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The Wisconsin Light

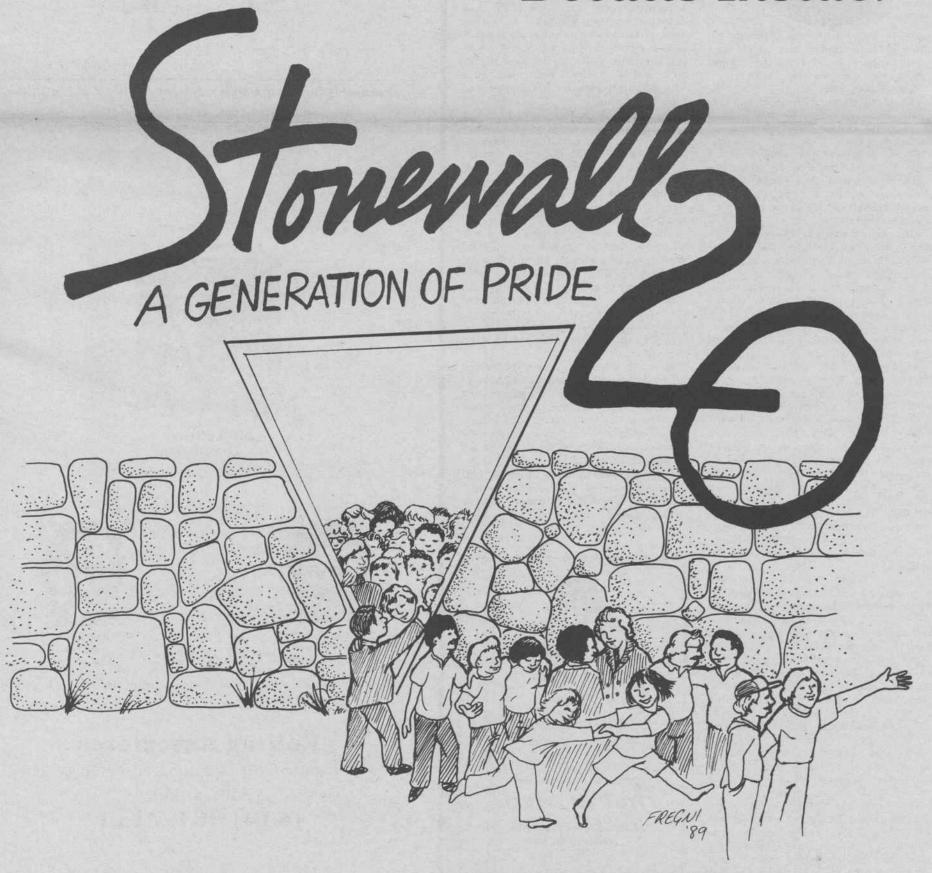
Special Edition Milwaukee

Special Edition Pride

Celebration 89

1st Annual Parade and Rally - June 17, 1989

Details Inside!



OUR HISTORY



A TIME TO DIE XVII

"Underground" Brings Days of Hope to Nazi Prisoners

By Terry Boughner, Ph.d.

The air in the camps was always filled with the stench of death. It enveloped everything like an unseen fog and one's clothes stank with it. This, plus the capriciousness of survival, weighed on many Pink Triangles so terribly that they simply gave up and willed themselves to

It was easy to tell such a person. When someone ceased caring what happened to them, stopped trying to take care of themselves physically, it was almost invariably the case that they would be dead in 24 hours. As Rudolf said, "The temptation was there, always and terribly there, just to die, to have an end to it all, the misery, the terror, everything.

How many thousands, hundreds of thousands, did this, it is impossible to say, but according to Rudolf and others, part of the burden born by Gays which led



many to seek death was their belief, ultimately born out, that even should they somehow be released from the camps, there would be no place for them to go.

Who wanted the queers? No one. Weren't the Nazis only doing to them what society wanted? Was that not so? For many the answer of total rejection was too heavy to bear.

Occasionally there were slender rays of hope. When war broke out in 1939, there was some optimism in the camps that the Allies, the British and French, would quickly triumph and Hitler and his cronies would be swept away.

This didn't happen, of course, but among the Pink Triangles, the positive outlook, soon extinguished, was never very bright anyway. What reason was there? This attitude too was realistic — so it was thought. If the western powers cared not one fig about the Jews — and it was generally known that they did not — they were concerned even less about homosexuals.

Still hope, which Rudolf called "a whore", rose among Pink Triangles again and again. For example, according to Rudolf, Hans, Frederick and others with whom I spoke, in 1939 and '40 word began to circulate that the Gay underground was planning a massive revolt. No one really believed it, but no one wanted to deny it either.

According to the rumor, Gays throughout the Reich would rise in rebellion. Those in the camps would be freed and then they would all go to some new land where they would find a home, attracting there Gays from every country on earth.

It was a heady idea and many there were who, I was told, believed it because they wanted to and needed to believe it. Of course, it didn't happen. The Gay underground was never strong enough to mount such a project and besides, where would such a land be found anyway? But, for awhile, many took strength from the hope and talked earnestly about "The Homeland of the Gays" or "Our country" as some called it.

By the Summer of 1940, all Western Europe had succumbed to the "blitzkrieg" of the German Army. Britain was under siege and German plans for Operation Barbarossa, the invasion of Russia were under way.

From what I could find out, Lesbians and Gays cared little about who won and who lost. Those things made little difference to them. The high sounding words of Allied leaders that filtered through to the camp inmates sounded

hollow and fell on deaf ears. None of it, they were convinced, and rightly so perhaps, had anything to do with them.

Those in the camps even began to resent the Gay underground, composed as it was of Gays and Lesbians who had managed somehow to avoid capture. Why not? As truck load after truck load after truck load after truck load of Pink Triangles were deposited within the barbed wire enclosures, Gay men and Lesbian women by the hundreds, destined for medical experiments or worse, the general attitude was that the underground served no purpose whatsoever. This outlook and the seemingly utter futility of it all only served to increase the hopelessness.

Yet, small and disorganized as it was, the Gay underground did perhaps unintentionally, but at least once, did manage to inspire a revolt.

In 1941, word was received, in Buchanwald — supposedly from the underground — that all was ready for a strike for "Our Country," Where this was to be, Africa, South America, no one seems to have bothered to question, but hopes were raised and plans were laid for a break- out.

On August 28, 1941, a group of Pink Triangles in the camp rose in rebellion. How large and how extensive was it? I do not know. But the very fact that it happened; that at least some of my poor despised people found it within themselves to fight back, has always sent waves of pride through me. The weapons that they had, as I was told, were pitiful. Some makeshift knives, some stolen guns and, ultimately, their own courage and their bare hands.

The Nazi SS guards, joined, I was informed, by other camp inmates, struck back with terrible ferocity. We have no idea of the death toll. Hundreds, perhaps thousands, were killed. The Nazi thugs made no distinction between the rebels and other Pink Triangles in the camp who were systematically rounded up and put to grisly death.

Still, some few of the rebels — I was never able to find out how many — did make good their escape. They took to the hills and woods beyond. Many were subsequently caught, but some did manage by one means or another, to avoid the guards and dogs sent after them. None of my witnesses was able to tell me what happened to them and, perhaps, no one will ever know.

However, whenever I have read about the resistance groups that formed all over Nazi occupied Europe, I have always liked to think that one of them, at least, might have been Gay and that they took their share of blood vengeance from their oppressors. I take great satisfaction in the thought that they did.

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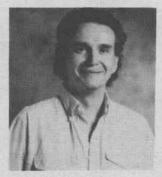
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June 1, 1989-June 14, 1989-WISCONSIN LIGHT-3 **EVERYONE SHOULD SHOW THEIR** LETTERS PRIDE IN MILWAUKEE JUNE 17

What is pride? It's a sense of being, of self-worth, of you as a worthwhile, decent you and you're born with it.

But humans are comparison shoppers. We, almost at once, begin to match ourselves to who and what we see around us - and we learn, learn very quickly what is good and what

There are certain thoughts, certain feelings to be despised. We teach ourselves this or accept that teaching from others. What will people think? What will the neighbors say? Pride is lost and without it, life is a chicanery and you in the clown suit, the chief

We, as Lesbians and Gay men talk a lot about love, but there is no true love without pride; without taking back yourself.

Pride is like a flag, flying high on a sunny day. It is honest, open. It does not hide what it is because it cannot. You might as well ask the Statue of Liberty to cover its head. Pride believes in itself. It wants nothing more than to be what it is even as a dandelion

does not seek to be a rose. Each has its glory.

Pride is not noisy nor is it arrogant although both may be its midwives.

Pride believes in itself. It despises what is closed, dishonest and false.

Pride is freedom. Having it, you have life as you never expected that it could be. It is a personal statement of self-worth.

You can tell that Pride is ready to be reborn in you when you feel weary, exhausted, unable to go another step living in the world that parents, friends and society have created

You know something wonderful is about to happen when you know, deep inside, that you have no more energy to participate in the charade any longer - and that if you do, your soul will die.

Then, as at Stonewall, Pride comes, beautiful, wonderful, powerful goddess that she is, eyes flashing, dressed in all the sparkling, vibrant colors of the rainbow. There is no force that can stand against her.

It is this, this Pride, that we Gays and Lesbians and all who are with us, must show and will show by marching in Pride Week.

We are a free and open people, full of Pride and that will sustain us all year long.

