

Our paper Your paper

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AIDS Rumors

Gay Worker Sues SEEQ

By Rosalie Nichols

San Jose — Waheed "Larry" Ghilzai, a former chemical technician for SEEQ, Inc., has filed suit against the electronics firm for alleged harassment regarding his sexual orientation and for alleged slander due to the company's failure to take action to stop unsubstantiated rumors circulated about him having AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome).

The worker also alleges that he was placed in an unsafe work environment.

He seeks compensation for loss of income and employment benefits, legal and medical costs, and a judgment for \$5 million in general damages and an additional \$5 million in punitive damages for each of several causes of action.

Attorney Elizabeth L. Shively, representing Ghilzai, filed the suit in Superior Court in Santa Clara County on July 27, 1983, and plans to file an amended complaint in the near future.

Ghilzai went to work for SEEQ in the spring of 1982 as a produc-

tion technician. After helping an openly gay friend get a job with the company, Ghilzai claims that his supervisor began to make "derogatory remarks" with respect to his sexual orientation.

Ghilzai claims that he took this problem to Dennis Lyons, vice-president of personnel, who "belittled" the complaint and took no action to investigate it. Lyons is named as a co-defendant in the suit, along with Aurora P. Garcia, Ghilzai's immediate supervisor.

Following an industrial accident, for which he has filed a separate worker's compensation claim, Ghilzai was assigned to a position as a chemical technician in another part of the company in September 1982. During that employment, Ghilzai's suit alleges, he was exposed to health hazards, "including but not limited to, toxic chemicals and fumes, extreme temperatures, inadequate ventilation, and high noise levels."

In June 1983, according to the lawsuit, supervisor Lonny Wright and worker Kevin Curnes allegedly circulated a rumor that Ghilzai was suffering from AIDS. Shortly thereafter, he found a leaflet posted on company bulletin boards reading: "Larry Ghilzai — Stop Spreading AIDS — Quit

Now."

When an appeal to the vice-president of personnel was ignored, Ghilzai resigned from his job, "after suffering considerable embarrassment and emotional anguish," according to the complaint.

Ghilzai's suit lists nine causes of action, including slander, wrongful discharge, infliction of emotional distress, breach of covenant, breach of fiduciary duty, breach of contract, violation of the labor code, and the tort of outrage.

Contacted by Our Paper, Ed Sebesta, founder and president of Lesbian & Gay Associated Engineers & Scientists (LGAES), expressed great interest in the Ghilzai suit.

LGAES has been investigating anti-gay discrimination in high-tech corporations for several years and was active in protesting the denial of a security clearance to a gay graphic designer, Warren G. Preston, employed at GTE Sylvania, in 1980.

Denny Carroll, secretary of High Tech Gays, a local chapter of LGAES, also expressed interest in the case. The organization is scheduled to meet on October 9th at the home of a member. For more information about High Tech Gays, call (408) 277-0644. ■

Gay Voter Drive



Ginny Apuzzo of NGTF announced a nationwide registration effort. (File Photo)

New York — National gay political leaders last week announced a voter registration drive to add one million gay and lesbian citizens to the voter rolls before the 1984 election.

National Gay Task Force executive director Virginia M. Apuzzo called the effort a reflection of "our continuing determination as gay men and lesbians to be involved in decisions that affect our lives."

Apuzzo was joined at a press

conference kicking off "84 and Counting" by Vic Basile, executive director of the Human Rights Campaign Fund; Gilberto Gerald, executive director of the National Coalition of Black Gays; Carolyn Handy, president of the Walt Whitman Republican Club; Peter Vogel, co-chair of the National Association of Gay and Lesbian Democratic Clubs; and Mike Walsh, legislative assistant with the Gay Rights National Lobby.

In a joint statement, the six organizations said they would be working "in conjunction with local non-partisan, Democratic and Republican, political, social and religious groups around the country . . . to register as many gay and lesbian voters as possible to have a significant impact on the presidential and congressional elections of 1984."

Apuzzo explained that there are four components to the voter registration drive: outreach, support, education, and coalition.

"The broad base of support for this effort assures that we will be able to reach out to most of the 20 million gay men and lesbians in America," she said. In addition, the national organizations will be providing technical assistance to local groups in putting together their registration drives.

"Once the voters are registered," Apuzzo said, "we must make sure they are well informed." The national groups "intend to assess the records and positions of national candidates and assist groups in doing the same at the state and local levels," she continued.

Gays and lesbians are not the only minority group to realize "the importance of the ballot box in influencing their futures,"

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Gay Workplace Project

San Francisco (IGNA) Lesbian & Gay Associated Engineers & Scientists (LGAES) is seeking to find out which major corporations discriminate against gays and which do not. The goal is to determine the status of all occupations in such workplaces, not only engineering and scientific ones.

The three major objectives of the project are to provide information to homosexuals so that they can increase their job security "and avoid disaster;" to lobby corporations and other employers to adopt sexual orientation non-discrimination policies; and to modify the economic structure for the benefit of Lesbians and Gays.

LGAES's plan of action is to conduct a survey via a questionnaire, since no known survey of gays in the workplace so far exists.

Despite limited past success in determining corporate attitudes toward gay employees, it is hoped that the new questionnaire will elicit more response because a failure to reply in a substantive manner will be seen as verification of "negative and below average ratings." A summary report will

be sent to the company detailing negative and below average ratings of that company.

Eventually LGAES will publish a list of the ten worst corporations in an effort to get corporations to reply to the survey and improve their practices.

With the information about which companies are good and which are bad for gay employment, an effort will be made to eliminate those companies that practice discrimination. When good companies thrive, LGAES feels, "non-discriminatory job opportunities for Gays expand. When bad companies are reduced, economic room is provided for good companies."

The organization even hopes to exert ultimate political influence by reducing the economic power of homophobes and increasing that of non-homophobes.

LGAES believes that corporations "have no vested interest in discrimination. The cost of fair play is virtually nothing." The long range goal is for more and more companies to see the wisdom of non-discrimination against homosexuals. ■

A Landmark: Official Welcome for Gay Catholics

By Jill Kelly

Seattle — On the evening of September 3, a standing-room-only crowd of 1,260 Gay and Lesbian Catholics and their supporters packed Seattle's St. James Cathedral for a two-hour Mass, a highlight of the Sixth Biennial Convention of Dignity, Inc.

Outside, some 75 demonstrators held a candlelight vigil in protest.

The protest was nothing new for the Gay worshippers, accustomed to the Roman Catholic Church's long-standing opposition to homosexuality. But for most, the Mass was a joyful watershed in the 15-year history of Dignity, an organization that works for education of the Church about the needs of its Gay members.

"Although the building in which the celebration occurs is not important," says Frank Scheuren, immediate past president of Dig-

nity, "the Cathedral Mass can properly be seen as a sign of the increasing emphasis on spirituality in the Gay community, and the growing acceptance of that expression by many churches, not just the Roman Catholic Church."

Archbishop Raymond Hunthausen, in a videotaped address to the convention participants, called Dignity's presence in Seattle "a blessing," and urged members to work towards reconciliation with those who "may be filled with wonderment and confusion, even anger and resentment" at the presence of Gays in the Church.

The support of Archbishop Hunthausen, plus the appearance of Seattle Mayor Charles Royer and King County Executive Randy Reville at the opening session, marked the significant progress made by Dignity and the Gay Rights Movement over the past 15 years.

The theme of the four-day con-

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Women consider AIDS epidemic

By Michael Helquist

The notion that women aren't concerned about AIDS was recently challenged when over 250 women attended a standing-room-only conference that focused specifically on how the AIDS epidemic affects their lives.

The Forum on AIDS for Women, held in San Francisco's Women's Building on September 15th, included presentations by women who have become experts with the medical, social, and political implications of AIDS.

"Our lives are never going to be the same," asserted health activist and primary coordinator of the forum, Laurie Hauer. "As the AIDS epidemic affects more and more people, we find all aspects of our lives are affected." "All of us have a relationship with AIDS," Hauer suggested to the audience of primarily lesbian, heterosexual, and bi-sexual women. "As women we are personally affected. Women do get AIDS, and we want to know about them. Some of us may be at risk through

sexual contacts or through donor insemination. We may be at risk if we use street drugs intravenously using contaminated needles. We are affected personally as people close to us get AIDS and fight for their lives."

AIDS also touches women's lives on the job and in their community involvement. Hauer elaborated, "We are affected at our work place particularly if we work directly with people who have AIDS. We are also affected if we do any community or political work as health activists, gay activists, or in the feminist or lesbian communities."

Constance Wofsy, M.D. is one of the primary physicians working with AIDS patients in the Bay Area, and she is also the co-director of the AIDS clinic at San Francisco General Hospital (SFGH). Wofsy provided the statistics from the September 12th report from the Center for Disease Control that specifically involve women: 151 women have been diagnosed with AIDS in this country. The majority of these have infections—94 with pneumocystis pneumonia (PCP) and 45 with other opportunistic infections rather than cancer, Kaposi's sarcoma (KS). Only one woman has been reported as having both PCP and KS in contrast to the large numbers of males who have both KS and PCP. Of the 151 women, 83 are living; 68 have died; 76 reported I.V. drug use; and 16 of the total are Haitians.

"Infections are caused by infectious agents not by lifestyles," explained Grace Lusby, RN, the Infection Control Coordinator at SFGH. "But lifestyle may provide a vehicle for the agent to get into the body." Lusby suggested that understanding this difference might prompt high risk groups as well as the general public to evaluate behaviors rather than question sexual preferences and other lifestyle issues. Lusby explained as well that people frequently confuse how deadly a disease is with how easily it is transmitted. "AIDS is deadly," stated Lusby, "but it is not easily transmitted. Any infectious agent has to have a way to get into the body. Very few diseases can infect you by simple skin contact. This is certainly true of blood-borne diseases, of which AIDS appears to be one."

A number of women attending the forum expressed concern about the risks of donor insemination. Diane Jones, a staff nurse in the AIDS Special Care Unit at SFGH, is also a lesbian mother with a four year old child from donor insemination. Jones stated that there are hundreds of women in the Bay Area who have children or want to have children by donor insemination. "However, there is a risk of contracting AIDS through donor insemination," Jones explained. "Each woman has to consider the risk involved."

Jones also asserted that lesbians are impacted by the homophobia that has been further sparked by the AIDS epidemic. Pat Norman, coordinator of lesbian/gay concerns for the city's Department of Public Health, related that this resurgence of homophobia has given rise to a significant increase in violence against gays in the last six months. Frequently AIDS epithets are used during the violence. Norman has been active in the political efforts to increase federal funding for AIDS research. She challenged the government's actual funding of such research. "We've been promised a lot of money for the past two years," stated Norman. "We are promised \$30 million, but have only received \$2 million. When we call this response homophobic, we are called paranoid." With so little funding for research, Norman said there hasn't been any significant effort to study those women who have contracted AIDS. "As a result of this lack of



Connie Wofsy, M.D.

