

happy
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from the Staff
and Management Of
The Western Express

CBPA Christmas Party & Benefit raises \$6,500 for CAC Center

PHOENIX — At its annual Christmas Party, a benefit this year for the Community AIDS Council (CAC), Camelback Business and Professional Association (CBPA) raised \$6,530.50 for the Community AIDS Council Center for People With AIDS.

Nearly \$25,000 in art, gifts, merchandise and services were donated by individuals and businesses toward the auction held at Preston's on December 15. In addition many Arizona performers donated their talents as did the technicians, emcees and auctioneers.

CBPA President, Christopher May, stated: "The money earned at the auction was given directly to the Community AIDS Council and has been earmarked by them as start-up funds for the CAC Center for people living with AIDS. No funds were withheld for administrative or other expenses. . . On behalf of the Board of Directors and the members of CBPA I want to extend our heartfelt thanks for the very generous donations. Also to the many entertainers, the staff and management of Preston's and the technical personnel, our thanks for making the evening a success."

According to Bob Aronin, President of CAC, with the addition of the funds raised by CBPA, the organization has now raised \$11,430.50 for the establishment of a CAC Center, toward its goal of one-half million dollars.



Bob Aronin, President Community AIDS Council.

The Community AIDS Council is exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and donations made are deductible as a charitable contribution to the extent permitted by law. Donors are advised to consult their tax advisors for complete details.

NORA coalition releases recommendations to Bush transition

WASHINGTON, D.C. — National Organizations Responding to AIDS (NORA) released recommendations regarding future executive action on the AIDS epidemic on December 1st. Presented to officials from President-elect Bush's transition team, the document calls upon the incoming

administration to develop policy initiatives and budgetary priorities to lead our country in a compassionate and competent battle against the HIV epidemic.

"During the campaign, the President-elect endorsed the recommendations of the

Continued on page 4

Judge to Congress: anti-gay Armstrong amendment stinks

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Lesbians and gays in the nation's capital won a critical civil rights victory on December 13, when a federal judge struck down the infamous "Armstrong Amendment" that would have allowed religious institutions to discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation.

In a surprise ruling by conservative, Reagan-appointed U.S. District Judge Royce Lamberth, the court said the U.S. Congress did not have the constitutional power to compel the District of Columbia and its council members to enact legislation against their best judgement, including anti-gay legislation.

D.C. council members, lobbied by the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) and other national and local activist groups, opposed the anti-gay Armstrong Amendment passed by Congress last October as part of the D.C. Appropriations bill. The amendment, sponsored by Senator William Armstrong (R-CO), would have permitted

religiously "associated" educational institutions to discriminate against "any person or persons that are organized for, or engaged in, promoting, encouraging, or condoning any homosexual act, lifestyle, orientation, or belief."

Congress had forced the District to pass the law by December 31, 1988 or otherwise risk cutoff of all city funds.

In striking down the Armstrong Amendment, Judge Lamberth — who many gay activists considered more of a conservative demagogue than Senator Armstrong himself — held that the First Amendment protects the right of elected council members to exercise their own judgement in voting for or against legislation. The judge asserted that the United States had no interest in forcing council members to vote for anti-gay discrimination.

In vividly worded language, Lamberth

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Anti-Violence Litigation Project launched

SAN FRANCISCO — National Gay Rights Advocates announced on December 20th the formation of an Anti-Violence Litigation Project. Project attorneys will initiate litigation against perpetrators of anti-gay/lesbian violence, publish a manual to assist other lawyers in bringing civil suits, and offer technical assistance to prosecutors. NORA will also publish a pamphlet for the increasing number of victims of "gay bashing", explaining their legal rights and options.

Cynthia Goldstein, NORA staff attorney and Project Director said: "Recent studies show lesbians and gay men are being verbally and physically assaulted — and even murdered — in record numbers. The community is angry and fed up. Using the



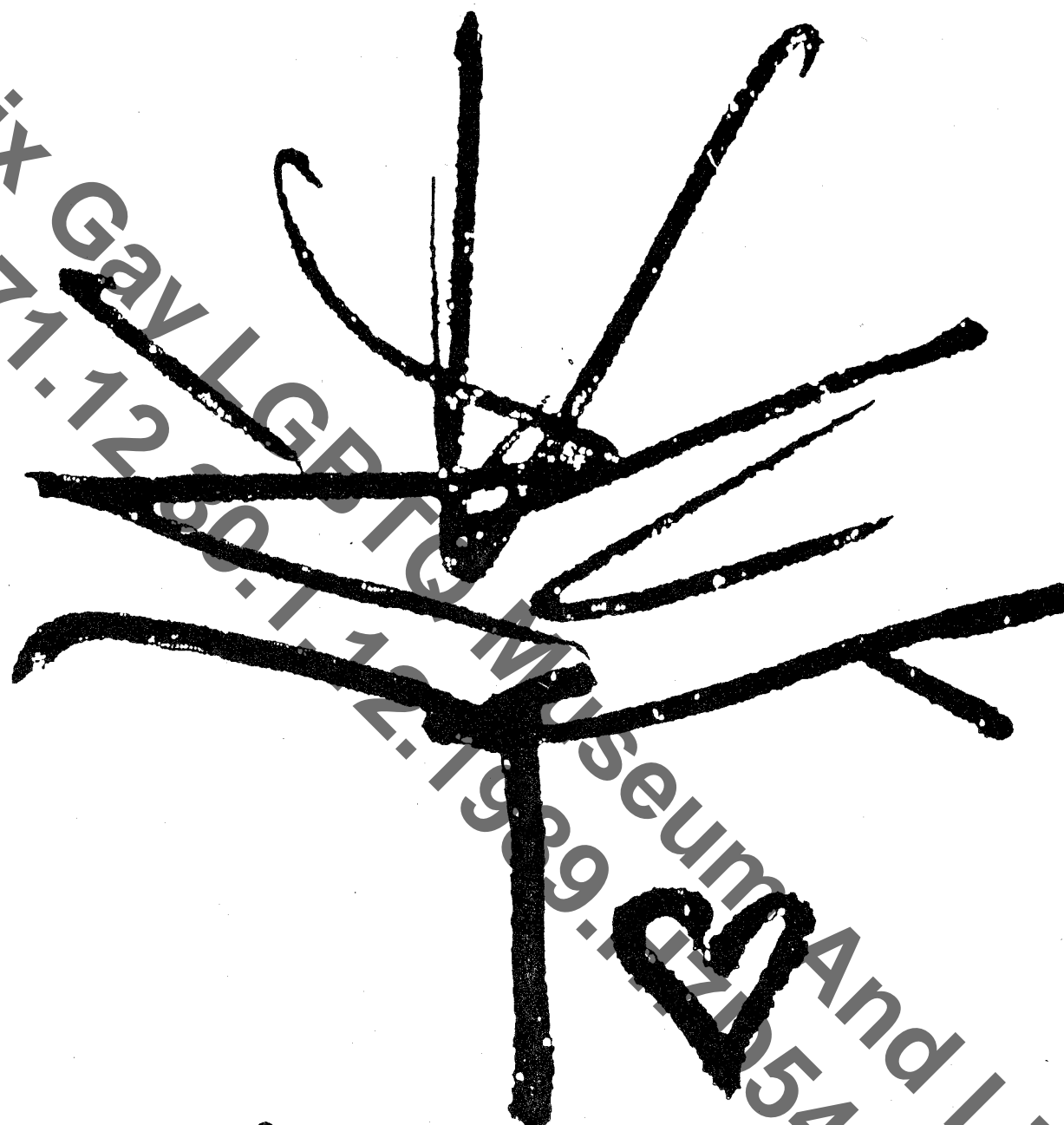
Cynthia Goldstein

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Judge strikes down "Armstrong Amendment"

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rejected Congress' contention that the elected officials of D.C. simply "hold their noses" and adopt the law."

"First amendment protection," said the judge, "encompasses both the right to speak and the right not to speak, and even the olfactory burden to which the United States refers is constitutionally suspect."

Activists heralded the ruling on the case, formally named *Clarke vs. the U.S.* after D.C. Council Chairman David Clarke, joking that the gay community "won the case by a nose."

"This confirms what we've believed all along: that the homophobic legislation passed by Armstrong and the U.S. Congress stinks," said Robert Bray, HRCF communications director. "Members of Congress should be the ones holding their noses for passing such fowl law. It would have seriously undermined the power of our Human Rights bill."

The ruling marks a major milestone in a long, frustrating ordeal for Washington's gays and lesbians.

The ordeal began in 1980 when D.C.'s Georgetown University was charged with discriminating against its gay and lesbian student groups. The university agreed to grant the groups equal treatment following a separate court ruling earlier this year.

Although both the university and gay groups accepted the ruling, Senator Armstrong still pushed his amendment through in the closing days of the 100th Congress.

In the decision on the 13th, the Court did not rule on the constitutionality of religious exemption for anti-gay discrimination, but left that issue to be decided if and when Congress should act directly to amend D.C.'s Human Rights Act.

"The judge told Congress if they wanted such laws passed, they would have to pass them," said Steve Smith, HRCF legislative counsel. "Congress can't force its dirty work on local elected officials. If the decision stands, it will be more difficult for the extreme right in Congress to force its will on the District."

"In any case, we will work with our friends in Congress and elsewhere to win this vote the next time it occurs," said Smith.

The U.S. Department of Justice, which represents the federal government in the case, did not announce immediately whether it would appeal the decision.

Unfortunately, the ruling came the same day the D.C. Council passed two other, separate anti-gay laws.

One bill was designed to comply with a Congressional mandate that insurance companies doing business in D.C. be allowed to test applicants for HIV. Local AIDS activists demanded that insurance companies at least be required to test all applicants to prevent "red lining" of gay neighborhoods.

The Council also gave final approval to a bond issue for Georgetown University. Gay activists believed the denial of bonds

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Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor:

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know how I appreciate your patience and understanding.

Season's Greetings and Happy Holidays, and may the New Year bring all that is good and prosperous.

Le Bev

Editorial

Phony letter raises ire/may be more

Rumor never ceases, however, it is often discounted as just exactly that, given little credence and soon forgotten. Written words are far more damaging; while they can be just as false, more attention is given to someone who says, "I read it," rather than "I heard it."

We recently received two letters, one was reported by the supposed writer to be a phony and the other we have suspicions about. One contained information seriously damaging to a local organization, the other information which would, if printed, cause a second organization to be subject to a great deal of scrutiny. The first was signed and on corporate letterhead allowing us the ability to verify it, the second was unsigned.

We declined to print either one of them. Our policy of verifying letters to the editor dictates that. Our concern does not involve the newspaper as much as potential serious damage which could be done to our local charitable organizations if such letters were reprinted and ended up in the wrong hands. The one signed letter was shown as being forwarded to several city, county and state officials and we're now aware that others not indicated on the "cc" list have also received it. The purported author was incensed,

obviously, and made indication that steps would be taken against the perpetrator/s if identification can be made.

Both instances call for the need to take certain precautions which would do a tremendous amount of good:

First, locations which allow the distribution of flyers, letters to the community, and even of special events, should verify the material before allowing it to be circulated or placed on their premises.

Second, while there is no way to stop such circulation entirely, if someone sees or is given a piece of printed material which obviously contains damaging information they would be doing a great service to contact the person, organization or business named to verify it themselves.

Both steps are bothersome, however, not as bothersome as false innuendo, irresponsible reporting or accusation. Our service organizations are fragile and while there might be instances worthy of complaint or investigation periodically, there are channels and methods available to verify, correct or amend them if they are valid.

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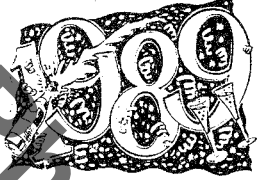
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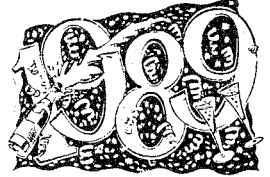


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Judge strikes down "Armstrong Amendment"

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to Georgetown could be used as political leverage to force the university to treat its gay student groups with equality.

Local gay and lesbian AIDS organizations mounted a massive public campaign

to prevent final passage of the laws, including visits and telephone drives to every Council office, a full-page advertisement in the *Washington Blade*, and a public rally in sub-freezing weather on Sunday, December 11.

About a hundred community members packed the Council chambers and filled the outside hallway the evening the anti-gay laws

were passed. The meeting was disrupted several times by gay and lesbian activists. Some activists chained themselves to chamber furniture, hurled pink triangles at the council members, and chanted slogans, including, "We'll remember in November,"

referring to re-elections of the council members.

Five protesters were arrested in the meeting and eventually released after being charged with disturbing the peace.

Letter To The Community

The Western Express wishes to thank Valerie and Rochelle, Charlie's Country Cloggers, Joey Frazee, Rich Huckins and David Starkman of Travel Registry for making its benefit for Desert Overture Band a great success.

Thank you to the staff and management of Charlie's for once again inviting us to take

part in "21 Days of Christmas" and enabling this function to be held and for your assistance during the evening.

\$841 was raised from auction and donation proceeds during the evening toward the travel and operating expenses of the Band. They join us in extending our gratitude.

Sincerely,
Don & Rob

NORA releases recommendations

Continued from page 1

Presidential Commission on the HIV Epidemic and called for a kinder, gentler nation," said Jean McGuire, Executive Director of the AIDS Action Council. "With this meeting and the recommendations presented, the NORA coalition hopes to insure that the Bush Administration makes the AIDS crisis a top priority and

continues to support the anti-discrimination recommendations of the Commission."

The NORA recommendations encourage expanded efforts in the areas of research, prevention education, health care delivery and financing, and AIDS-related discrimination. In issuing the document and meeting with transition officials, NORA seeks to encourage the President-elect to take a more aggressive and visible role in addressing the AIDS crisis.

Within the context of major issues af-

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fecting people with AIDS, NORA is calling attention to three critical issues which need to be addressed at the highest levels of the new administration:

1. aggressive leadership from the President in our nation's battle against AIDS;
2. strengthened anti-discrimination assurances in all levels of public and private sector employment, housing, public accommodations and health care services;
3. reforms in health care financing and delivery.

NORA, a coalition representing more than 90 national organizations, is a diverse organization working to respond to the complex public policy challenges presented by the HIV epidemic. Organized in 1987, the NORA coalition includes representation from the many communities and professions affected by and responding to the HIV crisis: medical and health related services; educators; counselors; the religious, disabled, civil rights, labor, and gay and lesbian communities; and People with AIDS and the organizations that serve them.

