

COMING UP!

THE GAY/LESBIAN
NEWSPAPER
AND CALENDAR
OF EVENTS FOR
THE BAY AREA

TEN YEARS AFTER

25,000 Gather to Honor Milk and Moscone

"This time I invite you to come
inside City Hall."

Mayor Art Agnos
Nov. 27, 1988



A Textbook Case of Homophobia:

Lou Sheldon
and S.H.A.P.E.



The Price of Dignity

Fr. John McNeill

LETTERS

To PC or Not...

I read Mr. Connolly's letter with pleasure and more sympathy. How interesting to find that the "fags" write just as obnoxious adverts as the "dykes." So much for all the egalitarianism crapola that still haunts us from the hippie-dippy days. Folks are going to & obviously do have strong prejudices in what they are seeking for a paramour. All their p.c.-ness vanishes in the personals. So much for theory & practice. These are probably the same folks who froth at the mouth over the Olympic Club's "discriminatory" policies whilst adamantly defending their "right" to have an organization with an "exclusive" clientele, hence the women only athletic club in S.F. That's so typical of these rabid professional lib-dykes.

Phil Ochs summed it up very well in his song "Love Me I'm a Liberal." Three cheers for Mr. Connolly. I think swishy-queens are great. Would that I had a few as chums! In closing, let me say: God save the queens!

I remain,
Sincerely yrs.
Sasikala Devi Dasi (Miss)
Benicia, CA

Military H-phobia Destroys Lives

I recently returned from deployment, and immediately fled to a Bay Area women's store to pick up the current issue of *Coming Up!* I was outraged by the article entitled, *Parris Island: Lesbian Marines Jailed* (Nov '88), though not very surprised. As an undercover lesbian petty officer in the United States Navy, I am aware that since many members of the homosexual community have never been in the Armed Services that many are unaware of the injustices, stupidity and waste of personnel due to the military's attitude toward homosexuals.

The United States Armed Services launches thorough investigations (at the cost of all

American taxpayers) to prove that an individual has engaged in homosexual or solicited homosexual acts, whether or not these acts are conducted in private by consenting adults. Seldom have these investigations been related to their competence on the job, true misconduct, or flagrant, but only on suspicion and association. In the United States Navy homosexuality does not necessarily mean overt homosexuality activity, but includes suspicion of tendencies or guilt by association. Most also feel that the disadvantage is to the male who suffers long-time economic loss because of a less than honorable discharge. Although the outward discharge is usually not as great, the trauma scars and psychic scars are still there. The treatment discovered-lesbians receive from the United States military has an indelible effect upon their lives.

Thanks for bringing the situation at Parris Island to the attention of your non-military readers. Thanks.

Respectfully,
Name Withheld

Coping with Sexual Aversion

This is for the gay man who wrote to you (see *CU!* Letters, October 1988) saying he felt embarrassed by his aversion to seeing women being physically intimate with each other, even holding hands. He asked for responses from other gay men who might feel the same way and how they got over it.

I am a gay man, and I also feel a sharp aversion to a certain, natural kind of human intimacy that some people enjoy — it's not the same aversion as the one experienced by the man who wrote to you, but I recognize the embarrassed reaction. I get squeamish listening to, thinking about, or seeing pictures or drawings of women having oral sex with men. Sounds kind of strange, I know; and it is surprising how many things and how many situations in normal daily life can trigger this anxiety for me. I see this activity depicted on

the stalls of men's rooms or see the words referring to it scrawled in graffiti on bus seats and in library books. It crops up on any Donahue/Oprah/Geraldo/Dr. Ruth-type talk show that deals with prostitution, or child abuse, or sexual frustration. It appears in every "how-to-please-your-man" handbook in your local bookstore. And it is subliminally implied in dozens of TV ads and on billboards coast to coast. This nation is obsessed with heterosexual fellatio, and I would bet that there is very little in the way of straight pornography or even sexually explicit mainstream movies that does not treat this topic, at least to some degree.

So what's it to me, if I'm gay? If I don't like it, I can look the other way, right? And besides, if (as it so happens is the case) this is something I like doing with other men myself, and if I want everyone to accept and support my sexual identity as part of a whole person, then how can I be so emotionally "hypocritical," to use the original writer's term?

When I thought about it more carefully, I came to the conclusion that some of my embarrassment and anxiety over this matter came from the fact that I wasn't in control of my emotions or of the situation that triggered them. That is, I didn't know how I came to possess them. I had no control over when and where I was going to be ambushed by them, just flipping through a book or the channel selector. I couldn't make them go away or be reasonable. I wasn't aware of any other odd, inexplicable, irrational, or politically unfashionable baggage I was hauling around with me, but here was one clear example. So who knew — maybe I had lots more of them I wasn't aware of and wasn't in control of, all of them subtly influencing my behavior in unpleasant ways, possibly impairing my relationships or causing me to judge others unfairly! It looks pretty silly when you set it out that way. I was just trying to control things that I have no moral obligation or social responsibility to control.

I came to the conclusion — and I hope the man who first wrote to you might try it on for size — that it was a waste of energy to worry about that kind of stuff, and probably personally harmful to be so obsessed with trying to control everything. Feelings are not the same things as thoughts. Even if they have a rationally understandable origin, they are not rational experiences — they may conflict with each other, they may not be easy to live with, they may disappear from consciousness from time to time and still continue to influence behavior, and they may change as you acquire new experience in life. But they are not subject to logic or reason. They cannot be destroyed or safely ignored. And they are very real. I decided that although I'd prefer not to feel this way about... that particular kind of icky heterosexual behavior... it wasn't worth going to a therapist to try to iron it out. What I do feel I have an obligation to do is to always keep it in mind that my aversion is *my* problem. It shouldn't become anyone else's, whether I'm involved in a jury decision or a public discussion or a private choice in a voting booth. I hope "Name Withheld" will ease up a little on himself, as I did. It's really just too exhausting, and completely unnecessary, trying to control things out of your control, all for the sake of some sterile, totalitarian ideal like "political correctness."

Name Also Withheld
San Leandro, CA

Cruel and Unusual Punishment

In the August issue of *Coming Up!* Out of Control (OOC), Women's Committee to Shut Down the Lexington Control Unit, placed an informational protest ad regarding the high security unit in Lexington, Kentucky designed for women political prisoners and prisoners of war. Many local gay/lesbian/women's groups and individuals demonstrated their support by signing our ad.

A month later we submitted a letter to *Coming Up!* discussing a lawsuit brought against the Bureau of Prisons (B.O.P.) by three of the women at Lexington. Judge Parker, of Federal District Court, ruled in favor of two of three plaintiffs and directed the Justice Department to

not use political beliefs and/or associations as criteria for conditions of incarceration. The Lexington Control Unit was ordered closed and Susan Rosenberg and Silvia Baraldini were ordered returned to general population. Two months later, the women are still singled out for harassment and violations of their human rights.

The court's decision came down in July; the government waited until the end of August to close the unit. No one, including the prisoners, had any advance notice of when or where they were going.

The government ignored the court ruling to move the political prisoners to general population. Instead they designated three of the women to pre-trial holding facilities (Metropolitan Correctional Centers, MCC's). MCC's are small crowded units with no programs and no exercise facilities, having some of the same health threatening conditions that existed at Lexington.

In August, Silvia Baraldini was sent to Rochester, MN for cancer surgery in the Bureau of Prisons' medical facility. When she was at Lexington, her treatment for cancer was delayed for "security reasons." While recovering from her operation and the radiation therapy, Silvia was transferred to MCC New York. Silvia's doctors have prescribed a program of walking, jogging and swimming to help prevent or retard osteoporosis. Exercise at MCC New York is limited to one hour a week of rooftop recreation.

Alexandrina Torres was transferred secretly to MCC San Diego and held incommunicado for almost a week. Her visiting rights are still severely restricted — an extra hardship for her since all her relatives live far away. Alexandrina suffers from a heart condition for which medication was denied until recently. The officials at MCC San Diego continue to refuse her the right to enroll in computer education programs.

Susan Rosenberg is still in Washington, D.C. City Jail awaiting trial with six co-defendants with charges of several political bombings supporting liberation struggles and protesting racism in the U.S.

Sylvia Brown was transferred to Marianna Federal Correctional Institution, seventy-five miles outside Tallahassee, FL. Currently, Judge Parker's decision bars the B.O.P. from turning Marianna into a larger Lexington Control Unit. Meanwhile the government has filed a motion to expedite their appeal of that decision and are refusing to designate any of the women to general population until the appeal is decided. In addition the B.O.P. is trying to use the unit at Marianna to redefine general population so they can ultimately transfer to there, all women political prisoners and prisoners of war. Marianna is consistently referred to by the B.O.P. as a continuation of their "mission" at Lexington: a "mission" of deterrence and threats to political activity.

At this time, conditions at Marianna are somewhat better than at Lexington. However, there are few educational programs, not enough jobs offered and restricted visiting, despite the long term sentences of the prisoners. The unit is already crowded and the potential for violence is high, providing the B.O.P. with an excuse for a permanent lockdown situation for women, similar to Marion Prison for men in Chicago. We must not let this happen.

Out of Control feels that control units, under any guise, have no place in a prison system. We want Marianna closed and Judge Parker's original decision enforced. If you are interested in writing any of the prisoners or receiving more information, please contact Out of Control at 3543 18th St., Bx 30, S.F., CA 94110. Jane Segal
Out of Control Committee

Ammiano Thanks Supporters

Just a letter of thanks to the people who voted for me in the San Francisco Board of Education race. I am the world's happiest loser. Over 55 thousand votes! (but who's counting?) for an educational campaign that raised no money except for charity, polluted no neighborhoods with signs, and avoided the traditional endorsement rain dance.

These votes confirm that people want a qualified gay or lesbian on the board. In addition the vote strongly suggests support for my two main goals: district election of the board, and a school named after Harvey Milk. Let's get that school named in the near future. Write letters and make phone calls to the members of the board you've supported, hold them accountable. Remember Harvey always made a point of having fun with the most serious of political matters, let's get cookin'.

Tom Ammiano

Support for the Palestinians

Recently in the city I came across a copy of *Coming Up!* It was the first time I had seen the publication and I enjoyed it. However, while I was enjoying your election coverage (as an outsider I couldn't really "get into" all of the local issues) I was dismayed and disappointed at your shrill denunciation of Proposition W (*Coming Up!* Nov. '88). Your diatribe against this mildest of efforts by a civic community for peace with justice in the Holy Land sounded like it was written by the American Israel Political Action Committee, not a paper that seemingly prides itself on its progressive, open, freedom-seeking stance especially for those historically oppressed minorities! Consider:

When the United Nations Special Commission on Palestine (UNSCOP) issued its report on the British Mandate they recommended 40 years ago this year that the territory be divided into two zones or two districts. This was done without ever consulting the indigenous inhabitants of the area — the Palestinian/Arab/Christian/Muslim/Druse people. Only a tiny segment of largely leftist-social-democratic-Marxist oriented European immigrants (Ashkenazi) were consulted. And on that basis the Holy Land was divided. The United Nations, under American pressure, barely voted (not votes to spare) to permit this and here was the basis and beginning of the ongoing agony of which the *intifadeh* is the latest act in a 50+ year old tragedy of eternal proportions.

When the last vestiges of Palestinian freedom were snuffed out by the invasion of the West Bank and Gaza in 1967, the inevitable result — the Palestine Liberation Organization was born. And because it is the sole, internationally recognized and nationally accepted representative of the Palestinian people, it is to that organization and that one alone that face-to-face negotiations will have to come. The PLO has said over and over again that it is ready to sit down and talk on the basis of the UN Resolutions applicable (mainly 242 and 336). Only this month Chairman Yasser Arafat told *Time* magazine (7 Nov. 1988, p. 47) "I have declared it many times — I have accepted 242 and 338 along with all UN resolutions." So to say, as your 'advisory' does that the PLO "... has so much as to yet recognize/acknowledge... right to exist" is a willful distortion. A willful barrier to peace!

This year both Bush and Dukakis have tried to outdo each other in protestations of "Israel First" mouthings in order to get the Jewish vote. And this year God alone knows how many tens of billions of tax dollars will be spent on perpetuating Zionist hegemony and racist imperialism in the Holy Land.

Isn't it time — long past time — to stop fooling ourselves? Isn't it long past time for papers such as *Coming Up!* to face and recognize and deal with reality? Those billions given to Tel Aviv could be much better used for child care, universal health insurance, AIDS research and improvements in the environment. It's time for the double standard to end. It's time for self-serving interests to be exposed to the light of day for what they are. And it's time for communities all over America to say to the powers-that-be that we oppose racist imperialism, especially when it's bought and paid for with our money, regardless of who the perpetrators of that crime against humanity are. It's time for everyone to be judged by the same uniform standard be they Chilean or South African or Taiwanese or Israeli. And it's time for *Coming Up!* to grow up — fast!

G.D.V. Wiebe, PhD

Former NAP Volunteer Speaks Out

Many thanks to Tim Kingstone for his article on the New Alliance Party in the November edition. I worked with NAP from April-August of this year promoting the Fulani campaign. My closest contact was with Jim Mangia, the co-chair of NAP's lesbian and gay wing. At first I was very taken. Their politics seemed great (they told me their theories were modeled after Rosa Luxemburg's), the people were friendly and they encouraged newcomers to take on leadership positions. I especially liked how they reached out to lesbians and gays. (The Democratic party has never done that).

I met Fulani and was very impressed. I thought she was dynamic and admirable. I met Fred Newman and felt he was sincere, a radical who had not sold out. Finally, I had found the political party in which I could be myself.

Or so I thought. Even with all the good feelings I was wracked with doubt from the beginning. First, there was the use of the word "Rainbow." When I asked if Jesse Jackson supported Fulani I was told he respected what she was do-

ing but couldn't support her publicly. I then wondered how they could use the name Rainbow Lobby if they were not affiliated with Jesse Jackson's Rainbow Coalition. When I asked about this I was told people knew the difference.

One time another volunteer and myself were told to get signatures for the "AIDS Bill of Rights" and collect money for its passage. We were given fliers promoting Fulani's campaign which we were supposed to hand out to anyone who signed. I thought the whole thing deceptive and did not hand the fliers out, realizing people would not make the distinction between her campaign and the AIDS Bill. Of course, later I realized there was no such distinction. Not only was the money collected going to fund Fulani's campaign but she was using the AIDS crisis as a vehicle to get elected. When I voiced my doubts, I was brushed off with, "it's all for the same cause."

Every week someone invited me to attend workshops on finding intimacy in my life. Each time I said no I was washed in suspicion. Why would a political party be offering group therapy sessions?

Moreover, several times I was told what to do without ever being asked (i.e. "We decided you should lead this conference") so that I had to repeatedly say no. Often I was afraid they would introduce me at a forum and make me speak to a crowd without letting me know beforehand. This persistence for me to take on more and more was just another tactic I grew to despise.

When Mangia wrote newsletters for members concerning a Fulani event that had occurred, he changed details to make it seem she had more support than she really did. People in NAP were always saying they were so excited because Fulani was becoming known in San Francisco when I knew very few people had even heard of her.

Other volunteers and I would get together and voice our doubts. When we brought them to NAP members they would deny them and get defensive. The Democrats were blamed for all of society's ills and any attacks made against NAP.

I finally saw the light when a woman I met who'd been canvassing for NAP showed me articles raising the same issues as Tim Kingstone's article. She quit the day she read them. I quit a week later. Three other volunteers that I know of have quit in the past few months for the same reasons.

To end, I have gone through many emotions since then, mostly shame at being so gullible, cynicism, mistrust of progressive people, anger. The reason I'm writing this is so that other people don't make the same mistakes I did. The NAP is trying to change the world in completely the wrong way, by deceiving, manipulating, lying — all the things they passionately denounce. The worst thing is their people really believe what they're doing is right. I don't completely understand (and maybe never will) what they're all about: if they're indeed a cover for the right, if they're just another cult or if they're a little bit of both. All I do know is they are hypocritical, self-serving and dangerous.

Claire Drucker
San Francisco

NAP Article Corrections

There are a few errors in your exposé of the New Alliance Party (NAP) (*CU!*, 1988) which when corrected should strengthen the general thrust of the article. At the end of the section entitled *Gay Positions*, it states, "If political oppression is the cause of sexual oppression, 'In a post revolutionary society there would be no need to be gay,' notes Steve Ault." The term "sexual oppression" should read "sexual orientation." In other words, if being gay is not a natural orientation but a conscious act of rebellion as claimed by NAP, then in NAP's perfected world no one should be gay. And if NAP just happened to be wrong and we were still around, what or who would be jettisoned — NAP's politics or lesbians and gays? Our desire to defer — forever — the answer to this question was central in the rejection of NAP's application to join the Steering Committee of the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights.

A second error appears in the section entitled (continued on page 14)

LETTER INFO: Deadline for letters to appear in the January issue is December 21. Please type and double-space letters if at all possible. We reserve the right to edit letters for length. All letters must provide a name, address and phone number for verification. We will not publish anonymous letters or letters submitted only with pseudonyms, but will withhold your name on request.

COMING UP!

592 Castro Street, San Francisco, CA 94114
(415) 626-8121 Mon-Fri 10am-6pm

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ADVERTISING

Advertising Director: Joseph Bean
Display Advertising: Rate cards are available by calling 626-8121 or by writing *Coming Up!*
Classified Advertising: Refer to the order form in "Open Exchange." No classified advertising can be taken over the phone. Deadline is the 20th of the month preceding publication. If you are interested in a display classified, please call the advertising coordinator.

Personal Advertising: Refer to the order form in the "Personal" section. No personal advertising can be taken over the phone. Deadline is the 20th of the month preceding publication.

CALENDAR

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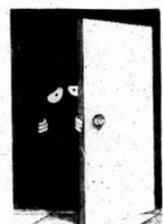
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Sex & Politics: A Town Hall Meeting

BY CHRISTINA SMITH

Being at the Town Meeting on Sex and Politics sponsored by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force last month was like embarking on a gay version of Mr. Toad's Wild Ride. Panelists and the audience careened from one complex topic to another, barely avoiding disastrous conflict; until suddenly, it was over.

Radio commentator David Lamble, host of KPFA's Fruit Punch, tossed a few questions at each panelist and then played roving moderator in the audience. The discussion began with pornography. Lamble noted how readily available it is and asked, "Why am I not having a better time in the '80s?" Panelist John Rowberry, editor of Studflux, asked, "What is it you bring to pornography? If you're expecting it to be everything you want sex to be, that's not what it's meant for."

Panelist Susie Bright, editor of *On Our Backs*, said the issues underlying women's pornography are very different from men's. "Women's pornography focuses on the sexual liberation aspect — men don't think of pornography as a symbol of being out. We didn't have any trouble finding women who would show their genitals, but a lot of trouble getting people to show their face."



Tony Treviso makes a hospital visit on behalf of the Godfather Service Fund.

The Castro's Own Elves: The Godfather Service Fund's Holiday Drive

Santa's little helpers at the Godfather Service Fund are facing their busiest time of the year, and they are looking for some extra gifts and assistance with gift wrapping and gift giving to make the final push for the holidays. At this very moment, 150 Godfather volunteers are scurrying all over town delivering shirts and scarves, mittens and socks, christmas trees and poinsettias, greetings cards and good will, all for people with ARC and AIDS stuck in the hospital over the holiday season.

When things get too crazy, Tony Treviso, one of the Godfather's founders says he just remembers the responses he gets from the people in the hospital. "Sometimes they are very, very surprised. We receive thank you letters from families and individuals. It is a heart-felt warmth with no expectations. It is a gift from the community at large." And that is what has kept Treviso at it for the past five years.

The Godfather Service Fund delivers to ten

For his part, said Panelist Daniel Curzon, a novelist, "I have no objection to pornography — if people want to have sex with magazines that's fine with me. But I'm convinced that when you put it in novels, serious literary people dismiss you." Later, when pressed to define what he meant as pornography, he said, "It's non-realistic sex. The organs are larger, orgasms more frequent — it's what people would like to have happen, rather than what really happens."

The conservative resistance to pornography "is profoundly wrapped up in sexual orientation," said civil rights attorney Roberta Achtenberg. "When we see the way in which we are loathed and detested when we present ourselves as people demanding the right to raise our children and [gain] dignity for our love relationships, you see the way in which we shake heterosexual society to the core."

Speaking about the American and British government's attitudes about AIDS education, *Coming Up!* reporter and panelist Tim Kingston said almost all private education groups practice self-censorship because they fear the loss of government funding. "The British government's homophobia is more sophisticated. There are loopholes for AIDS education, but anything homoerotic gets slammed."

Panelist Urvashi Vaid of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force said she believed AIDS education by the press has been slowed because the media still sees it as a gay disease. Doing media work at the presidential conventions "was a very frustrating experience. We were being spat on by delegates; there were people with signs that said, 'AIDS is the cure, not the problem' — that stuff wasn't reported by the press."

Coming back to pornography, Rowberry said filmmakers' portrayal of women's sexual pleasure has changed. "Heterosexual movies use the expression on a woman's face, and that's not very convincing to women. In the new movies, they always have a lesbian scene, which is different from the traditional [male pornographic] lesbian scene because now men aren't present. The women have a much more vivid involvement with each other; it seems to indicate that heterosexual couples need lesbianism in order to have good sex together."

Rowberry added that he thought the accessibility of pornography now means "straight people can get sexual information about gays, and it's a good way for lesbians to see what gay males are about."

The government's begun using devious methods to justify seizing pornography, Rowberry said. "The RICO (anti-organized crime) law lets them take everything you've got now and put you out of business even before the trial. It's a preemptive strike, because the Justice Department knows they will ultimately lose the argument. Indictments (to justify confiscation) are how pornographers are ultimately censored now."

Bright said she had written legislators urging repeal of RICO. "They don't even have a box to put those letters in," she said. "It's so ridiculous, [organized crime] has nothing to do with sex. But when that stigma is attached it's going to attract a certain type of high-risk entrepreneur."

Government regulation of pornography strikes her as extremely ironic. "Sex is always singled out as the one thing you can't sell in a capitalist society," she said.

Vaid suggested a radical change of topic. "The burning issue for me as a lesbian is how much we're doing it, and who we're doing it with. What I'm seeing is a change in long-term relationships, where even if you still have a primary lover you're also fucking around with three others on the side. It's interesting to see that in the context of AIDS and what's happening in gay male relationships."

A woman in the audience vigorously protested the provision in the new Los Angeles domestic partners law that requires a couple to have been monogamous for at least a year in order to receive benefits. "I'd like to know who's telling us we need to be monogamous in order to get the benefits straight people get," she said.

Vaid steered the topic back to relationships. "I'd like to hear about the way fear comes up in our hearts when you talk about sex today. I don't hear my male friends talk about it but I can see the fear in their eyes."

Lamble said he recently had an encounter with a man which, several years ago, would have become sexual. Instead, "we had a civilized conversation about the fact we were both from New York."

From the audience a man said, "What's not being named is the level of fear that's now being allowed to reign. We have a gay male community that's not only quietly accepted shame back in, but embraced it. We've got to resist it."

A woman in the audience wondered if the anger directed at Roger Boas might rebound at gay men. "If we encourage Boas' prosecution, then doesn't it increase the stigma on all of us?"

"It is critical to me that [the prostitute] was a minor; thank God it wasn't people of the same sex. When it is, that's when people say, 'See, that's what they do,'" said Achtenberg. "There are clearly two different standards. If it's same sex, they are prosecuted to the nth degree. Most times straight men are never

—Tim Kingston



(Top to Bottom, so to speak): Susie Bright, Daniel Curzon and Roberta Achtenberg were among the panelists on the Town Hall meeting on Sex and Politics.

turned in for this sort of thing."

Rowberry responded, "You have to be clear about what constitutes a child and what constitutes a minor. As men we have to be more conscious than lesbians about age of consent. There needs to be a difference between a child who is six and a child who is 14."

"Is there more to lesbians and gays than sex?" Lamble asked.

Panelist Sue Hyde said she felt her work with the privacy project at the Task Force was really about liberation of all kinds, not just sexual freedom.

The topic immediately reverted to sex when

(continued on page 55)

THE SHAPE OF THINGS TO COME: Reverend Lou Sheldon's Paranoid Crusade

BY TIM KINGSTON

A new political organization called SHAPE — Stop Homosexual Advocacy in Public Education — is spearheading a statewide effort to eliminate gay and lesbian counseling programs from the California Public Education system. SHAPE is the brainchild of the Reverend Lou Sheldon, founder of the Traditional Values Coalition (TVC), an Anaheim-based evangelical political lobbying organization now active in Contra Costa County.

Sheldon is more open about his opinions than many right-wing evangelicals. In an interview with *Coming Up!*, he declared, "If two adults... can't resist their erotic sexual appetites enough to know that one of them is going... to end up killing the other one with anal intercourse then actually they ought to pay the penalty of death."

Sheldon's views on AIDS education are similarly informed, "We don't believe in using taxpayer dollars to advocate and promote homosexuality. We don't believe that AIDS education ought to be conducted with a parade of gays and lesbians through the classroom, saying that their lifestyle is viable while they point to their lover who is dying of AIDS. (It is) absolutely ludicrous for them to come in and talk about the viability of homosexuality, and then say my lover died!"

While not that well known is the Bay Area, Rev. Sheldon is a familiar and unwelcome presence on the Los Angeles sexual politics scene. As one of his favorite targets, Virginia Uribe, a founder of Project 10, a groundbreaking education and counseling program for gay and lesbian teenagers, succinctly puts it, "Any time you have something that is anti-gay, he is there working with it."

The centerpiece of Sheldon's SHAPE campaign is a bill to prohibit California school districts from initiating or funding any program which "by design or effect encourages homosexuality as a viable life alternative." The bill sponsored by 34th Assembly District member Phil Wyman (R—Tehachapi) is slated to go before the assembly on December 5.

The effect of the bill would be to defund and eliminate any educational and counseling program in California for gay/lesbian teenagers that do not outright stress the superiority of the heterosexual lifestyle. BANGLE, the Bay Area Network of Gay and Lesbian Educators, is urging opponents of the bill to call and write the State Education Committee of the Assembly to kill the bill.

The SHAPE Campaign

SHAPE was created specifically to oppose what Rev. Sheldon sees as rampant "homosexual advocacy" in public schools. SHAPE is a grassroots campaign with "national" implications and he argues it is the "first round in a total involvement effort which brings us (TVC) into open warfare with the gay and lesbian community's agenda for the country. And California is the beachhead. We must stop it here before it spreads throughout the nation like cancer."

The "inspiration" for SHAPE was Sheldon's discovery of Project 10, which was initiated by Uribe last year and is backed by the entire LA County School Board. Uribe says she started Project 10 after working with gay and lesbian teenagers and became appalled by their high dropout rates, substance abuse problems and the anti-gay violence they have to endure.

"I don't consider my program as a referendum on homosexuality," declares Uribe. "I consider it as a prevention of dropout program. In my mind I want to keep kids in school, keep them off drugs, keep them sex-

A PERSONAL LETTER FROM LOU SHELDON

She wept as she told her story. I'll call her Mary. But that's not her real name for obvious reasons. Her youthful appearance was a sharp contrast to the temporary lines on her face and reddened eyes.

Mary's teenage son, struggling with his own sexual feelings, had talked to a high school counselor where homosexual advocacy is being promoted.



A sordid affair with the counselor followed, and to this day the son is still in the homosexual lifestyle.

It tears me apart to think about this heart-broken mother. AND I'M MAD. But I knew I had to do more than just talk.

As a parent, a concerned citizen and one who believes in a put up or shut up activism...one who knows from experience that one person CAN MAKE A DIFFER-

You can reach Rev. Sheldon to express your views on his views at 7141520-0300

ually responsible and keep them alive. I am not interested in what causes homosexuality. I am interested in the stigmatization of being homosexual."

Rev. Sheldon, however, is very interested in what "causes" homosexuality. He flatly asserts Project 10 is a homosexual "recruiting" center. In a letter pushing SHAPE he accuses an unnamed high school counselor of enticing a high school student into a "sordid affair... and to this day the son is still in the homosexual lifestyle." He is confident enough of the tactic to anticipate raising \$300,000 for SHAPE and the Wyman bill. Once again, gay/lesbian educators are simply "child molesters" determined to leap into bed with their students.

The rhetoric used by Sheldon is gratefully familiar to BANGLE member Lisa Raffel: "It is the same old stuff; that we can influence sexuality; that a lesbian/gay teacher can — just by being supportive — affect their sexuality! It just disgusts me! His stuff is the stuff that keeps me from coming out at my school. It is really painful when it hits you right at home (because) teaching is my thing."

Robert Birle, a teacher and Contra Costa BANGLE organizer, says Rev. Sheldon's campaign is designed to intimidate both school boards and gay/lesbian students and teachers. He says "school districts have not addressed the issue of gay and lesbian students, and as long as (these) students remain invisible (the districts) can continue their inaction."

What is most insidious about campaigns like SHAPE, says Birle, is that gay and lesbian teenagers "are in a very vulnerable situation, and there are numbers of students who find themselves on the streets if they are open (about their sexuality)... they really cannot speak for themselves."

The TVC has not had every trick its way, though. Birle organized a noisy picket outside the Evangelical Free Church in Walnut Creek where the TVC holds its meetings. "We got a very good turnout," says Birle. Over 100 people from progressive groups all over the Bay Area joined the protest and Birle says the protests will continue. "SHAPE is indicating it is planning to do pickets outside school board meetings, and we are intending to counter that wherever it happens. The true agenda of the gay and lesbian community has to be com-

municated rather than the misrepresentation and lies the TVC is putting out."

The goal of BANGLE is to prevent harassment of gay/lesbian youth and present accurate information about gays and lesbians to teenagers. "We want to assure the rights of gay and lesbian students," says Birle. "They (TVC) say any information in the curriculum is somehow advocating homosexuality and they are going to oppose that. So on the one hand you have a call for an open discussion of issues and on the other hand you have censorship."

The Reverend Speaketh

Not surprisingly, that is not how the Rev. Sheldon sees it. He told *Coming Up!*, "You can't drop into a lifestyle and expect special privileges." That is the central tenet of Sheldon's whole thesis about homosexuality — it is a choice not a right.

Rev. Sheldon says he would not object to gays and lesbians donating private money for gay/lesbian programs; but at the same time he cites the Supreme Court decision backing Georgia's sodomy laws and says, "Homosexuality in itself is not a constitutional right." That leaves one wondering about his concern for our privacy rights.

In response to a *Coming Up!* question about whether or not he believed gay and lesbian students deserve the same rights and services as other students, Rev. Sheldon replied, "What you are assuming is that this is a viable alternative and (that) it is like being male or female, black or white or Asian or handicapped — and it is not! You cannot put homosexuality in those kinds of legal categories... We are talking about a person like yourself. You can't use taxpayer dollars to promote your lifestyle."

Uribe says, "The real waste of taxpayers money comes in the form of gay bashing that is disguised as legislation... (and) let us not forget there are a lot of gays and lesbians who pay taxes, a lot of gay and lesbian kids who graduate because of Project 10." Uribe says "they spend thousands of dollars" trying to lobby their way through the legislature compared to the half pay salary she gets from Project 10.

Rev. Sheldon supported the sexual abstinence bill AB 2394, signed into law by

I believe we can STOP PROJECT 10, beginning with our first legal restraint, a bill by Assemblyman Phil Wyman which will outlaw Advocacy of Homosexuality in public education, and followed by additional actions.

However, the costs are going to be astronomical — probably in the neighborhood of \$300,000!

