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# BAY AREA REPORTER

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## Gay Lovers' 'Revenge' Killings Stun Small Oklahoma Town

### They Shoot 7, Kill 4, in Bank Where Employees Taunted Them; Arrested After Fleeing to S.F.

by Allen White

Citizens of Lawton, Oklahoma expressed feelings of shock following the shooting of seven people by two gay lovers last Friday. The crime has numbed the town. The lovers, Jay Wesley Neill, 19, and Robert Grady Johnson, 22, were arrested Monday just outside their penthouse hotel suite in San Francisco's Holiday Inn on Union Square.

The Bay Area Reporter talked to several sources in Oklahoma attempting to piece together a profile of the two young gay men. Many people in Lawton perceive that the men resorted to the brazen violent killings in response to taunts and teasing they received because they were gay.

The FBI said Neill walked into a bank in nearby Geronimo, Oklahoma, Friday afternoon, pulled a .32 caliber pistol on the tellers and told them to empty their cash drawers.

Oklahoma police allege that Neill then forced the two tellers and the bank manager into the back room. He shot them each twice in the back of the head.

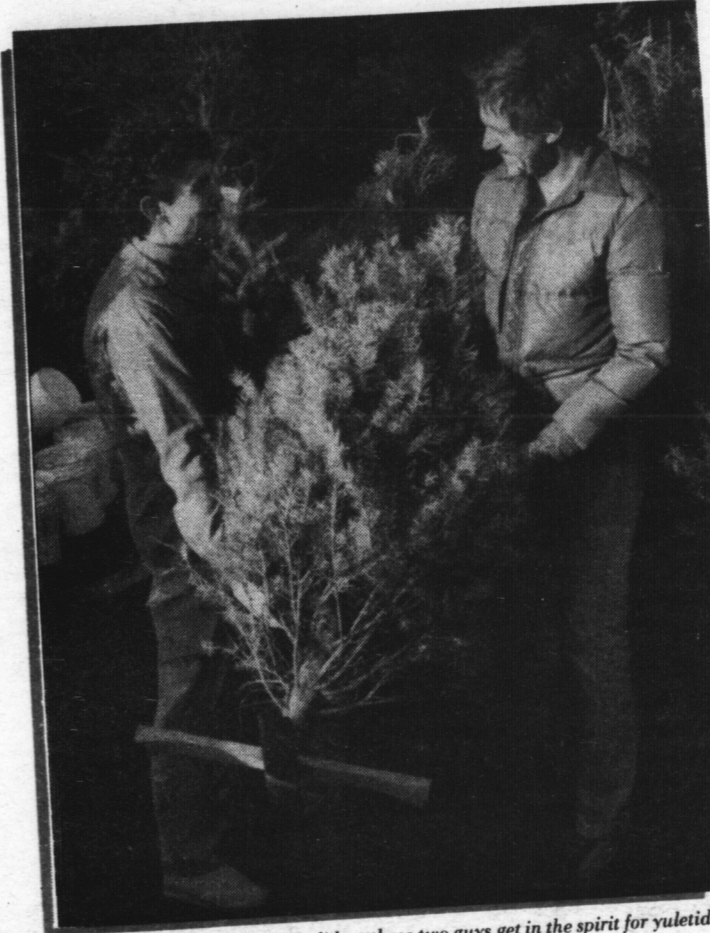
Their bodies also were slashed with a hunting knife. One of the women was pregnant.

A farmer who entered the bank also was executed. A cafe owner who entered the bank was shot in the head, and remains in serious condition in the hospital. A man and wife who walked into the bank were shot, but were wounded only superficially. The

assailant put his gun to the head of the couple's infant and pulled the trigger, but was out of bullets, police said.

The shooting spree lasted 15 minutes before Neill left the bank and entered a tan getaway car, which police say was driven by Johnson.

It was no secret in Lawton (Continued on page 2)



All Spruced Up for the holiday, these two guys get in the spirit for yuletide tree-trimming. (Photo: Rink)

## Complaints of Anti-Gay Bias Up 43% Over Last Year

### Human Rights Commission Investigates 123 Cases

by George Mendenhall

"The number and kinds of discrimination-related problems experienced by people because of AIDS is startling. We are hearing from gay people who are fired when they take a few days of sick leave because they have the flu. AIDS hysteria is rampant in the city."

Eileen Gillis, staff member of the Lesbian/Gay Unit of the city's Human Rights Commission (HRC), reached this conclusion based on a new phenomenon of discrimination—AIDS panic—which is documented in her latest annual report. She reveals that there has been a 41 percent increase in reported cases of anti-gay discrimination in the past year.



Discrimination Detective Eileen Gillis, staffer for the Human Rights Commission. (Photo: Rink)

(Continued on page 3)

### IN THIS ISSUE

#### MARY CHRISTMAS

ART SHOW EMBROGLIO continues on slow boil following August theft at Pride Center. Artists were promised insurance, but their stolen works were never covered. Page 7.

HOW TO MEET LESBIANS. Mike Hippler decides it's time for some women in his life. Page 12.

THE ENVELOPE PLEASE. Woolly's First Annual Bouquets and Brickbats Awards look back on 1984. It was the year of living dangerously. Celebs on page 14.

A LESBIAN LIFETIME is reviewed with the passing of Helen Harder. She was a tomboy, ship-builder, air force instructor and much more in her 66 years. Greater Bay, page 17.



## Unresolved Complaints Pile Up At Police Review Office

### New Director Promises to Speed Investigations

by Ray O'Loughlin

The headlines tell the story:

- "Big Rise in Complaints Against Police in SF" (Chronicle, May 25)—San Franciscans complain about police brutality eight times more than other Californians.

- "Cops Probed in Assault on Gay Man" (B.A.R., Oct. 4)—A gay man is taken off a Muni bus by uniformed officers who drive him to a remote area of the city where he claims they beat him and left him. Investigation reveals that the two officers involved had also been named in other recent incidents of abuse; criminal charges are now pending against them.

- "SF Police Sued Over 'Terror' Raid" (Chronicle, Aug. 17)—Six heavily armed plainclothes cops looking for a Western Addition drug dealer torment an elderly woman and her nephew for two hours. They had the wrong address.

- "SF Police Sued in Beating Case" (Chronicle, Oct. 3)—Three Chinese people stopped for a traffic violation say they were beaten for no reason. One, a deaf mute, was severely beaten when he did not respond to police orders.

(Continued on page 4)



# Police Review

(Continued from page 1)

Hardly a week went by this year, it seemed, without more headlines on problems with the San Francisco Police Department. First, it was a sex scandal in which the enforcers of the law broke the law by hiring a prostitute for a police party. More recently, there was the Kojack-style raid on Lord Jim's, a posh singles bar. And then there are the growing number of complaints about police violence at peaceful—and generally small-political demonstrations.

The response of the city to these incidents has been a number of "shake ups in the chain of command" which were splashed across news pages. But critics say the moves are actually promotions for the wrongdoers.

Meanwhile, the Lesbian and Gay community, frequently a victim of police abuse and a leader in the fight for police accountability, was outraged by having a Gay officer reprimanded for "conduct unbecoming of an officer." His offense? While in uniform at the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade, Officer Paul Seidler briefly kissed another man.

Police actions have long been a sore point in the Lesbian and Gay community. It has been less than 10 years since homosexual acts were legalized in California. Memories of bar raids and arrests linger. More recently, memories of police attacks during the White Night riot and numerous incidents since then have reinforced the estrangement

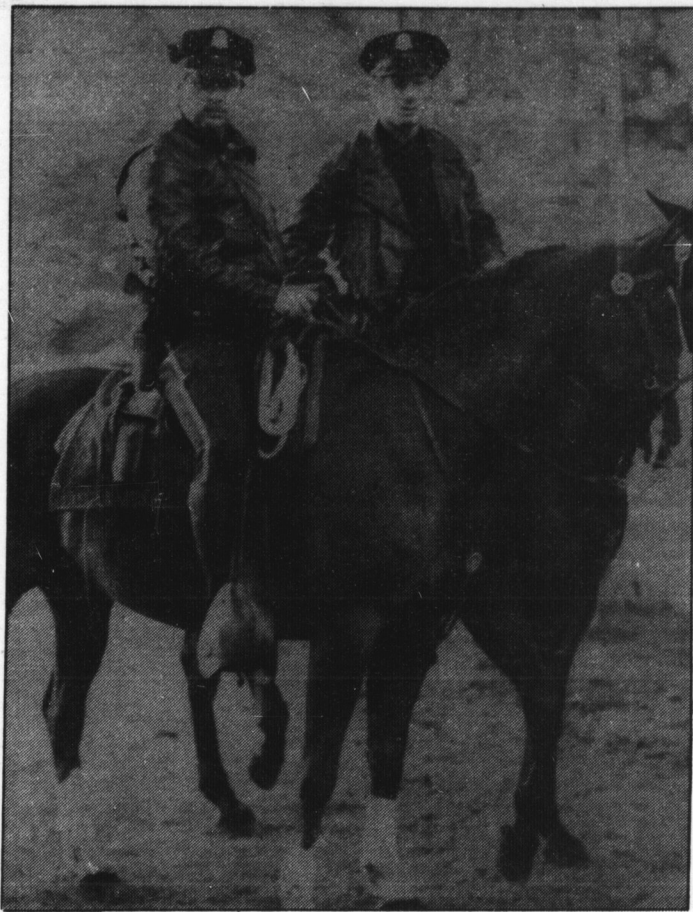
ment between Gays and police. Commenting on that estrangement, Supervisor Harry Britt said, "The police have been the slowest to learn how to deal with us."

