talent and for new, strong, original scripts. The Boulevard Ensemble is well worth supporting as a fine addition to the Milwaukee fine arts scene. For reservations and information, please call 672-6019.



A large crowd attended this year's Casino Night at the Milwaukee Grain Exchange.

Milwaukee's Cream City Foundation (CCF) along with Miller Brewery, sponsored a second annual Casino Night on Sunday, April 24 at the city's opulent Grain Exchange Room. According to official estimates, 200 people attended to try their luck at various games of chance ranging from Blackjack to poker with all proceeds going to benefit CCF's philanthropic work in the Lesbian/Gay community.

There were free hors d'oeuvres and beer, plus raffle prizes, all contributing to a good time being had by all. Of course, the big question of the evening was, who would win the Grand Prize, a trip to Las Vegas. The suspense was finally lifted when the number was called and Jack Vandebusch proved to be the winner.

CCF deserves the thanks of the community for their organizing efforts and commendations for a job superbly well done.

### Pompeii's Gay Porn Unearthed

**Pompeii, Italy.**—Archaeologists here this year unearthed the remains of a sailor's bathhouse, and, much to their dismay, found five rather explicit murals of gay male orgies. However, these paintings may not be viewed by the public, stated the archaeologists. Instead, they will be open only to "genuine" unemotional art scholars. "What's going to happen to them now?" you ask. Well, it is suspected that — in keeping with order from King Francesco I of Naples in 1819 — these paintings, as well as all other erotic objects found at Pompeii, will be kept locked away in a private chamber in Italy's National Archaeological Museum. Dare we assume that the monarch kept such artworks for his own private use?

### Young Cast Opens "SUPERSTAR"

The Suburban Players are celebrating their 30th year with a full scale production of "Jesus Christ Superstar." But don't look for a cast of oldsters — Karl Miller has worked wonders with a youthful cast who respond to his professional musical staging with high energy eagerness. A preview audience recently reacted enthusiastically to a dress rehearsal performance by the cast of over forty and an augmented orchestra under musical director Curt Hart.

Tairre Christopherson looks the part of the title character with a phenomenal voice range. Staying in character between acts during the preview, he reenacted the story of the Loaves and Fishes by distributing treats to the cast and audience from a never empty covered bowl. He and the other two leads — Phillip John Michels as Judas and Toni Stikl as Mary Magdalene — have the voices and presence of the personages they portray. And Gregg Heyer as Herod pulls out all the stops in his interpretation of the villain as the wildest, most outrageous queen wearing a gold lame loincloth.

Steve Pook, producer; Gilbert L. Shine, director; and Karl Miller have put together a vital, stirring production. Performance of "Jesus Christ Superstar" will be presented on Fridays and Saturdays, May 13 and 14 and May 20 and 21 at 8 p.m. with a Sunday matinee at 2 p.m. All performances are at the Greendale High School Auditorium, 6801 Southway, just off Loomis Road. Tickets are \$6, with a price reduction for students and seniors and theatre parties of at least ten. Phone 438-1398 for further information.

### Bumpkin Becomes King of the May

When none of the village maidens are found to be eligible to be Queen of the May (they weren't virginal enough!), the village elders seize upon a naive young bumpkin, Albert Herring, and appoint him King of the May! But when innocent Albert drinks too much of the local liquor the night before the festival, all hell breaks loose.

That is the premise of "Albert Herring" the light opera by Sir Benjamin Britten to be presented by Milwaukee's Skylight Comic Opera from the 11th through the 19th of May.

The rollicking good spirits of the production are centered around Albert's coming out, as it were and the title role is played by Tony Butte who studied under Sir Peter Pears, Britten's life companion for whom the composer wrote the part.



## Antiques and Art Works Up for Bid at MAP Auction

**Milwaukee-** Art prints, antique clocks and watches, ceramics and glassware, serigraphs and posters are just a few of the many items which will be up for bids in a Silent Auction at Sunday, May 15th's "Make a Promise — A Year of Hope" fund raising dinner.

Patrick Prudlow, chairman of the MAP Fund Raising Committee, has explained that a silent auction is one in which bids are written on slips of paper placed before each item on display. Bids will be accepted during the cocktail hour, and winning bids will be announced before the entertainment is scheduled to begin at 8 p.m.

Art prints and an oil painting by Bob Uyvari are featured in the auction as well as a large poster from the Guggenheim Museum, a pencil sketch of Marilyn Monroe, a Nice, France poster from the Posner Gallery, and two Plato serigraphs entitled "See As I See."

Clock collectors will be able to choose from three antique mantel clocks, one French, an Ansonia, and another in walnut veneer. A Black Forest cuckoo clock will

also be available. Other timepieces of interest include an antique pocket watch donated by Paul's Jewelers and a man's yellow Citizen watch from Don Powers Jewelers, South Milwaukee.

Two redwing pottery vases and a black Art Deco vase are some of the ceramics being offered. A variety of glassware includes parfait glasses, eight Daisy and Button plates, a dozen Depression glass dessert cups, and a large pressed glass bowl. Lovers of vintage clothing will be able to bid on a jacket and tuxedo plus a fur hat from Holzman Furs.

Donors of these treasures and private and anonymous individuals and such entrepreneurs as the Consignment Center, 412 N. Plankington, the Posner Gallery, and The Village Bazaar, 2207 N. Farwell. Guests may also have their portrait photographs taken during the evening by the Marshall Studio.

"The items up for bids at this year's silent auction are especially attractive," according to Prudlow. For more information, call Patrick Prudlow at 271-8815.

## Tri-Cable Upgraded, Joins CCF Board of Directors

**Cream City Foundation [CCF]**, our sponsoring organization, has upgraded the Milwaukee Gay/Lesbian Cable Network to a full committee with a position on their Board of Directors. We no longer function as a "subcommittee" of the Development & Public Relations (DPR) Committee. Bryce is serving as our Board member, and we are seeking a volunteer to work on the DPR committee to help manage our own advertising and public relations with CCF. Anyone interested? Contact one of us.

**Contract Renewed.** MATA has informed us that our application for another six month contract period has been renewed. MATA staff stated that TRI-CABLE is one of their best ongoing programs. This is, of course, due to all of our working together and committed to a quality production to portray our community in a favorable light. I wonder if the Gay/Lesbian community likes the program effort as much as the straights do. Perhaps more importantly, Do you like the program as much as we think you do?

**Special Programs.** Four additional programs are now in the works, and will need your help and support:

- Monday, May 9th, at 225 S. 2nd St., Robert Weger, Producer. 5th Congressional Candidate Forum with Dave Begel as Moderator, co-sponsored by Lambda Rights Network; 1 camera portable shoot.

- Friday, May 20th, at the Ballgame, 10 pm, Bob Fish, Producer. Chicago's Lionheart Gay Theatre Group, performing a

benefit; 1 camera portable shoot.

- Saturday, June 4th, at MATA, 9am-1 pm. Tom Rezza, Sue Dietz, Mark Behar, Producers. Panel with Audience Participation, AIDS of a Different Color- Part 2. Live studio production: Yup, we need help with this one.

- Wednesday, May/June, To Be Announced, at MATA, 6-10 p.m. Mark Behar & Michael Lisowski, Producers. Panel with Audience Participation, similar to AIDS of a Different Color. Live Studio Production: Yup, we need help with this one too.

**Tri-Advocate:** The end of April issue of **The Advocate** features an article about Gay/Lesbian cable, and US!

**Lesbian Soap on a Rope:** We're trying to get a copy of the Boston Lesbian soap opera, "Two in Twenty," without luck yet. We'll let you know if and when we get it. Perhaps we can have our own viewing party. The Women's Production Group is hosting a viewing party for their production, "A Day in the Life..." on Thursday, May 19th at MATA. Call MATA (278-8833) for times.

**Chicago:** Some of us are planning on going down to Chicago for the Gay & Lesbian Press Association's Awards Banquet, Saturday, May 28th. We have submitted copies of our first two Tri-Cable's and the AIDS of a Different Color program for consideration in their awards, and of course are hoping for a pleasant surprise.