Remember through — we've locked in a battle with one of the most pernicious evils in our society... homosexuality which destroys people, homes, families, individual lives.

It's interesting that in School Board Member Roberta Weintraub's and Project 10 founder, Virginia Uribe's discussion on the KABC Michael Jackson Show, they repeatedly refer to the gay and lesbian youth as "unhappy, depressed, suicidal, lonely, sad," and other similar depiction of hopelessness.

Sadly, Project 10, which they promote, is a program that not only draws teenagers into homosexuality, but locks existing gay and lesbian youth in their hopeless situation.

Yet Weintraub stated for the world to hear, that "the whole school board, superintendent, and the staff stand behind it."

And the California Teacher's Association and the National Education Association want to promote it in the nation!

Governor Deukmejian in September which he says "states that students shall be taught and instructed to honor and (have) respect for a monogamous heterosexual marriage." Uribe also noted SB 2807, which had it passed, would have defunded gay and lesbian education programs, because, according to Uribe, "They said programs like that help spread AIDS. That is their mentality. If you have homosexuals improve their self esteem you are encouraging them to go and spread AIDS."

When asked where such laws leave the rights of gay and lesbian students, Sheldon exclaimed, "What are you talking about, what rights are you talking about?"

Rev. Sheldon contends that "there is no conclusive proof that homosexuality is genetic" and asserts that Kinsey's famous 10 percent figure is highly exaggerated because "the Kinsey study was... biased because the samples were taken from prison." The Rev. Sheldon concludes that homosexuality is an acquired behavior and belief system that it is far less prevalent than thought and, finally, that it is therefore not worthy of "minority status."

If homosexuality is somehow acquired and not widespread it can also be stopped — thus teenagers can be prevented from "becoming" homosexual and thus is born his theory of "Gender Identity Crises." He contends that "a large proportion of young people, say 20 percent, in their... emerging sexuality do have maybe a one- or two-time homosexual experience. When (homosexuals) come along and tell them there is an alternative to their parents, by certain programs, by literature, by posters — when a student sees that — this becomes very confusing."

This is precisely the kind of terminology that Uribe and BANGLE find so disturbing. "People are very uninformed about sexuality," warns Uribe. "A lot of people think you choose to become homosexual. He plays on all the stereotypes, he plays on the myth that you can change your sexuality."

After over a year of fighting with Rev. Sheldon in Los Angeles, Uribe ought to know. "He hates homosexuals. He wants us all to die. All those quasi scientific (theories!) His version of homosexuality has as much to do with human sexuality as astrology does to astronomy. He doesn't have any background in this. He is just a gay basher."

Taking a Chance on the Catholic Church: An Interview with John McNeill



BY THOMAS LEE TAVIS

Father John McNeill looks a lot like the monsignor who tried to teach me how to play marbles when I was in the fourth grade. Unmistakably Irish, he is a burly man, bushy of brow with a grizzled reddish beard and — at age 63 — all of his hair. The kindness about his eyes is offset by the stubborn set of his mouth. This man is clearly a contender — just ask the Catholic church with whom he has been wrestling for nearly two decades.

McNeill was a cofounder in 1972 of New York's chapter of Dignity, an organization of gay Catholics. Even then, the manuscript of his first book, *The Church and the Homosexual*, had been under review by his Jesuit superiors for a year. That process was further complicated when the apprehensive head of the Society of Jesus sent the text on to the Vatican, and the review was to last for three more years.

Granted permission to publish in 1976, the book came out to instant notoriety. Father McNeill's message that homosexual love was not condemned by scripture and deserved the church's support received extensive national and local media attention as well as critical acclaim from his theological peers.

Frustrated, the Vatican withdrew publishing permission and forbade McNeill to speak out or write on homosexuality. McNeill complied, though he continued on as a Jesuit priest actively, if quietly, ministering to gay Catholics.

When Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger, head of The Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith (formerly the Inquisition) issued a proclamation to the world's bishops in 1986 declaring "the inclination itself" toward homosexuality "an objective disorder," McNeill, whose theological convictions had been further

See page 49 for
"Taking a Chance
on God" review

bolstered by his training and practice as a psychotherapist, broke silence to respond. Issuing a press release, he came out, declaring "after prayer and extensive consultation, I have come to the conclusion that as a Jesuit priest, as a moral theologian, as a psychotherapist, as a person who is himself gay, and as a human being, I cannot obey that order in conscience. My ultimate obedience is to the will of God... I must continue my public ministry of speaking and writing."

Soon thereafter McNeill was dismissed from the Society of Jesus for disobedience. Though saddened, he did not let his ostracism sap his energies. Rather, McNeill turned to the sermons and talks he had given at retreats and Dignity masses during his years of official silence and began to collect and edit them for publication.

When I met with him on October 31 in a backroom at San Francisco's Metropolitan Community Church, McNeill was winding up a coast-to-coast book tour promoting the collection of these addresses, just published as *Taking a Chance on God*. Knowing that he'd been maintaining an exhausting interview schedule and that he'd spent the previous day preaching to congregations up and down the California coast, I was concerned that he would be on automatic pilot — at best.

Indeed, he was a little red in the eye and his voice creaked with fatigue, but it soon became apparent that, weary though he might be, John McNeill's mind was present and he was not afraid to speak it.

(Coming Up!) You were silenced by the Catholic church hierarchy as a consequence of *The Church and the Homosexual*, which advocated the church's acceptance of homosexual relationships. Yet your order, the Jesuits, had — after a protracted review process — approved the book for publication. What happened?

(McNeill): Well, it was the General of the Society of Jesus and his advisors that upon four years of review very cautiously gave

permission.

I think their attitude was that the book was so scholarly — so full of Latin and Greek — that it would only be read by other scholars. They had no idea that it would be popular. But as soon as the book came out I was a media success. I was on the Today Show, the Donahue Show... within a few days of publication. Then I traveled across the country... and that very much upset the American Bishops... [some of whom] accused me of misrepresenting the church's position on homosexuality and creating the impression that the church had changed or was about to change its teaching.

Just recently the Vatican has moved to silence another theologian, a Dominican, Matthew Fox, for a year because of his unorthodox views and his refusal to fire Starhawk, a local witch teaching on the staff of his Institute in Culture and Creative Spirituality in Oakland —

He has not been silenced for a year; he has been silenced, period. He has agreed to go along with it for a year while he thinks through what his position is going to be, but as far as Rome is concerned that silence is indefinite.

But his order has not moved to expel him. You, however — upon breaking your 10-year imposed silence to object to Cardinal Ratzinger's ban on ministry to homosexuals — were dismissed from the Jesuits. Does this mean that you are no longer a priest?

Yes, I'm still a priest — I can still say mass. But to legally say mass, you have to be accepted by a Bishop into the diocese and I'm not accepted in any diocese, so, although I do say mass privately —

You could, say, celebrate mass in my home? Yes, or for a small group of people. I couldn't go into a parish church and say mass without permission.

Could you administer any sacrament — baptism, confession, last rites...?

I could, they would be licit but illegal.

Could you explain that?

They would be legitimate sacraments — but I would supposedly be violating Canon Law. In an emergency I could administer the sacraments. Say, if someone were dying.

To forbid you the practice you were devoted to for nearly 40 years seems cruel.

Well, it is a stiff punishment, but, to be honest with you, to be able to speak out is even more important to me right now. So I feel more liberated than punished, because I can publish and I can talk publicly...

Both as a gay man and a priest —

Yes, so there's a tremendous freedom that comes out of all this. And I think there's a sort of sacramental value in being able to bring a healing message to my gay brothers and sisters. I think — and I say this without any kind of pride — that God's using me very effectively.

All this uproar seems ironic to say the least. I mean, there's this hidden church, this huge number of gay clergy. Do you think maybe that feeds the church's homophobia?

I've often thought that that could be the case. Certainly we in the gay community are aware that our closeted brothers and sisters are frequently our worst enemies in politics, in general. And so I think that sometimes happens in the clergy. They have to denounce us because they're afraid of being torn out of the closet themselves somehow. So, they're the first to attack.

Why do you think so many gay people are attracted to a religious life?

I think gay people are attracted to the priesthood and the religious life for very positive reasons. I think gay people are more open to spiritual values than straights in general and may enter the church not just to hide, but to do the work of God, to work for justice, to do works of compassion and to be a healing influence and bring the healing message of God's love to people — especially the sick and the dying.

I like this, you make gayness sound like a talent.

Most of the best priests I've ever met, who were pastorally really with it and doing enormous good were gay.

But how do you reconcile a priest's vow of celibacy with active gayness or any active sexuality for that matter?

God calls a lot of people to the priesthood, and they are excellent priests, and she doesn't give them the grace to be chaste. And so, if they are sexually involved with someone and there is a love relationship, and they are doing marvelous work as a priest, I don't see that God is calling them out of the priesthood... If you are a better priest when you are in a relationship than when you are not in one then God is saying, "Be a good priest and cultivate a good relationship." Of course, if it's ever uncovered, you're tossed out on your ear.

On the other hand, I have run across other priests, who, once they are in a relationship, it's obvious that the priesthood was just a place to hide and they have no interest in it or its values and they'd much rather be a ribbon clerk at Woolworth's than a priest.

Certainly it can be a closet, and a closet that damages other people since, as a priest, you're standing there as the representative of a homophobic church. That mixed message seems hard to justify.

That's become, increasingly, a terrible tension. Especially now when the church is not demonstrating any pastoral compassion but just laying the law down, saying that no one can be in a gay relationship or you're heading for hell. As a consequence, I'm aware of hundreds of first-rate gay priests who have left the priesthood recently. Many of them have moved into the gay community and are doing their ministry within the framework of gay institutions, such as the Gay Men's Health Clinic in New York or SAGE... This is the true meaning of Matthew 25: "I was hungry and you fed

me."

Isn't this an example of the thrust of liberation theology which invites lower echelon clergy and lay people to read, interpret and act upon the bible for themselves?

It's a result not just of liberation theology but of Vatican II. Vatican II gave the bible back to the Catholic church.

But it seems like this Pope's administration is trying to dismantle Vatican II.

Well, they're swimming against the tide. I'm inclined entirely to agree with Matthew Fox that they're afraid of the future because they know they're not part of it. I think we're going to see Vatican III and an elimination of the Vatican bureaucracy, or at least an enormous curtailment of it.

Something like what's happening with the Episcopalians — with increasing local autonomy?

Yes. And I see the national councils of Bishops spearheading this independence. Why

"God calls a lot of people to the priesthood and they are excellent priests, and she doesn't give them the grace to be chaste.... If you are a better priest when you are in a relationship than when you are not in one, then God is saying 'be a good priest and cultivate a good relationship.' Of course, if it's ever uncovered, you're tossed out on your ear."

just yesterday the New York Times reported that the U.S. Council of Bishops sent a letter denying their authority back to Cardinal Ratzinger, saying that it was totally inadequate, and woeful theology and entirely unacceptable and they demanded that it be rewritten. This is the first time I've heard them stand up to Rome in a public way.

Didn't this papal administration try to bring the Jesuits to heel as well?

Yes. A very conservative Jesuit was picked to replace the head of our order, the General, whereas we usually elect our General. But the Pope suspended our power of election and put in his own man to run the society for a number of years. And then, when he thought he had it back under control, he allowed us the right to elect our own leader once again.

So it's really an exciting time in the Catholic church, where there are any number of power plays and people are standing up to Rome and just saying "no," saying — as you have — "this is against the spirit of God."

Yes, exactly. So the church is in turmoil, very deep turmoil and going through a difficult period. Now, I have great love for the church and think the world needs the church right now. Look at the U.S. Bishops' letters on nuclear war, extending economic progress to the poor and church participation of women. Some powerful elements of the church are very persuasive and progressive.

Did the bishops recommend full participation, i.e. ordination, of women?

They said it should still be open to debate, whereas the Pope continues to try and declare it a closed question. The American Bishops are democratic, they consult and invite criticism. The Vatican always does things top down. Like when the Pope came to the U.S. and gave the Bishops a finger-wagging scolding for being too compassionate and not applying the law enough.

Can we talk about compassion? From my Buddhist instruction and the social message of the gospels, compassion would seem to me to be the fundamental necessity of any true religious feeling.

Absolutely. Just as Christ emptied himself out and entered into human suffering... at the heart of all true religion is the understanding that true religion is to be found in compassion. We are judged on the basis of our compassion for one another, not whether or not we went to church on Sunday — though maybe going to church helps you to be compassionate. But if it doesn't, it's irrelevant to salvation.

This brings up a common complaint of those of us raised Catholic: it always seemed like an accounting system — go to confession, say this 33 times, fast for 12 hours... and you'll go to heaven. There wasn't much emphasis really on loving your neighbor. In fact, it often seemed like you had to sin to keep the church in business.

You're talking about what I call pathological religion — that's service of a God of fear, the idea that all these magical rites will give you some sort of security. This has absolutely nothing to do with the central message of the gospels where we are told again and again to be compassionate — and of course, compassion extends to the stranger. In fact, the great virtue throughout the Old and New Testament is hospitality to the stranger.

This ties in with your interpretation of the Sodom and Gomorrah story doesn't it?

Yes, Ezekiel is best on the sin of sodomy. He says, "This was the sin of Sodom and Gomorrah: they lived a life of pride and plenty and thoughtless ease and neglected the poor..." Jesus confirms this in Luke 10:10 when he says to his apostles, "Go out and preach in all the towns and villages, and if anyone is inhospitable to you, shake the sand from your sandals — it will be worse for that town than it was for Sodom and Gomorrah..." So, you see, Jesus clearly thought that inhospitality to the stranger was the sin of Sodom and Gomorrah.

So where does the idea that homosexuality is a sin come from?

All through the Old and New Testament there was never any association with homosexuality; that came with later commentators. Though there is a sexual theme to the story, it has to do with the pagan practice of sexual worship. They had sacred prostitutes at the temples and if you had sex with a sacred prostitute you supposedly gave pleasure to the Gods who would bless you with fertility in return. Now this was a form of worship that the prophets were very much against.

So the people of Sodom and Gomorrah were punished both for being inhospitable and trying to have sex with angels?

Well, for sexual worship and inhospitality. In contrast, on their way to the two cities, the angels pass by Abraham's tent. He's an old man and he's childless, and he runs out and invites them in and feeds them and washes them and is extremely hospitable. And therefore they bless him, and his wife Sarah becomes fertile and is going to have a child.

We've talked about religion based on fear. How about dogma based on ignorance? You make the point in your first book that until the 17th century it was believed that the semen was in and of itself complete. They had no knowledge of the ovum and considered a woman's contribution to function as an incubator. How do you think this influenced the insistent procreative emphasis on condoned sexual activity?

ual activity?

Yes, spilling semen was considered always and necessarily a mortal sin because it would be the equivalent of abortion. And that would be part of the thinking as to why every homosexual act was by its nature sinful.

Because it was wasteful?

Yes. And eunuchs, those who did not produce offspring for any reason — psychological, physical or by choice — were likewise excluded from the kingdom of God in the Old Testament. Whereas, Isaiah says that after the messiah comes the eunuch will have a special place in the house of the Lord. And then in the Acts... a black eunuch who rides up reading Isaiah receives baptism. The symbolism of this is that anyone who is sexually different has a right to be in the New Testament community. They have a right to full

membership — you don't have to be a Jewish-born heterosexual.

In your examination of these bible passages you are practicing discernment, that is, a close and critical reviewing of the scripture in the effort to determine how it speaks to you and your experience. The practice is central to justifying the activism of liberation theologians. Do you think this rereading ought to be extended to those early Christian writings which were excluded from the New Testament — the non-synoptic or gnostic gospels for instance?

Well, I think they are probably helpful in understanding the spirit of the age in which the gospels were written and help to throw light back on the accepted texts, but I'm Catholic enough to accept the fact that the accepted texts are the approved revelation of God, while

(continued on page 52)



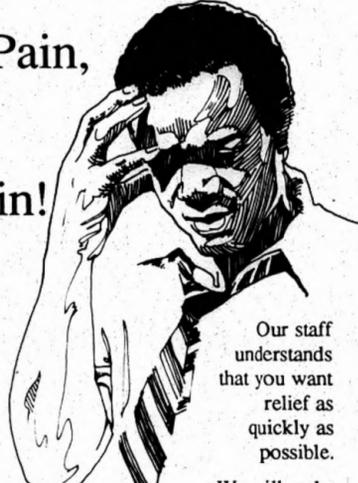
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The End of an Era and a Keynote for Reconstruction

BY TIM KINGSTON

It wasn't quite champagne popping time at 525 Howard Street, Shanti Project's head office, but a distinctly upbeat mood was in the air on November 8, the day the Health Commission voted to approve full city funding worth over \$1.2 million to Shanti through July. "I think people are beginning to see Shanti has pulled itself together," declared Doug Holloway, chair of Shanti's Internal Review Committee. "They understand that the directors are in fact exercising their proper roles of oversight."

Holloway wanted a "clear message" to reassure donors, volunteers and the community of Shanti's credibility, and the Health Commission delivered: commissioner after commissioner expressed firm support for Shanti as they approved city funding for the Project. Health Commission Chair John Blumline commended "the entire Shanti board for the fast and appropriate action they took."

Blumline said the commission never had any doubt of the importance and the need for Shanti, but in an allusion to the controversy surrounding the former executive director, Jim Geary, stated that it was the internal management of the agency that worried them. Now, he said, "those problems have not only been addressed but many of them have already been stopped." The only note of caution was sounded by Commissioner Richard Sanchez who, while congratulating the board of directors for moving "in a decisive way," also warned, "I would not like to see the situation deteriorate the way it did a few months ago. I hope there will be new people on your board...that will help tremendously."

The relaxed mood was in sharp contrast to the distinctly tense atmosphere prevailing at the September Health Commission meeting. At that time Shanti was reluctantly granted six months funding and told to appear before the commission in January 1989, for further hearings on whether the city would continue funding the project. Geary, still officially in charge at the time, was never mentioned by the commission, but the board's inability to act on his troubled tenure seemed to be the unspoken reason for the withholding of funding.

When questioned if Geary's departure from Shanti on October 3 had anything to do with the Commission's *volte face* on funding, Holloway replied coyly, "I would have to stop and weigh that for a second, but I would say yes... his voluntary removal did in fact help us a great deal."

Some have criticized the Project for "cutting a deal" to get rid of Geary. Holloway takes issue with the charges, and stated forcefully, "My response to that is...it currently takes about three years for a wrongful termination suit to come to trial. That would put our ability to hire a new executive director at risk. It would have the agency in constant turmoil for three more years." Holloway pointedly notes that attorneys' fees for the contest would be likely to total a minimum of \$200,000 — "quite frankly, the \$75,000 settlement spread over two years is really not bad at all."

Rebuilding and Rehabilitation

"This is exciting. Nobody quite knows what this organization will look like. We haven't yet brought it into focus," says Tim Teeter, Shanti Personnel Manager. He was echoing the optimism expressed by other staff members con-

tacted by *Coming Up!* The combination of Geary's retirement and a far-reaching series of internal reforms have had a clear impact on the morale of staff and volunteers at the Project.

The reforms include structural changes such as the overhaul of personnel policies, greater involvement of staff in management decision-making, a gradual reconstitution of the Board of Directors, and the hiring of a new Executive Director.

But what will be of equal importance in the long haul to the success of the Project is the way Shanti staff reacts to the reforms. "There is more coordination here," explains Danny Castelow, Practical Support Coordinator. He says in the "old Shanti," staff would all try and get along and be friends; now, "they have realized we all don't have to like each other, we all don't have to get along but what we need to do is bring our talents to coordinate... to make Shanti work."

"One of the first things is that there is a lot more freedom to speak one's mind," explains Brian Smith, Volunteer Coordinator. There is "a lot more willingness at the managerial level to hear feedback from staff, a lot more openness of management to staff; a sense...of everybody in the agency working together that feels new. On the downside, there is the fear about finances and that can't but help affect morale."

Perhaps the clearest sign of the new mood at Shanti comes from Bev Flynn, Assistant Financial Director, who declared, "My perceptions of various staff people and managers has made a complete 180 turn." She now realizes that many of the staff's talents and skills were stifled rather than encouraged by the prior conditions; jobs were "filled with a tremendous amount of restrictions... (that) I never even knew were there."

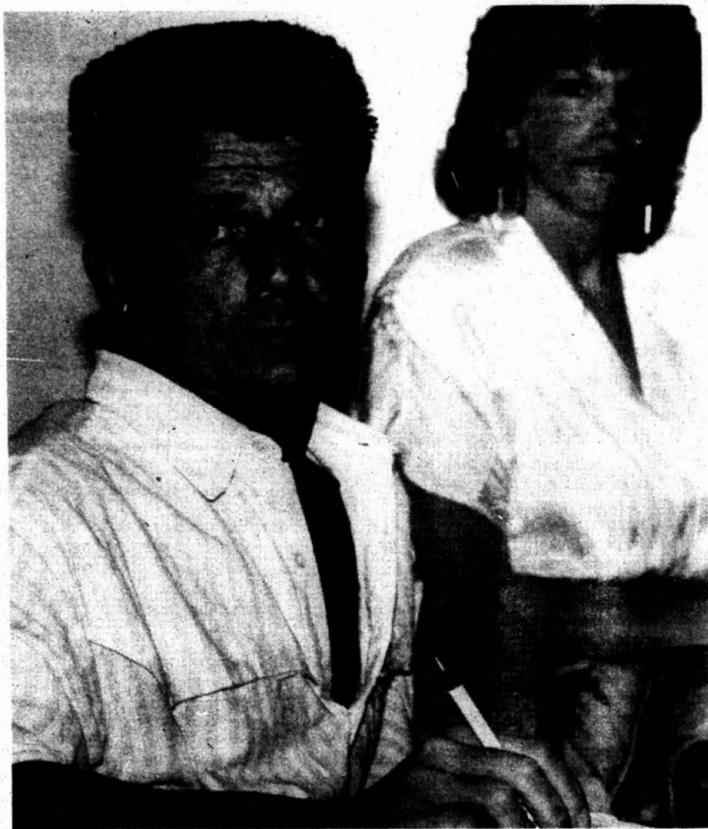
Lines of command within Shanti have been dramatically rearranged and the new executive director will have clearly defined limits to his/her power. Instead of all information and decisions being funneled through that office, staff and managers in the new Shanti are now being given both the authority and responsibility for running their programs. Teeter says, "The board has made it very clear to the managers — You are in charge of your programs."

"It seems that decisions get made a lot faster now," comments Castelow. He says the Practical Support staff now brainstorm for new ideas and put them into effect immediately. "If Jim had still been here we would have had to submit all those changes to him."

The Project has recruited a volunteer Task Force that is examining personnel policies and their effectiveness, and offering suggestions for reform as well as examining job descriptions and hiring practices. The Task Force will operate under the direction of a senior personnel operative from Wells Fargo Bank. Other members of the Task Force include a former director of an east bay battered women's shelter, and ex-planned parenthood employees — all with extensive hands-on experience in non profits.

Shanti's Assistant Director, Chris Sandoval, and Teeter are planning workshops for managers about the basics of running an organization including training in essential employment law, budgeting, time management, performance planning, employee relations, and supervision.

A People of Color Advisory Committee has been created to do outreach and education



Jim Geary has left Shanti, and a changing staff and board begin to reconstruct the agency. Now, more than ever, Shanti needs our community's support. Volunteer, send them a holiday donation.

both within and outside the project. Kathy Vaquilar who is also on the Women's Advisory Committee noted, "just being part of (these) two committees helps me deal with issues that Shanti has been criticized for not dealing with."

The Personnel Committee, formerly criticized for allowing itself to be manipulated by Geary, has been completely reorganized and is now chaired by Gayling Gee, with Ric Andrews, Doug Holloway and Dan Johnson. The committee will report directly to the Board of Directors.

Shanti is instituting a new affirmative action policy for personnel hiring but, as Teeter wryly states, that is on hold at the moment "because there is a hiring freeze at Shanti due to the critical nature of our funding."

Blueprints for the Future

For many people, however, the most pressing issues concern the vacant executive director's position, and what is to be done about the board of directors who many feel share the responsibility for Shanti's current difficulties.

"We are on a very fast track in terms of searching (for a new director). We have formed a community group to give us their input," reports George Tuttle, chair of the Search Committee. Shanti has engaged a nationally known headhunter firm to find candidates which will then be evaluated with the help of the community advisory group.

Responding to questions about the board's future, Tuttle stated that up to a third of the old board would be leaving in the next four months, but he was reluctant to name any names.

Despite the optimism, the future of the Project is by no means assured. First and foremost, Shanti needs to restore the confidence of two groups that are the life and soul of the project — volunteers and donors. "We would like to see a vast increase (in donations)" says Holloway, "but we feel like we are going to have to earn it."

While Holloway argues Shanti's prospects are improving as a result of concerted austerity measures, and a recent restoration of donor generosity, one Shanti staffer voiced concern that clients are staying away from Shanti, and will continue to do so until the center is clearly and publicly stabilized.

Shanti's non-city revenue from donations and other sources plummeted by nearly 45 percent in September 1988 compared to the same period last year, and total non-city revenue is down \$195,755 compared to that budgeted for this year. The situation is equally dire in the practical and emotional support training sessions. Attendance this year compared to last year is down by almost 50 percent. The combination made the early decision by the Health Commission imperative.

End of an Era

The repercussions of Geary's regime still echo around the halls of 525 Howard Street two months after his "voluntary" resignation. "My personal response is one of great relief and great sadness," explains Sandoval.

"Jim Geary accomplished many magnificent things," he says. He lauds Geary for pioneering the emotional support model, created by Jim Garfield, MD, in the early '70s, and for nurturing Shanti to its pre-eminent position among San Francisco's AIDS services programs. Sandoval stresses, however, that no agency or person "who conducts good work in the name of PWAs can...use that as an excuse to violate the law, good business ethics or simple human moral values."

Teeter says talking about the crises that developed is like "going on fast forward the past eight months; it's like all this really ugly... stuff just comes up and it makes me realize how far we have come since then; the suspicions, the ugliness, the turf staking."

Reaction to Geary's departure is, however, by no means unanimous. Jana Rickerson, Emotional Support coordinator, still feels

(continued on next page)

Women & Cancer: Breaking the Isolation of the Epidemic

BY ROSE APPLEMAN

"Cancer has become 'the acceptable epidemic'; we suffer cancer individually, get it and live with it and die from it," said Jackie Winnow of the Women's Cancer Resource Center. But that's beginning to change. The forum on "Women and Cancer" by the Resource Center and the Lesbian Health Organizing Committee took a firm step towards breaking the individualization and isolation that covers the experience of living with cancer and the sense of inevitability about the epidemic.

The November 20 event grew logically out of the two groups' work. Both started about two years ago, the Resource Center to fill the void in information and support for women with cancer, the Organizing Committee to call city Health Department attention to specific lesbian health concerns. The forum built on the experience of two women who have cancer, Jackie Winnow and Joanne Garrett, and two who deal with it as health care workers, Lyssa Friedman, a nurse in a private oncology practice, and Saly Savitz, an acupuncturist and homeopath; Teya Schaffer of the Resource Center moderated. The directness and brevity of the presentations encouraged the fifty-some women in attendance to come forward with their own stories, information and concerns; the audience as well as the panel became part of developing our collective understanding. In three intense hours we just scratched the surface, raised dozens of questions and issues. We got a glimpse of the sticky web of cancer politics and the harshness of personal challenges: the mind boggled, the heart raged, the soul was amazed.

"Cancer has been here for a long time," Schaffer commented, "but at first it hit the older generation. Society had a headset that it's no big deal when you're 70 and get cancer, because everybody dies anyway. Now we're seeing it at a younger age. It's the numbers of women getting cancer that brings us here: when we get squeezed up against the wall is when we cry out the pain."

One woman in three now stands a chance of getting cancer, compared with one in ten in 1950; rates are higher for women of color. More people die of cancer than anything except heart disease, 127 per day just in California.

"Twelve times the number of people who've died of AIDS die of cancer each year, yet the

epidemic is ignored or wrapped in psychobabble. Nobody, nobody, not the victims, not the cancer establishment, not the pharmaceutical or chemical industry or the medical profession ever asks 'Why is this occurring?'...It's horrendous that something as cataclysmic as cancer is totally unquestioned," said Judith Brady, who is compiling an anthology on women and cancer.

Jackie Winnow likened "current psychobabble about emotional or spiritual roots of cancer" to "the Middle Ages — anything they didn't understand, couldn't cure was the person's own fault. This individualizing takes the onus off what may be the real causes — [the implication is that] it has nothing to do with your genes, or living downwind from a nuclear plant, or if you eat pesticides in your food..."

Failure to look systematically for causes is reflected in research which is done and then ignored. A few provocative facts came to light in the discussion. China sends multidisciplinary teams of technical and medical people to investigate areas where cancer clusters occur. Current cancer research in the U.S. is mostly done in laboratories on the growth and treatment of particular cancers. Before World War II, much of the research on treatment focused on nutrition; after the war and the development of chemical weapons, the emphasis shifted to chemotherapy. Coincidentally (?) many board members of major cancer institutions — the American Cancer Society, the Sloan-Kettering Institute, etc. — were also chemical company executives.

The institutional sexism and narrow-mindedness of the medical industry are the harsh political realities women encounter when they seek treatment.

Both Joanne Garrett and Jackie Winnow had to fight with their doctors to have their complaints taken seriously and to even get a diagnosis. Garrett has multiple myeloma, a blood cell cancer. At first, she said, "They told me I had a chronic back problem, muscle strain. When massage therapy, meditation and medication didn't help, I went back to my HMO and had to fight to see a specialist. When they finally did x-rays, even I could see the tumor, the space in my back that wasn't there..." Winnow went to different doctors for three years about pains in her breasts; they all kept telling her she had fiber-cystic breasts.

Women in the audience recounted similar horrors: one's mother was simply told by her doctor, "We're going to put you to sleep and give you a mammogram. If it's OK, you'll just

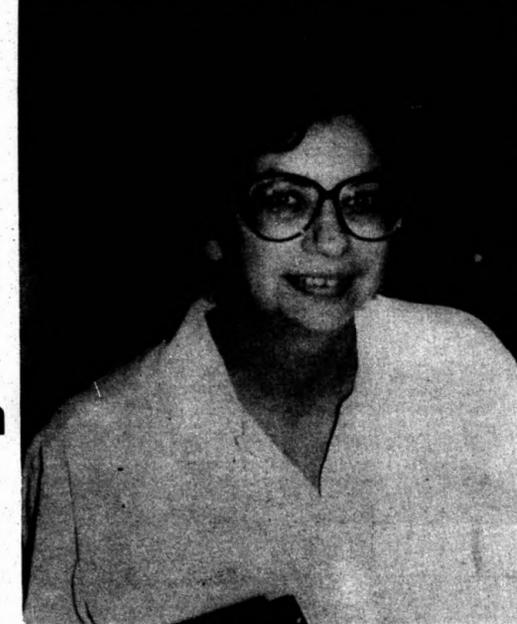
wake up, if not we'll give you a mastectomy." Then there was the friend's mother, lively and active in her 70s, who inexplicably lost 50 pounds and suffered constant exhaustion. For a year, her doctor told her she was depressed — till an x-ray showed her body riddled with cancer.

Women wanting something beyond the "if it's broken, fix it" model of care also have to tangle with Western medicine's monopoly grip. Sally Savitz is a certified acupuncturist, yet notes that "to the best of my knowledge, it is illegal for anyone but an oncologist to treat cancer." In one instance, she was not allowed to go to a hospital to continue treatments which were helping a patient handle side effects of chemotherapy. Her capacities as a practitioner and women's options for care are both restricted by unavailability of information on alternatives — tools that Savitz calls "complementary medicine" and U.S. doctors warn against as "quackery."