©Photo by RINK

forum and with their obvious interest in the many issues presented. For Hauer and others these issues were first voiced publicly at the Second National AIDS Forum held in Denver in June. As an ad-hoc group 25 women organized the national Women's AIDS Network. This new organization was the primary sponsor of the Women and AIDS Forum with assistance from the Women's Building, the Lyon-Martin Clinic, and the AIDS/KS Foundation.

For more information about the medical, social, and political aspects about AIDS as well as to inquire about volunteer opportunities contact the AIDS/KS Foundation (408) 298-AIDS. ■

CATHOLIC

Continued from Page 1

vention was "Let Us Build a City of God," and nearly 650 people from all over the United States and Canada, as well as Australia, New Zealand, and the West Indies participated. Conventioneers were able to choose among 20 workshops with titles such as "Building Support Groups for Gay Clergy and Religious," "Women: Our Spiritual Heritage," "AIDS," "Aging and Ageism," and "Homosexuality and Social Justice."

In addition, featured speakers throughout the convention included theologian Matthew Fox, O.P., Dr. Mary Calderone, pioneer in the field of human sexuality, and Gay Rights advocate Ginny Apuzzo.

A 185-member House of Delegates, representing 105 chapters throughout North America, also met during the Convention. Significant action taken during the meetings included the addition of feminist issues as a top priority of the organization.

The last official act of the delegates was to choose a new Board of Directors and a 1985 convention site.

Elected were president John Hager of Washington, D.C.; secretary Judy Carton from San Diego; and treasurer Elinor Crocker, also from Washington.

The Seventh Biennial Convention of Dignity will be held in New York City.

©1983, Jill Kelly. Distributed by Stonewall Features Syndicate.

Oysters alternate sexuality. This year's males are next year's females, and vice versa; but either sex can produce a pearl.

GAY VOTERS

Continued from Page 1

Apuzzo suggested. Blacks, women, Hispanics, Asians and gays are "all determined to see that the system not only listens, but responds. [We are] working toward that end as individual groups and, increasingly, in coalition with each other."

The national organizations announced that over 30 groups from around the country have already agreed to join the voter drive, with more expected to be added as word of the effort spreads.

By this kind of grassroots endeavor, the leaders said, "the gay/lesbian community can make its influence felt throughout the entire political process — from the election of delegates to both party conventions, to lobbying for issues of mutual concern from the White House to Capitol Hill." ■

NGRA present argument in gay military case

San Francisco—The United States Court of Appeals in Washington, D.C. will hear oral arguments in a case involving the rights of lesbians and gay men to serve in the military.

National Gay Right Advocates, the San Francisco based public interest law firm, is making a constitutional challenge to the Navy's exclusionary policy.

The military requires that all homosexuals be discharged solely on the basis of their sexual orientation, without regard to an individual's fitness to serve. Leonard Graff, NGRA Legal Director, said: "The Navy's mandatory discharge policy violates the constitutionally protected rights of privacy, due process and equal protection of the laws."

NGRA Executive Director, Jean O'Leary, said: "The only legitimate qualification for serving in the military is the ability to do the job. The Navy's policy is an irrational discrimination against lesbians and gay men."

Stephen Bomsse, a partner in the prestigious law firm of Heller, Ehrman, White and McAuliffe, will present the oral argument. Mr. Bomsse's role in the case is a significant achievement for NGRA as it illustrates the ability of NGRA to attract top notch legal counsel for its test cases.

This case was chosen for a challenge because of Dronenburg's exemplary record over nine years in the Navy. He was an expert in Korean cryptology and was given a \$12,000 re-enlistment bonus shortly before the Navy discovered he was gay and discharged him.

NGRA filed the suit in the D.C. Circuit because, by reputation, it is the most liberal. And, a victory in Washington would be of benefit to all service members, regardless of where they are stationed.

The Navy's rationale for their position is that: "The presence of a homosexual member in a military environment seriously impairs combat readiness, efficiency and security." The District Court agreed in ruling that "maintenance of the effectiveness, discipline, and morale of the nation's naval forces is a legitimate Navy policy."

The Navy's policy and its rationale are strikingly similar to its former policy with regard to blacks. The Washington, D.C. law firm of Covington & Burling filed an *amicus curiae* brief, on behalf of the ACLU, which illustrates the parallel use of stereotyped presumptions to justify the exclusion of homosexuals. ■

"84 and Counting"

Our Paper has joined the nationwide Gay Voter Drive announced last week by the National Gay Task Force.

Readers may obtain a Santa Clara County voter registration form by sending in the coupon printed below or by stopping in the newspaper office at 973 Park Avenue, San Jose.

Names of readers responding to Our Paper's voter registration drive will be forwarded to the National Gay Task Force, on request, and will be maintained on the newspaper's mailing list for future information about elections and candidates.

Gay rights supporters are invited to participate, regardless of their sexual orientation. Gay rights is a human rights issue which should concern us all.

- Partial List of Participating Groups
- Arkansas Gay and Lesbian Student Association
 - Aspen Gay Community, Colorado
 - Boston Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance
 - D.C. Coalition of Black Gays
 - Dignity, Kansas City, MO
 - Dignity/Integrity of Louisville, KY
 - Feminist Lesbian Action Coalition, Tempe, AZ
 - Gay Activists Alliance of Washington, D.C.
 - Gay & Lesbian Community Center of Colorado
 - Gay and Lesbian Independent Democrats, New York, NY
 - Gay Services of Kansas
 - Gays & Lesbians of Ames, Iowa
 - Gaytalk, Springfield, MO
 - Gertrude Stein Democratic Club, Washington, D.C.
 - Helen Diner Memorial Women's Center, East Lansing, MI
 - Juniata Women, Mankato, MN
 - Lambda Gay Alliance, Bozeman, MT
 - Lambda, Inc., Birmingham, AL

- Lambda Independent Democrats of Brooklyn, NY
- Langston Hughes-Eleanor Roosevelt Democratic Club, Washington, D.C.
- Metropolitan Community Church, Boise, ID
- Metropolitan Community Church, Columbia, MO
- Metropolitan Community Church, Springfield, MO
- Minnesota Committee for Gay & Lesbian Rights
- Mississippi Gay Alliance
- National Gay Network, San Francisco, CA
- Our Paper, San Jose, CA
- San Diego Democratic Club
- United Covenant Mission Church, Columbia, MO
- Virginia Gay Alliance

Please send me a voter registration form and place me on your mailing list for information about elections.

Please send my name and address to the National Gay Task Force for their mailing list.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State & Zip _____
Phone (optional) _____

Mail this coupon to:

Our Paper
973 Park Avenue
San Jose, CA 95126

NGTF addresses Health Officials

Washington, D.C.—The National Gay Task force outlined a program of action on AIDS for local governments at a joint meeting in Washington of the U.S. Conference of Local Health Officers and the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials.

NGTF Washington representative Jeff Levi praised the more than 100 officials in attendance for their generally "positive and supportive" response to the AIDS crisis and urged their support for increased efforts nationally and locally.

Levi told the public health officers that they "must use their credibility at all levels of government to support adequate funding" for AIDS research and services; that the localities provide financial support for the community-based efforts to deal with the AIDS crisis.

Levi pointed to some of the ser-

concerns about confidentiality in reporting on AIDS were emphasized again. Now that the Centers for Disease control are no longer collecting names of people with AIDS the responsibility for preserving the confidentiality of information rests with local jurisdictions.

Levi presented model language that would protect confidentiality in regulations and legislation making AIDS a reportable disease. Drafted by the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, it forbids release of identifying information without the written consent of the individual in almost all circumstances.

The gay/lesbian community "could not be more interested in the gathering of accurate information about AIDS," said Levi. "But... we also firmly believe that reporting mechanisms must guarantee the confidentiality of the information gathered."

The London Stock Exchange maintained its own brothel in the 18th Century. ■

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8:30 pm. — 10 pm. — Cha cha and Rumba
\$35.00 per person, 5 consecutive Mondays

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Your Opinions

NO HOLDS BARRED

[The following letter was served on Bay Area Reporter on September 13 and is published here for the information of Our Paper readers.]

Bob Ross and Benro Enterprises, Publishers
Bay Area Reporter
1528 - 15th Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

Gentlepersons:

I represent Johnie Staggs and Rosalie Nichols, who were most grievously defamed in the August 25, 1983 issue of your paper. I enclose a copy of the offending article by Tom Rogers.

Demand is hereby made on you pursuant to Civil Code section 48a for an immediate retraction of all of the defamatory statements and implications, as specified in the remainder of this letter, contained in Mr. Rogers article about my clients.

As you well know, the reference to a pair of printers who have been involved in many activities in the gay community in the South Bay, including the Santa Clara Valley Coalition for Human Rights, would clearly be understood by your readership to be a reference to my clients. The reference could hardly have been clearer if the names were actually mentioned.

Since the publication of Mr. Rogers' article, my clients have suffered humiliation, been held up to public shame and ridicule, and have suffered great mental pain and anguish. It is vital that you act immediately to admit the falsity of the statements and implications in Mr. Rogers' article.

The facts set forth below regarding the matters discussed by Mr. Rogers could have been discovered by any inquiry meeting minimal journalistic standards. We point out that, as far as we know, Mr. Rogers conducted no inquiry, made no calls, and afforded my clients no opportunity to respond to his charges before he printed them.

Taken in its entirety, Mr. Rogers' article says that my clients are violating their fiduciary responsibilities to two community organizations by serving on their boards in order to get the organizations to adopt and implement overblown and expensive printing budgets, the profits from which would accrue to them through their printing business. Stripped down to its essentials, this amounts to an allegation of dishonesty or theft.

The facts could hardly be more different. Johnie and Rosalie are public-spirited individuals with the highest integrity. They have at all times conducted themselves honestly. Their conduct in regard to the matters mentioned is above reproach. In addition, although the article says they are both on the Interim Board of the AIDS/KS Foundation, only Ms. Staggs was actually involved, and she was not a member, but an alternate. The article also fails to mention the reputable and prominent membership of the Interim Board.

In fact, the AIDS/KS Board has voted to take bids on all purchases of goods or services over \$50. The monthly printing budget for the AIDS/KS Foundation (a hypothetical budget for fundraising purposes) is actually only \$1000 per month, rather than \$2,000. The remainder is for advertising and brochures — primarily electronic media advertising and pre-printed brochures to be purchased from the national AIDS Foundation.

In fact, less than 25% of the budget for printing in an organization whose major purposes include providing public information is ordinary and reasonable, not overblown or expensive.

By saying that the only available pamphlet at press time had the wrong address on it, Mr. Rogers further impugns my clients' professional competence. The true facts are that the AIDS/KS Foundation actually leased space at the address which appeared on the brochure in question. After the brochure was printed, the landlord in question reneged on the lease. He has subsequently paid all expenses, including that of the brochure.

Mr. Rogers' article further says that my clients wrongfully got the SCVCHR Board to print up a huge amount of extra envelopes in order to enrich themselves. First, it can easily be documented that my clients' participation in the entire A&B campaign was a cause of huge financial loss to them. Second, the printing of the envelopes was part of an original campaign plan proposed by professional consultants and approved by an independent board. Third, the extra envelopes were the result of a change in campaign strategy and a changing situation, not an initial overestimated printing budget.

