

The Newsletter

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AUGUST 1985

BOARD REPORT

Treasurer's report:

The budget as published in the July Newsletter was approved, with the addition of a monthly first-class mailing to members to provide timely reminders of the upcoming meeting information. It is anticipated that this can be accomplished within the currently adopted budget parameters. The Board agreed to consider a suggestion by some members that the dues be significantly lowered in hopes of attracting sufficient additional numbers to support the annual budget. The board also approved undertaking an audit of the last year's books.

In other action, the board approved extending the past year's dues rates through the August 17 picnic. After that, the new dues will be in effect. New or renewing members are encouraged to act before that time.

Jerry Johnson reported on an outing by the Wine Tasting club scheduled for August 11—a trip to Ravinia to enjoy Broadway show tunes by the Chicago Symphony.

There will be no 'CCBA After Work' gathering in August, due to the many Series 9 activities during the last week of the month. The regular monthly schedule will resume in September, with the Wreck Room.

Vice President Navarro reiterated the need for assistance in follow-up with companies being contacted as part of the NABC Corporate Outreach project. Interested members should contact Ralph.

A major community forum on AIDS will be hosted by CCBA in place of our usual September meeting. Current plans are for the program to be held at Memorial Hall in the War Memorial Center, starting at 7pm on the 12th. A low registration fee will be maintained, to encourage wide participation from the community.



PICNIC INFORMATION

- Where:** Estabrook Park, Area 8 (Near Capital Dr.)
When: Saturday, August 17
2 to 7 pm (Food served at 4 pm)
Menu: Roasted Chicken Corn on the Cob
Brats Mixed Veggie Tray
Baked Beans Mixed Fresh Fruit Tray
Potato Salad Chips
Cole Slaw Soft Drinks/Beer
(Catered by business member *The Glass Menagerie*)
Cost: \$8.50 with paid reservations
\$9.50 with unpaid reservations
\$11.00 at the park
Deadline: Reservations must be received by Wednesday, August 14.
Program: GAMES/PRIZES/FUN/SUN

Upcoming Events

- August** 6 Business Enhancement Meeting, J. Manders, 332-7060.
11 Wine Tasting Club, at Ravinia, 278-0328.
17 Membership Meeting (Picnic), 445-5552.
18 Wine Tasting Club Meeting, 278-0328.
20 Executive Committee Meeting, 374-5599
26 Board Meeting, 374-5599
29 Newsletter Mailing
- September** 3 Business Enhancement Meeting, J. Manders 332-7060
12 Community-wide AIDS Forum, Memorial Hall
13-15 NABC Regional Meeting, Chicago
18 Executive Committee Meeting, 374-5599
24 Board Meeting, 374-5599
26 Newsletter Mailing

**Join or Renew
your membership
NOW!**
**Last year's dues
are in effect
through
August 17 only!**

INVESTMENT SEMINAR PLANNED

CCBA's Special Projects Committee is announcing that a broadly-based Investment Seminar is planned for all CCBA members and friends in September.

The purpose of the seminar is to bring a 'gay male and lesbian perspective' and sensitivity to investments. Watch for the announcement of the exact date in the next Newsletter.

CCBA AD-VANTAGE UNLEASHED

More than 2,500 copies of the Fall/Winter CCBA Directory will be rolling off the presses soon. According to Business Enhancement Committee Chair Jim Mander, Business Members and Individual Members who have access to area businesses have just received the rate structure for the advertising in the uniquely designed directory, which will introduce membs and friends to CCBA and gay/lesbian supportive businesses.

Rates for the AD-Vantage in the CCBA Directory will range from \$400 for a two color back cover to \$25 for a simple business card ad. Contact Jim Manders, Bob Reimer (Progressive Prints) or Ralph Navarro to make use of this excellent visibility tool!

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

MARC
HAUPERT



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

On June 22, one of the most influential gay leaders of our country passed away. That person was David B. Goodstein, 53, noted author and publisher of *The Advocate* newsmagazine.

Goodstein was founder or instigator of many of our vital national gay organizations and continually challenged our leadership to be accountable to the people they served.

Goodstein's challenge to us all was to "make a difference" with our lives. That challenge is even more critical for us an organization. CCBA has sought and continues to seek change and challenge in

our society. Our fundamental purpose remains to function as a change agent in our community. We chip away little by little at the myths, stereotypes and homophobia which hampers our community's development. We maintain a highly visible stature in the community at large to provide a readily available and responsible voice to media and insitiutions.

And yet, it's not enough.

When I look at the population figures and estimate that there are perhaps 100,000 gay women and men in this metro area and our organization comprises a grand total of under 200, I begin to wonder. I assuage my doubt by saying that gay organizations have got as large a percentage of the 'joiners' in society as any other group of voluntary associations.

But we must do more.

A recent guest at one of our dinner meetings was very disappointed at the all-too-comfortable 'good old boy/girl' atmosphere of our cocktail hour and dinner periods of the meeting. He reacted negatively because he couldn't see the benefit of a group of people mingling over cocktails and not out working for change.