The multiple obstacles of gathering information and resources pile on to pre-existing life conditions. Winnow elaborated: "Women with cancer are poor. They have no money. Many don't have a job; if they are fortunate enough to have a job, they have no health insurance. There are no food programs, no support programs for women with cancer." The less access they start with, the harder it is, especially given the cost of health care. Just getting a second opinion on treatment for breast cancer cost one woman \$600.

Because society offers no support systems, we must make them for ourselves. Lyssa Friedman stressed that "We must advocate for ourselves. When you go to the doctor, it's very important to bring someone with you, to bring your partner, bring a friend... to write down your questions, bring a tape recorder, to not be afraid to challenge the physician, to call back, to get a second opinion." Lesbians face a particular difficulty, she continued, because although "AIDS has made providers more used to gay men, their lovers and friends, that change doesn't necessarily translate to lesbians, because sexism still exists in homophobia."

Over and over the question of support came up as women in the forum talked about facing a fatal disease as a fact of life. Without melodrama, but with voices catching with the difficulty, they talked about what helped them, about "the strength it takes to do what we have to do to survive, to live our lives — so many decisions, so many arrangements, so many emotions to go through."



Jackie Winnow, founder of the Women's Cancer Resource Center

They expressed the impatience they felt at the interruption of their lives, and the fear that depression and worry itself would block their healing. On this point, Friedman commented that "You can have a positive outlook this morning and be scared to death this afternoon; that's part of living with cancer.... 'Positive attitude' is misused a lot: it has to do with accepting where we're at. One of the kindest things we can do for ourselves is accept where we are and be able to take what we can from that."

On a lighter note, the conversation turned to how one responds to well-meaning but bumbling sorts who say things to a person with cancer like "Sometimes when I feel really unhappy I think of you." (One popular comeback was "Thanks, yes, when I look at you I'm happy I'm me.")

Many women talked about the ways in which facing cancer makes you face yourself. Joanne Garrett began her presentation by quoting Audre Lourde: "...for some women [a cancer diagnosis] brings a warrior's painstaking examination of yet another weapon, unwanted, but useful..." Garrett continued, "I had to examine what kinds of things would make life on the whole better for me. Personal growth didn't have to do with cancer but with taking care of myself. Cancer was the kick in the ass, I would rather not have had it thank you very much... When I got my diagnosis, it scared me; I thought it was a death sentence. Actually it was a life sentence, to get out and live my life to its fullest."

The Women's Cancer Resource Center is dedicated to empowerment, independence and support for women with cancer. It provides information and referral, puts women with cancer in touch with each other, offers speakers and a drop-in support group. An ongoing group for lesbian and bisexual women with cancer will be starting in January. The Center is a women's organization controlled by women, a unique effort in need of support. For more information call (415) 547-6947 or write P.O. Box 11235, Oakland, CA 94611.

Shanti....

(continued from previous page)

"real sad" over Geary's departure. "I felt in a lot of ways he got railroaded. I did not have the experience with him that a lot of people said they had." Rickerson suspects there is "a lot of grief that people are not talking about down here."

Sandoval says differing responses to Geary's departure can in part be explained by looking at who was closest to "the shadow of the throne." He says those nearest to Geary saw most clearly how he operated. They had a different response and experience with Geary to that of the managers, who in turn had a feeling different feeling from that of other staff and volunteers, "so there were all sorts of dominos... (with) different shapes."

The direction the new Shanti takes is an issue of concern for some staff like Rickerson who worry whether or not the new Shanti will become too "corporate-like" in nature; "that would be my greatest fear come true. Time clocks, dress code, potential union coming in, everything is automated, everything is about quality control. Doing more in less time more efficiently without feeling and support." She is concerned that in the process of reform Shanti could lose its heart, and "without the heart there is no project."

When Geary first left, Rickerson's concerns were shared by many staffers. Such fears have abated, and now other staffers take issue with the idea of a corporatized Shanti. "I disagree with what Jana said," says Bloom. "I'd love to see more quality control; I would love to see us do a better job with the resources we have."

More than anything else there is a sense that the staff and management at Shanti want to get over it, they want to work for the clients, they want to ensure the success of the project. "It's a very slow building process," explained Teeter. "There are no miracles about making and renewing Shanti, there is only a lot of very hard work, every day and I think what is important to recognize is that the people who do this hard work are very tired people."

INSIDE OPERATION RESCUE



Anti-abortionists & police in super slowmotion arrest.

Photo by Rick Gerhart

BY CHRISTINA SMITH

Shortly after 6 a.m., on October 29, in almost total darkness, little groups of people began to gather in the parking lot of the Family Planning Alternatives Clinic (FPA). Then they attacked, brutally shoving and kicking their way through the line of clinic defenders until they reached the door.

The immediate struggle between the anti-abortion Operation Rescue (OR) and members of Bay Area Coalition Against Operation Rescue (BACAOR) was brief. Prepared to block the door at all costs and prevent clients from entering, the anti-abortionists used the necessary violence.

When the sound of slamming car doors signalled the arrival of the OR people, 30 pro-choice defenders from a dispersed pool of over 150 were on hand. OR marshals pushed more and more people into the fray that ensued as the swarm of attackers advanced on the outnumbered defenders. Two police officers stood by and did nothing.

Some women who were too shocked to obey the marshals' orders stood back and watched in horrified silence. As the clinic defenders lost the fight and silence returned, a nun turned to the women around her and said, "Let's sing." Horrified young church-goers began, "Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world..."

On October 28, the night before the demonstration, over 400 fundamentalist Christians met at Home Church in Campbell to hold a rally, pray for fetuses, and rehearse strategy for blockading a clinic where abortions are done. The church, part of an open air mall facing a parking lot, used to be a Safeway.

Though this reporter was raised a Methodist, she felt like a debutante at boot camp surrounded by all those fundamentalists. Three Sundays at an evangelical church in Fremont to establish my credentials as an ardent anti-abortionist had not prepared me for the fervor with which these folks prayed for embryos.

OR, begun by Randall Terry in 1986, uses the civil rights legacy of civil disobedience to grab media attention and press its case with legislators. Far from being a truly open and all-encompassing movement to establish rights, the organization is strictly hierarchical and demands absolute obedience of its members.

"Operation Rescue's manipulation of language resembles the way Nazis used degrading terms for Jews to make them seem less human and therefore easier to abuse." —BACAOR member Kass McMahon

Although many members of the organization genuinely oppose abortion, the leadership seems to be treating it as one item on a conservative agenda that includes control of women, discrimination against gays, and acceptance of AIDS as God's punishment. In direct contrast to the warmth of its members, OR's leaders are very, very suspicious.

At the October 28 rally, I passed two checkpoints after naming my church, my pastor and my pro-life area leader. I was blessed, given a Psalter and admitted into the sanctuary. After a lengthy session of group prayer (which included prayers for the misguided pro-choice demonstrators outside the church) the overhead projector came on and the strategy lesson began.

Randall Terry's original blockade tactics called for a semi-circle of bodies around a clinic door; "rescuers" learned that police would begin pulling them out from along the wall, driving a wedge to the door so that clients could get in. The new strategy was dubbed the "Yarmulke formation" and required more bodies along the wall. (The illustration, drawn as if from above, with door, semi-circle, and dots to represent police surrounding it, looked very much like a drawing of how a diaphragm works. Birth control, indeed.)

Then the "marshals" came up on stage, all 30 of them male. They enacted the "night of the living dead walk" where "rescuers" who are pulled away from the group slowly move back to it while the police are not looking. The marshals emphasized repeatedly that "rescuers" should not challenge the police, but always act passive and move slowly back toward the group. When some people asked questions, marshals told them, "You don't need to know that."

Byron Pipkin, introduced as a candidate for the Santa Clara School Board who would bring prayer back into the schools, spoke in support of OR. Although not announced at

the rally, Pipkin is also a lieutenant with the Sunnyvale Police Department.

A 25-year-old woman representing Women Exploited By Abortion (WEBA), told of having an abortion at 16 and then waking up to the Lord — and to guilt — when she became pregnant again at 20. Women who feel good about their abortions are women who are still in denial, she said. As part of her grief therapy she wrote a letter to her aborted fetus which began, "Dear Baby" and ended, "Love, Mommy." Many members of the congregation sobbed openly while she read the letter.

The church leaders closed by reminding us that we were all guilty before God of having allowed abortion to continue for the last fifteen years, so we must not be righteous. While stirring emotionalism the marshals also defused potential confrontation with police by stressing obedience to church leaders. After one final prayer we were dismissed, with instructions to meet back at Home Church or King's Way Foursquare Church in San Mateo the following morning.

The Rescue

And so we gathered that morning. Women stood quietly talking to other women, men hugged each other in greeting. When the call went out for volunteer drivers, only men stepped forward. When the caravan to the clinic began, only the marshals knew where we were going. If the rest of us got lost, it would be a small price to pay for getting to the clinic before the pro-choice defenders did.

Passengers in the lead car had been chosen prior to that morning and were all large and male. Breaking through the clinic defense line hadn't been discussed at the rally but the attack was clearly choreographed; apparently that had been worked out at the leadership's Monday night meetings. Their tactics included kicking at the backs of knees and throwing themselves backwards at clinic defenders while

groaning like ninja warriors.

"It was like night of the living dead, the way they came at us," said Kass McMahon, a member of Radical Women and BACAOR. "It was a donnybrook." Shortly after the "rescuers" had broken through the line of defense, an anti-abortionist tried to persuade a policeman to arrest McMahon for assault. The officer pulled her out of the crowd and said, "Get your group and move." About 20 minutes after the clinic defenders had been overwhelmed they were allowed to inch their way out.

As the sun came up we "third column" protestors, those of us who were not willing to be arrested, were told to sit with the other rescuers until the police arrived. The effect for TV cameras was of a much larger group willing to risk arrest.

The 30 clinic defenders at FPA were only a portion of the pro-choice force prepared for OR that morning. Others were at other clinics BACAOR thought might be hit that morning, and about 75 were waiting at the Ashby BART station in Berkeley. When OR arrived at the clinic and a BACAOR member went to a public phone to call reinforcements, "rescuers" immediately surrounded the booth.

Although the police station was directly across the parking lot from the clinic, the tactical squad did not come marching over until 9:00 a.m. Officers immediately lined up between OR and BACAOR forces, facing the counterprotestors.

Although clinic staff were already inside when OR arrived, clients were not. Before police arrived, one young client who drove up and got out of her car was immediately surrounded by "sidewalk counselors" showing her photos of dismembered fetuses and saying, "Go away from these killing fields." Surrounded and overwhelmed, she began to cry. Pro-choice clinic defenders tried to create an open zone between her and the sidewalk counselors, and shortly afterwards she left for another clinic.

A marshal came from behind the building and said another "young gal" who had planned to get an abortion was now vacillating; he directed us to break up into small prayer groups and implore heaven for that baby's survival. He also ordered us to pray that the hateful, misguided "pro-aborts" would be silenced.

The term "pro-aborts" is but one example

of the way OR uses language to support their side of the abortion issue. One banner at the demonstration read, "Fighting to save pre-born children." Clinics are called "abortion mills" or "abortuaries." People who perform abortions are called murderers.

The 25 million abortions done legally during the past 15 years rivals a "genocide" unknown in history, they claim, although they assert many similarities between abortion and the holocaust. OR material even shows photos of mass graves during WWII alongside photos of a barrel filled with late-term aborted fetuses.

BACAOR member Kass McMahon says OR's manipulation of language resembles the way Nazis used degrading terms for Jews to make them seem "less human" and therefore easier to abuse.

The organization is also ultra-careful about the image they present to the media. The women who collected identity cards from those arrested, the woman from WEBA who had spoken at the rally, and a press liaison were the only females who acted as something more than a warm body for OR that day. All three were blonde; all three wore pink.

At the height of the protest, around 10 a.m., the parking lot was jammed with "rescuers," members of BACAOR, police, reporters and camera operators. About 300 pro-choice demonstrators sang, chanted, and yelled at "rescuers." Ladies Against Women sang about the sacredness of each sperm, which greatly amused the police and bemused the Christians.

Each police bus, with a capacity of 44, took about an hour to fill. Anti-abortionists were allowed to walk ever-so-slowly to the bus, where they handed their identity cards to the woman in pink and were photographed by police.

When members of BACAOR became exasperated with the slow escort to the police van, one woman yelled, "Are you arresting him or marrying him?" and the group began humming the wedding march. Police officers smirked.

At 1:30 the clinic closed; 251 rescuers had been arrested and over 100 more still blocked its four doors. Police left off arresting people and OR marshals declared a victory because no abortions were done at the clinic that day.

Diana Workman, incoming director of the FPA clinic, said after the demonstration that they had expected they would soon be targeted by OR. "FPA had been picketed by anti-abortionists for years, so clearly they knew we were here. Also, they never hit the same community twice, they don't like to be drawn up on second and third time arrests because it gets worse for them legally. The odds were starting to get more likely. We're right across the street from the police station, so they'd simply be able to walk back. It was convenient for them. So it was all those things plus the fact we were doing abortions that day."

When it became clear that police would not be opening a corridor to get clients into the clinic, staffers began calling women with appointments. Of the sixteen women scheduled to get abortions that day, 11 were able to keep the appointment at another clinic, two were rescheduled, and three could not be reached. "One left a bogus name and phone number, so we're almost sure she was a plant," Workman said. Someone from OR probably came in for an appointment before the demonstration, Workman said, because "rescuers" immediately knew which doors to block even though some are never used and do not appear to lead to the clinic.

Protesting the Police

The week after the demonstration, letters and phone calls critical of the police handling of the arrests began to pour into the Sunnyvale Police Department and the mayor's office. Lawyer Ann Menasche and other members of Lesbian Uprising (LU) sent a letter of protest to Sunnyvale mayor Larry Stone and Chief of Police Jess Barba. LU also developed a press rescuers to hide their 3x5 identity cards and

Amelia's Celebrates Ten years While Ollie's Closes Its Doors

BY CHRISTINE SMITH

Amelia's turned ten years old last month and gave itself a birthday party that drew over 600 women, while on the other side of the bay and just shy of its own tenth anniversary, Ollie's closed its doors and left Oakland without a single lesbian bar.

After 30 years in the bar business, Ollie says she is ready to do something completely different. "It was just time. I have visions of other things I want to do. I've seen lots of people who never get out of it, and I didn't want to be like that. But if I had chosen to, yes, I could have kept it open," she says.

Rikki Streicher, who owns Maud's and Amelia's in San Francisco, speaks for many bar owners when she says it's a difficult business to be in. "I can think of only two or three times in the last 23 years when it's been easy, but those times were brief," she says. By her estimation, it's getting more difficult all the time. "When I came to San Francisco in 1945 there were more lesbian bars than there are today," she says.

The recent closure of some bars, like Ollie's and Peg's, which lost its lease, aren't due to changes in the community. But changes are occurring, Streicher says.

"Lesbians aren't as interested in barhopping anymore," because they are getting older and staying at home more, she says. The trend toward sobriety has also caused some attrition, she says. At the same time, Ollie says, her business taxes have gone up 800 percent in the last eight years.

But the biggest and most visible change is in the lesbian community itself. "Talking bars are becoming obsolete. Talk isn't so important anymore; it's the look that's important," Ollie says. "Ollie's accomplished what it was meant to accomplish. I feel like a parent saying, 'Go out on your own now.' I don't feel like we're ghettoized anymore. Lesbians can go anywhere and dance now."

Streicher agrees lesbians are looking for a different type of bar now. "Bars have always been a place where you could walk in and walk out. Any other area where women have gathered, they've had to agree philosophically. There's a certain kind of political reality about all those other things that for many women simply didn't apply."

Today, she says, everything turns on appearance. "It's how you look — now it's the 'lipstick lesbian.' Then everyone gets a denigrating impression of the 'flannel shirt lesbian.' Young people don't identify with lesbians as a community. Not all, but most, don't have a political bone in their bodies."

The emphasis on a slick appearance also signals an end to the days of "downward mobility." "Women will gladly pay an \$8 cover at Code Blue, then they bitch about having to pay \$6 at Amelia's," Streicher says. "It's the old familiarity thing, it breeds contempt."

That fickleness makes it almost impossible for anyone to open a new women's bar now, she says. "No one could afford to open an Amelia's today. Women would go for six months and then get bored with it."

The new breed of bars capitalizes on that desire for something new. Clubs like Code Blue and Club Rapture use straight bars rented for one or two days each week. "For a long time women had no choice. Straight people don't have to go to the same club every night, so why should lesbians?" says Caroline Clone, who runs Code Blue. "The women's scene seems quite healthy in San Francisco. It's very exciting."

Her club is successful, she says, "because we are constantly taking care of the customers and the club. I care about having the best; it's important that my clubs are first rate."



Rikki Streicher

Photo by Rick

What's Happening To the East Bay Women's Community?

While volunteers at A Woman's Place bookstore talked among themselves about how to strengthen the bookstore, which has been teetering on the edge, they began to realize a lot of other businesses are having similar problems. Realizing how many women's and progressive businesses have closed recently, they began to ask, "What the hell is happening?"

On December 7, the bookstore will hold a town meeting "to assess where we are as a women's community," says Darlene Pagano, a former collective member of A Woman's Place and one organizer of the event. "In the East Bay we've had a devastating series of losses, everything from Ollie's to the Co-op," she says. "We all know the automatic response: we're growing up, getting older, having kids, and needing more money for basic subsistence. What do people want to do about it?"

A lot of the businesses still open are less stable than people realize, she says. "Even places we take for granted, like the Pacific Center and the Brick Hut, are closer to the edge now. A lot of small businesses are moving out from around the Brick Hut, there's less traffic that they want to be a part of but they can't afford to move."

Pagano suspects one reason more businesses are failing is because there is less margin for error now. "Ten years ago women would support you because everybody knew you were doing your damndest and they forgave you everything. That's not the way it is anymore."

She hopes the town meeting will be an opportunity for women to talk about how the community has changed and how businesses and individuals can adapt to the changes. It will also be a way to "rally around" and acknowledge the businesses which has survived, she says.

The meeting will begin at 7:00 at A Woman's Place, 4015 Broadway, Oakland. Call 547-9920 for information.

—Christina Smith

Ollie says the popularity of such clubs is "a real unfortunate thing. These places could be gone tomorrow, and the lesbian community would have nothing."

On the contrary, says Clone, "We're giving back to the community by giving women something they feel they're a part of. A lot of the money we make goes back into the club. For too long, other people haven't put the money they make back into the clubs. What do they do with it? Put it into their houses?"

"Talking bars are becoming obsolete. Talk isn't so important anymore; it's the look that's important."

Certainly the new competition has changed the way bar owners regard each other. "Up until Caroline Clone, no one has ever been denigrating about another business because we've all known each other," says Streicher. "We weren't buddies but we were the ballgame, and we tried to be honorable. That word is now obscure and obsolete."

Some bars are surviving the changes with little trouble. Francine's is still going strong, says owner Francine, because "We're strictly a neighborhood girls bar, a girl's home away from home. They bounce out to the fancy bars and then they bounce right back." In business three years, she says, "We don't make the big money the other bars make, but we'll be here longer than they ever hope to be."

Women go to bars where they are treated well, says Silver Clark, who rented Peg's for a temporary club earlier this year. "I loved it, had a great time, profited and learned a lot," she says. It's success wasn't simply because it was new, she thinks, but because "Women like to be treated with a lot of respect. A bar needs to have broad appeal, and if service is good and women are treated as equals, it won't keep anyone away." Cheramy, one of four women who run Club Rapture, agrees. "We make it feel like a party rather than a bar," she says, adding that she hopes the four partners in the venture will stay together and provide a sense of family.

From what she's seen, Ollie isn't so sure women want to be treated well. "Vicious bartenders always get a larger following," she says. "I've seen snarly bartenders get tremendous followings." She says Ollie's was successful because it was one of the few bars that had broad appeal and brought in young, old, blue collar and white collar. Her decision to close was based not on lack of success, she says, but simply being tired. "I want to get out of the city. I want to do more political work — a lot of issues are being ignored in the lesbian community. And I'm kind of barred out. It's fun to go out once in a while, but if you go out 365 days a year, it gets a little heavy," she says.

The bar did only in-house advertising about the closing, "because I didn't want a lot of people coming in here who had never been here before. We had a real nice closing with the people who were regulars."

This doesn't leave the East Bay permanently barless, however. She's currently working with two women interested in starting their own women's bars. "I'm ready to do anything I can to help," she says, adding that the bars may be open as early as February.

In spite of her decision to close, Ollie says there are things she will miss. "If there's one thing I can say, it's that me and my staff would like to thank everyone for their company. I've had absolutely lovely company the last 17 years."

The Military's Plan to Straighten Up

BY CHRISTINA SMITH

"Opposing witch hunts tends to suggest to witch hunters that one is a witch."
— Linda Grant De Pauw

The civilian study of sexual harassment in the military sent last year to then Secretary of Defense Cap Weinberger detailed shocking examples of men's abuse of enlisted women. But what got the attention of major generals was a mention of lesbianism buried in the text.

"[The abuse] contributes to conditions in which extremist behavior [lesbianism] is fostered and, in some cases, supported by the chain of command," wrote Jacquelyn Davis, head of the civilian Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Service (DACOWITS). "For example, one barracks at Camp Foster is widely referred to as 'lessy land,' although the problem exists elsewhere."

The most obvious result of that report was a "witch hunt" at Parris Island, South Carolina which resulted in three court martials and thirteen discharges. And more recently, eleven women at the Norfolk, Virginia Naval Station were named in an investigation and are now being discharged.

In order to stem this tide of lesbianism, Davis suggested that, "Perhaps if the Marine Corps were to consider the concept of integrated barracks (similar to contemporary College Dorm situations with segregation on the basis of sex only from one floor to the next in the facility) some of the problems associated with the living situation of females in the Marines Corps might be alleviated."

This suggestion followed a 9-page report detailing men's treatment of women as "at best inappropriate and at worst, morally repugnant."

The proposed 'solution' to lesbianism is an attempt to rationalize away the natural inclinations of some women by citing social conditions as the cause of such behavior. In a sense it gives lesbians one last chance to 'conform,' to fit the military's description of proper sexual behavior. "Homosexuality is incompatible with military service," the Department of Defense policy flatly declares. "The presence of such members adversely affects the ability of the Military Services to maintain discipline, good order, and morale; to foster mutual trust and confidence among service members...to facilitate assignment and worldwide deployment of service members who frequently must live and work under close conditions affording minimal privacy;...to maintain the public acceptability of the military service; and to prevent breaches of security."

The Marines and Navy discharge many more women for lesbianism than the other branches, and proportional to total enlistment, the Marines in particular discharges many more lesbians than gays. In 1987, for example, the Army discharged 242 men and 107 women for homosexuality, which translated to .04 percent of men and .15 percent of women enlisted in that branch.

The Navy in 1987 discharged 550 men and 104 women for homosexuality, which was .11 percent of men and .22 percent of women enlisted in that branch.

In the Marines, the disparity between men and women discharged was most evident. While the total number of discharges for homosexuality, 67 men and 31 women, was lower than the Navy, the discharges affected .04 percent of men enlisted, and .34 percent of women enlisted that year.

The cost of discharging service members solely for homosexuality is, while trivial compared to the total defense budget, still worth considering. Between 1973 and 1983, 14,311 men and women were discharged for homosex-



Corporal Baum Still in the Brig; Denied Clemency for Sodomy Conviction

After having done an exemplary job as military policewoman at the Parris Island, South Carolina Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Corporal Barbara Baum found herself being court-martialed for committing indecent acts with women (see "Parris Island Pogrom: Lesbian Marines Jailed," *Coming Up!*, November 1988). Convicted and sentenced to a year's confinement, she was sent to the brig at Quantico, Virginia.

Investigators told her that her only chance for clemency was to answer their questions. Frightened and not believing that relating hearsay could possibly result in charges against anyone else, she consented to talk in exchange for her freedom.

After a 14-hour interrogation where she cooperated as best she could, the investigators went back to Parris Island. Five months later, Baum is still in the brig.

The Marine Corps says that no binding agreement was ever signed by investigators, and in late November Staff Judge Advocate Colonel Gerald Jones recommended against

her receiving clemency.

Barry Boss, the lawyer she hired after cooperating with investigators, says if Major General Jarvis Lynch rules against clemency, he will file a petition of habeas corpus, citing specific legal errors in the proceedings and arguing cruel and unusual punishment.

Boss said Baum should not be judged harshly for her decision to cooperate with investigators. "This woman was somebody who's never been in trouble before, and she wakes up one morning and finds herself locked up in prison. They were telling her if she talked to them, she'd get out," Boss said. "For someone spending her first day in the brig, a year seems like a very long time."

Although she was reluctant to cooperate, she didn't think the information she had could hurt anyone. "She didn't think gossip was enough to initiate proceedings against someone," Boss added.

Two other women convicted at Parris Island, Sergeant Cheryl Jameson and Sergeant Glenda Jones, are also serving time at Quantico, but their requests for clemency have not yet been reviewed. Letters of support to them should include their name and rank and be addressed to H and S CO., Attn: Brig, Security Battalion, Marine Corps Base, Quantico, VA, 22134.

—Christina Smith

"The military tends to look at homosexuality as women's sexual harrassment of other women."

quality after serving an average of three years. At a cost of at least \$12,300 to train a person and \$250 to discharge him or her (according to a 1983 report by the Comptroller General), the military essentially spent \$180 million in that decade by discharging people on suspicion of homosexuality.

Although DACOWITS' membership is extremely conservative, its assessment of the miserable conditions for women at some bases was unflinching. Last year's report described misconduct on one ship that included "public sex, attempts to sell female Marines to the Koreans, and 'fraternization' with enlisted women... abusive behavior toward all women is not only passively accepted and condoned but encouraged. The situation is worsened by the absence of any refuge where they can gather without being humiliated and feeling denigrated as human beings."

The interests of lesbian service women did not merit mention in the report, but an assistant to Cap Weinberger made her position clear in a memorandum to DACOWITS head Jacqueline Davis last year. "A problem which pertained mainly to Marine women was lesbianism, which I consider a form of sexual harassment," wrote Meredith Neizer. "I was told of an incident where one woman (new recruit) was approached by a more senior female Marine. When she declined the offer, she was put on restricted duty twice. Most of the women have heard of incidents, were aware of who the individuals were, and tried to avoid working and/or socializing with them."

Both DACOWITS and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force agree on one thing: it's difficult to be a woman in the military. "You're treated as either a dyke or a whore," says Sue Hyde, director of the privacy project for the Task Force. "The marines are the most reactionary, they have this complete macho image. Then women get trashed for exhibiting

the very same qualities a 'good man' does. It's a total irony."

Although the regulations against being gay and lesbian are the same year after year, the military only enforces them when it's convenient. "When we were in Viet Nam, we were fine," Hyde says. "In peacetime, they spruce it up, get rid of the deviants, have it be a nice heterosexual boy's club again. The so-called regulations have to be viewed in that kind of flux."

In spite of the harassment, lesbians do join the armed forces. Some may join because the military offers better pay equity and the opportunity to do non-traditional work. Others join, says Hyde, because "the military presents itself as an employment option. Women from working class families or rural areas who don't have a chance to go to college think, 'It's my way out of Podunk.' Then people join and realize they're in the military, and no matter how you package it, they own you." Traditionally, she said, gays and lesbians in the military have been ignored or shunned by their gay and lesbian communities on the outside because they are perceived to be supporting an oppressive system. "The truth is that the military is a way out for people. We shouldn't be any less interested in what's happening to gays in the military than to gays working for IBM."

In the wake of the Parris Island investigation, Hyde met with members of other rights organizations to plan a campaign for increased rights for lesbians and gays in the military. Although still in the beginning stages, the coalition of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, National Organization for Women, American Civil Liberties Union and Women's Equity Action League (WEAL) came up with three strategies.

The first is to request congressional hearings on sexual harassment, "and then raise [the treatment of lesbians] in the context of the

general atmosphere of intimidation of all women in the military," Hyde says.

Vicki Olmquist of WEAL will be gathering information in support of their argument. The military is already preparing its own survey on sexual harassment as a result of last year's DACOWITS report, she said, "but of course that doesn't include what we're talking about. The military tends to look at homosexuality as women's sexual harassment of other women. That's a very small amount of harassment cases, if any. Because we don't know how legislators are going to react to our approach, we're trying to couch it in terms of how (the ban on lesbianism) affects all women in the military."

The next tactic also involves politicking. At the next DACOWITS meeting in April, the Coalition will be pressing for witnesses to talk about the anti-gay activities at Parris Island and Norfolk. "We want to push DACOWITS to make some specific proposals to the new secretary of defense, to identify who's on a rampage and get them to knock it off," Hyde says.

The third strategy is providing information to military lesbians about what to do in the event of a witch hunt. "They need to know not to talk, not to name names, and to get a civilian lawyer. They need to know there's support for them outside the military so they'll be able to resist being separated from each other," Hyde says.

Olmquist and Hyde agree that getting the attention of legislators will be extremely difficult. At some point, Hyde says, "I'd like to coalesce the thousands and thousands of gays and lesbians run out of the military and the gay and lesbian veterans association, to demonstrate to Congress that the visible cases aren't their only constituents in the military gay lobby. There are lots and lots of just plain folks who have served well in the military who are gay."

Results Not In On Sharon Kowalski Testing — Now Long Overdue

As the holidays approach this year Karen Thompson faces the worst depression she has known in a long, long time. With her lover Sharon Kowalski still imprisoned in a nursing home under the guardianship of her homophobic father Thompson says she has spent these last weeks agonizing over the fate of her lover.

After years of court battles and 19 separate appeals Thompson finally won a major victory this year when the judge ruled that Sharon Kowalski, who was left brain-damaged in a car accident in 1983, must be tested for mental competency. After months of delay, extensive tests were begun on September 12 to determine the extent of Kowalski's functional abilities. But although the tests have long since been completed there is still no news concerning the fate of Sharon Kowalski.

"These past few weeks have been really hard on me. This time I let myself hope, for the first time in a long time I allowed myself to feel optimistic and now I'm experiencing a horrible letdown. I finally just collapsed and spent a whole weekend crying. Now I'm back on my feet again. I'm exhausted but I'm ready to continue the fight. But every day I wait and wonder what the doctors have decided and when I'll get to see Sharon again," Thompson said.

After agonizing over the long delay, Thompson said she finally contacted her lawyer with the request that she find out from the judge what was going on. Her lawyer was afraid this might antagonize him, but Thompson — feeling totally desperate — was willing to start making waves again.

The judge contacted the doctors who admitted that the testing had been completed and that results would be made available "any day now." That was in early November.

In the meantime Thompson waits, angry and depressed that Sharon is forced to continue to live under conditions that are so detrimental to her well-being.

—Skye Morrison

Conference Planned on Lesbian Caregivers and the Effect of AIDS

While much attention has been paid to the way that AIDS has fundamentally changed the gay community in San Francisco, far less notice has been given to the way it's affected the lesbian community.

"There really hasn't been an acknowledgement of how many lesbians are doing care for people with AIDS," says Michele Carstens, one of the women organizing the Lesbian Caregivers and AIDS conference to be held January 20-21.

