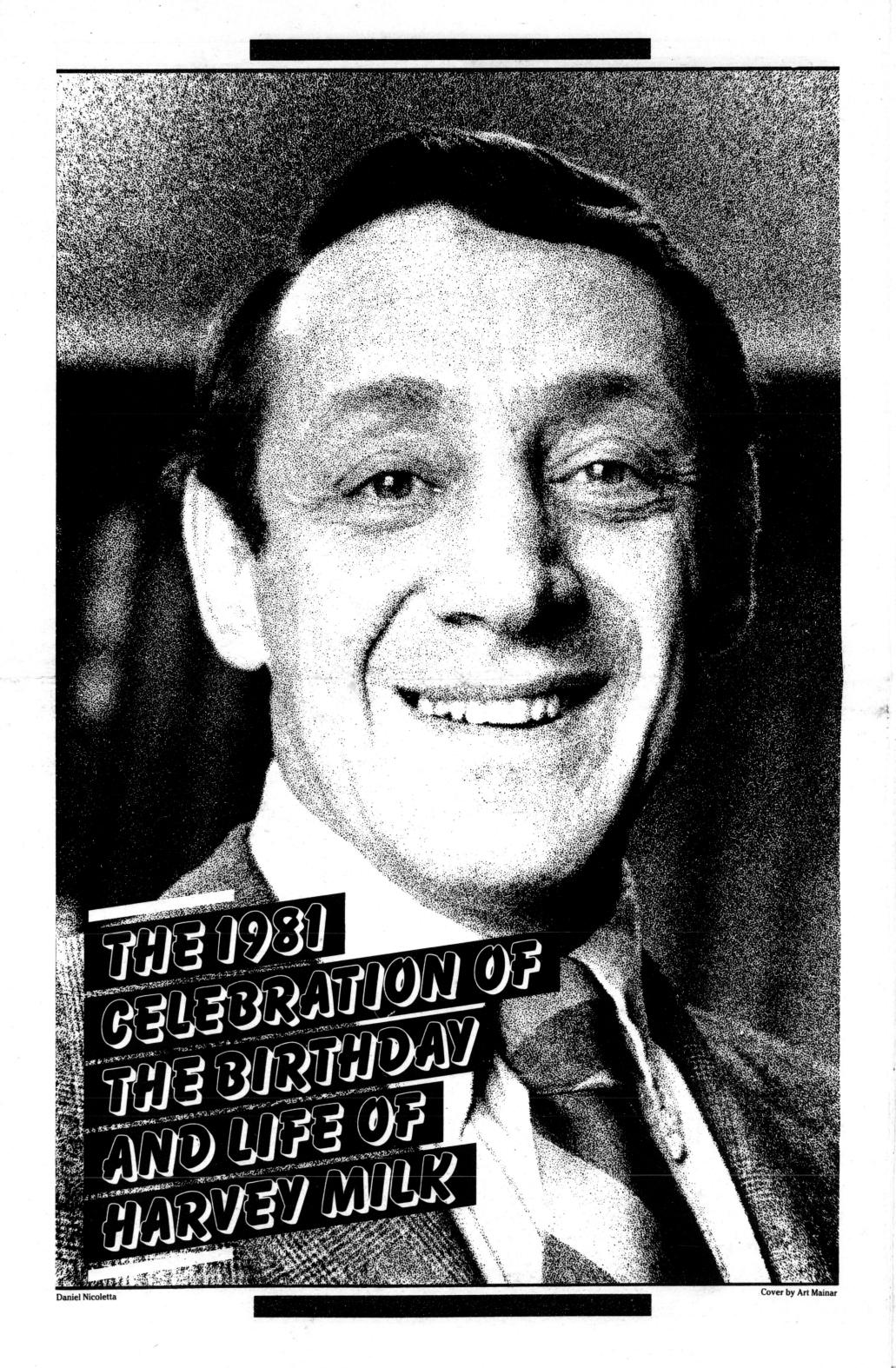
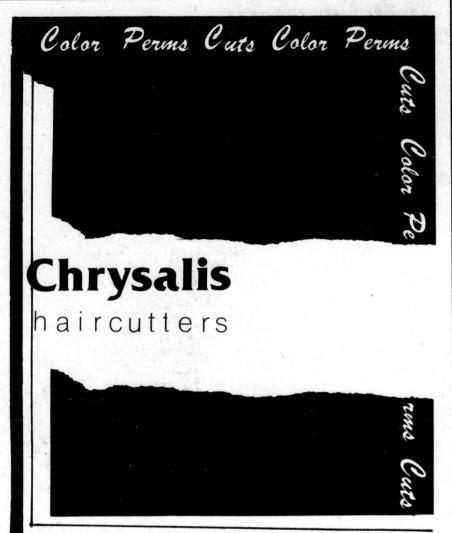
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- ☐ Monitoring police practices & opposing police abuse
- □ Demanding equal protection under the law
 □ Eliminating employment discrimination because of sexual orientation
- ☐ Maintaining the right to serve in the military
- ☐ Eradicating the stigma of dishonorable discharge from the military due to
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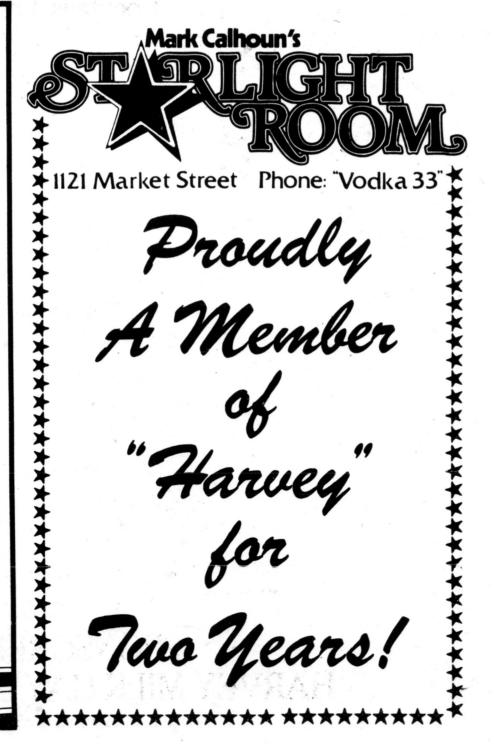
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The dedication of the Harvey Milk Eureka Valley Library
Tuesday, May 19th
3555 16th Street
6:00PM Reception and dedication