Although I argued vehemently, saying we need a social structure in which to informally conduct business (network) and meet new people, to some degree I could see his point.

It's so easy to slip into the established patterns of organizational life as handed down by the Rotaries, Jaycees, Kiwanis, etc. of the world.

But what are we really accomplishing? Maybe we should be marching in the streets and demonstrating against those who attempt to oppress us.

We may have lulled ourselves into what I believe is a false sense of security. There must be a reason why only Wisconsin has specific legislative safeguards for gay people. While that might give us some pride, it also makes us a target for our enemies across the nation. Many recent defeats have shown us that our legislatively guaranteed rights are continually in a fragile state. Our defeat in Houston (spearheaded by mainstream business groups); latest defeat in the New York Court of Appeals (striking down the NYC gay rights executive order); major vetoes by California's and Massachusetts' gover-

nors; these and other events should give us cause to worry a bit about the future of ourselves as a free people.

I continue to believe, however, that there is reason for optimism. The reason is the spirit of hope I sense in our membership and that of other active gay organizations.

We in Milwaukee often take our time to decide on a position, but once set it is unshakable. I feel the mood of many is, 'We're mad as-hell and not going to take it any more.'

Here's hoping that we can all channel those feelings into positive progress for our community, and all take David Goodstein's challenge to "make a difference."

Our August picnic will give us a chance to take a breath before a very busy Fall. Also, don't forget a program which may well be the most important one you ever attend. It's a community forum on AIDS which CCBA will host on September 12. We're inviting other gay groups and all health/social service organizations to be cosponsors. The panel and program will be superb. Be sure to mark your calendars now, and tell your friends.

MILWAUKEE HOSTS GAY SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Milwaukee will become the capital of gay softball during the last week of August as the Saturday Softball Beer League hosts the 9th Annual Gay Softball World Series. 19 cities from throughout the United States and Canada will send their best teams to Milwaukee to compete for the National Championship of Gay Softball. The First Gay Women's Softball World Series will also be held in Milwaukee in conjunction with the men's tournament. Cities included in the tournament are Atlanta, Birmingham, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Houston, Kansas City, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Milwaukee, New York, Norfolk, Pittsburgh, San Diego, San Francisco, Seattle, Toronto, and Twin Cities. The Southern New England area will also be represented.

The tournament will start at 10:30am on Wednesday, August 28. All men's games will be played at Mitchell Park, behind the domes, near 27th and

National. On Wednesday at 7pm the tournament's official opening ceremonies will be held. A large crowd is expected to welcome the teams onto the softball diamond, and many other surprizes are planned. Make your plans to attend this gala event. Following the ceremonies, Milwaukee's team will play the winner of Dallas-Long Beach match in the featured game of the day. The women's tournament will start on Thursday, and games will be played at West Milwaukee Park, 43rd Street and Burnham, from Thursday through Saturday.

The final games for both the men's and women's tournament will be held on Sunday, September 1 at Mitchell Park. The tournament will conclude that evening, with the awards banquet and ceremonies at the Marc Plaza Hotel's Crystal Ball Room.

Financial support is still needed to sponsor the World Series. Milwaukee must provide banquet tickets to all participating members, softballs, diamonds, umpires, transportation, and many other incidental expenses to run the tournament. We are slightly less than half way to our budgeted goal of \$20,000, so a considerable amount of money must still be raised. All those wishing to help Milwaukee's effort host this prestigious event can send their donations to Series 9, P.O. Box 92605, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202.

series 9
MILWAUKEE 1985
capture the spirit

THE NIGHT AT THE BALL PARK

Series Nine has received responses from about 8 cities indicating that from 5 to 25 people from their teams will be participating in "The Night At The Ball Park" on Tuesday August 27. This was referred to in the June Series 9 Club Newsletter. It would be very helpful for any Milwaukee person who is planning to attend the cook-out at the Wreck Room and the Brewers game that evening to purchase their ticket prior to July 20. Since we must buy the Brewer tickets one month prior to the game, your early purchase will enable us to get the tickets we need at that time. We're looking for 300 people to participate, and we hope to get a good response from the Milwaukee community. Your support can make this one of the biggest Series 9 fund raisers, and it will be great way to meet some of the players in the tournament. Ticket for the cook-out, transportation, and game ticket is \$20. See Rollie Daneau, Arturo, Vic Minetti, or Tom Salzsieder for tickets.

Also attached is a Non-Participatory Registration Form for Series 9. This will be available for Milwaukee people as well as out-of-town non playing guests. For \$30, you will receive a banquet ticket, packet, and other privileges given to the players. The cost is \$15 without a banquet ticket. For Series 9 Club Members, we are knocking off \$5 for each Non-Participatory membership, making it \$25 with a banquet ticket, and \$10 without. If you wish to take advantage of this offer, just mark "Series 9 Club Member" on the Registration Form, and return the form and your check payable to Series 9 to Ken Kurtz at the address listed on the form.