Albeit in a less severe form, AIDS has drained resources in the lesbian community too, says Cynthia Underhill, another organizer of the conference. Money that would have gone to a lesbian health clinic six years ago now goes to Shanti or the Names Project, she says. As a result of this trend, the health care network for lesbians is nowhere equal to the support system available to gay men.

"As a comparison, breast cancer is epidemic among women, but no one talks about it," says Carstens. "A friend of mine who got breast cancer last year had no place available to her that a man just diagnosed with AIDS would have."

Many lesbians in health care grew up in alcoholic homes and now find themselves questioning if they want to stay in the position of caregivers, Underhill says. Those women also have had to deal with their grief without letting it overwhelm their personal relationships, she added.

"The conference will be an opportunity to do healing around that and establish a baseline,

finding out what type of organizing do we need, what type of support do we need, in order to continue doing the work we're doing," Carstens says.

In other ways, AIDS has done much to draw lesbians and gay men together. Lesbian response to the AIDS crisis has helped to unify a traditionally separate community, Underhill (continued on page 15)

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Letters...

(continued from page 3)

The New Ending Campaign where it states that a Republican won the New York City Council race in which NAP operative Jim Mangia challenged gay activist and Fountaine Society founder David Rothenberg. The contest mentioned was actually a Democratic Party primary and not the general election, both of which were won by incumbent Carol Greitzer, a Democrat. This correction is important because the hypocrisy of NAP's omnipresent Democratic Party-baiting is revealed by their participation in a Democratic Party primary.

To those of us who are independent progressives, i.e., leftists who do not belong to sectarian organizations or "vanguard" parties, NAP and groups like them are a special threat because their behavior alienates people from legitimate issues with which these groups are sometimes associated. No doubt NAP and the other sectarians are regularly congratulated for their fine work — by their beneficiaries on the far-right. Sincerely, Steven Ault, Brooklyn, N.Y.

NAP Actions at P&FP Convention

I would like to share with the readers of *Coming Up!* a recent example of how the New Alliance Party operates. As Co-chair of the State Peace and Freedom Party Gay/Lesbian Caucus, I called for a meeting of that caucus to be held in Oakland recently while the state party was meeting as a whole. The Caucus urged all those attending the State body to attend the Caucus meeting. Our hope was to develop and expand joint work in the Peace and Freedom Party with new Gay and Lesbian participants in the State Conference.

Instead the NAP, hoping to somehow gain their candidates being nominated by the Peace and Freedom Party using the *Gay/Lesbian Caucus*, insisted that the only business be the picking of a presidential candidate. They were not interested in working together with others not of their party.

I and other delegates pointed out that there were supporters of four different presidential candidates in the Gay/Lesbian Caucus and that instead of focusing on our differences that we should try and work on areas we agreed on. The supporters of the NAP (led by Jim Mangia) refused to respect our differences. They insisted that the only thing the Caucus was to do was to support Lenora Fulani for president. This is something that the majority of the Peace and Freedom Party delegates refused to do.

The majority of the delegates who were Gay and Lesbian also refused to agree to support the NAP candidate. We asked the NAP to respect the integrity and work of the Gay and Lesbian activists who have been working for years in the Peace and Freedom Party and not proceed to a vote. The NAP insisted and demanded that everyone at that meeting whether a delegate or not be entitled to a vote. Many of us who have been active in the Peace and Freedom Party for years objected to their maneuvers to try and force the rest of us to support the NAP candidate, Lenora Fulani. The NAP insisted that their people, many who were registered in another political party, all

be allowed to vote and pushed ahead to a vote over our many objections. They failed to use that meeting for advancing their group. We did not recognize their failed attempt to push through their candidate but many people did see for the first time how the NAP operates in refusing to recognize any other person's views but their own.

The NAP showed through their actions that they were not interested in building Gay/Lesbian groups but only using them to build the NAP. They counterpose all other work and groups to their own. This is the danger that cults pose, being led by individuals seeking advancements over the work and goals of groups and movements of people as a whole. The NAP is opportunist and not principled and should not be trusted by those wanting to build the Gay/Lesbian Movement and Gay/Lesbian empowerment. Beware of cults!

Rick Turner
1982 S.F. Parade Co-chair

IWP: A Mass Party

In response to Tim Kingston's November '88 *Coming Up!* article on the New Alliance Party, we applaud its thorough, revealing and convincing expose of the NAP's unethical, manipulative and dishonest therapy/political practices. However, the article has two serious shortcomings. First, it fails to place its expose of the NAP in the context of the national and local Democratic Party campaigns and *Coming Up!*'s editorial endorsement of such. Second, it distorts the role of the Internationalist Worker's Party in this year's election and the Peace & Freedom Party (P&FP) convention.

This year's Democratic Party campaign rejected the ideas and the people of the Rainbow Coalition and the Gay/Lesbian March on Washington. Its top-down, rich, white-male, party-convention organizational structure, where even the Jackson delegates had incomes averaging \$40,000, where the self-appointed super-delegates made the real decisions for the party, allow it to work against the real interests of working class and oppressed people. Jesse Jackson is building his career on betraying us. The majority of the left in this country were cheerleaders for Dukakis, local "alternative" newspapers like *Coming Up!* and the *Bay Guardian* urged us to vote Democrat.

Money that was promised for registration drives in the black and labor communities, by the Dukakis campaign, never materialized. Dukakis took a "dive." Local Democratic party clubs had no control over national candidates, campaigns or millions of dollars collected. Those same clubs sold out to PG&E, betrayed renters and withdrew support from rallies organized against Props 96/102. They pleaded: "Shut your mouth! Hold your nose! Vote for Dukakis!" At a minimum, this process results in brain damage. Or worse, suffocation!

The structure and politics of the Democratic Party are those of corporate America. Many community organizations share these faults. The leadership crisis at the Shanti Project is an example. Fred Newman's NAP has that hierarchical structure and exists in the political vacuum between the Democratic Party, its cheerleaders and the overwhelming needs of working class and oppressed people! Fred Newman's NAP should account for every dollar it collected. Fred Newman's NAP is relentless in suppressing the truth



The Names Project Quilt returns to Moscone Center this month, December 14-18. See calendar listing Dec. 14 or call 863-5511 for details.

about itself. Rumor has it that NAP dumped every copy of the November '88 *Coming Up!* that it could get its hands on.

The P&FP is a concrete gain of the mass movements of the 60's. It is the largest of the left-wing, third-party ballot status parties in this country. In its political program, P&FP defines itself as socialist. The Internationalist Worker's party has been active in the P&FP since 1983. We see it as an electoral coalition of socialists and leftists opposed to the policies of the Democrats and Republicans. We see it as a step toward building a mass party of the working class and oppressed in the United States. We have always fought for other socialists and leftists to become active in P&FP. Tim Kingston should have had the courtesy to ask the IWP its opinion of the P&FP convention before writing about us.

In this year's election, the IWP ran the largest slate of public candidates and convention delegates in the history of the P&FP. We helped qualify other left and socialist candidates for the ballot. We fought for and won the by-laws which allowed disenfranchised immigrant workers to be convention delegates. We ran the only openly gay/lesbian candidates for public office in P&FP. In a three-way race with NAP and the Worker's World Party, we won 19 out of 26 delegates to the P&FP Convention from San Francisco. We had the largest block of convention delegates. We had the support of John O'Brien, a main organizer of the No on 96/102 coalition and Ric Turner, a past co-chair of S.F. Gay/Lesbian Freedom Day Parade Committee. *Emma Mar* ran with us as a vice-presidential candidate here and in other states. We endorsed all the other local socialist candidates in San Francisco. We beat the NAP, SWP, WWF, and SP in the state of New Jersey by more than two-to-one. We're not a mass party but a "sectarian outfit?" Give me a break!

At the convention, the real unaffiliated delegates chose to support us, as was the case with *Emma Mar*, the Alameda County delegates and others. The few remaining unaffiliated delegates supported the positions of the Communist Party, the Socialist Party, or the NAP. The CP, SP and NAP attempted a McCarthy-like witch-hunt of our delegates and a racist exclusion of the disenfranchised immigrant worker delegates. The socialist block of delegates held a majority at the convention even without these challenged delegates. The CP supported Dukakis in this election and worked once again to prevent P&FP from running strong candidates. After the convention, they successfully collaborated with March Fong Eu to call the convention results null and void. The NAP lays its own illegitimate claim to the convention. Hobbesean struggle indeed! The socialists' delegates were robbed, the voters cheated.

For those of you willing to flow with the current of the future, who have a vision of one big mass movement to replace capitalism and all forms of social oppression, please contact the IWP at 3309 1/2 Mission St., SF, CA, 94110 or call (415) 695-0340.

Fraternally,
SF P&FP Electoral Committee
Ted Zuur/Shoshanna Towers Melissa Ehman
SF Co-Chairs Candidate, 16 AD
Gene Pepi Victor Martinez
Candidate, 19th AD Candidate 11th AD

NAP, A Parasite on G/L Movement

I read with interest the article by Tim Kingston "The Seedy Side of the Rainbow" in the November issue of *Coming Up!* which focuses on the New Alliance Party (NAP). As a long time socialist and Gay activist, I believe the NAP is trying to use Gays and Lesbians and our Movement to build their party, not the *Gay/Lesbian Movement*. The NAP is a cult group based around individuals allegiances to personalities rather than political program. Socialist parties have detailed programs on how they view organization of government and society and the individual's role in that state, something the NAP refuses to make public. Instead of soliciting Gays and Lesbians for our time and money (both of which are desperately needed by existing Gay/Lesbian groups), why does not the NAP help finance the costs of existing groups and in particular Gay/Lesbian People of Color groups who badly need monies and workers for their projects. The NAP is not interested in building Gay/Lesbian groups, only in using them.

Every other group that is not controlled or working directly for the NAP is seen by the NAP leadership as a hostile structure to be eventually taken over by the NAP or destroyed. There is no room for differences with a cult and this is true of the NAP.

One way they attract people to their group is to portray themselves as "leaders" and offering to promote anyone else who is in their group as "leaders" as well! Of course in their group there are leaders and then there are the *real* leaders. The NAP is harmful in misguiding people who want to work together in a multi-racial group that their group is actually democratic in decision making and leads to people dropping out of being politically active because of their bad experiences being in the NAP.

It is particularly harmful to both the individuals in the NAP and the Movements they target to exploit such as our Movement when they push their nonsense that they are all leaders even if they have little experience or knowledge about the people or Movement they are pretending (including to themselves) to be leaders of.

Serious activists are turned off by people coming into our Movement or others claiming to be our "leaders." Leaders are recognized by their leadership and work by others working in the same movement and not by those who proclaim themselves such, who have little history of work or accomplishments in our Movement.

As a long time activist who has worked hard to make advances for our people I speak for most people in our Movement when I say that the Gay/Lesbian Movement will not be taken over by the NAP, and that we are tired of such parasite groups who only want to take badly needed people and resources from us. If the NAP truly wants to build the Gay/Lesbian Movement and not counterpose itself to us then provide honest leadership by working and building the existing Gay/Lesbian Movement and directing it towards a more progressive agenda. To all the supporters of the NAP and such groups (which are thankfully small in numbers), I say you have to pay your dues if you want to be taken seriously by activists or the Gay/Lesbian Community in general.

As long as the NAP continues to support anti-

(continued on page 16)

WHAT'S GOING DOWN

BY LOUISE RAFKIN

Hanging Out With Geraldo

Half mast or lower: You that fly flags — are there any of you out there? — remember December 1st is International AIDS day. I'm eager to see what the folks at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue will do...

Bush League: Which leads me into my rambles. Twelve years of my life under idiots. Twelve years of my *prime*. My first vote was for Jimmy, and ever since I've exercised my American duty with dread and fear. It all seems so pathetic in the end. The sick way media images win or lose votes — not issues — the way the election comes on the tail of and mirrors the world series: bets, gambles, strategies — only the stakes are higher, affect more people.

The king-pins of the democratic party seemed to set us up for major defeat. I'll blame them, sure. Them and the electoral college which you don't have to be a college grad to figure is a crock. (One folk, one vote — except if you're in the college...) Jesse and his millions were cast off to left field to flounder and rot. Dukakis seemed to wither over the months until he looked more like a Stepford mannequin than anything else. Turn him on and he cocks his head to one side and starts mumbling about health care. Not that I don't think health care is important, mind you. But remember when folks thought *Bush* was the wimp? *Remember?*

Yikes. Tough times ahead... Within a day of his victory, Contra Aid is bouncing to the top of the agenda and abortion rights are headed back to the supreme court. I wonder what it was like to live in my mother's lifetime, when the democratic party had life?

I talked to a limo driver in New York last month. Drives around the likes of Grace Jones, Frank Sinatra, you know. He said to me, "You makin' money, you vote for republicans 'cos then you gets to keep it." He nodded to me knowingly to show he had voted that way. Later I found out he makes \$4.20 an hour, some tips (not as much as you would think) and has two kids to support. A Bush man.

Here's to America.

Hitting the G-spot: So why was I talking to a limo driver? Because I was in a limo, but you can bet I wasn't paying. Nope, it was the man himself: Geraldo! Yep, I flew back for a day to do a lesbians and their moms show and the guy's not as slimey as you think. Just boring and superficial. They called me the day of the skinhead fight, no joke, and you can bet I hedged a while before I said yes. Even a free trip to New York ain't worth a broken nose. (I know, I've had some!) I made sure they weren't going to set us up in front of a gaggle of evangelicals. My mom, no stranger to the media, said no flat-out. "He's too sleazy," she told the producer. Me, no stranger to sleazy, finally said yes and besides it boosted my frequent flier miles.

I signed in at the hotel with two friends, a man and woman, and the hotel registrar didn't blink an eye when I told her all of us were staying in my one-bedroom suite. We weren't really, but I guess she expects just about anything from folks checking in on Geraldo's account.

The show itself was great and the three sets of moms and daughters couldn't have been better picked. In the green room before the show, a zealous young dyke of sixteen had us organized into a united front. "We've got to stick together, Lesbian pride!" I sighed, it's been a while since I was sixteen. I'd forgotten what that kind of optimism was like. I agreed to slightly disagree with the other "expert," a social worker who works with teens at the Harvey Milk School alternative high school in

Manhattan. She doesn't advocate coming out to parents, I think it depends.

We didn't see the man until the show began. He was backstage getting fed info and questions and really didn't seem to have much interest in any of it. All the mothers and the daughters did fabulously, love and pride and unity just as planned. There was a great diversity on the panel, a young beautiful femme who had come out with her best friend when she was fourteen and was still living with the same gal four years later, a college student full of hormones, the sixteen-year-old black activist — a powerhouse speaker who won the hearts of even the most skeptical. The moms couldn't have been more supportive. Geraldo seemed frustrated with the lack of dissent. The audience response was flat, even his most obnoxious probing didn't get anyone riled up. At a commercial break he told us no one would like the show because it wasn't controversial enough. Thanks, Ger...

Later when the time came for us "professionals" to comment, there was really not much left to say. I bumbled my first question, and can't remember saying anything of substance. Mostly I sat there in my too-expensive outfit and thought: It's all an experience. Ah, life. I wondered if my aunt Arnette, who I'm still not out to, watches daytime TV.

It was over in a flash. We shook hands with the guy — he's got a self-tattooed star of David on the web of his left hand — and retreated. Backstage the teenagers were busy swapping phone numbers with the cute girls from Harvey Milk. One mother rolled her eyes at me, "Teenagers," she sighed, "Lesbian or straight, it's all sex and hormones."

I was given an expenses check and walked out into the New York twilight. It'll air sometime in the first weeks of December. Fifteen minutes (or was it seconds?) of fame? Certainly not fortune...

Speaking of fame: I did make it to the first meeting of the k.d. lang fan club last month. The gal's got a swell group of supporters and a video of the event was made and will be forwarded to her so's she can see all our smiling faces. But I hear she's not doing so well in Texas. My cow-gal friend there tells me they ain't playing her on the radio because the stations think she's too dykey. Still, she made the C&W tape on my USAir flight along with Hank and Dolly and the best of 'em.

And also in Texas, An Expensive Affair: It's not often I sympathize with nuns, but here's a case that just about breaks my heart. A choir director nun who had an affair with the parish guitarist in Brownsville, Texas, was recently sued and ordered to pay the woman's husband \$1,000,000 for breaking up his marriage. Another \$500,000 was asked of the local Diocese which allowed the sister to keep working after the affair was revealed. Lotsa church raffles to raise that kind of dough. A million Hail Marys to the judge, a trillion Our Fathers to the "husband." Don't the courts have better things to do?

The perfect Gift: There I said it. I acknowledged it's that horrible season again. It's not the gifts I object to, it's all the hype and holiday hypocrisy. All for the baby Jesus's birthday. As a little kid I used to wonder how he grew up and died in only a few months — by the time Easter came he was done for.

Anyway, thought it was funny that Lanz nightgowns — every gal has one, doesn't she? — sent lesbian literary magazine *Sinister Wisdom* a batch of holiday promotion materials. They thoughtfully included the history of Lanz nighties as well as beautiful drawings of the classic granny gown and the new Lanz dresses. But *Sinister Wisdom*? How do they find us?

Alternatives? Find some: As those EST guys say, create your own reality. Tinsel, what tinsel? Parents, pressures, prejudices — huh? Okay, it's not that easy, unless you escape to a buddhist country it's pretty hard to live neck-in-the-sand for an entire month.

So those of you attempting a different reality may want to check out "Guerrillas in the Midst" a chanukah reading by the Jewish lesbian writers group. (Dec. 10, see calendar.) And don't miss this year's Dance Brigade extravaganza, the second "Revolutionary Nutcracker Sweetie." Through a traditional holiday mainstay, this production — complete with martial and trapeze artists, local rappers, ethnic dancers of all kinds and wheelchair dancers — turns the aged Nutcracker on its head.

It's where I may be soon if I hear one more round of Jingle Bells.
Happy Holidays. Humph.

Conference...

(continued from page 13)

says, and more lesbian caregivers have the opportunity to work in environments where they can be out.

The women-only conference is designed not only for doctors, but friends, volunteers, "anyone working with people with AIDS and the wide spectrum of what that involves." Underhill says.

Although the details have yet to be worked out, the organizers hope the conference will lead to something ongoing, whether it be an annual event, or workshops and presentations at other conferences.

Registration requests and donations should be sent to LCA conference, 3329 22nd Street, San Francisco, 94110. For more information, call 647-5866.

—Christina Smith

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After all was said and done, Lenora Fulani polled 821 votes in San Francisco

ASTROLOGY

BY JACK FERTIG

As much as you, Dear Reader, I wish the planets and stars would behave themselves in a way that would make all of our lives easy, pleasant, and graceful. Alas, they are remaining cantankerous and difficult. There are some lovely aspects taking place this month, but they are too ephemeral to rate significant mention in a monthly column. I do wish we could go weekly and I could tell you lovely things about Venus making harmonious aspects, but over the month's haul Venus just skitters along far too quickly to make a lasting impact. After the fifteenth of the month she will make a series of pleasant aspects of the sort that make the tedium of entertaining and the work of studying for final exams more bearable.

The real news this month is that Uranus is moving into Capricorn early on the 2nd at 7:52 am. In that sign for the next seven years he will bring a time when rebellion and political progressivism will best be effected through well-planned, serious and responsible means. The Gay/Lesbian communities will become dreadfully serious in some regards, but have a chance to become much more accepted and

respectable.

Frankly, I don't like it either. There will and should be a lot of street demonstrations and good old anarchic shittkicking, but that will only serve to show the need for "responsible leadership" which will make great inroads by serving as a buffer between the establishment and the community. Within this time there should be a slow, careful buildup of structures that will pave the way for significant change seven years down the road.

In the meantime Mars has just turned direct and is slowly creeping up to its usual speed. This month he is still making long, slow, aggravating aspects to the outer planets. Meditation and rest are especially important these days. The usual holiday whirl can become especially tiresome and annoying, easily bringing out the highly irritable qualities of the month.

Specifically Mars is square Neptune from the first to the twelfth. Drinking and drugging becomes especially rowdy at such times and even sober it is easy to misjudge energy and health. This becomes a great time for flu and other common infections. Take time for lots

of rest, warm baths, and herb teas.

From the 14th to the 24th Mars is quincunx Pluto. People at this time easily become demanding, selfish, and manipulative. They also tend to be very horny and dealing directly with that issue can take pressure off in more ways than one.

Whatever pressures build up in those ten days will certainly be released from the 23rd to the 27th as Mercury squares Mars. When that happens people tend to say what's on their mind — very quickly and rather forcefully. Try not to spit venom when you say, "Thank you for sharing that." You may also consider spending Xmas with people whose company you truly treasure and enjoy. In the long term your relationship with your parents and siblings may be better served by spending that day at Osento or the Watergarden, an alcañon, or in Hawaii (although personally I wouldn't recommend flying on those days!)

The full moon comes just before Xmas — 9:29 pm on Thursday the 22nd to be exact — so family tensions will run pretty high just before the holiday, but will begin to subside quickly. Don't take pre-holiday drama too seriously.

Sun Signs

Aries: Striving to get ahead is good enough, but you're tending to use your back more than your brain. Check in to see what really needs doing. Efforts that aren't carefully co-ordinated with your boss and co-workers can be more destructive than helpful. After the twelfth you become especially determined to get things done your way so before that time make sure to plan your way so it fits in with the rest of the team. Holiday overtime can do you a lot of good, but plan ahead so as not to exhaust yourself. Remember that you're doing it entirely for yourself. In such cases selfishness can be a virtue. Don't act like you're doing anybody else a favor.

Taurus: Religious or spiritual activities are in season right now and can help you to resolve deep seated problems. Even if religion was the culprit a different approach to the same issues can help clear the garbage. Buddhism, for example, can help clear Catholic guilt. In any event keep an open mind and a moderate practice. From the 14th to the 24th a partnership can get quite heated — or quite hot! Sex relieves tension, but it can also be a form of avoidance. Make sure communications are quite clear through this time. Anything left unsaid will come out loud and clear around the 25th.

Gemini: What a wonderful time for you to be a social butterfly! You may spread your pollen over lots of sweet flowers. Actually your social skills could be put to wonderful use as a hospital volunteer or otherwise working on behalf of the ill. Spending the holidays with people who are seeing their last solstice will not only brighten their holidays, but will immeasurably deepen yours.

Cancer: All the extra work of the season can complicate your relationship issues. You may well be trying too hard to make everybody happy at home and at work. How can you tell if you're trying too hard? If you're not keeping yourself reasonably satisfied you're not doing any good at pleasing anyone else. Forcing yourself to "enjoy" parties — especially at work — that you'd rather not be at will only come off as coming on too strong. People will put up with gratuitous entertainment in bad taste, but you'll hear about it. Arrange "previous engagements" where you can indulge pleasures more to your taste. When people tell you you missed a great time you can graciously, if not entirely honestly, smile and say how you regret you couldn't have been there.

Leo: If things are crazy at work it is probably because your mind is hundreds of miles away. The way you're roaring about your vacation plans — real or desired — co-workers may easily begin to wish you really would go away. The urge to leave may create trouble at home, but on the other hand it could avoid trouble just as well. Make sure to communicate easily with those you live with. Going home to your family promises high drama, even more than a Leo can handle.

Virgo: After this month they may stop calling your sign "the Virgin" and start using the Latin word for "slut." You may use the aspects of this month to seek pleasure through vigorous and high-minded investigation of metaphysical principles. Mars in your 8th house finds such noble expression as well as the more common libidinous excess. I'm the last to condemn the baser pleasures of life, but holiday cheer can get slop-

py. Be especially careful — and do have a wonderful good time!

Libra: Home and companion seem to get especially crazy this month. It couldn't possibly be you at all, could it? With all the drama, keep the focus on yourself in any event. You really can't do anything about other people's behaviour, but you can adapt your own — no dear, not to cover their asses. To protect your own! Fights over money are not unlikely. This is a lousy time to open a joint account. Don't make any financial decisions involving others no matter how hard the pressure gets. Family discussions get very, ummmmm, emphatic over the holidays. If you don't want to hear your parents fighting, don't argue with your lover.

Scorpio: All your hard work is sure to get talked about, but make sure you're communicating clearly with your co-workers or what they say will not be pretty. You're unusually energetic and driven, but if you lighten up and keep channels open you can be a lot more effective. You are unusually susceptible to whatever flu and cold is going around so take special care. You are also prone to worry that it may be more than just a flu. You could worry yourself sicker than you already are. Just relax, stay warm; you'll be fine.

Sagittarius: You are susceptible at any time to party moods. Right now that can get downright compulsive. Forced gaiety can create more tension than it relieves. If it feels wrong, excuse yourself long enough to stop and think about it. The season can also get expensive. People love you for who you are, not what you can buy. Make a list, check it twice, make sure you're buying your gifts at good price. Santa's coming to town so you don't have to do his job. *Happy Birthday, Athena!*

Capricorn: Holidays with the family can be quite an experience. It can also be entirely unnecessary. Voices and glasses will both be raised very high. For some families it can be warm, good fun. For some it can be alcoholism and screaming, vicious abuse. You will be unusually susceptible to expectations and not as clear in your responses as you like. Be very careful of your company this month and spend your holiday in the company of people among whom you feel safe, open, and loving. *Happy Birthday, Katie!*

Aquarius: Other people are plenty used to you saying strange things, but your present turn of mind and phrase is astonishing to you. Strange things you had thought long forgotten come to the surface now and bear some examination. You could even become edgy and compulsive leading to arguments at work. Changes may be necessary and should be discussed frankly with your boss before you get yourself into trouble. Unusual doses of holiday nostalgia may end up revealing themselves as sugary coverings of denial over unpalatable memories.

Pisces: Santa must be a Pisces. What other sign would hide out all year, suddenly appear everywhere and sneak in invisibly at night to give gifts to everybody. This is also the sign of foot fetishists so be discreet with stockings! In any event the job is filled so don't you fret. Contrary to your worries nobody expects you to bankrupt yourself buying gifts. Your normal tendency to impulse shopping can get way out of hand! Think out your budget and your gifts carefully. You are famously creative and can find or create wonderful presents out of very little indeed. Homemade or home baked presents will be prized far higher than expensive mass manufacture.

Letters...

Gay elements such as minister Louis Farrakhan in trying to opportunistically exploit the Black Community as well, it can never expect to be taken seriously by supporters of Gay/Lesbian rights. There are far better individuals and groups in the Black Community to be working with than those who are ideologically opposed to sexual freedom.

It is important that the Gay & Lesbian Community, and in particular its activists, know what the view of the NAP is towards Gay & Lesbian sexuality. The NAP does not consider our sexuality to be natural but a political choice. This ideological base puts them in the same camp with right wing religious fundamentalists who also see our sexuality as choice.

Finally I seriously hope that those homosexually inclined members of the NAP stop promoting straight (and badly flawed) leadership such as Fred Newman and Lenora Fulani and start working for the empowerment of Gay and Lesbian leadership in all movements, including our own.

John O'Brien

COMING UP! CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR THE BAY AREA

1 THURSDAY

What's Doing in Recreation & Parks: 2:40-3:30 pm—ice swimming at Marin Luther King Pool, 3rd & Carroll St. fee: 8-9 pm—belly dancing class, intermediate thru professional, Egyptian & Persian styles, at Sunset Rec Ctr, 28th Ave & Lawton Sts. SF. \$5 per class or \$40 for 10 wks. Spons by SF Recreation & Parks Dept. Info: 426-4268 for info.

The Virgin Machine: German filmmaker Monika Treut's coming out/coming of age film about a young German intellectual who leaves stogy Berlin for wild SF. Dorothy (played by Ina Blum) is a thoughtful (and stifled) woman looking for love, she goes to SF where she meets Susy Sexpert, who guides her to houses of female pleasure, and an eventual sexual partner. Showtimes: 6, 8 & 10 pm tonight thru 12/6, matinees on 12/3 & 4 at 2 & 4 pm. Roxie Cinema, 3117 18th St. SF. Info: 863-1087.

Warner Schroeter: Retrospective 3-wk retrospective of the works of this gay German filmmaker. Nine films of Schroeter's will be screened thru 12/15 at Pacific Film Archive in Berkeley and the Goethe Institut, Roxie Cinema, & SF Art Institute in SF. A leading avant-garde director, Schroeter's work is well-known & admired for its showmanship, but has rarely been seen by American audiences. His work is a blend of "campy melodrama, cartoon tragedy & voluptuous omnisexuality," bathed in operatic soundtracks. Spons by Goethe Institut, Pacific Film Archive, SF Cinematheque & Frameline. For showtimes/locations & other info call Frameline 861-5245.

Outlook lesbian/gay video program features self defense demo with Tara Kronenberg & discussion of women health care workers & their issues. 7 pm, cable channel 63 in Sacramento, 8 pm cable channel 30 in Mountain View.

BABN Rap: Bay Area Bisexual Network meets at the Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St. SF. 7:30-9:30 pm, \$3-5 SL. Tonight's topic: "Building the Bisexual Community." Info: 564-BABN.

Palo Alto Lesbian Rap Group meets 7:30-9 pm at Mid Peninsula YWCA, 4151 Alameda St. Palo Alto. Tonight's topic: "How Many Definitions of 'Lesbian' Can We Come Up With?" Led by Rebecca Ripley. Info: Marilyn 969-1260.

Three Glasses of Wine Have Been Removed From This Story: author Marian Michener reads from her novel about addiction & recovery, lesbian love & courage. 7:30 pm, free. Everyone welcome. Old Wives Tales Bookstore, 1009 Valencia St. SF.

SF Hiking Club Gen'l Mtg: 7:30 pm at Dolores St. Baptist Church, 15th & Dolores. SF. Enter thru the main doors, 4151 Alameda St. Accessible to El (environmentally ill) women, so please do not use scented products this evening. Info: 547-9920.

"Black Gay vs White Gay Power", is the topic at tonight's BWMT-SF Rap. Discussion with Brandi Moore, from an assembly by Willie Brown & friends. 7:30-10 pm, 1350 Walter St. SF. Info: Black & White Men Together 931-BWMT.

As Is, a play about living with AIDS, runs tonight thru 12/4 at MCC-SF, 150 Eureka St. SF. This award-winning, Broadway hit play, is performed by Foothill College Players, directed by Jay Manley. Proceeds benefit Metropolitan Community Church & Dignity AIDS Ministries. 8 pm, \$10. Tit at Headlines or call MCC-SF 863-4434. First major performance of As Is in SF. Don't miss!

Frameline Presents, lesbian/gay video program, continues its Gay Video Art series with *Pedagogue*, a lampoon of British hysteria over gay teachers. Also *Las Diosas*, a lesbian fantasy. *Virtual Cockpits of Tomorrow*, an exploration of the military's underpinnings of gay male sexual fantasies. *76 Transbones*, a low-key look at post-transition reality. *You Know, Something*, an 8-min look at a lesbian relationship. *Hey Bud*, a look at a politician's suicide, juxtaposed with images of two women preparing for a prom; and *Doublecross*, an exploration of biological theories of sexuality. 8 pm on SF. Viacom, cable channel 25. Info: Frameline 861-5245.

CAN (Community Action Network) news/feature program takes a look at the Coors family's right-wing interests & their attempt to place ads in the local gay press. Also examines the Salvation Army & its ill attempts to block gay rights & talks with an Illinois State Rep who is attempting to block the over-the-counter sale of didoes. And more. 8:30 pm, SF cable channel 6. Info: PO Box 146937, SF 94114.