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A Birthday Celebration in the Rotunda of City Hall Wednesday, May 20th Cocktails, hors d'oeuvres Slide presentation, speakers, music 6:00-8:00 PM \$15 donation

PARTY IN THE PARK

A Birthday Party of Music and Sunshine
Sunday, May 24th
Duboce Park, Duboce and Castro Streets
With: David Kelsey and Pure Trash
Lloyd's
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Cecil Williams
Dave and Torch
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Free

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Why we remember

By Gwenn Craig President

In a newspaper article summing up the politics of the seventies, lesbian writer Jill Johnston remarked that during that decade, "San Francisco went homosexual." Hyperbole aside, the last 10 years have seen a wave of gay and lesbian immigration sweep over San Francisco as thousands of us arrived from the many homophobic towns across America.

Among these new immigrants was Harvey Milk. Moving here in 1972, he in many ways personified the newcomers: at ease with his homosexuality, spending his first months here enjoying the city's unique freedoms. But Harvey knew that thousands of homosexuals still suffered from centuries of long-held prejudice. Unwilling to wait for that distant day when the bigots would abandon their hatreds, Harvey devoted himself to the struggle for lesbian and gay rights. After his entry, gay politics would never be the same.



Starting in 1973, Harvey mounted campaign after unsuccessful campaign for elective office, until he finally scored a victory the fourth time around in his 1977 supervisorial race. In each election he brought an unabashedly gay perspective to our city's politics. "Gay vote Gay" was an early slogan. His message was full of the lessons learned from Stonewall: lesbians and gay men had to reject the politics of gradualism if they were to take control of their own lives. "You're not given power," he repeatedly told us, "you have to take it."

Today, the organization he helped found in 1976 bears his name and remains committed to his special brand of politics. Though Harvey Milk is dead, his politics live on.

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IN MEMORY OF HARVEY

JOHN L. BURTON

Member of Congress 5th District

I join with you in paying well deserved tribute to the memory of Harvey Milk. It is fitting, on this occasion, to rededicate ourselves to the cause of human dignity, the cause of gay/lesbian rights and to the cause of social justice for all in our society. I am proud to join with the Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club and with all who heed the words of Tennyson: "Come, my friends, it is not too late to seek a better world".

Congressman Phillip Burton

Who was Harvey Milk?

"They're not paying me enough to come up with all the answers, but you can be damned sure they'll get more than their money's worth in questions.

- Supervisor Harvey Milk

Harvey Milk was fearless. He never hesitated to challenge the established order or popular assumptions. He never waited for someone else to give him a green light. He never waited until the time was "right." He was brash, he was pushy, he stepped on toes, he made enemies.

How did he get away with it? Because usually he

Harvey had a special knack for focusing on the essence of an issue and communicating what he saw in the most direct, common-sense terms that everyone from construction workers to drag queens could understand and appreciate.