It looks like there will be 10 womens teams participating in the 1st Gay Women's Softball World Series in Milwaukee.

Don't forget to make your plans to see the Opening Ceremonies of Series 9 on Wednesday evening, August 28 at 7:00 P.M. There should be plenty of surprizes that evening. Following the ceremonies, Milwaukee's representatives will be playing a game. It should be a great evening.

THE REVEREND FALWELL ON AIDS

Editor's Note: The following is taken verbatim from the June 1985 issue of Jerry Falwell's Moral Majority report, which had a special section on AIDS titled "America Plays Russian Roulette."

Alarmed by the rapidly spreading AIDS virus, Dr. Jerry Falwell has called upon federal authorities to set up a task force to study the use of criminal and civil penalties to control the AIDS epidemic.

Dr. Falwell . . . said the task force should investigate legal measures against AIDS carriers who knowingly transmit their lethal disease to non-carriers.

Dr. Falwell warned that screening the blood supply attacks only two percent of the problem—because only two percent of all AIDS victims have contracted the disease through the nation's blood supply.

"What we must now do," he said, "is take strong and immediate action to protect the other 98 percent—those who contract the disease through promiscuous homosexual or heterosexual contact or through irresponsible drug practices."

The first step the nation should take, Falwell recommended, is for the federal government to establish a task force . . . (to) study:

- A Connecticut law allowing state health authorities to incarcerate any AIDS carrier who refuses to cease engaging in sexual activity.

- Civil recourse allowing an individual to sue an AIDS carrier who, knowing he or she carries the disease, fails to disclose the illness before engaging in sexual conduct.

- Involuntary manslaughter charges against AIDS carriers who knowingly infect a non-sufferer with the deadly disease resulting in his or her death.

- Legal documentation of all persons who carry the AIDS antibody. Under this plan, doctors would be required to file paperwork with the state authorities when a person's blood test prove positive to the AIDS antibody. Such test may be performed during initiation into the military, college, employment, before marriage, or even during routine medical examinations.

Rather than legal action, Dr. Falwell said the nation would be better served by returning to traditional and moral values of "one man, one woman, one marriage for one lifetime."

"Only a return to monogamy will permanently guarantee the end of the AIDS epidemic," he claimed.

ABA VOTES DOWN GAY RIGHTS MEASURE

WASHINGTON—Delegates to the American Bar Association's annual meeting narrowly rejected a measure calling for an end to discrimination based on "sexual orientation."

The measure, which was amended to note the ABA was "not approving or endorsing homosexual activity," was defeated after about an hour of debate by a vote of 161-152. In 1983, the ABA voted down a similar measure by a vote of 158-134.

The governing body of the ABA did approve on a voice vote a measure condemning "the few American lawyers who may be seeking to personally benefit from the recent tragedy in Bophal, India." The measure referred to lawyers who flocked to the scene of the chemical disaster that killed thousands, seeking clients.

The homosexual rights proposal was submitted by the association of the bar of the city of New York, Section of Individual Rights and Responsibilities and Young

Lawyers Division.

The resolution urged "federal, state and local governments to adopt legislation prohibiting discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodations on the basis of sexual orientation."

Opposition to the measure was strong. If you approve this resolution it will suggest to America that its lawyers approve of deviate sexual conduct," said Joe Stamper, an attorney from Antlers, Oklahoma.

However, Dan Bradley, the former head of the Legal Services Corp. under President Carter, who admitted his homosexuality when he left the post, spoke for the measure.

"It is not easy being an openly gay person in America today," he said. "We must accept criticism and humiliation of our lifestyle. But what we cannot accept is being denied our basic rights and opportunities."

STATE BUDGET IMPACTS GAY COMMUNITY

Gay Liaison Created. Money was finally included in this year's state budget for a position in the Governor's office to serve as a liaison with the state's gay citizens.

Shortly after taking office in 1983, Governor Earl created his Council on Lesbian & Gay Issues, a group of volunteers to advise him on issues affecting the gay community. At that time, he promised to seek money for a paid position to assist lesbians and gay men on a full-time basis.

Governor Earl included an appropriation for this position in his budget request, but it was deleted by the Joint Committee on Finance. After considerable persuasion by the Governor and a few legislators, we were able to restore funding for this gay liaison post.

Funding for Local AIDS Programs. Almost \$200,000 was included in the budget to assist local communities, especially in Milwaukee, Madison and Green Bay, who are establishing support and counseling programs for AIDS victims. After these local groups raise two-thirds of their targeted funds, the state would then contribute the final one-third using this fund. It is hoped that this initial state contribution can be expanded in the future.

Confidentiality Guarantees for HTLV-III Testing. Stringent confidentiality protections were enacted for persons taking the AIDS anti-body test. HTLV-III screening began in our state; it became evident that this test posed poten-

tial and serious problems. Anxiety was heightened in the gay community with new fears over who would be required to undergo this testing, who would have access to test results, what those results meant and how they would be used.