PRIDE COMMITTEE DESERVES PAT ON BACK FOR HARDWORK

Ordinarily, expressions of thanks are reserved for good things done and Milwaukee's Lesbian/Gay Pride Celebration is a week or so away.

Yet we think that the entire community should be aware of the tireless dedication and tremendous amount of just plain hard work that is being expended by the members of the Pride Committee. These people are working, almost literally, around the clock and the job will get no easier as the time draws near.

Time later to offer kudos and render thanks in a more personalized and individual way. But, for now, these truly selfless and generous people deserve a firm and sincere pat on

State Lawmakers Propose Stricter AIDS Health, Civil Rights Law

[Madison]- A group of Wisconsin State lawmakers have proposed a Wisconsin AIDS initiative to provide health care and civil rights for people who are infected with the HIV virus.

Led by State Representative David Clarenbach (D-Madison), Assembly Bill 400 seeks to guarantee health care and insurance coverage and to extend existing anti- discrimination and privacy protections for those who are at risk for

"Wisconsin has already suffered nearly 300 deaths from AIDS. But the AIDS time-bomb has yet to explode here. There are close to 10,000 people in our state today who are infected with the HIV virus," Clarenbach said.

AB 400 prohibits doctors, hospitals and nursing homes from refusing to treat or provide a lower standard of care to any person based on their HIV status.

The bill prevents health insurance policies from excluding or limiting AIDS coverage and requires the full payment of drugs like AZT prescribed for AIDS treatment. The proposal also prohibits life insurance policies from denying or limiting benefits if death is AIDS related.

Criminal penalties for negligent and intentional disclosure of confidential AIDS tests results are dramatically

According to Clarenbach, "AIDS is a very real world-wide epidemic that affects, increasingly, every segment of our society. We must anticipate the health care and legal needs of the large segment of our population who will require help."

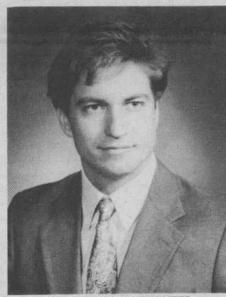
Joining Clarenbach in co-authoring AB 400 are Milwaukee State Representatives Timothy Carpenter, Tom Barrett, Barbara Notestein and Peter Bock. All are Democrats.

AB 400 received its first public hearing in the legislature on May 30. A Subcommittee of the Assembly Committee on Health heard testimony from people with AIDS and HIV infection, representatives of the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) and the Madison AIDS Support Network (MASN), and public health officials.

Further hearings are planned.

Citizens are urged to contact their State Senator and Representative immediately to voice their support for AB 400.

To obtain the name of your legislators, call the Legislative Hotline at 1-800-362-9696. Letters to lawmakers can



REP TIMOTHY CARPENTER

be sent to them c/o State Capitol, Madison, WI 53702.

MASN Seeks Volunteers

The Madison AIDS Support Network (MASN) is now taking applications for volunteers. Training will take place on June 20 and 27, 1989. MASN is in need of office support, practical support, fundraisers, outreach/education workers, people to work on the newsletter and much more.

If you are interested, please call Tim at (608) 255-1711 Mon-Fri, 8am- 5pm.

Round Up Planned For Chicago

[Chicago]- Chicago '89 Round Up, Chicago's 4th Annual gathering of Gay Men and Women in Alcoholics Anonymous, will be held June 16th thru June 18th, 1989 at the Bismark Hotel, 171 W. Randolph St. in Chicago.

The Round Up is a two day experience where Gay recovering alcoholic men and women come together for workshops, meetings, dinner, dancing

For more information, contact the Chicago AA office at (312)-236- 0123.

TO THE EDITOR:

I would like to congratulate you for working to keep our movement active, alive and growing.

Although we have gone through devastating times, especially since the AIDS crisis, the past 20 years have also been an era of great achievements. We have formed organizations, alliances and our own institutions.

We began to discuss classism, racism, anti-semitism, ageism, discrimination against the differently-abled and fat oppression.

Religion called us sick, so we formed our own places of worship, and Gay and Lesbian Christians and Jews could finally return openly to their beliefs minus the shame and guilt. Many women started re-embracing Matriarchal Religions. Many of us even considered ourselves our own higher power.

We have been the first generation in which millions of us have come out of the closet. From dykes on bikes to Lesbians in limos, from the Radical Fairies to ACT-UP, in the streets and in the suites, we emerged. We refused to be invisible. We began to be concerned about our youth...knowing that when a community starts to take care of its young, it takes care of its future.

Let us now look forward to the vision of the next decade... "The Gay 90's."

I would like to propose that we embrace the symbol of the Phoenix as the national symbol of the Lesbian/Gay movement. It does not have to replace the Lambda or the Labryis... and can even be superimposed over the Rainbow or the

Like the Phoenix, against all odds, we have risen again and again.

I would like Lesbian and Gay Pride organizers to consider using the Phoenix as the 1990 Gay Pride Symbol.

This year I will be speaking at the Parades in Boston and San Francisco and calling for the Phoenix to become the National Symbol. I hope for your support.

-Love Robin Tyler Sepulveda, California

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June 1, 1989-June 14, 1989-WISCONSIN LIGHT-4

June 28, 1969 — The Night of the Stonewall Bar Raid Begins Gay/Lesbian Liberation Movement

By Terry Boughner

It was not as if it was not expected. It was. They happened all the time.

In the preceding weeks, New York City's Tactical Patrol Force, a police also known as the Riot Squad, had raided and closed the Snake Pit, the Sewer, the Checkerboard and the Tele-Star, Gay bars all.

There had been no trouble. None. There never was. The Gays had meekly filed off into the night, thankful, for the most part, not to have been arrested.

As far as the cops were concerned, that's the way it would always be. After all, limp- wristed fruits and dykes didn't have it in them, would never fight. That was a well known fact.

So, all the police needed was an excuse. Any or none at all would do. In the case of the Stonewall Inn, they had one. The bar, located at 53 Christopher Street, had lost its liquor license. Nothing daunted, it continued to operate as one of the city's most popular clubs for young Black and Hispanic drag queens.

The date for the raid was set for Saturday, June 28, 1969. The police would descend in the night as they were wont to do at a little after midnight.

A glance at the pages of The New York Times for Friday, June 27 reveals little that anyone would have thought remarkable. "Hello Dolly" was in its 6th year, now with an all-Black cast. The Vietnam War continued to exact its toll of blood and treasure. Richard Nixon was President. The weather would continue warm and sunny.

But there was one story which, in light of later events, would prove very remarkable indeed. Judy Garland had died and millions mourned her passing. Among those were Gays and Lesbians who cherished her memory. In fact, word had gone out in the street that those for whom she was a virtual idol, would be gathering at the Stonewall that Friday evening.

Between 12:15 and 12:30 a.m., dark police cars pulled up in front of the Stonewall, a brick building with plywood covered windows. Eight officers climbed out, six men, two women. They were led by Deputy Inspector Seymore Pine.

There was no need to rush. The raid would be just the "usual" thing and, at first, it was. The bartenders and manager were arrested along with token customers. The rest, after the ordinary harassment, would be released to go their way.

But they did not go their way, not this time. Instead, they gathered out on the sidewalk in front of the bar, cheering as each patron emerged.

It was actually a festive mood and then, when a paddywagon arrived to hustle those arrested off, the mood turned black. There were catcalls and boos which grew louder when three well-known queens were loaded inside the waiting police van. The next person brought out was a Lesbian — and she did not come quietly, but scratching and biting all the way.

It was, by all accounts, at that moment that the scene exploded. In the words of Lucian Truscott, a writer for the Village Voice, "The sudden specter of Gay power erected its brazen head and spat out a fairy tale the likes of which had never been seen."

The Stonewall Riot had begun.

According to Tim Alaimo (a.k.a. Miss Mona) who was there then, it was the sorrow over Judy Garland's death that now turned to rage. By his account, beer bottles were hurled at the building. Furious Gays and Lesbians ripped parking meters from their bases to be used as battering rams as, with one mind, the crowd seemed determined to get inside and make the cops pay and pay dearly.

According to Truscott the police, taken completely unawares, feared for their lives and desperately called for reinforcements. When they arrived 45 minutes later, they found between 200 and 400 people swarming like angry hornets over the street and around the bar. The cops could do little more than get their fellows out and then, in what was seen as a wonderful turn-about, backed off hurriedly into the night.

By the time the last cop had disappeared that Saturday morning, a sign was up at the Stonewall announcing that it would be open that evening. It was.

Saturday morning dawned bright. In nearby Sheridan Square and all along Christopher Street, crowds gathered, mostly Lesbian and Gay, listening to accounts of the night before and trying to sort out what had happened; something then only vaguely comprehended called retribution — and it was not over.

In only a few hours it would begin again, led by young Lesbians and Gays. This is one of the things that witnesses and participants seem to be agreed upon. The Stonewall riots were, in large degree, a generational thing. The young fought. The older ones hung back afraid or even hostile to the "flaunting" that was going on.

Yet events swirled around them and, ultimately, drowned them as a heady sense of freedom and liberation filled the air. There was much kissing and hand holding. Hastily made signs appeared proclaiming, for the first, time Gay Pride and Gay Power.

Chants were heard. One, Tim Alaimo said, became a kind of anthem.

We Are The Stonewall Girls.

We Wear Our Hair in Curls. We Don't Wear Underwear.

We Show Our Pubic Hair.

