

CCBA Newsletter

June, 1982

CCBA Newsletter is published monthly by the Cream City Business Association, Box 92396, Milwaukee, WI 53202
Your comments and submitted materials are encouraged.

NABC President Addresses CCBA

Those who missed the May 16 meeting with Arthur Lazere missed an excellent presentation. Mr. Lazere, who became President of NABC at their recent Minneapolis meeting, provided an overview of the growth of gay rights both in the private and public sector.

In addition to sharing a



Bob Stocki

June Meeting

A new, just released film, "Pink Triangles"

Date: Wed., June 16th

Place: Holy Rosary Catholic Church, Church hall in Basement...2011 North Oakland Avenue

Menu: A catered specialty by our own Tony Harvey of "Rent A Chef"

Cost: \$9.00

Reservations by Friday, June 11th

Call: Gene at 277-1459 or Ralph at 964-9993

Wine cocktails at \$1/ea. beginning at 6:15pm.

Dinner: 7pm

Film Showing: 8:40pm (members may see the film for \$2, non-members \$2.50)

"PINK TRIANGLES" -- a film about prejudice, both contemporary and historical, against lesbians and gay men.

The film is specifically about homophobia, but also about the very nature of discrimination and oppression against those singled out as inferior and who become the victims of the scapegoat mentality of societies under stress.

great deal of his own story, he helped us to see how important it is to stand up and be free. He referred to the Dan Bradley story and others. He shared his vision of NABC and congratulated CCBA for its growth and vision. He pointed out that the strength of the

Arthur Lazere, president of NABC, spoke about the "Impact of the Gay Consumer" at the CCBA May meeting.

business community is one major element in our freedom.

Mr. Lazere's talk was recorded. If any member wishes to listen to it or any other talk of the past several meetings, please contact Bob Stocki at 645-5881.

CCBA Newsletter Staff:
Kevin Conaty, *Editor*
Bob Stocki, *Art Director*

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UpComing Events

June 1 - Board of Directors Meeting

June 6 - Illinois ERA March on Springfield

June 16 - CCBA Monthly Meeting/"Pink Triangles"

June 18-27 - Chicago Gay Pride Week/Parade

July 6 - Board of Directors Meeting

July 17 - CCBA Monthly Meeting: A Day Away "New Orleans Jumbo Gumbo Party at Lake Koshkanong"

July 31 - Board of Directors Meeting

August 10 - CCBA Dinner Meeting

Board Reports

Treasurer: 4/25/82 balance is \$805.79. Significant expenditures have occurred since that date. There will be an update report at the meeting. Gary is presently investigating the setting up of an interest bearing account for our Association funds that are not required in our checking account.

Membership: Six new members have joined CCBA during April. Letters for membership renewals for April and May 1982 have been mailed. Help us keep our records current and more urgently, help us keep growing to provide ever better service.

Housing and

Restoration: A workshop on buying and investing in homes and other forms of real estate was held May 8. Although there was a relatively small attendance, all reported an excellent program. Chairperson Dan Thompson reports that another program is in the works.

Special Programs: The Board has not yet appointed a Chairperson of this vital committee. Please call Ralph with your own nomination.

Investments: Gino reports that his committee has been laboring greatly to complete the bylaws and partnership agreements that are necessary. This document should go before the Board of Directors at their July meeting.

Foundation: We are presently in the final stages of sending the elaborate documents into the IRS to obtain our 501.c 3 status. A fund raising program is being planned for the fall.

Special Bulletin: We are planning a very unique HEALTH SEMINAR to be held on a Monday night--perhaps in July--keep your eyes and ears open for further information.

-INSURANCE PROGRAM: the information on the program has been sent out to everyone. We are looking to get people to sign up at their nearest convenience. It is a good program. The report on it at the NABC meeting in Minneapolis was very good.

Navarro Elected NABC Secretary

CCBA President Ralph F. Navarro was elected Secretary of the National Association of Business Councils(NABC) at their Board of Directors meeting held May 21-23 in Minneapolis.

Six CCBA members journeyed to Minneapolis to join in the business of the NABC. While social activities played a role in this gathering, Navarro, Paul DeMarco, Gary Scoville, Jim Maurer, Kevin Conaty and Ci Stein also actively participated in the meetings of the Board. Aside from the fact that several of those attending discovered or re-discovered Minneapolis and the super hosts of the Northland Business Association(NBA), the politics of any national meeting was clearly present from the arrival cocktail party to the closing Sunday brunch. Election politics seemed to provide a focus for most delegates. In the final vote of the delegates the following were elected to Officer positions:

President: Arthur Lazere-San Francisco

Vice President: Werner Kuhn-Albany

President-Elect: Sarah Craig-Chicago

Secretary: Ralph Navarro-Milwaukee

Treasurer: Steve Desdier-San Diego

Once again the topic of parity received a strong discussion. Clearly the end result was a re-commitment to the practice of rotation of the presidency. Several people brought into discussion an amendment regarding a confirmation vote for the President-elect before s/he become president. It was pointed out that this would require a bylaw change and would have to be introduced in writing 20 days prior to the next Board meeting.