As the most expedient way to address this crisis, language was drafted to the budget bill that guaranteed confidentiality to all person who choose to take the HTLV-III screening. For those who test positive, a face-to-face interview will be required to explain the reliability of the test, the effects and known treatments of AIDS, and to be referred to counseling, if requested.

Furthermore, these provisions prohibit any employer from requiring AIDS antibody testing as a condition of employment. The test cannot be required as a condition of insurability, nor can test results be considered in the determination of insurance rates until the AIDS test can be proven reliable.

There was considerable last minute opposition to these provisions by some members of the medical community who felt that these confidentiality requirements were too rigorous and could make their AIDS research capabilities more difficult. The insurance lobby also tried to remove the language affecting them. However, the legislature accepted that there was a much larger and more immediate threat to the state's gay population if confidentiality with regards to testing could not be assured.

GRNL NEWS

RELIGIOUS GROUPS URGE SUPPORT FOR NATIONAL BILL GRNL DESCRIBES INITIATIVE AS MAJOR BREAKTHROUGH

WASHINGTON—In a step described by Gay Rights National Lobby as a "major breakthrough" and "critical development", eleven major religious denominations have recently joined in a letter to Members of Congress urging support and cosponsorship of the national gay and lesbian civil rights bill, H.R. 230.

Among the groups signing the joint letter, which is the first of its kind on the federal bill, are the Church of the Brethren, United Methodist Church, the Lutheran Council in the USA, the Presbyterian Church, the United Church of Christ, the Episcopal Church, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), the Unitarian-Universalist Association, American Ethical Union and the National Council of Churches. The joint letter is the first of several steps planned to demonstrate

strong religious support for the civil rights bill.

The Letter states:

"Our religious traditions teach the importance of providing equal justice for all person . . . As representatives of religious traditions we recognize a special responsibility to provide moral leadership in improving public understanding of this issue. While some of our traditions oppose the practice of homosexuality, our traditions maintain strong support for the protection of basic civil and human rights of all persons."

The joint letter was coordinated by Ralph Watkins, Legislative Counsel of the Church of the Brethren. Watkins said, "We have been offended that public portrayal of religious perspectives on this issue has focused almost exclusively on negative, anti-gay sentiments.



CCBA Member Businesses

ACCOUNTANTS

WILLIAM DOMER AND ASSOCIATES
Financial and Tax Consultants
1219 North Cass
224-0863

C.A. KLEIN BOOKKEEPING SERVICES
3909 East Squire
Cudahy
483-9519

TODD STREHLOW
Tax Services and Accounting
1800 East Capitol Drive
964-5100

ANTIQUES

BOYCHUK
475-7687

ARCHITECTS

THOMPSON & ASSOCIATES
Architects
964-3610

ART/ADVERTISING

ALPHA COMPOSITION
Phototypesetting
144 North Water Street
278-8686

ASA COMMUNICATIONS
*Advertising, Public Relations,
Specialty Publications*
P.O. Box 92222, Milwaukee 53202
374-5599

IBACH CREATIVE GROUP
Full Service Advertising
823 North Second, Suite 514
272-6664

ORLOFF
Concept and Design
291-9999

PROGRESSIVE PRINTS
Printing
2909 North Humboldt Avenue
264-5345

ATTORNEYS

ANGERMEIER AND ROGERS
625 North Milwaukee Street, #404
289-9200

STEPHEN M. BYERS
224-9758

JUDITH LAUFER
1139 East Knapp
271-9101

THOMAS E. MARTIN
General Practice of Law
161 West Wisconsin Avenue
765-9333

BOYD MCGRANAGHAN
3741 West National Avenue
649-9790

BARs

THE FINALE
808 East Center Street
372-6664

LA CAGE
Video/Dance Bar
801 South 2nd Street
383-8330

M&M CLUB
124 North Water Street
347-1962

THIS IS IT!
418 East Wells Street
278-9192

WRECK ROOM
266 East Erie
273-6900

YOUR PLACE
813 South First
647-0130

CHURCHES

JOAN OF ARC PARISH—MCC
c/o Village Church
1108 North Jackson
372-9745

COUNSELING

EASTTOWN THERAPY SERVICES
Psychiatry Psychotherapy
Milo G. Durst, MD
Robert A. Holzhauser, ACSW
273-7173

TURNING POINT FEMINIST COUNSELING
Counseling/Therapy
Mary A. Palmer, MSW
278-0492

WELLSPRING CLINICAL ASSOCIATES
Mental Health Services
224 North 76th Street
257-1878

CRAFTS/TRADES

DIFFERENT STROKES PAINTING COMPANY
2833 South 34th Street
383-3562

IMPROVEMENTS BY RONALD ROZMAN
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Awnings, Porch Enclosures*
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Oshkosh
235-3380