The overall implication of your story, that my clients are dishonestly obtaining printing contracts, is compounded by the final phrase "... to grease somebody's offset." There can be no other reasonable meaning to these words than an implication of corruption on my clients' part.

Please advise me in writing of whether you will retract, and in the event that you determine to do so, please supply a copy of the retraction as soon as it is published.

In the event that you deem that this letter needs to be supplemented, or that additional facts are needed, I and my clients will be glad to meet with you at your earliest convenience to supply any information that you reasonably require.

As I am sure you know, my clients may sue for legally awardable damages even in the event that you run a legally sufficient retraction. However, you should be advised that, in the event that there is no retraction, an insufficient or ambiguous retraction, or a retraction which is not given the same prominence as the original article, my clients will certainly bring suit against you, Mr. Rogers, and Mr. Revoir for all of the damages to which they are by law entitled, including but not limited to general and special damages and punitive damages.

I have enclosed for your review a copy of a letter from the AIDS/KS Foundation Administrator and Board Chair. I also enclose copies of minutes from the Foundation Board's meetings of July 6 and 8 and August 8, 1983, which document the statements made herein. All are incorporated as part of this retraction demand.

Very truly yours,
JOHN MARSHALL COLLINS
Attorney at Law
San Jose, California

[Editor's Note: At press time, the BAY AREA REPORTER had issued a retraction on page 20 of their September 22, 1983 issue. B.A.R. continues, however, to refer to the \$1000 budget item for advertising and pre-printed brochures as simply "brochures," even though a copy of the proposed budget was sent to them by Attorney Collins.]

A ROYAL MESSAGE

Dear Friends,
We recently had a car wash and bake sale at The Interlude, which was very successful. We all had a good time and if we missed your car, well, maybe next time! We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mary, owner of The Interlude, for having us there.

We also want to thank Tiffany for the show which was put on at The Savoy on August 20th as a fundraiser for the local AIDS/KS Foundation and Pat, owner of The Savoy, for her support. Very successful show!! Congratulations!

Another show is being organized now, which will be held at The Savoy on October 22nd. Admission will be \$3.00 and it will begin at 9:00 p.m. Proceeds to go to Casa de San Jose and the local AIDS/KS Foundation. Treat

yourself to a night of fun and entertainment!

Now, on a more serious note, it's time the women step in on the fight against the serious and often fatal disease called AIDS. There's something you can do to not let this disease weaken our family we've built together in our community. A mobile blood unit is coming from Stanford Hospital to the Costanoan Room on San Jose State's campus on October 15th. Call Lisa Stevenson at (408) 280-5310 for further information and appointments. Come show your love and support for your community.

That's all for now, see you around!
Sincerely with love,
EMPEROR VII NEVAN
EMPRESS XVI LISA
San Jose

SHE'S ENTITLED

Dear Editor:
Having been a resident of the San Jose area for the past four decades and a supporter of various gay organizations, I am appalled at the constant arguments over the so-called "titles" of Emperor and Empress.

First, these "titles" are strictly camp. No one has the right or power to rule over others. They are chosen as representatives of this or any other community.

Second, when the title of Emperor or Empress is given to an individual chosen by the community they are representing, then by all rights and privileges the title is given for life only after they have served their year in office.

Any past Monarch moving into another community due to various reasons, also has all rights and privileges to use their title

whenever they so choose.

Third, if someone is doing a benefit to help not only to raise funds for a given charity, but to present this community with good entertainment and to try and pull the gay community together, then we should all join in and work together and not work against one another or the cause. We should not worry over petty things such as who's entertaining or how many numbers they are doing.

I would like to personally thank Empress Tiffany or better known as Tiffany & Friends for their hard work and much effort they are putting into their shows. Tiffany, you are an Empress and will also be an Empress. Use your title with pride, you deserve it.

With love,
Your friend,
MARY
San Jose

ENTRAPMENT

Gentleperson:
As you know, I have represented many gay men who have been arrested in the downtown adult bookstores and other places as well.

I have been contacted over the last several weeks by a number of gay men who have been arrested in public restrooms for lewd acts in public, solicitation, indecent exposure and loitering in and about public restrooms.

Undercover police and security guards are "cruising" and catching many persons. These are misdemeanors and some require registration as a sex offender. Some judges are imposing 15 days in jail for first offenders and some

are giving fines and probation. These cases are even more difficult to defend than the bookstore cases.

Most arrests are occurring at Valley Fair but many are caught at El Paseo De Saratoga, Westgate and even Vasona Park.

As a public service, I think that you should issue a warning in your paper encouraging your readers to spread the word about these bathroom "traps." If readers have questions, they can contact me for further information. Thank you for your community concern.

Yours very truly,
ROBERT B. KOPELSON
Attorney at Law
San Jose

Rights will guarantee legal changes. Change is coming, but it will be won step by step.

The Gay Rights movement is more seriously regarded now than at any time in history. It is appropriate, then, to take some time to reconsider our goals and our strategies. Most important, we need to define exactly what we mean by "Gay Community," and our common needs and demands.

Some of these questions are controversial; others have divided our movement for years. It seems that there has been too little debate about these issues recently, and I hope to stimulate some dialogue.

Future columns will deal with relations between the Gay and non-Gay communities; right now, it's important to discuss another kind of antagonism.

Let's consider the splits in our own community.

The most dangerous is the separation of Gay men from Lesbian women, apparent in many aspects of our communities. The division is reflected in separate male/female political, cultural, and commercial institutions; it reflects the tensions and suspicions that have damaged so many of our groups in past years.

Continued on Page 6

What's On Your Agenda?



the Watergarden Party

You are cordially invited every Wednesday between 4 & 8 pm, to join us for fun, frolic & complimentary refreshments
R.S.V.P. not necessary, black tie optional

—1983—

Gay-Community Gay-Power

by Dan Siminoski, Ph.D.
"A Question of Community"

On January 13, 1983, the federal Gay Civil Rights Bill was reintroduced in Congress as H.R. 427. In the previous session of Congress there were 61 cosponsors of the bill; as a result of the 1982 elections, many observers believe that as many as 20 new cosponsors may be added this year.

There is every reason to suppose that support will continue to build, particularly as we continue to demonstrate our increasing influence on electoral processes at all levels.

The Gay Community is standing at an important threshold today: the threshold of legitimacy, political influence, and, believe it or not, power. The last two Congressional elections showed that we can bring substantial money, personnel, and votes to

bear on candidates who support our goals.

Most of those recent candidates have been Democrats. While I hope our movement will not become wedded to any specific party, we should certainly be proud of our growing influence on one of the two major political parties in the United States today.

Virtually every major candidate for the 1984 Democratic presidential nomination has spoken out in favor of Gay issues. The 1980 Democratic platform included a Gay Rights plank, and Gay Democratic activists expect that position to be strengthened in 1984.

The national Democratic Party has just certified the creation of a Gay caucus of the party with broad support for it coming from key states such as New York and California, and even smaller states throughout the south, west, and Midwest.

The National Association of Gay and Lesbian Democratic Clubs, barely more than a concept a year ago, is now a definite power to be reckoned with in the Democratic party apparatus. The Association was a leading force in the campaign to qualify the Gay caucus.

We have many more reasons to expect that the voices of the Gay Community will grow in clarity and strength in the near future.

With that growth should come substantive power: power that we can translate into policy changes that include guarantees for our civil rights. This result is inevitable, so long as our commitment remains undiminished.

I am confident of the future of our struggle for civil rights. I mean this column to be a chronicle of our movement, celebrating our victories and interpreting our mistakes so that we may learn from them and move on.

But I do not believe that our success is assured. Nor do I believe that the passage of Gay Rights legislation or even the election of a President pledged to Gay

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
 B.B.Q. at the Watergarden	the Watergarden is playing Games! 	 the No. 1 Spot to be Buddy Night 2 for 1	the Watergarden Party 	 Beauty Contest

Gay Demo Club Honored

Oakland — The East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club was presented with a special award as the "Democratic Club of the Year" at the September 22nd annual dinner of the Alameda County Democratic Central Committee.

The award, signed by Mary King, chair of the Central Committee, was given for "outstanding service and support to the Democratic Party."

Over 300 people in attendance gave the club a standing ovation as Sally Trautwein presented the award to club president Armand Boulay.

Trautwein praised the club for its hard work, volunteerism and fundraising on behalf of the Democratic Party, saying that the club represents the significance of a minority working through the system for its rights.

Elected officials offering their congratulations included Supervisor John George, Assemblymembers Elihu Harris and Johan Klehs, and State Senator Bill Lockyer.

Boulay thanked Harris and Klehs for their support for gay rights bills AB-1 (Agnos) and AB-848 (Bates), and spoke to Lockyer about the critical need for his support of AB-1. Lockyer, a past supporter of the bill in the Assembly, is now undecided.

Roberti's Bill to Governor

Sacramento — Senate Pro Tempore David Roberti's bill to combat AIDS through research and public education won overwhelming approval by the Senate this month.

The Senate voted 30-1 to send the bill to the Governor's desk for signature into law.

Under the measure, an eight-member AIDS Advisory Committee would address the long term implications of this public health problem through:

a. Education regarding primary prevention for high risk groups.
b. Public education to reduce panic and lessen unnecessary anxiety on the part of California residents.

c. Interdisciplinary or educational workshops to facilitate interchange of knowledge among investigators regarding AIDS and related disorders.

AIDS is a term used to describe several serious diseases.

Among persons suffering from AIDS, the disease-fighting

Gay Community

continued from page 4

much of our ideology and political method.

One way to acknowledge that debt would be to find a way to bridge the gap between Gay men and women that is apparent in many political meetings and obvious in any casual exposure to Gay media or culture.

Separationism isolates, weakens, and divides us; and I suggest that if we stall, internal conflicts will have stopped the growth of the Gay Movement.

As we win credibility as a political force, we have begun to argue again about the meaning and purpose of being "respectable."

Is the Gay community one movement, comprised only of those who dress or act or think properly? Or does the community include all of us, regardless of lifestyle, appearance, ideology, or sexual "style"?

I once helped coordinate a day of Congressional lobbying by a statewide group of Gay people. When we met at the start of the

Comparable Worth Forum

The East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club is sponsoring a public forum on Comparable Worth at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 9, at the West Branch of the Berkeley Library, 1125 University Avenue, Berkeley.

Women earn 59 cents to every dollar made by men. Comparable worth, or pay equity, is the principle of paying a worker according to work performed. Comparable worth is based on the recognition that jobs predominantly held by women have traditionally paid less than those predominantly held by men.

Assemblyman Elihu Harris will speak to the club members at 7:00 p.m., as one of a series of elected officials to address the club.

The program on Comparable Worth will begin at 7:45 p.m. with panel members Veronika Fukson and Andrea Washburn, Berkeley City Council; Peggy Hora, Women's Caucus of California Democratic Party; Maura Keely, SEIU Local 390-400; and Attorney Patty Roberts.