Christmas Folk Art Sale at Galeria de la Raza/Studio 24. Chance to see & purchase colorful folk art & handcrafted gifts from Mexico, Latin America & the American Southwest. Toys, dolls & books for children, weavings, textiles, jewelry, pottery, masks, carved furniture & trunks & more. Proceeds benefit the year-round cultural programs & exhibits of the 18-yr old Chicano/Latino gallery. Exhibit & sale runs thru 12/24 at 2857 & 2851 24th St. SF. For showtimes & other info call 826-8009.

World AIDS Day: events at SF State to mark the first int'l World AIDS Day proclaimed by the World Health Organization (WHO). 5:30 am SFSU president in Robert Corrigan issues proclamation in support of World AIDS Day. 12:15 pm performance of "As Is"; play about living with AIDS, by Robert Hoffman. 2 pm: Amanda Houston Hamilton, chair of SF's Black Coalition on AIDS & faculty member at UCSF's Langley Porter Psychiatric Institute, gives keynote address "AIDS: Past, Present & Future". Events held in SF State Student Union's Barbary Coast Room. Also see art exhibit, "Art Addressing AIDS", on display in the Student Union Gallery thru 12/2. Spons by SF SU AIDS Coordinating Committee. Info: 338-1263 or 338-2191.

Country & Western is here to stay at Amelia's—isn't it time you joined in? C&W dancing & instruction for women tonight, 7 pm, \$3. Learn pop-punk line dances, how to two-step. Features special performance by the *San Francisco Saddletramps*. 647 Valencia St. SF. Info: 550-8110. See ya there.

Gay Men's Relationship Mixer: Ready for a relationship with another man? Attendia's Relationship Mixer is a comfortable way to meet other high quality men thru small group discussions & personal sharing. Followed by social hour. 7:30 pm, \$5. MCC-SF Social Hall, 150 Eureka St. SF. Info: Partners Institute 343-8541.

CURAS (Community United in Response to AIDS/SIDA) holds their 2nd Annual AIDS Memorial at Mission Cultural Ctr, 2868 Mission St. SF. 8 pm, \$12 adv, \$15 at door. Award recipients include Dr Sandra Hernandez for achievements in the medical field; jazz pianist & bandleader Patricia Thomas for achievement in music; and Carlos Todd, in recognition of his work as an educator. Adit'l awards voted by the lesbian & gay latino(a) community at large will be announced during the program. Entertainment by Ronnie Salazar, Billie & Tatum, and special guests. Info: 821-4425. Tit & available at Los Portales, 1500 Mission St. SF. Info: 771-3131.

Gayle Marie, with Jan Martinelli on piano: an eve of fine music at Mama Bears, 6536 Telegraph Ave, Oakland 8 pm, \$6-8. Women only. Info/fors: 428-9684.

Schmidt/Verdery Duo: Flute & Guitar. Rie Schmidt & Benja min Verdery are recognized as virtuoso in classical music. 8 pm, \$12 & \$10. SF War Memorial Green Room, 401 Van Ness Ave, SF. Spons by D'Addario Foundation for the Performing Arts. Info/fors: 726-1203 or 392-4400.

See As Is at MCC-SF. A play about living with AIDS. 12/1 has details.

Jennifer Bevan & Inge Hoogerhuis celebrate the release of Jennifer's new album, "Eye of the Storm," at Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St. SF. 8 pm, \$6-8 SL. Info: 821-0232.

At Sisterspirit Women's Bookstore/ Coffeehouse: concert with musician/songwriter Gretchen Koch & comic/musician Monica Park. 8:30 pm, \$4-8. 1040 Park Ave, San Jose. Info: (408) 293-9372.

ACA Intensive wkend workshop for Adult Children of Alcoholics with Dr Timmen Cermak, author of *A Time to Heal: The Road to Recovery for Adult Children of Alcoholics*. Experiential workshop for adults from alcoholic (and other dysfunctional families) who want to actively work on their recovery. 9 am-4:30 pm, today & tmw, \$145. Lone Mountain Conference Ctr, Turk & Parker Sts. SF. Space limited, pre-reg required. Info: 346-4460.

In the Company of Others: a Spiritually-based Training for Caregivers. Identify, explore & develop skills in pastoral, spiritual, emotional & practical care of persons with AIDS or other life-threatening illnesses. Two day-long sessions (today & 12/10) plus a day-long re-treat on 12/15, 12/10. 18 session topics: prayer & spiritual growth, self-care for caregivers, practical & emotional care, healing grief, death & dying, basic pastoral care skills, AIDS update. Spons by MCC-SF, for info: 863-4434, 150 Eureka St.

Christmas Shopping run with East Bay Frontrunners. Meet 9:30 am at the Ferry Bldg in SF for a run along the Embarcadero. Bring your plastic for a visit to Nordstrom's after the run. Info: 939-3579, 261-3246.

What's Doing in Recreation & Parks: 11:30 am-12:30 pm—Rhythm & Motion exercise class at Harvey Milk Rec Arts Bldg, 50 Scott St. SF. \$5.50 per class, \$32 for 8 classes. 5-6:30 pm: Adult Tennis Classes at North Beach Playground, Lombard & Mason Sts. SF. Donation—one unopened can of 3 tennis balls. Spons by SF Rec & Parks Dept. Info: 558-4268.

3 SATURDAY

Single Lesbians Over 50: Come to an easy day hike—call 654-2502.

Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir and AP Gannini Middle School Choir in concert at Crocker Galleria, Post & Kearny, SF. 1 pm. Benefit for Toys for Tots, bring a new, unwrapped toy to donate.

Women's Demonstration for Int'l Day to Stop Violence Against Women: demo to stop rape, anti-lesbian violence, racist attacks, incest, anti-abortion attacks, psychological torture & isolation of women political prisoners, etc. Bring noisemakers & signs. Meet 5:30 pm at Oak BART, 20th & Broadway. Gather at Union Square in SF at 6 pm. Spons by Women Against Imperialism & the Bay Area Pledge of Resistance. Endorsed by a diverse coalition of progressive groups. For info call 995-4735.

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Luisah Teish and Starhawk celebrate winter at the Women's Bldg. — see Sun., Dec. 4th.



Nan Washburn conducts the Community Women's Orchestra — see Tues., Dec. 6th.



A Glas Haus New Year's Eve of Romance & Fashion — see Sat., Dec. 31st.



Sharon McKnight's "Unbirthday" Concert — see Mon., Dec. 19th.



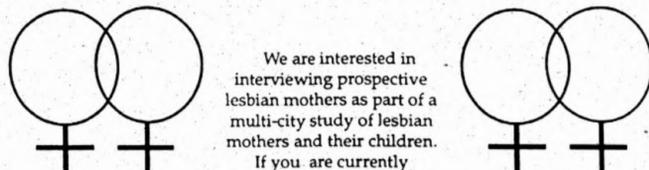
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LESBIAN MOTHER STUDY

ARE YOU HAVING A CHILD BY ALTERNATIVE INSEMINATION?



We are interested in interviewing prospective lesbian mothers as part of a multi-city study of lesbian mothers and their children.

If you are currently inseminating or pregnant, you may be a candidate for the study. If you have a partner who will be co-mothering, she also may be included.

The study is set up as a 20-year longitudinal study of lesbian families. The first interview will take place before the baby is born (or before conception, for women who are currently inseminating). Follow-up interviews will take place when the child is between 1 and 2 years old and when the child is 5, 10, and 17 years.

The interviewer will meet you at your home. All interviewers are lesbian mental health professionals.

If you would like to consider participating, please call
Nanette Gartrell, M.D. at 346-2336

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Comedy Night
Wednesdays 9-10 pm

Dec. 7
Cultura Clash
Ricardo Salinas
Richard Montoya
Herbert Sigüenza

Dec. 14
**Marilyn Pittman
Tom Ammanno
Marty Bleckman
Mike Berns**

Dec. 21
**Danny Williams
Maria Falzone
Suzy Berger
Ngaio Bealum**

Dec. 28
**Marga Gomez
Josh Kornbluth**

WOMEN OF EXCELLENCE DEC. 12
NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER DANCE DEC. 31

Bay Area Career Women offers you...

...contact and support from over 1000 professional and career-minded women in the Greater Bay Area. These are the business owners, entrepreneurs and achievers who care about sharing with you. Come to our next social event or networking meeting and find out more about all the bonus benefits BACW now offers you!

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- Enjoy support in your personal and professional life!

For confidential information, write: BACW, 55 New Montgomery St., Suite 606, San Francisco, CA 94105, or call 415-495-5393.

Name _____

Address _____

City State Zip _____

Phone _____

Rain or Shine Hike on Mt Tam with SF Hiking Club. Muir Woods to Pan Toll. Meet 9:30 am under the BIG Safeway sign at Market & Dolores. SF. Ascend the Dipsea Trail to ridge crest, loop over Old Mine & TCC trails, descend Bootjack Trail to Muir Woods. Moderate hike. 8 miles roundtrip. 1200 ft elevation gain. Most of route is forested & reasonably protected in stormy weather—if it rains, we'll enjoy the woods! Cost per car: \$5, includes bridge toll. Bring lunch, water & sunscreen. Info: Felix 826-2332. 7 am-11 pm.

Basic Tax & Recordkeeping Information for Self-Employed People, a seminar taught by Jan Zobel, EA. Spons by Options Institute. SF location. 10 am-4 pm. \$60. Info/fes: 821-1015.

Cocktail Cabaret at DNA Lounge, see 12/2.

Dealing With Your Family Now: 2 day workshop for women survivors of child sexual abuse. Deal with disclosures & confrontations; get an opportunity to work out personal strategies for dealing with your family of origin. Led by Laura Davis, author of *Courage to Heal*. SF location: 875-100 SL. Info/fes: Yvonne Fernandez 755-7554. Not wheelchair accessible.

rice Durulle's "Cum Jubilo" mass. Plus—a sumptuous buffet of chocolate delights from Bay Area chocolate makers. Fundraiser for the Black and White Men Together's Nat'l Taskforce on AIDS Prevention & their 1990 Convention Committee. 4:30 pm. \$10 gen'l. \$5 srs & students. Free to all people with AIDS & ARC. St Mark's Church, 1111 O'Farrell St. SF. Info: 931-BWMT or 673-8133. Wheelchair accessible.

At ClaireLight Women's Books: in the Annex—Sunlight reads from her new book, *Being: Guide to a New Way*, which came to her thru automatic writing. Learn how to find your own wise inner voice for guidance. 5 pm, free. 1110 Petaluma Hill Rd #5. Santa Rosa. Info: (707) 575-8879.

Dignity Mass at St Boniface Church, 133 Golden Gate, SF. 5:30 pm. Dignity, an organization of lesbian & gay Catholics & friends, is being forced to leave St Boniface by the SF Archdiocese, today's mass is one of 3 remaining masses that they will be able to hold in a Roman Catholic church (see 12/18 for final service). Come celebrate with them & show your support.

Cabaret at the Gallions: Sarm Gray, 5:30 pm, \$5. Cynthia Bythell, 8 pm, \$7. 718 14th St at Church/Market, SF. Info/fes: 431-0253.

Vegetarian Potluck spon by Feminists for Animal Rights. Followed by business mtg. All interested women are welcome. For info/location: 423-0686.

Sweet Honey in the Rock & Toshi Reagon in concert at Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell St. SF. Two shows: 6:30 & 9:30 pm. \$13. Info/fes: 885-0750.

Spiritual teachers, activists & lecturers, Luisa Tesh & Starhawk welcome writer with a ritual celebration of song, dance & merriment at the SF Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St. SF. 7-10:30 pm. \$8-12 SL.

Age songwriter/musicians Michael & Maloah Stillwater in a concert celebration to benefit Project Open Hand, an AIDS hot meal program. 7:30 pm. \$10. Swedish American Hall, 2174 Market St at Sanchez. SF. Info: 861-1667.

The Lab premieres "Thought Balloons", a performance event with Tom Patrick & Stephen Ronan. 7:30 pm. \$3. 1807 Divisadero St at Bush. SF. Info: 346-4063.

The Welfare Cheats (Pat Wynne, Bernard Gilbert, Brook Schoenfeld) in a concert of original music & satire at La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley. 7:30 pm. \$5-7. Info: 849-2568.

Sing-in-Yourself Messiah: annual holiday sing-a-long extravaganza spon by SF Conservatory. Tonight & tmw. 8 pm. \$15, \$25 & \$40. Davies Hall. SF. Info: 431-5400.

Messiah Sing-A-Long spon by the Cal State Hayward Music Dept. Orchestra of professionals, faculty & alumni features soloists Susan Witt, soprano; Ellen Carter, alto; Tom Acord, tenor & Richard Wagner, bass. David Stein conducts. Audience is joined by several University choirs in singing the choruses. 8 pm. \$7. Proceeds benefit the Music Scholarship Fund. At the University Theatre, Hayward. Scores available in the lobby for \$7. Info: 881-3167.

Big Rick Stuart of Live 105, brings you an eve of goodies at DNA Lounge. Also *The BBO Killers* and *McM and The Monster*. 9 pm, \$3. 375 11th St. SF. Info: 626-2532.

Lake Merritt Loop Run with SF Front-runners. Meet 10 am at the colonade for a flat 5K (one loop) or 10K (double loop). Take 580 to Grand Ave, turn right, the Colonade is visible at east end of the lake. Meet 9 am at Church & Market. Saleway, SF, for carpool. Info: Jim 922-1435 or Margaret 821-3719.

Electric City Gay TV—see 12/2.

Holiday Art Sale at the Sharon Art In-

4 SUNDAY

Victorian Holiday Open House at the historic Haas-Lienthal House: usher in the holiday spirit with a glimpse into the Victorian tradition of Christmas celebration. Program includes children's choral group, quartet of singers, dressed in Victorian garb. Feast on traditional holiday fare. Special auction & holiday gift sale, plus a special appearance from Santa Claus. 1-5 pm. Santa shows up at 3:57 adults, \$2.50 kids under 18. Spons by Heritage, the foundation for SF's architectural heritage. Info: 441-3000.

Meeting: Vols 3 & 4 will be signed by Brad Parker, Bruce Billings, Kurt Erichsen, the Hun, Vaughn, Dave Young, Michael Goldbers, Professor IB Gitten-downe & Gerard Donelan. Brad Parker also signs his own book, *Oh Boy*. 2-4 pm at The Love That Dares Bookshop, 506 Castro St. SF. Info: 582-5111.

2nd Annual AIDS Dance-a-Thon at the I-Beam, 1748 Haight St. SF. 2 pm-midnight, individuals or businesses gather pledges for the hours each person dances. Entertainment provided by celebrities, awards go to individuals or company teams that raise the most money. Get involved—last year's dance raised over \$25,000. A great way to have a good time & help others. Proceeds benefit the Mobilization Against AIDS, Shanti Project, AIDS Emergency Fund & the SF Black Coalition on AIDS. Info: 863-4676.

Last day to see *As Is* at MCC-SF. Don't miss—see 12/1 for details.

Old First Concerts series presents Jacqueline Chew, piano. 4 pm, \$7 gen'l, \$5 strdnts & srs. Program: Olivier Messiaen's *vignt regards sur l'Enfant Jesus*, Van Ness & Sacramento Sts. SF. Info: 474-1636.

Carlos Grant at El Rio: 4-8 pm, free. 3158 Mission St. SF. Info: 282-3325.

Candlelight Concert & Chocolate Tasting: a Christmas concert with *Die Man-nerstimmen*, a chamber chorus of Men's Voices. Program includes traditional, classical & popular holiday music with *The Gentlemen Carolers*: organist/pianist Carroll Heath, and entertainer Peter Barclay. Dr Daniel Hoggatt conducts Mau-

5 MONDAY

Help Sexually Abused Children: children don't lie about sexual assault, they need someone who will believe them. You can help, volunteer at the Rape Crisis Ctr 237-0113.

Noe Valley Community Chanukah Party: third night of Chanukah party, co-spons by Noe Valley Ministry & SF Jewish Community Ctr. Potluck meal (bring salad or dessert to share) with potato latkes, stories & candlelighting, followed by music, dancing & dreidel games. Music by *Simcha Orchestra*. Bring a menorah to light. Families welcome. 6:30 pm food, 8 pm music. \$5 adults, kids free. 1021 Sanchez St. SF. RSVP/info: 346-6040.

Art Works Series on Culture & Democracy spon by New College & Alliance for Cultural Democracy continues with "Educating—A Non-Hierarchical Approach of Informing & Challenging Audiences Thru Art". Panelists Ernesto Revelto de Teatro Nuestro and graphic artist SF State faculty member Leon Sun discuss their approaches to art & education. 7:30 pm, \$3. New College of Calif, 777 Valencia St. SF. Info: Joe Lambert 885-2790.

Gay Men's Domestic Violence educational seminar for victims & friends of victims. Do you wonder if you're in a violent relationship? Do you know how to get out? Come get info & help. You're not alone. 7:30-9:30 pm at 220 Danvers (corner of Caselli & Danvers), SF.

Sing-in-Yourself Messiah: annual holiday sing-a-long extravaganza spon by SF Conservatory. 8 pm at Davies Hall. SF. Tix: \$15, \$25 & \$40. Info: 431-5400.

BATS (Bay Area Theatresports), members of the local theatre/comedy community, put the "jock" back in jocolarity with a comedy improv Main Match, featuring veteran BATS players in a holiday theme competition. 8 pm. SF. New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St. SF. Info/fes: 824-8220.

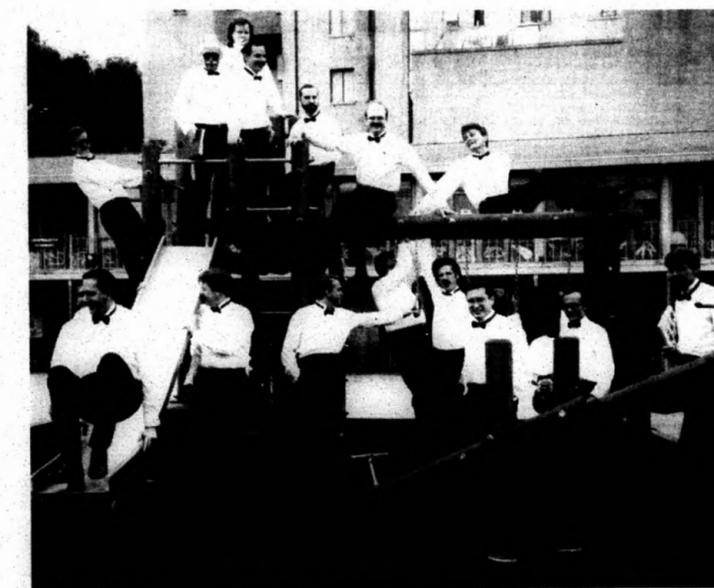
"The World Within", a concert (part of Noh Oratorio Society's Noh Particular Monday Concerts series) featuring the most recent dramatic work by English composer Gordon Crosse. Dramatic cantata for mezzo-soprano & 10 instruments, an exploration of the inner & outer selves of Emily Bronte. 8 pm. \$8. Hatley-Martin Gallery, 41 Powell St. SF. Info/fes: 863-3027, 861-0560.

6 TUESDAY

Longing: author Paul Reed signs copies & reads from his new novel at The Love That Dares Bookshop, 506 Castro St. SF. 6-7 pm. Info: 552-5111.

Today's the final day to see German filmmaker Monika Traut's *The Virgin Machine*, a coming of age/coming out story about a young German woman who leaves steady Berlin for wild SF. See 12/1 for details.

Wings of Shelter: a benefit for Women living with AIDS. 7 pm at Great American Music Hall. Concert features Cris Williamson with Tret Fure, Betsy Rose, Marga Gomez, Maria Cora & the Dance Brigade, Cris Williamson w/Tret Fure; Betsy Rose, Marga Gomez, Maria Cora & the Dance



Golden Gate Men's Chorus presents "This is Christmas" — see Tues., Dec. 6th.

7 WEDNESDAY

Wed Matinee for Lesbian & Gay Seniors: lively afternoon of movies, discussion & refreshments. Free. At North of Market Senior Ctr, 333 Turk St. SF.

8 THURSDAY

Today's the deadline for "Matriarchal Past Life Journey", a workshop for Women's 12/11 for details.

Older Gay Men's Friendship Group (60+) meets 2:45 pm in the Friendship Room, 711 Eddy St. SF. Spon by Operation Concern's GLOE (Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders). Info: GLOE 626-7000. Today & 12/22.

Contemporary folk music for women: program at A Woman's Place Bookstore features Charlene Mason, Ann MacDonald, Margot Kimble & special guests. 7 pm, \$2-6 SL. A Woman's Place Bookstore, 4015 Broadway, Oakl. Info: 547-9920.

Bingo 101: spon by SF Jewish Community Ctr. Singles & seniors gather at the Jewish Home for the Aged tonight, on the 8th night of Chanukah, for songs, candlelighting, food, entertainment and

9 FRIDAY

Brigade. SIGN by Susan Freundlich. Wheelchair accessible. 859 O'Farrell St. SF. Info: 885-0750. Tix: \$13.50. Available at A Woman's Place (Oakl) & Old Wives Tales (SF) bookstores. Info: 885-0750.

Southbay SOL (Slightly Older Lesbians) meet 7-9 pm at DeFrank Ctr, 1040 Park Ave. (bet Race & Lincoln). San Jose. Tonight's Dance Night—learn the art of partner dancing—guaranteed to increase your fun & marketability! Info: (408) 293-4525 (leave message). New-comers welcome.

Have Your Body Drawn Night with Gay Men's Sketch Group. 7-10 pm. First come, first served, nudity not required. Buy drawings for \$10 (gift certificates available). 1229 Valencia St. SF. Info: 621-6294.

Lesbian/Gay Open Poetry Reading: bring your favorite poems to share with others. 8:30 pm at Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. SF. Info: 282-9246.

The Berkeley Gamelan in concert at La Pena: an eve of modern compositions for gamelan orchestra. Instruments based on original Indonesian models, built by orchestra founder Daniel Schmidt. 7:30 pm. \$4. 3105 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley. Info: 849-2568.

Writing From Life: A Reading With Reflections on the Autobiographical Process, a talk with Madelon Sprengnether, poet & essayist & co-editor of *Mother Tongue*. 8 pm at El Rio, 3158 Mission St. SF. Info: 282-3325.

As You Like It Books, 2556 Telegraph Ave. Berkeley. Info: 848-2291.

Womyn's Mtg: spon by Golden Gate MCC (Metropolitan Community Church). 7:30 pm. 48 Belcher St. SF. Info: 621-6300.

German Language Class spon by FOG. Join Fraternal Order of Gays & learn German in a relaxed, non-competitive atmosphere. Beginners class, emphasis on conversation. Tues in December at FOG House, 304 Gold Mine Dr. SF. Info/fes: 641-0959.

Bay Area Jazz Composers Orchestra performs new works by Bay Area composers. 8-11 pm at Kimball's, 300 Grove St. SF. Info: 861-5555. Part of City Celebration's Jazz in Flight series.

Community Women's Orchestra, a spon project of the Bay Area Women's Philharmonic, presents a concert at the Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St. SF. Nan Washburn, conductor. Program includes works by Gwyneth Walker, Wilhemina von Bayreuth & Franz Joseph Haydn. 8:15 pm, free; donations welcome. Info: 626-4688.

Golden Gate Men's Chorus presents "This is Christmas," directed by Steve Repasky. 8 pm. St. Francis Church, 152 Church St. Program includes music from the Libre Vermell, the Pie Cantiones, and "Angelus Domini." \$7 in advance from Headlines, mail or members: \$9 at the door. Info: 861-2945.

10 SATURDAY

Spore by Operation Concern's GLOE (Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders). For info call GLOE 626-7000.

Eastbay Women's Community Forum: for Eastbay women to identify the community's needs & assess surviving resources. Called in response to the recent losses of the Berkeley Women's Ctr, Plexus, Olie's, the Bay Area Women's News and other mainstays of the Eastbay feminist community. 7 pm at A Woman's Place Bookstore, 4015 Broadway, Oakl. All Eastbay women are welcome to attend. Info: 654-3645.

Wed Women's Sex Talk: Good Vibrations bi-monthly discussion group, focuses on women's sexuality. A place for women to get together, share experiences & info about sex. 7-9 pm, \$5. 3492 22nd St at Dolores. SF. Info/fes: 550-7399.

Report from El Salvador. Video & analysis of the current situation in El Salvador. 7:30 pm, \$3-5 SL. 3105 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley. Info: 849-2568.

Macho Sluts Bookparty & Reading: Pat Califia reads from her stunning collection of s/m fantasy & adventure—an exploration of previously forbidden territory—an incestuous Victorian triangle, a lesbian's encounter with 3 gay male cops, & more. 7:30 pm, free. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. SF. Info: 282-9246.

Comedy Night at El Rio with Culture Clash—Ricardo Salinas, Richard Montoya & Herbert Sigüenza. 8-10 pm, \$15. Mission St. SF. Info: 282-3325.

Outlook lesbian/gay video program features self-defense demo & discussion on women health care workers & their issues. 9 pm. PCTV cable network in Oakland, Berkeley, Alameda, Emeryville, Piedmont & El Cerrito.

Electric City Gay TV, see 12/2.

Sleep Disorders & Snoring: a lecture by James K Brown, MD. Besides disturbing your partner, snoring may indicate that you have a more serious health problem. Attend today's free lecture, part of UCSF's Brown Bag lecture series. Noon-1 pm, room 300, Health Sciences West Bldg, 513 Parnassus Ave. SF. Info: 476-4394.

24 HENRY

An intimate guesthouse located on a quiet, tree-lined street in the heart of the Castro district. Near numerous gay bars, restaurants and public transportation.

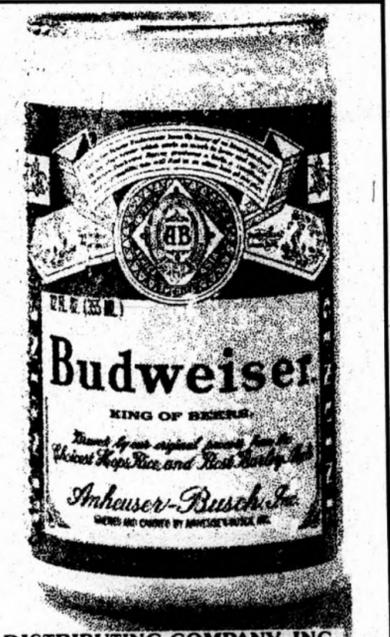
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4 SUNDAY

Along the Way, award winning experimental travelogue at the Kabuki — see Mon., Dec. 12th.

Arnoldo Ramos, int'l rep of the Political Diplomatic Commission of El Salvador's FMLN/FDR (Farabundo Mari Nat'l Liberation Front/Democratic Revolutionary Front) is the keynote speaker at tonight's public forum spon by CISPES (Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador) program focuses on the deepening US policy crisis in El Salvador & the role of FMLN/FDR in its resolution. 7 pm. \$5-7. American Indian Ctr, 225 Valencia St. SF. Info: 648-8222.

Solo Cabaret III, featuring men from the SF Gay Men's Chorus. 7:30 pm at Chappes Bar & Grill, 131 Gough St. bet Page & Oak. SF. \$5 cover, no drink min. **Radiant Light Ministries** presents New

5 MONDAY

stitute (affiliated with SF's Recreation & Park Dept). Sale of ceramics, jewelry & glassine. 11 am-5 pm nr the Children's Playground, Golden Gate Park. SF. Info: 558-4394.

3rd Annual ClaireLight Holiday Party come join in—bring an ornament to decorate the tree. Lots of holiday cheer, refreshments, door prizes, discounts. Noon-5 pm. 1110 Petaluma Hill Rd #5 Santa Rosa. Info: (707) 575-8879.

Lesbians of Color Artists Sketch Group mtg & potluck brunch: noon-3 pm. Life drawing and other visual art work. Call ahead to reserve a space volunteer models needed. Berkeley location. Info/fes: 848-7433 or 826-8856

6 TUESDAY

Wings of Shelter: a benefit for women living with AIDS with Maria Cora & the Dance Brigade, Cris Williamson w/Tret Fure; Betsy Rose, Marga Gomez — see Tues., Dec. 6th.



Wings of Shelter: a benefit for women living with AIDS with Maria Cora & the Dance Brigade, Cris Williamson w/Tret Fure; Betsy Rose, Marga Gomez — see Tues., Dec. 6th.



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10th Annual WOMEN'S BUILDING ARTS & CRAFTS FAIR

Saturday & Sunday
December 10, 11 & 17, 18, 1988
10 a.m. until 6 p.m.

ENTERTAINERS
Mimi Fox; Jackie Jones; Rhiannon; Sistah Boom; Faye Carol and Kito Gamble; Judy Fjell; Crystal Reeves; Disciples of Prayer; Sharon Page Ritchie; San Jose Taiko Ensemble; Jessica Williams and More!

The Women's Building
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TWELVE NIGHTS OF CHRISTMAS

PERFORMANCES START AT 7:30 PM IN OUR FRONT LOUNGE

TUESDAY, 12/13

LAUREN MAYER
and KATIBELLE COLLINS
ALDO BELL BOB VISINI

WEDNESDAY, 12/14

JOHN MAGEE
and EDDIE BLANDINI
with PHILIP CASEY

THURSDAY & FRIDAY 12/15-16
No Performance
See Our Recommendation Below

SATURDAY, 12/17

"THE VOCAL MINORITY"

SUNDAY, 12/18

SCOTT JOHNSTON
JULIE MOORE
SOLOMON ROSE
MORGEN AIKEN

MONDAY, 12/19

TIM DIPASQUA
with TOM ANDERSEN
IRENE SODERBERG
MICHAEL LEVESQUE

THE SF GAY MEN'S CHORUS with THE LESBIAN/GAY CHORUS OF SF
perform "NOW SING WITH HEARTS AGLOW" present show tickets
and get 2 for 1 dinners before or after the show

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& a rousing game of bingo! Volunteer your time & you'll be giving the best gift you can give. Also bring a small wrapped gift for one of the seniors, if you can: 7 pm. Jewish Home for the Aged, 302 Silver Ave at Mission, SF. Info/RSVP: SFJCC 346-6040.

Women's Alcohol-Free Social at Mama Bears: Tarot reading available by Suzanne Judith (\$10, call to reserve time), 7-11 pm. Women only. 6536 Telegraph Ave, Oakland. Info: 428-9684.

BWMT SF Gen 1 Mmbrship Mtg: 7:30-10 pm at 1350 Waller St. SF. Info: Black & White Men Together 931-BWMT. SF Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade & Celebration Booths Committee mtg: 1st mtg for the 1989 Parade. 7:30 pm. 1519 Mission St. SF. Info: 864-FREE.

AIDS: The Women—bookparty & reading to celebrate this new book, an anthology of writings by women whose lives—as caregivers, as people with AIDS, as family—have been touched by the AIDS epidemic. Readers/contributors include: Patricia Ruppelt, Ruth Schwartz, Judi Stone, Priscilla Alexander & Jacklyn Brookman. 7:30 pm, free. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. SF. Info: 282-9246.

Palo Alto Lesbian Rap Group meets 7:30-9 pm at Mid-Peninsula YWCA, 4161 Alma St. Palo Alto. Come play The UrGame—a game that allows you to know others (and yourself) better. Info: Marilyn 969-1260.

"The Subject is Lesbians", a slide lecture by photographer Cathy Cade, author of *A Lesbian Photo Album*. Etc of slides showing the strength, pride & diversity of lesbians. 7:30 pm, \$5. Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St. SF. Spons by the SF Bay Area Gay & Lesbian Historical Society. Info: 552-4929.