## VOTERS REACT

After the Super Bowl riot in January, 1982, in which the cops shocked the city by clubbing football revelers, San Franciscans began to push seriously for civilian review. It was an idea that the local Bar Association and the Northern California American Civil Liberties Union had long urged. They proposed a civilian police review board which would inject community accountability into the SFPD. That November, 62 percent of city voters endorsed the idea. The Office of Citizen Complaints (OCC) was added to the city charter.

Then followed months of delays in hiring a director, assembling a staff and setting up shop. The complaints came in, though. Few complainants heard anything more from the OCC, sequestered on the fifth floor of the Hall of Justice.

The problem got so bad that Mayor Dianne Feinstein, no sympathizer of police review, expressed concern about the ineffectiveness of the OCC. Soon the "police watchdog" found itself in the headlines along with charges of mismanagement. In late September, director Eugene Swann resigned. And on Nov. 1, the Police Commission named Frank J. Schober, Jr. to the \$52,000-a-year job.



Not Riding Tall is the public's perception, the city police force this year has been involved in one fiasco after another. (Photo: Rink)

Schober grew up in San Francisco. Until two years ago he headed the California National Guard, to which he had been appointed by Gov. Jerry Brown in 1975. Schober established a similar operation to the OCC in the National Guard.

To a casual observer, Frank Schober appears more the college professor than military commander. In fact, he did teach at West Point and holds a Master's degree in public ad-

ministration from Harvard.

Schober said, "The OCC hasn't succeeded but it is capable of doing so."

Explaining that the office is necessary, he said, "Every profession is regulated by an outside agency that can take away licenses to practice if performance is poor." He likened police work to that of other professionals involving public trust such as lawyers and doctors.

## OUTLINES GOALS

Schober outlined his goals for the OCC, saying that he wanted to go beyond the probing of complaints, to looking at the training of police officers, the level and quality of supervision, and application of department policies and regulations.

"We want to look at more than just the bare facts of alleged offenses. We must look for patterns. For example, if an officer gets a number of complaints for verbal abuse in a six-month period, and even if they're not sustained, that officer may have a problem that we should take a look at."

Among his priorities is to

streamline the procedure for filing complaints so that they are handled "as expeditiously as possible." Slow work and a backlog of cases were major factors in the demise of Swann.

Schober wants to establish a strict control system, to keep a closer watch on complaints—and notify station commanders immediately on actions involving their officers.

An apparent failure of the OCC to notify Mission Station about a police brutality complaint in August allowed a second brutality case to take place. A Gay man severely beaten by two Mission Station police Aug. 24 filed a complaint the next day with OCC.

Mission Station Captain Vic Macia said he was not informed of that complaint, so the officers stayed on the street. Macia said he would have removed the officers from contact with the public had he been informed of the complaint—as regulations require.

Four days later, the same two officers were involved in a similar beating of another Gay man, in which the man's finger was broken.

Had the two officers been removed from public contact following the initial OCC complaint, the second brutality case would not have occurred, Macia said.

Schober said he wants a system with prompt preliminary investigation to determine how a case is to be pursued. Complaints of unnecessary force, said Schober, would get the "highest priority" and would be investigated and completed within 30 to 45 days. Recommendations for action would then go to Police Chief Con Murphy, or to the Police Commission.

Complaints may be filed at any police station, by telephoning the OCC (553-1407), or by walking into the fifth floor office in the Hall of Justice. Schober hopes to change that last fact. He wants to move the OCC out of the Hall of Justice, a step urged by OCC supporters. "It's intimidating to have to come into the Hall of Justice," Schober said.

## WORK WITH COMMUNITY

Although he feels that the present staff of seven investigators is adequate to do the job, Schober said he plans to require

(Continued on next page)



The Police Commission oversees the citizens' complaint office—and is no great supporter of the concept. Third from l., Jo Daly. (Photo: Rink)

# Police Review

(Continued from previous page)

that investigators be certified in police investigation techniques, and obtain private investigators licenses. "It'll boost their own sense of professionalism," said Schober. He also wants his staff to accompany police officers on patrol four times a year.

At the same time, Schober said he wants to work closely with community groups concerned with police issues. He has already met with Community United Against Violence (CUAV) and plans soon to meet with the Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club.

Speaking for CUAV, Randy Schell rated Schober highly. "I'm impressed," said Schell. "He is a very personable man and seems to understand what the problems are." He said he was hopeful for Schober's plans with the OCC. He added that in protest demonstrations, CUAV and OCC plan to work together to monitor police behavior.

Lesbian police commissioner Jo Daly expressed hope for the OCC. Saying that she has always supported the establishment of the office—the only police commissioner to do so—Daly stated, "It stands to reason that the only way to control the police department is to make sure it (OCC) works. You have to have open communication with citizens so that a level of credibility can be proven." Then she added, "Police can actually get away with more when civilians do the investigating" because there is an "idea of substantial fairness."

Daly said that she felt the OCC was now "on its way" with new director Schober. "In the long run, it'll help us have a better police department with fewer complaints."

Asked if she saw a particular problem between the Lesbian and Gay community and the SFPD, Daly said, "Relations between the Gay community and the police department are very good now, better than they ever have been."

## BRITT IS CRITICAL

Britt, long one of the chief supporters of a police review board, dismissed Daly's professed support for the OCC as idle words. "I have not seen any indication at all that the Police Commission wants this to succeed," Britt said. "They're still resisting the idea of citizen accountability and without that we haven't accomplished what we set out to do."

He cited a list of problems in

establishing the OCC after voters created it in 1982. "The failure of the OCC cannot be laid entirely on Swann," said Britt. "The Police Commission put no pressure on Swann to resolve cases. They had no timetable for implementation and conveyed no sense of urgency in the matter." He added, "It's hard to believe they'll give any more support to the new man."

Over at the American Civil Liberties Union, Amitai Schwartz, also a proponent of police review, shared Britt's doubts. "The mayor is not convinced there's a police problem in this city. The problem is at the top," said Schwartz, with inaction by those in command "encouraging and condoning conduct as occurred at the raid on Lord Jim's." He said the only solution was to "raise public sensitivity to keep pressure on the mayor's office."

Britt echoed those remarks, saying, "It's not the rank and file police officers who are the problem. As a result of the affirmative action suit (requiring the SFPD to hire more minority officers), we have better attitudes on the street." He blamed the "good ol' boy network" at the top that is a "closed group not receptive to minorities, women or Lesbians and Gays in the department."

## 'GOOD OL' BOYS'

Britt cited the actions of Capt. Vic Macia, who is credited with greatly improving Mission Station, as an indication of what good leadership can do. "He's an example of what can happen if you have people at the top who believe in fairness."

Said Britt, "You've got to have tough, assertive people on the Police Commission ready to face up to serious problems. They should get angry at allegations of police violating citizens' rights." The present set of commissioners, he concluded, "are uncritical of the chief (of police) and are pushed around by the mayor," who, Britt said, "doesn't give a damn about the OCC."

Over the reception desk in Room 565 of the Hall of Justice, hangs what Frank Schober calls the motto for his operation. "OCC Mission," it reads, "To advance the internal reality and public perception of a San Francisco police force that is both efficient and humane."

While most observers of the SFPD expressed optimism that Schober would at least get the OCC to function smoothly, they

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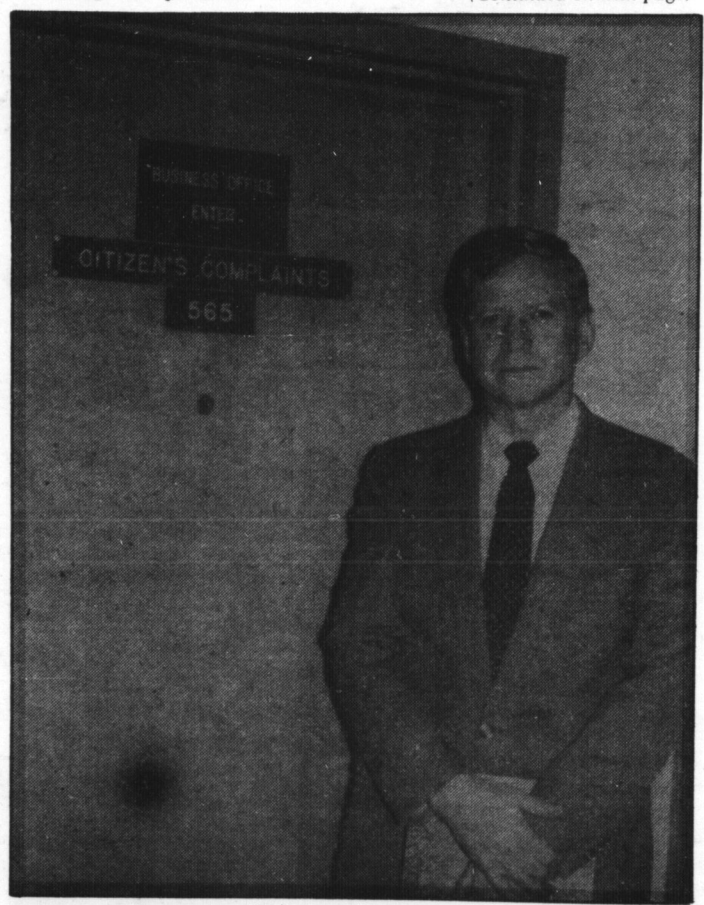
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**Holiday Singing Fills Ward 5-B**

**The Crisis Unites Gay Families As Community Remembers the Ill**  
by Allen White

It's not business as usual this Christmas season in San Francisco's Gay community. Beneath a facade of parties, fun and holiday cheer there is the commonality of a people responding to a deadly serious medical crisis.