DENTISTS

BARTLEY BELL, DDS
400 West Silver Spring Drive
963-0223

L.T. DEGRAFF, DDS
4612 West Center Street
871-5777

DR. JOHN SCADUTO, DDS
611 North Broadway, Suite 10
272-7747

ENTERTAINMENT

CLAVIS THEATRE
Stage Productions
1823 East Kane Place
272-1340

MIDWEST MUSIC DISTRIBUTION
Recordings and Concert Promotion
207 East Buffalo
278-0066

PARKWAY ENTERTAINMENT COMPLEX
3417-23 West Lisbon Avenue
342-2446/933-2880

FLORISTS

FLOWERS BY WALTER
503 6th Street, Racine
633-7707

HILLMANS FLOWERTOWN
2143 South Muskego
645-2482

JIM MANDERS - THE SHOREWOOD FLORIST
3955 North Prospect Avenue
332-7060

GIFTS

SANDS GIFT SHOP
3968 South Howell
744-3460

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147 North Broadway Street
273-5969

HAIR STYLISTS

TRAVIS AND COMPANY
Hair Design
724 North Milwaukee Street
272-HAIR

HEALTH CLUBS

CLUB MILWAUKEE
Health and Social Club
704A West Wisconsin Avenue (rear)
276-0246

INDEPENDENT

DAVID SIKORA
Court Reporter
332-7604

INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL PLANNING

EQUITABLE LIFE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES
Ralph Navarro
Equity Qualified Agent
276-2000

PETER WEBER
Independent Insurance Agent
5600 West Brown Deer Road
355-9111

MEDICAL/CLINICS

BRADY STREET STD CLINIC
1240 East Brady Street
272-2144

PHOTOGRAPHY

BREITLOW STUDIOS
476-3777

PUBLICATIONS/BOOKS

WEBSTER'S BOOKS
2559 North Downer Avenue
332-9560

WISCONSIN IN STEP/IN STEP GRAPHICS
Biweekly News Publication
823 North 2nd Street, #409
289-0744

REALTORS/PROPERTY

QFI PROPERTY MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT
Mike Ferguson, David Koetz
226-4072

GREG QUINDEL
Real Estate Services
Metrotech Corp.
226-4060

JIM RITTER JR.
Merrill Lynch Realty
962-3000 or 271-5508

SEYMOUR STEIN
Realty, Investments
278-0328

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124 North Water
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SHALOM ENTERPRISES
445-5552

SUNRISE BOOK REVIEW
Library Research Service
Michael J. Lowrey
372-9745

SOUND SERVICES

SOUND TECH
Custom Recording Service
F.C. (Kip) Filkins
272-6613

TRAVEL

TRAVEL DIRECTIONS WORLDWIDE LTD.
11627 West Bluemound Road
259-0162

TRAVEL ENCOUNTERS
Ken Kurtz
400 North Broadway
271-7655



SPOTLIGHT ON FLOWERS BY WALTER

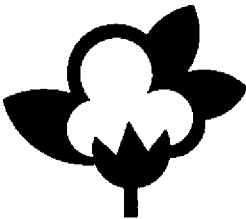
Walter Dobrowski is a native of Wisconsin, born in Racine. He began his career as a florist in 1952, and opened his first shop in 1968.

Six years ago, Walter moved to a larger and more efficient space in downtown Racine. The shop is located at 503 Sixth St. Walter currently has eight employees to serve his constantly-growing list of customers. In addition to flowers and gifts, Walter has an Interior Design Shop, which coordinates antiques and accessories for individuals and businesses. Flowers by Walter serves the entire Racine area as well as surrounding communities.

Walter is Past President of the Racine Downtown Business Association and Past President of the Wisconsin State Fair Flower Building. He currently maintains an active community involvement as a board member of the Racine Theatre Guild.

Walter is a nationally recognized floral designer and he is called upon to travel frequently as a featured floral artist at shows throughout the country.

Things are indeed blooming at Flowers by Walter!



OUTINGS GROUP OFF TO SPRING GREEN IN SEPTEMBER

The CCBA Outings group plans to attend the American Players Theatre production of Shakespeare's *Merry Wives of Windsor* on Saturday, September 28. The play will follow a delicious repast at the Spring Green Restaurant (designed by Frank Lloyd Wright). 'Wives' is an outrageously funny comedy, a true 'queens delight!'

With spirits uplifted, the group then will camp out on the banks of the Wisconsin River. (Hot water, showers, electricity, bar and restaurant are immediately available at campgrounds. Tents will be provided—bring your own blankets, pillows, teddy bears, etc.

The group will rise and shine Sunday morning to brunch at camp, complete with Bloody Marys. Attention will next turn to the House On the Rock, a true Wisconsin landmark. The real show begins when we move from the endless steps in the House to the world's largest carousel, with carved imaginative interpretations of real and mythical creatures, room-size music boxes and one of the largest collections of bronzes by sculptor Frederic Remington.

The return home Sunday late afternoon will include a stop at the Rods/New Bar complex in Madison, to make the trip complete.