Toward mid-morning the police returned with orders to disperse the crowd. This time they wore full riot gear. In lock step they advanced up Christopher Street, the Gays retreating ahead of them. When they reached Waverly Place, the police drew to a halt.

Suddenly, a group of queens formed themselves into a chorus line and did a full kick routine in front of the cops. Meanwhile, using sidestreets, young Gays flooded onto Christopher, retaking the street and closing it to anyone who could not identify themselves as Lesbian or Gay. Straights who attempted to run the blockade in cars, had the windows smashed or their vehicles overturned.

The police did nothing. One account in Screw magazine says frankly that they were "scared shitless." Scared or not, with raging crowds of Gays and Lesbians before and behind them, they could do nothing or, perhaps, simply didn't know what to do.

Then, with terrifying suddenness, the crowd turned on the police. The cops broke and ran. According to Tim Alaimo, the protesters chased the police for blocks, shouting, "Catch Them!" and a number of other epithets. As one sign proclaimed, "Christopher Street is Ours!"

Here a play or novel would end. But life

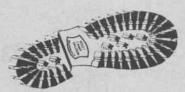
is rarely so tidy as fiction. The cops returned. Quiet, of a sorts was, restored, but even so it was evident that things would never be the same again. Along the sidewalks, men went holding hands openly with men and women with women.

The poet Allen Ginsberg paid a visit to the Stonewall on Sunday night. For the bar, it was business as usual with music and dancing. Ginsberg joined in and spoke of "Gay Power" as a new movement. Later that same evening, walking up Christopher Street, he told Truscott, "You know, the guys there (in the Stonewall) were so beautiful—they've lost that wounded look that fags

all had 10 years ago."

Perhaps that loss is what Gay/Lesbian

Pride is all about.



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STONEWALL 20: A GENERATION OF PRIDE

Saturday, June 17, 1989

8:00 am-12:00 noon

✓ Last Minute Entries and Signmaking Workshop

Cream City Foundation Community Center
 225 South 2nd Street, 1st Floor Cotillion Room

✓ Pre-Parade Pressroom

Cream City Foundation Community Center
 225 South 2nd Street, 1st Floor Rear Conference Room

11:00 am-12:15 pm

✓ Parade Line-up and Formation

 East Washington Street between South 1st & South Barclay Fannie's opens at 10:30 am for Eye-openers & Snacks.
 Music and "Let's Get Fired-Up" Rally

12:30 pm

✓ Step-Off

Westbound on Washington Street to South 2nd Street

1:00 pm

✓ Giant Balloon Release

 When the ML/GPC Float (Center Unit of Parade) reaches the front of the Cream City Foundation Community Center, 225 South 2nd Street

1:45 pm

✓ Parade ends at Cathedral Square

2:00 pm

✓ Rally Begins

Cathedral Square

STONEWALL 20: A GENERATION OF PRIDE

Saturday, June 17, 1989 • 2:00 PM CATHEDRAL SQUARE PARK Milwaukee, WI

TENTATIVE RALLY PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Opening Remarks and Welcome (Sue and Don, Co-Chairpersons, ML/GPC)

Introduction & Recognition of Dignitaries and Guests

· Introduction of Emcee, Ms. Barb Coyle, "Women's Music Radio," WMSE Radio

· Performance by Milwaukee's Original FEST CITY SINGERS

Awards Ceremony

(Parade awards and ML/GPC's Community Service Award

· Speakers (Confirmed to Date - Others to be Announced)

Dr. Terry Boughner

(Editor, The Wisconsin Light and nationally acclaimed Historian)

(Columnist, Historian & Community Activist)

Dr. Karen Lamb

 Bill Rubenstein (Staff Attorney, National Headquarters ACLU, New York)

Dan Trzebiatowski

(Columnist, HIV Positive Person, Rights For Persons With AIDS Activist)

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State Finances Committee Approves \$1.4 Million For AIDS War

[Madison]- A plan to add \$1.4 million to the state's "war against AIDS" to provide care and treatment assistance for people infected with the HIV virus has been approved by the budget-writing Joint Finance Committee.

The legislative panel voted 16-0 on May 24 to approve the appropriation request made by State Representative David Clarenbach (D-Madison).

Under Clarenbach's plan, \$1,261,000 would fund AIDS/HIV life care services programs in Wisconsin's five AIDS Service Organizations that are certified by the state. They include the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) and the Madison AIDS Support Network (MASN).

The remaining funds, totaling

\$101,300, would be spent during the next two years to help reimburse those who take the anti-AIDS drugs AZT and pentamidine.

"Wisconsin is ill-prepared to deal with the health care needs of the AIDS epidemic," Clarenbach said.

"We must anticipate the demands on our health care institutions and implement these cost-effective services to keep patients off of medical assistance and out of expensive hospital and nursing home units," Clarenbach said. Representative Walter Kunicki (D-Milwaukee), co-chair of the committee, said, "This sends a clear signal that this is a health care crisis."

Wisconsin has already suffered nearly 300 deaths from AIDS. Yet, according to Clarenbach, there are 10,000 state residents today who are infected with the AIDS-causing virus.

"The state will save money in the long-run by anticipating the time-bomb of AIDS," Clarenbach said.



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POLITICALLY SPEAKING

It Is Important That Everyone Of Us March In June 17 Parade

WHY MARCH?

On June 17th, Milwaukee will see its first Gay/Lesbian Pride March and Rally in nearly 10 years. It is an important watershed in the history of our community, the highlight of our Pride Celebration and an event that merits the active participation of everyone.

This march will be full of symbols. There will be those affected by AIDS, walking together, proudly holding their heads high, showing all of Wisconsin that they're not ashamed nor afraid.

There will be contingents from Minneapolis, Chicago, Madison, Green Bay, Iowa and Michigan showing that no matter where we are, no matter what the nature of our individual communities, we stand together. There will be those who are not Gay or Lesbian marching side by side with those who are, showing that straights need not be afraid to stand with

And there will be the rest of us showing that we are willing to stand up for ourselves. It is true that our symbolic acts are very important to our society. These symbolic acts are very important to us.

But this March is about more than symbolic acts. A few weeks ago in Madison, over 7,000 marched in Wisconsin's largest Pride March ever. The Madison community should be very proud of what it accomplished, but the media (outside of Madison) virtually

That makes the Milwaukee March even more important. Milwaukee is the media center of the State. A turnout of 7,000 in Milwaukee would be the largest March in that city in years. It would make the front page of The Milwaukee Journal and on Sunday, the 18th, 600,000 households around Wisconsin would know that we are not turning back, that we are not afraid, that we are a united community. We need that kind of press to warn our enemies that we are here in larger numbers than they realize and to remind our friends that

we can organize and will stand with them. If 7,000 can march in Madison, we should certainly be able to get more marchers in Milwaukee which is much

MARCH WITH US if you've ever been the victim of discrimination. Show those who oppress us that they and not we should be the ones living in shame.

MARCH WITH US if you know someone who has died of AIDS. Let the world know that we will take no more. Do vou really believe that if every Lesbian and Gay in this country marched, Reagan could have sat on his hands while AIDS devastated us?

MARCH WITH US if you've ever been the victim of verbal or physical violence because you're Lesbian or Gay. Let your answer to that violence be clear. Let it be that you are not afraid. You are not intimidated. Let those who perpetuate those violent acts know that we are not afraid and that we will fight back.

MARCH WITH US to give encouragement and support to those who suffer from AIDS. Let them know that they do not face this crisis alone.

MARCH WITH US because you are proud, proud of who you are, proud of the way that you've dealt with discrimination, proud of your friends.

MARCH WITH US, your Lesbian sisters, your Gay brothers. Show Wisconsin that despite our differences, that there is far more than we have in

MARCH WITH US to show that despite AIDS, we are not going back into the closet and that our fight for probate reform, child custody reform, acceptance in the military and all of our other issues still goes on.

MARCH WITH US because there is no choice. There is no better way to show your commitment to those inside and outside of our community.

MARCH WITH US because our lives are on the line. We need to show that we can and will fight back.

Notes From The Northwoods: PERCEPTIONS

By Keith Coley

What we do, much of the time, is shaped by our perceptions of what other people do and say. This is one of the fundamentals of communication. Yet so often we miss so many opportunities and feel pain because our perceptions of what someone else has meant have been distorted or misinterpreted.

For example, I recently visited Milwaukee and met this older guy at one of the bars and we hung out together for a good part of the evening. I hadn't been in that many bars, so he agreed to show me around. We did much of the scene and towards the end of the "tour", we walked into the YP. There was a fairly large crowd, but we really didn't feel like staying, so we headed for the door. After we left, my friend told me that this cute guy (who I had been eyeing) had said, 'Oh, I guess the guy in the tie didn't get to see any girls."

At first, I found this quite funny because often, when I'm in a straight bar, I'm thought to be Gay. (Maybe I look at guy's butts too much.) Then, in a Gay bar, my native element, I'm taken for one of "them."

This led me to begin seriously thinking about the way people perceive each other. Because of misperception, I lost the opportunity to make a friend. In other situations, I've avoided people simply because I believed they, for some reason I

MARCH WITH US for yourself and for those who cannot march.

MARCH WITH US encouragement and support if even for just a few hours to those who work throughout the year to end discrimination.

MARCH WITH US to stand up for yourself, to who you are part of the community, to stand with our community.