The public is invited to attend. There is no admission charge, and the library is wheelchair accessible. For further information, call (415) 482-0484.

mechanisms fail to respond in a normal way to infections. The primary cause is not known, but scientists suspect a virus.

"AIDS is a public health problem that merits the highest level of concern," said Roberti.

"Researchers in many major medical institutions are working to identify the cause of AIDS and to develop effective treatments and preventive measures.

"But, the battle against AIDS must be waged on several different fronts and on many levels.

"By passing this bill, we are elevating the importance of this battle in state government."

Victims Sue Child Molesters

In the past two years, the Santa Clara County Superior Court has awarded 12 molested children damages ranging from \$40,000 to \$1.2 million, according to an article by Kevinne Moran in the San Jose Mercury last month.

The awards have been the result of civil suits filed against child molesters demanding payment for the physical and psychological damage suffered by the victims.

"Though the parents and the children don't know it, as soon as the molestation happens, the molester's property becomes the

property of the child," Attorney Richard Alexander was quoted.

The civil suits can be filed until the child reaches 19 — no matter how long ago the molestation occurred — even if the molester was never prosecuted, according to the article.

Judgments in civil suits are good for 10 years and can be renewed under state law. If the molester has other assets or acquires other assets in the future, the courts could force him to turn them over.

crowd.

Personally, I do not feel qualified to judge the lives of others, except to deny their right to harm anyone else. If boy-lovers are demonstrably harming children, there are laws we can use to protect the kids.

If a group seeks to weaken or eliminate those laws, we have a right and duty to resist changes we don't support. We can vary our values and practices, and still find community. The task requires sacrifice and patience.

This is a time to remember that we are a community whose borders are defined by the fears and prejudices of others. More suspicion and distrust limits us even further.

Can't we build our Community by accepting differences rather than castigating those we differ with? These are hard questions that have divided many before us; but we must face them.

Comments and criticisms of Dr. Simonoski's column are invited. Write to him at Stonewall Features Syndicate, P.O. Box 222976, Carmel, Ca. 93922.

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Police training film on gays

San Francisco (IGNA) — The city's Police Commission here has approved a 23 minute video tape that will be used to inform police recruits about the gay community.

The tape, meant to heighten the department's sensitivity to San Francisco's gay community, was also shown to Mayor Feinstein in her office, accompanied by about 30 members of the mayor's gay task force.

The non-profit media company that produced the video for \$10,000 said the tape was intended to present recruits with a non-stereotypical view of gays. Among those interviewed are a gay male police officer and a lesbian police officer, who are shown walking their beat in the Castro District of the city.

The tape's original title of "The Promised Land" drew criticism from Police Chief Murphy, who said the title's biblical connotation might offend some local residents, but he added that he had "no problem" with the content and the use of the video in his department.

The new title is "A Look at San Francisco's Lesbian and Gay Community."

The video was produced after longstanding complaints from the gay community about police harassment and lack of police concern about attacks against gays.

Police recruits will view the video during orientation classes as well as visit gay and lesbian bars and restaurants. "We have a week during recruit school when they have an opportunity to learn about minorities, including gays," said Deputy Chief, James Shannon of the Police Department's administrative office.

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San Jose Center for the Performing Arts

San Jose Repertory Company and San Jose Symphony have received the largest corporate contribution to the performing arts in San Jose's history from Merrill Lynch. This historic partnership comes by way of a sponsorship of a performance that is being mounted by San Jose Rep with full orchestral accompaniment by the San Jose Symphony.

The Merrill Lynch Grand Performance will be presented at the end of the 1983-84 Season, May 17-20 at the San Jose Center for the Performing Arts. The Merrill Lynch Grand Performance will be a production of William Shakespeare's classic tale of supernatural adventure, *The Tempest*, with Jean Sibelius score for the play being performed by the San Jose Symphony.

"This promises to be a very exciting show. We're putting together one of the most creative teams to ever work in San Jose. Having Merrill Lynch sponsor this event is a dream come true. The sponsorship will provide us with the support to make this event a high-quality, high-energy blockbuster. People are going to remember the Merrill Lynch Grand Performance for a long time as one of the greatest moments in San Jose theatre history," state James Reber, San Jose Rep Executive Producer.

"The sponsorship of this outstanding event is our way of saying 'thank you' to our many valued clients who have made our office the success it is today," states Richard Ruffine, resident vice-president of the San Jose Merrill Lynch office. "By sponsoring the Merrill Lynch Grand Performance, we hope to provide leadership to our community by supporting the arts. We would like to show that we are a corporate citizen who spends money at

home." Merrill Lynch's joint sponsorship of \$60,000 is the largest corporate contribution that San Jose Rep has received during its three and a half years of existence. "To the best of my knowledge, it is the largest sponsorship of a production by a corporation in the entire Bay Area. The Merrill Lynch Grand Performance, above all, represents the kind of creative partnership that is most needed by non-profit theatres and symphonies. It is a commitment to excellence. It is a high visibility involvement by Merrill Lynch, which reflects favorably on both the sponsor, Merrill Lynch, and the arts organizations involved," explains Reber. "I expect this to be mutually beneficial to all parties. We are honored that Merrill Lynch has chosen to put its name and reputation next to ours. I think it indicates that Merrill Lynch understands that the arts are vital to a community. The Merrill Lynch Grand Performance is an example of how an entire community can benefit when a corporate leader joins with the leaders in the performing arts to create an event of great magnitude and quality."

The Merrill Lynch Grand Performance will feature San Jose Repertory Company teamed up with one of America's true geniuses of the music world, Maestro George Cleve. The score by Jean Sibelius, the Finnish composer, is a wonderful musical complement to Shakespeare's work. *The Tempest*, being one of the Bard's later creations, is enveloped in mood as well as poetry. Maestro Cleve, who selected the Sibelius score, is a Shakespeare scholar, and a master of Sibelius' work.

The Merrill Lynch Grand Performance will have a limited run

of five performances. This is due to the tremendous costs involved. Therefore, San Jose Rep and the San Jose Symphony have decided to limit it to subscribers only. There will be no general admission tickets sold to the general public. There will be a sale of any remaining tickets to subscribers who would like to bring guests. The Merrill Lynch Grand Performance will be a guaranteed sell-out.

"We see this as an opportunity to give the Symphony higher visibility and to demonstrate the fact that the San Jose Symphony is an innovative and exciting organization. We have been able to offer an opera each season and we were involved in a similar production of a Shakespeare play a few years back. But since Merrill Lynch has become a sponsor for the venture, it has really become a much more solid one for us," says Richard Wright, general manager of the Symphony. "We have watched San Jose Rep take off in the last few years and are pleased to be co-creating the Merrill Lynch Grand Performance with them."

The idea for such an undertaking originated with the San Jose Symphony in 1982, when it became clear that San Jose Rep was establishing itself as a high-quality professional theatre. Dialogue ensued between Wright and Reber, and vicariously through them to Maestro Cleve and Rep producing director, David Lemos, an agreement was reached in January 1983. The quest for funding began. A meeting between Rep Board President Phil Hammer, Reber and Ruffine of the San Jose Merrill Lynch office resulted in a proposal for Merrill Lynch to sponsor. Over the spring and summer months, details were worked out and the Merrill Lynch Grand Performance is the result.

TheatreWorks in P.A.

TheatreWorks in Palo Alto has announced its fifteenth anniversary season. Artistic director Robert Kelley promises "memories in the making" along with craftsmanship, creativity and exuberance.

"Winter Festival '84" includes *Spokesong* (a musical), *Children of a Lesser God* (a drama), *All's Fair* (West Coast Musical Premiere), and *Through The Wilderness To The Stars* (World Premiere). Also included in the series as an "option" is the holiday musical favorite *Oliver!*

For subscription information, call (415) 329-2623.

Opera Theater Opens

The San Jose Opera Theater opens its season with *La Boheme* on October 15 with additional performances on October 16, 22 and 23. Single tickets are available.

La Boheme is an opera in four acts; music by Giacomo Puccini; text by Giacosa and Illica, based on Henri Murger's book, *La Vie de Boheme*. It was first performed in the United States in San Francisco (1889) by the Royal Italian Opera Company. Its world premier was in Turin (1896).

The story is of four young men who live together in the attic of an old apartment house in Paris around 1840. They are student artists who are not yet rich. They are not even comfortable. In fact they are freezing in the middle of winter at the curtain. But things warm up and get comical. Love moves through these men's lives like thunder and sorrow. *La Boheme* takes them through a cold Paris winter into a warm spring.

For more information, call (408) 288-8882.

EDITORIAL

The Dinah Shore benefit performance held at the San Jose Center for the Performing Arts on Friday, September 9 at 8 p.m. honored "Mayor Tom McEnery, members of the San Jose City Council and the San Jose Fine Arts Commission for their outstanding support of the arts in San Jose." Celebration San Jose 83 was somewhat of a charade.

Comedian Will Shriner told jokes about "those guys down in Hollywood," his hometown in Indiana or somewhere, and showed a somewhat funny film.

Maestro George cleve had to suffer the embarrassment of a thinly dressed house laughing out loud at the *William Tell* overture. (Thank heavens no one yelled, "Hi-yo Silver!")

M.C. Fred "Lowery" from San Francisco apologized for his wife's absence — she left her dress in The City. (Jeans are not chic in San Jose.)

Intermission Dinah Shore, a legend legitimately, gave an acceptable, if not excitable, concert with "See the U.S.A. in your Chev-ro-let!" receiving the wildest applause (second only to the Lone Ranger's theme song). Everyone went home. And the Symphony, along with the San Jose Civic Light Opera and San Jose Repertory Company, went back to their tasks at hand. Selling their individual seasons. (you did pick up a brochure in the lobby, didn't you?)

As an uninvited critic who attended on someone else's free ticket, I can only ask, "Why?" (And hope for much, much more for Celebration 84.)

—D.A.D.

Gems or Rhinestones?

Back in the early '60s, when Edward Albee wrote his satirical one-act interview entitled *Fam and Yam*, he saw himself as the Young American playwright.

Those "in the know" recognized William Inge as the Famous American author being so callously attacked. Could be this was just a bitch fight that ended up on stage. In front of an audience. Admission charge and all...

Studio Rhino, aptly located in the basement of Theatre Rhinoceros is currently presenting two previously unrepresented works by Mr. Inge. Under the omnibus title of *Treasures from the Attic*, this pair of one-acts turned out to be just that: old, musty, and better left buried (with the playwright).

But first, and foremost, please understand that it was Inge's dramaturgy that was creative, not director Ed Turney's direction. It was unfortunate, however, that these particular plays — being so naturalistic and homespun, not unlike *Picnic* or *The Dark at The*

Top of The Stairs — had to be confined to such a small visual space that Inge's broad strokes seemed comical.

Yes, they were drawn out. Yes, the acting seemed gigantic and too stylized. Blame Inge for the latter and Turney, the former.

The casting was excellent, particularly for *The Boy in The Basement*. Charles Aups gave a numbing and grievous portrayal of Spencer Scranton trapped in a tormented existence. Also excellent was Randy Eckardt as Joker.