The approximate cost is \$40. Call Jan or Paul at 444-9195(h), or call Jan at work at 453-7720 for more information. A nonrefundable deposit of \$20 can be sent to the CCBA mailbox: P.O. Box 92614, Milwaukee, WI 53202.

WINE TASTERS ENCORE TRIP TO RAVINIA

On Sunday, August 11, CCBA Wine Tasters plan to return to Ravinia for wine and cheese tasting and a concert by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra featuring the Chicago Symphony Chorus. Lawn seating for the concert—A Salute to Broadway, with music from *Show Boat*, *South Pacific*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Cats*, *West Side Story*, *A Little Night Music*, *Porgy and Bess*, *Oklahoma* and more. Box lunches will be furnished and car pooling will be arranged. Approximate cost for this event will be \$20.00. Anyone interested in more information concerning this event or wishing to make a reservation can do so by calling Si 278-0328 or Jerry 372-2773.

CLAVIS THEATRE NEWS

CLAVIS THEATRE PRESENTS MIDWEST PREMIERE EXECUTION OF JUSTICE

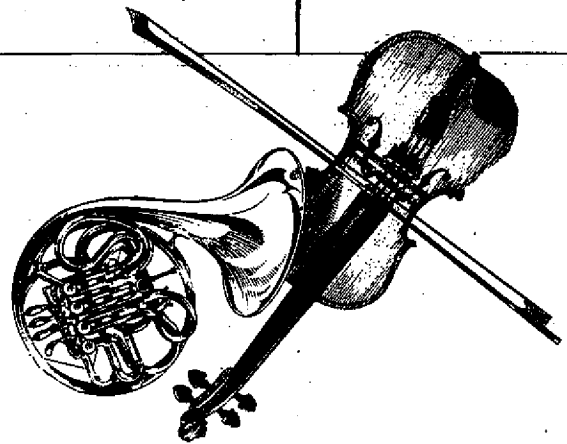
Clavis Theatre is pleased to announce the presentation of the Midwest Premiere Production of a new play by Emily Mann — *Execution of Justice*.

Hailed by the New York Times as "... a shocking indictment of injustice in America." This docudrama is based on the murder trial of Dan White, the accused murderer of San Francisco mayor George Moscone and supervisor Harvey Milk, and the events surrounding the slayings and the trial.

Production performance dates will be scheduled in late July. Tickets will go on sale after July 20, 1985 and can be ordered by calling 383-4160.

SEASON TICKETS NOW ON SALE

Execution of Justice is only one of four plays to be presented during Clavis' 1985-1986 Season. Pulitzer prize winner *Night Mother* will also be performed in its Milwaukee premiere as part of the season. Subscriptions are now available at a savings of \$4. to \$8. off single ticket prices. Orders can be placed by phone by calling 383-4160.



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CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION RESPONDS TO NGTF VIOLENCE LOBBYING

Responding to lobbying by the National Gay Task Force, the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights has begun the process of studying anti-gay/lesbian violence. At a February 11 meeting, the Commission agreed to encourage its State Advisory Committees to examine anti-gay/lesbian violence from the standpoint of the criminal justice system and law enforcement officials. (The Commission maintains that its authority to deal with this issue is limited to administration of justice questions.)

No action was taken at the national meeting on an NGTF-supported proposal for a national study of violence against individuals because of race, religion, ethnic origin or sexual orientation.

Commenting on the Commission's response, NGTF Acting Executive Director Jeff Levi said, "Anti-gay/lesbian violence is a problem of epidemic proportions, deserving a full and immediate investigation by the national Commission. However, efforts by its state Advisory Committees will be a step forward and may lead to remedial action."

Former Executive Director Ginny Apuzzo and Violence Coordinator Kevin Berrill met with Commission Staff Director Linda Chavez February 7 to elaborate on a briefing paper on anti-gay/lesbian violence. "Our efforts were aided by an

outpouring of support from civil rights, religious and political leaders," commented Berrill. More than 60 letters supporting NGTF's call to address the problem were received by the Commission. Those contacting the Commission included the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, the New York Urban League, the National Organization for Women, the American Civil Liberties Union, the mayors of New York, San Francisco, and the Governors of New York and Wisconsin; Senators Alan Cranston and Daniel Patrick Moynihan; nine U.S. Representatives (both Democratic and Republican); and a number of religious leaders.

The decision to use the State Advisory Committees does not preclude a national Commission investigation of anti-gay/lesbian violence in the future. For its part, NGTF has agreed to identify for the Commission states where investigations of anti-gay/lesbian violence are particularly feasible and desirable. Findings and recommendations by the state committees will be reported to and reviewed by the national Commission, which will consider endorsing and publishing the results. The Commission also agreed to consider lesbians and gay men recommended by NGTF to serve on the state committees.

CAPITOL HILL REPORT

Voter Visibility Campaign. GRNL is pleased to join with other national and local organizations in sponsoring the second year's operation of The National Visibility Campaign for the Gay and Lesbian Vote. Originally begun by the Gay and Lesbian Independent Democrats of New York (GLID), the Visibility Campaign is an attempt to promote the importance of voting and political participation within the gay and lesbian community while, at the same time, increasing visibility for our participation in the community at large. While the power of the gay vote is potentially awesome (U.S.