MARCH unafraid. MARCH with dignity. MARCH out of your closet. MARCH with thousands who share your fears, hopes and lifestyle. There has never been a better nor more important time to march. The time is now. MARCH with us on Saturday, June 17. Together we can make his/herstory.

cannot tell, would not talk to me. I have even gone to bars, not said a word to anyone there and then decided that they were stuck-up.

Why I throw those walls up around myself, I do not know. But I do and others do so as well. We do it rather than take a chance that someone might be just lonely and want to talk. Too often we assume that we'll be thought to be trying to pick whoever it is up if we make the first move. And, of course, I've thought the same thing about someone trying to talk to me.

The same is true in other situations. When you go for a job interview, a prospective employer makes a judgment as to what kind of asset you would be to that company. No matter that you may be the most capable person in your field, if you can't create a good perception of yourself, you won't get the job.

I try, with varying degrees of success, to be a forthright, open person. I don't like it when people get distorted perceptions of who and what I am. Most of the time, it works. I think it sets my friends at ease - at least I hope it does that I try and go by "What you see is what you get."

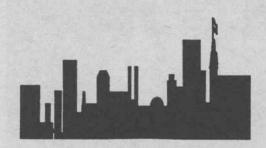
What you are reading right now worries me. Do you perceive me as a nice guy or as pompous and glib? I hope the former and not the latter, but regardless of which it is, the "me" you perceive in these words will be your reality - and mine.

Until later, be healthy and be happy!



CONGRATULATIONS, ML/GPC ON MILWAUKEE'S FIRST ANNUAL PRIDE PARADE & RALLY

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MILWAUKEE PRIDE WEEK CELEBRATION

STONEWALL 20: A GENERATION OF PRIDE June 16-27, 1989 CURRENT SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, June 16th

8:00 pm - Milwaukee's original Fest City Singers will present "Catch a Rising Star" at the Milwaukee Repertory Theatre's Steimke Theatre. Tickets are available at The Cream City Foundation Community Center or by calling (414) 263-SING.

8:00 pm - Midwest Music and Full Moon Productions presents Comedienne KATE CLINTON at Centennial Hall. Kate is the Country's foremost lesbian comedienne whose material is topical, political and outrageous! She has performed at hundreds of gay pride events around the World. Tickets are \$11 in advance or \$13 at the door and available at The Station, Outpost and People's Books.

Saturday, June 17th

8:00 am - Foundation Community Center opens for Pride Parade Signmaking Workshop and Pre-Parade Pressroom.

10:30 am - Fannie's opens for Pre-Parade assembly

11:00 am - Parade check-in and line-up

12:30 pm - MILWAUKEE'S FIRST ANNUAL GAY/LESBIAN PRIDE PARADE

2:00 pm - MILWAUKEE'S FIRST ANNUAL GAY/LESBIAN PRIDE RALLY (Cathedral Square Park)

8:00 pm - Fest City Singers present a repeat performance of "Catch a Rising Star" at The Milwaukee Repertory's Steimke Theatre.

8:00 pm - Hurricane Productions presents a special Dance at Turner Hall as a benefit for the Mother's & Children's Legal Defense Fund. Tickets are \$5. each. Sunday, June 18th

10:30 am - Brunch Reception for the Milwaukee G/L Community leaders and media to meet Robert Peterson, feature writer for The Advocate, in Milwaukee to cover Pride Week activities. By invitation only, location to be announced.

2:00 pm - 2nd Annual INTERFAITH SERVICE at All Saint's Cathedral.

Monday, June 19th

7:30 pm - "Community Speakout" at The Cream City Foundation Community Center. This is your chance to interact with the key leaders of Milwaukee's power structure. Scheduled on the platform are: Howard Fuller, Ph. D. (Health and Human Services Director - Milwaukee County); Mr. Ricardo Diaz (Commissioner of The Department of City Development - City of Milwaukee); Mr. Dave Begel (Public Relations Director, Milwaukee Public Schools - City of Milwaukee); and Ms. Joan Zeiger (Past President - National Organization for Women, Wisconsin Chapter). Sponsored and organized by Lambda Rights Network, ACLU-Wisconsin, Black and White Men Together, Milwaukee Lesbian/Gay Pride Committee, and the National Organization For Women - Wisconsin Chapter. Tickets are \$2. advance, \$5. at the door.

Friday, June 23rd

7:30 pm - "I Too Sing America," a Black Lesbian and Gay Issues Forum at The Cream City Foundation Community Center. Organized by Mr. Anthony Stock dale and sponsored by Club Muse of Milwaukee.

Other programs and events are currently being scheduled during Pride Week.

Please watch for future revised PRIDE WEEK schedules.

Medical College Seeks HIV+ For Study

The Infectious Disease Division of the Medical College of Wisconsin is currently seeking volunteers to participate in an AZT study. This is a double-blind, placebo-controlled study in which individuals will be followed for a projected 3-year period.

Previous studies have already demonstrated the effectiveness of AZT in patients with ARC or AIDS. This study hopes to determine the effectiveness of earlier intervention with AZT in delaying or preventing symptoms of HIV infection.

Participants must be without symptoms and have T4 counts of less than 500. This blood test will be done during the initial screening process. Persons with persistent generalized lymphadenopathy may be enrolled.

Once enrolled, volunteers will be placed into one of two groups. One group will receive a placebo and the other group AZT. Their progress will then be monitored once every 2 weeks for 12 weeks and once a month thereafter. Medication, blood tests, neuropsychological testing and physical examinations are all free and confidential.

Dr. Michael Rytel, Chief of the Infectious Disease Division, stated that this study is the first large drug therapy study in Milwaukee, and will hopefully attract attention and funding for future studies of alternative HIV infection therapies in Milwaukee.

Persons interested in participating in this study or needing more information, please call Claudine Fernhaber, RN at (414)-257-6151.

MAKE GAY MILWAUKEE PROUD!

JOIN US

in Milwaukee's Gay Pride March and Celebration

Heartfelt Thanks to the Milwaukee Lesbian/Gay Pride Committee for their Hard Work and Community Pride.

Walter R. Brandt



The Light | Karangaran Alaman Alaman

"Fumerist" Kate Clinton to Entertain Milwaukee June 16

By Kitty Barber

Kate Clinton calls herself a "recovering Catholic" and a "fumerist" (feminist-humorist). Critics have hailed her as "the country's greatest unnatural resource" and a "slayer of sacred cows." She is considered to be one of the foremost spokeswomen for Lesbian feminists in North America and has recently published a major article in the San Francisco Examiner entitled "Stonewall: 20 Years Later."

Since her first stand-up performance in 1981, Clinton has kept her audiences laughing — roaring — across the U.S. and Canada, on television, records (three albums) and in person. She has performed at nearly every major club and university in America and at every women's music and cultural festival. In 1987, she warmed up a crowd of more than 700,000 at the March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights.

Kate Clinton makes people laugh and laugh. She lets us laugh at the institutions, the people and the events that have done us the most harm. Clinton is a "Lesbian feminist stand-up comedian." She is also a brilliant thinker and writer which makes her humor all the more relevant and satisfying. She will be helping Milwaukee celebrate "Pride"

In a recent telephone interview, Clinton spoke about changes in the Gay and Lesbian community in the last 20 years. "Twenty years ago," Clinton said, "I didn't even hear about Stonewall. My coming out was through the feminist movement. A lot of Lesbians came out through feminism. The March on Washington was as important as Stonewall. We saw our sheer numbers, and any opportunity to see that, to see each other, is important."

"I think we are moving toward coalition. Women have had to learn about organizing, building coalitions with People of Color, with healthcare systems. Men didn't have to until they realized the limits of white privilege. AIDS has done this to them. So now women need to learn from men — about 'camp,' about 'flaunting.' You know, a lot of flaunters are no longer with us and we need to carry on that tradition."

"I'm worried," she continued. "I haven't heard about big plans for this New Year's Eve. You know, IT'S THE GAY '90'S! GET READY! I think we

should have tailgate parties at New Year's Day football games. We don't have to actually go to the games, just massive Gay Visibility parties in the parking lots, with cable hook-ups, the whole thing!"

Clinton was asked about the popular comedy of Eddie Murphy and Sam Kinison and why her comedy, which has none of the familiar victims (often us) is so successful?

"Money," she replied jokingly "Slip everyone in the audience a twenty dollar bill at the door." She paused and then went on more seriously, "No, I think we just get a real sense of enjoyment seeing all our friends cracking up. Our weeks are very oppressive. To be able to roar together for just two hours is a big release. When we're laughing, our guards are down, we're receptive. People having fun together is transforming, it's revolutionary."

"Eddie Murphy knows entirely too much about Gay men. I think the lady doth protest too much. And with Sam Kinison's fundamentalist religious background, he's as close to being the devil as any man I've ever seen. I think he's an evil, evil man."

Clinton's humor, unlike Murphy and Kinison, tells her audiences that she really knows and cares about them as well as the issues of the day. On George Bush's shallowness, for example, Clinton uses the line, "He has veins of styrofoam that force him to rise to the surface every time he tries to go deeper." Or about Reagan: "Reagan just learned that Iraq is not the past tense for Iran."

In discussing her "outness" and why her audiences are growing while many other women's cultural events are becoming smaller, Clinton explained: "The Reagan years splintered the community badly into smaller clusters and individuals. Many women couldn't afford to support cultural events. The distribution network (for women's albums) became smaller, Many of the coffeehouses closed, so there's no training ground for performers just starting out."