The production design was clever and serviceable from all standpoints. The scene change from *The Tiny Closet to Basement* was well thought-out and effective.

Many will say, "Why did they bother?" (Others will complain about the price.) Art is a constant search for keys that unlock our world. To view the private hell of one closeted playwright may be the salvation of a truly liberated theatre for us all...

—D.A.D.

H*O*T*F*L*A*S*H

San Jose Civic Light Opera has announced that stage and film star Patti Columbo will star as Charity in the Neil Simon collaboration

Sweet Charity slated for October 14-23, 1983 at the Center for the Performing Arts. For details call (408) 286-6841.

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OUR CALENDAR

Lesbian/Gay Community Center
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Sept 28, Oct 5, 12, 19, 26 **Lesbian Rap:** Discussion/support group for Lesbians of all ages. 7 pm.
Sept 29, Oct 6, 13, 20, 27: **Men's Support Group:** An informal support and social group.
Sept 30, Oct 7, 14, 21, 28: **Womyn's Coffeehouse:** A social hour for women of all ages.
Oct 2, 9, 16, 23, 30: **Alcoholics Anonymous:** Open to men and women. 10:30 am.
Oct 2, 9, 16, 23, 30: **Gay/Lesbian Young Adults:** Informal support group for 25 and under. 1-3:30 pm.
Oct 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: **Slightly Older Lesbians:** Social/discussion group for women over 30. 7 pm.
For further information regarding these and other events call the Center.

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Gay and Feminist Radio/TV

Sept 28, Oct 5, 12, 19, 26: **Fruit Punch:** 10-11 pm. KPFA 94.1 FM.
Sept 29, Oct 6, 13, 20, 27: **KPFA Majority Report:** 8 pm, KPFA, 94.1 FM.
Oct 2, 9, 16, 23: **The Gay Life: Session on Gay and Lesbian Aging**—highlights of the opening session of the Second National Conference on Lesbian and Gay Aging. 10/2: Panel on older Gay men plus conclusion of last weeks panel discussion. 10/9: Discussion of social-support net works among aged Gay males and a discussion of spirituality among older Lesbians and Gay men. 10/16: Conclusion on the discussion of spirituality. 10/23. 6 am. KSNAN, 95 FM.

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Music & Dance

Oct 2: Romanovsky and Phillips: Their last show before they go on national tour. 8 pm (415)863-3863. Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia, San Francisco.
Oct 2: Holly Near and Ronnie Gilbert: 2 pm. Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell, San Francisco. Oct 5: Lifeline: Three Washington, DC feminist musicians in their only SF appearance. 8:30 pm. (415)863-3863. Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia, San Francisco.
Oct 6, 7: San Jose Symphony: Maestro George Cleve with guest Carlo Gurley, organist. 8 pm. 298-2300. Center for the Performing Arts, 255 Almaden Blvd, San Jose.
Oct 9: Crysanthemum Ragtime Band: 4 pm. "...What A Wing It'll Be." The Vocal Minority, The San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Chorus' entertainment specialists with special guest Sean Martinfield. 8 pm. (415)863-3963. Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia, San Francisco.
Oct 14-13: San Jose Civic Light Opera: Sweet Charity. 8 pm, plus 2 pm matinees Sat & Sun. Tickets: 286-6481. Info: 297-8811. Center for the Performing Arts, 255 Almaden Blvd, San Jose.
Oct 15, 16, 22, 23: Community Opera Theater: La Boheme, by Puccini. 8 pm, 10/15, 22; 2 pm. 10/16, 23. 277-2028. Montgomery Theater, S. Market & W. San Carlos, San Jose.

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Sept 28-30: "Frames, Faces & Inner Feelings" A showing of selected works of photographer Chuck Smith. For further information call 374-0260. Desperados, 1425 Hacienda, Campbell.
Sept 30-Oct 2: Camping Weekend: At Big Basin State Park with High Tech Gays. Call 277-0644 for information.
Oct 1: The Atomic Comics, Fran & Charlie. Anti-nuclear satirists. 8 pm. (415)863-3863. Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia, San Francisco.
Oct 1, 2: Glass Show: Antique and collectible items of glass, china & pottery. 10-6 pm. 279-0303 or 295-3050. Gateway Hall, Santa Clara County Exposition Center, 344 Tully Rd, San Jose.
Oct 1, 8, 15: Gay Comedy Night: 10 pm. (415)863-3863. Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia, San Francisco. Oct 2: OKTOBERFEST '83: A benefit for the AIDS/KS Foundation. 11-7 pm. Fair Family Park, Santa Clara County Exposition Center, 344 Tully Rd, San Jose.
Oct 7-10: Sixth Annual California Men's Gathering. Call (415)552-5752 for information.
Oct 7-10: Fourth Psychic Workshop for Women. Call (415)652-6798 for information.
Oct 9: High Tech Gays: Monthly potluck meeting. Call 277-0644 for information.
Oct 22: Dessert, Drama, Dialogue: Fundraiser featuring Cleo Koko in her one-woman show, Ghosts of Heroin's Past and Present. 8 pm. Call 289-8282 for further information.
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Theatre

Sept 28-Oct 31: **Gaslighter**
Theater: Human Hearts, or...Yellow Roses Are Lucky. Runs thru 11/31. Classic, old-time melodrama. 8:30 pm Fri & Sat ONLY. Discount on advance reservations. 866-1408. Box office hours: Noon-9 pm at 400 E. Campbell Ave, Campbell.
Sept 30: Poetry Readings: Chicano, Latino, and Native American works read by the authors. Sponsored by the San Jose Poetry Center. 277-2817. 8 pm, University Chapel, San Jose State University.
Sept 30-Oct 31: **King Dodo**
Playhouse: Play On, 9/30, 10/8. Champagne Complex, 10/17, 14, 15, 29. Under the Yum Yum Tree, 10/22, 28. Dress code: No jeans or denim. 266-6060. 176 E. Fremont Ave (Fremont corner), Sunnyvale.
Oct 1: **Mothertongue Reader's Theater: PASSING**, 8 pm. (415)681-7306. Women's Building, 3543 18th St, San Francisco.
Oct 1: **TheaterWest: The Cin Game**, a bittersweet comedy. 8 pm, Thur-Sat, 7 pm, Sun. 395-5434. Old Town Theater, 50 University Av, Los Gatos.
Oct 1, 2: **California Performance Group:** Premiere season of professional comedy and musicals. *Arsenic and Old Lace*, starring Imogene Coca and King Donovan. (415)594-1111. Center for the Performing Arts, 255 Almaden Blvd, San Jose.
Oct 2: **DEATH'S ANGEL:** A one woman show by Terry Baum about an aging Lesbian and her dying lover.
Oct 4, 11: **BILLY BARNES IS CHRONICALLY STOOD UP:** Cabaret-theatre comedy with Billy Barnes. 8 pm. (415)863-3863. Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia, San Francisco.
Oct 5, 12, 19, 26: **THE SAN FRANCISCO BAUMICLE:** With comic Terry Baum. 6 pm. (415)863-3863. Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia, San Francisco.
Oct 6-8, 13-15: **ERNESTO AND DOBA:** Ernesto Sanchez and Wayne Doba in mime, mask & physical comedy. 8 pm. (415)863-3863. Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia, San Francisco.
Oct 12: **THE ONE GUY SHOW:** With comic Danny Williams. 8 pm. (415)863-3863. Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia, San Francisco.
Oct 21-30: **TheaterWest: Night of the Demons**, by Stephen C. Wathen. "...most terrifying event in theater history." 8 pm, Thur-Sat; 7 pm, Sun. 395-5434. Old Town Theater, 50 University Ave, Los Gatos.

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ectors

by David A. DeLong

WHERE DO I BEGIN? If that sounds like a song title, maybe it should be! Gary Ike, newly appointed publicist for *Leidermann* (the South bay's all male chorus), has informed that the group has three confirmed bookings. Although no dates have been announced the chorale will be performing at MCC Redwood City and MCC San Jose as well as a local convalescent center. *Leidermann's* musical director is Bob Welton and their general manager is Larry Marcus. Gary also emphasized that the chorus is still looking for new members. So if you like to harmonize with other guys, call Bob at (408) 245-1407 or Larry at (408) 280-6297...

...Gary Ike, by the way — in addition to his p.r. talents — is an accomplished artist having worked as an intern at the Disney Studios. He drew the hunky number adorning the Oktoberfest ads. Gary has also done graphics for H.M.S., Toyon and others. So, if you're in a pinch for some artwork, give Gary a ring at (408) 225-0134.

THIS IS IT! That's right — it's Oktoberfest Weekend. Ticket sales are approaching the 1,000 mark for this big AIDS/KS Foundation fundraiser brought to you by the *Boot Rack and Main Street*. Stop in and see Rich Calmbacher at "the other end of the Strip for tickets or call the AIDS office. (Thanks, Jack! We all know you throw a helluva party...)

DECADE IN CAMPBELL: H.M.S. WILL TRY TO OUTDO *Desperados' Hotel* Premiere Party on Wednesday, September 28 when they present a champagne party to usher in the new *Dynasty* season. See you there — I just hope I recognize you!

BRISK BREAKFAST BUSINESS SEEMS TO BE DEVELOPING AT Broadway. Every morning I moped past Mark Dalton sipping coffee in a cozy front window booth. Thank you, Kevan and Mark for such a wonderful Grand Opening at Toyon on Sunday, September 25...Now, if someone could just figure out the traffic pattern at that intersection...

PAUL, BERT, AND LOUIS, the new owners of the friendly 641 Club will be adding a dance floor soon...

TOP SECRET — That's what the news from the Watergarden is this issue. Chris Ratto, the maintenance director, called me right at deadline with a hot flash, but I had to call him back. Needless to say, he had already fled to San Francisco for his weekly two day vacation. So, if you bumped into Chris (he's the one with a key to everyone's room!), ask him for the particulars...

A GOOD HARD MAN DEPARTMENT. Everyone knows how tough Stockton Strip men are rumored to be. Here's a chance to prove it. *Querelle*, Rainer Werner Fassbinder's homoerotic fantasy, is playing for one show only at Camera One on Thursday, September 29 at 9:10 p.m. Be there if you dare. (Warning: No fluff or disco bunnies allowed. First Street may be hazardous to your health following this film!)

ALSO PLAYING DOWNTOWN...If the Oktoberfest at the Fair Grounds is not your stein of beer, try this weekend's 7th Annual Italian-American Festival '83 along El Paseo de San Antonio. Highlights of the celebration include a street dance Saturday night, October 1 from 8 pm till midnight, and an outdoor Catholic Mass at 10 am on Sunday, October 2nd. For additional details, call Debra at (408) 293-7122.

BUT, IF the Oktoberfest is your cup of tea, you'll be happy to know that along with headliner Sharon McKnight will be appearing the *Barbary Coast Cloggers* and *Michael of the Strickland*...Honest. Remember, tickets are more expensive at the gate! Buy 'em early and save!