Chicago Mayor announces ad campaign promoting the use of condoms to fight AIDS

CHICAGO — Chicago Mayor Eugene Sawyer on December 1st kicked off one of the nation's strongest municipal campaigns to fight AIDS. The centerpiece of the campaign will be the promotion of condoms through the media and on billboards, transit platforms and busses. The theme is "AIDS Is Everybody's Problem."

Chicago is the nation's first major city to launch a campaign of this magnitude, using the promotion of condoms to fight AIDS. "I am not promoting casual sexual behavior," the Mayor said. "However, I am a realist... it's better to be safe than sorry. This campaign is aimed at preventing a deadly disease, not promoting the use of contraceptives."

The Mayor acknowledged that this year-long campaign urging citizens to use condoms will be controversial. Nonetheless, he favored a hardhitting and forthright campaign attacking AIDS head-on through a sophisticated advertising strategy. "Chicago now ranks eighth of all American cities in the number of [AIDS] cases," he noted.

"I want to remind you," he said, "that no less a person than the U.S. Surgeon General, Dr. C. Everett Koop, has pointed out the importance of condoms as one tool to help fight this deadly disease."

The Mayor launched the campaign to coincide with the designation of December 1st as "World AIDS Day". In announcing the campaign, the Mayor was flanked by samples of the billboard, media and transit advertisements. They use strongly worded warnings to get the message across to the public both in Spanish and in English.

"The ads," the Mayor said, "are designed to educate our people and to encourage them to be more responsible about knowing the facts and the effects of AIDS. I realize that we're fighting an uphill battle. We all face this challenge and it's our responsibility to learn as much as we can to deter the spread of this disease."

The Mayor thanked the staff of the DDB Needham Advertising Agency for developing the aggressive advertising campaign.

NGRA challenges national insurance testing "consent" proposals

SAN FRANCISCO — National Gay Rights Advocates (NGRA) criticized a proposed national "notice and consent" form for use in AIDS-related testing by insurance companies as "wholly inadequate and without substance." The draft proposals, developed by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) would allow insurance companies to meet legal requirements that they give notice to and receive consent from applicants tested for HIV merely by distributing a brief form. The proposed form makes no mention of transmission, prevention, treatments, discrimination, psychological responses, or false results, and indicates that counseling is entirely voluntary and should be paid for by applicants. NGRA submitted an alternative proposal to be considered by the NAIC at its annual winter meeting which was held December 11 - 16 in New Orleans.

"The proposal's implication that counseling is a mere luxury contradicts the insistence of the National Academy of Sciences, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, and the Association of State and Territorial Health Officers that pre- and post-test counseling are essential ingredients of the testing process," said Benjamin Schatz, Director of NGRA's AIDS Civil Rights Project. "Moreover, the NAIC should make it clear that if insurers want to test applicants, it is the insurers who should pay for the

necessary counseling. Insurers must not be allowed to increase their profits through testing while washing their hands of the costs needed to ensure that testing is performed correctly."

NGRA Executive Director Jean O'Leary said, "No one can truly give consent to a medical procedure without understanding the implications of that procedure. Thus, anyone who is tested — by insurers or others — must first understand the likelihood of successful treatment and the ways in which AIDS is spread and can be prevented. They should also understand that false results, discrimination, loss of confidentiality and depression may occur. Insurers have an obligation to explain these facts to those they want to test."

NGRA's Schatz was invited by the NAIC to comment on their proposal after serving on their AIDS Advisory Committee. In 1986, as a member of that committee, Schatz was instrumental in developing NAIC guidelines forbidding anti-gay discrimination by insurance companies throughout the U.S. The NAIC is the nation's organization of insurance regulators. NGRA is a San Francisco-based public interest law firm which is nationally renowned for its successful efforts to fight discrimination against lesbians, gay men, and people with AIDS and related conditions.

Anti-Violence Litigation Project launched

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legal system and litigation tools as our weapons, we will fight this senseless violence and send these criminals to jail where they belong."

NGRA Executive Director Jean O'Leary commented: "As the gay and lesbian community becomes increasingly vocal, and as the hysteria linked to the AIDS epidemic rises, acts of violence against gay men and women escalate. NGRA intends to send a strong message to these bigots and bashers that their harassment and violence will not be tolerated."

The litigation manual will provide model forms of commonly needed documents, jury selection techniques, and strategies for overcoming many of the hurdles confronting gay and lesbian litigants. The pamphlet for lay people will answer a variety of questions frequently raised by victims of anti-gay/lesbian violence.

NGRA will work closely with Community United Against Violence, a San Francisco-based support organization for victims of anti-lesbian and gay violence, with the Anti-Violence Project of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force in Washington, D.C., and with the New York City Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project.

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All interested organizations are requested to send representatives to this important meeting.

National lesbian conference set for early '90s

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The first meeting to organize a comprehensive national conference by, for and about lesbians, was held in Washington, D.C. on September 24 and 25, to launch coordination of the idea born of the October 11, 1987 March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. An ad-hoc group of east coast lesbians convened the open meeting to begin to set goals and to establish the initial planning structure for the conference, which is tentatively scheduled for late 1989, early 1990.

The conference envisioned as the first of its kind, is conceived as a broad-based coalition effort to set a lesbian agenda for social, economic, and political change, to increase lesbian visibility and to

acknowledge lesbian diversity and common ground.

Regional planning meetings on the national lesbian conference are being organized throughout the country in the months ahead. The first national steering committee meeting, with representatives chosen by each region at the regional planning meetings is scheduled for the weekend of March 4 - 5, 1989 in Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina.

Lesbians interested in getting involved should watch for local announcements of regional planning meetings. For more information, write: National Lesbian Conference, P.O. Box 3057, Albany, NY 12203.

Ratner appointed trustee of Samaritan Board

LOS ANGELES — Samaritan College and the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC) announced the appointment of Ellen Ratner to the Board of Trustees of Samaritan College. Ms. Ratner is the President of the National Lesbian and Gay Health Foundation — the oldest lesbian and gay health organization in the country. The UFMCC — a 20-year-old international network of congregations that provides lesbians and gays with the opportunity for religious worship — established Samaritan College as a training seminary for clergy representing the Metropolitan Community Churches.

Ms. Ratner is the first person of the Jewish faith to be appointed to the Board of Samaritan College, a substantially Christian organization. Ms. Ratner's appointment reflects a decisive step toward establishing the College as the first accredited university with a predominately gay and lesbian student body — Samaritan's long-term objective.

"We are delighted that Ellen Ratner will be joining our Board," said Reverend Sherre Boothman, President of Samaritan College. "She will be an enormous asset. Her credentials are outstanding, particularly her expertise in the human services area where Samaritan has recently added a degree program," she explained.

"I look forward to devoting my time

and energy to the growth of Samaritan College," expressed Ratner. "Samaritan has filled a major void in the lives of so many gays and lesbians. It has a great future ahead of it, and it's extremely fulfilling to me to know that I will be a part of Samaritan's future."

Samaritan College has a long history of service to the gay and lesbian community, and is committed to building a university that will meet the special needs of gays and lesbians. Over 400 students attend Samaritan College in the United States, Canada, Australia and Western Europe.

In addition to serving as the President of the National Lesbian and Gay Health Foundation, Ms. Ratner is widely recognized as a leader in the field of chemical dependency treatment for lesbians and gay men. In 1974 she founded and became Director of the Wollaston II Psychiatric Day Treatment Center, New England's largest day treatment facility. Ms. Ratner also co-directed the Boundaries Therapy Center in 1973.

Currently, Ms. Ratner serves as a member of the management team of the Addiction Recovery Corporation, which is dedicated to research, education and the prevention of addictions. Further, she was founder of Pride Institute in the nation's first chemical dependency treatment center specifically aimed at the needs of the gay and lesbian community.

Gay television starts production

FT. LAUDERDALE — GTV, the new video television network for the gay community both here and in Europe, has started production on its programming. And, what once was only a dream and vision for founder and President, Kay Masters, is now a reality.

Developing programming and building a system of gay establishment affiliates has consumed most of Master's time and a great deal of money. "Now that we are actually bringing out the cameras and taping many of the segments we will use for our premiere in January, I am delighted. I've missed being a part of the creative world and as our

slogan says, 'It's about time' for GTV," Masters says.

GTV's production crew spent more than 40 hours at the Marlin Beach Hotel in Ft. Lauderdale, taping segments for GTV's "Cruisin'", a video tour of the gay bars, restaurants and resorts around the world. The Marlin, situated right across the street from the Atlantic Ocean has been a favorite resort for the gay community for more than 18 years. "We were very pleased with the site. It was just a perfect spot for many of the scenes we need for the show. The Marlin's staff couldn't have been more accommodating and helpful," said the

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GTV has been making a big splash not only here in South Florida, but all across the country and the world. Sales agents are in place in California and Europe and GTV is starting to sign up bars everywhere. "The bar owners know that it's just a great idea and we have already signed up establishments. And, we think that's pretty fantastic considering we don't even have a demo tape. Kay has a lot of respect from the gay community and certainly the credentials to make this project work," says Sales affiliate manager, Louise Cook.

Dru Scott wins lead in "Dears"

Dru Scott, who only recently relocated to South Florida after working in Hollywood has been selected to play

"David", one of the key roles in GTV's hilarious new sit-com, "Dears" (a take off on the very popular "Cheers"). Scott has worked as an actor in many films and TV productions. Some of the films Scott has appeared in are: *Black Sunday*, *The Champ*, *Smokey II* and *Married to the Mob*. His TV credits include playing an Assistant D.A. on *Miami Vice* and national commercial spots for Stroh's Beer and the world famous Breakers Hotel.

GTV, Gay Television will be premiering to gay bars, restaurants and resorts in both the USA and Europe in early 1989 and the sit-com "Dears" is predicted to be one of the network's biggest hits.

Bar, restaurant or resort owners wishing to advertise or carry GTV's programming should call (407) 624-0044 immediately to take advantage of the special introductory rates.

5th annual holiday banquet held by OP

TUCSON — Laughter, fine food and good cheer overflowed the Doubletree Hotel banquet room Saturday, December 18, as the Old Pueblo Business & Professional Association (OP) celebrated its fifth annual holiday banquet.

The sit-down dinner was accompanied by music from Go For Baroque, a keyboard, flute and cello ensemble, at home performing a number of music styles. Following the three-course dinner, magician Bill Black demonstrated how to both make and burn money. Responding to the call of the OP

diners, New Age Santa appeared, spreading gifts donated by members and friends of OP.

At the next monthly OP meeting, January 19, at the Plaza International Hotel, psychiatrist Frank Pieri will identify the connections between stress in the workplace and psychological impairment among professionals.

Men and women interested in building a better community are encouraged to call 297-3794 in Tucson for more information about OP's programs or membership information.

Sierra Tucson to bring in noted author for lecture

TUCSON — Sierra Tucson Center For Addictions Recovery will bring Terry Gorski, author of *Staying Sober — A Guide For Relapse Prevention* and *The Staying Sober Workbook — A Serious Solution For The Problems of Relapse*, to Tucson to speak on the problems of relapse in a lecture January 19.

The lecture, free to the public, is entitled "Relapse: How To Recognize It, How

To Avoid It, What To Do If It Happens". It will begin at 7:00 p.m. at Catalina High School, 3645 E. Pima.

Gorski is the president of CENAPS Corporation, a center for applied sciences in Hazel Crest, Illinois and is a nationally-known speaker on the problems of relapse for the alcoholic and addict.

For further information, call Sierra Tucson at 624-4000.

Team Arizona Swim team takes nine firsts

PHOENIX — Team Arizona, training and competing locally in preparation for the International Gay and Lesbian Championships in Vancouver, a prelude to the Gay Gaymes III, took mostly firsts in the Glendale Gauchos Third Annual Christmas Plunge Swim Meet at Glendale Community College last week.

The one-day meet saw thirty-three participants in twelve events. Three Team Arizona members competed, Mark Sandau, 30-34 age, Steve Romero, 25-29, and Bill Nolan, 50-54. The fourth member, Steve McMurtry, 30-34, was unable to compete due to his duties as co-meet director for the coming State Championships in Tempe.

Sandau racked up all firsts in his four competitions, 100, 200 and 500 yard

freestyles and the 4X50 medley relay. Romero garnered two firsts and one second in the 50 yard backstroke, 100 yard butterfly and 200 yard individual medley. Neal took all firsts in the 100 yard individual medley, 500 yard freestyle and the 100 yard backstroke.

"We are a growing, dedicated team, striving at this time to make a good showing at the Gay Games III in Vancouver in 1990. We need your help you ex-swimmers, so come out and swim with us," said Nolan.

Team Arizona practices at Christown YMCA and McClintock Pool in Tempe. Upcoming meets include: February - Ott YMCA, Tucson; March - International Gay

Continued on page 8

L.J. Productions wishes to thank the Community for its support of 'Celebration of Life' and 'Hair' Benefits in 1988.

Over \$5,000 was raised and donated to our various AIDS Charities.

Plan now to attend 'Celebration of Life' with top entertainers and recording artists in 1989.

**Thank you and God Bless
LittleJohn McCarey**

MONDAY

**11th Frame Strike
All Well & Beer \$1.00
For League Bowlers
Draft Beer Bust 50¢, 9 - 12**

TUESDAY

**Oldies & Goodies
Music From The Past
8 PM — 1 AM
All Schnapps 50¢**

WEDNESDAY

**Tradition Continues
Mid-Week Break
Pint Of Beer 50¢
Dancing Until 1 AM**

THURSDAY

**Pool Tournament - Cash Prizes
— Brad's Specials —
Dancing at 9 PM with David Carpenter**

FRIDAY NIGHT FEVER

**Pint of Beer 50¢, 9 - Midnight
Free Drawing for Brunch for 2 at Wink's
Afterhours 'til 3 AM
Free Coffee On The House**

SATURDAY

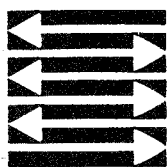
**Afternoon "Pool Tournament"
Dancing 'til 3 AM
Afterhours 1 AM - 3 AM
Free Coffee**

SUNDAY

**Pint of Beer 50¢
6 PM - Midnight
Club House BBQ 8 PM - 11 PM
Dart Tournament, 3 PM - Cash Prizes**



**4223 North 7th Street at Devonshire
248-9730**



**LESBIAN
& GAY
COMMUNITY
SWITCHBOARD,
INC.**

Information & Referral
234-2753
Arizona AIDS Information Line
234-2752

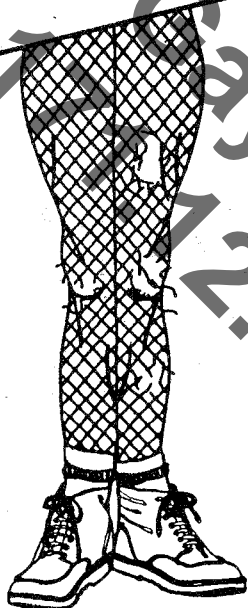
Post Office Box 16423 • Phoenix, Arizona 85011-6423



**Please Join Us
As We Present**

Direct From
Oil Can Harry's
In Los Angeles

An Evening With
the **CAMPERS**



**Friday
January 13th**

One Show Only At
8:30 P.M. At
K.C.
4240 N. Central Ave.