## Theatre

Continued from Page 17

the Madison Gay Theatre Project for most of its first four years. Like almost all Gay organizations, however, MGTP still seeks new talent and energy.

Like some other Madison theatre companies, MGTP falls outside the mainstream. Rehearsals, Wagner explains, have taken place at such offbeat sites as on railroad tracks, in malls and grocery stores in Milwaukee and in Madison's Vilas Park Zoo, one of the group's "favorite places." Of "zoo rehearsals," Wagner comments, "we get lots of looks, fun things happen and we get a good reception. Madison is an OK place to do such things."

Partially at the suggestion of others in the Madison theatre community who thought that the company "limited itself" by its name, MGTP has adopted a second acronym, AUI, which stands for "Acting Under the Influence." The name has sparked a mixed reaction. While MGTP thought of the name "philosophically, to represent the social structure and relationships we're in, everyone thought it meant we were on drugs," Wagner says. The company now uses AUI in large letters, followed by MGTP in smaller type, trusting that "one name clarifies the other."

Dorna, a recent addition to AUI-MGTP, received a B.A. in Journalism at UW-Whitewater, where he met Wagner. Doran first starred in MGTP's performance of James Kirkwood's **P.S. Your Cat Is Dead.** "To try out was my first challenge and I enjoyed working with a small number of hard-working people," says Doran. Today his main challenge is "to find our audience

and find out what they want to see."

AUI/MGTP has largely "financed itself," though it has received what Doran calls "semi-major" revenue from the Coat Check at Rod's and the New Bar. It recently received a \$100 grant from the New Harvest Foundation to print a brochure for 1988.

The company's most recent "major achievement," according to Wagner, was its performance of **One** at the 1987 Wisconsin Theater Association Convention in Superior. "It gave us credibility," says Wagner. The group first performed the play, which deals with AIDS, as a benefit for the Madison AIDS Support Network.

"Credibility is necessary, but reaching our audience is the bottom line," adds Doran. This goal is what AUI/MGTP most hopes to achieve in 1988.

(This article has been funded by a grant from the New Harvest Foundation.)

### M.N.D.C. Picnic in Stevens Point May 30

On Monday, May 30th, the Monday Night Dance Club-Plus (M.N.D.C.P.) will hold its annual Memorial Day Picnic from noon until 7:00 p.m. The party will then move to The Flame. Free tunes, games, food, beer, and pop. Locale to be announced or contact M.N.D.C.P. for details.

Beginning June 19th the management of The Platwood Club, Stevens Point, begins opening on Sundays at 3:00 p.m. for the summer. (They are already open on Thursdays.) Sunday afternoons will offer you a choice of volleyball, dancing, drinking and socializing. No cover.

## WOMEN'S MUSIC FESTIVAL JUNE 2-5



Jasimine and many other groups will perform in the Michigan Women's Music Festival June 2-5.

### Festival

Continued from Page 17

the Spirit." Anne Wilson Schaefer, author of **Co-Dependence** and **When Society Becomes an Addict**, will also lecture. Dance bands will perform late Thursday and Saturday nights, and a special "Women's Spirit Celebration" combining dance, music and poetry will be held Friday.

Hundreds of workshops will focus on women of color, older women, the women's music industry, classical music, writing, politics, spirituality, the healing arts and more. Artisans and businesswomen from across the US will display their products and services. A 24 hour support service is available for those chemically dependent, and all events are wheelchair accessible, with special headsets, seating and interpreters for the visually and hearing

impaired.

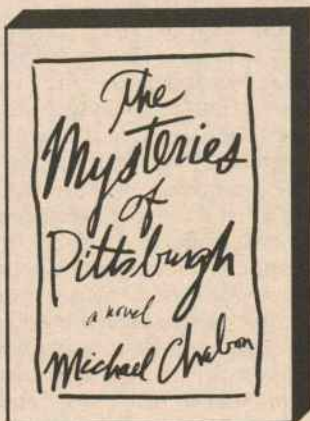
Sometimes referred to as the "other" festival to distinguish it from the popular outdoor event in Michigan in August, the Bloomington Festival is held indoors in campus buildings and concert halls. Dorm space and meal tickets are available as are easy access to local stores, restaurants and hotels. The Bloomington community is most hospitable to the thousands of women who descend there each year, and the campus itself has lovely wooded areas to retreat to and explore.

A four day pass entitling participants to hundreds of concerts, dance, lectures and workshops costs \$90.00 Passes for only one or two days of the festival are available at lesser rates. The deadline for pre-registration is May 15th. For a registration form, write to: National Women's Music Festival, P.O. Box 5217, Bloomington, IN 47407, or call (812) 331-7799.



## HARRY W. SCHWARTZ BOOKSHOPS

### The Mysteries of Pittsburgh



\$16.95

by Michael Chabon

For Art Bechstein, it is the summer of his graduation from college — a time infused with the joy and terror of freedom and possibility.

*When I remember that dizzy summer, that dull, stupid, lovely, dire summer, it seems that in those days I ate my lunches, smelled another's skin, noticed a shade of yellow, even simply sat, with greater lust and hopefulness — and that I lusted with greater faith, hoped with greater abandonment.*

"First novels are usually praised for their promise, but in Michael Chabon's case, the promise is already fulfilled."

Carolyn Forché

Iron Block Building  
Downtown  
274-6400

Grand Avenue Mall  
Downtown  
274-6410

Schwartz Book Nook  
Whitefish Bay  
962-7997

Loehmann's Plaza  
Brookfield  
786-9017



MUSIC

CHICAGO AND MILWAUKEE JOIN FOR GALA CONCERT

Women's Festivals Announced

Sisterfire, D.C.'s annual women's music festival, has been scheduled for the Fourth of July weekend at the Equestrian Center in Upper Marlboro, Md. Roadwork, a locally based women's cultural production company, describes the celebration as "an open air festival in celebration of women artists." The sixth annual two-day celebration offers a long list of entertainers, including Edwina Lee Tyler and A Piece of the World, Cathy Fink and Marcy Marxer, Ferron, Holly Near, Alicia Partnoy, Safiya Henderson-Holmes, the Lillaim Allen Band, and Betty. In addition to entertainment, there will be a marketplace for vendors, such as weavers, artists, and jewelry makers. Camping is available, and the festival is open to all who are interested.

Tickets for the weekend cost \$35. Tickets can be purchased at the gate for \$22 per days. Work exchange is available, and volunteers are welcome. There is wheelchair accessibility. For more information, call Roadwork at 234-9308.

Other women's festivals occurring around the country this summer include:

**Campfest.** This women's music festival, in its fifth year, is scheduled for Memorial Day Weekend, in Oxford, Penn. Entertainment, workshops, and camping are all available. For more information, call (609) 694-2037, or write Womongathering, RR 3, Box 185, Franklinville, NJ 08322.

**The Southern Women's Music and Comedy Festival.** This fifth annual celebration is taking place 80 miles north of Atlanta in Cleveland, Ga., and is also set for Memorial Day Weekend, May 26-30. Entertainers will include comedian Robin Tyler, who produces the festival, and singers Cris Williamson, Rhiannon, and Alix Dobkin, among others. The festival also includes crafts, sports, dancing, and workshops. Costs range from \$85 to \$135 for campers. For more information send a self addressed, stamped envelope to: SWMCF, 15842 Chast St., Sepulveda, Calif. 91343.

**Iris Glen Feminist Camp.** The eighth annual camp will occur on July 22-31 on the South River in Annapolis. Sports, camping, and a variety of workshops will be offered for women. This event is sponsored by The Feminist Institute, a non-profit organization in Bethesda which promotes social justice and equality for women. Early registration fees are \$25 per day and \$60 for the weekend. For more information, send your name and address to Iris Glen Feminist Camp, P.O. Box 265, Edgewater, Md. 21037 or call (301) 951-9040.