He trusted his instincts and wasn't afraid to toss out a half-baked idea or ask an off-the-wall question, knowing full well that progress - new solutions to old problems - can come only through a free exchange of ideas that ignores the barriers and constraints of the status quo.

When his pooper scooper law wasn't working as he had hoped, he made the obvious, but nonetheless novel observation that dog litter is nothing more than processed dog food, and that the dog food manufacturers, retailers and others who profit from dog food had a direct responsibility to help solve the problem. Harvey left this solution for others to explore.

Harvey understood clearly that the process of coming out gay usually required challenging and rejecting the most firmly-held beliefs of one's family, church, teachers, peers, the government, the medical profession, historians, filmmakers, the news media everyone who matters to a gay person.

Coming out can be painful, but the courage it demands can turn pain to strength. Once someone has challenged society's fundamental assumptions regarding sexuality, and has overcome the taboos regarding how and to whom she/he may express love and affection, then challenges to other forms of injustice should come more easily and naturally.

Harvey Milk's most fervent exhortation was that lesbians and gay men everywhere should come out, proudly and confidently, and claim their rightful place as full participants in the life of their communities. Harvey knew that men and women unafraid to assert their worth and establish new human relationships in a hostile society could play vital roles in ending sexism, racism, classism and other impediments to freedom.

Harvey saw lesbians and gay men as a great resource to society, not just for their talents and skills, but as a model for liberating all people whose creativity is stifled by the dictates of conventional behavior. Harvey encouraged gay people to get involved, not just to get a piece of the existing action, but to create new forms of action and end the plodding predictability that has made government, large corporations and other institutions unresponsive to the changing needs of people.

Harvey loved the theater, opera, dance, and his appreciation for the world of fantasy, illusion and symbolism, nurtured through his experiences as a theatrical producer and actor, served him well in the political arena. He understood well that the substance of governing - the budgets, the legislation, the administrative procedures - provide only a sterile framework. The life, humanity and power of government derive from its ability to inspire, motivate and challenge people to achieve.

Harvey knew how to attract attention to himself and the issues he thought were important, not as a means of inflating his ego, but as the first step in exercising leadership. He knew when to be outrageous. He knew when to be outraged. He knew how to manipulate the dramatic possibilities in any situation. He did so with wit, with humor, and with a boundless, infectious enthusiasm. You knew whether he loved or hated something, and you always knew why. You always knew whether he was on your side, and when he wasn't, you could expect a good, strong fight. Ask John Briggs.



Harvey Milk, the self-described "street queen," has become a legend and an inspiration to lesbians and gay men throughout the world. The magnitude of his importance to gay people, especially in San Francisco, often obscures the fact that he was with us so briefly. Gay people, including Harvey, suffered oppression and discrimination here in San Francisco that is inconceivable today. Only six years ago, in his 1975 campaign for Supervisor, did Harvey Milk begin to achieve citywide prominence. Only 5 years ago was Harvey Milk appointed as the first openly gay commissioner, to the Board of Permit Appeals. Only 3 years ago did Harvey Milk take office as the Supervisor from District 5. And he served as Supervisor for less than a year.

The rise of Harvey Milk coincided not just with the rise of gay political power, but also of neighborhood power. As Harvey Milk worked to build the political consciousness and participation of San Francisco's gay community, he also became the most articulate and forceful advocate for the powerful potentials of neighborhood activism. Harvey organized his neighborhood around crime and police harassment issues. He helped to plan the Upper Market Street improvements. He organized the Castro merchants. He fought for better libraries, to keep his neighborhood school from closing, to stop a hospital from swallowing its neighborhood, for youth programs in the Mission, against highrises and parking garages, for the rights of city workers.

Harvey's campaigns asserted loud and clear that San Francisco no longer could afford to have policy decisions dictated by the Chamber of Commerce and the boardrooms of downtown corporations; by the allies. San Francisco belongs to the people who live here, not to the multinational real estate conglomerates and not to people who retreat to their suburban enclaves each night.

The people who had run San Francisco for generations were insensitive to neighborhood issues, to the emerging Third World majority of San Francisco's population, and certainly toward the concerns of the lesbians and gay men whom they openly scorned. At candidates' nights, in press interviews and in his columns in B.A.R., Harvey called for a powerful new coalition of people who live in San Francisco's neighborhoods, who ride Muni to work, who spend Sundays in the parks, who depend on San Francisco General Hospital when they're sick, who send their children to the libraries to do their homework, who depend on Senior Centers, childcare centers and neighborhood police beat patrols. These are the people Harvey wanted to run San Francisco, and these are the people who joined with the overwhelming majority of gay people to elect Harvey to office.