**\$3.00 Donation To
L.G.C.S. At The Door**

Team Arizona takes nine firsts

Continued from page 7

and Lesbian Championships, Vancouver;
April - Arizona State Championships,

Tempe; and, in May - Masters National
Short Course Championships, Boca Raton,
Florida.

Further information about Team
Arizona is available from Bill Nolan, P.O.
Box 6241, Phoenix, AZ 85005.

functions. For additional information, call
831-5920.

For couples in the Tucson area, Bob

will be giving a similar presentation for
COUPLES of Tucson, on Saturday, January
7. Space is limited for that session, so please
call 888-8694 for reservations and location.

Tax seminar for lesbian and gay couples scheduled for January 14th

PHOENIX — "Did you know that the
new tax laws actually give lesbian and gay
couples several advantages over 'traditional'
married couples, in the area of income tax
planning? Difficult to believe, but it's true,"
said Bob Lind, a senior tax accountant with
a Phoenix C.P.A. firm. Lind will be the
guest speaker at a free informational presen-
tation, sponsored by COUPLES of Arizona,
a social and educational organization for les-
bian and gay couples, on Saturday evening,
January 14, 7:30 p.m., at Augustana
Lutheran Church, 14th Street at Virginia.

As proprietor of Camelwest Income
Tax Service, which has served the Phoenix
gay community for five years, Bob has done
extensive research on this topic, and will
present a variety of planning strategies. He
will also review the changes in the tax laws
and 1988 forms that will likely affect us, and
answer any tax-related questions of a general
nature. The information gained from this
session will likely save attendees money and
time in filing their tax returns for 1988 and
future years. A similar session by Lind, last
year, was one of COUPLES' best-attended

Travel News Update

by David Starkman

PIEDMONT JOINED SISTER carrier
USAir this month in offering a 50 percent
discount fare to active duty military person-
nel and their dependents. All U.S. active du-
ty personnel who are either on leave,
furlough or pass within seven days of
discharge qualify for the reduced fare. Their
dependents are eligible even when traveling
alone. Both must show military/dependent
identification when purchasing tickets and
at check-in for flights.

THE FUTURE DOES not look rosy for air-
ports in the U.S. By the year 2000, the type
of congestion problems experienced on the
Sunday after Thanksgiving will be the norm
at many hubs. And agents can expect
158,200 hours of delays by 1996, compared
with 20,000 in 1986.

THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT will
eliminate its visa requirement for U.S.
citizens.

EL AL ISRAEL Airlines has come out with
a Super Apex fare from Los Angeles start-
ing at \$869 roundtrip to Tel Aviv. The super
Apex fares are available through March 31.
Tickets may be purchased up to 14 days
prior to departure. Minimum stay required
is six days; a maximum stay is 21 days. El
Al's Family plan provided discounts of up
to 50% for children traveling with parents,
also through March 31.

NORTHWEST AND ALASKA airlines
have set up senior citizen discount pro-
grams, offering 10% off domestic tickets for
passengers over age 62 and 65, respectively.

DELTA NOW OFFERS seniors 62 years or
older a 10% discount off most domestic
fares including the deeply discounted In-
stant Saver fares. A senior and a companion
of any age will receive the Young At Heart
fare discount by showing proof of age when
booking. The discount applies to some in-
ternational fares, pending government
approvals.

A 163-ROOM Howard Johnson Plaza-Hotel
has opened in Phoenix' SouthBank Business
Park. The hotel chain's three other proper-
ties will open in the west by 1990.

THE STOUTER HOTEL Co. has aban-
doned plans to buy the Westin Arizona
Biltmore Resort. That leaves the property
without a general manager or director of
marketing, both of whom transferred in an-
ticipation of new ownership. Officials said
guest services will not be affected.

THE HOTEL BEVERLY in New York is
wishing guests a happy holiday season by
reducing suite rates from a normal \$170 -
\$255 to a holiday rate of \$55 per person,
double on weekdays. The rate is applicable
for up to 14 consecutive night stays,
December 23 through January 7; rates for
a third and fourth person are \$10 each, with
a maximum four per suite.

LONDON IS WIDELY recognized as the
theatrical capital of the world and boasts
more than three dozen active theatres. Each
week, British Airways has more than 2,500

Continued on page 19



Camelback Business & Professional Association
P.O. Box 2097, Phoenix, AZ 85001

For Information on These & Other Activities Of
C.B.P.A. Call 228-7075 or 861-1486

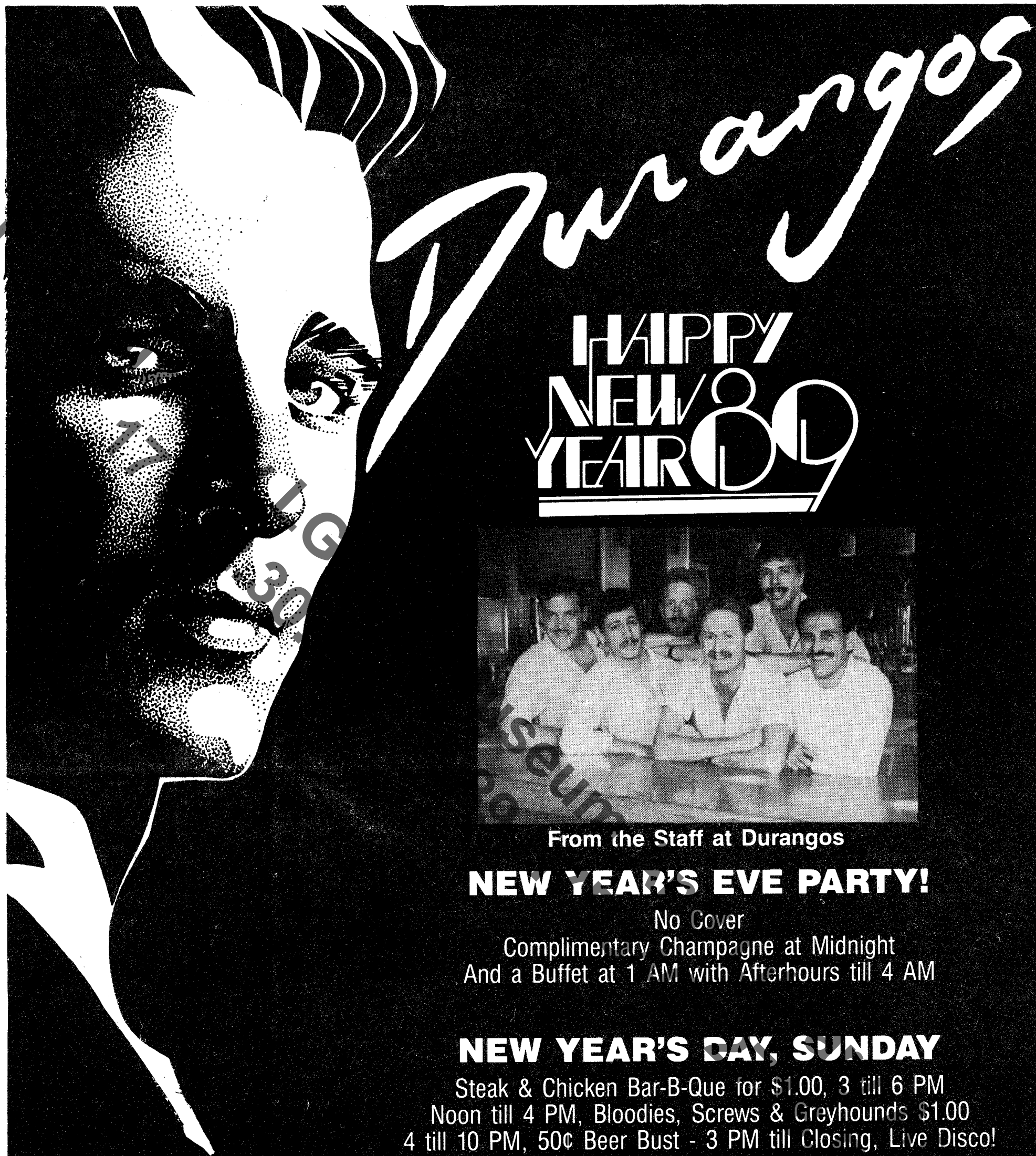
UPCOMING ORGANIZATIONAL EVENTS

Wednesday, January 11
Board of Directors Meeting
Members Only, Call for Time and Location

Thursday, January 19, 7:00 PM
Monthly Meeting "1989 Legal Forum"
Presented by Professional Members of the Legal Profession
Open to All Interested, Call for Location


Thursday, January 26, 5:45 PM
"Thirsdlay" Monthly Mixer
CLUB BS WEST, 7125 5th Ave., Scottsdale
Open to all Current and Prospective Members

IT JUST MAKES GOOD BUSINESS TO BE A MEMBER.



Durangos

HAPPY NEW YEAR 89



From the Staff at Durangos

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY!

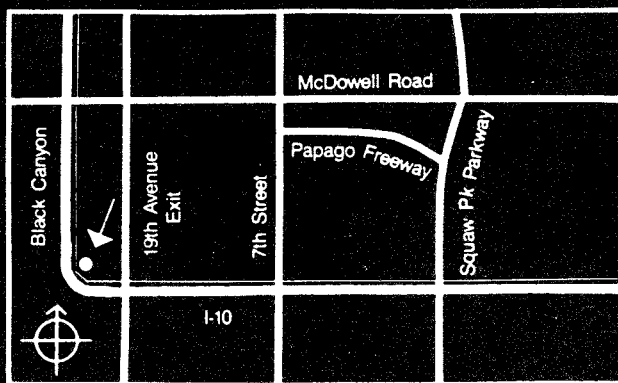
No Cover
Complimentary Champagne at Midnight
And a Buffet at 1 AM with Afterhours till 4 AM

NEW YEAR'S DAY, SUNDAY

Steak & Chicken Bar-B-Que for \$1.00, 3 till 6 PM
Noon till 4 PM, Bloodies, Screws & Greyhounds \$1.00
4 till 10 PM, 50¢ Beer Bust - 3 PM till Closing, Live Disco!

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 8 till 10 PM

Happy Anniversary to Bruce & John — Join them as we celebrate their Anniversary with a Complimentary Buffet & a Strip Show!



1519 South Black Canyon Hwy.
(At the I-17 Curve)
(602) 271-9017

Every Thursday Becky & D.J. host our Movie Matinee with complimentary hors d'oeuvres and drink specials. Join them as each week they present 2 to 3 top video movies from 1:00 PM

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5: "The Witches of Eastwick", "Nightmare on Elm Street" and "The Haunting"
THURSDAY, JANUARY 12: "Three Men and a Baby", "Romancing the Stone" and "Cinderella"

Start the New Year Right!

NEW YEAR'S EVE
Saturday, December 31
AN ORIENTAL NEW YEAR'S

See Madame
 Butterfly In
 Action!
 Specials On
 Asahi!
 Sukiyaki!



Buffet at 7 PM, Show at 9 PM
'Kimona Down & Join the Fun'

NEW YEAR'S DAY
Sunday, January 1, 1989
 Start off the New Year with
Half Price Drinks,
Noon Till 3 PM

MONDAY MORNING
NEW YEAR'S MADNESS
 Pre-Game Drag Shows!
 Shows at 8 AM, 10 AM,
 Noon and 2 PM

Welcome Back Our Famous M.M.M.'s
 With
Casondra, Felicia,
Tish Tanner & Roxanne
 and their Guests!

Little Jim's 307
 Phoenix Chicago Ft. Lauderdale

Home of the
 Arizona Rangers

222 E. Roosevelt — 252-0001

Around The Globe

Argentina Group In Crisis — Police Abuses Continue

by John Hubert

The Comunidad Homosexual Argentina (CHA), the "Argentinean Gay Community" group, reports that they are in a total crisis, as they have no funds, to carry out their work. They especially need contributions to help purchase typewriters and to cover their activity costs.

CHA is the oldest and principal organization in Argentina, founded by about ten organizations to provide a united front against a repressive police department and an unfriendly new democratic government under current president, Raul Alfonsin.

CHA publishes a 36-page magazine called *Valos A Andar* (we are going to walk freely), which they get out as often as funds permit. They also have a "Stop SIDA" (Stop AIDS) campaign and participate in educational projects on TV, radio and in conferences in universities, etc. One of their main and most unpleasant tasks is to keep track of police abuses against gay people and to carry out campaigns to stop them. While Argentina has gone from a brutal Nazi spirited military dictatorship to a democratic government, the police have not changed their anti-gay directions one iota.

In July, CHA reported that the police raids against gay people resumed again under the pretence of a campaign to repress and combat crime and drug trafficking.

CHA's current protest campaign centers on the police raids that have occurred since July in the districts of San Telmo and Montserrat, two poor barrios of Buenos Aires. CHA is protesting police abuse not only against gays but also against the general public, mostly underprivileged peoples. CHA is demanding before the mass media and governmental authorities that the police be forced to end their antidemocratic and repressive policies against the general public and especially those who are poor or commonly discriminated against. "With repression and discrimination there is no democracy," said Alejandro Zalazar, President of CHA. "The drug problem and crime must be combated by efficient, well directed policies, not by unconstitutional, repressive and discriminatory methods."

Readers may help CHA by sending a protestletter to Presidente Raul Alfonsin, Palacio de Borierno, Buenos Aires, Argentina. A copy to CHA will be appreciated. A free protest letter translating service into Spanish is available by writing to Paz y Liberacion, P.O. Box 66450, Houston, TX 77266. Financial contributions to help CHA can best be sent via American Express International money order made out to Alejandro Zalazar and sent to CHA at: Casilla de Correo, 45, Sucursal 37, 1437 Buenos Aires, Argentina. Please do not use their name on the envelope.