**Womongathering.** Produced by Campfest organizer, Lee Glanton, this first annual spirituality festival is slated to take place in Oxford, Penn., June 10-12. The festival consists mostly of intensive workshops and meetings and offers many presenters, including Kay Gardner, Dianne Marie Child, Sonia Johnson, and Luisah Teish. For more information, call (609) 694-2037 or write Womongathering, RR 3, Box 185, Franklinville, NJ 08322.

**The Michigan Womyn's Music Festival.** This oldest and best known of the women's festivals, will take place Aug. 10-14, in a rural Michigan setting. Write P.O. Box 22, Walhalla, Mich., 49458.

Stewart

Continued from Page 17

he is asked. His answer comes quickly. "This is my community service. You can't just take from the community and not give something back," he says as if that were the most obvious thing in the world. But beside that, there is also the fact that he is a "firm believer" that a lot of women and men wish to sing but "just don't feel comfortable" with the symphony chorus or its like.

In addition, he thinks that "Gay men and Lesbians need to sing literature that was specifically written for them." The Cream City Chorus is one of the vehicles to provide that opportunity. As an example, he cites one of the songs that the Chorus is currently rehearsing. It is "I Love Myself," the Chorus' signature piece, written for AIDS patients. Stewart first heard the music on a video about AIDS and was so taken by it that he made the arrangement the Chorus will sing.

He shifts in his chair as he exhales a puff of smoke. "If you're Gay, you have to love yourself," he says, talking about the song. "Then you get on with your life."

"We perform think pieces," he continues. "Gays and Lesbians are still in their



Pictured are the Fest City Singers during rehearsal (center) with scenes of their concert with the Chicago Gay Men's Chorus, performed this spring in Milwaukee.

It's hard to know where to begin. Especially when the usual line of choirs singing in concert leaves me as flat as old wax in the hot sun and I go to concerts only as love for my spouse demands, taking with me a notebook so, at least, when the music gets challenging (translation: boring), I can get some work done.

But on March 26 when Milwaukee's Fest City Singers brought the Chicago Gay Men's Chorus to town for a joint concert, my notebook fell early to the floor beside my seat... and stayed there. In a word, it was wonderful.

The Fest City Singers in black pants, white shirts accented by bright red bow ties and directed by Robert Florek, opened with an overture that included "Strike Up the Band," "When You're Smiling" and "We Are What We Are." It was pure and simply fun. Maybe I shouldn't say that. I've been told that talented people, seriously into music as the Fest City

Singers so obviously are, resent what they do being called, "fun." But it was fun, bright, lively, smile-on-the-face, toe-tapping fun.

The home town group gave way to the Chicago Gay Men's Chorus under the direction of Kip Snyder and the fun continued. In two acts, the Chicago chorus sang selections from "The Wizard of Oz" (complete with Dorothy, the Tin man and all the rest), "The Music Man," "South Pacific" and "The Sound of Music."

I remember my mother dragging me to concerts where the chorus just stood there for some interminable time singing things in D-Flat Dull. But the Chicago Chorus' "special effects" helped to make the show A-Sharp Splendid, accenting their selections without being overwhelming and adding color and interest to the entire production. I loved the "ladies" in Music Man's "Talk A Little, Talk A Little", the cute pink shorts in Sound of Music's "Do Re Mi", and the palm trees that turned

into people in South Pacific.

Even to this untutored ear, the power and sweep of the voices of the Chicago Chorus was... what am I going to say? Wonderful. The word is overused but it fits. The soloists were excellent. It's difficult to single any out but Charlie Carter and Dean-Paul Schroeder were, I thought, especially powerful.

At the finale, the two choruses combined to bring the show to a splendid conclusion.

Some 300 people attended the performance and, for what I could see, were having as much fun as the choirs were themselves so that enjoyment fed on enjoyment and reinforced itself. I can only imagine the hard work that went into the show but the fact it all looked so easy attests to the skill and talent of both choruses.

The Fest City Singers are to be heartily congratulated for bring the superb Chicago Gay Men's Chorus to Milwaukee. They have done our community a high service and deserve our heartiest thanks.

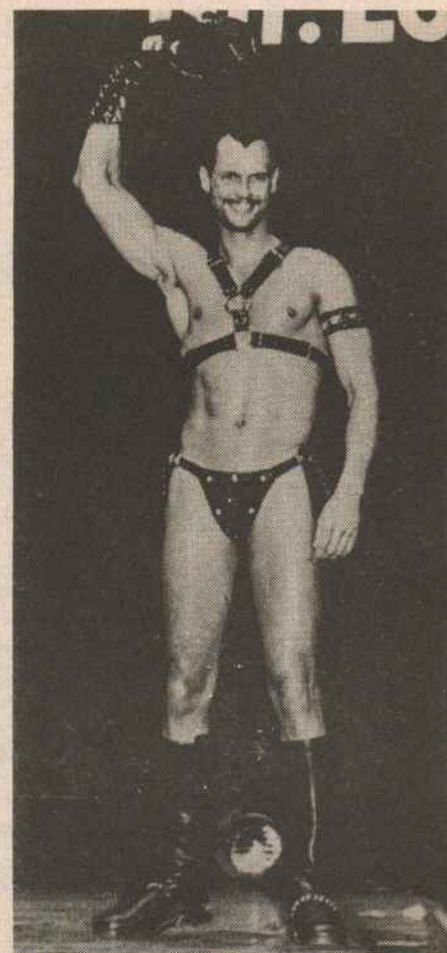
Leather Contest in Chicago May 26-30

Once again, Chicago will be host to the International Mr. Leather Contest and show on May 26-30, 1988. The show, which Drummer Magazine has called, "the Academy Awards of Leatherdom", is sponsored by 31 Levi, leather, uniform, or related-lifestyle bars, businesses, organizations and clubs across the world. These include MSC, Hamburg, Germany which sponsored last year's winner, Thomas Karasch, the Eagle Bar, Amsterdam, Netherlands; Atons of Minneapolis and Milwaukee's own Boot Camp. In addition, there are 17 prize donors including Rod's bar of Madison.

This will be the show's 10th anniversary and will feature the International Mr. Leather Contest and Show to be held at Chicago's Clubland and at the Vic Theater as well as the Black and Blue Ball, held at the Bistro Too disco bar. There will be daily continental breakfast and bar parties at Chicago's Touche, reputedly the Windy City's foremost leather bar.

For those wishing to be a contestant in the contest, you must be sponsored by a leather, levi, uniform, or related-lifestyle bar, business or organization. Applications can be obtained upon request from International Mr. Leather, Inc., 5025 N. Clark St., Chicago, Ill. 60640.

For those wishing to attend the contest, the weekend package can be purchased for \$60.00. Tickets and further information can be received by contacting International Mr. Leather, Inc. at the address above, or by telephone at (312) 878-6360.



Thomas Karasch, Mr. International Leather of 1987, from Hamburg, Germany.

infancy of knowing who and what we are." And one comes easily to the impression that, to him that's what the Cream City Chorus is all about and that's what he is all about, a Gay artist among Gay and Lesbian artists helping to define our world.

What does he want to do? He smiles broadly and leans back. "Oh God, I want to do it all," she says with a deep, rich chuckle. "I want to do more composing that helps define the myth of who we are." Then he adds, "I'm living my dream. On paper I'm a pauper but I'm rich in educational experiences, in touching people who mean a lot to me." There's nothing there, one concludes that any true artist/teacher would not say.

He does have, what he calls "a pet peeve." "Milwaukee is so rich in gifted people that I think it's time they came out and gave to the community from which they have taken so much. The community needs people. We can do so much exciting." One thinks of the many others who care a lot about our community who have the same peeve.

In addition to their Spring Concert, the Cream City Chorus will be performing on May 15 at the second annual MAP Make A Promise dinner which they will join Milwaukee's Fest City Singers in three songs. One knows that it will all look so polished, so easy. But that is only possible because of many nights of patient rehearsals like this one, as talented people are taken by an artist/teacher, a Gay artist/teacher and molded into something beautiful.

Scott Stewart is that Gay artist.