Monday night the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus performed its most inspiring concert of year. The presentation took place on the fifth floor at San Francisco General Hospital, in the AIDS Ward. It was much the same music the group had performed the night before to a near-capacity audience at Nourse Auditorium.

Sunday night they sang to close to 1,800 people. Monday there were less than fifty. Director Ernie Venegas and the chorus he directed gripped the ward with emotion and sensitivity.

The music was the sound of Christmas. Gary Wilson tenderly repeated the lyrics of "A Christmas Song," just as he had the night before. He commented how a year ago he sang at the hospital knowing his lover had just died of AIDS.

The group moved from room to room. Nurses were forced to thin the ranks of singers as they jammed the small hospital rooms. A dozen chorus members gathered around a man and sang as he lay in the intensive care unit. A family stood in a corner with tear-filled eyes as the chorus sang "Silent Night." A mother slowly opened a door so her son could hear the chorus sing "White Christmas."

A young woman asked a nurse if some chorus members could go to another area of the AIDS ward and sing to a member of her family. As they reached the room they were quietly turned away. The man had just died.

Death has become a daily occurrence from this disease in San Francisco, and the Gay community is uniting to survive. People are aware and responding in many ways.

Chaps, a large South of Market bar has been lighting a lightbulb for every \$5 donation. As of Monday night, lights had lit a large Christmas tree, outlined the large balcony area and are beginning to cover the center bar. Almost 600 colored Christmas lights burn as a symbol of money that has been contributed to help the men with AIDS at San Francisco General Hospital.

Last Saturday morning, dozens of organizations joined together to bring canned foods and other items to the Castro Theatre to help stock the San Francisco AIDS Foundation Food Bank. The items to stock this unique food bank are being collected all over the city. At The Arena, a bar on Harrison Street, special nights are scheduled with customers getting discounts on their drinks when they make a donation.

Sunday night, more than 500 people filled the Green Room of the Veteran's Building for the Shanti Project's Christmas party. Among those attending were volunteers who work with the organization, people with AIDS and hundreds of others who have been supportive in the past year. The warmth and love of the crowd cut the chill night air as they were entertained by Sharon McNight and Danny Williams with Jim Cvitanich portraying a provocative leather-clad Santa.

Gary Wilson, who sang last Monday night to the people with AIDS at San Francisco General Hospital, will again sing with the chorus. As he sings his two solos he has grasped the reality that this may be his last Christmas. Just a few weeks ago doctors told him he too had been diagnosed with AIDS.

**Art Show Promised Insurance But Stolen Art Wasn't Covered**

**Finger-Pointing Galore in Post-Theft Embroglio; Art Show Thief Behind Bars But Questions Remain**  
by Charles Lineberger

On Aug. 18 a theft occurred at the Pride Center which began a concatenation of events which has divided, and put at odds, the San Francisco Arts and Athletic Commission, the Pride Foundation, and at least a score of Gay and Lesbian artists in the city. The theft was of 32 artworks valued at \$22,000. They were drawings, photographs and paintings from the first-ever Gay and Lesbian Art exhibit associated with the San Francisco Art Commission's Annual Art Festival.

Burglary Inspector Tom Crawford told the Bay Area Reporter that a security guard, or someone working in that capacity, was on duty at the Pride Center the day of the theft. This person saw someone, later identified as Effrim Baker, taking artworks out of the building.

At that point Baker dropped the pieces he was carrying and ran. The guard ran after him and saw a man getting into a BMW car. Mistakenly assuming, according to Crawford, that this was the thief, he took down the car's license plate number. The man driving the BMW was later tracked down and exonerated. Fortunately, however, the real thief had left fingerprints on the art pieces he had dropped.

The relatively new San Francisco Police fingerprint computer matched up the fingerprints on the artworks with those of Effrim Baker, a man with an arrest record. Inspector Crawford showed the guard, who had seen the theft, half a dozen photos, including one of Baker. The guard picked out Baker.

Baker quickly got himself a lawyer, pleaded guilty and was let off with a 9-month maximum sentence, 2 years probation, and a \$100 fine. Finis Baker, but only the beginning of the Gay and Lesbian art heist imbroglio.

Baker, before slipping behind bars, never revealed the whereabouts of the missing \$22,000 worth of art. The problem thus quickly became one of reimbursing the artists for the stolen artwork.

"I found out about the theft two days after the 18th of August," said Dean Paquette, who had lost two watercolors in the heist. "Tony Plewik (exhibit coordinator) called me and told me. I was very upset, mainly because we had been told in writing that the show was insured."

Paquette described a letter he received from Holly Smith, "exhibit coordinator for the Pride Center Arts Committee." In the letter, which dealt with the technical aspects of putting up an art show via a vide the individual artist, an entire paragraph stated that Paquette's work was being insured by the Pride Center, "from the point of delivery through the close of the exhibit."

In his call to Paquette, Plewik, according to the artist, told him to pick up his remaining artworks at Plewik's place of residence. At Plewik's residence Paquette was given a list of names and phone numbers so that he could keep track of what was being done to either retrieve the stolen art or reimburse the artist for it. The names were those of Plewik himself, Holly Smith, Brandy Moore (president of the Pride Foundation Board of Directors), and Inspector Crawford.

Paquette called Crawford three times—no response. He called Brandy Moore once at the Pride Center—no response. He called Holly Smith—in a telephone conversation with Smith, Paquette later recalled,



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A Toast to Friendship. Amelia's bartender Jonna joshes with one of the regulars, Remy. (Photo: Rink)

**ON THE OFF BEAT**

**How to Meet Lesbians**

MIKE HIPPLER

Who was the first dyke I ever knew? Ah yes, Miss Pitts. Miss Pitts—honestly—was my seventh grade French teacher. She was without a doubt the strictest, meanest woman in the world. With her short-cropped, jet-black hair, her pointed, heavy-rimmed glasses, her menacing stare, her thickest build, and her threatening stance, she was not only a fearsome and formidable presence but also the very picture of stereotypical bull-dykedom. The woman would have made a perfect Marine drill sergeant.

Of course, I didn't know she was "that way" at the time. I didn't find that out until years later, long after I had learned to see past the gruff exterior to the heart of gold beneath and to value her as one of my all-time favorite teachers. Poor Miss Pitts. I was in college when the news rocked the church congregation at home that my former French teacher was having an affair with the wife of one of the most respected businessmen in the community. This was a woman who sang in the church choir, for God's sake, whose sons were in Boy Scouts with me. But this respectability didn't stop her from leaving her husband when Miss Pitts beckoned. (Many are called, but few are chosen.) The congregation was scandalized, naturally, but I for one was delighted.

I don't think I met another Lesbian until my college days, when I joined the university's Gay Alliance. There were only a few brave souls in the Gay Alliance, alas, and because there were so few of us, we drew together quickly and didn't bother to discriminate among each other on the basis of minor differences, like gender. Men got along with women and women with men. And that's the way I liked it, the way it should be, I reasoned—but not the way it was for long.

When I moved to the Big City, I found that men and women rarely socialized with one another. There was no need. With greater numbers came greater opportunity, and this usually meant the opportunity to specialize. Women went to women's bars, and men went to

men's bars. Most Gay people I met were too busy pursuing their own particular visions of Utopia to bother about the larger picture. Boyfriends and girlfriends came first and the Gay community as a whole second.

This was a shame, I thought, but I soon found myself playing the same game. In my address book there were many Steve's and Paul's and Bob's but not too many Sally's or Jane's. (There were plenty of Miss Velma's and Sister Girene's, of course.) I began to fear that Miss Pitts was fated to be the sole Lesbian I would ever know. This was my own fault, I realized. If my interests extended to areas other than the crotch, I might have

intermission, "when I was in high school I was forced to take a course on human sexuality, and my teacher, lovely dimwit that she was, taught us emphatically while discussing homosexuality that all Lesbians hated men. It had something to do with their fathers. If I took that little number we just saw seriously, I'd have to believe that there is some truth to that."

A gorgeous young woman to my right flashed her fiery eyes at me and snarled, "Yeah, I heard that, and some of us do hate men!"

I decided to try an avenue other than the theater to make dyke friends.

**'She in turn told us that her name was Hey Lynn—or Helene, I couldn't tell which.'**

had women friends.

One day I resolved to change all this. "I am going to meet Lesbians," I said. The trouble was how to do it. I knew that Lesbians hung out around political clubs, but that seemed a dull prospect. I was a little afraid to enter dyke bars. I had little chance of being invited to a potluck dinner, and in the papers I saw no notices for literary groups gathering to discuss *Rubyfruit Jungle*. At last, however, I saw an ad for a play at Fort Mason produced by a woman's theater group, Lilit. The play seemed harmless enough, and I knew I'd feel at home in the theater. So I called my friend John and dragged him along.