TIL NEXT ISSUE: Call me with your news and help me share it with the rest of the community!

Chicano ★ Indio ★ Latino

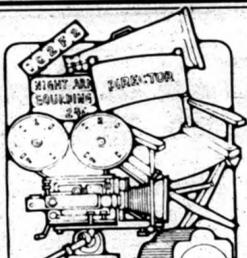
San Jose Poetry Center will present Leonard Adame, Eugenia Gonzales, and Carroll Arnett (Gogisgi) — widely known poets — performing their works on Friday, September 30 at 8:00 p.m. in University Chapel at San Jose State University. A brief opening reading will follow the performance, with sign-ups beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Acting Classes

An acting course focusing on script interpretation and the development of acting skills will be presented by Theatre Rhinoceros beginning October 15. Six 2 1/2 hour classes will be offered on Saturdays through November 19 from 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. The class will also be taught on Monday evenings, October 17 through November 21 from 7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

The course will be instructed by Chuck Solomon, who trained at the Goodman Theatre in Chicago. He was a founding member of the Gay Theatre Collective. Solomon

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On Film

Risky Business is being marketed with a tantalizing but misleading ad campaign that does not do the film justice. Screenwriter/director Paul Brickman has carefully crafted an exquisite slice of upper-middle-class suburban Americana.

Joel Goodson (Tom Cruise) is a bright, thoughtful, well-spoken model son whose American dream is acceptance into an Ivy League college. Joel has channeled all of his energy into that pursuit. *Risky Business* is the exploration of a week-long chaotic upheaval that results when he denies his goal.

Brickman has written a complex, multifaceted, frequently moving film. It begs comparison to Mike Nichols' *The Graduate*, and rightly so. Joel Goodson, like Dustin Hoffman's Benjamin Braddock, is a young man whose well-ordered life is forever altered by an affair with a woman. In 1967, it was an older woman. In 1983, it is a high-priced call girl.

The result is almost as emotionally shattering. And, since the sixteen-year lapse between the two films has seen a dramatic shift in young American thought, Joel embraces the very ideals that Benjamin rejected.

That philosophical difference is nicely delineated in a fast-food palace, where Joel is debating pragmatism versus idealism. After an envious discussion of the lucrative starting salaries of Ivy League grads, the question becomes moot — all the classmates opt for the money.

Joel runs afoul of his goal when his parents take a vacation. They entrust him with the expensive



Studio Rhino presents "Treasures From The Attic" featuring Charles Aups (left) and Marian Scott, now through October 9. For tickets, phone (415) 861-5079. (Photo by Mark J. Chester)

house and all of its trappings, including Daddy's new Porsche. Joel has been advised to use his own judgment, but in his father's words, "It's my house — you live by my rules. And don't drive the Porsche."

So ingrained is Joel with upper-middle-class tradition that even his nightmares focus on his failure to live up to the burden of parental and peer expectations. It is his best friend Miles (Curtis Armstrong) who unleashes those nightmares as reality when he phones a call girl to "service" Joel.

Joel's feeble protests dissolve into acquiescence when Lana (Rebecca De Mornay) arrives. But her evening of passion is expensive. She solves Joel's cash shortage by purloining an ornamental crystal egg, which has to be returned before his parents' homecoming. Tracking down Lana is easy compared to the difficulty of retrieving the egg. Her former pimp has gotten possession, and is reluctant to part with it.

The "risky" business of the title is not only Joel's emotional involvement with Lana, but a business deal they set up to match his friends with hers. The film's ending is a bit of a stretch, but consistent with the parents' staid standards.

There are so many good technical things going on in *Risky Business* that it is easy to gloss

over the few flaws. Brickman's direction, particularly for a first film, is moody, and unerring in pace and timing. Bruce Surtees' cinematography is excellent, combining some of the best camera work with the most innovative perspectives to be seen in a 1983 film. Tangerine Dream's music melds perfectly with the mood of the film, enhancing both.

The film belongs to Tom Cruise in the acting arena. His previous work in *Taps* and *The Outsiders* comes full circle here. His performance is layered with nuance and articulate style — Oscar nomination material.

Risky Business is sometimes funny, sometimes thought-provoking, always entertaining. It is definitely a "must see."

Rates ★★ ★
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FORTUNES

By Tycho

LIBRA (September 23 - October 22) Enjoy playing matchmaker? This could turn into serious business when friends with serious problems turn to you for help. Your ability to bring people together has to be used wisely now. Listen to both sides of the question before you decide what's right.

SCORPIO (October 23 - November 21) At work, you're the perfect picture of organizational knowhow. All details are taken care of and your career lights shine. But in your love life, things are not so clear. You and your lover are both up for an argument that could turn into something too big to handle. Push comes to shove.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 - December 21) Things are getting pretty confusing. It's time to clear the air and get out of town for a couple of weeks, days, hours... Take your loved one, and go somewhere you've never been before. Distance doesn't matter, neither does charm. Just get away.

CAPRICORN (December 22 - January 19) Stay on-track. You're getting healthier and acting wisely. You're doing a lot of learning about a lot of things that you can apply directly to your life. No pie in the sky stuff for you. Just the facts, and the facts are fine for now.

AQUARIUS (January 20 - February 18) Now that you've gotten the help you've needed, it's time to make a decision. You can't be everyone's lover. Trying to please everybody around you doesn't leave you very much. A Taurus or a Virgo could be very helpful to you now.

PISCES (February 19 - March 20) Truth and illusion continue to be the overriding concerns. An older woman may be helpful. Younger men may not be so good. Lots of people fill your life these days. The merry-go-round is slowing down, but don't jump off before the music's over.

ARIES (March 21 - April 20) A shared dream

could become a reality. By staying flexible and open to all possibilities, you and your lover could find the answer that you've been looking for. A special closeness fills this special time. Memories of childhood could enhance and reflect this feeling of sharing.

TAURUS (April 21 - May 20) Eager, ready, anxious to go. Sound right? The usual hassles and problems are out of the way. The target is in sight, and you're moving. With this kind of purposefulness, your only problem is yourself. Trust all your hunches, inspirations, and seemingly wild, crazy ideas.

GEMINI (May 21 - June 21) An argument that you've been having with yourself is the main event right now. This problem could even become something of an obsession if you're not careful. Being careful should involve turning your attention elsewhere — like towards your lover, who's ready to help.

CANCER (June 22 - July 22) With a lot of will and determination, you could do a good bit of self-improvement now; with the rest of your life in good order, you can turn your attention to a part of yourself that needs taking care of. Take care! Be your own therapist and friend.

LEO (July 23 - August 22) All of that positive energy you've been putting out comes back to you in the form of advancement, promotion, a raise. Things in your work and career are taking an upward turn. Relationships with co-workers will be excellent. Involvements with superiors could be intense.

VIRGO (August 23 - September 22) Something that looks absolutely perfect could be just the opposite. So, don't be fooled by beautiful surfaces. Your mind is working overtime, and you're likely to be fooled if you don't do some serious listening to your heart. Who's fooling whom, huh?

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Sassy's

By Ted Sahl

Sassy's — a new woman's bar in San Mateo. Pure and simple, you'll love it!

A cosy cabaret bar located in downtown San Mateo, 236 B Street, in between 2nd and 3rd Streets, over the B Street Restaurant. You must go through the bar area and walk upstairs.

The main sitting area faces the bandstand — under the stars. Yup, the ceiling opens up, folks! For those wishing to sit close to the action, a large area is available on the dance floor.

A special area, dimly lit, with large wall-to-wall sofas and large pillows for those just wishing to listen to music with that special friend.

Michael Verdone, the manager of Sassy's, told me that Steam Heat, the band now playing, is the first of many stars to perform in the future.

STEAM HEAT — an all woman's band, five lesbian womyn who never let the audience forget it, as they charmed everyone with pure schlock.

Karen Kiss, a funny comic with a sophisticated style, warmed up the audience with a monologue that spoofed TV commercials and Anita Bryant.

The star and lead singer, Robin Harrison, wowed the audience, banging out song after song! A super-talented woman who sang popular songs with a fresh view, Harrison used her own lyrics to popular songs that complimented her lesbian sisters.

Several times during the evening, Pam Hofsass, pianist, Betsy Bealle, bass, and Deena Clevenson, drummer, would all join Harrison in special kits.

Three ladies in one skirt — the Who's On My Spot number — a spoof on Carmen Miranda — all pure gems!

Five talented womyn who will go places — all up!



Steam Heat



RIP-OFFS AND ROSES



It all started quite a long time ago, when some of the major food chains discovered that they could sell a product that bore their own brand name more cheaply than a big national brand.

That gave the stores an edge on price that was attractive, and shoppers at the old A&P remember Ann Page just as well as today's Safeway browsers recognize Town House and Edwards.

That was a gimmick designed for the benefit of the stores. Today, though, with a depressed economy and armies of consumers looking for "best buys," the emphasis has shifted from saving money for the stores to saving money for the buyers.

An entirely new device has popped up in many sections of the country that evades all identification with brands or with the stores that sell the products. It's called "generic marketing," and it offers common market items in totally plain wrappings, often at huge savings.

They display all the trappings of economy: plain white labels on cheap paper that say only "pork and beans" or "paper towels," with the name of a distributor their only identification.

But is this always a good buy at a fair price? That's another matter. It's also one of those infuriating choices that the purchaser has to make for himself, although there are some guidelines that we're going to try to provide.

The most valuable information is just how these "off-labels" work, so that you can judge which

ones to try; and trying them is actually the ultimate answer for the consumer.

National Brands are the familiar labels that you see on television and in the papers, such as Van Camp's, Nabisco, Contadina, and French's. The very fact that you recognize the names accounts for the reason that they cost more than the others.

National advertising drives the cost of these products up; millions of dollars are spent on campaigns to make you aware of the "virtues" of name-brand products. The cost of that advertising eventually comes down to the price tag on the product.

However, that doesn't mean that advertising is the only reason for higher price; some name brands are of higher quality than their cheaper imitations, and many famous products, like Lea and Perrins Worcestershire Sauce, or Tabasco Sauce, or numbers of others, are unique and unduplicatable.

Store Brands are products that bear the labels of the stores where they are distributed. "Finast" in First National Stores, Kroger Brands in that chain, "Town House" in Safeway Stores, and dozens of others are products that major manufacturers produce under contract to the store chains.

Often, these are identical with a better-known national label and represent exceptional value for the money. Since they are produced under contract, the quality and ingredients remain the same, and you can, once you've discovered that you like the product, con-

tinue to purchase it with assurance that you're getting what you've wanted.

Generic Brands are the plain white wrapper numbers that appear on some store shelves. These, too, can provide good quality for the money, but with some cautions.

Generally, generic products are overruns of production by larger manufacturers who are willing to sell the products at low cost to the store chains. However, though the wrapper may stay the same, the product can change.

This month, it may be a familiar brand that masquerades as generic shampoo; next month, it could be a small factory in Walla Walla that makes the same thing from a different formula.

So, what's a buyer to do? If you're satisfied with the quality of a national brand, particularly if it's one whose flavor or performance you trust, stick with it and look for sales.