Lesbiska Sekcija, the new lesbian group in Ljubljana, Yugoslavia is receiving lots of mail and requests for their new magazine *Lesbozine*. The funds for the first issue were lent by the Committee of the Republic of the Socialist Alliance of Slovenian Youth and future issues will be published with the help of Dutch gay and lesbian groups.

The publication of their first issue was announced on the local student radio station and in the newspaper *Mladina*, which is not only read in Slovenia, but in other Republics as well. Many women who are afraid to join the group are ordering by mail. Many lesbians are afraid to come to Ljubljana because they feel that someone might recognize them. Some from small towns are afraid that they might lose their jobs. Many women cannot understand why Lesbiska Sekcija is so open and trying to spread information about lesbian life-styles. They hope to stay in contact with other groups. Write to them at: SKUC-FORUM, Lesbiska Sekcija, Kersnikova 4, YU-61000 Ljubljana, Yugoslavia.

Asian Wind, the English language publication of Japan, reports that the International Exchange Association (IEA) has been formed by JILGA, the Japanese gay and lesbian group, to help non-Japanese who plan to immigrate to Japan to deal with the many problems.

The group will also deal with Japanese who wish to emigrate from Japan. The group welcomes letters from abroad. For more information contact Mr. Kazumi Makin, 2-8-22, Midorigaoka, Meguro-Ku, Tokyo 152, Japan.

New Men, New Minds, Breaking Male Tradition, is a book of transformations — an anthology of articles and personal confessions by men exploring the traditional rules of masculinity. *New Men, New Minds* shows how men can support each other in overcoming their separateness, their fears and their need for control. For a copy you may send \$8.00, including postage, to the author, Franklin Abbott, Ansley Therapy Associates, 1904 Monroe Drive, N.E., Suite 120, Atlanta, GA 30324.

Mr. Abbott is now preparing a new collection of writings about men, to be titled "The Image and The Act: Men, Sex and Love." It will be a book by men about how our imaginations guide our actions in the area of sex and love. Submissions are invited. International writers are especially encouraged to submit articles, personal stories and poems dealing with male sexuality, fantasy, falling in love, love-making, and the connections between these topics.

The informal Greek lesbian and gay group, AKOE, in Athens has now formed an official government recognized organization called E.O.K. (Greek Gay Community). This has been done in order to carry out formal contacts with the authorities and to qualify to receive funds from the state and local governments.

AKOE publishes a magazine, *Amphi*, whose editor is Irene Petropulu. She invites people worldwide to send news items of interest to her for possible publication in *Amphi*. Gregory Vallinatoes is the Information Secretary and International Secretary and recently became the editor of the new gay magazine, *Gay*. He also appeared on Greek television in a debate about AIDS and was interviewed on the radio about Gay Pride Day and about homosexuality in general.

AKOE and EOK are hoping to receive some government subsidies, though at present members are paying for the office rent and other costs with money from their own pockets. They are especially grateful to their twin, RFSL of Stockholm, Sweden, for covering their International Lesbian & Gay Association (ILGA) membership fee and helping to pay a part of the travel costs to attend the ILGA World Conference in Oslo, Norway in July.

All foreign visitors are welcome at the AKOE office, located at Zalangu 6A, Athens, Greece Tel: 364-3688. The mailing address is AKOE, P.O. Box 26022, GR 100 22 Athens, Greece.

The Colectiva Lesbica Feminista Ayuquelen (C.L.A.), the dynamic lesbian feminist group in Chile is preparing to get out the first issue of their Boletin, which will be aimed at raising the consciousness of lesbians and gays in Chile.

They report that the blind oppression from the authorities and the general public continues, but what hurts most is the open hostility from the heterosexual feminist movement.

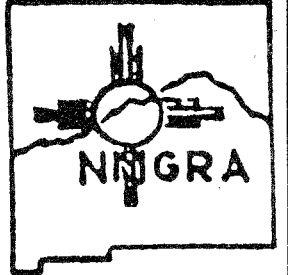
This homophobia seems to be a product of the political allegiances of some feminist leaders, though there are is another quantity of heterofeminists who give C.L.A. their total support. Education is the key and C.L.A. is confident that with or without Pinochet, they will overcome this homophobia by the heterosexual feminists and Chilean society in general.

Lilian Inostroza, one of the leaders of the Colectiva Ayuquelen, attended the ILGA World Conference in Oslo, Norway in July, thanks to donations from Europe and the U.S. This international participation was important for the group and the future of the Chilean movement.

Readers who would like to help out can send an American Express International money order or traveler's check, made out to Susana Pena Castro, to C.L.A., Casilla 70131, Correo 7, Santiago, Chile.



IT'S A.G.R.A.'S FOURTH ANNUAL RODEO THE ROAD RUNNER REGIONAL RODEO



JANUARY 13 - 15, 1989

Co-Sponsored by:

Arizona Gay Rodeo Association • New Mexico Gay Rodeo Association

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13

4:00 PM Mr., Ms. & Miss
A.G.R.A. Finals Contest
9:00 PM Winners Announced
6 - 10 PM Rodeo Contestant Registration
at Rodeo Grounds

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14

9:00 Gates Open
12 NOON Grand Entry with A.G.R.A. Grand
Marshals for Arizona, Don
Pintacura and Rob Speir
1:00 PM Arena Rodeo Events
7:00 PM Dance Fest

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15

9:00 AM Gates Open
12 NOON Grand Entry with N.M.G.R.A.
Grand Marshal for New Mexico,
Jim Hussin
1:00 PM Arena Rodeo Events
Evening RRRR Show and Awards



The Doug Cooper Show
Cocktail Hour
Saturday & Sunday



J.T. (Jim) Fredericks
Featured Entertainment Sunday Night

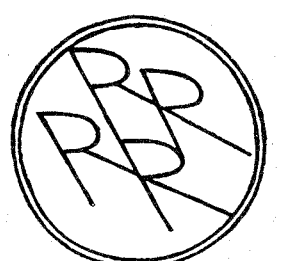


EL LIENZO CHARRO RODEO GROUNDS

S.E. Corner 29th Ave. & Baseline Road
Phoenix, Arizona

For More Information Call:

Crawford, 274-5855; Treva, 242-7150; Ron, 279-1020; Artie 938-3932



Charlie's

PHOENIX

That lil ole bitty pissant country place

Coming Events

**Saturday,
December 31st**

**New Year's Eve Party at
Charlie's. Party Favors &
Champagne. 'Mr.
Charlie's 1989 Calendars'**
\$2.00 Admission

Sunday, January 1st

VOLUNTEERS!!

Road Runner Regional Rodeo
Organizational meeting at 2 PM.

Have fun... Work hard... Get involved!

Tuesday, January 3rd

First 'Mr. Charlie's' Weekly
Contest for 1989

Friday, January 6th

'Mr. Charlie's Autograph Party'

Have your new 1989 Mr. Charlie's Calendar
autographed by the men who helped raise over
\$8,500

for the Lesbian & Gay Community Switchboard

Tuesday, January 10th

'Mr. Charlie's' Weekly Contest

Wednesday, January 11th

Kick-off Party for Road Runner Regional
Rodeo featuring the Grand Finale for the
Mr., Ms. and Miss AGRA Contestants

Friday, January 13th

Rodeo Weekend starts off with Charlie's
Own Black Out Party!!

**Saturday & Sunday,
January 14th & 15th**

Road Runner Regional Rodeo
at El Lienzo Charro Rodeo
Grounds at 29th Avenue
and Baseline.

LET'S RODEO!!

Home of A.G.R.A.

Charlie's Country Cloggers - The Sunburst Squares

727 W. Camelback Road, Phoenix, Arizona

265-0224

★C★H★E★E★R★S★

by Rodney Martin

(with a little help from his friends)

Photography by Jesse Lujan

HAPPY NEW YEAR, 1989.... Those wonderful New Year's predictions will be coming up in the next edition, and a real careful look at last year's. Remember all those little promises you made last January? Well, I do! And are you going to hear about them!! Also, I'm sure a number of ridiculous New Year's resolutions will be loudly professed across the bars of Phoenix by then and I want to hear about them. Pick out the 'best' and give me a call.

However, that's for next issue... let's get on with the matters at hand. Of course the 'biggy' coming up is the Rodeo. This is the largest club sponsored social event of the year and A.G.R.A. has outdone themselves with this year's planning. Over 300 hotel rooms are already reserved and it's still over two weeks away! January 13 - 15 - THE ROAD RUNNER REGIONAL RODEO, BE THERE!!!!



Puppeteer Barry Conyers at Preston's for CBPA's Benefit Christmas party for CAC.

Congrats to everyone who took part in the CBPA Benefit at Preston's. The bar and CBPA put on a very classy function. With over \$6,500 raised for CAC's Center fund... you all deserve a big hand!!!!

They did it again at Little Jim's 307, raising \$224.50 for AIDS charities with their customer Turnabout. Just how much have you people raised this year?... It's a record, I'm sure...



Your friendly staff at Durangos.



With my buddy, Santa Bill at Apollo's.

Talk of the Town with a MS. Santa Claus? Yep, Lynn was somewhere under that beard, leading the cheering for a great show by Penelope Poupe' and Company, Barry Conyers, Mona Littlemore, Ashley Boucannon, dancer Jim and more....

The newlyweds, Mr. & Mrs. Asher have been working their tails off (so to speak) this month as Santa and his helper... making all the rounds, passing out gifts and spreading the warm feelings of Christmas. I would personally like to thank them for all they've done. Also, the registry book is complete and ready at Tuff Stuff....

STIXX employees and a lot of friends put on a Christmas Turnabout for the enjoyment of all and the benefit of AIDS charities raising \$200 and spreading a lot of Christmas cheer....



The ever so Kenny Sacha in a 'Chaning' pose at his show at THE CLUB.

Well, the I.T.A. trip to La Paz, Mexico again went to a recipient in Tucson and a customer of Colette's. Maybe next year, Phoenix... to the lucky winner, congratulations — and have a great time in the warm weather....

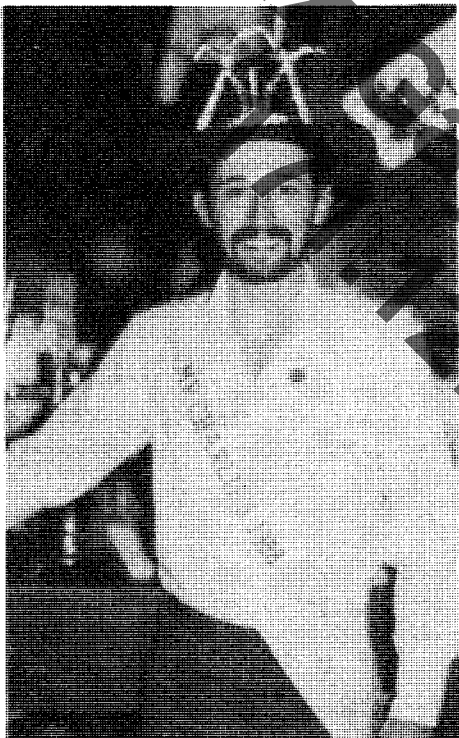
That photo of the baby boy that ran a couple of issues past was none other than Pat Olivo of Apollo's! Now, did I understand that Rick Case, Tony Bartoli and Michael T. were wanting the address and phone number of this handsome young man? Of course he's all growned up now, and sans some of the hair. (Did I say SOME?) Thanks, Pat, for the photo. Are there some more out there? Send them in for us to share....



A 'very' suspicious table at the show at Wink's.



Charlie's Country Cloggers Christmas party. This is the way they came in dressed — then they put on the costumes!



The new 'Mr. Charlie's', Charlie (no relation).

Kenny Sacha did it again... THE CLUB was packed for 'Phoenix's favorite performer' last week for their Christmas show. It's always a fun night when Kenny comes to town....

Charlie's ended up the year right once more with their "21 Days of Christmas". Lots of money raised for clubs and charities, Charlie was named 'Mr. Charlie's,' and lots of fun was had for the three-weeks-long event. Plus they opened the patio and started the Phoenix Volleyball Tournaments. Anything planned for January????

I've found a new 'holie'. Have you heard of a 'salsa-holie'? Well, this person eats Salsa morning, noon and night and always snacks on the stuff in-between. Good luck, Mom — eat to your heart's content!!!!

No physical violence from Vera this month! She must have bagged her limit for the year! Look out, though — here comes another year and a new limit!! Will we all be safe from V.V.V.V. (Voluptuous Vera the Vivacious Vixen)? Stay tuned right here in this column for episode number one, 1989. By the time the next issue gets out I'm sure she'll have something to be reported on....

Sister Kong is doing just fine at Apollo's since he 'found out' how to manually wash glasses. Stop by and check out the wrist action....

My best goes out to Samantha and Michael who are still looking for that red and white hair dye. If anyone can help, please do, these kids could use all the help they can get — obviously! Oh yes, if anyone has seen Sam's missing underwear elastic band, please return it... this isn't pretty....

House Spouse (Hegy) tells me the inside of the house is finished and now he has started on the outside. What colors could he possibly choose for it? Any suggestions? Write to 'Colors for the Condo'. A faaabulous prize might await you, possibly presented by Ed McMahon....

Mad Alice is wintering over from Prescott....

What's this about Wayne and Moosala??? Could there be a fire coming on? And perhaps another wedding to plan on? Well, we must hear the rest of this story....



Is this Santa Claus, or is this Lynn at Talk of the Town, or is that a new way to wear one of Penelope's wigs?



The cast assembled for a final number at STIXX Turnabout Show and fundraiser.

Continued on page 14

Charlie's

PHOENIX

That lil ole bitty pissant country place

Daily Specials

Michael's Happy Hour

90¢ Well & Longnecks, 50¢ Draft
Monday thru Friday, Noon till 7 PM

Monday

Blue Margarita's 50¢, 7 till Midnight
"Undy Monday's" 2-4-1 Well Beer
& Schnapps if in your 'undies'!!
Charlie's Country Cloggers practice night

Tuesday

Draft 10¢, 7 till Midnight
Sunburst Squares practice night
"Mr. Charlie's" Weekly Contest

Wednesday

White Well Drinks 2-4-1, 7 till Midnight
Country Dance Lessons at 7:30 P.M.
Pool Tournament at 9:30 P.M.