News & World Report ranked it as the seventh largest voting bloc), that power is constrained by the large degree of invisibility of our community. The Visibility Campaign centers around the distribution of colorful buttons and posters aimed at making our presence known. It is important that we get gays and lesbians involved in the political process and that we let politicians know that there are gays and lesbians working on and contributing to their campaigns. Please contact us for further information about this worthwhile Campaign.

AIDS Funding. The House Budget Committee has passed a resolution that

Mil·wō'kē

Corporate Response to AIDS Expanding

by Ralph F. Navarro
Registered Representative

While there is NO evidence that a person can "catch" AIDS through casual contact, employers are beginning to lay plans for the time that one of their own employees is diagnosed. Recently I have been made aware of a national newsletter that goes to corporate legal offices around the country. The best advice suggested in their newsletter could be boiled down to the following:

Dismiss the employee and drag out any lawsuit for as long as possible. They know that the person with AIDS will be dead within three years!

Corporations are also aware of the long term nature of disability claims which come with AIDS and are working to be well insulated from all risks.

However, what some groups have not planned on is the Estate of the deceased picking up the fight for back pay, etc. This will, it seems, be the one thing that may help change the evolving trend of 'discriminate now and pay later.' One of the other underlying realities that employers are aware of is the CLOSET REALITY. Some employers believe that of those people in their employ who are homosexual, the majority won't fight back if discriminated against.

Recently, I became aware of a person who went in for a general physical because he was seeking new employment. What he didn't know was that he had been given, without his knowledge, an HTLV-III/LAV test. He then gave permission for the testing site to send all test results to his hopeful employer only to learn from them that he had been diagnosed.

What was the individual's response? Privately, ANGER! Publicly, NOTHING! He didn't want his homosexuality to come out.

The fact that his record is now public and he will probably not have much opportunity to purchase Disability Coverage, Health insurance or Life Insurance doesn't seem of significant consequence to him—yet.

Employers WILL do whatever is necessary to reduce their risk to exposure to significant lawsuits. If you are dismissed from your employment due to diagnosis of AIDS, you may not outlast the court suit. What are you going to do about disability insurance, life insurance (so you don't have to be buried in a pauper's grave) and, of vital need, health insurance?

See your reputable lesbian or gay male insurance planner immediately to prepare for the unknown. With a six-month to five-year incubation period for AIDS, how do you know for sure, especially when the primary testing vehicle is so flawed with false results?

Finally, amend your will to direct your Executor to fight for you in the event of your death should your dismissal from employment be the result of discrimination.

All of this points up the need for the National Association of Business Councils special project entitled: Corporate Outreach. This program will do more to educate entire corporations and ensure less discrimination. Contact myself or CCBA President Marc Hauptert to help in this Milwaukee program of the NABC.

will increase by approximately \$47 million the Administration's proposed budget for AIDS programs. Action came on a \$200 million package proposed by Chairman Bill Gray, aimed at low income person and AIDS projects; there was informal agreement that \$47 million will be set aside for AIDS. Of this amount, Federation of AIDS-Related Organizations (FARO) lobbyist Gary MacDonald estimates that at least \$20 million will be used for public information and risk reduction education campaigns.

World Health Organization Joins the Fight Against AIDS. Following the recent international conference

on AIDS sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the World Health Organization (W.H.O.), a group of W.H.O. consultants made recommendations to that organization aimed at combatting the AIDS epidemic on a broader scale. They urged that W.H.O. establish a network of collaborating centers with expertise in the field, co-ordinate global surveillance of the disease, assist in developing a vaccine, and encourage and assist in serologic studies in countries where AIDS has yet to be recognized. They also urged member nations to develop public education programs aimed at high-risk groups.

CRIMINAL SANCTIONS FOR KNOWINGLY TRANSMITTING AIDS

NEW JERSEY—A bill imposing criminal sanctions for persons who knowingly transmit AIDS through sexual contact was introduced into the New Jersey assembly on May 6, and is now in the Senate Judiciary Committee, reports Philadelphia's *Gay News*. In the bill, "sexual contact" is defined as "an intentional touching by the victim or actor either directly or through clothing of the victim's or other actor's intimate parts" such as "sexual organs, genital area, anal area, inner thigh, groin, buttocks, or breast of a person." The bill states that "any person who, knowing that he is infected with AIDS, transmits the disease

to a person through sexual contact is guilty of a crime in the fourth degree." Robert Goodman, New Jersey Lesbian and Gay Coalition AIDS Coordinator, said the bill has not made much progress since its may introduction.