Jerry Johnson



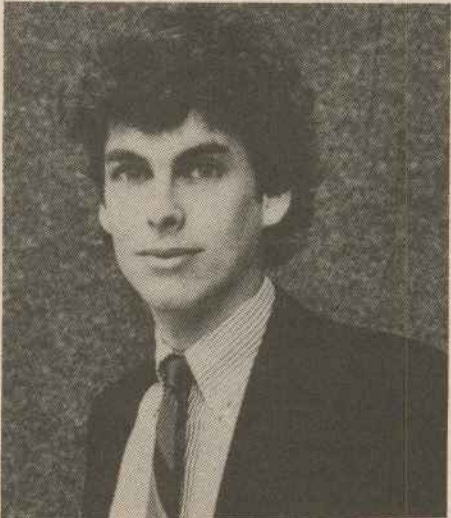
## “Mysteries of Pittsburgh” Is Great First Novel

**The Mysteries of Pittsburgh**  
by Michael Chabon  
Wm. Morrow & Co. (1988)  
297 pp. \$16.95

By Geno

Pittsburgh? Hong Kong maybe, or Paris or Egypt — but Pittsburgh! Well, the mysteries of this novel are inner mysteries, the mysteries of a young man's sexual and familial orientation.

Art Bechstein, the first-person narrator, has just graduated from the university, and when he walks into the Carnegie-Mellon Library at the end of term, he momentarily exchanges glances with two library employees who will dominate that summer for him. Phlox, like her name, is a bit bizarre — extravagant clothes, lots of clanking jewelry — a former punker now a born again Christian. At one point she says, “If Jesus loves me, then he wants me to sleep with boys,” but the sentiment can be adapted to suit the reader!



Michael Chabon

Arthur Lecomte, the other librarian, becomes Art's first Gay friend and introduces Art to Phlox, perhaps to see what will happen. During the rest of the hectic summer, Art and Phlox and Arthur will constitute an ever changing triangle.

This is a first novel which has been favorably compared to *Catcher in the Rye* and *The Great Gatsby*, and like most first novels, it has a strong autobiographical tinge — Chabon received his B.A. from the University of Pittsburgh, but it isn't necessary to be familiar with the topography of Pittsburgh and the university to understand the local references because this voyage of self-discovery could have taken place at Madison or Berkeley or even UWM. A former Pittsburgher did explain a recurrent puzzling image in the book — the Cloud Factory is really the steam generated heating plant behind the C-M Library where Art and Phlox and Art and Arthur often converse and get to know one another and themselves while perfect white clouds keep rising above them. Symbolism?

A novel dealing with sexual experimentation, both hetero- and homosexual, could easily fall into soap-opera extremes and allow Art to seem a mere sexual dilettante, but the author's control, his writing skills keep this from happening. The sex encounters, for example, are minimalist, yet a few details can be as exciting as lengthy descriptions giving every creak of the bed. Examples: “I pressed up against her (Phlox), spoonwise, and spoke over the slightly damp lip of her ear.” And when Art is sitting on the edge of the bed talking on the phone to his protective Jewish gangster father while Arthur kneels before him: “I was kept busy as I pushed Arthur's burrowing head.” Another case where less is more.

Chabon has a flair for sensory description, especially taste, smell, touch, and for striking language and unusual characters. Cleveland, a biker and enforcer for Art's father's loan shark business, becomes a sort of mentor and guardian to Art, often becoming the voice of reason despite his own extreme behavior and language. “I think you are just clowning around with your sexual chemistry set,” he tells Art and later refers to the time “when Artie was ambisexually inclined. Bambisexual, Iambisexual.” And there are always neat visual vignettes: “... my next-door neighbor, the psychiatric nurse, coming home from the graveyard shift at Western Psycho, swinging her umbrella and shaking her long blond hair out of the bun into

which she had bound it.” Or: “A cluster of rusted mailboxes like a row of tumbledown tenements.”

There is also a great deal of humor, the touch remains light. In the early stages of his friendship with Arthur, Art finds unexpected reminders of homosexuality at his work in a bookstore: “...a handsome couple of men, a copy of *Our Lady of the Flowers* which I'd never noticed before, a worn, naked-man magazine that fell like a severed limb from inside a book on wiring and fuses.” He almost freaks out when a little boy comes in and asks for a book on makeup. Turns out the kid was interested in clown makeup.

Art's odyssey takes the reader along on numerous side trips. There is an exotic party of students from the Middle East hosted by Riri, “Like many Persian women, she had an eagling kind of beauty, hooked and dark, and mean about the eyes.” Art goes for an expedition on the back of Cleveland's bike as the enforcer makes his rounds collecting on loans in the poorer section of town, letting Art see the inner working of his father's juice loan business. And there are visits to some of the homes where Arthur acting as house-sitter entertains a motley crew.

The author is at his best in showing the labyrinthine twistings and evasions of the mind when desire is calling the turns. At one point Art cynically flips a coin. “Heads was Phlox, tails was Arthur. It came up heads. I called Arthur.” Phlox is demanding, possessive while Arthur seems content to go with the flow, to let things happen. There may be a lesson in this, for Phlox eventually takes herself out of the picture. Yet the ending is inconclusively conclusive; Art and Arthur make it to Paris and Barcelona together and end up finding themselves barely able to speak to one another. What is left is remembrance of a hectic summer, a time when, “We have shared out like thieves amassing treasure of nights and days.” It is Chabon's epigraph for his book, quoting Borges.

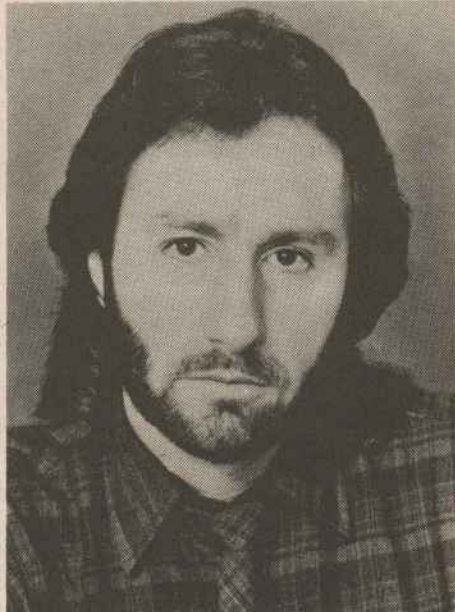
## Son Weaves Family Tapestry

**Second Son**  
By Robert Ferro  
Crown Publishers, Inc. New York  
1988, 224 pp., \$17.95

By Jeff Kirsch

*Second Son* is Robert Ferro's fourth novel and third Gay one. Up until now, he has been perhaps best known for *The Family of Max Desir*, to which his current novel bears a remarkable resemblance.

Both novels situate a Gay son in the midst of a family situation — a rare enough and welcome commodity in Gay fiction. Both center on Italian-American families with fathers in business, deceased or dying mothers, anglicized names and various siblings. Both take place on the coast of New Jersey, in rambling houses, described in such detail as to make for an interior decorator's delight. (In some scenes in the current novel, the house



Robert Ferro

almost becomes the protagonist.) In both, the Gay son confronts his family with a dilemma which forms the crux of the plot. Parts of both, plus the middle Gay novel — *Blue Star* — take place in Italy.

While in *The Family of Max Desir*, the

## Intriguing Characters Show Courage, Inspiration

**Say Jesus and Come to Me**  
By Ann Allen Shockley  
Tallahassee: The Naiad Press, Inc., 1987.  
283 pp., \$8.95

By Barbara J. Palecek

A re-issue by Naiad Press, *Say Jesus and Come to Me* is an enjoyable, quickly paced novel about a Black woman preacher who blows into Nashville, starts her own church, and organizes an historic Women's March. Along the way she becomes lovers with a messed-up soul singer, whom she also brings out as a Lesbian.

Featured supporting characters include two prostitutes, the singer's hard but caring business manager, a tweedy Black journalist looking for the big break of his career, and a troublemaking pimp. It's a wonderful cast.