Did I feel the least bit uncomfortable because John and I were the only two men in the theater? Not me. Did I feel at all out of place? Not a bit. I did squirm a little, however, when one of the actors on stage brandished a gigantic pair of garden shears and sang a little ditty about how she'd like to castrate all the men in the world. Not just rapists, mind you, and not just straight men, but all men. That included me.

"You know," I told John at

It was then that I saw that the Strand was to feature a movie I had always wanted to see. This time I called my friend Lionel and said, "Lionel, there's this great movie we have to see, and it'll be the perfect place to meet Lesbians. It's called *The Women*, and you know the place will be swarming with them."

The place was swarming, all right, but not with women. The place was filled with Gay men, and there was nary a woman in sight. No wonder. Self-respecting women could hardly be expected to enjoy a movie that portrays females as vicious, catty, spiteful, mean-spirited, and low, or a movie in which the heroine's mother sums it all up by saying, "I know my sex." No wonder, too, that my sisters enjoyed it. "We seem to have a different sense of humor than the dykes," I told Lionel. The gap, instead of narrowing, seemed to widen.

It was a sense of humor, however, that drew me into a woman's bar at last. A group called Pussies on the Prairie, a Lesbian Country and Western band, was scheduled to play at Maud's on Cole Street, and this time I enlisted my friend Russell

(Continued on next page)

**Lesbians**

(Continued from previous page)

for support. "You'll love it," I promised him. "Besides, I need you."

Russell did not love it, but I did, mostly because right away I felt at ease. Nobody cared that we were there. They were all having too good a time to bother about us. So when Pussies on the Prairie sang (to the tune of "Skip to My Lou"), "Hey, hey, the gang's all here. Same old crowd every year. What do you do with a bunch of queers? Have a good time, cowgirls," I sang along and had a ball. I also ran into every woman acquaintance I had in town that night—both of them—and they were delighted to see me. Or so they said.

On a subsequent trip to Maud's I took note of finer details that indicated the character of the place. The bar keeps a supply of *B.A.R.'s* and *Sentinel's* by the door, for instance—papers which purport to serve the entire Gay community but are directed mainly at men. "That's nice," I thought. "That's either broad-minded of them or desperate, one." I also learned that the bartender's roommate was a Gay man—proof that my high school sexuality teacher was a liar.

Finally, I saw that not everyone was a woman. In fact, at my end of the bar stood three separate Gay male couples. I was glad that they were welcome, but I began to worry about the sanctity of the place. Co-mingling was my object, true, but I couldn't help thinking that women might resent this invasion of their privacy. If heterosexuals invaded a Gay bar, for instance, I wouldn't mind, but I wouldn't appreciate their taking over the place. Perhaps women need a place to call their own as well. But as Maud's seemed in no imminent danger of attack by men in chaps and alligator shirts, I decided to let the matter drop.

Clementina's Baybrick Inn was the next stop in the Road to Integration. Buoyed by my successful night at Maud's, I took my friend Tom to hear a jazz group—a co-ed jazz group, mind you. Because Clementina's features live entertainment, it's a perfect place for well-intentioned souls seeking Harmony and the Greater Good of Man and Womankind (such as myself). The entertainment provides the means to avoid standing around feeling foolish and out-of-place. It also provides the opportunity to mingle with those nearby. "Having a good time?" you might say casually to a neighbor.

"Having a good time, boys?" a woman danced over and asked Tom and me. We replied in the affirmative and introduced ourselves. She in turn told us that her name was Hey Lynn—or Helene, I couldn't tell which. Whatever, at last a chance for a Lesbian friend! One thing soon led to another (as it always does): cocktails led to life stories, life stories led to dancing, and dancing led to... no, it was impossible, but I could have sworn I saw Hey Lynn copping a feel from my poor unsuspecting sister, Tom. Before long, it was obvious. There was no escaping it. Hey Lynn was definitely trying to pick Tom up.

"What gives?" I asked Tom. "Just how Gay is this girl?"

"Who knows?" he returned. "But let's scoot before we find out."

The incident with Hey Lynn pointed out something that should have been obvious all along. Although we have much in common, Gay men and women have two fundamentally different objectives in life—they

want women and we want men (even if Hey Lynn seemed to want anybody). This point was further emphasized on a recent ski trip to the mountains with my friend Bob.

Stopping off in Sacramento on the way, we decided to hit the nearest Gay bar for a little fun and excitement. This turned out to be the Forum, a dreary, Greco-Las Vegas atrocity peopled largely by women. Whatever attracted them to such a place I cannot imagine, but attracted they were, and Bob and I soon found that in a sea of women the problem was that there was little to attract us.

Even though neither of us was looking for Mr. Right that night

and could have found fun and excitement with any number (or kind) of people, we realized that despite the best intentions, any evening's entertainment value is largely controlled by what we dubbed the Cruise Factor (i.e., even if you don't wanna fuck, it's still fun to look). Unfortunately, there wasn't much for us to look at in the Forum.

I gave up the search for women friends soon after that. Oh, I may still drop into Maud's or Clementina's maybe even Amelia's from time to time, but I learned a few things during my Lesbian Odyssey. I found that it's easy to feel comfortable surrounded entirely by women but that comfort isn't enough. Creating significant bonds

depends on shared interests and experiences, and at present, despite the things we do have in common, there is more that sets us apart. Oh, some Lesbians and Gay men get along, certainly. God knows, the boys and girls down at Valencia Rose seem to get along great. But I honestly believe that they are the exception to the rule.

I suppose that someday some Lesbian will walk up to me and say, "I wuv you. Will you be my fwiend?" In the meantime, though, I'll just have to be content with my friend Keaton. She's straight, true, but she drives a pick-up truck.

M. Hippler

**Diablo Crisis Line Sets Special Hours**

Gays in the East Bay beyond the Berkeley Hills are offered the services of the Diablo Valley Gay Crisis Line, which will observe special hours during the holiday season.

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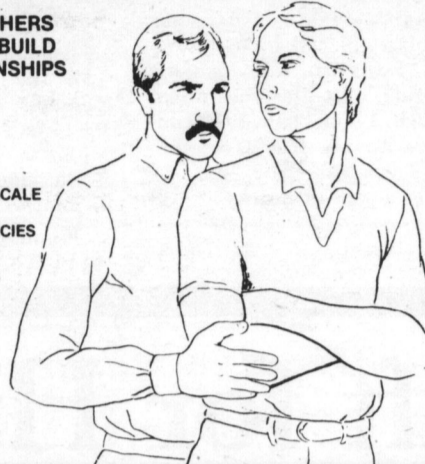
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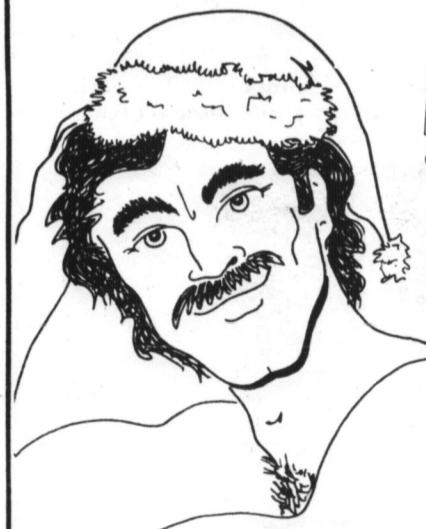


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**WILD AND WOOLLY**

**Bouquets and Brickbats: A Look at 1984**

by Bob Woolhouse

ED NOTE: Dewey-Defeats-Truman media award of the year goes to the *Advocate*, which hit the streets Nov. 26 with its "Year in Review" issue. The month of December has been cancelled, you may sing *Auld Lang Syne* and go home now... not to be outdone, the *B.A.R.'s* dauntless humor columnist, Woolly, looks at the picks and pans 1984—it's some dish.