Thursday

Half-Price Night On Everything!
7 till Midnight
Charlie's Country Cloggers practice night

Friday

50¢ Happy Hour, 6 till 9 P.M.
Well — Longnecks — Shots of Schnapps
Square Dance Lessons, 7 - 9 P.M.
Afterhours

Saturday

Long Island Iced Tea \$1.00 Noon till 7
Shuffleboard Tournament at 1 P.M.
Bare Chest Night from 7 - 9 P.M.
Cool off without your shirt and get
2-4-1 on All Drinks
Country Dance Lessons at 7:30 P.M.
Afterhours

Sunday

Brunch — 'Free Omelets To Order'
Noon till 2 P.M.
Long Island Iced Tea \$1.00 Noon till 7
Pinball Tournament at 2 P.M.
Cowboy Coolers \$1.00 7 till Midnight
Country Dance Lessons at 7:30 P.M.

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& Also starting on Thurs."ITALIAN NIGHT" dinner 8:pm

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Sat. 7th all night "BLACK OUT" party

Sun. 8th 8:30 pm "BASKET" contest \$25. first prize

Sun. 15th 4:pm "BRING YOUR MEAT B.B.Q."



★C★H★E★E★R★S★

Continued from page 13



At T.W.E. Benefit for Desert Overture Band, Rochelle and Valerie flank Max Sutherland of Charlie's Country Cloggers.

News...News...News! A new bar is coming our way in the 'Central area', complete with a large show room and a separate, even larger dance room plus bar/s. It's soon to be opened and named "on the WILD SIDE". Big plans are afoot for this and plans call for an opening in January. Yes, I will tell as soon as 'they' tell me 'I' can tell....

Barbara & Marsha will be checking into the Betty Ford Clinic and plan to stay awhile. Want to visit with Liz and share the shedding of a few extra pounds....

Have you seen all the little twinkly lights at TRAX? Really a good tribute to the season. Get over there during New Year's weekend before they're gone....

Well, didn't hear from Miss Julie this issue. Guess Vinny at Club BS West broke her arm for what she wrote last time! But there's going to be more as she goes on the road with her column, following the 'mission trail'....



One of the 'beauties' on hand at 307's Turnabout Show.

K.C. on Central is bringing back The Campers for a return engagement benefit for the Lesbian and Gay Switchboard on January 13. This is one of the funniest shows you can treat yourself to — and it's for a good cause with the cover going to L.G.C.S....

And, Wink's has the 'new look/new sound' Jim Fredericks before and after rodeo weekend. He's very good and popular and someone you should hear....

Did you catch 'Super Model' Andre Fiset at Bobby's? After seeing all those posters — which by the way are among the best selling ones in the history of the business — Phoenixians got a chance to ogle him in the flesh....

For live entertainment on New Year's hit the New Moon for the return of Ultra Pink band, (formerly CHANTEUZE). Dancing all evening with all the New Year's goodies....



Ashley Boucannon in performance at Talk of the Town's Christmas Party.



Bobby and the gang at Bobby's Christmas party...maybe the 'Bobettes'?

Continued on page 16

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NEW YEAR'S EVE DAY

Saturday, December 31

Join STIXX' Candidate for MR. A.G.R.A. RICH
For His CARWASH! — \$4 Donation for the CAC Hospice Fund
11 AM till 4 PM
'Start the New Year with a Clean Car!'

NEW YEAR'S EVE BLAST

Saturday, December 31

The Party Starts at 6 AM and Goes Through the
Welcoming in of the NEW YEAR!
Complimentary Champagne & Sandwiches at Midnight
— NO COVER —

NEW YEAR'S DAY

Sunday, January 1, 1989

'Hair of the Dog Party'
25¢ Bloody Mary's, Noon till 6 PM
Black-Eyed Peas, Ham and Cornbread for a
Prosperous '89 Served by MR. A.G.R.A. Candidate RICH
\$3 Donation to the CAC Hospice Fund

Sunday, January 8, 4 - 10 PM

RICH hosts a Casino Night,

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Featuring the Great Country/Western Singing of
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All Weekend for Your Entertainment



Your First Cocktail Only 25¢ With Your Rodeo Ticket Stub
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Check-in at 8:30, Show at 9:30

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Happy Hour"**

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Booze & Cruise**



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Monday — Saturday

\$1.00 Well Drinks

8:00 AM — Noon

\$1.00 Schnapps 8 AM — 4 PM

Tuesday — Zeus Kegger

8:00 PM — 10:00 PM 25¢ Draft

Thursday — Booze & Cruise

9:00 PM - Midnight \$1.00 Well

Saturday — Zeus Kegger

5:00 PM — 8:00 PM 25¢ Draft

Sunday — Booze & Cruise

5:00 PM — 8:00 PM \$1.00 Well

Thursdays & Fridays Listen To

The New Sounds From DJ's

Kevin & Lincoln

9:00 PM — 1:00 AM

5749 N. 7th Street — 277-9373

Member I.T.A. — Desert Overture Band

Apollo's Apocalypse Bowling Team

★C★H★E★E★R★S★

Continued from page 14



Why are these people smiling? Must have been a fun Christmas party at TRAX!



Good buddies, Tom Warner and Kenny Sacha at THE CLUB.



Glenn Q.A. at work at Apollo's Christmas party. He was Santa A's little Elf.



This person has more fun in drag than anyone in town! R.T. at The Graduate Christmas party at Charlie's.



Subsequent drinks went into the shoe, so they weren't wasted! Barry at Wink's Christmas party.

January 6, at the Scottsdale Center, an evening of top entertainment for a very worthy cause. What a great way to end one year and start the next....

Condolences go out to the family and friends of **Bill Sather** who succumbed to AIDS last week. He was a leader of our community who will be missed very much.

Well, as we all prepare ourselves for the upcoming New Year I would like to wish you all the very best and, Don't Drink and Drive. Your bartender will be more than happy to give you a helping hand, a coffee and call a cab. Don't take the chance!

In the New Year let's remember to help each other, brothers and sisters, in whatever way we can. If we stick and work together we can accomplish a great deal, especially in the battle against AIDS.

To my **Charlie**, thank you for all the good times — you have my love. Thank you all for a wonderful year and for always keeping ★C★H★E★E★R★S★ in your minds (if you don't I'll getcha!). Without your support I would not have the desire or energy to write this column!

★C★H★E★E★R★S★

Sometimes you wonder if it's safe to take a picture! Oh, the threats! All in fun at 307's Turnabout.

And if you are looking for a place to cure that hangover on Sunday after New Year's Eve, the place that can really do it is **NuTowne** and it just happens to be the day of the weekly bar-b-que, one of the oldest and most popular in the city. Just sit back and watch the world go by through rose colored eyeballs....

As a Christmas present, **Michael Rouse** is taking all the employees over at Durangos to the A.R.C.E. Benefit on

Bobby's

1810 E. McDowell

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Through the Holidays We'll Be "Dancin' on the Rooftops!"
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NEW YEAR'S EVE

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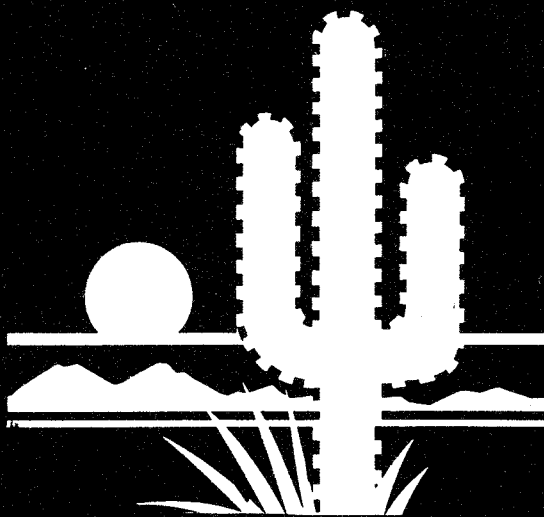
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"The flip side of Charlie's"

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Dancing to our DJ. 2-4-1 Cocktails, Hors d'Oeuvres.
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Tuesday: 25¢ Draft Beer, 7 till Closing
Wednesday: Long Island Iced Tea, \$1, 7 till Closing
Thursday: Club Night (Call for your Club's Fundraiser)
Friday: 25¢ Draft, 7 till Closing
Saturday: 2-4-1, Noon till 7

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**Happy Hour 2-4-1,
Noon till 7:00 PM
SEVEN DAYS A
WEEK!!!**

**THE ONLY
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PARTY**

Free Champagne at Midnight

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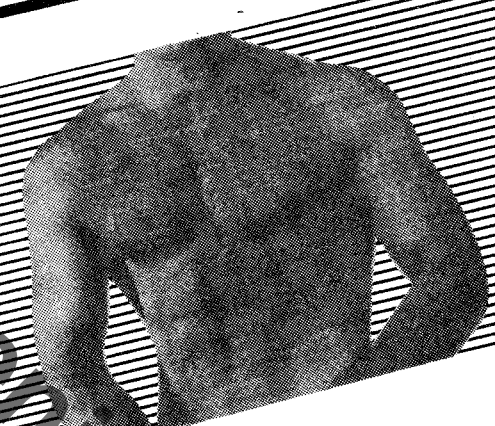
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Horatio Alger, Oliver Messel; 14th, Cecil Beaton, Pierre Loti, Yukio Mishima (Kimitake Hiraoka); 15th, Moliere (Jean Baptiste Poquelin), Ivor Novello, Mazo de la Roche, Franz Grillparzer; 16th, George Kelly; 17th, Ronald Firbank; 18th, Prince Henry of Prussia; 19th, Natacha Rambova, Stan Persky, Edmund White, Alexander Woolcott, Janis Joplin, all Capricorns. Aquarius birthdays in January are: 21st, Christian Dior; 22nd, Sir Francis Bacon,

George Gordon, Lord Byron, August Strindberg, Conrad Veidt; 23rd, Franklin Pangborn, Sergei Eisenstein, James Spada; 24th, Frederick the Great, Gustav III of Sweden; 25th, Aaron Fricke, W. Somerset Maugham, Virginia Woolf; 27th, Lewis Carroll (Charles Dodgson), Leopold von Sacher-Masoch; 28th, Gabrielle Sidonie Colette; 29th, Frederick Delius, Christian VII of Denmark, Robin Morgan; 31st, Tallulah Bankhead, Franz Schubert.

Travel News Update

Continued from page 8

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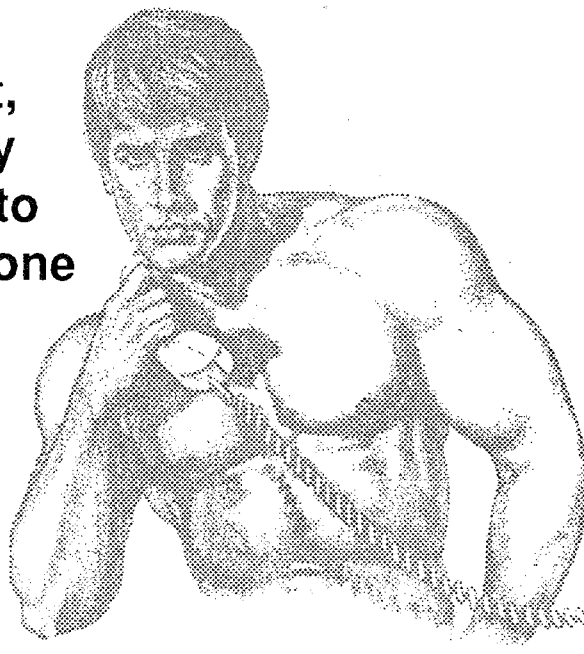
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Knights and Damsels Welcome



Fortunes

January, 1989

by Tycho

ARIES (March 21 - April 20) If love were all! The very personal and very sexual parts of your life are emotionally charged and very satisfying. Your professional life is full of changes and challenges. Confront them head on. Be a ram.

TAURUS (April 21 - May 20) Talk to your partner or travelling companion about all of these big travel plans. Don't be shy about your grandiose visions. You deduced last month that travel would be a main priority for 1989. Stick to that decision.

GEMINI (May 21 - June 21) This is a great time to settle a long standing dispute. Take care of that pressing situation in your life that you keep pushing out of the way because you just don't want to deal with it. Be done with it.

CANCER (June 22 - July 22) Your at-

titude toward your work is commendable, and no doubt an inspiration to others. While many work only for personal gain, you're more concerned now with reaching out and helping others. You understand the meaning of service.

LEO (July 23 - August 22) Don't get down on yourself simply because every little detail is not absolutely perfect. When striving for perfection overwhelms you, to the point that you miss out on simple pleasures, it's time to take a second, a third look.

VIRGO (August 23 - September 22) Well, now. Somebody's not giving you the love and attention that you need. And somebody else is waiting in the wings, ready and willing to give you what you've been missing out on. How deep is the old love? How bright is the new one?

LIBRA (September 23 - October 22) Your extra sensory perception is working overtime. You gain a strong, intuitive understanding of something in your life that had previously been very confusing. Don't

feel impelled to share this knowledge until more "real facts" are in.

SCORPIO (October 23 - November 21) The beauty that you're seeing in someone else is the kind of beauty that may not be at all apparent to others. Your striving for simplicity seems to be clearing away some of the clouds that get in the way of ordinary vision.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 - December 21) All sorts of people are drawn to you. Your magnetic attractiveness may be working better than you'd like it to. The humor of the situation may be more obvious to you than to the one who really loves you. Calm the jealousy, the fear.

CAPRICORN (December 22 - January 19) That part of you that is soft and yielding and very receptive comes to the forefront of your life. While some Capricorns will struggle against this part of themselves, those who give in may get a glimpse of all that heaven allows. Say yes.

AQUARIUS (January 20 - February 18) The opportunities for growth and

understanding are great all over the zodiac this month, but nowhere more so than in the sign of Aquarius. The wisdom that an experienced individual shares with you could change your mind, your heart.

PISCES (February 19 - March 20) While your plans for the future seem very steady and right on course, a disagreement with an important woman in your life could make for an unusual detour. A conversation with a Capricorn or a Taurus could be a great help.

BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH (January): 1st, E.M. Forster, William Haines, J. Edgar Hoover, Joe Orton; 4th, Marsden Hartley; 5th, Ian Young; 6th, John Weiners; 7th, Francis Poulenc, Chester Kallman, Robert Duncan; 8th, David Bowie (David Jones); 9th, Joan Baez, Richard Halliburton; 10th, Sal Mineo, Craig Russell, Johnny Ray, Gilles de Rais; 11th, Alexander Hamilton; 12th, Pierre Bernac; 13th,

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THE WESTERN EXPRESS

VOLUME VIII
NUMBER 3
SECTION II
ISSUE 185

DECEMBER 30, 1988 —
JANUARY 12, 1989

Now, THAT'S Entertainment!

If you've lived in Arizona long, you've probably come to realize that the holiday season is the *start* of the season, rather than the end.

In the snow and cold of the mid-west and New England it all sort of drops off after New Year's Day while everyone awaits the first signs of spring — usually a hole in the snow where the shoots of a crocus pop up but not for some months down the road.

We're indeed fortunate that we have increasingly better weather after December and our entertainment and arts presentations are just starting into their 'season'. Maybe that's why we all live in Arizona.

January promises a great month of places to go and things to do and February even more. Go out and enjoy while those in 'other' locales watch the snow drift even deeper.

Rampal Rings In Phoenix Symphony New Year

Acclaimed as one of the most enthusiastic music makers alive today, flutist Jean-Pierre Rampal shares that enthusiasm on January 5th and 6th in Symphony Hall.

Maestro James Sedares takes the podium when this virtuoso joins The Phoenix Symphony Orchestra for Neilson's Concerto for Flute and Orchestra and Mozart's Concerto for Flute No. 2, among other selections.

Rampal was born in Marseilles and studied under his father, principal flutist with the city's symphony. Later he studied at the National Conservatory and after graduating with first prize in flute became first flutist with the Paris Opera. Since then he has performed with all of the world's ma-



jor orchestras.

Tickets available at the Symphony Hall Box Office or at any Dillard's.

Shirlette Baker At Wink's



Jazz, blues, pops, ballads are all part of the vocal presentation Shirlette Baker will present at Wink's, January 6 and 7. The popular Phoenix entertainer opens her second run at the club following last year's successful stint.

Baker has headlined at Valley clubs for several years, enjoying a following worthy of her song styling and rapport with the audience.

Showtimes 9:30 p.m., no cover.

Alwun House Presents Mask Exhibition

Alwun House, the multi-media, cultural arts center in Phoenix, has been many things to many people and to the city. Among its best known presentations are

those evolving around Carnival, the Caribbean influence in music and visual arts, and the exotic flavorings of both.

Principal among these are exhibitions

involving masks as an art form. They have shown them, talked all sorts of Phoenix personalities into wearing them. And it's all tremendously interesting and entertaining.

African Ritual Mask Exhibition, a show of actual ritual masks accompanied with raw audio and video documentation of their ceremonial uses commences January 13.

From the collection of Richard Johnson and local artist Keith Johnson, the show commences with an opening reception on Friday the 13th (of course!) from 7:00 till

11:00 p.m. It continues with viewing by appointment through February 4th.

And if you want a little of the 'Caribbean' flavor, the Arizona Caribbean Association presents *Reggae Session '89* on January 21st. It goes from the 'roots' to current and future dance beats and you're invited to dance the night away with emcee Marcus Wright, host of "Reggae Street" on KJZZ radio.

Alwun House, 12th Street at Roosevelt, Phoenix. (602) 253-7887.

The Campers Return for LGCS Benefit at K.C.



A sure way to rid those post-holiday doldrums will be on tab at K.C. on Central when The Campers once again take the stage (or is that 'wreck the stage').

Returning for K.C.'s kickoff of the Road Runner Regional Rodeo as a second benefit for the Lesbian and Gay Community Switchboard on January 13, this troupe of zanies guarantees the giggles. Can you imagine Carol Channing, Mary Martin, Pearl Bailey and Barbra Streisand with 5 o'clock shadows and mustaches, and all doing songs

from *Hello Dolly* together? If you were there in November for their first appearance in Arizona, you'd believe it!

And there's much more from this company, now in their thirteenth year of hit residency at North Hollywood's Oil Can Harry's. It's a light-hearted evening that will leave you laughing and telling everyone else about it for weeks!

Friday, January 13, 8:00 p.m. \$3.00 donation to L.G.C.S.

"The Dark at the Top of the Stairs" opens at P.L.T.

William Inge's insightful drama is a look at a family in a small Oklahoma town in the early 1920's. It is the story of the Flood family and their daily struggle with love, prejudice and the pains of growing up.

Produced by Tom Oldendick and directed by Leonard Schach, *Dark* stars John Sankovich and Susan Marie Arnold as Mr. and Mrs. Flood. Also in the cast are Andrew Myers, Michelle J. Cruff, Danielle Gordon, William Phillips, Lin Haring, Neil Cohen and Brian Vaughn.

The play was first presented by Saint Subber and Elia Kazan at the Music Box Theatre in New York City on December 5, 1957 and became a hallmark of modern theatre. Directed by Kazan, the original cast featured Pat Hingle, Teresa Wright and Eileen Heckart, all major names in American theatre.

At Phoenix Little Theatre January 12 to 28, 8:00 curtain nights, 2:30 matinees on Sunday. 25 E. Coronado Road, 254-2151.

David Pennington's 'Constructed Paintings' at Scottsdale Center

New Directions, a series of exhibitions by emerging artists at the Scottsdale Center for the Arts, features the work of Bisbee artist David Pennington through February 5th.

Pennington's work involves two aspects

which balance each other out: analytic abstraction (constructed paintings), and psychological narrative (collages). The rela-

Continued on page 22

Wink's



January 6 & 7,

9:30 PM

The Ballads, Blues & Jazz of
SHIRLETTE BAKER

Friday, January 13,
9:30 PM

In Honor of the Road Runner
Regional Rodeo We Present

MR. JIM FREDERICKS

And be sure to see Jim at the Rodeo Show & Awards,
Sunday at the Rodeo Grounds as Featured Entertainer



January 14 & 15,
9:30 PM

**THE
DOUG COOPER
SHOW**

Doug also performs at the Rodeo, Cocktail Hour,
Saturday and Sunday

January 16, 17 & 18, 9:30 PM
THE JIM FREDERICKS SHOW

Introducing his New One-Man
Evening of Entertainment

**Monday Evenings It's
'WIN, LOSE OR DRAW'
With Pussy Le Hoot, 8:00 PM**

JAN ACEVEDO Entertains Wednesdays
Happy Hour 6:00 - 9:00 PM

Thursday Is
DYNASTY NIGHT
at 8:00 PM

Complimentary Champagne & Caviar (of course)

Don't forget Wink's Fabulous Lunches, 11:30 - 2:30 and TWE Readers
Choice 'Best Sunday Brunch' Served 11:30 - 3:00
WINK'S HAPPY HOUR 3 - 8 Monday thru Friday, 2-41 Well & Call

5707 N. 7th Street

265-9002

Now THAT'S Entertainment

Continued from page 21

tionship of the two aspects is as the right hand to the left.

The artists constructed paintings are composed of acrylic paint segments mounted on canvas and wood. Pennington's collages are made up of fabric, wallpaper, linoleum, photographs, sheet music and

many other materials adhered to wood.

The exhibit is free to the public with weekly tours on Sundays at 3:00 p.m. Scottsdale Center for the Arts, 7383 Scottsdale Mall, (602) 994-2301.

The Fabulous 'Dyketones' at Talk of the Town



'50s Rock and Roll takes over at the Talk of the Town on Tuesday, January 3, when the Dyketones take the stage by storm.

The nationally renowned women's band and revue hails from Provincetown and brings the '50s back to life like you've probably forgotten — if you were there. "It's 50 percent music and 50 percent theatre. Strutting, harmonizing, changing costumes and roles, The Fabulous Dyketones will have you doubled over in laughter with their

stage names and comedy bits".

"Rock Around The Clock", "Let's Go To The Hop", "That'll Be The Day", "It's In Her Kiss" and "She's So Fine" are all standards you can expect to hear. "These highly talented musicians will give you more than a concert/dance, they will recreate the '50s in Dyke High Style."

Two performances only, commencing at 8:00 p.m. Cover.

Benefits

Phoenix, 265-0395.

Multiple charities, Road Runner Regional Rodeo at El Lienzo Charro Rodeo Grounds with rough stock rodeo events. J.T. (Jim) Fredericks and Doug Cooper perform. Exhibition clogging and square dance events. January 13 - 15. Information: (602) 274-5855 or 242-7150, Arizona Gay Rodeo Association.

AIDS Referral, Counseling and Education at Scottsdale Center for the Arts, Friday, January 6, 8:00 p.m. Hans Olson, Y-Not and Cynthia Barber perform. Donation to ARCE. Scottsdale Mall. S.C.A., 994-2787 or ARCE, 831-7993.

Lesbian and Gay Community Switchboard at K.C., Friday, January 13, 8:00 p.m. The Campers perform. \$3.00 donation to L.G.C.S. K.C., 4240 N. Central,

Entertainment Dates

Arizona Opera Company presents Lakme, January 5 and 7, Tucson Community Center Music Hall and January 12 and 14 at Phoenix Symphony Hall. 7:30 curtains. In Tucson, 293-4337, in Phoenix, 254-1664.

K.C. presents "The Hollywood Knights, Part II" returning with an all-new cast. Friday, January 27. 4240 N. Central,

Phoenix, 265-0395.

Wink's presents J.T. (Jim) Fredericks, January 13 and 16, 17 and 18. Also Rudy de La Mor in the 'Rude Rudy Show', January 19 - 22. 5707 N. 7th Street, Phoenix, 265-9002.

Scottsdale Center for the Arts, David Borden's New Mother Mallard Band, Thursday, January 26. Scottsdale Mall, 994-ARTS.

The Arts

Phoenix Art Museum, Grand opening of the expanded Arizona Costume Institute Gallery, Friday, January 13. 1625 N. Central, Phoenix, 257-1880.

C.G. Rein Galleries, Doktor Thrill,

Snake Lady, Blue Angel and Lotta Heat appear in the Earl Linderman Exhibition, opening February 16, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. with a reception for the artist. 4235 N. Marshall Way, Scottsdale, 941-0900.



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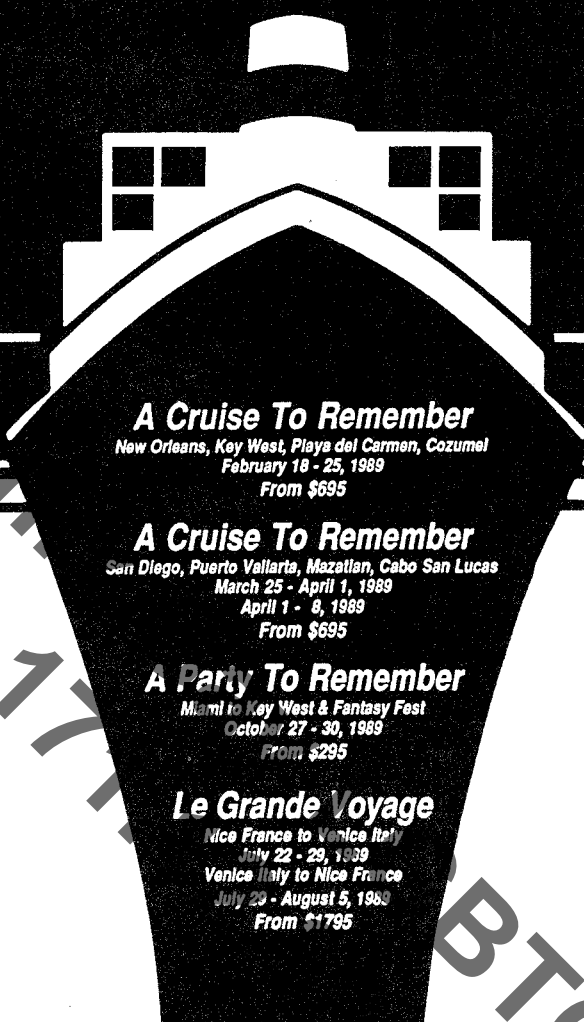
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Without Reservations

by Bill Orován

I trust that you all are still exploring some of the fascinating restaurants from the special anniversary listing of the last two issues, so I will dispense with the food portion of this column until next year. Instead,

I will present you with some of my thoughts on a handful of films that have just recently

opened as well as one that premieres in the Valley today.

ACCIDENTAL TOURIST



Macon Leary (William Hurt) attempts to train his Welch corgi Edward in Warner Bros.' "The Accidental Tourist", a romantic comedy-drama also starring Kathleen Turner and Geena Davis and based on the best-selling novel by Anne Tyler.

With Lawrence Kasdan (*Body Heat*, *The Big Chill*) as director and a cast that could almost corner the talent market in contemporary films anchored by William Hurt, Kathleen Turner and Geena Davis and including the likes of David Ogden Stiers, Ed Begley Jr., Amy Wright, Bill Pullman, young Robert Gorman and a Welch corgi

named Bud, you'd think that this film would be a real winner. The problem is that someone needs to put it through a time compression machine so that its actual two hour length doesn't give the impression of it droning on for an interminable five hours. Opens on January 6th.

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LAIR OF THE WHITE WORM

Probably the least Russellian (read bizarre) of all of Ken Russell's films, this one is sure to dishearten his loyal fans without being mainstream enough to pick

up any new ones. The ending, however, does get gory enough to satisfy most blood and guts aficionados and the humor is real fang-in-cheek.

Continued on page 24

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Without Reservations

Continued from page 23



Photo by Clive Coote

Catherine Oxenberg in the Vestron Pictures thriller "The Lair of the White Worm", directed by Ken Russell.

SALAAM BOMBAY!

Mira Nair's salute to the street children of Bombay is "a story that celebrates their spirit of survival, their humor, dignity and courage in a world that denies them the luxury of childhood." This film chronicles, in living color, the abject poverty that comprises the total environment of hoards of people in Bombay, and paints a telling picture of the lives of a few of them with tender

compassion. The story line is slight, so we perceive this to be sort of a combination of documentary and travelogue, but Shafiq Syed, the actor who portrays the young boy upon whom the movie centers, is so hypnotically charming that we will go to great lengths to forgive any flaws the picture might otherwise have.



Chaipau (Shafiq Syed) saves his friend Chillum (Raghubir Yadav) from a speeding train in a scene from "Salaam Bombay!" Directed by Mira Nair. A Cinecom Pictures release.