"Hope for Our Times": a paradigm of psychology and spirituality, a lecture by Dr Elizabeth Kubler-Ross & Kevin Ryerson, Charles Thomas Chayton & Michael Smith. In addition to speaking individually, Dr Kubler-Ross will also have a conversation with the spirit entities channeled by Mr Ryerson. Also question-and-answer period. 7:30 pm, \$20. Benefit for Kubler-Ross' Shanti Nilaya (Home of Peace) Foundation. Tax at 84SS. Limited number of complimentary tickets available thru the SF AIDS Fdn, call 864-4376 for details. Masonic Auditorium, 1111 California St. SF.

Outlook lesbian/gay video program features self-defense demo & a look at women AIDS caregivers & their issues. 8 pm, complimentary ticket available thru the SF AIDS Fdn, call 864-4376 for details. Masonic Auditorium, 1111 California St. SF.

Winter Place: Gerry Lim's new performance art piece explores the landscape of the human condition. A chronicle, with stories, poems & visions, of the passage of two women, mother & daughter, thru the seasons of life. Winter Place is set in Pure Land, a series of narrative doll reliefs based on the goddess-mother figure Kuan Yin & created by Cassandra Light of Berkeley's Way of the Doll School & Gallery. Saxophone/flute played by Frances Wong.

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Folk-Rock Blues with The Hall Hammer Band at La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley, 8 pm, \$4. Info: 849-2568.

The great vocal groups at Great American Music Hall: *The Persuasions* and *The Gospel Hummingbirds*. 8 & 10:30 pm, \$12.50. Info/RSVP: 885-0750.

Fishbone Listening Party at DNA Lounge, with a brand new video, plus giveaways. Free posters, albums, etc; first come, first served. 9:30-10:30 pm, free! 375 11th St. SF. Info: 626-2532.

9

FRIDAY

Piercing Clinic with Coulter Thomas & Jim Ward. Private piercing by appt in South of Market flat. 1983 Int'l Mr Leather, Colt Thomas, does piercing in a mirrored playroom. Info/appt: Mark 621-6294. Strict hygiene observed. Open to men & women.

Int'l Poetry Reading Series at the Press Club: features American poet Richard Chetwynd. 7 pm reception, followed by 8 pm reading, question & answer period & broadside & booksigning ceremony, 555 Post St. SF.

New Moon Giveaway Celebration: song, dance & poetry with Rasham & Anisak Razak. 7:30 pm at Berkeley Moving Arts, 2200 Parker at Fulton, SF. \$5-7 donation. Bring a cushion to sit on and a gift to give away. A time to pay homage to the turning seasons & the rhythms which affect our lives. A sacred evening to honor the dark woman as we move toward Solstice.

Girth & Mirth Club of SF: business mtg to discuss the club logo, membership cards & coming events. Members & friends welcome. 7:30 pm, 3744 16th St #3, SF.

BWMT Eastbay Rep: tonight's topic—Interacial Gay Relationships in Film!



Tash Weap is Bette the juggler extraordinaire, with The Pickle Family Circus — see Sat., Dec. 10th.

Video: 7:30-10 pm, 3135 Courtland Ave, Oakland. Info: 261-7922.

Waltz & Cha Cha Lessons for Lesbians & Gay Men: 7:30-9:30 pm for beginners, 8:30-9:30 pm for intermediate. Jon Sims Ctr for the Performing Arts, 1519 Mission St at 11th (across from the Coca-Cola Bldg). SF. Info: 995-4962.

Judy Fjell Concert at Mama Bears, 6536 Telegraph Ave, Oakland, 8 pm, \$6-8. Women only. Info/RSVP: 428-9684.

Thinking Tun Fish, Talking Death: Robert Scheer, *Los Angeles Times* nat'l correspondent, prepares us for the future by analyzing the past. Scheer celebrates publication of his new book with a discussion of how power is created, held and pornographically exercised in America. 8 pm, free. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. SF. Info: 282-9246.

A Holiday Concert with the Pacific Chamber Singers, directed by Robin Kay. Program includes: 16th century Spanish carols; works by Bloch, Poulenc, Rachmaninoff, PDQ Bach & Lehner; early English carols. Also audience sing-along of Handel's Messiah "Hallelujah Chorus." Brass quartet provided by the SF Conservatory of Music. 8 pm tonight at St Mark's Episcopal Church, Bancroft & Ellsworth Sts, Berkeley. Program repeats in SF on 12/16 & 17 at 8 pm at St Mark's Lutheran Church, 1111 O'Farrell St. SF. Tax \$10, entire donation goes to the SF AIDS Foundation Food Bank. Info: 861-3104.

Old First Concert series features Annelisa Winberg & Roy Stevens in an evening of duets & arias. 8 pm, \$8 gen'l, \$6 students & srs. Van Ness & Sacramento, SF. Info: 474-1608.

Betty Kaplowitz in concert at Artemis with Michelle Kreil on keyboards & Abby Shearer on guitar. 8 pm, \$5. 1199 Valencia St. SF. Info: 821-0232.

Original New Folk Songs with Wingshifter/Stephen Rave at Cafe Faria. Songs that tell stories you'll never hear from your President. Taut, lyrical look at the idiocies of Reagan's America & last month's elections, also Wobbly song revival & songs dealing with our relationship to nature & each other. 8 pm, free. 2773 24th St. SF (next to York Theatre). Info: 431-7980.

7th Night of Hanukkah: come light candles with Congregation Ahavat Shalom. Regular Shabbat service begins with a group menorah lighting. Bring your own menorah, or borrow one. 8:15 pm, 150 Eureka St. SF. Info: 621-1026.

At Sisterspirit Women's Bookstore/Coffeehouse: singer Deirdre McCalla celebrates her new album, "With A Little Luck." 8:30 pm, \$5-8. 1040 Park Ave, San Jose. Info: (408) 293-9372.

Improvisation at La Pena with Over Our Heads. 8:30 pm, \$6-8. 3105 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley. Info: 849-2568.

Three Hellhounds at DNA Lounge: 10 pm, \$6. 375 11th St. SF. Tonight & tmw and 12/16-17, 23-24. Info: 626-2532.

Cory Iwatsu at El Rio: 10 pm-2 am, free. 3158 Mission St. SF. Info: 282-3325.

SF's Pickle Family Circus Annual Writer Show returns to dazzling audiences with a brand-new show of traditional circus skills. Lots of inspired, highly-skilled juggling, clowning, tumbling and more! Thru 1/2 at Palace of Fine Arts Theatre at Lyon & Bay Sts. SF. Tax \$15 adults, \$7 kids & srs. For showtimes & other info call 826-5678. Get your tax early!

Handel's Messiah Pt I: chorus, soloists, strings & organ. 7:30 pm at MCC-SF. 150 Eureka St. SF. Free will offering. All welcome. Info: 863-4434.

Guerrillas in the Middle: a Chanukah Reading by the Jewish Lesbian Writer Group with Barbara Ruth, Elana Dyke-womon, Jano, Jasmine Marah, Judith Masur, Lisa Carlin, Nina Wouk & Taya Schaffer. 7:30 pm, \$4-12. No one turned away for lack of funds. SIGN, WA, Childcare vouchers/reimbursement available. Accessible to women with EI (environmental illness). No scented products, please. Women only. The Brick Hut, 3222 Adeline, Berkeley.

SF Wrestling Club Christmas Potluck Party: 7:30-11:30 pm. Info/Location: Jim 821-9721.

MCC-SF Christmas Concert: Handel's Messiah, pt 1. Performed by the Festival Choir with chamber string ensemble. Directed by Bob Crocker. 7:30 pm. Offering taken for the church organ fund. 150 Eureka St. SF. Info: 863-4434.

Pat Bond does Gertrude Stein: Pat recreated her acclaimed one-woman show. Too good to miss! 8 pm, \$8 at Mama Bears. Women only. 6536 Telegraph Ave, Oakland. Info/RSVP: 428-9684.

Live Aid Palestine! Concert for medical aid for Palestinians living in the occupied West Bank & Gaza. Entertainment with Dance Brigade, Altazor, Lichi Fuentes and Al Awda Palestinian Cultural Ensemble. 8 pm, \$10 adv, \$12 at door. Victoria Theatre, 2961 16th St. SF. For info/RSVP: Palestine Solidarity Committee 861-1552.

Robin Heller returns to Artemis Cafe, with Pam Hession on piano. 9 pm, \$4. 1199 Valencia St. SF. Info: 821-0232.

Voices of Women in Exile: Alicia Parroy, former Argentinian political prisoner & author, reads from her books, *You Can't Drown the Fire*; *Latin American Women Writing in Exile* and *The Little School*; *Tales of Disappearance* & *Survival*. 7:30 pm, \$5. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. SF. Info: 282-9246.

FOG Alaska Cruise/Social: Fraternal Order of Gays' film/discussion on their upcoming cruise to Alaska (12-day cruise departs 5/7/89). Come tonight for details on this fabulous tour! 8 pm at FOG House, 304 Gold Mine Dr. SF. Or call 641-0999 for more details.

At ClaireLight Women's Books: an eve of intimate comedy with Olga Gomez, "Woman Off Color." Res. by voted SF Entertainer of the Year. Mtn is sure to get you laughing your pants off—don't miss. She's joined by special guest Gayle Remick. 8 pm, \$6-9 SL. Get it early. 1110 Petaluma Hill Rd #5, Santa Rosa. Info: (707) 575-8879.

Last Night of Chanukah Folk Dance Marathon sponsored by the SF Jewish Community Ctr's Cafe Shalom Folk Dance Club. An all-night marathon of folk dancing, food & fun. 8:30 pm-4 am. 3200 California St. SF. 646-6400.

Decorate the Sanctuary Day at MCC-SF. Help decorate the church for Christmas. Everyone welcome. 9 am, 150 Eureka St. SF. Info: 863-4434.

Lafayette-Moraga Trail, Walnut Creek Run with Eastbay Frontrunners. Take Rte 24 East to Pleasant Hill Rd exit. GO SOUTH on Pleasant Hill Rd & Olympic Blvd. Turn right on Olympic Blvd, meet

at 9:30 am in first parking lot immediately on right. Info: 939-3579 or 261-3246.

Afro-Cuban dance rhythms with Charanga Tumbao y Cuerdos. 9:30 pm, \$6. La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley. Info: 849-2568.

Wildcat Canyon Regional Park Hike with SF Hiking Club: meet 9:45 am under the BIG Safeway sign at Market & Dolores. SF. 7 mile, moderate to strenuous exploratory hike in the Berkeley Hills & on San Pablo Ridge. Berkeley. Info: 849-2568. A vast landscape views in clear weather. Cost per car: \$4 includes bridge toll. Bring lunch, water & sunscreen. Rain cancels. Info: Jim 665-5578.

What About My Needs? Wkshp for lesbian partners of incested sexual abuse survivors. Learn about the dynamics of the partner position, share experiences, discover new ways to take care of yourself. 10 am-5 pm, \$55. Info/RSVP: Miriam Smolover, MFCC 428-1512. Info: 863-4434.

Easy Birdwatching Trip with Gay/Lesbian Sierrans. Meet 10 am at Church/Market at 5:00 PM. Drive to Newmark Slough for a 5 mile loop trail thru open marshes near tidepools. Bring warm clothing, binoculars, lunch & liquids. Info: 383-7096, you don't need to reserve a space.

10th Annual Women's Bldg Arts & Crafts Fair: The Women's Bldg celebrates a full year of promoting women in the arts with this year's Fair! Annual event includes crafts from over 100 craftswomen: sculpture, pottery, jewelry, weaved fabric, leatherwork, woodwork, original clothing, glassware and more. Also massage, tarot-reading & medicinal herbs available. Plus a variety of other foods and lots of entertainment—jazz, gospel, bluegrass, martial arts, latin rhythms, comics, storytellers & more. 10 am-6 pm, today & tmw, & 12/17-18. Today's entertainment line-up features: Jackie Jones: Hand to Hand; kung fu performance: Mimi Fox & Herby Lewis; Avotcja & Lisa Cohen, plus *Conjuncto* Cespedes. Tix: \$3.50-8 SL, srs & kids under 12 are free. The Fair is a major fundraiser for the Women's Bldg. 3543 18th St. SF. Info: 431-1180. Wheelchair Accessible.

Surviving the Healing Process: wkshp for women survivors of childhood sexual abuse. Use writing & group sharing to learn about the healing process, experience that you're not alone, set goals for your healing, and learn to take care of yourself while you heal. 7:30-10:30 PM. Led by Laura Davis, author of *Courage to Heal: A Guide for Women Survivors of Child Sexual Abuse*. Info/RSVP: Yvonne Fernandes 755-7554. Not wheelchair accessible.

The Hellhounds at DNA Lounge. see 12/9.

Plum City Players Kids Program features music with singer Judy Fjell & laughs with Anne the Clown. 10:30 am, \$3 adults, \$2 kids. La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley. Info: 849-2568.

March Against Racism & for Power to the People: gather at 68th Ave & E 14th St. Oakland; march to City Hall for noon rally with culture & speakers Huey P Newton & Omal Yeshitela. Info/carpools/donations: 569-9620.

Piercing Clinic at Mr S Leather: noon-5 pm, privacy assured. Strict hygiene observed. Open to men & women. 1779 Folsom St. SF. Info/appt: Col 863-7764. "40 Years of Hope" Amnesty Intl USA Western Region marks the 40th anniversary of the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights with a Human Rights Day celebration. Featured speakers: John G Healey, Paul Hoffman, Michael Roosevelt, Ginetta Sagan & three former prisoners of conscience—Hiber Conteris, Alicia Parroy & Carmen Popescu. Special appearance by Joan Baez. Noon-1:30 pm at Grace Cathedral, 1051 Taylor St. SF.

11 SUNDAY
FOG Afternoon Game Fest: have some fun, meet new friends. Variety of board & card games, snacks & refreshments served. Info: Fraternal Order of Gays 641-0999. 2 pm at FOG House, 304 Gold Mine Dr. SF.

Matriarchal Past Life Journey: guided meditation for women. Many matriarchal cultures are being rediscovered. Take a journey that reveals a past life that you may have had in a matriarchal culture. Wkshp for women with some experience with energy, meditation & grounding. 2-5 pm, \$25. Pre-reg by 12th. Wkshp may repeat next week. Info: 652-6355.

Latke Lusu Chanukah Party with Congregation Sha'ar Zahav: wear your favorite Hawaiian costume, have an afternoon of eating latkes (potato pancakes), dancing, schmoozing & other festive stuff. 2-6 pm, \$7. Special kids' program, kids admitted free. Unitarian Ctr. Geary/Franklin, SF. Info: 861-6932.

Community Healing Service sponsored by the AIDS Interfaith Network of the East Bay. Interdenominational service, everyone welcome, including those living with AIDS & AIDS-related conditions & their caregivers. Lake Merritt United Methodist Church, 3755 13th Ave at Park Blvd, Oakland. Info: 523-5011 or 482-3937.

Speak Out in Mendocino, sponsored by WOMB (Wombyn of Mendocino Bay), a feminist organization for Mendocino area womyn of all ages. 3-8 pm, Mendocino High School cafeteria. Unstructured forum, open mike. Womyn only. Donation requested. For info write: WOMB, PO Box 1411, Mendocino 95460.

Christmas Gala & Dance Along Nutcracker: SF Band Foundation's 4th Annual Holiday Celebration. Includes a 50s-style spoof of "I Love Lucy," featuring Gail Wilson as Lucy & Margie Gomez as Ricky. 6 pm at Theatre Artaud, 450 Florida St at 17th. SF. Tix: \$50 sponsor, \$25 preferred seating, \$15 gen'l admission. A funny & beautiful holiday extravaganza. don't miss! Charge-by-phone 552-3656. Tix at STBS Union Square.

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SPECIAL EVENTS
Saturday, December 24
Special Christmas Eve Celebration at 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday, December 6 at 7:30 p.m.
Womyn's Meeting
Tuesday to Saturday
Rest Stop Support Center for People with AIDS/ARC/HIV & their families and friends
134 Church Street
Every Sunday
Worship Celebrations
10:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
Call for Other Scheduled Events

Rev. Jim Sandmire, Pastor
Worship: 48 Belcher Street
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Driftwood Lounge
Check out our NEW DANCE FLOOR!
12/7 Black & White Affair cash prizes at midnite
12/10 Trim the Tree Party at 5pm
12/12 Mexican Fiesta
12/13 General Assembly Meeting
12/25 Christmas Day, open at 5 pm
12/31 New Year's Eve Bash
SPAGHETTI FEEDS & "OLDIES TAPES"
EVERY TUESDAY EVENING \$17.50
581-2050
22170 Mission Blvd., Hayward
OPEN DAILY 2 pm to 2 a.m.
DROP BY AND PICK UP OUR MONTHLY CALENDAR

IT'S KINDERGYM PARTY TIME!
Kindergym, games & activities for adults & children (infants—school age)
Sunday, December 18, 1988
11am-2pm, Potluck lunch 12-1pm
At the Berkeley YMCA, 2001 Allston Way (near Milvia)
\$5/Adult, Children FREE
*Children — wear shoes & socks that can come off for kindergym
The Parenting Project is sponsored by Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services & the Lesbian Rights Project
For more info call (415) 641-0220

CLUB RAPTURE
SAN FRANCISCO
a dance club FOR WOMEN BY WOMEN
Saturdays ~ 9-2am (at Scooters)
22 4th St. (off Market), SF
five dollars

Bring your sugar plum to the S.F. Band Foundation's 4th annual Christmas Gala & Dance Along Nutcracker — see Sun., Dec. 11th.

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Design a Gay Life with no boundaries.
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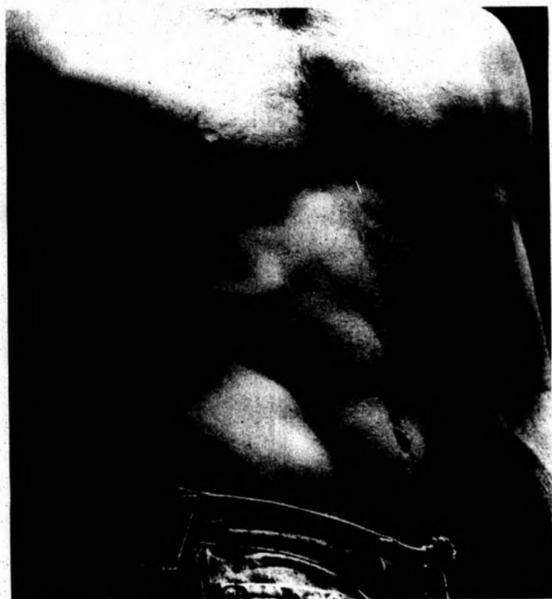
A WOMAN'S PLACE BOOKSTORE
BACK IN STOCK: TAPES AND LPs!
DECEMBER
1st: Cheryl Wade, Barbara Ruth, Adrian Poetry Reading. 7:30-9pm, donation.
7th: Women's Community Meeting 7-9pm
8th: Live Acoustic Folk Music, evening, \$2-6 sliding.
11th: Reception for "The Eternal One of the Dream," ceramic mask work, 3-5pm, donation.
14th: "Helping Yourself Enjoy the Holidays" a workshop for adult children of dysfunctional families. 7-9pm, \$3-5 sliding.
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Photo by Stephen Sauter

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Thank you for your continued support.

Comments and inquiries welcome.

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See Mostefa Djam in Werner Schroeter's *The Rose King* at the Roxie — see Mon., Dec. 12th.

historical lesbian novel taking place in 17th century London. 7 pm, free. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. SF. Info: 282-9246.
Higher Ground acappella trio sings songs of freedom & love, based on gospel music with a distinctive twist. Cassette release party for *Higher Ground's* first cassette! Also guest performances by Jon Fromer, the *Harmonie Singers*, & Dave Lippman. Benefit for the Catholic Worker's feeding the homeless in People's Park program. 7:30 pm \$3-10 SL. La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. Info: 849-2568.
Benefit Reading at The Lab for 89 Magazine. Features local poet & Bay Area Book Review Award winner August Kleinzahler. Program ranges from poetry & fiction to multi-media performance. Includes story by Gudrun Thompson about a lesbian in the sex industry, a chapter from Sandra Darrin's novel about potato talkies, a performance by minimalist dancer Joey Ferris, slides, music & storytelling by Solobdan Dan Paich, readings by poets Gary Szabo, David Jenkins, Thomas Avena, Ellen Romano, Howard Pugh & Elizabeth Claman. 7:30 pm, \$5. 1807 Divisadero St. at Bush, SF. Info: 346-4063.
In Search of a new & contemporary holiday event? Tonight's Out of Hiding: Music by Real Living Local Composers concert series program features holiday-themed work by over 20 composers, including Bob Davis. "I'm A Jew from Paris," a tune about potato talkies, "Santa Don" by The Residents, Rick Ridas' anti-carol "The Lord thy God is a Jealous God," Tom Dean's "Ursula's Aria," a composition about God, Satan & Faith, a gospel work by Merle Kessler & more. Featured performers include Laurie Amat, Pamela Z, Barney Jones, J'Rasoul Brody & a vocal ensemble. If you've seen too many Nutcrackers, tonight's show is for you! Tonight & 12/18, 7:30 pm, \$10. New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St. SF. Info: 863-9834.
Romanovsky & Phillips are back! Don't miss this acclaimed singer/songwriter duo at Great American Music Hall. SF. 8 pm, \$10. Tax at BASS or call GAMH Box Office: 885-0750.
The Circle Jerks go acoustic! The bad boys of punk/rock change their act—for one night—at DNA Lounge. Also two special guest acts. 9 pm, \$5. Tax at BASS. 375 11th St. SF. Info: 626-2532.
Elections Run with SF Frontrunners. Meet 10 am at 1284 McAllister #3 (at Steiner), SF. Follows the Western Addition Triangle, 3 miles of mostly flat streets, except for Steiner hill (watch out for that one!). Mtg/potluck follows. Info: Jim 922-1438; Margaret 621-3719.
Conference to build African Community Defense Committee: see 12/10.
Women's Big Arts & Crafts Fair continues (see 12/10). Full day of fine crafts & entertainment. A wonderful way to get your shopping done & have a good time, too! Today's entertainment line-up includes the Plutonium Players; Derrige McGee; Rhianonn & The Gospel Elites; Kito Gamble & Faye Carol.
BABN Potluck Brunch: join Bay Area Bisexual Network for brunch—11 am-2 pm, \$3-5 SL. 402 Grand Ave. #4. For info: 564-BABN.
Piercing Clinic at Image Leather: noon-5 pm, privacy guaranteed. Strict hygiene observed. Open to men & women. 2199 Market St. SF. Info/appt. Bob 621-7557.

Men's Brunch for Older Gay Men (60+) & Friends: noon-3 pm at St Francis of Assisi, 145 Guerrero St. SF. Please bring food to share. Spons by Operation Concern's GLOE (Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders). Info: 626-7000.
MCC-SF Women's Brunch: this month's SF Metropolitan Community Church's women's potluck brunch follows the 10:30 am service. Gather after church & walk over to Kit & Audrey's for a special Christmas celebration. All women welcome. Call 863-4434 for info.
Holiday Auction Benefit to benefit Life on the Water: 3rd annual festive event features performance & music during silent auction. Performances include "A Child's Xmas in New Jersey" by Susan Van Allen, and an excerpt from "The Xmas Carol", a contemporary version of the Dickens classic, created by members of Dude Theatre, Club Foot Orchestra & the Blake Street Hawkeyes. Auction includes: RCA Records, Christmas ornaments, Laura Farabough, Robert Ernst & Rinde Eckert—purchase a wide variety of fine art, theatre & performance tickets, goods & services & more. Hors d'oeuvres served, no-host bar. 3-6 pm at Bruce Velick Gallery, 371 11th St. SF (South of Market). Info: 865-2790.
As You Like It Books Anniversary Party: come join Bay Area authors Dorothy Bryant, Valerie Miner, Helen Longino, Anodea Judith, Hallie Iglehart Austen, Charlene Spretnak, Ilene Philipson, Jennifer Stone, Diane Ehrensalt, Betty Bacon, Vicki Noble & Patrice Wynne and celebrate *As You Like It's* first anniversary! 2556 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. Info: 848-2291.
Chrysanthemum Ragtime Band at Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. Concert/dance, with ragtime dance lessons! 4-6 pm, \$6. Info: 525-5054.
Old First Concert series presents an afternoon of music by Peter Schickel. An encounter with Schickel "not as the madcap PDD Bach, but the serious composer." Also performances by *The Sierra String Quartet*, Janet Guggenheim, Elisabeth Engan, Kristen Wornack & Ted Bakklia. 4 pm, \$8 gen'l, \$6 students & srs. Van Ness & Sacramento Sts. SF. Info: 474-1608.
Peggy Key at El Rio: 4-8 pm, free. 3158 Mission St. SF. Info: 282-3325.
Remember My Name: Nat'l AIDS Life-line documentary follows the NAMES Project Quilt on its nat'l tour last summer. Narrated by actor Edward James Galt. KTVU Channel 5 re-broadcasts this documentary as prelude to the NAMES Quilt's return to Moscone Ctr (see 12/14). 4:30-5:30 pm, channel 5.
Silent & Live Auction to benefit Pacific Graduate School of Psychology's AIDS Research Grant program (for the past 3 years, PGSP has awarded a scholarship or research grant to an AIDS-diagnosed student who has been accepted at PGSP, or to a faculty member or student who submits an outstanding proposal on the mental health issues surrounding AIDS). All proceeds benefit the research grant. Jeremy Stone Gallery, 23 Grant St. SF. Limited seating. Call Norma Homan 321-1895 to reserve a space for the event. Call Peter Goldblum 522-5992 to make direct donations to the grant.
SF Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade & Celebration Committee Gen Mtg. Agenda includes selection of the '89 Parade Logo. Come help plan for

12 MONDAY

Lesbian Soap Opera: see 5 one-hour videotape episodes of "Two in Twenty," 2 pm, 12/12-16; program repeats at 4 am 12/19-23 & at 7:30 pm 12/28-29. Eureka Valley-Harvey Milk Memorial Branch Library, 3555 16th St. SF.
AIDS & HIV issues series continues at Kaiser. Tonight's class covers tips on staying healthy & early warning signs of illness. 6-7 pm, free to Kaiser members, their families & friends. Kaiser Hospital, 2425 Geary Blvd. SF. Info: Pat Saunders, NP 929-4849.
Werner Schroeter Retrospective at Roxie Cinema (see 12/1). Today's screenings: 6 pm, *The Death of Maria Malibran*; 8 pm, *The Rose King*; 9:45 pm, *Press Rehearsal*; 11:17 pm, *SF: "Reclaiming & Creating" Holidays—Lavender Style*, a talk with Rev. Jane Spahr. Part of Bay Area Career Women's "Women of Excellence" series. Program includes a Christmas Crafts Fair. 6:30 pm at Berkeley Center Ctr, 2015 Bancroft Ave., Berkeley. For tickets: 7:30 pm \$10. Folsom March Ctr Bldg B, room 300. SF. Info: 775-7200.
Response to the South African Escalation: 3-hr Cuban video documentary details the collaboration & joint action of the Cuban & Angolan armies in their battles against the apartheid regime. 7 pm, \$3. La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. Info: 849-2568.
"Helping Yourself Enjoy the Holidays: A Guide for Adult Children of Dysfunctional Families", a talk by Berkeley therapist, Dr. Suzanne Lerner. 7 pm, \$3-5 SL at A Woman's Place Bookstore, 4015 Broadway, Oakland. Info: 547-9920.
Living with HIV: panel discussion of people who have been living with AIDS for various periods of time. 7:30-9 pm, free. Metropolitan Community Church of SF, 150 Eureka St. SF. Spons by AIDS Health Project.
SF Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade & Celebration Float/March Subcommittee. Agenda includes election of co-chairs. 7 pm, 1519 Mission St. SF. Info: 864-FREE.
Jewish Film Series at SF Jewish Community Ctr presents *Wedding in Galilee*, a haunting film directed by an Israeli Palestinian. Film focuses on a traditional Arab village wedding, which serves as a backdrop to the tense relationships between the Arab villagers & Israeli soldiers. In Arabic & Hebrew, with English subtitles. Followed by discussion with Debbie Freed, family life education coordinator at Jewish Family & Community Center, 7:30 pm, \$5. 3200 California St. SF. Info: 346-6030.
Cabaret at the Galleon with John Magee & Eddie Blandini, with Philip Casey. 7:30 pm, 718 14th St at Church/Market, SF. Info: 431-0253.
At the Club: Alan Miller reads from his new poetry chapbook, a collection of poems on Black gay bars. 7:30 pm, \$2-4 donation for the poet. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. SF. Info: 282-9246.
Comedy Night at El Rio: lots of laughs guaranteed with comics Tom Ammanno, Marilyn Pittman, Marty Beckman & Mike Berns. 8-10 pm, 3158 Mission St. SF. Info: 282-3325.
The NAMES Quilt: "Threads of Love", 2nd holiday season exhibit of the Quilt (12/18 at Moscone Ctr, SF). Proceeds raised will benefit 18 Bay Area AIDS services & organizations. 6:00-8:00 pm, 1519 Mission St. SF. Info: 864-FREE.
Outlook Lesbian/gay video program premieres at San Jose's Club St John at 8 pm. Also at 8 on cable channel 30 in Mountain View. Holiday show.

13 TUESDAY

At ClaireLight Women's Books: see *Acting Our Age*, award-winning video documentary on women and aging. 7 pm, free. 1110 Petaluma Hill Rd #5, Sausalito. Info: (707) 575-8875.
Southbay SOL (Slightly Older Lesbians) 7:30 pm at DeFrank Ctr, 1040 Park Ave (bet Race & Lincoln), San Jose, for small group discussions. Topics chosen tonight. Info: (408) 293-4525 (leave message). Newcomers welcome.
Career Forum: Careers in Marketing. Panel of marketing professionals discuss opportunities, career paths, skills & educational background needed for a marketing career. Individual questions answered. Spons by SF Jewish Community Ctr. 7-9 pm, \$5. 3200 California St. SF. Info: 346-6040.
Cabaret at the Galleon with Laurel Mayer & Kaitzelle Collins, Aldo Belle & Bob Weiss. 7:30 pm, 718 14th St at Church/Market, SF. Info: 431-0253.