- **Gay Ghostbusters of the Year:** Virginia Apuzzo, executive director of the National Gay Task Force, and Bill Kraus, aide to Sala Burton, for their work in getting Gay Rights back into the Democratic Party platform.
- **The Clara Peller "Where's the beef?" Award:** The Arena for its Bare Chest Contests. Great buns, too.
- **Gay History of this or any Year:** the National March for Lesbian and Gay Rights... 100,000 strong.
- **Best Buddies of 1984:** Kevin Klein (*Pirates of Penzance*) and William Hurt (*Body Heat*); after making *The Big Chill*, which apparently wasn't.
- **Miss Congeniality:** Randy Shilts, for generalizing that all, rather than some, Gay leaders are inept, loony and self-serving.
- **Heavenly Gross Out of the Year:** Long Dong Silver, 18½ inches (BAR 8-16). Or, what do you use that thing for—Trout Fishing in America?
- **Best On Campus Recruitment Drive of 1984:** Sheriff Mike Hennessey for his Deputy Night at Chaps.
- **Survivor of the Year:** Rep. Gerry Studds, formally censured for an admitted homosexual affair with a 17-year-old Congressional page, won renomination and reelection by a wide margin in Massachusetts.
- **The Trivial Pursuits Citation:** Supervisor Wendy Nelder for almost any legislation she introduces.
- **Graffiti of the Year:** This Madness Must Cease, which appeared around town from Halloween to Election Day.
- **The Thornton Wilder Memorial Our Town Award:** The newly incorporated and Gay dominated municipality of West Hollywood.
- **The Better Late Than Never Pronouncement of 1984:** The *Wall Street Journal* for "Gays will be the main political force of the decade."
- **Startling Insight of the Year:** You never see them together... that's because Angela Lansbury is Paul McCartney in drag.
- **Malice in Wonderland Citation:** Supervisor Quentin "Revulsion" Kopp, who showed how to alienate 70,000 voters in one easy lesson.
- **Turn About (Credible) of 1984:** Ed Davis, former homophobic police chief of L.A., who became a Gay Rights advocate.
- **Turn About (Incredible) of 1984:** Kevin Star, anti-Gay Examiner columnist, who suddenly revealed himself as pro-gay just in time to run for, and be defeated for, public office.
- **Buzzword of the Year:** Yuppies, which was immediately followed by Guppies—Gay Urban Professionals—which is fine, if you don't mind being equated with fish food.
- **Shirley MacLaine Commemorative Den Mother Award:** Lee Meriwether, former Miss America, who did not get axed for playing a Lesbian in the local production of *Blue Fish Cove* or for officiating at the Castro Dog Show.
- **Sexual Confusion of 1984:**

• **Sexist Citation for 1984:** Helen Gurley Brown's *Cosmopolitan* for "All male roommates at 7 a.m. look appropriately rumpled but yet adorable. They exude innocence and sort of a helpless charm. All female roommates at 7 a.m. look like Lon Chaney. No one knows why this is true but it is."

• **The Great Outdoors Adventure of the Year:** Ringold Alley.

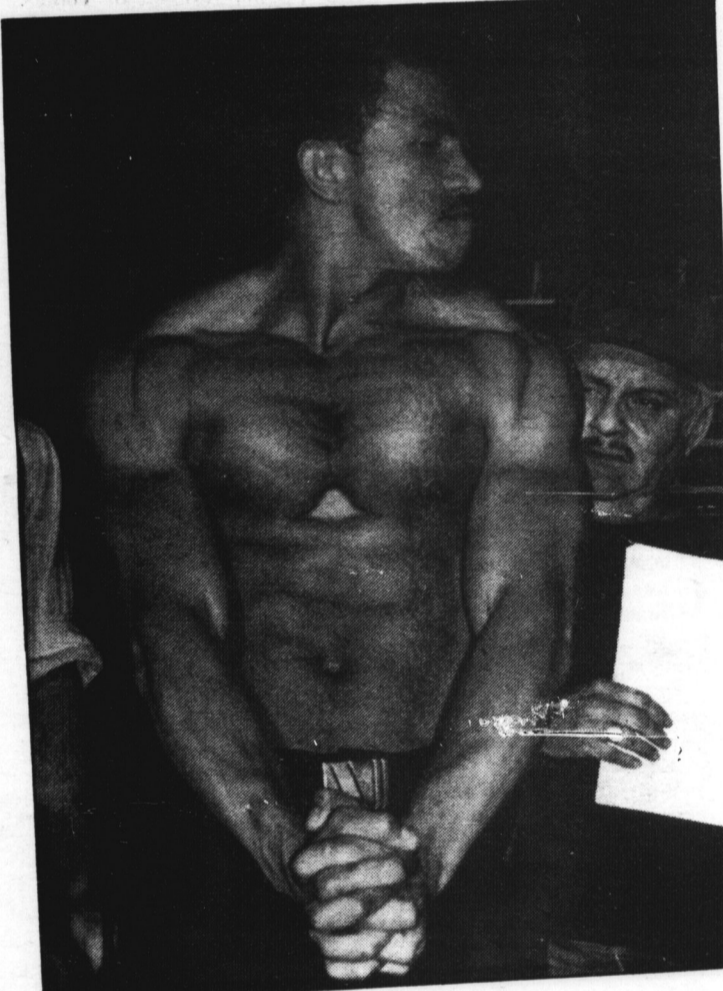
• **Fun Couple of 1984:** Those friendly folks from the Family Forum, Jerry and Phyllis Shaftwell.

• **Trendy In Spot for Non-gays:** Hamburger Mary's, For Gays: The Hard Rock Cafe.

• **Dukes of Hazzard for 1984:** Armstrong, on one side, for representing Gay voters at the Republican National Convention; on the other side, Deukmajian, for vetoing AB-1.

• **Fond farewell of the Year:** Orgy rooms, the clone look and especially Pure Trash.

• **The Last Hurrah in 1984:** Tennessee Williams, Truman Capote, Lori Shannon, John Sims, Bobbi Campbell... and more than 600 of the brothers.



*Peece of the Year, if not of the month, paraded across The Arena stage in 1984. This guy won't be on your calendar so we decided to give you a look. Clip and save. (Photo: R. Pruzan)*



*Miss Congeniality, Randy Shilts, shown here putting the evil eye on an unnamed animal rights activist. (Photo: Rink)*

**Decking the Halls at Shanti Residences**

The focus of the Shanti Residence Program, which provides permanent homes for persons with AIDS, is independent living. People with AIDS, however, don't always have the energy and resources to create a festive holiday spirit. This holiday season, the Shanti residents are receiving assistance from the community in making this a special Christmas. The Shanti "Adopt a House for the Holidays" program has become an important part of the holiday season for residents of the six Shanti houses.

The holiday adoption program is bringing together residents of each of the six Shanti houses with a community group which has volunteered to help make the holidays a special time. The first challenge for the adopting groups, which this year include the Gay Softball League, Dignity and Shanti volunteer practical support groups, is to determine what is appropriate for the specific house they have adopted. Since the residents in the Shanti houses retain control in their lives by making decisions on how they live independently, interaction between the sponsoring groups and residents to determine what is needed and wanted is essential.

One group, for example, found that the residents of their "house" were too ill to participate in traditional festivities such as tree trimming and parties. So, members of the sponsoring group have organized in-home teams for visiting residents during the holidays and having planned decorations for residents' bedrooms rather than the living room of the house.



*Deck the Boughs with hauls of jolly. Members of the Gay Softball League share holiday cheer with residents at Shanti house. (Photo: Rink)*

invite the residents of all the other Shanti houses, many of whom Todd hasn't met.

"I wouldn't normally buy a tree and put it up by myself," Todd said. "It will be fun to have someone else to do it with. That's what Christmas is for me, people and friendship."

Each Shanti residence will have its own special holiday festivities, thanks in part to residents who want to share new friendships and to people from the community who know how to be good friends and good helpers.

Another resident of Todd's house has sent back east to have his own Christmas tree decorations shipped—decorations he thought he would never use again.

A Christmas party at this house is also planned. It will be co-sponsored by the residents of House #5 and the Softball League, with the League providing most of the refreshments, decorations, etc. Todd was especially excited about the party because they have decided to

**Trustees Elect Gay Lawyer Horn Prez of Arts Center Board**

The War Memorial Board of Trustees elected Gay attorney Thomas E. Horn as its president and Claude M. Jarman, Jr., Vice President on Dec. 13. The War Memorial Board of Trustees sets policy and oversees the operation of the War Memorial and Performing Arts Center, which includes Louise M. Davies Symphony Hall, Harold L. Zellerbach Rehearsal Hall, War Memorial Opera House and the Veterans Building, which houses the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and Herbst Theatre.

Horn, who has served as Vice President of the War Memorial Board of Trustees for the past two years, was appointed to the Board in May of 1981 by Mayor Dianne Feinstein. He is a native

of New Mexico, an honors graduate of the University of New Mexico, received his law degree from U.C.L.A. in 1971, and is currently in private practice in San Francisco.

**THANK YOU**



*Shanti volunteers provide important emotional support to persons with AIDS and their loved ones.*



*Six Shanti residences provide permanent homes for persons with AIDS.*

With the holiday season upon us, we at Shanti Project want to say something important to you that has been on our minds and in our hearts for some time.

**TO OUR COMMUNITY:** You have been magnificent throughout this difficult time. We are proud to be a part of a community that has responded to human need in so many ways. Donations of goods and services have helped us provide important services to people with AIDS and their loved ones. Your generous contributions have provided us financial support and stability. Your spirit of giving has made the difference. Please know that you are deeply appreciated by all of us at Shanti.

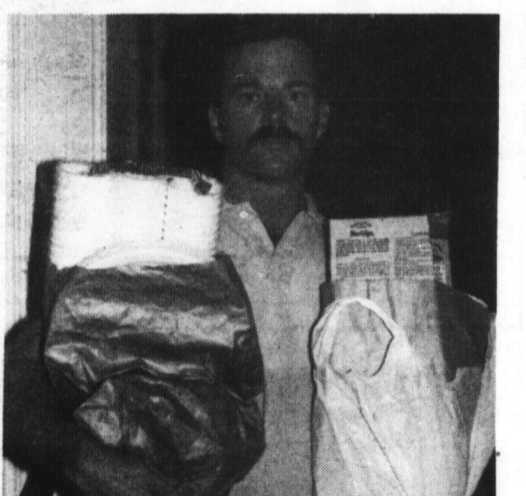
**TO OUR CITY:** No other city in the world has responded financially to the AIDS crisis as generously as has San Francisco. Shanti funding from the City has been significant and without it much support to persons with AIDS could not have been provided. All those who have spoken on our behalf have our deepest gratitude.