San Francisco's gay community has come a long way with and since Harvey Milk. The gay Democratic and Republican clubs form the backbones of traditional party structures and activism in the city. We have elected Harry Britt and Tim Wolfred citywide by working in the coalitions Harvey helped to establish. Openly gay people are becoming more visible at all levels of government, business, the arts, the professions, in neighborhoods. Statewide candidates for office seek our support. We've made a good start, and Harvey helped us make it.

Much has been written and said about Harvey, and the straight media loves to remind us that Harvey wasn't "just" a gay Supervisor, and that his being gay was subordinate to his concern for the elderly, the poor, renters, Muni riders, the environment.

Anyone who knew Harvey knew that being gay and achieving in the name of gay people was Harvey's greatest ambition. He wanted the world to know that everything he did was done by a faggot. He wanted every politician, every corporate executive and lobbyist, every police officer, every religious leader, every newspaper publishe., and likewise every child, senior citizen, manual laborer, teenager and gay person to know that when they worked with Harvey Milk, they were working with a faggot.

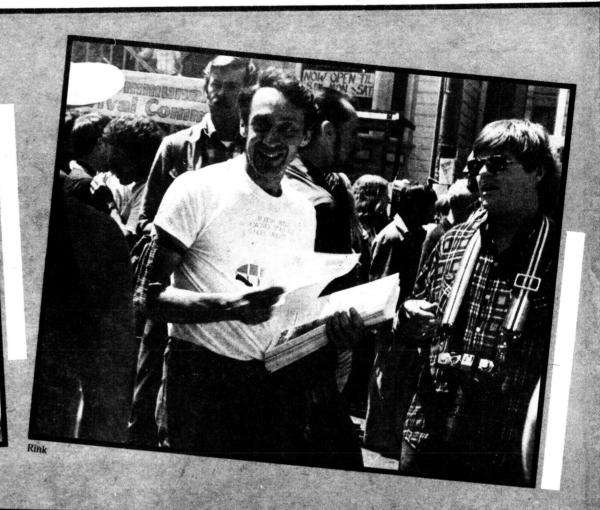
That's how Harvey wanted to shatter the myths, stereotypes and bigotry that not only have crippled so many worthy gay people, but have prevented ours from becoming a truly just society.

Harvey once said, "If I turned around every time someone called me a faggot, I'd be walking backwards. I'd never see where I was going, only where I'd been.

Harvey always looked ahead, and always knew where he was going. Harvey helped lead us closer to freedom. It's up to us now to travel the rest of the







Harvey Milk: A photo retrospective

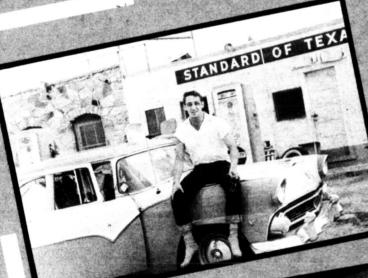
These photographs are part of a slide exhibition on Harvey's

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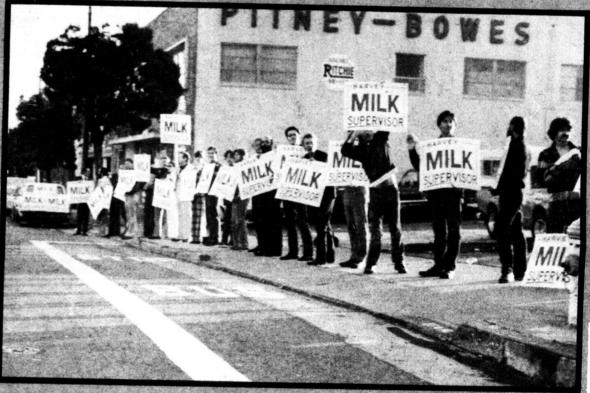
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Life which will be presented at the City Hall reception on