14 WEDNESDAY

Year-End Tax Planning for Artists: wkshp spons by Cait Lawry for the Arts. Ron Vincent, a CPA experienced in working with artists, gives last-minute advice for 1988 & 1989 tax planning. 7-8:30 pm at Folsom March Ctr Bldg B, room 300. SF. Info: 775-7200.
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15 THURSDAY

Holiday Potluck Party spons by NALGG (Nat'l Assoc for Lesbian & Gay Gerontology) at St Francis of Assisi, 145 Guerrero St. SF. 6:30-7:30 pm. Interested in meeting lesbian/gay professionals in aging service? Join us! Info: 626-7000.
X-T-A-C: SF gay & lesbian cross-country skiing club gen'l mtg: 7 pm at 1618 Castro St. SF. Discuss upcoming trips & activities. Newcomers welcome! Info: 995-2736.
Erotic Reading Circle for Women at Good Vibrations: ongoing event, bring writing (published or unpublished, yours or someone else's, poetry or prose) to share with group. Non-judgemental list-

ening guaranteed. 7-9 pm, free. Drop in! 34922 22nd St at Dolores, SF. Info: 550-7399.
SF Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade & Celebration Merchandising Subcommittee. Agenda includes election of co-chairs. 8 pm, 1519 Mission St. SF. Info: 864-FREE.
Author Dorothy Allison reads from her new collection, "Trash," stories about women from Dorothy's poor white trash growing up years, stories about women getting in and out of trouble. Everyone welcome. 7:30 pm, donation. Old Wives Tales Bookstore, 1009 Valencia St. SF.
Palo Alto Lesbian Rap Group meets 7:30-9 pm at Mid-Peninsula YWCA, 4161 Alma St, Palo Alto. Tonight's topic:

Threads of Love Concert: SF Symphony concert benefit for the NAMES Project & other Bay Area AIDS agencies, in conjunction with the return of the NAMES Project Quilt to Moscone Ctr (see 12/14). Leaf Bjaland, conductor. Program includes Handel's "Music for the Royal Fireworks", Carlson's "Rhapsodies for Orchestra" and Beethoven's "Symphony No. 2". 8 pm, \$16 & \$24, post-concert reception \$75. You are encouraged to bring donations of canned food for the SF AIDS Foundation Food Bank. Ticket info: 431-5400.
Holiday Tradition: "Now Sing With Hearts Aglow", the SF Gay Men's Chorus celebrates a decade of Christmas concerts tonight & tmw at Herbst



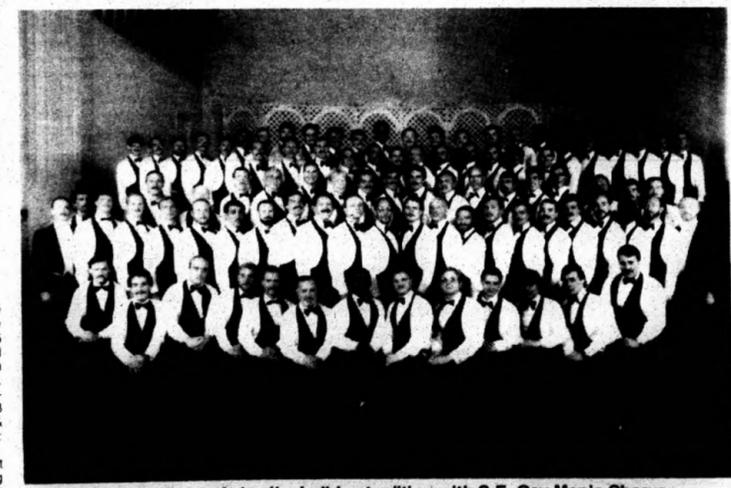
Dance Brigade's multicultural adaptation of *The Nutcracker* — see Fri., Dec. 16th.

"The Politics of Health Care" Sharon Victor, of NOW, discusses health care issues. Info: Marilyn 969-1260.
Olivia Records 15th Anniversary Concert: video screening at La Pena. Highlights include 75 min of music, backstage interviews & historical photos. Artists include Chris Williamson, Lucie Blue Tremblay, Dianne Davidson, Teresa Trull, Tref Fure, Deirdre McCalla, Nancy Vogl & Robin Flower (and band members). Producers Kathy Wolfe, Irene Young & Judy Dugac attend tonight's screening. 7:30 pm, \$5. La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. Info: 849-2568.
BWMT-SF Rap topic: "Dance—the Energy of Love". 7:30-10 pm, 1350 Walter St. SF. Info: Black & White Men Together 931-BWMT.
Winter Place, new performance piece by playwright/performer Ginny Lim. Accompanied by Frances Wong on sax flute & composer Jon Wang on piano. At Hatley Martin—see 12/8 for details.
Frameline Presents lesbian/gay video program heads south to LA for a reprise of the 1988 Christopher Street West parade, a visit to AIDS care facilities & a celebrity AIDS fundraiser in Orange County. 8 pm, SF. Viacom cable channel 25. Info: Frameline 861-5245.
Outlook Lesbian/gay video program premieres at San Jose's Club St John at 8 pm. Also at 8 on cable channel 30 in Mountain View. Holiday show.

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16 FRIDAY

BWMT Eastbay Social: 7:30-10 pm, 3135 Courtland Ave, Oakland. Info: 261-7922.
Swing & Merengue Lessons for Gays & Lesbians: 7:30-8:30 pm for beginners, 8:30-9:30 pm for intermediate. Jon Sims Ctr for the Performing Arts, 1519 Mission St at 11th (across from Coca Cola Bldg). SF. Info: 995-4962.



"Now Sing With Hearts Aglow" a holiday tradition with S.F. Gay Men's Chorus — see Thurs., Dec. 15th.

Join FOG (Fraternal Order of Gays) for the annual SF Gay Men's Christmas Concert at 41-0999 Robin Flower & Libby McLaren: night of great tunes from this musical duo at Mama Bears, 6536 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. 8 pm, \$5-7. Women only. Info: 428-9684.
Holiday Concert by the Pacific Chamber Singers, directed by Robin Kay. Concert of fine holiday music, all proceeds benefit the SF AIDS Foundation Food Bank, see 12/9 for details.
Melanie Monsur: piano/synth/guitar & vocals at Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St. SF. 8 pm, \$5 & up. Info: 821-0232.
"Now Sing With Hearts Aglow", with the SF Gay Men's Chorus—a holiday tradition, see 12/15 for details.
The Nutcracker Sweetie: the Dance Brigade's annual production. Multicultural adaptation of the classic ballet, a "politically savage, dramatically rambunctious, wonderfully tasteless & utterly brilliant" show. Many Watkins, musical conductor, Nan Washburn, conductor. Tonight's opening night performance followed by the Black & Red Ball, a gala benefit featuring music by *The Blazing Redheads*. 8 pm 12/16-19, 2 pm matinee 12/17-18. Tax \$14 Sat eve. \$12 Sun, Mon & matinee. \$7 all performances for those under 12, sr's & disabled. Oakland Ensemble Theatre, 1428 Alice St. Oakland. Info: 839-5510.
The Forbidden Stitch: an Asian American Women's Anthology—book-party & reading in celebration of this anthology. Contributor/readers include Marilyn Chin, Judy Hirohito, Kit Kwan, Nellie Wong, Merie Woo, Betty Kano & Mitsuye Yamada. 8 pm, Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. SF. Info: 282-9246.
Andean concert with Inkuyo: they play the ancient, indigenous music of the Andes, as it has been played in festivals for 400 years. They also perform crioilo or mestizo music. 8:30 pm, \$7. La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. Info: 849-2568.
Peggy Key at El Rio: 10 pm-2 am, free. 3158 Mission St. SF. Info: 282-3325.
The Hellhounds at DNA Lounge, see 12/9.
NAMES Project Quilt: "Threads of Love", returns to Moscone Ctr, see 12/14 for details.

The Politics of Health Care: Sharon Victor, of NOW, discusses health care issues. Info: Marilyn 969-1260.
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17 SATURDAY

SF Choral Artists Chamber Choir and Herbert Hoover Middle School Choir in concert, Crocker Galleria, Post & Kearny, SF. 1 pm. Proceeds benefit Toys for Tots. Bring a new, unwrapped toy to donate.
The Nutcracker, performed by Berkeley Conservatory Theatre. 2 & 7:30 pm today, 2 pm tmw. Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley. Tx: \$11 & \$12 adults, \$10 & \$9 kids 12 & under, and seniors. Info: Cal Performances 642-9988.
Jack Frost Christmas Holiday Party spons by the Girth & Mirth Club of SF. Celebrate with an Italian dinner at Granada Cafe, 4753 Mission St. SF. 7 pm open bar, 8 pm dinner (\$10). Reservations deadline: 12/12. For info: 334-5971 or 820-7612. Mail checks to Mert Carmen, 39 Hollywood Ct., SF. Info: 821-2232.
Celebrate Winter Solstice with the Church of Amron. Ritual, communion & refreshments. 7 pm, 2254 Van Ness Ave. SF. All welcome.
Rainbow Deaf Society Christmas Party: 7-11 pm, \$10. Please bring a "grab bag" gift. Refreshments & drinks served. Hearing Society, 20 10th St. SF.
Lesbian Movie/Social Get-together: monthly event. Casual socializing & movie-watching for lesbians 30 & over. Single, monogamous, coupled, confused, unidentified, whatever—if you're a lesbian 30 or over, you're welcome! Bring goodies to share. Info/location: 531-3943. See you there!
Women's Book Store instruction at Amelia's 7 pm, \$3. Come have a good ol' night of country & western fun! Learn line dances & how to two-step. Features the *kd lang Christmas Party*. Come celebrate the goddess of c&w! 647 Valencia St. SF. Info: 550-8110.
The Vocal Minority: 16-voice ensemble at the Girth & Mirth Club of SF. 7:30 pm, \$7. Info: 431-0253.
"A Chanticleer Christmas"—Chanticleer vocal ensemble concert of classic Christmas music & spirituals, plus works by Palestrina, Mouton & Charpentier, with baroque instrument accompaniment. Today's performers include: Systal Boom, Diane Ferlatte, Judy Fjell & Kristin Reeves. *Trio Arata*, and *The Disciples of Prayer*. Info: 431-1180.
The NAMES Project Quilt: "The Threads of Love", on exhibit at Moscone Ctr, see 12/14 for details.
Creating A Relationship That Works: 1-day wkshp for gay men seeking a life partner. Clarify your relationship goals, explore new ways of meeting quality men, develop a practical plan of action. \$40. Info: Partners Institute 343-8541. SF location.
The Hellhounds at DNA Lounge, see 12/9.
Leather Sluts Safesex Party: kinky, juke, tits, bondage & leather for slutty safesex party animals. Doors open 10-11 pm, \$10. Call Mark, 621-6294. Call back required.
La Pena Amiguitos Kids' Program features El Ehriñ. 10:30 am, \$3 adults, \$2 kids. 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. Info: 849-2568.



A Solstice Performance & Ritual honors poet/philosopher Elsa Gidlow — see Sun., Dec. 18 (next pg).

at Briones Park. Moderately fast-paced. Bring lunch, liquids, raincoat.
Luka Merritt Run with Eastbay Front-runners. Meet 9:30 am at the corner of 14th & Oak Sts., on the Cameron Stanford House. Flat 3 mile loop. Info: 839-3579 or 261-3246.
Dance at La Pena with *Dr. Loco's Original Pachiko Corrido Boogie Band*. An eve of salsa, corridos & rock & roll. 9:30 pm, \$5. 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. Info: 849-2568.
Women's Big Arts & Crafts Fair continues (see 12/10 for details)—a great way to have a good time & get all your shopping done! Lots of fine arts & crafts work by women, plus lots of entertainment. Today's performers include: Systal Boom, Diane Ferlatte, Judy Fjell & Kristin Reeves. *Trio Arata*, and *The Disciples of Prayer*. Info: 431-1180.
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Out of Hiding with a new nut to crack. Laurie Amat presents a special performance of her winter concert (see 12/11 for program details) to benefit WOMAN, Inc. domestic violence services. 8 pm, \$15. Entire proceeds benefit WOMAN, Inc. Enjoy a good show & benefit a great organization—don't miss! New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St. SF. Info: 863-9834.
The Nutcracker Sweetie, annual Dance Brigade holiday extravaganza—see 12/16.
A Holiday Concert with Pacific Chamber Singers, directed by Robin Kay. All proceeds benefit the SF AIDS Foundation Food Bank. Come hear some beautiful music & support a good cause! See 12/9.
At Sisterspirit Women's Bookstore/Coffeehouse: lots of laughs with comic Karen Williams. 8:30 pm, \$4-8. 1040 Park Ave., San Jose. Info: (408) 263-7634.
X-T-A-C Ski Trip: 1-day trip to Royal Cross Country Ski Resort. \$26.50 per person includes equipment rental, lesson & trail pass. Ideal trip for beginning skier who wants to try out the sport, as well as the more experienced skier with a light schedule. Info/carpoos: Greg 865-6792.
Gay/Lesbian Sierrans Eastbay Hike. Meet 9 am at Church/Market Sateway to carpool. 8-10 mile hike in open spaces

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Christmas Dinner Menu

MENU INCLUDES RELISH PLATE, CHOICE OF APPETIZER, SOUP OR SALAD, HOT BREAD, ENTREE, DESSERT AND COFFEE OR TEA

Appetizers

SALMON MOUSSE OR MUSHROOM TARTLET

Entrees

STANDING BEEF RIB ROAST OR ROAST TURKEY OR STUFFED PORK LOIN OR BAKED SMOKED HAM

Desserts

PLUM PUDDING OR NUT STOLLEN OR ICE CREAM PIE

\$25.50 PER PERSON

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

PHONE 431 - 0253

Jerry Coletti and Pat Montclair are pleased to announce that one dollar from each dinner will be donated to an AIDS related organization.

718 14TH ST.

Elton Brown at El Rio. 4-8 pm, free. 3158 Mission St. SF. Info: 282-3325.

"The Awakening of the Light", a Solstice Performance & Ritual in honor of poet/philosopher Elsa Gidlow. Each year Elsa lit the Yule log from the previous year, this year Elsa's last Yule log will be lit to celebrate the creation of her life-long dream, an artists' retreat for women. Solstice performance & ritual led by Halie Ighite & Austen. Everyone welcome, especially artists & art lovers interested in supporting a Druid Heights artists retreat. 4-8 pm, ceremony begins promptly at 5. Donation requested. Zen Center Guest House, 273 Page St. SF. Info: 282-3604.

SF Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade & Celebration Safety Subcommittee Holiday "Meet the Monitors" Potluck: share food, drink & tall Parade tales. 4 pm at 1300 McAllister. SF. Info: 864-FREE.

Exodus Mass at St Boniface sponsors by Dignity, an organization of lesbian & gay Roman Catholics & friends. Daily Mass forced by the SF Roman Catholic Archdiocese to stop using Catholic facilities for services. Today's mass marks their last service at St Boniface. 5:30 pm at 133 Golden Gate. SF. Candlelight procession. Come out & worship.

Betty Rose & Judy Fiehl in a Solstice Concert/Ritual at Unitas: slideshow, singing, readings & group participation. Theme: "embracing the darkness & welcoming light". Benefit for AIDS Foundation Food Bank. 7:30 pm, \$6. \$4 with donation of non-perishable food. 2700 Bancroft, Berkeley. Info: Harmony Network 528-9433.

Heard Too Many Nutcrackers? In search of something new & contemporary in Holiday music? New Performance Gallery's got a show for you. See 12/11.

In Memory of Friends, primary vocals from the moving benefit show—heard Scott Johnston, Julie Moore, Solomon Rose & Morgen Aiken at the Galleron, 718 14th St. SF. 7:30 pm. Info: 431-0253.

Cover-Up: Benefit Video Screening of the film expose of the Iran-Contragate scandal. 7:30 pm. \$4. Proceeds benefit sending the Int'l Indian Treaty Council delegates to the 45th session of the UN Commission on Human Rights in Geneva, Switzerland in Jan 1989. La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley. Info: Treaty Council office 863-7733.

Readings at The Lab: novelist Brent Sundberg reads from his novel-in-progress, a kaleidoscope of 1970s memorabilia, told from the point of view of a young boy obsessed with documenting the life of then-president Jimmy Carter. Fiction writer Lisa Wagner reads stories about family & women. 7:30 pm, \$3. 1807 Divisadero. SF. Info: 348-4063.

The Nutcracker Sweetie by the Dance Brigade—see 12/16.

"A Chanticleer Christmas"—annual holiday concert, see 12/17.

ROVA Saxophone Quartet 2nd concert of their 1988 PreEchoes Series. 8 pm, \$12. Great American Music Hall, 559 O'Farrell St. SF. Tax at BASS or GAMH Box Office. 885-0750.

Caroling in the Castro with MCC-SF: we'll leave the church shortly after 8 pm & proceed thru the neighborhood, spreading our own brand of good cheer—dress warmly & be ready to sing all you know favorites! 150 Eureka St. SF. Info: 863-4434.

The Nuns at DNA Lounge, with special guests from LA. *Shiva Buresque*. 9 pm, \$3. 375 11th St. SF. Info: 626-2532.

THE NAMES Project Quilt, "The Threads of Love", on exhibit at Moscone Ctr. see 12/14 for details. Today's the final day.

City Mike with SF Hiking Club: Embarcadero, Telegraph Hill, Chinatown, Financial District. Meet 10 am at Justin Herman Plaza, nr Embarcadero, at the foot of Market St. SF. Hike along Embarcadero thru Levi Plaza, take the stairs up Telegraph Hill with a stop at Marchand Gardens. Stop to shop at Col. Tower, then continue thru North Beach into Chinatown. Lunch at Redwood Park. Then continue thru the canyons of the Financial District & return to the Plaza. Wear comfortable shoes. Parking's abundant on Sun mornings. Rain cancels. Info: Jim Binder 647-2193.

Women's Bldg Arts & Crafts Fair: (see 12/10). Today's the final day to view & purchase a wide variety of fine arts & crafts by over 100 craftswomen. Also lots of food, entertainment & fun. Today's performers include: San Jose Taiko Ensemble; Yagbe Gerard, Afro-Ancor; bellydance with Sharon Page Ritchie & other bellydancers; comedy with Jessica Williams & Danny Williams.

Kindergym Party for lesbian & gay families. 11 am-2 pm at Albany YMCA, 921 Kains St nr Solano & San Pablo, Albany. Kindergym, games & activities for adults & kids (infants-school age). Noon-1 pm potluck lunch. \$5 adults, kids free. Sponsors: Lesbian & Gay Parenting Project. Info: 641-0220.

The Golden Gate Men's Chorus presents "This is Christmas." 4 pm, Trinity Church, 1666 Bush St at



"Shit Happens" — The Year in Review with Tom Ammannio & Over Our Heads — see Sat., Dec. 31st.

Gough, 861-2945. (see 12/6 for details).

293-4525 (leave message). Newcomers welcome. **Erotic Sketch Nite** with Gay Men's Sketch Club. 4 rooms of models, erotic spots include: hard dick poses, 7-10 pm, \$10. Seavitt for Open Hand. AIDS hot meal program. Info: 621-6294.

Menage, the award-winning octet from the Lesbian/Gay Chorus, at the Galleron, 718 14th St at Church/Market. SF. Info: 431-0253.

AIDS Treatment: Info Exchange panel of leading physicians & health providers direct discussion on alternative treatments for HIV. Monthly events sponsored by the Healing Alternatives Foundation. 7:30 pm at MCC-SF, 150 Eureka St at 18th. SF. Info: 626-2316.

19 MONDAY

Lesbian Soap Opera, "One in Twenty" screens at Eureka Valley-Harvey Milk Memorial Branch Library, see 12/12.

Art Works, forum series on culture & democracy, sponsored by New College & Alliance for Cultural Democracy, continues with "Mobilizing: Artists & their relationship to social movements", a discussion with graphic artist Doug Minkler & Cover Up documentary distributor Kami Kari. 7-9 pm, \$3. New College, 777 Valencia. SF. Info: Joe Lambert 885-2790.



Comic Diane Amos — see Sat., Dec. 31st.

Holiday Whimsy at the Galleron, featuring Tim DiPasqua with Tom Anderson, Irene Soderberg & Michael Levesque. 7:30 pm, 718 14th St at Church/Market. SF. Info: 431-0253.

Today's the deadline for tax for Bay Area Career Women's New Year's Eve Dinner. Dance—don't miss! See 12/31 for details.

The Dance Brigade's "Nutcracker Sweetie", see 12/16.

SF Girls Chorus 6th annual Christmas Carol Sing-A-Long. 8 pm, \$8-17 at Davies Hall. SF. Info: 431-5400.

Sharon McNight "Unbirthday" Concert at Great American Music Hall. SF's reigning cabaret queen presents her "first & final un-birthday concert"—8 pm, \$10. 859 O'Farrell. SF. Info: 885-0750.

Older Gay Men's Friendship Group meets—see 12/3.

Women-Only Social at Mama Bears with tarot readings by Suzanne Judith (\$10, call to schedule a reading). 7:11 pm, 6536 Telegraph Ave. Oakland. Info: 428-9684.

BWMT Christmas Dinner & Awards Ceremony, join B&W, White Men Together for the annual holiday event—7:30 pm, for info & location call 931-BWMT.

Cabaret & Comedy at the Galleron with Cayla Chaiken & Donald Elton. 7:30 pm, plus comic Danny Williams. 7:30 pm, 718 14th St at Church/Market. SF. Info: 431-0253.

Palo Alto Lesbian Rap Group meets—30-9 pm at Mid-Peninsula YWCA, 4161 Alma St. Palo Alto. Tonight's topic: **Celibacy—Leads to Love Yourself**. Discussion led by Roberta. Info: Marilyn 969-1260.

20 TUESDAY

Southbay SOL (Slightly Older Lesbians) Holiday Party & Gift Exchange, 7-9 pm at DeFrank Ctr, 1040 Park Ave (bet Race & Lincoln). San Jose. Bring a small gift & goody to share. Info: (408)

24 SATURDAY

FOG Christmas Eve Potluck Social: join Fraternal Order of Gays for a holiday fest—honey baked ham, turkey, & lots of other delightful dishes. Sip special FOG nog, or apple cider, enjoy much-roasted chestnuts & other holiday treats. Gifts for all, & gift exchange. There's a crackling fire going in the fireplace, so what are you waiting for? Call FOG for info: 641-0999, 7 pm, 304 Gold Mine Dr. SF. Info: 282-3325.

What Do Jews Do on the Majority Holiday, anyway? Come to Congregation Ahavat Shalom's Third Annual Movie Night and find out. Share a night of good films & delicious munchies in a member's home. Info/location 621-1020.

Christmas Eve Concert with the SF Gay Men's Chorus. The Chorus performs highlights from their popular "Now Sing With Hearts Aflutter" Christmas concert (see 12/15). 7 pm, at First Congregational Church, Post & Mason Sts. SF. Tax: \$10 & \$12. Info: 863-8326.

Christmas Eve Celebration at Golden Gate MCC (Metropolitan Community Church), 7:30 pm, 48 Belcher St. SF. Info: 621-6300.

Christmas Winds: part of Old First Concert series. Traditional Christmas Eve concert features *The Baroque Arts Ensemble* performing medieval & Renaissance Christmas music for chamber chorus, soloists & instrumentalists. Van Ness at Sacramento. SF. Info: 474-1608.

Aquatic Park Berkeley Run with Eastbay Frontrunners. Take Hwy 880 North to University Ave, go East on University, turn right on 6th St at first light. Go one block on 6th & turn right on Addison. Take Addison to Aquatic Park. Meet 9:30 am at the parking lot on left. Flat 2.5 mile loop. Info: 539-3579 or 261-3246.

The Hellhounds heat up your Christmas Eve at DNA Lounge, see 12/9.

Carols, Candlelight & Community Service at MCC-Santa Rosa, 515 Orchard St, Santa Rosa. 11 pm. Info: 526-HOPE.

Christmas Midnight Mass sponsored by Dignity, an organization of lesbian & gay Roman Catholics & friends. In the auditorium of Everett Middle School, 450 Church St. SF. Info: 584-1714.

The Golden Gate Men's Chorus presents "This is Christmas," 8 pm at St. Francis Church. (see 12/6).

25 SUNDAY

Mama Bears is open holiday hours today: 10 am-8 pm. Drop in and say hello! 6536 Telegraph Ave. Oakland. Info: 428-9684.

MCC-SF Christmas Dinner & Church Services, noon potluck. Call in advance & let us know what you want to bring—863-4434. 150 Eureka St. SF.

MCC-SF Christmas Dinner & Church Services, noon potluck. Call in advance & let us know what you want to bring—863-4434. 150 Eureka St. SF.

26 MONDAY

Getting Thru the Holidays is the theme of MCC-SF's December Women's Gathering. The holiday season is a time for celebrating, but it can also intensify feelings of loneliness & depression. Come share experiences, find ways thru the holiday blues. 7:30-9 pm. Co-facilitated by Lisa Weindorf & Kit Cherry. Childcare available by adv. res. call Kit Cherry by 12:00—863-4434. 150 Eureka St. SF.

27 TUESDAY

Southbay SOL (Slightly Older Lesbians) meets 7:30 pm at DeFrank Ctr, 1040 Park Ave (bet Race & Lincoln). San Jose. Tonight's topic: **New Year's Resolutions—share your goals for 1989!** Info: (408) 293-4525 (leave message). Newcomers welcome.

Author Fran Peavey discusses her new book, *A Shallow Pool of Time: One Woman Grapples with the AIDS Epidemic*. 7:30 pm at MCC-SF, 150 Eureka St. SF. Everyone welcome. Info: 863-4434.

28 WEDNESDAY

For Lesbians Only Bookparty: celebrate the publication of this new lesbian separatist anthology. 7 pm, women only. Mama Bears, 6536 Telegraph Ave. Oakland. Reservations suggested, call 428-9684.

Lesbian Soap Opera: "One in Twenty" screens at Eureka Valley-Harvey Milk Memorial Branch Library, see 12/12.

BWMT SF Rap: 7:30-10 pm, 1350 Walter St. SF. Black & White Men Together 931-BWMT.

Palo Alto Lesbian Rap Group meets 7:30-9 pm at Mid-Peninsula YWCA, 4161 Alma St. Palo Alto. Lesbian Erotic Video Night: *See Erotic in Nature: Where There's Smoke There's Fire and Fantasy*. Info: Marilyn 969-1260.

ETVC, the TWITS & Friends Club, presents "A Winter Carnival", an avalanche of fun in SF. 8 pm. For location & other info: 664-1499 or write ETVC, PO Box 6486, SF 94101. ETVC is a 250-member support & social group for members of the transgender community.

FrameLine Presents lesbian/gay video program closes out its fall season with *For Love and Life*, a one-hour documentary on the October 1987 March on Washington, produced by a lesbian production company. 8 pm on SF Videom cable channel 25. Info: FrameLine 861-5245.

30 FRIDAY

Holiday Cabaret at La Pena's Cafe Victoria. Features the eclectic talent of Cafe workers & friends. Walking waiters, whistling waitresses, comic quips, belting banders & more. 8 pm, \$5. Benefits Cafe Victoria's Starving Artists Fund. For details call La Pena: 849-2568.

31 SATURDAY

Mama Bears is open holiday hours today: 10 am-8 pm. Drop in and say hello! 6536 Telegraph Ave. Oakland. Info: 428-9684.

MCC-SF Christmas Dinner & Church Services, 8:30 & 10:30 am holiday services. noon potluck. Call in advance & let us know what you want to bring—863-4434. 150 Eureka St. SF.

Artists Group Show: painting, printmaking, ceramics, wood-block printing, sculpture, etching & textiles. Works by Clayton Bailey, Mark Bulwinkle, Guy John Cavalli, Mary DeLave, Cathy Denton, Margaret Hatcher, Elizabeth McDermott, Jillian Sandrock, Ben Shaw & Mike Talley. Reception 12/2, 6-9 pm. Eva Soltes Fine Arts, 1611 San Pablo at Cedar, Berkeley. Info: 525-9124.

Sculpture & Mixed Media by Jutta Savage, on exhibit at Dominican College of San Rafael. Thru 12/16. Hrs: Mon-Fri 9 am-5 pm, Sat 1-5 pm. Info: 457-4440.

Small Works for the Holiday Season: works by Maria Aguilar, Richard Bauer, Joia Benson, Michael Bergt, Donald Davis, Peter Holbrook, Patty Hunter, Ralph Stone Jacobs, Donald Jermy, Randy Koering, Steve Knauff, John Franklin Koenig, Randall Lake, Michael J. Lynch, Tom Morandi, Dorothy Morgan, Michael Paulson, Daniel Phil, Thomas Shuster, Kirk Maur, Douglas Wingate & John Worthley at the John Pence Gallery, thru 1/14. 750 Post St. SF. Portion of proceeds benefits Project Open Hand, an AIDS hot meal program. Info: 441-1138.

"Old Times", an exhibit of vintage neon signs from Northern Calif., also showing photos of neon cocktail glasses by Edward Klamm. At Neon Neon, 270 7th St. SF. 12/1-2/28. Reception 12/1, 6-8:30 pm. Hrs: Mon-Fri 9 am-5 pm, Sat noon-4 pm. Info: 552-4163.

Narrative Doll Reliefs by Cassandra Light, on exhibit at Hatley Martin Gallery, 12/2-24, reception 12/2, 6-8 pm. Hrs: Tues-Sat, 11 am-5 pm. 41 Powell St. SF. Info: 392-1015.

Sliding Toward Extinction: The Vanishing Wildlife of Calif., photos by Susan Middleton. On exhibit 12/7-5/18 at Calif Academy of Sciences, nr 9th Ave & Lincoln Way (in the Music Concourse), Golden Gate Park, SF. Hrs: 10 am-5 pm daily. Info: 750-7145.

The Art of the New Yorker: a 60 Year Retrospective on exhibit at Calif Palace of the Legion of Honor. Thru 1/12. Golden Gate Park, SF. Info: 750-3614.

Timeless Elegance: Fortuny Costumes & Textiles on exhibit at the DeYoung Museum thru 12/31. Golden Gate Park, SF. Info: 750-3614.

Gods & Angels: exhibit of neo-futurist sculptures related to TV & archeology by Mark Yamagata, and urban folk art painting & sculpture by Tom Ward. Exhibit runs thru 12/4 at Sincere Technologies Gallery, 4026 Martin Luther King Jr Way, Oakland. Info: 658-5367.

Hanukkah: Family Celebrations in Art exhibit runs thru 12/23 at the Jewish Community Museum, 121 Steuart St. SF. Info: 543-8880.

50s/60s: Return of Style/Content—selected non-performance work by

FOG Game Fest: join Fraternal Order of Gays for a night of your favorite board & card games. Snacks & refreshments served 8 pm. Info: 641-0999. 8 pm, 304 Gold Mine Dr. SF.

Peggy Key at El Rio: 10 pm-2 am, free. 3158 Mission St. SF. Info: 282-3325.

31 SATURDAY

Mama Bears is open holiday hours today: 10 am-8 pm. Drop in and say hello! 6536 Telegraph Ave. Oakland. Info: 428-9684.

BACW New Year's Eve Dinner Dance at the Meridian Hotel: two ballrooms, dj "Torch", City Swing band, buffet, no host bar. 7:30 pm-2 am. Tax deadline is 12/19. For info: Bay Area Career Women 495-5353. An event for Women.

New Year's Eve services at MCC (Metropolitan Community Church)-SF, 10:30 pm, silent meditation, 11 pm, watchlight service of hymns & holy communion. 150 Eureka St. SF. Info: 863-4434.

"The Red, White & Black Ball", a revolutionary New Year's Eve celebration sponsored by CISPES (Committee in Solidarity with the People of El Salvador), NEST (New El Salvador Today Foundation) & NICCA (Nicaragua Info Ctr. Community Action). Evening features the hot rhythms of *The Caribbean Allstars* & lots of laughing in the aisles with comic Diane Amos. Also dance contests, plus competition for best costume (militant chic attire encouraged). 9 pm-2 am, \$14 adv., \$15-25 at door. Proceeds benefit community organizing projects in El Salvador & hurricane relief in Nicaragua. Tax available at Modern Times Bookstore, Pueblo to People & La Pena. Info: 648-8222, 864-7755.

NEST New El Salvador Today Foundation & NICCA (Nicaragua Info Ctr. Community Action). Evening features the hot rhythms of *The Caribbean Allstars* & lots of laughing in the aisles with comic Diane Amos. Also dance contests, plus competition for best costume (militant chic attire encouraged). 9 pm-2 am, \$14 adv., \$15-25 at door. Proceeds benefit community organizing projects in El Salvador & hurricane relief in Nicaragua. Tax available at Modern Times Bookstore, Pueblo to People & La Pena. Info: 648-8222, 864-7755.

