



CHECK IT OUT!

RENAISSANCE OF MADISON, INC

COORDINATOR'S NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 1975

Wow, there are a lot of items to put in this one! Some may get short shrift but I guess it's really up to you to Check It Out. I've enclosed a copy of the Guide To Mad City that we printed up for distribution at large classes, registration, and as a general give-away. Also, a separate page is given over to the Annual Report of our Treasurer, Mark Lutz. I wish I did not have to announce that Mark will be resigning at the Annual Meeting to devote more time to his studies now that he is holding down a full-time job and taking UW courses as well. Volunteers, anyone?

Renaissance Annual Meeting

On Thursday evening October the 2nd at 7:30 the Renaissance of Madison Board of Directors will hold their Annual Meeting. Open to the public, as are all Board meetings, there will be an election of officers and nominations for Board membership by slate and from the floor. Refreshments will be served and you can meet the volunteer staffs of the Gay VD Clinic as well as the Gay Center counselors. If you are interested in serving on the Board you could discuss it with Bill Handy, Bill Landram, or Les Mieske. The meeting will be held at St. Francis House in the back classroom, across from the Gay Center. I will be presenting a "State of the Center" report.

Dignity/National Convention

Over the Labor Day weekend I attended the second national convention of Dignity (a national organization of gay and concerned Roman Catholics) in Boston. It was a great "high" for me to see so many interested and involved gay people. On another, deeper level it raised some questions within me on whether this was really where I was at, but I certainly have a great feeling of togetherness with these people. Historical, theological, social, and philosophical perspectives were thoroughly discussed in a revisionist context. Rev. Paul Shanley especially, in a workshop on "Gay Lifestyles" made a particularly strong impression on me as a dedicated and hardworking minister. See me for more details.

Friends Newsletter

The Friends Committee for Gay Concerns is publishing a newsletter you may be interested in. It is available at the Gay Center or you may write:

Friends Committee for Gay Concerns
Newsletter Editor — Arthur Gross
P. O. Box 541
Oneonta, N.Y. 13820

(608) 257-7575
P.O. Box 687 Madison, Wis. 53701

Gay Center Dances

The popularity of the after-bar dances to benefit the Gay Center seems to rise and fall with the tides. For the amount of time and energy involved, the return does not seem proportionate. We will probably continue to have them, perhaps on a quarterly basis, and hope that they will be popular.

Indiana Gay Awareness Conference

The Bloomington Gay Alliance has announced a second conference October 31 - November 1. Gays and movies and Alan Bell of the Indiana Institute for Sex Research will address the conference. Contact Bloomington Gay Alliance, Room 48-E IMV, Bloomington, Ind., 47401, or the Gay Center for more details.

Conference on Gays and the Federal Government

The Columbus Day weekend (October 10-14) will find the Gay Activists Alliance of Washington, D.C. hosting a conference which will explore the many ways in which the federal government effects the lives of America's 20 million gay women and men. Civil rights legislation; gays as employees; federal funding for gay community services and U.S. health policies and gay people. Gay people from around the country will represent a wide range of interests and viewpoints. Contact: Bicentennial Conference, GAA/DC, Box 2554, Washington, D.C. 20013 or the Gay Center for more details.

Gay Periodicals

If you would be interested in subscribing to gay publications, local or national, consider the following:

Advocate (biweekly) \$9.00 (26 issues) \$16.00 (52 issues)
Advocate, 2121 El Camino Real, San Mateo, Cal. 94403
(or) 800-649-4990 for toll-free subscription orders

Contact (triweekly) \$7.00 (17 issues)
Contact, Box 70282, Houston, Tex. 77007

GPU News (monthly) \$5.00 (3rd class mail) \$7.50 (first class)
(12 issues)
GPU News, P.O. Box 90530, Milwaukee, Wi. 53202

RFD (quarterly) \$2.00 (4 issues)
RFD, Box 161, Grinnell, Iowa 50112.

Gay Liberator (monthly)
Gay Liberator, Box 631-A, Detroit, Mi. 48232

Samples of all of these are available at the Gay Center.