Effective communication was discussed at length. While more organizations continue to join NABC, insuring effective and ongoing information has been a problem. Through the discussion it became clear that while some of the problem is with the Board of Directors elected officials, a significant area for improving this vital link was in the hands of local newsletter editors and presidents.

President Lazere promised a letter to each group every six weeks. There will be two newsletters for the entire membership during the next six months. President-elect Craig will implement this directive. Advertising will be sought to reduce this cost.

Plans for the 2nd. Annual NABC Convention were discussed. The Washington D.C. site is being prepared for this meeting for the weekend of November 12-15, 1982. Plans are being studied for a join legislative consultation with Gay

Rights National Lobby, National Gay Task Force and NABC. If you have specific workshops that you would like to have presented to the convention, please suggest them to one of our Board Members by June 30.

Special thanks went to departing President Jean O'Leary, departing Treasurer Jack Campbell and host President(NBA) Clark Bufkin.

A special congratulations to Ralph in his new post!!

Thoughts about ... Mediocrity

In one very real way, Milwaukee is fortunate. Since we are by no means the largest gay community in the U.S., we can, if we choose, learn from the mistakes of our brothers and sisters.

A recent report/study out of San Francisco made many revelations It clearly points to the fact that if the gay/lesbian community is to go anywhere, there must be a central focus and great cooperation. To further point out concern, a May 21 editorial in Chicago's "GayLife" stated in part: "Does it take a crisis to get the community mobilized? Prevention, acting before a crisis, is always more effective than waiting for a bad thing to happen and then reacting to it.

Contributions to service

or political organizations are a form of prevention.

"The only minorities that get their rights are those with aggressive activists--'the squeaky wheel gets the grease.'"

Part of the primary purpose of CCBA is to bring together the talents of our community and put them to work for all of us.

Members of CCBA are leading the way for genuine growth and development of our total community.

A problem exists, however. Too many gay people continue to look to the bars for direction in the community. This may have been necessary in days gone by, but good leadership is available in other places. (Let me make a clear statement, I am NOT, nor have I ever been down on the bars. I believe that they hold a very valuable social function.) Bar owners and others MUST seek to encourage strong and cooperative leadership. A few of us in CCBA have been working very hard to establish contacts with religious, civic and political leaders. Not only have we received no recognition from the broader community, but the good news of hope is not being shared with all to relax the tension on many people's closets. Will we go beyond mediocrity and become a true learner from those who have gone before us? It is my belief that we have a very unique

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opportunity here in Milwaukee and Wisconsin. I am in the process of proposing a "UNITED WAY" approach to fund raising for the gay/lesbian community. Certainly this plan will stand to improve and mature, but the vital question is, will people, both bar owners and others, try to make this plan work or will they just try to destroy it, like much of our history, just one more thing to put down??? CCBA represents a broad base (and getting larger) of talented individuals concerned about themselves as well as the

larger community--let us lead and genuinely respect the talents of each person.

Ralph F. Navarro,
President

Group to Promote Tourism

This past April 17, representatives from CCBA and the Metropolitan Business Association met in Chicago to begin the process of forming a marketing strategy to bring gay tourists to the

midwest. The first meeting was geared towards identifying the strengths and weaknesses of the midwest region. Some of the strengths identified could be identified as rural qualities including a friendly atmosphere and variable weather. Some of the weaknesses were the colder weather, repressive law enforcement systems, no fashion leaders here and there is no strong regional press. Other meetings are being scheduled.



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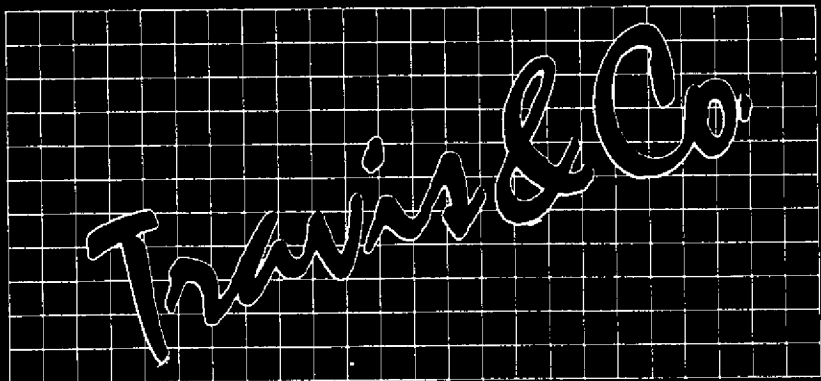
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