"Now I want to see just how far we can take this. Nobody else is out there saying 'I'm a Lesbian.' I was told when I started that this was a professional death-wish, but the audiences have grown and become more inclusive. Being Lesbian, being Gay, is a major defiant, punk stance."

Perhaps Clinton is too modest to



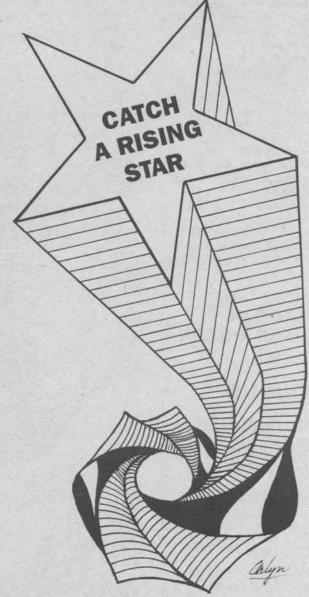
Kate Clinton will perform in Milwaukee on June 16 at Centennial Hall.

mention that she has always completely embraced her sexual orientation and made it an integral part of her performance, even now when many Lesbian performers are shying away from talking about "it." This fact alone must contribute to her growing audiences.

Clinton also doesn't mention her superior talent and skill as a performer. Clinton writes more new material in a month than most comedians write in a year. Her humor is intense and her delivery and timing barely give you time to catch your breath.

Clinton will be appearing at Centennial Hall, 733 N. 8th St. in Milwaukee on Friday, June 16 at 8:00 p.m. Tickets are \$11 in advance and can be purchased at People's Books on N. Farwell, Outpost Natural Foods Coop on Holton or Station II bar on W. Grant St. Her performance during Pride Week is presented by Full Moon Productions and Midwest Music/Meridian Distributors, the same groups who, along with Shafer Design, brought Romanovsky and Phillips and Amethyst for Pride Week, 1988. For more information, call (414)-372-5500.

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Theatre X Presents for the Benefit of the Milwaukee AIDS Project

JERKER

An Elegy in Twenty Phone Calls, Many of Them Dirty.



BY ROBERT CHESLEY

John Kishline, John Schneider, Deborah Clifton

Flora Coker

June 2nd & 3rd, 8:00 PM, Reception with the cast follows: \$50.00 Donasion.

June 4 through June 25, \$50.00 Wednesdays & Thursdays, \$12.00 Fridays & Saturdays, \$5.00 Sundays.

All Performances Beein at 8:00 PM.

For Information and Reservations Call: 414-278-0555 Mody (roughlidy 100-50)

THEATRE X

158 North Broadway, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

Theatre X Presents Controversial Phone Sex Play "Jerker"

Another attraction appropriate to Milwaukee's Gay and Lesbian Pride program of activities is the Theatre X production of "Jerker."

'Jerker' is a play in 20 scenes by Robert Chesley about two strangers whose relationship begins with phone sex, then shows them opening up to one another to achieve a deep personal intimacy although, ironically, it is intimacy at a distance.

All proceeds for the two special opening performances of "Jerker" at Theatre X on Friday and Saturday, June 2 and 3, will be donated to the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) to provide direct services to people living with AIDS in the Milwaukee area. In addition, a portion of all proceeds from subsequent performances of "Jerker" which will be presented Wednesdays through Sundays until June 25, will also be donated to MAP.

In this Theatre X production, John Kishline plays Bert, a person living with AIDS who also has a friend who is dying. Yet the word itself is never spoken in their conversations, so close is their understanding of the situation.

John Schneider as J.R. is a paraplegic Vietnam War vet, yet despite their difficulties, both men present a great deal of humor and honesty about sexual matters and their inner lives - they laugh, they cry, they fantasize, and most importantly, they sympathize.

Flora Coker is directing the play; she, Kishline and Schneider have worked together in Theatre X for more than 18 years and their close friendship allows them to bring compassion and understanding to their interpretations and to their audience. "We have so much caring for these two individuals," said Schneider, "since the playwright has written with such sympathy and love about Gay lives.'

Theatre X has long been dedicated to the production of theatrical works which are challenging and which attempt to encourage thought about important social and artistic issues. "Jerker" is typical of the challenge that such dedication brings.

"Anyone working in the arts," observes Flora Coker, "has to feel the human side of the Gay experience and the AIDS crisis, whether we are straight or Gay, male or female. In presenting 'Jerker', we at Theatre X intend to further that humanizing process.'

"Jerker" will be presented at the home of Theatre X, MKE, 158 N. Broadway in Milwaukee, June 2 through June 25. For further information and tickets, please phone Theatre X at (414)

Friendship Group **Plans Summer**

[Milwaukee]- Metro Milwaukee Friendship Group (MMFG) has announced their June activities at their monthly meeting on May 13. The Spring and Summer seasons bring warm weather and MMFG takes advantage by offering more outdoor events.

A bike trip along Milwaukee's scenic southside bike trail is planned for Saturday, June 24. The ride will be a leisurely trek through the area so inexperienced bikers can participate. The approximately 16 mile tour will include a

All you flea market and rummage sale buffs are invited to tag along to the Seven Mile Fair on Sunday, June 25 to shop-til-you-drop. Afterward, the group will feast at one of the area's ethnic restaurants.

The dinner-of-the-month for June is a return to one of Milwaukee's favorite Serbian eateries. MMFG dinners are held the Thursday after the monthly meeting and this month, the date is June 15. Those connoisseurs indulging are asked to sign up ahead so there is an accurate head count.

MMFG meets the second Saturday of each month at the home of one of their members. If you would like to attend the next meeting, a specific activity or want more information about the group, please write to MMFG, P.O. Box 93203, Milwaukee, WI 53203.

Cream City Chorus Presents Excellent "Stonewall" Concert

By Terry Boughner

Milwaukee's Cream City Chorus performed in Concert at Centennial Hall, May 20, to a near capacity crowd.

The production, entitled "Beyond Stonewall" had as its stated purpose the inspiration of Gay/Lesbian Pride. That

purpose was amply fulfilled.

Beginning with "I Am What I Am" from La Cage aux Folles, the chorus, 33 strong, under the inspired direction of Scott Stewart, mounted steadily toward Beethoven's magnificent "Ode to Joy."

"Ode" is a powerful, stirring piece and yet it was only the pedestal on which the final number sung before intermission stood like a gleaming monument. This was "Tomorrow Belongs To Me" from Cabaret. If you remember, in the musical, it is the song that expressed Nazi ambitions. The Cream City Chorus took it and, as has been done with the Pink Triangle itself, they made it ours.

I cannot fully express the power of the emotion that gripped me as I listened and watched the Chorus as it sang, proudly holding up large Pink Triangles. The rest of the audience too was on the edges of their seats and when it was finished, I had tears on my cheeks. It was that good, that well done.

The remaining concert went equally well. I especially liked the rollicking "Song of the Soul", but then the whole, tightly organized production was excellent.

When there's as much talent present as is in the Cream City Chorus, it's hard to signal anyone out, but I especially noticed Gene Schilling, Nancy Doughty and Bob Siegart whose sparkle glowed across the footlights. Also, Cass Magnuski who was one of the narrators has a voice reminiscent of Barbara Jordan.

The only glitch came in some historical errors in the narration. (The dates of the purge of the SA and Tchaikovsky's death,

The Cream City Chorus is a superb instrument in the hands of its conductor. They do Milwaukee proud - as they will when they represent us in Seattle this

Summer at the Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses (GALA).

Every one of the three C's concerts should be SRO. If you missed this one, believe me you're the poorer for it.



Milwaukee **Gay Pride Marchers**

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Fridays 9pm - 1am The Dynamic Dancing sounds of "Mrs. Fun"

Saturdays 9pm - 1am John Schneider & his 7 person ensemble return with their song & dance from the 20's, 30's, 40's

Sundays 7pm - 11pm

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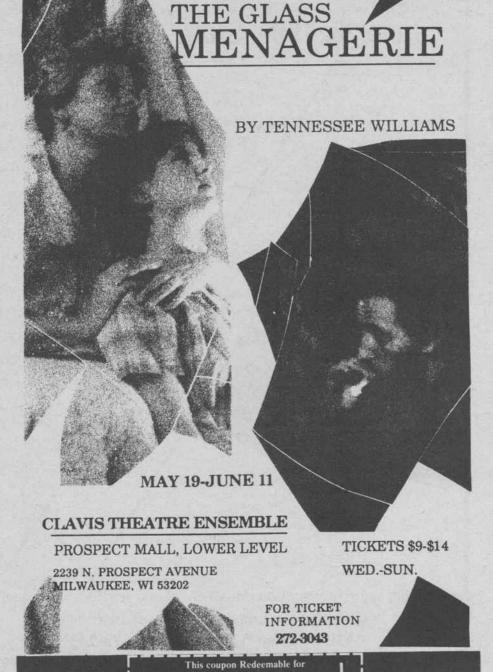
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A BOY OF SUMMER

THE ROAD

By Morgan Summer

Earlier this month I filled out an application to attend Summer School here at my college. I need the credits and, after circling gravely over the small selection of courses, I picked three classes and was satisfied. It will be then, another Summer

To pick out the courses, I had to consult what is known as an Academic Progress Report or APR. It is a sheet of paper that every student receives when he is going to register for classes. The report explains how many credits you need to graduate, how many of them you still have left to complete your undergraduate career, and what classes you are required to take. It's a pain in the ass for a lot of reasons, but it's also a help, so a student's goals are clearer. However, there are many courses to take and only about a third of them are in your major, so it's a long road.