GUIDE TO MAD CITY RENAISSANCE OF MADISON, INC.

BARS:

The Back Door * * 46 N. Park St. (the corner of Park and Spring)
open 11 a.m. to 1 a.m.
food; dancing (disco); Fri. and Sat., minimum of \$1.00

The Cardinal Bar * 418 E. Wilson St. (the corner of Wilson and Franklin)
open 4 p.m. to 1 a.m.
dancing (disco); Fri. and Sat., minimum of \$1.00.

The Pirate Ship * 116 Fairchild St. (between State St. and the public library)
open till 1 a.m.

The Speakeasy Bar * 636 W. Washington Ave. (the corner of Washington and Frances)
open 4 p.m. to 1 a.m.

COUNSELLING:

Gay Center * * 1001 University Ave. (basement) 53715
local information; counselling (peer-group); legal referrals;
Speakers' Bureau
open 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., weekdays or by
appointment; phone 257-7575

Lesbian Switchboard * * * 306 N. Brooks St. (University YMCA)
phone 257-7378; open 7p.m. to 10 p.m. daily
local information, counselling (peer-group), legal referrals,
lesbian mothers' group; monthly dance; Speaker's Bureau

HEALTH:

Gay VD Clinic * 913 Spring St. (Blue Bus) phone 257-7575
open 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Tuesdays
screening and treatment

PUBLICATIONS:

Coordinator's Newsletter, Check It Out
Renaissance of Madison, Inc. P.O. Box 687, Madison, Wi. 53701
information of Gay Center activities, published monthly and
mailed to those who support the Gay Center, also available
in the Gay Center

We Got It!

Lesbian Communications Collective, c/o Lesbian Switchboard
306 N. Brooks St. (University YMCA) Madison, Wi. 53715
information, poetry, articles of interest to lesbians of
Madison and Wisconsin; published monthly: 25¢



TREASURER'S ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 1974-1975

AUGUST 1, 1974 - JULY 31, 1975

RENAISSANCE OF MADISON, INC.

NOTE: THIS IS THE FIRST YEAR OF OPERATION. OPERATION DID NOT START UNTIL OCTOBER, 1974.

RECEIPTS

Pledges	\$1,801.00
Donations	1,442.05
Salary Only Donations	215.00
Stipends	155.00
Blue Bus Clients	89.00
Miscellaneous	287.09
TOTAL	\$3,989.14

DISBURSEMENTS

Salary	\$3,800.00
Employer's Social Security Tax	222.30
Workperson's Compensation Insurance	28.25
Federal Unemployment Tax	121.60
Telephone	285.47
Printing	322.95
Postage	317.20
Blue Bus	90.00
Fund Raising	35.50
Miscellaneous	348.35
TOTAL	\$5,571.62

CASH ON HAND

Disbursements	\$5,571.62
Receipts	3,939.14
Loss	\$1,582.48
Loan	2,000.00
TOTAL	\$ 417.52

Mark A. Lutz

Mark A. Lutz, Treasurer

Saturday, August 30, 1975

(608) 257-7575

P.O. Box 687 Madison, Wis. 53701

Birthday Party Invitation

Since moving to Madison I have been invited to many parties and have attended a large number of them. It's my turn and I would like to take this forum to invite all of you readers to a party I'm giving on my birthday, Friday October the 10th. It will be a pot luck dessert party from 8-10 p.m. Let your imagination loose and bake, buy, create, or borrow a party dessert to bring. Ice creams of all flavors will be heartily welcomed. This will give you a chance to meet the other members of my coöp at 2117 E. Linden and also to meet some of my friends from my co-counseling, Gestalt, and Communications Network contacts. No presents or cards, please. Bring yourself and something for all or us to share.