SPIKE OF BENSONHURST



Discussing the main course are Baldo Cacetti (Ernest Borgnine), his wife Sylvia (Anne DeSalvo), left, and Spike's mother Helen Fumo (Geraldine Smith) in FilmDallas Pictures' "Spike of Bensonhurst".

Paul Morrissey's most recent movie is the worst film I ever loved. By that I mean that technically I've seen more professional work done by college students, but somehow (I can't even begin to tell you why!) this whole mess is very entertaining. Part of the credit, obviously, has to go to charismatic newcomer Sasha Mitchell in the

title role who takes screenwriters Alan Bowne and Paul Morrissey's funky, quirky dialogue and makes it funny. He also does get solid support from Ernest Borgnine, Anne DeSalvo, Geraldine Smith and Sylvia Miles (who does a grand burlesque on Bella Abzug). A fast moving, thoroughly enjoyable experience.

WORKING GIRL



Photo by Andrew Schwartz

Melanie Griffith is sweet, street-smart Tess McGill, who has nothing but her brains and talent to pull her out of the secretarial pool, and Harrison Ford is Jck Trainer, the white-collar Prince Charming who becomes her ally, in Mike Nichols's comedy-drama "Working Girl" from Twentieth Century Fox.

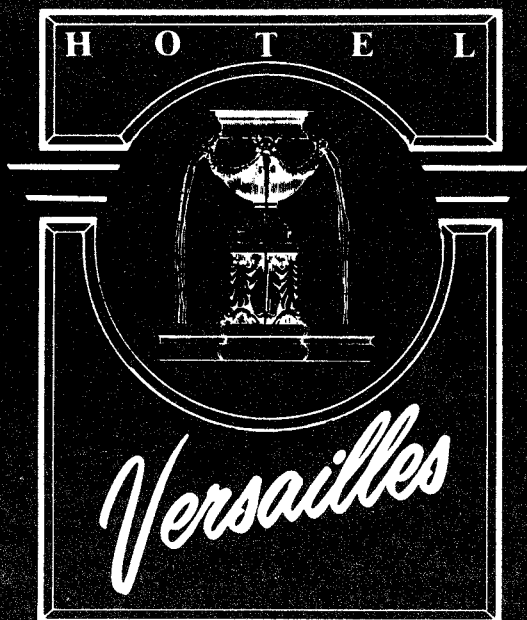
Melanie Griffith portrays a hard working, hard hitting, soft spoken working girl with "a head for business and a bod for sex. (Is there anything wrong with that?)" she inquires, in Mike Nichols' latest release which also features Harrison Ford and

Sigourney Weaver. Joan Cusack, in addition, does a bang-up job in the small but significant role of Cyn, her best friend. In a way this is a Kelly Girl rendition of *Broadcast News* goes *Wall Street*.

&c., &c., &c.

Welcome in the New Year with gusto, but be sure to drive with caution — I value

all my loyal readers and wouldn't want to lose a single one of you!



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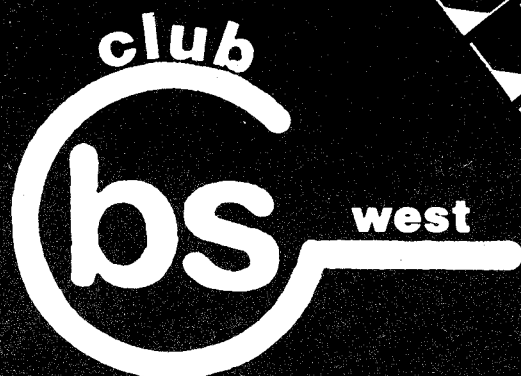
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"Torch Song Trilogy", the Movie

An Interview With Harvey Fierstein

by Rex Wockner



Photo by Steve Warren

Harvey Fierstein

The movie version of Harvey Fierstein's Tony Award-winning play *Torch Song Trilogy* opens nationwide in December and January, and Fierstein is proud to have made the first gay film in America starring an openly gay actor.

Fierstein has previously described himself as the "first real-live, out-of-the-closet queer on Broadway," and he made television history in 1984 by thanking his lover during the live Tony Awards broadcast.

In addition to the Tony for best actor, *Torch Song* also took best play honors in 1983. At the same ceremony, Fierstein picked up another Tony for the best book of a musical — *La Cage aux Folles*.

Two of Fierstein's more recent plays — *Safe Sex* and *Spook House* — have been much less successful than *Torch Song* and *La Cage*, although the third act of *Safe Sex* — *Tidy Endings* — has just completed a successful run as a Home Box Office production.

In recent interviews, Fierstein has expressed shock that *Torch Song* is now a movie, saying it's "a hundred times gayer than the play." Anne Bancroft plays Fierstein's mother in the film and Matthew Broderick his lover. We spoke recently about his excitement in finally getting *Torch Song Trilogy* to the silver screen.

Rex Wockner: The last time I talked to you, at the 1987 March On Washington, you were spending a lot of time living alone on top of a Connecticut mountain. I assume making and promoting a movie has brought you out in to the world, and into contact with heterosexuals, who you have said are not your favorite people.

Harvey Fierstein: They're still not my favorite people, and I get to my mountain pretty often.

RW: When you say the movie of *Torch Song* is gayer than the play, what are you referring to?

HF: Well, it's a realer world. In the play, there were three gay people on stage,

one bisexual, and two heterosexuals. In the movie, there's a couple of hundred gay people, a couple of heterosexuals, and one bisexual.

RW: There were a lot of scenes added to the film?

HF: Oh, lots. This is not a filmed version of my play. This is an adaptation of the play. It's a real movie.

RW: I read that Matthew Broderick had to psych himself into some of the scenes of same sex affection.

HF: That's not really true; much is being made of a very silly thing. The adjustment that had to be made was to go from a mother/son relationship [Broderick played Fierstein's son in the play] to a lover relationship. Our relationship has been based on him having played my kid and, even though our relationship over the years developed into a friendship, it still was colored by him being the kid and me being the adult. That's a kind of thing that doesn't change. So, our problem, on both our parts, was could we play lovers? I'm very happy to say that we had the time of our lives making the adjustment and I think that we are extremely believable lovers.

RW: Anne Bancroft has spoken very highly of *Torch Song*. However did you get such a big star into your relatively small production?

HF: It isn't really a small production when you think about it. If everybody had taken their salaries — the usual money that they get paid to make a movie — then we would have been a large-budget film. We didn't cheat on the production end of the film. We cheated on the salaries.

How did I get Anne? I told her five years ago that I wanted her to play the mother and when I was out in L.A. doing something, I managed to get Anne to have lunch with me and I gave her the first draft of the movie script, and she read it and she liked it, and said, "When it gets a little

Continued on page 28

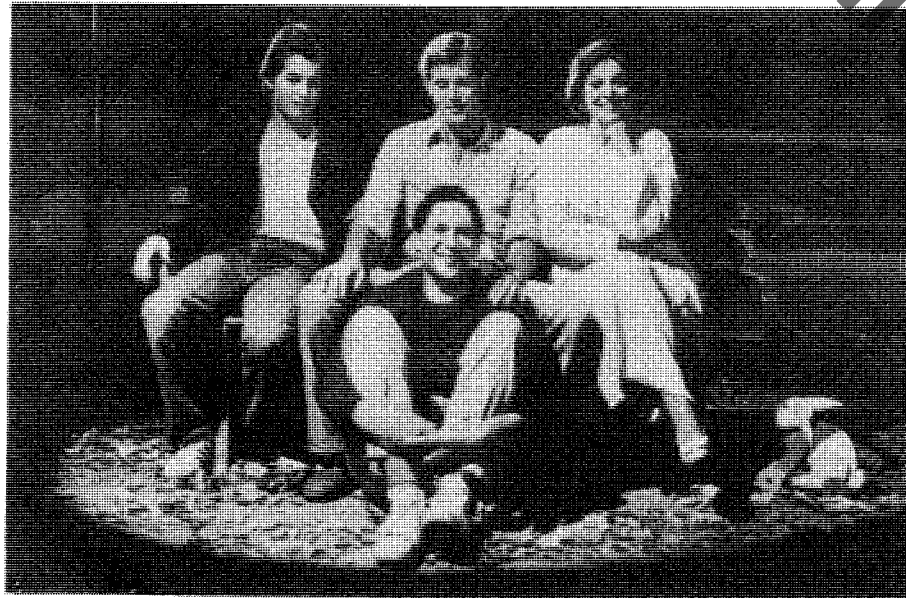


Photo by Michael Childers

"Torch Song Trilogy" starring Anne Bancroft, Matthew Broderick, Harvey Fierstein and Brian Kerwin. A New Line Cinema release.

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Bill Sather Succumbs To AIDS

It was about ten years ago when Bill knocked on our door looking for our next door neighbor. He had just driven from Alaska where he had spent the past few years after leaving Phoenix.

That started a friendship with a person who was unique to so many in Phoenix. The wit was unsurpassed, as all would attest, but also, as it turned out, was his dedication to our community and his honest and sincere desire to make this community a bit better through his contributions to it.

He was a founder of Charlie's Country Cloggers, an officer with the Arizona Gay Rodeo Association, founder of the Phoenix Mardi Gras observances and lastly, an organizer and worker for AIDS charities and organizations. There were more credits he earned during the years after his return.

He didn't kid himself about his illness, was outspoken about it and used it positively to the end. In the past year he travelled Phoenix doing what he could to educate people about AIDS. It became his sole mission. He visited with other people with AIDS, was a guest on television and radio programs on the subject of AIDS, promoted and helped organize AIDS benefits and enjoyed what he was doing. He was even working on the text for a manual on the subject.

At a time when it was difficult for many to face their problem he was a great help, a role model for what others can do. We'll miss the wit and the good times but no more so than all of his other friends.

ROB & DON



An Interview With Harvey Fierstein

Continued from page 26

realer, give me a call." So, I did.

RW: What kind of distribution will *Torch Song* have? Will it play at art houses, or at malls, alongside Clint Eastwood flicks?

HF: It should be in the malls alongside Clint, or anyone else. We didn't make an art film. It's not a filmed version of a play. It's a movie. Our distribution will be what they call 'platformed', which means slowly released, which is what you do with any film that you care about. It's not just going to be dumped out there. It opens New York, Toronto, L.A. first, then seven other cities a week later, then 20 more cities a week after that.

Part of that is because we're doing so many benefits. We're doing 27 benefit cities. Were it all opening at the same exact time, I couldn't get to as many benefits as I need to get to.

RW: Were there any difficulties talking New Line Cinema into including the backroom sex scenes?

HF: No. I wrote the script so that if the scene worked, we use it, and if it didn't, it's very easily clipped out without taking anything away from the story. I presented it to them that way. They had no problem with filming it. My producers had no problem with filming it. [Director] Paul Bogart wasn't all that thrilled with the idea at first, but said, "Of course we film it." But, in the end, he became a real champion of the scene once it was filmed, insisting that we test the film with it uncut.

What I did was put together a group of people that saw eye-to-eye on the whole project. There are enough little things that you disagree about that I didn't want any disagreements about big things. I also didn't want to bully anybody, say, "You're doing it this way and that's it," so I very carefully chose people. That's what took so long. I took three years on a director alone, carefully choosing people that saw the movie the way I did, without being yes-men, which I didn't want.

So, nobody had a problem with film-

ing the scene and the discussion became how much of the scene belongs in the film. We chopped out whole scenes that I really loved, because of time, and left in the backroom scene just to be sure that nobody said, "You took it out."

So, it's there. There it is, as big as the day. We did take out the last minute-and-a-half of it. What we took out basically is — after it's established what's going on — I try and light a cigarette — if you remember the play — there's these little physical bents, and that's what we took out.

RW: Will non-gay people enjoy the film as much as gay people?

HF: I have no idea. To say that all gay people will enjoy the film would be really kidding myself. All gay people didn't enjoy the play. There are gay people who think we should remain more of a secret society and that I give away too many secrets about who we are. There are gay people who think that I'm just a product of Reaganism — that I'm very conservative, and gay people are really much wilder than that. That's why it's impossible to represent the gay community. We are everything; we are every sort of person.

So, there will be gay people who like the film, gay people who hate the film. What I'm hoping we avoid is one of those New York gay male things where if they don't see the film in the first two days, they just lie and say that they have... If every gay person saw the play that said they saw the play, the show would still be running, sold out every performance for 20 years.

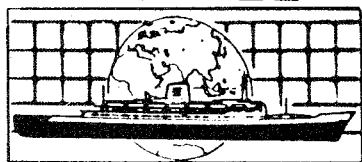
RW: How could someone like you, who raises funds for ACT UP, be seen as a product of the Reagan administration?

HF: Well, there are those people. I didn't say it was true. My fear isn't even the Reagan administration. My fear is the next four years.

RW: Talk about that; go ahead.

HF: I was talking to Andy Humm [of the Gay Cable Network] and he really believes the next four years are going to be even more difficult. I think that when you have three elections like this — twelve years of "a clear mandate" — they don't care whether we live or die. It makes it really hard to get in there and slug.

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We've found out that we have no friends in the Senate whatsoever. As I said to *Playboy*, Ted Kennedy is just fine with homosexuals as long as we don't open our zippers. Most people are just fine with homosexuals just as long as we don't open our zipper. Some of them prefer that we don't open our mouths either, and most prefer that we don't open our closet doors.

But, I think that Bush comes in... with his, "I'm going to continue what happened in the last eight years," but with no clear understanding of what the last eight years were — with no sensitivity to who the American people are. For the last eight years, he's been shaking babies' hands.

RW: Some of the people who work in the gay movement on the national level — Urvashi Vaid [of NGLTF] and Robert Bray and Eric Rosenthal [of HRCF] — say Bush might be a slight improvement over Reagan. Bush endorsed non-discrimination protections for persons with AIDS. He said [federal AIDS researcher] Anthony Fauci is a hero of his. HRCF was even invited to testify at Republican platform committee hearings. Are these activists just stretching to make the best out of a horrible situation, or is it possible that Bush is not as far to the right as Reagan?

HF: I think they are stretching. Well, Reagan is unconscious, you know. There's a difference. Bush is alive and awake. I guess that makes you a little less conservative. But it seems to me that Bush has been out of touch for eight years. He didn't have to work for eight years. All he's had to do is sit at home and count on Reagan's popularity. That's not healthy...

Now, there are more of us working out there than ever before, but look what happened in Oregon [where voters overturned a gay rights measure], and in California, where we defeated one [AIDSphobic proposition] but lost the other.