It was presented at the Signature of the Signatur





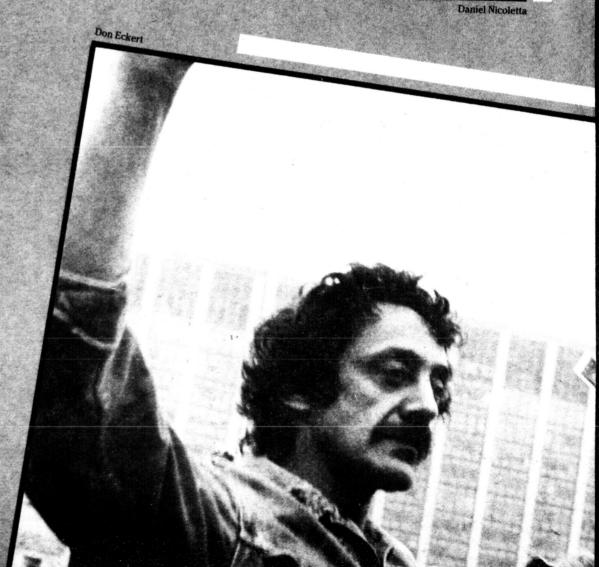










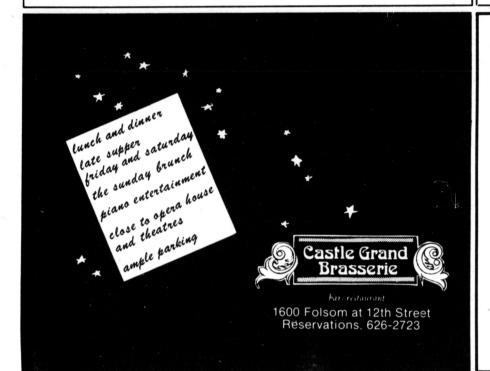


In tribute to the memory of Supervisor Harvey Milk and to the gay men and lesbians who continue his tradition of service and commitment to the betterment of human rights for all San Franciscans.

John L. Molinari President, San Francisco Board of Supervisors "Failure is impossible."

—Susan B. Anthony

National Women's Political Caucus San Francisco Chapter

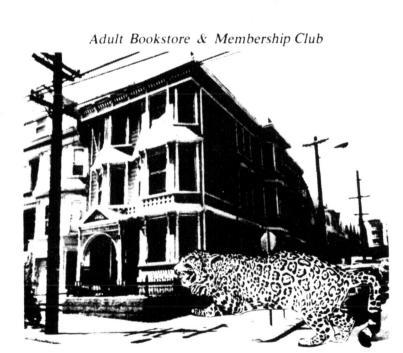


Greetings from

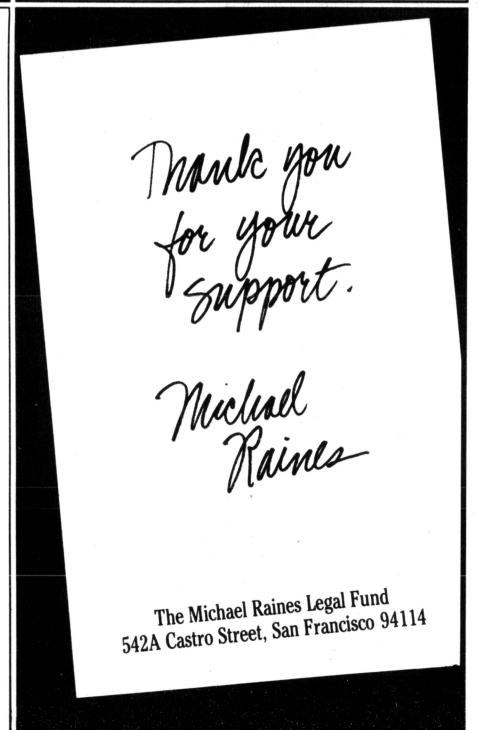
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Who we are: A brief history of the Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club

By Greg Gonzales and Bill Kraus

The Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club was founded as the San Francisco Gay Democratic Club in 1976.

The dozen charter members, including Harvey Milk, set about the job of organizing the lesbian/gay community to stand up forthrightly for our right to equal treatment and to political representation at all levels.

One main focus of the Club from its beginning has been to stress our pride as gay people and the knowledge that our power as a community grows from our numbers and our organization rather than from the disinterested benevolence of non-gay politicians.

The founding members also dedicated the Club to a progressive political vision that emphasized that gay people will be free only when society changes to provide social justice for all people.

The Club has grown with the growth of the gay movement in San Francisco. From its early months with a handful of members it has today become the largest political club in San Francisco with nearly 400 dues-paying members. Its spectacular growth in the last three years has made it a powerful voice in local politics. With the election last year of several of its members as delegates to the Democratic National Convention and Bill Kraus' appointment to the Democratic National Platform Committee, it has moved strongly into the arena of national politics as well.

Some highlights of our history:

Fall 1977 - Club members were prominent in the successful campaign to elect Harvey Milk supervisor in District 5.

Late 1977 - The first big gain in Club membership, resulting from our work in Harvey's campaign.

Spring 1978 - Club members led gay caucus efforts at The California Democratic Council convention to pressure Governor Brown to publicly support gay rights. This action is generally credited with inspiring Brown's subsequent strong support for our community.