**TO OUR VOLUNTEERS:** This year you have given over 60,000 hours of direct service to persons with AIDS and their loved ones. You have demonstrated great courage in going past your own fear to be there for your brothers and sisters. We are truly in awe of what you have done and we love you.

**TO OUR CLIENTS:** Last, and most important, to those who have AIDS and to their loved ones, thank you. Thank you for sharing your courage and love with us. Thank you for giving us perspectives on living and loving we wouldn't have discovered without you. Thank you for touching our hearts, opening our minds and feeding our souls.

With love and affection,  
 The Board and Staff of Shanti Project

**ShantiProject**  
 Affection not Rejection  
 558-9644



*Shanti practical support volunteers do shopping, cleaning and other tasks for persons with AIDS.*



*Shanti staff provides counseling for persons with AIDS at San Francisco General Hospital.*





## Helen Harder

(Continued from previous page)

the Gay bars popular in wartime San Francisco. Harder barely escaped involvement in an anti-Lesbian purge in which a number of women were dishonorably discharged at Gardner Field in 1944. In 1982, San Francisco historian Allan Ruben interviewed Harder about these experiences for his research on Lesbians and Gay men in the Second World War.

After the War, Harder returned to Wilmington, making it a home base for extended travels in the South and to Northern and Western states. In 1949, she moved to Chicago, where she supported herself as a hasher and cannery worker, then to the Los Angeles area, where she found employment in a bearing factory and a cannery.

For varying periods, she worked as a California and federal civil servant, a choral instructor and choir director, a music teacher and a chicken and rabbit rancher. By her own estimate, Harder held none of these positions for longer than two-and-a-half years.

Harder continued with active involvement in an extensive Gay and Lesbian friendship network in Southern California. The group included both new friends and individuals she had met during the War. Harder remained in contact with a number of these friends throughout her life, and several of them traveled to the Bay Area to visit her during her final illness.

During the immediate post-war period, Harder also maintained her most lasting relationship, with a woman she had met near the end of the War and had followed to Chicago and Southern California. In a 1984 interview, one of Harder's long-time friends remembered the couple as clearly devoted to one another, but quarrelsome and frequently disagreeable. The latter tendency ultimately led to a falling out that put an end to the relationship.

In 1959, Harder gave birth to a single mother to her only child, a son. The father, David Linser, was a Gay man with whom she had attempted to found a syncretic Christian sect. Harder lost contact with Linser a few months before the birth. Three years later, she married and set up housekeeping in Westminster, California. Wishing to provide the appearance of a customary home-life for her son in an era when sexual "deviation" was severely condemned, Harder largely dissembled her Lesbianism during the next 10 to 15 years.

In 1966, Harder separated from her husband after studying for an elementary teaching credential at California State College at Long Beach. She moved with her son to Beatty, Nevada, a desert town of 500 inhabitants, 120 miles northwest of Las Vegas, where she taught fifth and sixth grades at the Beatty Elementary School.

Harder explained her move to Beatty in a letter to a friend in 1982: "Decided to go back into teaching to assure my son of an adequate education. Had the opportunity to come to this desert outpost as an elementary teacher; thought (correctly) that here I might have the opportunity to teach the way I thought it should be... After the first five years here, things changed—administration became well-nigh unbearable, but I hung on by tooth and toenail... Harder retired at the age of 60 in 1979.

Harder was active in the late 1970's and following her retirement, was involved with the Southern Nevada Chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW). She was largely responsible for organizing the rural Nevada NOW chapter, acted as its secretary and attended the 1981 NOW Western Regional Conference as its delegate. Harder was also welcomed in the Stanford University Gay community in Northern California for her semi-annual visits to her son, who had become a member of the Steering Committee at the Gay and Lesbian Alliance at Stanford (GLAS—formerly the Gay People's Union at Stanford).

In 1983, Harder moved to Redwood City, California, in order to be near her son and within reach of medical care at the Palo Alto Veterans' Hospital. She had been diagnosed with cancer two years earlier and had managed to maintain her home in Southern Nevada with the help of friends and frequent visits from her son. Harder passed her time in California writing poetry, maintaining her correspondence, reading, and receiving friends.

Harder is survived by an older sister; her estranged husband; her son, Rhio Hirsch, a long-time activist in the Stanford Gay community; and many friends in the Bay Area, Southern California and Nevada. Harder had requested that no funeral or memorial services be conducted. Books from Harder's personal collection have been donated to the Stanford University Libraries and the library of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance at Stanford.

G. Koskovich

## OAKLAND

### Wassailing

NEZ PAS

#### COADJUVANT COMESTIBLES (A Conferring Nose)

The second Christmas Benefit for the needy, hosted by Emperor V Don and King of Hearts VI of California Jim, was held Tuesday evening, Dec. 11, at the Town & Country. An adequate crowd was in attendance, but much of the abundant buffet went begging for more participants.

Donations of food, along with a meager \$2 charge, was supposed to have been the object of the pot-luck; but the "nose" witnessed many consuming who had not brought in any benefaction for the food drive. Those who were guilty, deserve the "onion" awards.

"Orchids" must go to all of the creators of the buffet, plus Carol, Rhonda "rotundarump," and Jimi Dee. "Vandas" also to entertainers David "Dasher" Facio (doing Mac Davis doing "Stop and Smell the Roses"), Sandy "Vixen" Sorrell (doing Swing album's "Let the Good Times Roll"), Jim "Prancer" Weatherston and Lady "Blitzen" Starr (doing a duo doing "Almost Paradise"), Emperor V "Donner" Don (doing Phil Collins doing "Against All Odds"), Empress VI "Comet" Billy (looking lovely while Tina Turner did "What's Love Got to Do With It?"), and Chet "Dancer" Simmons doing LIVE South American jazz on the piano.

Many raffle tickets (proffering the cause) were sold and lucky tessera holders claimed their sundry prizes. Some even re-donated their treasures for raffling, as more tickets were sold.

David Montoya earns a "pogonia" for his totally charming hand-puppet baby. It fascinated everyone, save for Lady Randy (Royal Grand Duchess elect). She stated that she'd try to have a real one of her very own!

It was good to see representatives there from Lake Lounge, Paradise, and Revol adding to the festivities. Would that all Oakland bars had been embodied.

#### YULETIDE AND YEAR'S END A Wassail Nose

Sunday, Dec. 23, noel's the season's festivities at:

- GASPARD—Big Mama's, starting at 8 p.m., with David's video and buffet;
- MELCHIOR—Bench & Bar, commencing at 8 p.m.;
- BALTHAZAR—Town & Country, which will forego its regular "soup kitchen" and replace it with a Holiday buffet by Messrs Butterman et Anzalone—matzo balls and zabaione?

Paradise Bar & Grill will have its successful "After Hours" breakfast both Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve, from 1 a.m. to whenever Lake Lounge invites everyone to "Think Pink In '85." This New Year's Eve party features two shows; the first one is at 10 p.m. and the second, 12:15 a.m.

There will be a \$3 donation at the door. The Lake Lounge will also have complimentary pink champagne and party favors at midnight. Manager Jim informed me that there will be included in the evening's mafficking, complimentary pink carousels; which one has to be present to appreciate. If the champagne

doesn't make your head swim, the merry-go-round will make your entire body spin!

Revol's Christmas party is this Friday, Dec. 21, featuring the song styling of entertainer Terri Cowick (no door donation or entertainment charge). Also on the docket will be hors d'oeuvres and drawings for "gift" prizes. New Year's Eve brings out Revol's chili once again, and George's doughnuts, along with champagne and noise makers to bring in 1985.

I'm sure that all other East Bay bars have special plans for the Holidays, and welcoming in a new year has its own personal milieu for you, wherever you select to be. So, enjoy all the rollicking and romping that this time of year affords. It would be nice to take a few minutes to remember our brothers and sisters who aren't with us to celebrate.

#### OMNIUM-GATHERUM (An Olio Nose)

Chuck, Emperor of the City of Alameda, has been selected as chairman of Alameda County Imperial Empire (ACIE) Privy Council. Methinks that most of the future meetings will be very succinct. ACIE Cut-A-Thons will be at more East Bay bars this coming year. Watch for their flyers announcing where and when.

Bob Sandner will return to Revol's piano bar on Friday, Jan. 11. Look for him there more than just the weekends. Big Mama's "ever-changing" seasonal wall is up for Christmas, and it's really beautiful. Only time will tell just what "decor" will be there for Valentine's Day.

Not too many details yet, but be prepared for an outstanding and lavish Sweetheart-Valentine-Red & White Ball next February. Plans are already a-rolling, and it sounds tremendous.

I understand that the Backyard on Telegraph has on its planks one of the original bartenders from Barry's... could it be that there is yet another Gay bar on Oakland's Polkstrasse?

Trashy Trish just finished a stint in the hospital, where she was "cleaned and dusted." One observer stated, "Well, I'll bet she smells better!"

If Sharon has her way—and she usually does—there will be a private "john" for her and other employees at the new Spoiled Brat.

Big Mama's Danny swears that there is going to be yet another Korean restaurant opening right next door to the new Spoiled Brat—and why is Frumpy interested in touring Korea in the near future?

You have to look closely at some of the hand-crafted snowflakes decorating Revol. They were cut from bar napkins by patrons, and some of the designs are quite provocative.