I'm not optimistic. You can't be optimistic on an economic level... But I'll be really curious to see if Bush will be a Teflon President or not, but let's not talk about him.

RW: Back to *Torch Song*: While you were filming a movie that will show in the malls of America, were there considerations of how non-gay people were going to respond?

HF: No. We decided long ago to make the most honest movie we could. We certainly never sat there and said, "Will straight people understand this world? Should we not gender-fuck in our speaking because that's not politically correct? Should we act butcher to make straight people understand that gay people are butch and fem, etc?"

RW: That's what I was getting at.

HF: No, we didn't do any of that. We do gender-fuck. The drag queens all call each other 'girl'. We are outrageous, as well as, in quotes, "normal looking", but we do have big hair. You know, it was supposed to be 1972, and a lot of people did have *big hair*!

But our purpose was to be as true to the story as possible. When we kissed, we open-mouthed tongue-kissed. We showed basket when basket needed to be shown.

RW: You don't seem like a compromiser.

HF: The only thing that anybody could question whether it's strange or not is that we never sleep nude. But that's basically because I don't have the body to do it.

RW: Oh, I heard you lost 40 pounds for the movie.

HF: Sixty-three, but that leaves a lot of left-over skin. So, the decision I made was — well, Matthew and I kind of do a Lucy and Ricky [Ricardo of *I Love Lucy*]. I wear the tops of the pajamas and he wears the bottoms. Brian sleeps in his short shorts and I sleep in a little night shirt.

The other reason I did this is because of the character being a drag queen and because my entire body was shaved for the movie, it would be a little too shocking to see it all at once. Trust me on that one. I didn't swim in a public pool for months.

RW: What kind of reception did *Tidy Endings* get on HBO?

HF: I believe it was their second highest rated original programming ever. We were just nominated for five Ace awards. That's the cable award... HBO is waiting

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patiently for me to do the rest of the trilogy. I'm going to put the other two together as one film.

RW: Are you bringing down any American movie barriers with *Torch Song*? Are you doing anything that *Making Love* or *Parting Glances* or *Desert Hearts* didn't accomplish?

HF: Well, I really don't like to talk about other people's stuff, because you-all can take it out of context, you know.

RW: This is a Q & A interview.

HF: Still. Yes, It's Q & A, but you could always change the questions. It happened to me in *Playboy*. An editor came along and rewrote all the questions. They didn't touch a word I said, but they rewrote the questions, and might as well have rewritten what I said.

Without commenting on what other people have done, I guess what I'm proudest of is that I'm an out-of-the-closet gay starring in a movie as a gay person. I'm not sure if that's been done before. I'm proud of the fact that we are not compromising and there are no lies. There's nothing in the film that I would be ashamed to defend — including backrooms, drag clubs, and how they were. It is — to the best of my knowledge in the way that we could recreate such things — what it was like to live from 1971 to 1980 as an openly-gay person in New York City.

RW: Speaking of gay pride, at the 1987 March on Washington, there were people who commented after your public appearance that you seemed proudly and

unabashedly 'heterophobic.'

HF: Yeah. At different times, I find that it does indeed need to be spoken. I think that homophobia is so accepted in our world that it takes a little taste of heterophobia to shake people up and make them see it. So, I use it as a tool... But I like to think that I don't just hate. I *like* to think that I judge a person and don't just hate a group.

What angered me in Washington was the amount of heterosexual speakers. At some of the benefits, it was a lot of heterosexuals being honored for the condescension to gays. I'm not saying that heterosexuals can't be friends of gays and work in our organizations. I'm just saying let's not congratulate them for the work that we've done... What I tried to say up on the podium was, "You will hear from heterosexual speakers today. Do not think that they did this. We did this."

You understand why we have heterosexual speakers, right? Because they're Hollywood stars.

RW: And to legitimize us some what too.

HF: Yeah. But I wanted to know where the fuck our gay Hollywood stars were. It's not all anger at heterosexuals. The anger has to be basically at us first because there would be no need to have Robert Blake speak if one of those people whose names I'm not even allowed to mention had been there. It's not to say I don't think Robert Blake meant every word he said and that I don't appreciate his support, but I felt that

with three-quarters of a million gay people standing out there, they needed to see gay people.

Now, I was not allowed to let our two gay Congressmen [Gerry Studds and Barney Frank] speak. I was told to bring them up. I insisted on it. They were there and they needed to be seen. But before I went up on the podium, I was told, "We're not turning this into election-time and we're not letting any elected officials speak." And I said, "But they're ours. There's a fucking difference. You're going to let Jesse Jackson speak and not them?" If you remember how I introduced them, I said, "This is our future. This is what we have done. We have done this."

RW: I remember you screaming into the microphone, "openly gay elected public officials!"

HF: I know. I was so high. I was so fuckin' high. It was my third time introducing Jesse Jackson, so I was kind of used to that by now. We kind of knew each other by then. We'd kind of had our famous HRCF fight by then. So, I felt real at home in that. I was, of course, really cold. Being a celebrity does not keep you warm.

RW: Do you have a boyfriend?

HF: Yes.

RW: Nothing more.

HF: Well, it's kind of new. It's only three months. He showed up to interview me and I fell in love. We'll see. We both

Continued on page 31

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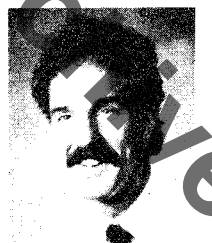
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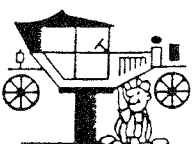
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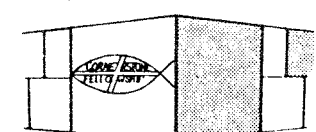
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An Interview With Harvey Fierstein

Continued from page 29

want it to work, and I guess we've got as good of a chance as anyone else.

RW: Let's talk for a moment about why you're so wild for ACT UP.

HF: I'm one of those idiots that goes around pinning buttons on people. I pin 'Silence = Death' buttons on people. What I like about ACT UP is that they're not politicians and they don't have to behave. I hate politicians. I even hate gay politicians. If you look at my record, you'll see that I have never campaigned for a politician. I believe that there's something immoral in the whole act of being a politician.

So I get very angry at groups that have to behave. I get very angry at groups that put on tuxedos — and lesbians put on gowns — or vice versa — and we all dance together. I like that ACT UP is set up not to have to behave. I like that they carry my anger. When I get really pissed, I can write a check to ACT UP and know that that money is going to support my anger.

This [October] at the NAMES Project and the candlelight march that followed that

evening...

RW: Speaking of heterosexual infiltration of gay events...

HF: my boyfriend and I stood around with a candle, and we stood there with our arms around each other and listened to speeches — as you say, heterosexual infiltration — and didn't feel the release. The quilt didn't do it for me this time, possibly because I came with the expectation that it would do the same thing to me as last year, so of course it didn't. I don't have anything against the quilt; I love the quilt, love that fuckin' quilt.

But I was looking for my release, and the walk around the reflecting pool was beautiful, but I didn't feel my release. I was still pent up.

And then ACT UP started to chant and I went over and stood by them and chanted along and I finally had my release.

RW: Do you have anything to say to persons with AIDS and those that are HIV-antibody-positive? There are so many complicated decisions now that there are some treatments.

HF: I had taken the position that I didn't want to be tested, on a very personal level, because I would rather act in my every day life as if I am positive. I feel — and it

may be very stupid on my part — but I feel that if I assume — and because of my lifestyle up to 1980, I have every right to assume that I'm positive — then that will just keep me working all the harder.

I sort of fear — and I know it's a dumb fear because I don't think I'm this kind of person — that if I took the test and found out I was negative, I might not run to that next benefit. So, I've never tested.

Now, when I've said publicly that I've never tested, I've gotten lots of people angry, like Vito Russo, who has written me, saying, "You really are dumb because you really should tell people to test, because most people aren't like you. Most people don't have a doctor... they can set themselves up with a good doctor and get the technical advice they need."

RW: What if there's some drug that's doing a real good job of keeping the immune systems from deteriorating. Would you want to know then?

HF: Listen, me is me. I'm not making recommendations to anybody. I've got a good gay doctor. I get myself checked up. That I don't have the actual HIV test is not a life or death situation for me because my system is always being monitored. So, that's a great difference.

The only reason I would consider the test was if I decided I wanted to have unsafe sex with somebody that also wanted to test and wanted to go through all that crap, and I'm not even sure then. I practice safe sex. I find it's not what it used to be but these are times.

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NOTICES

"Celebration '89", a national convention of gay and lesbian couples belonging to groups in the COUPLES National Network, will be held in Phoenix the weekend of February 10-12, 1989. Special events planned all weekend, with a gala Dinner-Dance Saturday evening at "Rawhide". All local couples welcome. For ticket information, call 831-5920 or 841-0583.

Thursday, January 19: Old Pueblo Business & Professional Association general meeting. Plaza International Hotel. Psychiatrist Frank Pieri gives solutions to stress in the workplace and shows how substance abuse and psychological impairment affect professionals. 7:00 p.m., no-host beverages; 7:30 p.m., general meeting. Free to OP members and first-time guests. \$5 for repeat guests at the door. Information (602) 297-3794.

AGAPE NETWORK invites those affected by AIDS to lunch: beginning 9/14 each Wednesday at Oasis MCC, 12:30 - 1 p.m. and to a night out — beginning 10/14 — 2nd Friday at Gentle Shepherd MCC.

Phoenix Gay Youth Group is a support and social group for gay and bisexual guys and gals under 23. Discussion groups, guest speakers, a monthly dance, and individualized counseling are some events offered at the weekly meetings. For more information, call Joe at 897-8989 (eastside) or Arnie (938-3932 (westside).

Desert Adventures sponsors indoor and outdoor activities for men and women. For information call 957-3476. Phoenix.

The Camelback Business and Professional Association is a group of business and professional people who have joined together for the purpose of professional exposure. They accomplish those objectives through educational programs and seminars, breakfast and dinner meetings, social and happy hours, special events, banquets and distribution of a monthly newsletter. General Membership Meetings are monthly on the 3rd Thursday evening and Committee Meetings are at various times throughout the month. For information call Christopher May, 395-9632 or CBPA, P.O. Box 2097, Phoenix, AZ 85001.

Lesbian and Gay Switchboard 234-2752. Phoenix.

OASIS METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH. 2405 E. Coronado, Phoenix, AZ (602) 392-0335. Rev. Charlotte Strayhorn Pastor. Sunday services 11:00 a.m., mid-week growth gathering 2nd and 4th Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.

CASA DE CRISTO EVANGELICAL CHURCH, 1029 E. Turney, Phoenix. Sunday Services: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. A Bible Church where EVERYONE is welcome! Call 265-2831 for information.

GENTLE SHEPARD, MCC. Services Sunday at 10:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., 3425 E. Mountain View (South of Shea) in Phoenix. 996-7644.

CORNERSTONE FELLOWSHIP is a loving Christian church where EVERYONE is welcome. Sunday School 9:00 a.m. Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.; Wednesday Praise & Prayer Service 7:00 p.m. Our caring staff is on duty Monday through Thursday from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. and at other times by appointment. 3333 E. Grant Road, Tucson, 881-3519.

AFFIRMATION, Gay & Lesbian Mormons, gather with their friends each month for fellowship and positive support. For more information, call 921-4025 in Phoenix/Mesa; or write to P.O. Box 26601, Tempe, AZ 85285-6601

Gay & Lesbian Adult Discourses are informal rap group meetings provided by and for our gay community in the Tucson area. All discussion is gay-related. Compassion and confidentiality emphasized. Meetings are free and facilitated. Occasional guest speakers, films and social outings. For "G.L.A.D." contact info., call Information & Referral at 881-1794, M-F, 8 - 5.

Tucson AIDS Hotline 326-AIDS. Hours: 10:00 a.m. to midnight, M-F, and Sunday, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

THE TUCSON AIDS PROJECT, the Broadmoor Building, 151 S. Tucson Blvd., Suite 252, Tucson, Arizona 85716, (602) 322-6226. Office hours: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., M-F, and Sunday, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. (HIV Counseling Clinic).

Front Runners of Tucson now meet Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m. in front of the Himmel Park Library. For more information call Mitch at 326-3332.

Gay and Lesbian Youth Group of Phoenix meets Mondays at 7:30 p.m. for discussion groups, socializing and special events. Confidential, friendly group for youths under 22 who wish to meet other young gays and lesbians. For details call 938-3932.

YOUNG AND GAY? Lesbian and gay youth meet weekly in Tucson for sharing, support, information. You are not alone. Call 884-7413, Renee (days) or 882-4009, Wayne (evenings).

LUTHERANS CONCERNED/PHOENIX. Fellowship and support organization for lesbians and gays. All are welcome. Call Frank at 870-3611 for more information.

DIGNITY/INTEGRITY/Phoenix: We are a community of gay and lesbian Episcopal and Roman Catholics who meet the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at 3:00 p.m. for mass and potluck social. Our Men's Discussion Group meets the 4th Sunday of the month at 6:30 p.m. for a potluck social and interchange of views. Call 258-2556 for location and more information. ALL WELCOME!

Lutherans Concerned/Tucson is a fellowship and support group for lesbian and gay Lutherans. We meet monthly and all are welcome. Call Greg at 322-6334 or write Lutherans Concerned/Tucson, 2956 N. Campbell #481, Tucson, AZ 85719 for more information.

COUPLES of Arizona, a member of Couples National Network, Inc., is a social and educational organization for those involved in alternative relationships, primarily lesbian and gay couples. Monthly informational meetings are held along with various social events and potlucks. For information, call Beth & Mary at 831-5920 or Bob & Ken at 841-0583.

Flagstaff Gay/Lesbian Support Group meets the third Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn, 1000 W. Hwy 66, Flagstaff. Everyone is welcome. Gay Alliance of Northern Arizona Information & Referral Line, 525-1199, P.O. Box 183, Flagstaff, AZ 86002.

Are you gay or lesbian with a drinking problem? Help is available. Call Alcoholics Anonymous Central Office at 264-1341, and ask for a listing of gay/lesbian A.A. meetings in Phoenix.

The Gay and Lesbian Relationship Discussion Group meets at The First Unitarian Universalist Church of Phoenix, 4027 E. Lincoln Drive, at 7:00 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. The group is for gay and lesbian singles and couples. It provides an alternative place for meeting people and a forum for discussing relationship issues. Meeting topics for January: "Can Sex Be Safe?" on January 10 and "How to Date" on January 24. For more information call Bob at 870-9597.



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