Myrtle, the preacher, is a lusty closet-case. This is out of necessity, for she has no guilt over her love of women. She is completely driven as she starts her new church by a passion for justice and makes it with opportunism, and pure luck. Readers will like her common-sense smarts.

In this novel, the whole subject of sex is put into perspective. A very refreshing attitude this is, and rare in most Lesbian novels. It's there and nobody apologizes for it.

The story itself is somewhat unrealistic

in several respects. A dynamic, goal-oriented preacher links up with a petulant, pouty soul singer with little common sense. The dangerous pimp who could destroy the Women's March and Myrtle miraculously gets killed off. Myrtle didn't do it, but the death helps her cause. The unabashed opportunism pops up everywhere in *Say Jesus*.

Also, some of the logistics in the plot are surfy. And the finale is perhaps improbable in the South But so what? This is a positive, inspirational fairy tale. Courage is the message.

There is certainly enough snap, crackle, and pop to make this novel richly entertaining. If we know nothing about life in the Black southern church, we will now. Shockley's interesting details tell us much about people and community in the Black urban South.

There seems to be a lot of Lesbian novels around today that just die in the middle. It's as if they were not planned with any sense of direction, veritably made up as they go along. Not so with *Say Jesus and Come to Me*. Its impetus is remarkable. It gets rolling and doesn't stop.

The planning of the Women's March is the driving force of the novel. One conflict builds upon another. One goal builds upon another goal. Love gets in the way. And the preacher comes out. Whew!

dilemma was Max's insistence on having his and his lover's name woven into a family tapestry, a quarrel which seemed to acquire almost epic proportions as his mother lay dying, the dilemmas of *Second Son* are multiple and more earthshaking. First is the father's proposed sale of the family home to cover debts in his rapidly failing business. The second and Gay son, Mark, is particularly attached to the house. He is also living with AIDS. The father's announcement about the house and Mark's about his disease come on the same day.

Still healthy, Mark Valerian goes off on a designing job to Italy, where, through the introduction by a friend who writes him from Florida, he meets Bill Mackey. Bill's lover has died of AIDS; he himself has now developed it. Drawn together by the sheer will to live, the two become lovers.

More than anything, *Second Son* is a novel about hope. Though there seems to be more hope in miracles than faith in the medical establishment, the novel, though somber by nature, is never downbeat. The hope, if not belief in miracles, is paralleled in a sub-plot. Their Florida friend, Mat-

thew, writes them of a venture by a Gay activist group to colonize the star Sirius, in order to escape a hostile world and a government bureaucracy which lets Gay men die. This part of the plot, verging on the incredible, — but ultimately, pulled off by Ferro —, underlines the need for hope in the men's life. The reader may or may not choose to infer that their likelihood of survival rivals that of colonizing Sirius. While the proposed star colonization may well point to the need of planning for the future and our survival (read: safer sex, AIDS activism, etc.), Mark and Bill live only for whatever small pleasure the given day may bring.

Ferro's prose is quiet, though largely lacking in stylistic flair, which could have helped the novel sail through some of its slower moments, notably at the beginning. Some find his prose undistinguished. This is perhaps a novel in which “undistinguished” has its appropriate moments. Power can sometimes be communicated through “neutral” prose and Ferro does just that.

## Best Sellers of the Month

### Gay Male

1. *The Beautiful Room Is Empty*—Edmund White—Knops..... \$17.95
2. *Taking Care of Mrs. Carroll*—Paul Monsett—St. Martin's..... \$7.95
3. *Morris*—E. M. Forester—Norton..... \$4.95
4. *I'm Looking for Mr. Right But I'll Settle for Mr. Right Away*—Gregory Flood—Henry Holt..... \$6.95
5. *Male Couples*—David McWhirter—Prentice Hall..... \$7.95
6. *Darker-Proof: Stories From a Crisis*—White and Mars-Jones—Plume..... \$7.95
7. *Significant Others*—Armistead Maupin—Harper & Row..... \$9.95
8. *Conversations With My Elders*—Boze Hadleigh—St. Martin's..... \$7.95
9. *Privates*—Gene Horowitz—St. Martin's..... \$7.95
10. *The Male Couple's Guide to Living Together*—Eric Marcus—Harper & Row..... \$9.95

### Lesbian

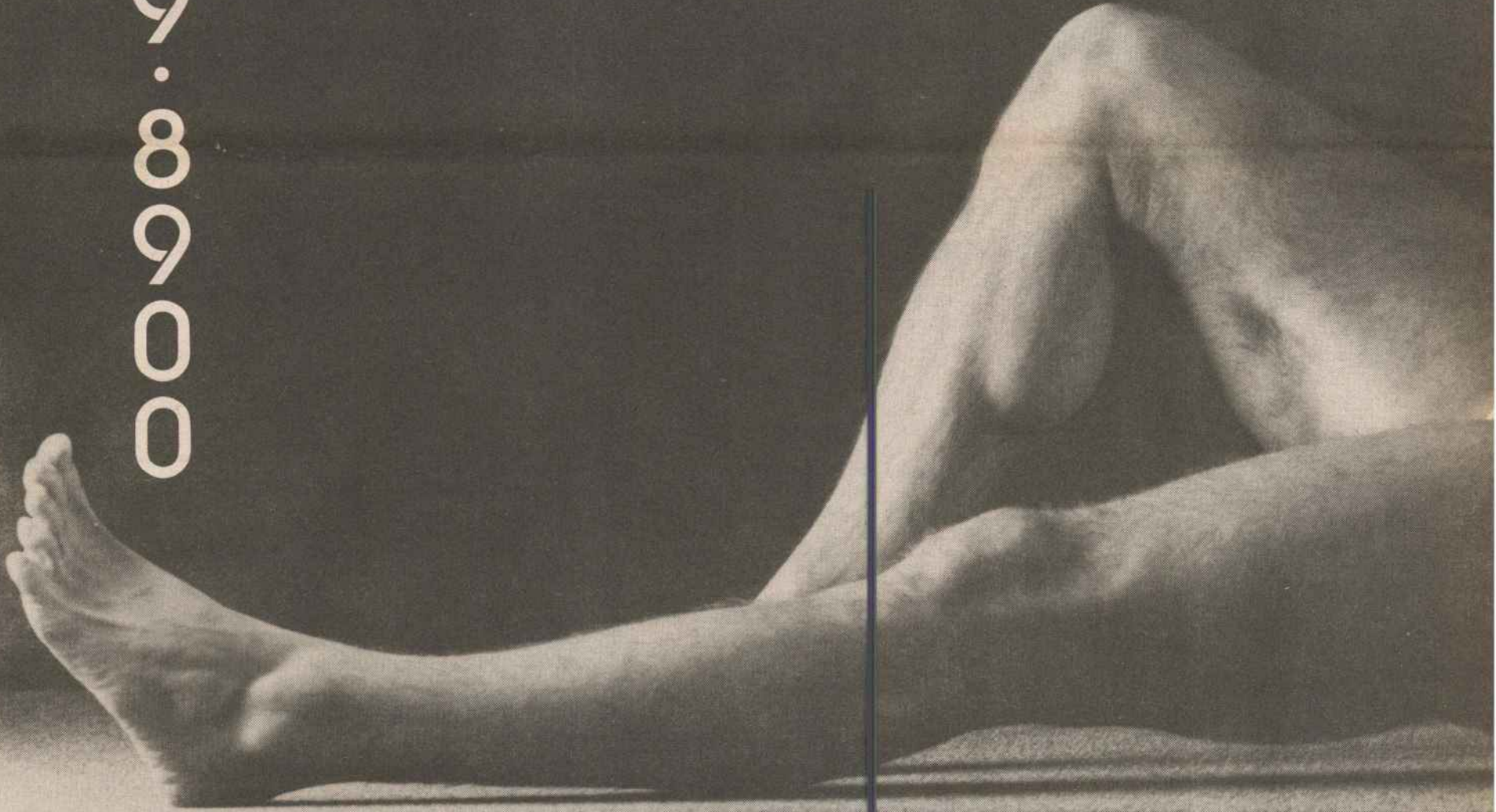
1. *The Joy of Lesbian Sex*—Simon & Schuster..... \$8.95
2. *Tight Spaces*—Kesho Scott—Spinsters/Aunt Lute..... \$4.50
3. *High Hearts*—Helen R. Hull—Naiad..... \$8.95
4. *Last September*—Helen R. Hull—Naiad..... \$8.95
5. *New Our Bodies Ourselves*—Boston Women's Health Collective—Simon & Schuster..... \$15.95
6. *Ourselves Growing Older*—Boston Women's Health Collective—Touchstone..... \$15.95
7. *We Are Everywhere*—Harriett Alput—Crossing..... \$10.95
8. *Incidents Involving Warmth*—Anna Livia—Onlywomen..... \$8.95
9. *Starting From Scratch: A Different Kind of Writers' Manual*—Rita Mae Brown—Bantam..... \$16.95
10. *Two Willow Chairs*—Jess Wells—Library Books..... \$8.95

Sources of Information: Schwartz Book Stores, Milwaukee; Webster's Books and Cafe, Milwaukee; Four Star Fiction and Video, Madison.