Summer 1978 - Members led Gay Voter Registration Project at Gay Freedom Day and in the Fall to register voters against the Briggs Initiative.

Fall 1978 - Club members organized and staffed San Franciscans Against Proposition 6, which helped produce an overwhelming vote against the Briggs Initiative in San Francisco.

 $\it Fall~1978$ - Club helped elect Harvey Milk as a delegate to the 1978 Mid-term Democratic Convention.

November 27, 1978 - Harvey Milk assassinated.

 $\it December~1978$ - Club renamed the Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club.

January 1979 - Club President, Harry Britt, named to the Board of Supervisors to succeed Harvey Milk.

Spring, Summer 1979 - Dramatic increase in Club membership as it emerged as an outspoken advocate for the lesbian/gay community at a time when the position of our community was widely perceived to be jeopardized by the absence of Mayor Moscone and by the Dan White trial and verdict.

May 22, 1979 - Club sponsored the Harvey Milk Birthday Party on Castro Street as a peaceful expression of the strength and solidarity of our community.

Summer 1979 - Club members marched with Ceasar Chavez to support the farmworkers in the lettuce strike.

November 27, 1979 - Club organized and sponsored the candlelight march and evening at City Hall commemorating George Moscone and Harvey Milk on the anniversary of their assassinations. 25,000 marched.









Cont'd on page 14

Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club Officers and Committees

President - Gwenn Craig

Is responsible for setting the general tone and establishing goals for the Club. Presides at general membership meetings and Executive

Vice President, Political Affairs - Ron Huberman

Deals with issues of political significance to the Gay and Lesbian Communities. In conjunction with the Political Action Committee makes recommendations to the membership.

Vice President, Internal Affairs - Terry King

Is responsible for fund raising and membership. Works closely with the President to insure smooth operation of the Club.

Treasurer - Keith Klegman

Keeps the Club's financial records and pays bills. Works with other members of the Executive Committee to plan fundraisers and maintain the financial stability of the Club.

Recording Secretary - Simone Fleming

Keeps records of the general membership and Executive Committee

Corresponding Secretary - Richard Sevilla

Is responsible for all written communications with outside agencies and officials. Sends letters and resolutions at the direction of the general membership and Executive Committee. Is also responsible for sending press releases and notice of meetings to various newspapers and radio stations.

Executive Committee - Gwenn Craig

Is composed of all of the elected officers of the Club and the heads of the committees. They conduct the day to day operation of the Club and develop policy to present to the Club and how to implement

Political Action Committee - Ron Huberman

Addresses issues of political action and makes recommendations to the Club. It has a special interest in issues of immediate concern.

Membership Committee - Stafford Buckley

Does the clerical work surrounding membership as well as brings members to the Club and helps integrate them into Club activities.

Planning Committee - Gwenn Craig

Discusses issues and matters to develop the proposed agenda for general meetings.

Finance Committee - Keith Klegman

Develops strategy for the financial well being of the Club and creates fund raising activities.

Dinner Committee - Terry King

An annual series of events held in late May to commemorate Harvey Milk's birthday and fundraise.

Antiviolence Committee - Catherine Angell and Christopher Grubbs Provides a forum for discussion of methods and organizations that work for the prevention of violence.

Gay Vote - Dick Pabich

Is responsible for producing the Club newsletter.

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Join us!

The Club meets on the fourth Tuesday of every month at the Women's Building, 18th Street near Valencia.

The next meeting is: Tuesday, May 26th 7:00PM Socializing 7:30PM Meeting Everyone is welcome!

Membership Form

Name	 		
Address		,	

Send to:

Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club P.O. Box 14368, San Francisco, CA 94114 Occupation or training

May we make your name and address available to other club members? \square Yes \square No

☐ \$ 50.00 Sustaining ☐ \$10.00 Annual Dues □ \$25.00 Contributing

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Supervisor **Doris Ward**

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A brief history...

Cont'd from page 11

November, December 1979 - Club members distributed over 40,000 slate cards informing our community of our positions in the Fall elections. The Club was recognized as critical in the gay community's role in the two mayoral elections as well as the election of Supervisor Harry Britt.

February 1980 - Club organized the demonstration by hundreds of people at the Immigration Service headquarters against the exclusion of gay tourists.

April 1980 - Club organized a slate of lesbian, gay, minority and women candidates to run in the June 3rd election of the Democratic County Central Committee, which sets Party policy in San Francisco.