Fund Raising

With the delivery of this issue I will have finished the last of my contacts to solicit funds for the Center. A fund-raising report will be made at the Annual Meeting. Several people I have talked to have promised to send in a donation and have not done so. It is not my style to hassle or pressure people to do what they say they want to do. The Center is here, we are providing service, whether it survives will depend on whether gay people support it, basically. Lack of support or half-hearted support will see the Center close. Some might enjoy wringing their hands and mouths about that possibility. Simply, if you agree with what we are doing and want to see it continue, support it. If not, prepare to deal with the consequences.

While I'm on this topic I have a suggestion which I will propose to the Board next week. The costs (printing, postage, &c.) of the Newsletter will increase by nearly one-third with the increase in postal rates early next year. Anyone who has contributed \$10.00 to Renaissance in the past year, 1975, will continue to receive the Newsletter. The January Newsletter will be mailed to all those contributors plus the many (50 or so) organizations, groups, &c., who receive it as a service and to let them know what we are all about. Free copies of the Newsletter will be available, as always, in the Gay Center for reading or to take along. This will eliminate costly postage charges and yet still provide a forum for those who are interested in what we are doing.

Mark Lutz, our outgoing Treasurer, has suggested that people consider, as he has done, adding Renaissance of Madison as a beneficiary of life insurance, in wills, or that memorials be sent when a good friend dies. Admittedly, the topic is not a pleasant one but it might be worth considering.

We do depend on pledges to meet ongoing regular expenses (phone and Newsletter). Beginning in October we will be repaying the \$2000 loan from St. Francis House to cover contractual debt, at \$100 per month. Your diligence in getting these in is appreciated.

Finally, the largest item in disbursements on the Treasurer's report is salary. Let me clarify that item by explaining that my present take-home salary is less than \$200 per month. If the amount of my salary bothers you, do speak to one of the Directors or come to the Board meeting and express your views.

New Books and a Relocated Co-op

I have just begun a book entitled Awareness: Exploring, Experimenting, Experiencing by John O. Stevens, Real Press, 1971, \$3.50, and have only begun to get into the introduction. However, I already can tell that it is a book, designed along Gestalt lines, for getting in touch with yourself.

Two days ago a woman in my co-op suggested I read Liberating Masturbation by Betty Dodson. Available at the Madison Book Co-op for \$4.50, it is a wow of a book for understanding more about your sex life and how to get more comfortable with it, if you aren't. Although this book is specifically designed for women, and I must admit to some trepidation when I started it, it has many, many suggestions that can be adapted for men as well. As far as having an insight into the role of sexuality and economics in keeping women "in their place", she has hit the nail on the head. By dealing with her own experience she has touched something that I believe has universal application. Check it out at the Madison Book Co-op.

The Madison Book Co-op will be moving to a new location as you read this. Reopening Monday September 29 above Bigsby & Kruthers at the corner of State and Gilman, the entrance is on the side, at 254 W. Gilman. With larger quarters, more space will be available for a men's section. They will still have a lounge area for browsers and the 10% discount for members is hard to beat. You can even order books over the phone by calling 255-9945.

Support Groups

What started as just a trickle of interest seems to have grown. The rap group will have an organizational meeting to decide time, place, purpose, &c. for the group on Sunday, October 5th at 7:00 pm here at the Gay Center. If you expressed interest you will be individually contacted. Otherwise anyone is free to attend the organizational meeting.

Last year we had a married men's group which folded for lack of purpose. One of those members, Jerry, has suggested we try again. We decided to pick Sunday, October 26th at 7:00 here at the Gay Center. The meeting will be an organizational one to decide what and when and where the group is about. If you know a married man that might be interested in such a group have him check it out.

George M. Wetzel

PS.

CHECK OUT HOT L CAFE IN THE WASHINGTON HOTEL, 636 W. WASHINGTON ST. OPENING AT 11PM TILL 700AM FOR AFTER-BAR MUNCHIES, COFFEE IN THE WEE HOURS OF THE MORNING.

THANKS TO WISCO FOR THEIR OFFER IN THE LAST NEWSLETTER, THOUGH NO LONGER BENEFITTING THE GAY CENTER YOU MIGHT CHECK IT OUT FOR SOME REAL BARGAINS, PAINT, ETC., ANYONE?

GMW/tjfk

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