PARTY LINE CALL THE "A" PARTY

1  
.  
9  
0  
0  
.  
9  
9  
9  
9  
.  
8  
9  
0  
0  
0

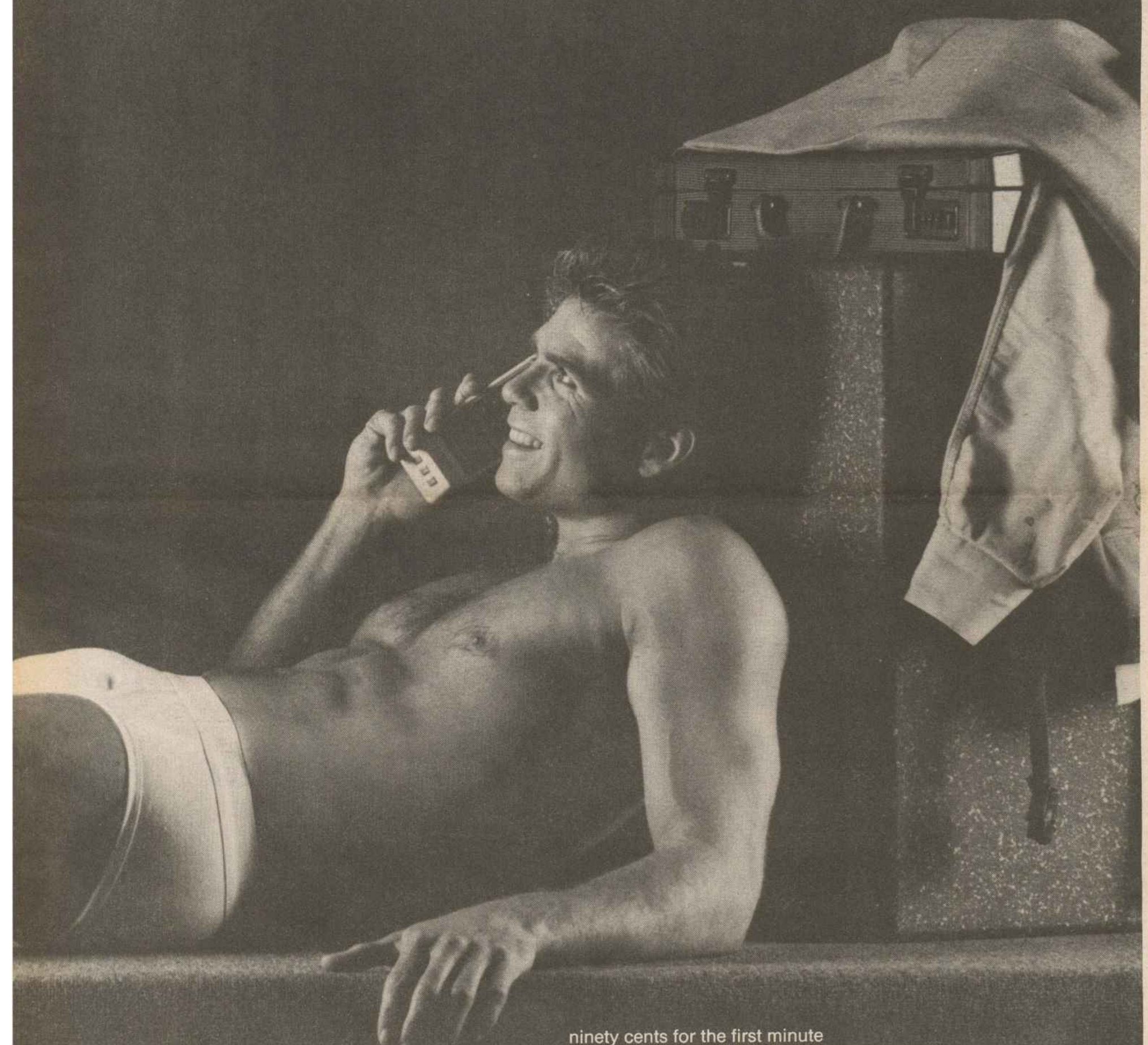


go new york new jersey chicago

also available in Milwaukee and Indianapolis



# LINE CALL THE "A" PARTY LINE



ninety cents for the first minute  
and forty five cents for each minute thereafter  
you must be eighteen years or older  
a service of remm communications, inc.  
free introductory line 312•704•9303 (message units apply)