Recently, in our local market, a sale on name-brand canned goods brought their prices below that of the generic counterparts. If you want to experiment, try a small package of the corresponding store brand or generic.

If quality is not important, by all means buy the cheapest item. If you need a lot of paper towels for some household chores, try the generic; you may find that you get more than you bargain for.

Experimentation can wind up saving you money. A chain called "Shoprite" in New Jersey and Pennsylvania markets a toothpaste that is identical with a far more expensive brand, saving its users 40-50% on the cost.

On many expensive items, proportionate savings are offered on these brands, and as we remind you brands maintain the same level of quality over a longer period of time.

There's one caution in this for those of you who are allergic to certain food or cosmetic products. Generics in those fields should be very carefully tested before use; even if the first container is satisfactory, given the method of

Alcoholism Middle Stages

By Mark

In my last column I briefly discussed the early symptoms of alcoholism as described by Marty Mann in her *New Primer on Alcoholism*. In this column I want to follow along those lines and discuss the middle stages.

Behaviorally, alcoholics begin making promises to loved ones, friends and themselves. "I'll never do it again" or "I'll start taking care of myself" are common ones. They try desperately to keep these promises, but due to their total ignorance of alcoholism they fail to realize they cannot. Their lies about drinking become more frequent and elaborate.

Gulping of drinks increases as does the number of times in a day they must have a drink. They feel always tired, nervous, depressed and have constant worries.

Weekend encounters with alcohol become more severe as does drinking alone. Additionally,

the next may be distressing.

This week's clear complexion could be next month's eczema. If you have a special need, take special care.

One last hint: federal regulations give us the best indication of all for what we're getting. Every product that contains a combination of ingredients generally must list them on the label in order of net weight.

If you find a generic label that lists the exact ingredients in the same order as a more expensive brand, chances are that if it's not the same thing, it will be very similar.

Give it a try; it could present a big savings. If you do experiment, do it privately. Don't plan a big dinner and use an unfamiliar product as part of the ingredients. Saving money can be a real loss if you lose face when doing it.

signs that an alcoholic has been drinking begin to show up at the office and sober gatherings and "going on the wagon" becomes a frequent affair.

Psychologically, dependence on alcohol has now become almost a compulsion. Alcoholics are less apt to discuss their drinking, totally refuse to admit they had been drunk and will not admit to hangovers.

The alcoholics outward appearance has become one of aggressiveness and arrogance rather than inferiority and inadequacy.

Physically, the alcoholic begins to eat less. Alcohol being a food makes the alcoholic feel full when they have little or nothing to eat. Hangovers, nausea and passing out begin to become regular occurrences and blackouts begin increasing in their frequency and duration.

In the next column I will discuss the severest of the stages, the late stage. If you have questions concerning alcoholism, address them to Mark, c/o OUR PAPER, 973 Park Ave., San Jose, CA 95126.

Center seeks director

The Billy DeFrank Lesbian & Gay Community Center is seeking an individual to become Director starting November 1. The position requires a minimum of 20 hours per week and pays a token salary of \$100 per month, according to Mary Ann Sullivan, board president.

Applicants should be familiar with the local lesbian and gay community and the operations of the Community Center. Interested persons should contact Sullivan at (408) 293-4525.

Opera fans will be interested to learn that both Germaine Lubin and Emma Calve were entertainers at Natalie Barney's lesbian salons.



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'Mighty Mites'

by Harvey Thompson, M.D.

AIDS is not the only epidemic in the Gay community. Scabies has even a larger scope: a "pandemic" with a world-wide resurgence. The last epidemic of scabies was in the early 60's and the present pandemic began in the last few years.

About every 20 years, *Sarcoptes scabiei* mites swarm over human skin like locusts to feed, have sex, and drop BM's on the pink pastures that only humans can provide. Dogs and other beasts develop their own dining clientele, and don't seem to exchange this guest on their lists with human hosts.

The itch mite was discovered in 1687. In fact, scabies was the first disease of man to have its cause microscopically uncovered. Scabies is not the same as crab infestation; crabs are lice — with three legs, while scabies is caused by four legged mites.

Smaller than the period at the end of this sentence, the mighty mite has an interesting life cycle that's important to understand if you don't want to be part of it. The mite walks about an inch per minute over the skin. Although mites are blind and have no eyes, they seem to prefer certain crevices of the body: the web spaces of the fingers, the wrists, the genitals, the buttocks, and the belt line.

The young female mite copulates with a male on the skin surface. Perhaps from shame or embarrassment, the young bride then burrows into the skin within a hour of copulation. There, she begins the prodigious task of laying two or three eggs per day, each almost half her size.

The population grows from the larvae which hatch from the eggs of the female. These change to young nymphs which soon become adult females who go on to consummate their marriages and continue the cycle just as their mothers did. Interestingly, the male seems to be relegated to forever wandering around the surface of the skin looking for blind dates.

Most probably, mites live off intercellular lymph-like fluid and not blood, since capillaries do not extend into the horny stratum corneum level that mites prefer. Fecal pellets (scybal) are left behind as the female mite burrows further and deeper. The burrow must constantly be extended, since the epidermal layer is constantly sloughed off. After thirty days of this domestic routine, Mama mite dies, and since the eggs take only three or four days to hatch, she leaves numerous descendants.

The legacy to the host is itching. Commonly, the itch is intense enough to waken the sufferer from a sound sleep. Scratching can be severe enough to start bleeding.

The amount of itching doesn't necessarily correlate with the density of mite population. Probably, most of the itching is due to an allergic reaction to the mites, their eggs, or their feces.

Scabies diagnosis is difficult, but important clues are: 1) Night-time itching; 2) Symptoms in your bed partner; 3) a slow, rather than sudden onset; and 4) a typical constellation of eruptions. Usually, the rash is never on the face or scalp. A helpful clue is its varied manifestations, all at the same time: papules, burrows, vesicles, crusts, pustules, or excoriations.

The physician may try to demonstrate the mite, its eggs, or its feces microscopically by scraping a burrow. However, treatment is often begun on strong suspicion because of a typical history and appearance.

The treatment is the simplest part: Lindane applications. Unlike the case for crabs, there is no over-the-counter medication for scabies. Lindane should be left on overnight to kill the mites and their eggs. However, the itching may continue for weeks as the mite pieces persist as antigens to continue the established allergy. This prolonged course most likely accounts for the well-known phrase "the seven year itch."

Scabies is spread by close personal contact, but the transmission is incompletely understood. Sex is not required for human spread: even a handshake might do. Beauty and the mites are both only skin deep.

During World War II, volunteers slept in beds used the night before by scabitic patients. The sheet contained as many as fifty adult female mites, but most volunteers never developed the disease. Fomites, or inanimate objects such as bed clothes, may not be good transmitters of the condition. However, it is medicine's party line to have patients run sheets and under clothing through the hot cycle of the laundry. On the other hand, washing all the clothes in the house is unnecessary.

Dr. Thompson, and his partner, Dr. Pomerantz, have been very active in alerting the non-Gay community to the AIDS crisis. In recent weeks, they have participated in medical conferences and grand rounds at University of California at Davis Hospital and Health Center, Sutter General Hospital, Kaiser Hospital, and Sacramento State Student Health Center. They have addressed groups such as the Sacramento Medical Society, Sacramento Oncology Nurses Association, Sacramento Blood Bank, and American River College's Sex Education Classes.

Both have appeared on all TV stations and several radio shows in their area, and work in close cooperation with Gay community groups to make sure that the most recent information is available to all of us.

We urge all Gay health care professionals to continue this educational effort.

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On The Strip

By Richard Calmbacher

The Strip has grown significantly in the last eight years since I started frequenting the thoroughfare.

In 1975, there were only two bars.

Now, there are five bars and two restaurants with The Watergarden and Mac's Club as satellites nearby. And the latest addition of Toyon Lounge and the Broadway Restaurant.

A growing gay population has moved in and around these meeting places. As San Jose has grown, so has a "Gay center."

These meeting places are as varied as their customers. They reflect the unique cultural and social background that is unknown in many other parts of this country.

As a witness to the phenomenon now known as "Stockton Strip," I want to share with my brothers and sisters the good feelings generated in an area that can be called our part of San Jose.

In an area that is basically commercial, I daily watch the straights leave their places of business at 5 p.m. And once again, the Strip is ours.

I foresee a day when more gay businesses and services locate in the new "gay center."

I invite you to "Stockton Strip." The meeting places are less formal and more friendly. Far less anonymous than large bars with glittering lights, these are meeting places for people.

Upcoming events

Oktoberfest '83 — October 2nd

at the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds, sponsored by the Boot Rack and Main St. Saloon. \$15 admission covers food and live entertainment, starring Sharon McNight featuring James Fallowell (musical director) and Sharon's Country Western Band. Also, "Michale" with a spirited musical revue. And last but not least, the Barbary Coast Cloggers, a high energy dance group well known in the Bay Area. Tickets are available at Main St., the Boot

Rack and at the AIDS/KS Foundation, 715 No. 1st Street, San Jose. All profits from this event go to the AIDS/KS Foundation.

As a sideline to Oktoberfest, the candidates running for "Mayor of Stockton Strip" will have fundraising booths set up. Each will be offering games and concessions. The new Mayor of Stockton Strip will be sworn in at 6 p.m. that Sunday.

As coordinator of the Stockton Strip Mayor Contest, I'm proud

BERNIE



Seattle Stopover on a Spiritual Journey

By Jill Kelly

Joy and pain — part of life. Part of Gay life. Part of Catholic Gay life.

You feel both at the same time. Under the smiles, the bear-hugs, the glad-to-see-yous, the crisy winks, you sense the pain.

Beneath the excitement of 650 Gay Catholics meeting, debating, lobbying, sharing, praying, and playing together, you feel the pain.

It surfaces early.

At the opening session, outgoing president Frank Scheuren of Atlanta weeps through his statement. "It is monumental to see

to say that the candidates have already raised \$1,342.00 to fight AIDS. Support the candidate of your choice: John Lafranco, Margaret, Christopher Flowers, Joe Maestas, Bill Miller, Darlene Lutz, Dr. Bob, Jack Phillips, R.C., Michael Gracian, Susan Levitz, Al Swanson, Ben Grey, Richard Kendall, Jim Pettigrew. With 15 people in the running, you should have no trouble finding a candidate to support.

I again invite you to visit us on the Stockton Strip as it emerges as the new "gay center" in San Jose. ■

our church welcome us officially after we've worked so hard to become a part of it . . . Many years ago, I was denied a Roman collar because they told me I was not good enough. They did me a favor — they handed me my real ministry — to change the church!"

More tears flow as Archbishop Raymond Hunthausen welcomes the convention to Seattle on videotape. He calls our presence "a blessing," and urges us to work for reconciliation with those who hate us.

"I challenge you to an ever-deeper and more total conversion of the heart: a turning over of your lives to the God of Love that is in you."

The Archbishop was to have addressed us in person that night. But he had suddenly been "called away to Rome . . ."