Mike Gifford covered all religious bases in his decorating at home this year—every major sect is reflected somewhere throughout the house. However, I did notice that Islamic was missing...

Anyone can lead a horse to water, but if you can get him to float on his back, you've got something! I'm smiling. Vera! Love, ■ Nez

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# Seasons Greetings

from the Management, Staff and Writers of

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# THIS WEEK



The San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus and the S.F. Lesbian/Gay Chorus will combine for a Christmas concert Dec. 24 at Nourse Auditorium (Photo: Rink)

## FRIDAY 21

- **Gayslayer**: pre-publication party for Warren Hinckle's book, New College Gallery, 762 Valencia St., S.F., 6 to 8 PM. Music by Danny McGinley.
- **The Concubine at the Feast**: stage performance, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$9 and \$10. Rhino's second production of the season, by Paul August Cacciotti, directed by Kris Gannon.
- **Hannukah Celebration**: with Congregation Ahavat Shalom, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 8 PM, free. Entertainment by Elliot Pilshaw.
- **Napata Mero**: music, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, S.F., 8:30 and 10 PM, \$6.
- **Pickle Family Circus**: 10th anniversary performances, Palace of Fine Arts Theatre, S.F., 7:30 PM, \$9.
- **The Committee to Save Our Sexual and Civil Liberties**: meeting, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 7:30 PM.
- **Acupuncture Clinic**: for persons with AIDS and their Gay families, The Parsonage, 555A Castro St., S.F., by appointment. Call Mark Denzin, C.A., or Peter Betcher at 567-2315 for more information. Stress/pain control.
- **Lea DeLaria and Jeanine Strobel**: comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$6. DeLaria and Strobel, fresh from their three-month New York engagement, return to the Rose to record their first album live in front of "home grown" audiences and premiere their new show, Life Got Tough and We Got Nellie.
- **The Matador Club**: stage performance, Mission Neighborhood Center, 362 Capp St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$6. A new play about stand-up comedy and bullfighting based loosely on the novel by ex-San Franciscan writer and bistro owner Barnaby Conrad. Written and directed by Gary Aylesworth, with Peter Newton.
- **The Sound of a Voice and The House of Sleeping Beauties**: stage performance, People's Theatre Coalition, Bldg. B, Fort Mason Center, S.F., 8 PM, cover. The Asian American Theater Company presents two one-act plays.
- **Streamers**: stage performance, South of Market Cultural Center, 934 Brannan St., S.F., 8 PM, \$8. Presented by the Full Circle Theatre Collective.
- **Beach Blanket Babylon**: stage performance, Club Fugazi, 678 Green St., S.F., 8 and 10:30 PM, \$16. The holiday version begins.

## SATURDAY 22

- **Christmas With the Family**: community Christmas celebration, Trinity Episcopal Church, 1666 Bush St., S.F., 6 PM. With lessons, carols, and eucharist, followed by a Christmas caroling party. Music by the Dick Kramer Gay Men's Chorus. The entire offering will be

split between People With AIDS and the S.F. AIDS Fund. Sponsored by the Lesbian and Gay Ecumenical Alliance of the Bay Area.

- **The Concubine at the Feast**: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Danny Williams and Karen Ripley**: comedy, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 6 to 8 PM, free.
- **Gay Comedy Night**: comedy, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 10 PM, \$5. With Tom Ammiano, Laurie Bushman, Marga Gomez, and Romanovsky and Phillips.
- **Gay American Indians**: Christmas dinner, Pride Center, 890 Hayes St., S.F., 2 PM. Bring a dish to share. Call 621-4716 for more information.
- **Fraternal Order of Gays**: drop-in social, the FOG House, 2038 22 Ave., S.F., 3 to 11 PM, \$3. Call 753-6786 for more information.
- **East Bay FrontRunners**: Oakland Christmas run, meet on the corner of 14th St. and Oak, 9:30 AM. Flat three-mile loop. Call 526-7315 or 527-9167 for more information.
- **Mame's Christmas Show**: celebration, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, 9 PM, \$8. With Pamela Brooks, Jae Ross, Joe Carter, Teresa Tudury, and Danny Williams.
- **Pickle Family Circus**: 10th anniversary performances, 2 and 7:30 PM (see Friday listing for details).
- **Lea DeLaria and Jeanine Strobel**: comedy (see Friday listing for details).
- **The Matador Club**: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **The Sound of a Voice and The Sleeping House of Beauties**: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Streamers**: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Beach Blanket Babylon**: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

## SUNDAY 23

- **Leopard Set**: music, Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. Jazz and pop stylings.
- **The Concubine at the Feast**: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Lady Bianca and Ladies Choice**: music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 5 to 8 PM.
- **San Francisco FrontRunners**: Presidio/Arguello Gate run, meet on the corner of Arguello and Jackson Sts., 10 AM. One to four miles.
- **Joe Poltrone**: music, Buckleys, 131 Gough St., S.F., 9 PM, \$5. With Bob Bauer on the piano.
- **Pickle Family Circus**: 10th anniversary performances, 2 PM (see Friday listing for details).
- **The Sound of a Voice and The House of Sleeping**

**Beauties**: stage performance, 3 and 7 PM (see Friday listing for details).

- **Drop-in VD Clinic**: sponsored by the Gay Men's Health Collective, 2339 Durant Ave., Berkeley, 7 to 9 PM. Free and confidential. Testing and treatment for gonorrhea, syphilis, NGU, scabies, lice, etc., also counseling and referrals. Call 644-0425 for more information.
- **Beach Blanket Babylon**: stage performance, 7:30 PM, \$14 (see Friday listing for details).

## MONDAY 24

- **Midnight Christmas Eucharist Celebration**: joint Catholic/Episcopal service, Trinity Episcopal Church, 1666 Bush St., S.F., 11 PM. Sponsored by Dignity/San Francisco and Trinity Episcopal Parish. Call 584-1714 for more information.
- **Now We Sing With Hearts Aglow**: music, Norse Auditorium, 275 Hayes St., S.F., 7:30 PM, \$6 to \$12. With the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus and the S.F. Lesbian/Gay Chorus.

## TUESDAY 25

- **San Francisco FrontRunners**: Christmas Day run, meet at the McLaren Lodge Christmas Tree, Golden Gate Park, S.F., 10 AM. One to five miles.
- **Lady Bianca**: music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM.
- **Beginning Square Dancing**: dance, 2140 Market, S.F., 8:15 PM. Learn with the Bay City Ramblers.

## THURSDAY 27

- **Women Only**: erotic cabaret with DJ dancing, Mame's, 389 Bay St. at Mason, S.F., 9 PM, \$6. A Blush production. Call 986-4553 for more information.
- **The Concubine at the Feast**: stage performance, \$8 and \$9 (see Friday listing for details).
- **San Francisco Hiking Club**: meeting, 1833 Page St., S.F., 7:30 PM. There will be an opportunity to sign up for future trips.
- **Male Strip Show**: male entertainment, Renegade, 1548 Polk St., S.F., 10 PM, free.
- **Pickle Family Circus**: 10th anniversary performances, 2 and 7:30 PM (see Friday listing for details).
- **Lea DeLaria and Jeanine Strobel**: comedy (see Friday listing for details).
- **The Sound of a Voice and The House of Sleeping Beauties**: stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Rita Lackey**: music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM.
- **Beach Blanket Babylon**: stage performance, 8 PM, \$14 (see Friday listing for details).
- **Yoga and Meditation Class**: for people with AIDS and their lovers, 7 to 9 PM. Call 921-4471 for more information.
- **Couples Group II**: ongoing drop-in support group for persons with AIDS and their lovers, Pride Center, 890 Hayes St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM. Call 821-8830 or 558-9644 for more information.
- **Writing Workshop**: for seniors 60 and older, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 7 PM. Sponsored



The Concubine at the Feast will play at Theatre Rhinoceros through Jan. 27 (Photo: M.I. Chester)

- **Artists Involved with Death and Survival**: stage performance, The Studio, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$7. A collaborative effort of 13 Bay Area Gay and Lesbian artists that delivers new insights into the deepening AIDS crisis.
- **Yoga and Meditation Class**: for people with AIDS and their lovers, 10 AM to noon. Call 921-4471 for more information.
- **International Folk Dancing**: dance class, Nova Academy, 347 Dolores St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM, \$2. No preregistration necessary. Call 552-8413 for more information.

by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders. Call George Birimisa at 431-6254 for more information.

- **Western Star Dancers**: beginners square dance class, YMCA, 220 Golden Gate, 2nd floor, S.F., 7:30 PM. Call 864-6134 for more information.

## WEDNESDAY 26

- **Fruit Punch**: radio, KPFA (91.4 FM), 10 PM. Jon Sugar will masquerade as Swish Kringle.
- **The Concubine at the Feast**: stage performance, \$8 and \$9 (see Friday listing for details).
- **Pickle Family Circus**: 10th anniversary performances, 2 and 7:30 PM (see Friday listing for details).
- **Bonnie Hayes**: music, Clementina's Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 to 9 PM.
- **Artists Involved with Death and Survival**: stage performance (see Tuesday listing for details).
- **Beach Blanket Babylon**: stage performance, 8 PM, \$14 (see Friday listing for details).