April 1980 - President Bill Kraus appointed as one of three gay members nationally to the Democratic National Platform Committee, which wrote the Party's platform to be adopted at the

May 1980 - Club holds first Harvey Milk Birthday Party. More than 600 people attend the dinner in Golden Gate Park. Jane Fonda and Tom Hayden are the featured speakers. Over 5,000 persons attend the Street Fair the following Sunday.

May 1980 - Club members won six of top nine Kennedy delegate spots to the Democratic National Convention in local Kennedy caucuses.

July, August 1980 - We were the backbone in the Campaign against Proposition A (the repeal of district elections). After the campaign, the Club was acknowledged by a co-chair of the campaign as one of the strongest participating organizations.

October 1980 - Employing sophisticated demographic and computer tools the Club mails 30,000 slate cards to registered gay and lesbian voters in San Francisco. An additional 15,000 cards distributed in the community by Club members.

November 1980 - The Club's efforts boost Supervisor Harry Britt to his second election victory. The Club is also instrumental in the election of Tim Wolfred to the Community College Board.

November 1980 - Club sponsors the second Candlelight March in memory of Harvey Milk's assassination. In the face of opposition from the Mayor's Office and the Police Department, the Club takes to the streets and closes Market Street for over an hour as thousands of gavs and lesbians march to City Hall for the ceremony.

April 1981 - Thirty Club members retreat to the Sierras to examine the structure of the Club and discuss an agenda for the future. A set of concrete plans emerge.

April 1981 - Club members meet with the Mayor and District Attorney to demand explanations for their lack of support of the needs of the gay and lesbian communities.

May 1981 - Club sponsors the second Harvey Milk Birthday Party. Évents include a reception in the Rotunda at City Hall and a community party in Duboce Park.

During the four years the Club has been in existence, we have met regularly with political and social leaders, including the Mayor, our representatives in Congress and the State Legislature, the Governor and officials from the White House. Our position has always been to articulate the needs of the lesbian and gay communities and to make it clear to politicians that we stand prepared to support those who truly support us and to actively oppose those who show that they are not truly committed to our goals.

The People of The Haight are having a

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Supervisor Harry Britt

Wednesday, June 3, 6:30p.m. I-Beam, 1748 Haight

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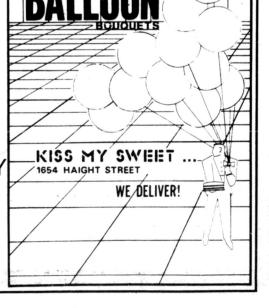
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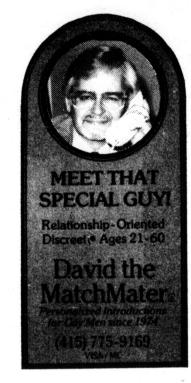
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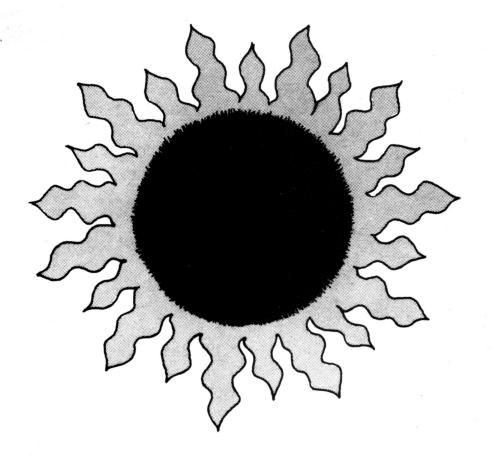


Dear Darlene:

I'm afraid that I may be gay. It started with a few late Sunday breakfasts, but before I knew it I was "brunching" every weekend. Saturday's too! You see I found this delightful place on 24th Street off Castro called MAGGIE'S. I kidded myself at first. I thought I went there to sit in the sun on their redwood deck or to sit by the fire on a cold foggy day. Eventually I had to face up to it-I went to Maggie's because I was hooked on brunch. Darlene, isn't that the first sign of

The latest research shows that brunch is not an exclusively homosexual practice. As you know, I am not a homosexual, and I brunch regularly at MAGGIE'S. If, however, excessive brunching worries you, may I suggest dinner at MAGGIE'S. After all, everyone dines, and the fireplace at MAGGIE'S is even more inviting at night. So whatever you may be, get over it, get into it, and I'll see you at Maggie's, 4138-24th Street off Castro, 285-4443.





The Midnight Sun

506 Castro at 18th Street · San Francisco

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TELEPHONE: 415/861-5019

VOL. XI NO. 11 MAY 21, 1981

Gay Judge to Sit on State Supreme Court ... For A Day

by Paul Lorch

Los Angeles-based Superior Court Judge Stephen Lachs received a rare honor this week. The judge was appointed a pro tem Supreme Court Justice of the State of California by Chief Justice Rose Bird.