There is another road which ten percent of the students take in addition to the clear and smoothed-edged APR. This is the road Gay students have to take to self-realization and acceptance. This is, perhaps, a longer path and much more hazardous. And, like the APR, it is required to be fulfilled in one way or

This link between academia and sexuality may seem unusual at first, but when I look around my campus and see the posters encouraging condom use, AIDS awareness, announcements of lectures by sex therapists and even pamphlets encouraging celibacy, I realize that there is a link, a joining of these two roads, after all.

Possibly, then, academic courses may help a student to come to terms with his sexuality. It may not be apparent at first to the student, but over time, I think the courses help.

In a class like Ethnic Politics or Western Religions or American History, Gayness could be discussed - if it were brought up. A student could do a paper on the correlation of homosexuality and religious attitudes. Also, most professors



Morgan Summer

are liberal and open minded about this at least those professors I have thus far and they realize the encountered importance of Gay people in history, politics, religion, the arts and on and on. Some colleges in the world even have a Gay studies major which could do worlds for the Gay student.

At the campus library: sitting down with half a dozen tomes, taking pages of notes, reading through a periodical and glancing up occasionally at passers-by, waiting in line to make a photocopy, taking a study break and going down to basement lounge fresh-from-the-machine can of Coke, a small, 35 cent bag of spiced potato chips, then sitting down and casually noticing the cute guys.

The library is important in academics and if follows through to the Gay student. It's a good place to discreetly check out guys and do some reading about Gay people. Due to the fact, also, that in the basement lounge there is a men's bathroom that is a cruising area, it may be the most important building, except for the ever-worrisome residence halls, on my campus for a Gay student. Except for the cruising area, the library and Gay students seem to be a pleasant mix, not hurting anybody, in fact, helping the Gay student both academically and building up his self-confidence.

Sometimes when the student is thrown

Milwaukee Held First Pride Week In 1979

is not the first in Milwaukee's history, it own records. certainly is the largest and most elaborate that has been held here.

There were, however, several celebrations held in the past. In 1979, following the March on Washington, a group of marchers led by Bill Meunier got together to put on Milwaukee's first Pride Week.

celebration of Pride Week, the events included a picnic at Mitchell Park attended by about 400, a two day film Factory, an interdenominational service, community in 1981 and the idea of a Pride several special entertainment events and a march and rally. The March, with over 350 participants, began in Juneau Park and proceeded down State Street to the Civic Center Plaza.

committee was infiltrated by the infamous who are doing this are doing it so well that Red Squad of the Milwaukee Police there isn't much, if anything, that I could Department. This became known when add," told Light that, regardless of how committee members applied for a march this year's version turns out, "The entire permit and saw a file on the Pride

off the road by some obstacle, he can immerse himself in the APR road and therefore try to forget and go on. Again, academics help the Gay student. However, development on the APR path is easier overall than on the other road. Its goals are clearer and better defined and on the second (or maybe it's the first) road, there could be only one goal, and even that would have to be defined.

Ideally, the two roads would become one and end at a variety of goals; a diploma, pride, love, a job, happiness.

And putting the road metaphor aside, there is one more thing to say about being a Gay college student: I was recently informed that some of my former Gay acquaintances consider themselves students first, Gay second. One of the problems with this twist-logic is that a Gay male will be Gay for the rest of his life and will only be in college for four years. Where one road ends, another may continue and, ultimately, that is the road that will take you the farthest.

While the upcoming Pride Celebration Committee that was thicker than their

A number of events similar in nature to those held the previous year were offered. The March again began in Juneau Park, but this time it proceeded down Kilbourn to Water, Water to Wisconsin Avenue and Wisconsin back to the park where it was followed by a rally.

Although the organizers counted 450 Held in June during the traditional marchers in the initial line-up, the local media reported that less than 100 participated in the parade.

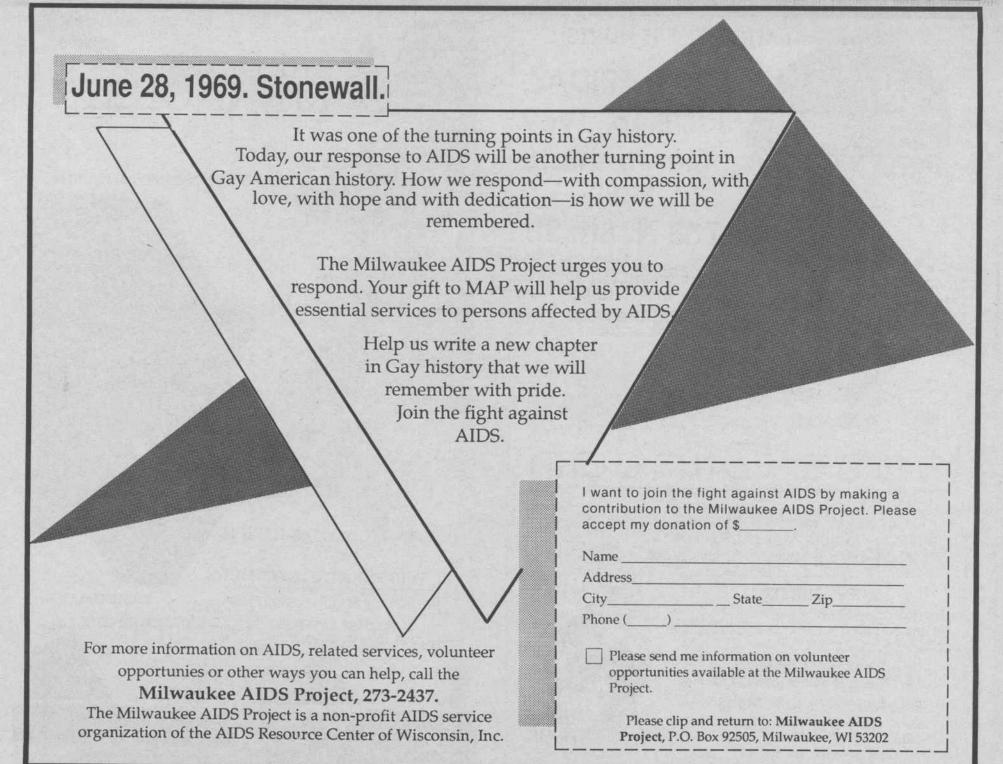
The leaders of the Pride Committee festival held in the backroom of the were committed to other activities in the celebration was dormant until Bill Meunier resurrected it following the second March on Washington in 1986.

Meunier who is not currently involved in the Pride Committee because of other The following year, 1980, the commitments and because, "the people community should be bursting with pride just over the effort that has gone into this. The ability and willingness to pull all of these groups together, to raise the needed money, to do all that is needed, is no small feat. We all owe a debt of gratitude to them. People should show that gratitude by supporting the fundraisers and going to the Pride Celebration events."

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Whereas, the ongoing struggle for full civil rights for all individuals is a paramount concern of each and every Wisconsin citizen; and,

Whereas, the promise of liberty and justice is an essential part of the American dream; and,

Whereas, Wisconsin is still the only state to extend statutory anti-discrimination protections in employment, housing and public accommodations based on sexual orientation; now,

Therefore, I, David E. Clarenbach by the powers vested in me as Speaker Pro Tempore of the Wisconsin State Assembly, hereby endorse the statement of purpose and efforts of the Milwaukee Lesbian/Gay Pride Committee and urge community members to actively support the Lesbian and Gay Rights parade and rally on June 17, 1989.

David E. Clarenbach Speaker Pro Tempore Wisconsin State Assembly

May 25, 1989 Date

Melig to Head New LIGHT Ad Department

Jerry Johnson, Publisher of Wisconsin Light has announced the appointment of Bob Melig as the paper's Manager of Advertising.

In making his announcement, Johnson said, "It is our intention to grow so that Light is the best of its kind in the nation. To do this, we must expand the amount of advertising in order to support increased news cover, features and circulation."

One of Melig's major responsibilities will be to contact and bring straight advertisers to the paper. "Many small to medium businesses have very specialized product offerings that appeal especially to Gay and Lesbian people," Melig said.

"However, by not advertising or by using the big dailies, their messages are lost to our community. We hope to make these firms aware of the opportunities for themselves when our readers are aware of their products and services," Melig said.

The Ad Department can be reached at (414) 271-4110 in the morning and evenings. Afternoon visits will be made to area businesses and a message can be left to contact later.

Write for Light! Call 372-2773

MAP Dinner Is Best Ever

By Terry Boughner

The third annual Make A Promise Dinner sponsored by the Milwaukee AIDS Project (MAP) was, quite frankly, the best ever.

Attended by over 200, it was held, as in previous years, at the downtown Wisconsin Club. That's a fitting setting, but a setting can only enhance. It cannot create, This Ronnie Marks and his committee did with superb professionalism and skill. They deserve the highest possible praise and commendation for making the event truly a gala occasion.

The silent auction, always a high point, represented donations from nearly 80 businesses and individuals with a total valuation of over \$8,500. God knows the work that must have gone in to assembling it.

The food, as usual, was excellent with dining pleasure enhanced by music graciously played and provided by the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music.

The gem of the evening, however, was the entertainment capably and delightfully MC'd by Debby Young of WOKY.

In prior years, the evening's performances have ranged from "dull" to "Oh, that again." Not this year. The committee provided MAP's guests with a rollicking, wonderful good time, the best anywhere.