PROPOSED BAN ON SEXUALLY-ORIENTED MATERIAL ON CABLE

WASHINGTON — Arch-conservative Sen. Jesse Helm (R-NC) has introduced legislation designed to eliminate sexually-oriented material from being

broadcast to consenting adults over the cable television channels, reports the *Washington Blade*. The bill would also outlaw the use of telephone lines to offer "obscene, lewd, lascivious, filthy, or indecent" messages. Helms said he introduced the measure after reports of Public Access Cable TV channels in New York City and other areas broadcasting such "degrading" scenes as "explicit homosexual activity." "Can we expect to conquer the social pathologies of venereal disease, adolescent pregnancy, child abuse, homosexuality, and pedophilia when vile and degrading depictions of illicit sex acts are no farther away than the TV set, the telephone, the mail box, and the local movie theatre?" Helms asked.

KAREN THOMPSON LEGAL FUND

SUPERIOR, WI—Several area benefits have raised more than \$5,000 for the Karen Thompson legal fund. Thompson is fighting for visitation rights to her lover, Sharon Kowalski, who became a paraplegic after a car accident 18 months ago. Kowalski's parents, upon learning of their daughter's relationship with Thompson, moved Sharon across the state and began seeking a court order to bar Thompson from any visits. Tax-deductible contributions can be sent to MNGALLA, c/o Suzanna Born, 3436 Holmes Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55408.



COMING OUT

NEW YORK—The ad placed by Gloria Guss Back, Social Worker, said:

"Parents of gay sons, would you discuss your attitudes for academic study? Anonymity assured."

Parents of gay sons and parents of gay daughters, lesbians, responded. By phone. By letter. They included detectives, lawyers, shop keepers, teachers, the gamut of human work and professions. From both sides of the economic track.

All the letters and conversations were touching. One was extremely so and gave a greater urgency to Back's campaign. It is to reach parents and other family members of the 10 million male and female homosexuals living in America today.

The heart of the extremely touching letter:

"We are not letter-writing people, but we have to say this because we know you counsel parents of homosexual children.

"Our 19-year-old son was lost to us in AIDS in March. We never even knew he was gay.

"When we heard from the hospital, he was almost finished.

"We knew that he was never at his

apartment at night.

"Whenever we called, he was out, many times early in the morning, he was out.

"...we know how much venereal disease there is in this country and now there's AIDS. We think that the papers and television should come right out and say that indiscriminant sex kills.

"We would not have turned away from our son if he had told us what he was. Now it's too late.

"Tell other parents of these kids to talk to them about knowing who they go with."

Back, in a book to be published in September, *Are You Still My Mother?* (Warner Books \$7.95), further explains the urgency in her campaign in a footnote to the letter about the son.

"If three-fourths of AIDS victims are gay men, it would seem logical to counsel selectivity and discretion in sexual conduct," she says.

"Perhaps if parents nag and nudge their gay sons to be extremely selective and cautious, the sons might take heed, feeling reassured that their parents care very much what happens to them.

"Our concern must be with cure and prevention rather than with moral judgement."

Back's publisher says her book for parents is the first ever to analyze the gay phenomenon from the family perspective and to offer advice on how to reintegrate the loved gay person into the family without threatening his or her identity.

She is the originator of "Workshops for the Families of Gay People" and the mother of two sons: one gay, and one straight.

Her campaign resulted from going along the same tortured trail that numerous parents of gay children are on today.

For example, her response when her son told her he was gay was: "Your sick, get to a psychiatrist." End of phone conversation.

After about three months of silence between son and mother, son called.

"Are you still my mother?" he asked.

She recalls in the book that her answer was "Yes!" very excitedly.

Yet, she felt confused and felt the need to talk with parents going through similar experiences. She even went back to get a Master's Degree so she would have credentials to launch workshops for parents because none existed.

Her book includes vignettes about parents of gay people who have come to the workshops.

"It is their story, but it is also my story," Back says.

"I believe it is timely and fitting for troubled families of gay people to acquire some savvy from others who have grappled with accepting and loving their gay children as the gay people they really are."

She says that is especially an urgent need in view of: The toll the AIDS epidemic has taken from the already shaky gay image.

The families who ache over losing contact with their gay sons or daughters.

The hype of current literature, films, and theater.

When parents of gays accept their children as the gay people they really are, it is Back's hope that in the not-too-distant future the gay child will not have to ask "Are you still my mother?" or "Are you still my family?"

What's a parent to gain by accepting a gay child? What's a parent to lose by denial of a gay child?

Back put the questions to social workers, educators, psychiatrists, psychologists, members of the clergy. Dr. Alma Bond, a psychoanalyst, New York City, responded: "A parent has everything to gain by the acceptance of a child's homosexuality. Children should be loved unconditionally and accepted for what they are."

Parents who require a child to fill a certain pre-concieved mold before loving the child are not loving parents at all, and will lose their children sooner or later, whatever the child's sexual orientation.

"Accept what you cannot change," Back says. "If you loved your gay child yesterday, remember that this is the same child only with new and different dimensions today.

"Don't peer too closely into the bedroom of a gay son or daughter you wouldn't with a straight child, would you? Sexual privacy is their right just as yours is your right."

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CCBA Newsletter

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