Joy and pain. The weekend is an endless parade of choices. In truth, there are three conventions: the internal business of Dignity is hammered out by 185 delegates in meetings that start on Thursday. Workshops, guest speakers and community liturgies are the se-

Continued on Page 14



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GAY OWNED AND OPERATED

OURSTORY

“Not quite Priest, Not quite Nobleman”

Frederick William Serafino Austin Lewis Mary Rolfe will not disappear. His flamboyant writing and even more flamboyant character have always branded him as a “minor” prosodist, and yet after many of his more highly-regarded contemporaries have been relegated to the dusty corners of old libraries, Frederick Rolfe, “Baron Corvo,” bursts forth every few years, when a new group of avid readers discover his fluid soul and acid words.

Rolfe was born in London on July 22, 1860 and died in Venice on October 25, 1913. Between those dates, he managed to write 18 books, innumerable stories, dabble in several other arts, and alienate anyone who came to him in friendship. He was a staunch Catholic who revelled in orthodoxy, and a Socialist who hated Conservatives. He indulged himself in making up new and wonderful words, while writing in an antique style that is nearly undecipherable.

He was born into a family that was at best “shabby genteel.” His ancestors had founded a piano manufactory that furnished instruments to the royal family in George III's time, but had in following years come the full round to poverty once again. Rolfe never even had the satisfaction of calling the capital his home; economics forced a move to the provinces when he was very young.

Nor could he claim the distinction of a university education. He says himself that “all the education I ever had took place in third-rate schools and terminated by my fourteenth birthday.” All those elements combined to create a personality that simultaneously loved and hated the advantages it had been denied.

Despite his lack of formal schooling, Rolfe found employment as a teacher in a provincial boys' school. He was regarded as eccentric even then, and his attachment to an obscure local saint, “Little Saint Hugh,” was thought strange. So was his depiction of another boy-saint, William of Norwich, in which he painted over 100 figures that bore a resemblance to the child, who in turn had an uncanny similarity with his own features.

He somehow wheedled an appointment to the Scots' College in Rome, where he was to take up holy orders. His eccentricities and abrasive personality made him as unpopular there as it had elsewhere, and he was soon ejected from the school. That turned him against his fellow-Catholics, but he maintained his deep affection for the church. It was then that he took to signing his name “Fr. Rolfe,” an ambiguous autograph that could be understood as “Father Rolfe” or “Friar Rolfe” as well as “Frederick.”

Back in England, he worked what in our own times would be called “confidence games.” He assumed the title “Baron Corvo,” and pretended to be a nobleman. Using the bogus title for entree, he drew funds from naive acquaintances for fictitious projects, and lived by cadging meals and lodgings from kind-hearted friends.

However, some of Rolfe's projects weren't bogus at all; they merely sounded that way to suspicious ears. He tried to raise funds to finance underwater photography, something thought laughable at the time. Rolfe had become fascinated with the new art, and pioneered some methods of camerawork and film developing. The underwater scheme never came to much.

His writing was better accepted, if narrowly published. “The

Yellow Book,” famous for its Beardsley covers and associations with decadence, accepted several of his stories, and of all the short pieces in those volumes, Rolfe's tales stand up today as still interesting. He devised ways of telling Biblical tales as if they were pagan legends, and also managed a turnaround that made tales of Romans and Greeks sound as if they were stories of the Saints.

After gulling so many important people, he found it prudent, as well as cheaper, to move to Italy. There, he continued his practice of taking lodging wherever possible, often from unwilling, but courteous hosts. He also found an outlet for his taste in boys in the street urchins of the city; one of them he called “Toto,” and he collected his stories as “Tales Toto Told Me.”

Toto exists for us today on film. There are numerous studies of naked youths that Rolfe took in Venice and elsewhere. He used their personalities as thinly veiled girls in his books; “The Desire and Pursuit of the Whole,” and “Nicholas Crabbe.” He continued his interests in painting, and even built himself a boat with beautifully-painted sails so that he could travel the canals and lagoons of Venice.

And he wrote. His fascination with the Bogias resulted in an extraordinary book, “The Chronicles of the House of Bogia,” which he frankly admits to writing as a whitewash of a family for which he felt respect. The book recounts the family history from early beginnings in Spain through its 19th Century descendants.

The Bogia book fascinated some, infuriated others. He did not limit himself to strict history, but made other comments along the way, such as his claim that the rightful ruler of England was Vittorio Emanuele of Italy, because of a tenuous connection with the deposed Stuarts. He used exotic words and spellings, insisting that the “Sistine” chapel was more properly the “Xystyne,” and peppering his prose with terms such as “fomicables” for tobacco, “fylfot” for swastika, and so on.

Rolfe might have described his life as “cortortuplicated.” The sheer effort of maintaining his precarious independence and self-esteem in face of continued poverty and disdain from critics took its toll. He died at the age of only 53, and was buried in a free plot in the cemetery in Venice.

If his talent had been totally expended in cadging a living, he would have soon been forgotten. But his exquisitely-written prose still attracts readers. Its attraction is never enough to insure commercial success; The Modern Library published an edition of “A History of the Bogias” which remained on the list for only a few years. Alfred Knopf put out several luxurious editions of his novels which couldn't quite stay in print.

Still, periodically, he becomes rediscovered. A. J. Symonds renovated his image with “The Search for Corvo” in 1934. Braodway, in the 70's, produced “Hadrian VII,” a dramatized version of his best-known book. Biographies came out in 1971, and again in 1979.

Toast his memory with a bottle of the Sicilian wine from which he drew his title. “Baron Corvo” was a fraud, and an unprincipled rogue. But he was a writer of great talent, and a stylist of incomparable skill.

©Stonewall Features Syndicate, 1983

has kept me separated and fearful of my Gay brothers. I have laughed and cried with them. “My desert” seems not as dry as it was. Joy and pain.

Another workshop draws me: “Gay/Lesbian Couples: Who Are We?” The relationship I have recently begun feels like a precious, fragile flower. I worry constantly about how best to nurture it. The workshop promises help, so I go.

The speaker, a psychotherapist named Dorsey Green, talks about the need for “glue” in Gay relationships. “The straight world has ceremonies, laws, customs and rituals that reinforce a couple's stability. Gay and Lesbian couples must make up their own glue.”

Afterwards, the audience shares examples of “glue.” Some couples group with others for socializing and sharing ways to make a relationship work; others have “commitment ceremonies” or special contracts. Dorsey suggests that the process of coming out to family and friends itself is a “gluing experience.”

For the rest of the convention, I am on the lookout for older couples. I find them everywhere — men and women who have been together 10, 15, 17, 35 years. I pump them for information, hints, the secret of success.

At dinner one night, Daniel from Kentucky smiles at me and says, “There's no secret. You have to love one another truly. You have to give and take. You have to let the other person be himself.”

I am drawn to a workshop called “Christodrama.” The program makes it clear that I should not attend if I plan to learn only with my head. I am further notified I'll be confronting my feelings about solitude and loneliness as a Gay person. Being a glutton for punishment, I go.

“Christodrama” proves to be a mix of psychodrama, Gestalt therapy, and prayer. Paul Marcoux, a pugnacious young man who has dreamed up this fun stuff, asks us to cluster in one of three groups that most closely resembles where we are on the spiritual journey. I choose “the desert.”

Our group shares a little about ourselves, then Paul requests us to stop talking and touch the person in the group we feel closest to. Suddenly, all these strange hands appear on my shoulders and arms. All who have reached out to me are Gay men. I redded. “Why me, Lord?”

Before it is over, I have acted out, with group help, my adolescent fury with the Church Fathers, and have broken through it. I have also released a blockage that

At least 50 priests have donned alb and surplice to concelebrate. In twos, they follow the banner-bearer, the incensers, the lay people who will take part in the liturgy. Chandeliers blaze and our voices shake the roof. The power of this ancient ritual is released by the loving spirit of a thousand and more Gay men and women. The moment is transformed. We have built a City of God. Joy and pain.

By the last night, exhaustion has become a way of life. The dinner-dance brings out more three-piece suits than an E.F. Hutton sales conference. We look beautiful, all of us. And — we're ready to dance!

Dance is prayer, and we're a mighty prayerful group as we jitterbug and dip to a brassy band aptly named Tuxedo Junction. Even when the band packs up and goes home at 1:00 a.m., we keep on singing, dancing, and praying.

Arms linked, standing in a huge circle, we sing sappy love songs and show tunes while one of our members accompanies us on the piano. We keep dancing, like a wedding party, new couples forming and appearing and separating and enticing others to join the circle. We keep on dancing and singing for a long time, because saying goodbye to this City of God is not easy.

Joy. And Pain. ■

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STOPOVER

Continued from Page 13

cond. Then there's the third — the private convention — different for each participant — in which information is absorbed, feelings swirl, and private prayers are made.

I am drawn to a workshop called “Christodrama.” The program makes it clear that I should not attend if I plan to learn only with my head. I am further notified I'll be confronting my feelings about solitude and loneliness as a Gay person. Being a glutton for punishment, I go.

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Mass at St. James Cathedral. All day, rumors fly that as many as 500 protesters may picket us. We are instructed to walk to the Cathedral in small groups, and to wear our best Catholic schoolchild manners instead of our Dignity badges.

The protest is tiny: maybe 75 people, mostly older women, singing the Ave Maria, chanting the Rosary, all the while holding candles and signs that read “Remember Sodom and Gomorrah” and “Pray for the Virtue of Chastity.” Their protest resembles the tone of the full-page ad that appeared in two local papers that day: morally righteous, but subdued. No ranting Falwells here.

Inside, the packed congregation hears a half-hour performance by the Seattle Men's Chorus, 150 strong. And then, the pomp and circumstance of what used to be called a High Mass begins.

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Housing

Condo to Share. Looking for third person to share 3 br/3 ba condo in Mountain View with AEK, washer/dryer, fireplace, and pool. Call at (415) 985-7877. Prefer non-smoker who's into nudity and massage. \$300/month.

Roommate Wanted to share large 3 br/2 ba Townhouse in Milpitas. \$300 including utilities. Non-smoker, please call 946-1884 after 7 pm. Jim or Pat.

Lesbian Household needs housemate. 3 bedroom house, Almaden Valley. Non-smoker. \$219 deposit/\$219 rent. (408) 268-0930

Gay Female Roommate wanted to share 3 bdrm/2 ba East Foothill house. Approx \$490 including utilities. Available 10/1/83. Call 729-5078 after 7 pm.

Roommate Wanted: Gay M/F to share 3 bedroom San Carlos home, nicely furnished, oak floors, fireplace. \$350. (415) 591-2288

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Professional Masseuse women or men. Good rates. Days and evenings. (415) 493-4822

Personals

VOLUNTEERS WANTED: Local AIDS/KS Chapter needs volunteers for afternoon and evening shifts. Call 298-AIDS.

OUT DOOR WOMEN We want to organize network of South Bay women interested in cross-country skiing, camping, hiking, etc. MEETING to plan events Thursday, October 20, 7 pm. 6284 Vegas Dr., San Jose. Call 268-0930

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