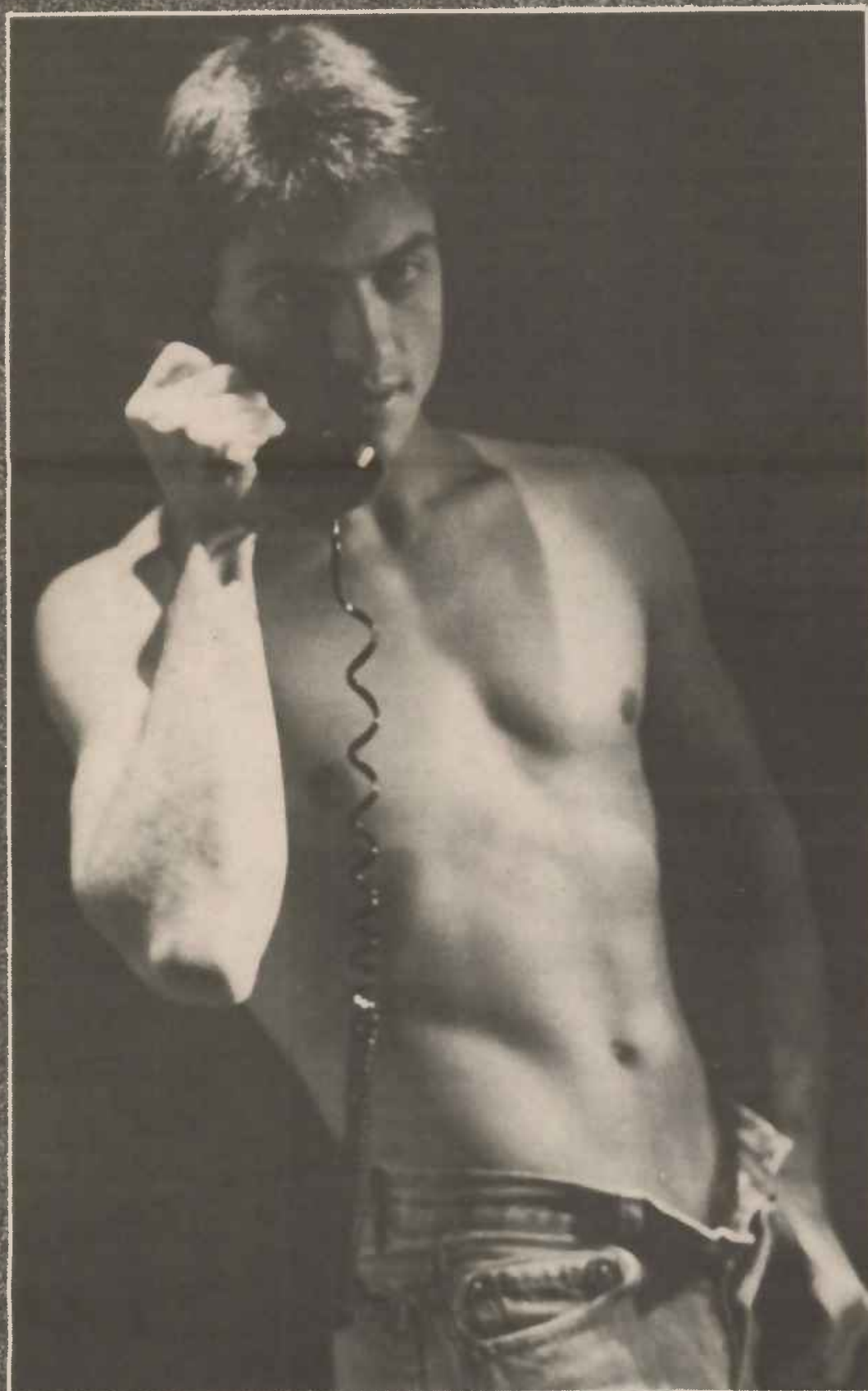
## new york new jersey chicago n

A portion of the proceeds from this service will benefit  
the Public War on AIDS (PWA) Endowment Fund.  
© "A" Party Line 1988



MILWAUKEE'S EXCLUSIVE NATIONWIDE

# 24 HOUR HEAVY-ACTION CONNECTION



**SHARE SOME ACTION  
WITH UP TO  
EIGHT OTHER MEN**

**FROM CHICAGO, NEW YORK,  
SAN FRANCISCO, L.A.,  
HOUSTON, DALLAS,  
NEW ORLEANS, DETROIT  
AND HUNDREDS OF OTHER  
LOCATIONS ACROSS THE U.S.**

**LEATHER • B&D • UNIFORMS  
BIKERS • MASTERS • SLAVES  
TRUCKERS • DADDYS**

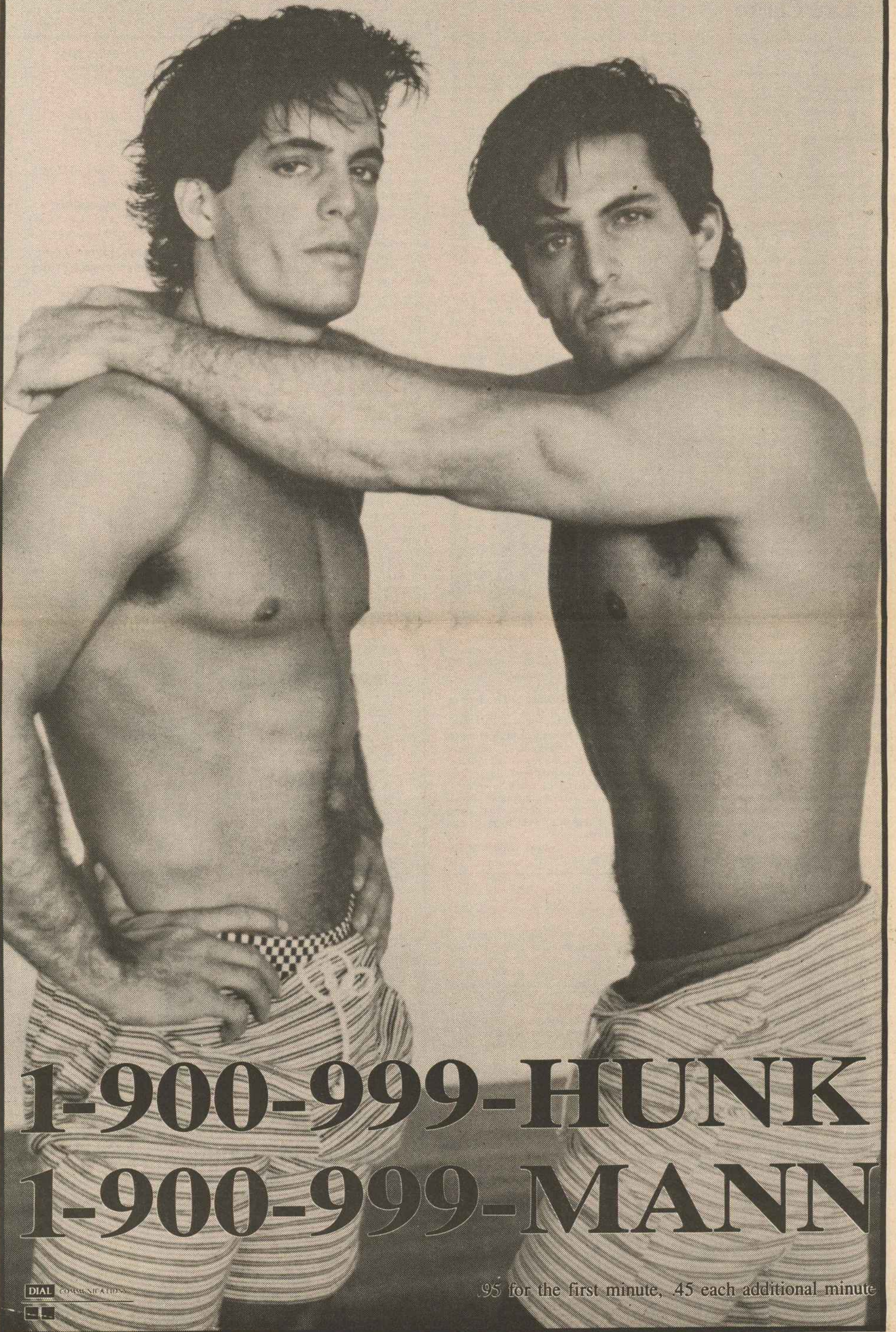
**TRY OUR FREE LINE FIRST...  
312-855-1951**

**A BUSY SIGNAL MEANS THERE'S  
ACTION ON THE LINE SO CALL...**

# 1-900-999-8500



INSTANT CONTACT with other callers!



**1-900-999-HUNK**

**1-900-999-MANN**

**DIAL** COMMUNICATIONS

.95 for the first minute, .45 each additional minute



TRAVEL

## Downtown Express Bar Opens In Eau Claire

Reprinted from the GLC Voice, Minneapolis, MN, April 4, 1988.

By Tim Campbell

Eau Claire, Wisconsin is a quiet town. Population 54,700.

"Whatever is Eau Claire doing with a new Gay bar?" Some marvel that Eau Claire has a Gay bar at all. Now it boasts two!

Actually, almost any town of 50,000 in the United States has a Gay bar or some rough equivalent thereof. That word "rough" is often appropriate in several senses.

In Eau Claire, however, there is nothing "rough" about the Gay night spots. The newest is known as the Downtown Express. It is a completely modern bar and restaurant which has a bustling, mainstream or straight lunch and supper crowd during the earlier part of the day. Shiny brass, plush carpet, freshly hung (albeit plastic) greenery and three eye pleasing levels make this spot a great place to dine or have cocktails.



Downtown Express bartender David, customer Debbie, director David Ashton.

The Downtown Express turns into a Gay disco and bar only after the supper crowd has trickled out. Then, around 9:30 or 10:00 p.m., the waitresses take off their aprons and earrings while the bartenders put theirs on. And voila, mobile disco.

A more probing look at Eau Claire and the surrounding area tells you where all these attractive young folks come from to support such respectable establishments.

Although Eau Claire, itself has only 54,700 inhabitants, the county of Eau Claire boasts another 30,000 folks. Then next to Eau Claire sits the town of Chippewa Falls which has 12,270 inhabitants and is the seat of Chippewa County which totals 53,000 inhabitants. In all,

these two counties have a population of over 136,000 residents.