The Bay Area Reporter welcomes organizations, businesses, and individuals to submit items for its weekly calendar. Placement in the calendar is free and the sole responsibility of the editors. Deadline: 5 PM on Thursdays.

# Merry Xmas & Happy New Year!

From all of us.

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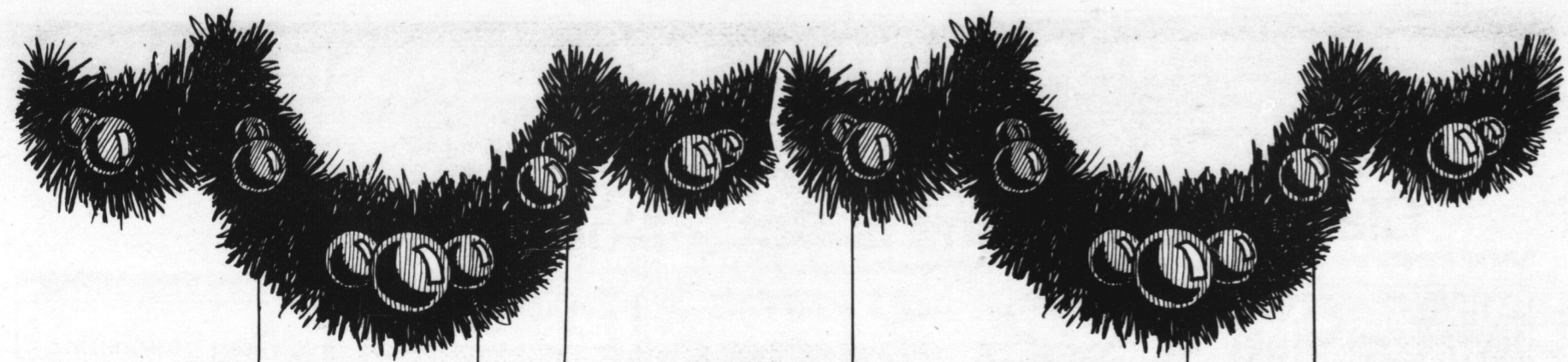












# Feliz Navidad y Próspero Año Nuevo



Thank you all so much for your continued support. We wish you the best during this holiday season, and may the New Year bring you PEACE, LOVE and JOY.

Sincerely,  
The Luna Family

# BAY AREA REPORTER

VOL. XIV NO. 52 DECEMBER 27, 1984

1528 15TH STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

TELEPHONE: 415/861-5019



A Rose is A Rose is A Rose and a holiday hug adds a rosy glow on a chilly holiday evening out on Market Street. (Photo: Rink)

## Grinch Steals Christmas But Sheriff Recovers It

Gays Excluded From Holiday Service At S.F. Jail; Special Rites Held

by Allen White

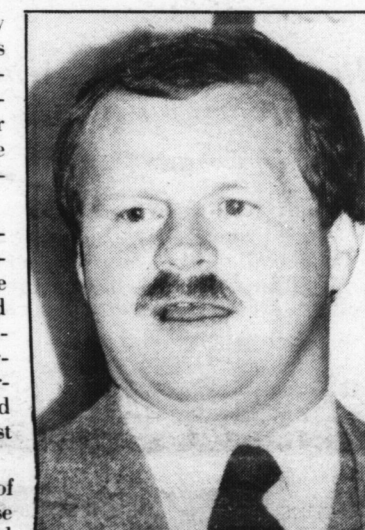
Gay inmates at the Hall of Justice were invited to participate in a special Christmas Eve religious service following their exclusion from a similar service for all prisoners Saturday. The service was hastily pulled together Monday at the demand of San Francisco Sheriff Mike Hennessey following several complaints.

The decision to exclude Gay prisoners last Saturday was made, according to several reports, by an unidentified deputy sheriff. Other events for prisoners scheduled through the days before Christmas had included Gays.

Approximately 15 Gay prisoners chose to attend the Christmas Eve service. Among those were Jay Neill, the 19-year-old awaiting extradition to Oklahoma on bank robbery and murder charges; and Dave Murdock, also 19, who is charged with a Land's End murder last May.

The service was the result of fast and efficient work by Louise Minnick, a sheriff counselor and political activist who is a member of the San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee. Religious participants included Supervisor Harry Britt, who is a Methodist minister; Metropolitan Community Church intern Sheila Harken; and Rev. Chris Cartwright, Tom Carroll and Tom Murray from Dignity, a Gay Roman Catholic organization.

To attend the service, the prisoners had to walk from their cells down a corridor between other cells where inmates ridiculed them with the most de-



Sheriff Mike Hennessey (Photo: Rink)

meaning and dehumanizing homophobic comments. It was sickening that any person should be forced to endure such humiliation to attend a religious service on Christmas Eve.

As they gathered in the room, a decision was quickly made to mingle the ministers with the prisoners in an attempt to humanize the setting. Minnick brought cake from Just Desserts and found soft drinks to serve.

(Continued on next page)

## Sacramento Gays Volunteer for Nation's First AIDS Blood Test

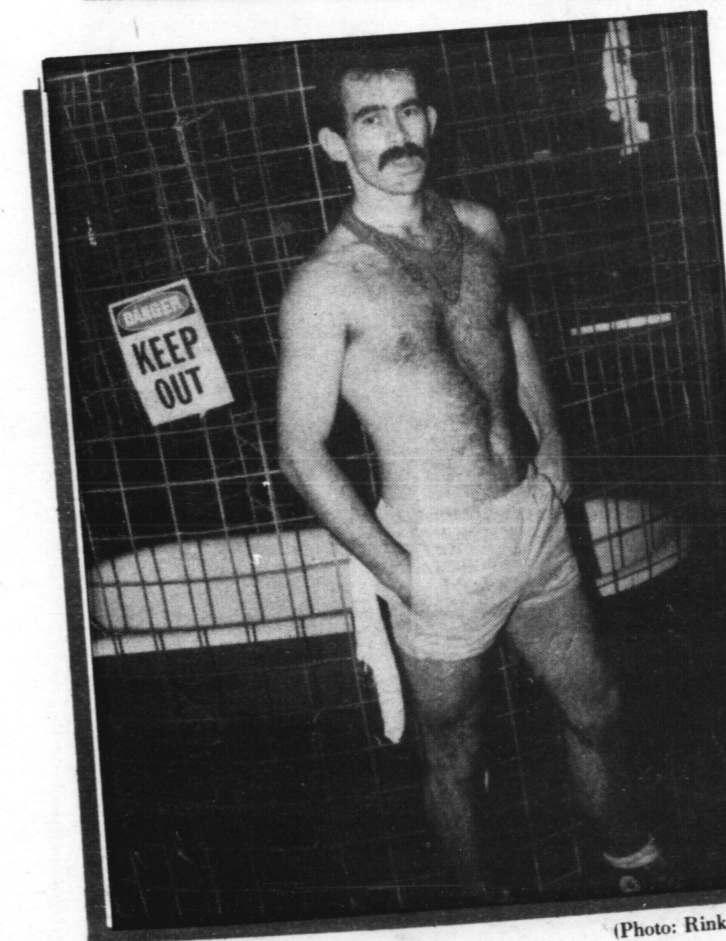
UC-Davis Screens Gay Men, Blood Bank, Hemophiliacs; River City AIDS Foundation Urges Caution in Program

by Brian Jones

The "AIDS test" is a reality. The University of California-Davis has become the first facility in the nation to make the controversial blood test generally available. This month, a group of 20 Gay volunteers in Sacramento received results of the first batch of blood tests.

The test is designed to detect antibody in Human T-Cell Leukemia Virus 3 (HTLV-3). It is known that HTLV-3 can cause AIDS in otherwise healthy people.

(Continued on page 4)



(Photo: Rink)

## That Was the Year That Was

1984 In Review—Best Is, It's Just About Over

by Brian Jones

Ring out the old year. Fast.

It was the worst year ever for Gays and Lesbians and the best thing to be said for it is that it will end Monday at 11:59:59—we hope.

They let Dan White out of prison. The Governor vetoed our equal rights bill. Five men from Vallejo attacked Gays and one of the victims died—and the Cops for Christ were assigned to the case. Fag-bashing was up, complaints of anti-Gay bias was up, and our spirits were down. Even the Beaux Arts Ball was a bomb.

Through it all was AIDS, AIDS, AIDS—haunting our hopes and reaching down daily into our community and grabbing our friends, our lovers and ourselves right off the street. By November's end—with one morbid month to go—229 of us

had died of AIDS in 1984. We watched the monthly press releases from the local Department of Health like we used to watch Walter Cronkite on Thursday nights, releasing the latest body counts from Vietnam. (Continued on page 10)

### IN THIS ISSUE

**MOST SEX** is banned at the baths. Judge toughens his order at request of city attorney. Clubs stay closed for now. **Page 2.**

**DIRECTORS QUIT** at AIDS Fund. Their new salaries estranged them from volunteers. Greg Douthwaite reports on **page 9.**

**BOFFO BOX OFFICE** for Harvey Milk documentary, amid talks of an Oscar. Tinsel-town tales on **page 9.**

**PARTY PLANS** aplenty for New Year's Eve. Allen White has the word on what's happening and where. **Page 12.**

**SETTING THE RECORD** Gay is singing, songwriting duo Romanovsky and Phillips. Bernard Spunberg spins their new album on **page 22.**