There are currently two vacancies on the state's top judicial body (in itself a highly unusual situation). One justice, Wiley Manuel died this winter, and Justice Clark recently took a State Department post in the Reagan administration. Within the past weeks Governor Brown has nominated one new choice, but the appointment has yet to be confirmed. The State Supreme Court is based in Sacramento but periodically travels to other locales (San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego) and resolves cases. On June 1, 2, and 3 the court will convene in Los Angeles, and Lachs along with a second pro tem judge will join the court on June

for that day. He and a second replacement will assume the full responsibilities and honors of a Supreme Court Justice.

Bay Area Reporter contacted Lachs at his Los Angeles home where he explained the details of the appointment. He said, "I was almost on the ceiling when I received the call from Chief Justice Bird." Lachs explained that there are over 1000 Superior Court judges — the vast majority of whom have never served as a substitute on the State Supreme Court. He said even at that the choices are made usually from the higher appellate court justices.

He said, "It's a tremendous honor; at first I felt a little queasy ..."

What will happen in Los Angeles is yet to be placed on the court's calendar. If the sessions are at all typical, it



(L to R) Gay chorus members Steve Prokasky and Gerald Pearson join Dick Klise of United Air Lines and Chuck Pederson of Passport to Leisure in ticket buying ceremony for the Chorus' national tour.

Gay Chorus Makes Final Plans

by Allen White

Last Friday the airline tickets were paid for. With the presentation of the check for \$229,000 the chorus is ready to fly.

Fundraising is still of crucial importance to meet the budget. David-Stephens Associates, Interior Design Studios at 621-5115 is giving 10% of their sales to the chorus tour

fund. Facial Fitness skin care products is donating \$1.00 to the tour fund for each product sold at Star Pharmacy, 18th and Castro.

In our last reprot we stated there would be 50 pounds of turkey for the chorus donated by a Kansas farmer in Lincoln, Nebraska. Turns out it's 50 turkeys. And that's a lot of

(Continued on Page 4)

SFPD Brutality Aired

Toklas Club Envisions Review Board to Curb Rising Police Aggressiveness Against Gays

by John F. Karr

The Political Action Committee of the Alice B. Toklas Memorial Democratic Club convened last Thursday (the 14th) to hear testimony from victims of police brutality and discuss possible courses of action. The stories told indicated (1) a rising tide of unwarranted and unchecked police brutality toward Gays; and (2) the possible recourse of citizens — slow, bureaucratic, and always painfully after-the-fact.

The testimony of the victims, being taped for presentation to the Mayor, was fraught with overlapping incidents of police action against Gays in the Haight-Ashbury. A campaign begun over a year ago by Haight Street merchants to clear their stoops of loitering "street people" has escalated to the point where "it's now against everybody," as a beating victim complains. The campaign has given police the opening to harass anybody on the street. Said one victim, "They don't like hippies, and they don't like faggots. They particularly don't like hippie-faggots."

The greatest concentration of police harassment has been focused on the Question Mark Saloon at 1437 Haight, near Masonic, where clientele have been hassled for the past eight months. October 10th of last year was cited as the worst incident, and several people present at the meeting told of their experience that night.

At closing time a small

group was gathered in front of the bar, involved in the usual closing time pick-up and dispersal. A squad car drove up, and the officers inside said they'd received complaints. The crowd had to "move on." Although police reports pegged the crowd at 20 people, a victim claimed there weren't 20 people on the whole block, and that there weren't more than 9 or 10 people in front of the Question Mark. The police got out of their car and randomly started abusing people. "T" was dragged from the group by a cop wearing a Dan White Defense Fund T-shirt. When his friend "D" inquired why "T" was being singled out, he was told to stop or he'd also be arrested, which subsequently occurred. But not before he and a friend were chased around the corner onto Masonic Street by plainclothesmen from another car. "D" was knocked down, dragged across the street to a (Continued on Page 2)

IN THIS ISSUE

Allen White checks out the Herb Caen remark on Gay cops having street sex . . . p. 8

What's the party about at Dreamland May 28? John F. Karr tells p. 10

B.A.R.'s new pop columnist Jerry De Gracia talks to Sylvester and Sharon Redd — they are a'changing p. 23

Mr. Marcus reports on the giant Chicago contest ... p. 33

C.S.L. and G.S.L. league standings and schedules p. 36



The 1981 Closet Ball Queen (L) Neal of Urban Country Florist, and "creator" (R) "Nina." (Photo by Rink)
... more Closet Ball photos on Page 30

13