Another factor which helps build a clientele for a Gay disco in Eau Claire is the presence of the University of Wisconsin campus with a student body of over 11,000. Many of those students come to Eau Claire from larger urban areas where they have already found some sense of Gay identity.

Finally, just a half hour down the road on I-94 is Stout University in Menominee which boasts another 5,000-6,000 students.

The mathematics of Gay bar survival dictate that for every one thousand people in census tract, one is going to be available to use a Gay bar on any given weekend night. This suggests that the bars in Eau Claire can count on sharing 136 people per night. And in fact, that's pretty close to the size of the crowd you will find in each establishment.

The entrepreneur behind the newest bar is David Ashton. Ashton is a newspaper man during the daytime and helps to put out several small papers in the Eau Claire area. The Downtown Express night-

time venture is a way of combining his social life with some increased revenue.

Ashton brings a whole new concept of assertiveness in marketing to his effort to operate a Gay bar in Eau Claire. He is placing ads in Gay papers in both Milwaukee and Minneapolis in an effort to introduce his business to all potential customers and to add a few out of towners each weekend to the local crowd.

Ashton is also quite ready to identify himself as a Gay businessman doing business with the community. That gives him a good reason to want to make the business succeed.

The Downtown Express celebrated its grand opening April 15-17.

the paper going and I see no other way around it.

On a lighter note, **Light** is proud to announce the beginning of its Gay/Lesbian foreign news and comment department. With this issue, we have people writing specially for **Light** on Lesbian and Gay life from Puerto Rico, Mexico, Peru, Thailand, England and the Eastern European countries. This will be continually expanding. Not every country will be represented in each issue, but the department itself will be an on-going thing.

We are also happy to announce the beginning of a new arts and entertainment section which will continue as long as advertising permits.

We are equally pleased that the circulation has reached a point where we must expand our press run to handle the demand for the paper.

So, a bigger paper and more circulation — as long as advertising permits. I hope and expect that it's only a beginning. I want to avoid as much as possible the agony of trying to decide what copy goes in and what winds up on the cutting room floor. I know that that can never be completely eliminated but no more, please, like last time. And in all this, please remember, the paper is open to all shades of opinion. You have your say, I have mine. As difficult as it is sometimes, that's one of the glories of our marvelously diverse community.

## Cream City Chorus Plans June Concert

Hi! from Cream City Chorus. Hope this finds you all healthy and happy. Just in case you're wondering what we are up to... here is an update.

First of all, a little business to catch up on. We recently marked our first year together which meant elections for a new board of directors. Congratulations to the following: President- Ron Thate, Vice President- Diane "legs" Gregory, Secretary- Ebbie Duggins, & Treasurer- Ken Weske. To last year's board; Thank you for a job well done.

Our first performance on the agenda is for M.A.P. on the 15th of May at the Wisconsin Club. This is a fund raising dinner which is appropriately titled "Make a Promise — Year of Hope." Events such as these make us proud that we are able to contribute our time and talent when needed. We will be joined by the Fest City Singers for a selection.

Next, is opening ceremonies for the Milwaukee Softball Classic on May 28th, at which time we will be singing the national anthems, ours and Canada's. As I look out the window, (expecting snow?) it is hard to believe that the softball season is upon us. This performance has been a tradition and always a good time is had by all. Make sure to join us to meet and greet our brothers and sisters from all over the U.S. and Canada.

On May 30th we will be performing for the Candle Light Memorial Service. All of us in some way have been touched by AIDS and we always hope that through our songs we are able to lighten the weight that makes our hearts so heavy, if only for the time being.

And yes there's more...

Because of our obligations for the month of May we feel in order to give our concert the 100% you, as an audience deserve, we have moved the date to June 25th at Centennial Hall. So mark your calendars and be ready to enjoy "Dinner With Gershwin." An evening filled with some of the most memorable songs that will be performed in a most memorable way. Tickets will be available the first week of May through chorus members and at the M&M Club. Watch for advertisements and



Portrait Photography  
Business — Personal

Passports

Old Photographs  
Copied and Restored

Theatrical — Pets

**Breitlow Studio**

7405 West Harwood Ave.  
476-3777

come support the CCC. That's Cream City Chorus!

And, on June 26th, the following day we are roller skating our way through the streets of Chicago for Gay Pride Parade. So, come and watch us fall and lets show Chicago our pride from "up north!"

Till the next time, remember to Enjoy Life! This is Not a Dress Rehearsal.

**TAP BEER BUST**  
Every Tuesday  
\$3— 9-1 A.M.

**PULL TABS**  
Every Sunday  
9-11 P.M.

Sheepshead Every Thursday  
7-9 P.M.

**HALL AVAILABLE**  
For Parties and Meetings  
Catering Available

Cocktail Hours 3-7 p.m.-  
Monday through Friday

**JET'S PLACE**  
1753 S. Kinnickinnic  
Milwaukee 53207-672-5580



**VIDEO ADVENTURES**

• 1820 N. Farwell Ave. • 272-6768

Fri. & Sat. 10-10 • Sun. 11-7  
Mon.-Thurs. 10-9

MILWAUKEE

## Editor

Continued from Page 3

two sources. One is our own contribution which has totaled over \$5,000 for the last six issues.

The second is advertising. This comes from the Lesbian/Gay and straight business communities. Many Gay/Lesbian and straight businesses have supported the paper wonderfully — and they can not be thanked enough, not nearly enough. But many more have not.

So, we come to the phone service ads. In passing, let me say that we don't accept all of them and work as closely as may be with these advertisers to make the ads as tasteful as possible. Still, there are those who object on principle. Well (he said with a sigh) I'm just old and cynical enough to believe that principles are great but they don't "pay the freight," when it comes to a newspaper. It's money from advertising and money and more money that does it. All my wishing it were otherwise, doesn't make it so.

Don't get me wrong. I'll sacrifice much in the name of principle, but I refuse to do it foolishly. We want the paper to be a fact of our state-wide community. We want it to exist, survive, grow and expand and none of that will happen without the advertising dollars, phone service ads included. If this is, as someone wrote, the end justifying the means, so be it. That may seem harsh but the fact of life, as I see it, is money to keep

## Eastmore

Investments & Management

Real Estate Services  
Brokerage • Management • Rentals

Leonard J. Sobczak  
3287 N. Oakland Ave.  
961-1822







**1-900-999-1100**

**WISCONSIN'S HOTTEST  
24 HOUR  
PARTY LINE**

*Let's  
Talk!*

**TALK AS LONG AS YOU WISH  
WITH UP TO EIGHT OTHER GUYS**

**LIVE LIVE LIVE LIVE**

95¢ FIRST MINUTE, 45¢ EACH ADDITIONAL MINUTE.

YOU MUST BE 18



**NOW OPEN!**  
Ready for all your calls

# THE **SAFE** WAY TO MEET AND BE INTIMATE WITH ANOTHER MAN IS HERE ...

## THE **GAY** **CONNECTION**

### 1-900-999-3333

YOU MAY FIND THE  
MAN OF YOUR DREAMS!

Our highly advanced computer service will  
match you with another gay caller for a  
**SAFE**, intimate, private hot conversation.

- All for just 95¢ for the first minute and 75¢ for each additional minute discreetly billed to your phone line. \*

**FREE BONUS** TEST OUR **FREE LINE**†

**(312) 606-0943**

IF IT'S BUSY, IT'S LIKELY THERE'S  
**SOMEONE WAITING TO TALK TO YOU!**  
THEN CALL OUR REGULAR LINE  
1-900-999-3333

**PLUS EVEN MORE FOR YOUR MONEY**  
• **EXCLUSIVE REMATCH FEATURE** •

If you're matched with someone you don't  
hit it off with, just push the # button and  
you may be **rematched**. Use this feature as  
often as you like.

We are already the most established and  
trusted gay phone matching service in  
cities across the U.S.

**DIAL**

### 1-900-999-3333

**And join The Gay Connection today!**

†Any tolls apply

\*No credit cards required, 18 years or older only. You  
may not get a matching caller every time.

David Callahan illustration from photography by Leo Goates