A group calling themselves "Comedy Sportz" had the audience laughing so hard there was little chance for breath. I thought Joe of This Is It sitting nearby, would bust a gut. In a short review it is, believe me, impossible to describe what these 7 people do, but see a future issue of Light for a full discussion.

Let me just say in passing that Sportzman, John Podlesnik, in all probability, never will forget bouffant hairdos and Al Thomas of the Triangle with a bag over his head!? Naughty Al!

Well, I'm running out of space and must hurry along. David Seebach completed the evening's fun with a delightful magic show and then there was the always moving "That's What Friends Are For" to close out.

Make A Promise will happen again next

year — and don't, I repeat, don't miss it.

All proceeds go to MAP for care-giving.

As of press time exact figures were not available, but these moneys are badly needed and there is no other source for them but you. So go — you'll be helping others and be having one very, very good time.

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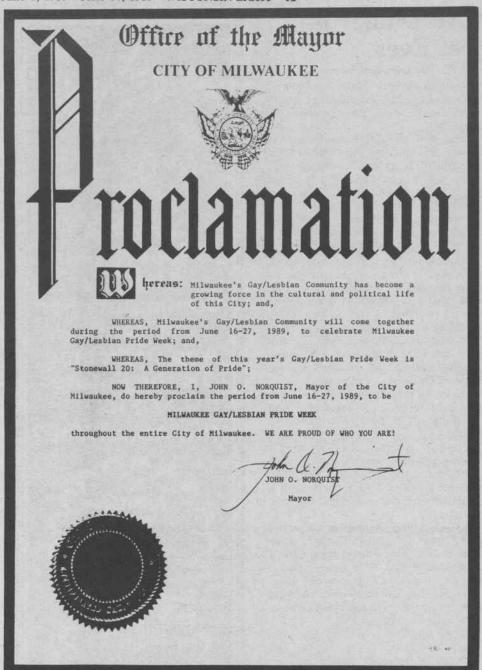
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Fest City Singers' Florek In New Role

[Milwaukee]- Robert "Bim" Florek has requested to be relieved of his duties as music director of the Fest City Singers (FCS), although he will continue with the Singers in an artistic/production capacity.

After open heart surgery several years ago, Bim is under doctor's orders to cut down on his activities - in addition to his position with FCS, he has conducted his salon, Bim Ltd., and he is on 24-hour call as a counselor at St. Mary's Hospice. Yet in the "show must go on" tradition, he is currently outlining plans for the Fest City Singers' October production at the Stackner Cabaret of the Milwaukee Repertory Theater.

Dan Gniotczynski, FCS General Manager, has stated that, "Under Bim's direction, the Fest City Singers have grown tremendously - he has helped us to develop our own unique theatrical presence and identity."

Appointment of a new music director will be announced shortly by the FCS search committee.

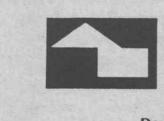


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Several hundred women and a few men attended a Pride Week fund raising dance at Milwaukee's Lake Park Pavilion on May 27. Pictured left to right are; Nancy Doughty, Mary Shafer, dance organizer Cheryl Williams and Sue Cook.

1989 MILWAUKEE LESBIAN/GAY PRIDE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Miriam Ben-Shalom

Don Clabots

Jed Clay

Susan Cook

Greg Grassold

Jay Hanson

John Hogen

Jerry Johnson

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Citation by the Board of Supervisors

WHEREAS, THE MILWAUKEE LESBIAN/GAY PRIDE COMMITTEE WILL CELEBRATE MILWAUKEE LESBIAN/GAY PRIDE WEEK JUNE 16 - 27, 1989; AND

WHEREAS, NUMEROUS ACTIVITIES, SPECIAL EVENTS AND PROGRAMS INCLUDING THE FIRST PRIDE PARADE AND RALLY, JUNE 17 ARE PLANNED FOR MILWAUKEE; AND

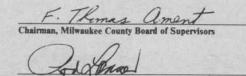
WHEREAS, THE THEME OF THE CELEBRATION IS "STONEWALL 20; A GENERATION OF PRIDE;" AND

WHEREAS, THE CELEBRATION IS A DEMONSTRATION WITH A MESSAGE OF INDIVIDUAL EXPRESSION MASSED IN HARMONY, STATING "WE ARE PROUD OF WHO WE ARE;" AND

WHEREAS, THE CELEBRATION IS ALSO DESIGNED TO PRESERVE AND PERPETUATE THE LESBIAN/GAY PRIDE MOVEMENT; NOW, THEREFORE

BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE MILWAUKEE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, ON THE MOTION OF SUPERVISOR ELIZABETH COGGS-JONES, DO HEREBY CONGRATULATE THE MILWAUKEE LESBIAN/GAY PRIDE COMMITTEE ON THE CELEBRATION OF MILWAUKEE LESBIAN/GAY PRIDE WEEK, JUNE 16 - 27, AND WISH THEM SUCCESS AND GOOD FORTUNE WITH THIS WORTHY ENDEAVOR.

MAY 18, 1989



Widespread Anti-Gay Violence Documented in U.S. During 1988

[Washington, D.C.]- According to a report to be released June 7 by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), anti-Gay violence and victimization were widespread in 1988, with 7,248 incidents — ranging from harassment to homicide — reported to NGLTF by 120 organizations in 38 states and the District of Columbia.

Those organizations from Wisconsin participating in the report were Wisconsin Light and the Madison Community United. A total of 47 cases for 1988 were documented in the State making Wisconsin one of the lowest in the nation.

According to the report, Illinois reported 678 cases, exceeded only by North Carolina with 982 and Ohio with 837. Minnesota reported 51, and Iowa, 10. The lowest state reporting in was Arkansas with 1 case.

Approximately two-thirds (67%) of the incidents documented were verbal harassment. The remainder were physical assaults (12%), threats of violence/menacing (10%), vandalism (6%), police abuse (3%), bomb threats (1%), and homicide, arson and other (1%)

The number of incidents reported in 1988 slightly exceeded the total for 1987 (by 240 incidents or 3%), and is the largest number ever documented in a single year by NGLTF. However, this increase is the result of a special outreach in 1988 by NGLTF to Gay community-based Metropolitan Community Churches and campus Gay/Lesbian organizations.

Seventeen percent or 1,259 of the incidents were classified by local groups as "AIDS-related," indicating that hatred and blame associated with the disease continue unabated.

In a disturbing trend, organized hate group activity — most of it involving neo-Nazi "Skinheads" — appeared to be on the rise.

"This report does not claim to measure the full extent of anti-Gay violence and victimization last year," said Kevin Berrill. Director of NGLTF's Anti-Violence Project and author of the report. Without question, the vast majority of anti-Gay episodes in 1988 were not counted."

"What this report does provide," Berrill continued, "is overwhelming evidence that anti-Gay violence is a widespread and critical problem."

Legislation requiring the federal collection of statistics on anti-Gay violence passed the U.S. House of Representatives but was stymied in the

Senate by Jesse Helms.

Wisconsin and Minnesota, however, both passed laws in 1988 aimed at tracking and punishing homophobic crimes. Oklahoma City and Columbus, Ohio have similar laws.

The NGLTF cited fear of reporting by victims as well as systematic data collections as two of the chief problems in gaining accurate information about the problem.

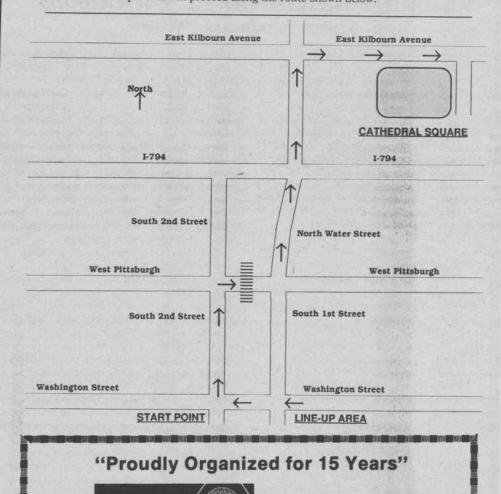
Because local incidents are seriously underreported, NGLTF figures represent just the tip of the iceberg, according to those researching the problem here in Wisconsin.

It was noted that one of the strongest weapons that Lesbians and Gays have lies in reporting these crimes, certainly to the police, but also to the media as well. The full extent of these acts of gratuitous violence against us must become public.

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Atlanta and Boston Win 10th Classic Softball Tournament in Milwaukee

By Jerry Warzyn Sports Editor

[Milwaukee]- A combination of great softball, good weather and camaraderie made the 10th annual Milwaukee Classic softball tournament a huge success. Over 500 softball players converged on Milwaukee for the largest Gay softball tournament in the country over Memorial Day weekend. A record 33 teams participated in the Milwaukee Classic in three divisions of play. For the first year, the tournament sponsored a women's division, open recreational division and a competitive division. Play in each division was exciting and of high caliber.

Players arrived on Friday evening, May 26, at the Marc Plaza hotel where they were welcomed by the Milwaukee Classic Committee at a reception room on the 11th floor. The hotel was booked solid with all registrants and fans and was a hotbed of activity all weekend.

A number of participants had to stay at the Howard Johnson's due to the overflow.

A team manager's meeting was held at 11:00 p.m. that night to inform the team members of the rules and activities for the weekend. Each player was given a registration packet filled information, an official program, drink tickets from sponsoring bars, and information from the Milwaukee AIDS Project. Pabst, the official beer sponsor for the weekend, provided the registrants with painters caps and other paraphernalia.

Softball action began promptly at 8:00 a.m. Saturday morning at Mitchell Park and West Milwaukee playing fields. The cool weather on Saturday morning was welcomed by the players who were scheduled for at least two games that day. The teams from the South, Nashville, Birmingham and Atlanta were not quite ready for Summer weather in Milwaukee and quickly learned what a lake breeze

The weather warmed up for the opening ceremonies held at Mitchell Park at 1:00 p.m. A color guard from the Beer Town Badgers led the 33 teams on to the field before a huge crowd. Milwaukee's Cream City Chorus guided the players and fans through the national anthems of the U.S. and Canada. Opening pitches were thrown by the Saturday Softball Beer League (SSBL) Commissioner, Lou La Sota and the SSBL Women's Commissioner, Pat La Sota. Recipients of the pitches were Mr. and Ms SSBL, Scott Burac and Pam Woythal.

After the festivities, players returned to both parks to resume softball play. Games continued at both parks until after 8:00 p.m. The SSBL, sponsor of the tournament, provided food and drink at both parks to satisfy players needs. A record number of volunteer help attended to the players and fans during the day.

Championship play resumed on Sunday morning at 8:00 a.m. sharp at both fields. The final games were all at Mitchell Park and a large number of fans turned out to cheer players on.

Following the games, a banquet was held at the Milwaukee War Memorial at the lakefront. An overflow crowd filled the banquet to capacity. Excellent entertainment, a slide show filled with tournament highlights and not so high lights and a smoothly run buffet impressed those in attendance. After the awards, players and fans hit the streets of Milwaukee for a night of well deserved

Winner of the Competitive Division play was Burkharts from Atlanta. However, their win did not come easy as they had to play two games with a tough team from the Twin Cities, the Saloon Americans. Finishing third was Bama Express from Birmingham, Alabama. This was their first year in Milwaukee and their finish was especially rewarding. Philadelphia Bike Shop, also a new participant in the tournament, took fourth

Women's Division play was equally exciting. Boston Club 1270 had a difficult time in winning the first place trophy for two years in a row. A strong team from Kansas City, Angie's Birds, defeated Club 1270, but could not do it a second time and ended up in second place. Finishing third was a Milwaukee team, LRN, also a new participant in the

tournament this year. Taking fourth was also another Milwaukee team, the Bad Girls, sponsored by M&M Club.

The Milwaukee Classic Committee managed to pull off the weekend with barely a hitch. Men's Tournament Director, Ron Thomas, and Women's Director, Patty Brown, kept the tournament running on a tight schedule.

Special accolades go to Cathy Morearty who headed fields concessions. She had a particularly difficult job in providing the food and drink for the players at both fields. Despite the task, she managed to pull off the job with the help of a large number of volunteers. A great group of Milwaukee men and women joined in to serve food and beer to the large number of participants.

Also to be commended is Scott Burac who planned and executed a banquet for the record number of teams.

Milwaukee again proved to be a hospitable city as it welcomed the players and fans warmly. Mayor Norquist sent a welcome letter which was featured in the tournament program. The sponsor bars opened their doors to out of town players and guests and provided free buffets and

All participants left the City with a new understanding of Midwest hospitality and charm. SSBL, sponsor of the tournament, provided the community with a weekend which will not be forgotten. We can't wait until Milwaukee Classic XI arrives.

Milwaukee Sat. Softball League Schedule

June 3, 1989

Mitchell Park **Upper Diamond** 11:00a.m. Bad Girls v. Alternative Noon Bad Girls v. M&M

1:00p.m. This Is It v. Ballgame 2:00p.m. La Cage v. Ballgame 3:00p.m. Wreck Room v. Jet's Place 4:00p.m. Jet's Place v. CCF

Mitchell Park **Lower Diamond** 11:00a.m. Fannies v. M&M Noon Alternative v. Fannies 1:00p.m. Your Place v. La Cage 2:00p.m. Your Place vs. This Is It 3:00p.m. Station II v. Triangle

4:00p.m. Wreck Room v. Triangle

June 10

Mitchell Park **Upper Diamond** Noon Triangle v. Your Place 1:00p.m. Triangle v. La Cage 2:00p.m. M&M v. CCF

Lower Diamond Mitchell Park Noon Ballgame v. This Is It 1:00p.m. This Is It v. Your Place 2:00p.m. La Cage v. Wreck Room

Madison Outdoor Recreation Events Announced

[Madison, WI]- The Madison Gay Outdoor Recreation Group has announced a full schedule of outings for June. The events consist of rafting, biking, canoeing and innertubing. For information, call (608) 244-8675 evenings only

Events are as follows:

• June 2-4 White-water Rafting on the Peshtigo River.

• June 10 Milwaukee County Bike Tour (Gay Bicycling Network).

• June 17 Canoeing on the Mecan River (Montello, WI).

• June 25 Innertubing on the Sugar River (Dayton, WI).

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The Beer Town Badgers were the color guards at the opening of the Milwaukee Classic (top). During the opening ceremonies teams from throughout North America paraded with their banners, including the Side Track team from Chicago (middle). Milwaukee was represented by many teams including these from Your Place and Wreck Room bars (lower).

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ADVOCATE To Report Milwaukee Pride Parade and Rally

By Bob Robison

The Milwaukee Lesbian/Gay Pride Committee will play host to Robert Peterson, feature writer for The Advocate and a Wisconsin native. Arriving June 14th for a five day stay to cover Milwaukee's Pride Week Celebration for this popular newsmagazine, Milwaukee was chosen out of numerous cities holding Pride Celebrations. The Advocate is an internationally known Gay publication, and plans on featuring Milwaukee in an upcoming July issue as a major U.S. City staging its first annual Pride Parade and Rally.

The story will focus on perspectives from the young and not-so-young of our community, as well as the inner-workings of the ML/GPC in planning and executing an event of this magnitude for the first time.

"We basically want to show what was involved in putting this together in

Tri-Cable Finalist In National Competition

Milwaukee's Tri-Cable Tonight, produced by Bryce Clark and Mark Behar of the Milwaukee Gay/Lesbian Network has been named a finalist in the 1989 Hometown U.S.A. Video Festival. Now in its 20th month of production, Tri-Cable highlights Milwaukee's Gay and Lesbian Community in a magazine- style television program.

Hometown USA recognizes outstanding local programs that are produced by or for local origination departments of cable systems and by public, educational and governmental access facilities. There are over 30 separate categories in the competition and awards are given in both single and series program categories. The 1989 Hometown Video Festival received over 1750 entries from 285 cities in 38 states, making Hometown the largest and most diverse cable programming competition in the nation.

Final judging will be hosted by the Tucson, Arizona Community Cable Corporation. Winners will be announced and receive their awards on July 13 at the National Federation of Local Cable Programmers Annual National Convention in Dallas, Texas.

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Milwaukee to serve as an example for other communities that may be considering their own Celebrations," said Peterson in a recent phone interview.

"My photographer and I will be sticking close to the Pride Committee as they gear-up for their final preparations in the days just prior to the 17th. We also hope to meet and talk with other members of the Gay community, to find out what the Pride Celebration means to the community in general."

On Sunday, June 18th, The Pride Committee will host a brunch reception, extending an invitation to community leaders and members of the media to meet with Peterson and discuss the needs of our community, and share ideas for future Annual Pride Celebrations.

The Advocate is published bi-weekly in Los Angeles and has a circulation

La Crosse Pride Day in the Park June 25th

[La Crosse, WI]- Sunday, June 25, marks the third annual La Crosse Pride Day In The Park. Like last year, it will be held at Goose Island County Park, shelter #3 (2 miles south of La Crosse on highway

The all day event for both men and women will begin at 1:00 p.m. and end at 8:30 p.m. A donation includes beer, soda, music and dancing, volleyball, special events and acres of land and water to hike, fish, canoe or just relax. Food will also be available.

Admission buttons are \$3.50 in advance and \$4.00 at the gate. There will be discounts for large groups. All proceeds go to fund the event with remaining donations going to local

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Personals-Men

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Chequamegon Bay Area, GWM, 30's, youthful, fun, seeks to meet similar area residents or vacationers. Write "J", P.O. Box 772, Ashland, WI 54806.

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Milwaukee's

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The following is a list of individuals and organizations that contributed funds in the Pride Committee's "Proud Crowd" Promotion and/or contributed very needed and much appreciated service towards the success of Milwaukee's 1989 Pride Week Celebration, STONEWALL 20: A GENERATION OF PRIDE!

Also listed are the Official Sponsors of this year's celebration, including our FIRST ANNUAL PRIDE PARADE & RALLY on Saturday, June 17th.

The Pride Committee also extends a special Thank You to the thousands of people that have demonstrated their support in preparation of our community's massive display of Pride and the right to be ourselves. These people can indeed be Rightfully Proud!

Individuals

Christopher L. Ahmuty Gus Barnes, Ir.

Kim Bartels

Fred Bauer

Mark P. Behar, PA-C

Miriam Ben-Shalom

Julie Bock

Terry Boughner, Ph.D.

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Holly Brown & Company In Step

Harry W. Schwartz Bookshops

Jet's Place

La Cage/Dance Dance Dance

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LaZerType

Lesbian Owned Businesses of Milwaukee

Loose Ends

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National Organization for Women - WI Chapter

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