New Year's Eve Concert at La Pena with *Conjuncto Cospedes*. Dynamic Afro-Cuban beat, a concert commemoration of the anniversary of the Cuban revolution. Come have a great time, get energized for the liberation struggles of the 1980s. 9:30 pm, \$10. Special Cuban dishes prepared & more. 8 pm, \$5. Shattuck Ave, Berkeley. Info: 849-2568.

"Shit Happens" — The Year in Review with Tom Ammannio & Over Our Heads. 8 pm, 718 14th St at Church/Market. SF. Info: 431-0253.

Nubian Princess Workhorse by Dee Russell. One-woman show—six full-length characterizations of memorable Black female personas, creating a high energy, wacky, funny portrait of social madness. Includes music, dance & poetry. 12/1-18, Thurs-Sun at 8 pm. Climate Theatre, 252 9th St. SF. Tax: \$8 Thurs & Sun, \$9 Fri & Sat. Info: 626-9196.

Sammy Cahn: Words & Music. The 2nd time around for the popular musical revue—runs 12/18 at Marinas Memorial Theatre, 609 Sutter at Mason, SF. Info: 771-6900.

Talk Radio by Eric Bogosian. The story of Barry Champlain, a high-powered, high-pressure radio show host who uses his all-night radio broadcast as a forum for a game of mental gymnastics. Magic

ONSTAGE

As Is by William M Hoffman. Award-winning Broadway hit play about living with AIDS. Story about the impact of AIDS on Rich, a man with AIDS, his ex-lover Saul and their friends, families & community. Play confronts AIDS with compassion, dignity and humor. Benefit performance for the AIDS ministries of SF Metropolitan Community Church & the AIDS/ARC Support Group of Dignity-SF. 12/1-3 at 8 pm, Sun matinee on 12/4. 3 pm. Tax: \$10. At MCC-SF, 150 Eureka St. SF. Tax available at Headlines, MCC-SF & thru Dignity members. Info: 863-4434.

Breaking the Code by Hugh Whitmore. Engaging & complex story of Alan Turing, the genius who saved England during WWII by breaking the German "Enigma" code. Turing's work also led to the creation of the digital computer. Despite all this, Turing was found guilty & imprisoned for homosexuality. Play runs Wed-Sun thru 12/18. Magic Theatre Northside, Ft Mason Ctr, Bldg D, 3rd fl. SF. Info: 441-8822.

What Makes A Man a cabaret show of a man's life, with Kenneth Robert Dixon. Dixon, former psychologist & present artistic director of Theatre Rhino, draws on a wide range of music, from Broadway to Pop, to share the experiences of his life. Runs Fri-Sun, 12/2-11 at 8 pm at EX-Theatre, 366 Eddy St. SF. Tax: \$8 & \$10. Info: 956-4530.

Actual Sho a "holiday fantasy alternative" returns to SF for a final engagement. Metaphysical odyssey with live instrumental ensemble & vocalists performing a score that ranges from gospel & world music to jazz & New Age. 12/1-1/8. 8:30 pm. Tax: \$10-22. Herbst Theatre, SF. George Coates Performance Works production. Info: 552-3656. Tax at BASS.

Kudzu by Jane Chambers. Two older women surmount conflict to find love & family ties are deeply rooted. World premiere of the late Jane Chambers' last play. Theatre Rhinoceros production. Runs Wed-Sun thru 12/1-2/2. Tax: \$10-13. \$1 off with donation to AIDS Fdn Food Bank. Info: 861-5079, 2926 16th St. SF.

Nubian Princess Workhorse by Dee Russell. One-woman show—six full-length characterizations of memorable Black female personas, creating a high energy, wacky, funny portrait of social madness. Includes music, dance & poetry. 12/1-18, Thurs-Sun at 8 pm. Climate Theatre, 252 9th St. SF. Tax: \$8 Thurs & Sun, \$9 Fri & Sat. Info: 626-9196.

Side by Side by Sondheim. ACT's hit Broadway musical revue, returns for 8 performances—12/28-1/1. For tax & showtime info call 673-6440.

The Hothouse by Harold Pinter. British hit comedy performed by City Lights Theatre Company. A comically disturbing look at the interactions between staff members at an out-of-control convalescent hospital. Thru 12/17 at City Lights Theatre, 70 North Alameda St., San Jose. Thurs-Sat at 8 pm. Tax: \$8-10. Info: (408) 295-8318.

An Xmas Carol, a contemporary interpretation of the Dickens' Yuletide favorite. No-holds-barred collaboration by Bay Area iconoclasts Dude Theatre, Blake Street Hawkeyes & Club Foot Orchestra. In *Respect*, SF lives Score, an ambitious art dealer. Play runs Wed-Sat thru 12/23, 8 pm. Intersection for the Arts, 766 Valencia St. SF. Info: 626-3311. Tax at STBS Union Square.

I Was A Go-Go Dancer for Gurlifff by Gary Aylesworth. Story of one woman's descent into the cultural whirlpool that was 1967 San Francisco. Based on the oral history of a woman who spent 6 months in the sex industry as a topless go-go dancer & as a "blue movie" actress to support her membership in a spiritual seekers group. Runs thru 12/3 at New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St. SF. For showtimes & other info call 963-9834.

Winter Soldier by Martin Higgins & Robin Steele. Chronicles a few days in the life of the Vietnam War. Life on the Water Theatre production. Runs thru 12/4. Ft Mason Ctr, SF. For showtimes & other info: 441-8822.

Snacks Talk: Urgent Messages from the Mother by Naomi Newman. Return engagement of Newman's play, "a bringing to life of the Triple Goddess—the creator, the preserver, and the transformer". A Traveling Jewish Theatre production. Runs Thurs-Sun thru 12/17, 8 pm. \$8 Thurs & Sun, \$10 Fri & Sat. \$1 discount for srs & groups. Blake Street Hawkeyes Studio, 2019 Blake St, Berkeley. Info: 849-3013.

Lloyd's Prayer by Kevin King. A wild, off-the-wall comedy about an ex-con's tumultuous tumble toward salvation.

View from the Bay by Scott Champlain. Musical review, an extraordinary blend of book, music & lyrics, takes you back to the Castro Street of the late 1970s. Opens 11/17, runs for 5 weeks in the Studio at Theatre Rhino, 2926 16th St. SF. Info: 861-5079.

Laura Haynes: Out on a Twig—comedy/satire about the big city & inner-city life of an eighties Black woman. Runs thru 12/3, 8 pm. Full Cir-



Kenneth Dixon's one-man show "What Makes A Man" opening Fri., Dec. 2nd

Come out for Christmas!

Midnight Mass

EVERETT MIDDLE SCHOOL
450 CHURCH STREET/17TH
11:45 PM, DECEMBER 24

INCLUSIVE LANGUAGE/SIGNED FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED
For information call 255-9244

21 WEDNESDAY

Sarah Hoagland, author of *Lesbian Ethics*, gives a bookparty, reading & signing at Mama Bears, 6536 Telegraph Ave. Oakland 7 pm, women only. Info: 428-9684.

Wed Women's Sex Talk at Good Vibrations: see 12/9.

Cabaret at the Galleron with Leslie Sorio & Mikko Hirata. 7:30 pm, 718 14th St at Church/Market. SF. Info: 431-0253.

Comedy Night at El Rio with comics Danny Williams, Mario Falzone, Suzi Berger & Ngao. 8-10 pm, 3158 Mission St. SF. Info: 282-3325.

Outlook lesbian/gay video program features Christmas cheer with comic Danny Williams, a mukluk with lesbian/gay congregation Sha ar Zahav's Winter Solstice with psychic healer Van Ault. 9 pm on PCTV cable network in Oakland, Berkeley, Alameda, Emeryville, Piedmont & Castro.

Electric City Gay TV, see 12/2.

22 THURSDAY

Older Gay Men's Friendship Group meets—see 12/3.

Women-Only Social at Mama Bears with tarot readings by Suzanne Judith (\$10, call to schedule a reading). 7:11 pm, 6536 Telegraph Ave. Oakland. Info: 428-9684.

BWMT Christmas Dinner & Awards Ceremony, join B&W, White Men Together for the annual holiday event—7:30 pm, for info & location call 931-BWMT.

Cabaret & Comedy at the Galleron with Cayla Chaiken & Donald Elton. 7:30 pm, plus comic Danny Williams. 7:30 pm, 718 14th St at Church/Market. SF. Info: 431-0253.

Palo Alto Lesbian Rap Group meets—30-9 pm at Mid-Peninsula YWCA, 4161 Alma St. Palo Alto. Tonight's topic: **Celibacy—Leads to Love Yourself**. Discussion led by Roberta. Info: Marilyn 969-1260.

23 FRIDAY

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25 SUNDAY

Older Gay Men's Friendship Group meets—see 12/3.

Women-Only Social at Mama Bears with tarot readings by Suzanne Judith (\$10, call to schedule a reading). 7:11 pm, 6536 Telegraph Ave. Oakland. Info: 428-9684.

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When Experience and Compassion Count...

Visiting Nurses and Hospice of San Francisco

1390 Market Street
Suite 510
San Francisco, CA 94102
(415) 861-8705

Call for information, all referrals or to volunteer.

Some people with AIDS can't get to a food store.

Wouldn't it be great to bring them some groceries?

Imagine something as simple as shopping being too difficult to do. And then someone comes by to bring you what you need. Shanti Project provides volunteers who do chores for people with AIDS. We want to continue offering volunteers to those in need and that is why we need you.



The next Practical Support Training begins January 27th. The next Emotional Support Training begins February 17th.

VOLUNTEER AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE
CALL 777-CARE

RESOURCE GUIDE

AIDS RESOURCES

ACT UP/SF meets Thurs, 7:30 pm, MCC-SF, 150 Eureka St. SF. Direct action & civil disobedience to end the AIDS epidemic & the injustices around it. Info: 821-9087.

New Friends: a group made up of people with AIDS who help those who have been newly diagnosed. Info: 928-5352.
Benefits Orientation for Persons with AIDS & ARC: SF AIDS Foundation holds 2 wky orientations for persons with AIDS & ARC on how to access governmental financial assistance programs. Also learn what social services are available in SF. Reservations req'd, call 864-5855, 9am-6 pm, Mon-Fri.

Women's Support Group: open to any women diagnosed with AIDS. Provides positive environment in which to share difficult personal issues. Info: Shanti Project 777-CARE.

Youth & Children's Groups: ongoing support for those diagnosed with AIDS & children of people with AIDS. Divided by age categories—7-11 & 12-17. Info: Shanti Project 777-CARE.

Drugs & Alcohol/AIDS Support Group: for people with AIDS or ARC, or who test HIV positive & have an alcohol or drug problem. Also open to their lovers & friends or anyone in recovery who has concerns around AIDS. 18th St Services, 217 Church St Market, SF. Free. Info: 861-4898.

Gay Support Group for people with AIDS/ARC/HIV + and alcohol substance abuse. Individual & group process. Operation Concern's Operation Recovery, 1853 Market St. SF. Info: 626-7000.

BWMT AIDS Task Force deals with people of color, primary & third world people surrounding AIDS. All welcome. Info: 630 Fillmore #201, SF 94117, 431-8333.

Marin AIDS Support Network: emotional support for persons with AIDS or ARC & their loved ones, preventive education, speakers bureau, telephone info, emotional support volunteers provided. Training provided. Info: 457-AIDS.

The AIDS Screening Clinic at District Health Ctr #2, 1301 Pine St nr Ellis. SF. Call for appt: 621-4858.

Free Chiropractic Clinic for people w/AIDS. For appt/info: 282-4622, 9am-3pm.

Computerized AIDS Info Network (CAIN), a 24 hr, nationwide, up-to-date information service based in Cambridge, MA. To subscribe, call (800) 544-4005. To list a service, call (213) 464-7400.

AIDS Health Project offers prevention programs, mental health, substance abuse & antibody counseling. AIDS health professional training program & a guide to AIDS Research. Info: 1855 Folsom St, Ste 506, SF. 476-6430.

Third World People with AIDS/ARC meet: 6-8 pm in Oakland. Info: AIDS Int'faith Network, 420-8181.

AIDS Ecumenical Healing Services, held the 1st Mon of every month, sponsored by AIDS Interfaith Network. Info: 928-HOPE.

SF Kaiser Permanente Med Ctr offers HIV + groups (for gay men, for non-gay men & women), ARC groups (for gay men, for women & non-gay men), groups for parents whose children have AIDS, for caretakers (lovers, spouses, friends & others) of people with AIDS/ARC, & for those grieving after losing someone to AIDS. Free, open to all Kaiser members, their families & friends. Info: Aaron Cooper, PhD 929-5204.

SF AIDS Foundation provides various educational support services, such as literature distribution, food bank, hotline & housing. Volunteers & contributions welcome. 333 Valencia St, 4th fl, SF. Info: 864-4376.

Face to Face/Sonoma County AIDS Network: counseling & in-home care for people with AIDS & ARC in Sonoma County. Also support groups. Info: Face to Face/Sonoma County AIDS Network, POB 892, Guerneville, CA 95446.

The AIDS/ARC Blood Fund for people with AIDS is available by calling the Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay Demo Club's Blood Fund Coordinator, 863-6761.

Service Thru Touch offers massage for PWAs who are hospitalized, or live in Shanti residences or Coming Home Hospice. Massage referral for PWAs also available, at very low SL fee. Info: 864-6904 Tues, Wed & Fri, 12:30-3:30 pm.

Open Hand delivers hot meals to people with AIDS/ARC. Info: Ruth 771-9808.

The Family Link provides housing for friends & family of people with AIDS who are visiting from outside the Bay Area. Info: 345-0770.

ARIS Project emotional, practical wky support groups for people w/AIDS, ARC, HIV pos., & their loved ones. Also volunteer training. Call (408) 370-3272.

San Mateo County Buddies provide support & assistance to people with AIDS & ARC & their friends & family in San Mateo County. For info: AIDS Coord. dining Office 573-2588. Volunteers needed, 6-month commitment asked; bi-weekly support groups; intensive training provided.

San Mateo County AIDS/ARC Counseling Service sponsored by Dept of Health Services. Trained experienced financial assistance to people with AIDS 1547 California St. SF. Info/contributions: 441-6407.

SF AIDS Alternative Healing Project offers: comprehensive program of individual treatment for people with AIDS/ARC or who are HIV positive. Also Chakra herbal treatment program, telephone resource line, referrals to health practitioners, alternative healing support groups, classes & more. Info: 558-9292.

Contra Costa AIDS Info: 646-2525. **People with AIDS/ARC** support group meets in Berkeley, Thurs 2-4 pm. Sponsors by AIDS Project of the Eastbay. Info: 420-8181.

Parents Support Group: for parents of children living with AIDS/ARC. Open to parents with children of any age, facilitated by two parents of a person with AIDS. Issues that arise for parents can be difficult to deal with alone, come talk to other parents who've been there 6-8 pm in Oakland. Sponsors by AIDS Project of the East Bay. Info: 420-8181.

Lovers, Friends, & Family of People with AIDS/ARC Group meets in Berkeley, Mon 6-8 pm. Info: AIDS Project of the East Bay 420-8181.

Emergency Health Fund sponsored by Catholic Charities: provides funds for PWAs/PWARC with incomes of less than \$700/month, to help in emergency situations or to cover medical costs not covered by insurance or gov't programs. Info: 864-7400, ask for the AIDS/ARC Program.

Asian AIDS Project: education, prevention, referral & community organizing. 1596 Post St. SF. Info: Daryl Ng 929-1304, 929-1305.

Asian/Pacific Men with HIV: support group for Asian/Pacific gay & bisexual men who test positive to the HIV virus. Confidential, drop-in gathering, Thurs 8-9:30 pm. Sponsors by GALA (Gay Asian Pacific Alliance). Info: Kevin 548-7120 or Steve 282-7546.

Diablo Valley AIDS Ctr: PO Box 139, Concord CA 94522; or call 686-DVAC. **AIDS Information BBS:** (415) 626-1246 24 hours. 300/1200 hour. Sysop Ben Gardiner. Free, all we want. Statistics from Atlanta & SF displayed, updated regularly. Sample Q & A about AIDS, based on clinic & phone exchange experience. Mail send/receive on AIDS only. Library of hard-to-find & out-of-print matter here for downloading from screen. Uploads by appt on another line. Voice phone: 626-1245. Calls to this BBS never disturb anyone.

Healing Group in the Castro: led by Jason Serinus & Fred MakKisic. Focus on alignment of mind, body & spirit. Utilizes deep relaxation, meditation, breathwork, group massage, visualization, affirmations, guided chakra meditation & laying on of hands. Wed eves. Doors open at 8:45 pm, mtg begins at 9 pm, sharp. Ctr for Self Love, Growth & Healing, 552 Castro St, Ste B, (bet 18th & 19th). SF. Info: Jason 652-2180, Fred 344-8505.

Macrobiotic Cooking Classes in the Castro for people concerned about AIDS, ARC, candida & other health problems. Taught by Gary Alinder, professional natural foods cook. Emphasis on tasty but easy-to-prepare meals! Info: 552-5449.

Master Your Mind: support group for PWAs & the worried well. Focus on meditation & visualization techniques, empowerment & health. Meets 1st & 3rd Tues every month, noon-2 pm, 333 Valencia St, SF, 4th floor. Not affiliated with the SF AIDS Fdn. Info: Mary Richards 945-0941.

THAF (Healing Alternative Foundation): nonprofit, provides access to discount alternative & nutritional products. Monthly Exchange Mtgs every 3rd Tues, 7 pm, at MCC-SF, 150 Eureka St, SF. Also offers AIDS Treatment & Resource Library & doctor referrals, 273 Church St nr Market. SF. Hrs: Tues-Sat 1-5 pm. Info: 626-2316.

HIV Negative Support Groups: testing negative is great, but can present problems of its own. Some become so fearful that they give up all sex; others are others are overwhelmed by the pain of watching their friends & lovers die. Get support to deal with "survivor guilt" & other issues. Surrounding testing. Eureka St at 18th. SF. Info: 563-2358.

Northcote Anon mtg at Diablo Valley MCC, 2253 Concord Blvd, Concord. 8 pm. Info: 827-2960.

Fundamentalists Anonymous support group: explore the experience of having once been a fundamentalist

Christian with others who've been there, too. Call 832-2334.

Quit Smoking Clinic: 8-session courses for smokers who are serious about quitting. Led by ex-smokers. \$30 includes all materials. Limited enrollment. Sponsors by SF Dept of Public Health. Info/res: 558-2444, 558-2226.

Gay Men's Recovery Program incorporating education, intensive group work & socialization. Info: Operation Recovery 626-7000.

Gay Men Co-Dependency Group: Do you have a lover, friend or relative who has a problem with alcohol and/or drugs? Get support for them & you. Info: Operation Recovery 626-7000.

Gay Men's Co-Dependency Group: if you are or have been involved with a lover or friend with alcoholism or an addiction, you may benefit from the support of others who've been there, too. Tues & Wed eve groups. Info: Tom Moon 386-6791, or Michael Graves 824-8047.

Co-Dependency Counseling for gay men whose lover or "significant other" has a problem with drugs or alcohol. 18th Street Services, 217 Church St, SF. Info: 861-4898.

ACA Therapy Group for Women & Men: supportive, interactive environment in which to explore & transform repetitive, self-defeating behaviors. Wed 7-9 pm, SF Castro District. Info: Rachel Schochet, MFCC 621-4353.

ACA Therapy Group for Gay Men meets Tues eves 8 pm-9:30 pm. Info: Scott Madover, MFCC 929-0778 or Dan Joy, LCSW 285-6067. Intake appt required.

Women's ACA/Co-dependency Group: work on issues of self-esteem, intimacy, depression, obsessive attractions to unfulfilling relationship & what you can do to change. Berkeley location. Info: Gabri Kramer 841-8242.

Gay/BI/Adult Children of Alcoholics Group: have trouble trusting others, expressing emotions, or having intimate relationships? Recovery leads to getting more out of life. A supportive therapy group can help bridge the past & the present. Info: Dan Joy, LCSW: 285-6067.

Recovery Counseling for individuals & couples wanting to take their 12-step work to a deeper level. For free telephone consultation, call Adrian Bruce Tiller, MS, 346-2399.

Gay Men Drop-In Education Group for Gay Men dealing with issues around alcohol, drugs & sex. Tuesdays 6-7:30 pm. Info: Operation Concern, 626-7000.

Relationship Addiction: 12-Step Recovery Group to explore obsessive attractions to the wrong people, and what you can do to change—learn to focus on yourself, explore new ways to love. Berkeley location. Info: Gabri Kramer 841-8242.

Intimacy & Relationships Group: call Celia Brown, MFCC 691-9145 for info.

Sexually Addicted Gay Men's Group: is your sexual behavior causing you problems in the area of relationships, jobs, health, money or self-esteem? Have you tried unsuccessfully to change? Perhaps you need support & understanding from others to help you regain control of your sexuality—call Michael Bettinger, PhD 563-6100 for info.

Marin Al-Anon for gay men & women: Wed 8:30 pm. Info: 924-3430.

Adult Children of Alcoholics: ongoing therapy groups in SF & Berkeley, daytime & evening. Info: Judy Wolberg, MFCC, 647-1243.

Getting On With Life: group for women with a minimum of 2 years 12 Step recovery. Addresses making hopes & dreams a reality. East Bay location. Thurs 3-4:15 pm, \$15/wk. Info: Thana Christian, LCSW 547-1779.

Women's Co-Dependency Group: professionally-facilitated therapy groups for "women who love too much" who pick partners who can't meet their needs & stay in relationships when unhappy & in pain. Tues 5:30-7 pm, \$10/mo. Piedmont Ave-Awk. Info: Thana Christian, LCSW 547-1779.

Women's Ongoing ACA Group: 7:10-8:40 pm. For women from alcoholic & other dysfunctional families. Deals with relationship, intimacy, trust, loneliness, co-dependency & work issues. Tues 7:10-8:40 pm, \$10/month. Info: Thana Christian, LCSW 547-1779.

Adult Children of Alcoholics Therapy Group offered by Festyler Counseling Associates, 91 Gregory Lane, Ste 17, Pleasant Hill. Led by Pat Hart, MFCC. Info: 687-6706.

Substance Abuse Treatment for persons w/AIDS, sponsored by 18th St Services—see AIDS Resources or call 861-4698.

Gay Men: Alcohol & Drug Abuse Counseling sponsored by 18th St Services: individual & group counseling, sliding scale fees. Info on gay substance abuse problems. 217 Church St, SF. Info: 861-4898.

Gay Support Group for people with alcohol/substance abuse issues: individual & group process. Sponsors by Operation Concern's Operation

Men's Overaters Anon mtg: every Wednesday. For info on OA meetings for gay/lesbians & others call OA Hotline: 821-4642.

AIDS/ARC/HIV + Gay Support Group—see AIDS Resources. Sponsors by Operation Concern.

Cocaine Anon: gay/lesbian (all welcome) Thurs 7:30 pm, MCC, 150 Eureka St at 18th. SF. Info: 563-2358.

Northcote Anon mtg at Diablo Valley MCC, 2253 Concord Blvd, Concord. 8 pm. Info: 827-2960.

Fundamentalists Anonymous support group: explore the experience of having once been a fundamentalist

Christian with others who've been there, too. Call 832-2334.

Quit Smoking Clinic: 8-session courses for smokers who are serious about quitting. Led by ex-smokers. \$30 includes all materials. Limited enrollment. Sponsors by SF Dept of Public Health. Info/res: 558-2444, 558-2226.

Gay Men's Recovery Program incorporating education, intensive group work & socialization. Info: Operation Recovery 626-7000.

Gay Men Co-Dependency Group: Do you have a lover, friend or relative who has a problem with alcohol and/or drugs? Get support for them & you. Info: Operation Recovery 626-7000.

Gay Men's Co-Dependency Group: if you are or have been involved with a lover or friend with alcoholism or an addiction, you may benefit from the support of others who've been there, too. Tues & Wed eve groups. Info: Tom Moon 386-6791, or Michael Graves 824-8047.

Women's ACA/Co-dependency Group: work on issues of self-esteem, intimacy, depression, obsessive attractions to unfulfilling relationship & what you can do to change. Berkeley location. Info: Gabri Kramer 841-8242.

Gay/BI/Adult Children of Alcoholics Group: have trouble trusting others, expressing emotions, or having intimate relationships? Recovery leads to getting more out of life. A supportive therapy group can help bridge the past & the present. Info: Dan Joy, LCSW: 285-6067.

Recovery Counseling for individuals & couples wanting to take their 12-step work to a deeper level. For free telephone consultation, call Adrian Bruce Tiller, MS, 346-2399.

Gay Men Drop-In Education Group for Gay Men dealing with issues around alcohol, drugs & sex. Tuesdays 6-7:30 pm. Info: Operation Concern, 626-7000.

Relationship Addiction: 12-Step Recovery Group to explore obsessive attractions to the wrong people, and what you can do to change—learn to focus on yourself, explore new ways to love. Berkeley location. Info: Gabri Kramer 841-8242.

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FINDING MONDAY NIGHTS BORING AND TEDIOUS?

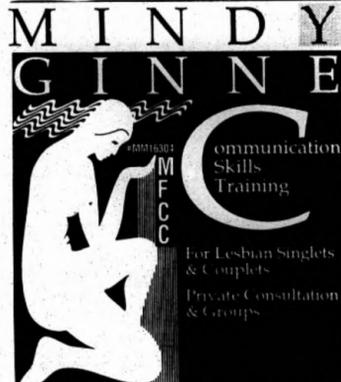
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What we learned in the past, especially through our families, we often perpetuate today. Sometimes we replay ineffective and destructive patterns acquired from our families. We might suffer painful memories, feel inadequate, experience difficulties in our relationships, and find life unfulfilling. If you are considering therapy as a means to build self-esteem, to develop relationship skills, to resolve family difficulties, to revitalize your life, then call for a consultation.

Gay Men's Therapy Groups
Tuesday & Wednesday evenings

When You Need to Find the Right Therapist...

Therapy Network, the original non-profit Referral Service serving the Bay Area since 1982, will find a therapist to suit your individual, couple or family needs. Call to let us know of your situation and for no cost we'll promptly match you with a licensed, qualified therapist that's right for you.
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Recovery, 1853 Market St. SF. Info: 626-7000

Gay Men in Recovery well-established private therapy group for gay men wishing to add more meaning & dimension to their recovery programs. Members work on relationships, ACA relief, codependency, fear of intimacy, trust, self-esteem, depression, sexual & career concerns & other issues. Professional, confidential & caring. Info: John Beaman, MA, MFCC 626-6196

Women's Early Recovery Group for addicts & alcoholics in their first year of sobriety. Thurs 5:30-7 pm. 511 Montgomery Blvd. info: Thana C. LCSW 547-1779

Lesbian Couples in Recovery Group for couples where one or both partners are in a 12-step recovery program. Focus: using programs tools to deal with relationship issues—intimacy, fear, boundaries, sexuality, communication. Oakland, 2-wkly groups meet Mondays in Bay. 7:30-9:30 pm. Wednesdays in SF. 8-10 pm. Info: Chris Peters 531-8565

► ARCHIVES

SF Lesbian Gay Historical Society collects, preserves & disseminates materials related to the Bay Area gay & lesbian experience. Also sponsors public programs & workshops on lesbian/gay history. Join in this important work—call 441-1128 or write, SFBAGLHS, POB 42126, SF 94142

Lesbian & Gay Books & Magazines available at the Harvey Milk Library, 3555 18th St. SF. 3-wk loan. Hrs: Mon, Thurs, Fri 1-6 pm; Tues 10 am-6 pm; Wed 1-9 pm. Info: 626-1132

Documentation of AIDS Issues & Research maintains an archive open to the public by appt, call 928-0292 for info, also see AIDS Resources.

► FUN & GAMES

Play Bingo! And help raise funds for Coming Home Hospice. Every Thurs at Most Holy Redeemer Church. 100 Diamond, bet 18th & 19th. SF. Doors open 6 pm, games start at 7. \$3000 in cash prizes per night. Minimum buy-in: \$10. Pull tabs, concession stand, door prizes & raffle. Spons by Most Holy Redeemer Neighborhood Support Group. Come have fun & help others.

SF Walking Tours explore the waterfront by full moon, see the hidden gardens & stairways of Russian Hill, the murals of the Mission & embassies of Pacific Heights—free tours of SF neighborhoods by trained City Guides. For info or to arrange special group tours, 558-3981. Tues-Thurs 10 am-3 pm. Spons by Friends of the SF Public Library.

SF Friends of the Urban Forest Walking Tours: free tours thru 9 SF neighborhoods, designed to bring out relationship between the natural, historical & cultural of an area & its history, land development, architectural features, cultural influences & special events. Info: 543-5000. 512 2nd St. 4th fl. SF.

Men's Brunch & Games for Older Gay Men (60+) & their friends—see Seniors.

Men's Outings for Older Gay Men (60+) & their friends—see Seniors.

Lesbian Games Parties! Play Pictionary, charades, Scrabble, Twister, poker, Risk—card games, board games, etc. For info/consultation: Zeke 550-2650

► HOBBIES

Needlecraft & Fiber Arts for Lesbians: group for lesbians who enjoy knitting, neopent, crocheting, quilting, embroidery, counted cross stitch, crocheting, etc. Meet 1st & 3rd Thurs each month, exchange ideas, techniques, encouragement & friendship. Also exhibit outings, demos, various speakers. Info: Marie 285-7818

Knit Together the interest group for gay men interested in spinning, weaving, knitting, quilting & other fiber arts. Share techniques, teach & meet others. Info: Bruce 346-2982

Gourmet Guppies group of gay men & urban professionals interested in extraordinary food & fine wine. Dinners organized at Bay Area's finest restaurants. For info write PO Box 74, SF 94101

Like to Cook? Join this nonprofit cooking group, an easygoing group of people interested in food. Potlucks, prepared meals, restaurant visits, etc. Comfortable, casual setting. Group meets 3rd Sat of each month, 6-9 pm. Info: Joe 864-2365

GMUG the Gay Macintosh Users Group, meets on 3rd Wed of each month, 7 pm. For info/location: 641-GMUG

Lesbian & gay Macintosh users are welcome to attend. GMUG also offers a computer skills lab for nonprofit groups working in the AIDS/ARC field.

Women's Reading Group: small, informal group of women who meet bimonthly to discuss books by women authors. Info: Dorit 285-6857, Dano 641-5751

Women's Book Club: monthly mtg to discuss books by & about women. Info: Julie 861-1317, Rapunzel 346-8284

Hortiphiles: a group for lesbians & gay men who enjoy growing plants. For info write PO Box 31, Palo Alto, 94301 or call Michael (415) 826-2515 or Henrietta (408) 246-1117

Gay Ham Group: Lambda Radio Amateur Club, Bay Area chapter, meets 9 pm, 2nd Thurs of each month. Hams & those interested in learning about the

► HEALTH

Women's Clinic at District Health Ctr#1 provides medical screening for cancer of the breast, thyroid & cervix, and STDs. Confidential. SL, 3850 17th St. SF. Hrs: Tues 8-10 pm, Thurs noon-2:30 pm, 4-6 pm. Info: 558-3905

PAP Tests at City Clinic: also diagnosis, treatment & counseling, for vaginitis conditions, entic diseases. Screening & referral for AIDS. Bilingual (Spanish) available. Confidential. Low cost services. Hrs: Mon & Thurs 9:30 am-6 pm; Tues, Wed & Fri 8 am-4 pm. 356 7th St. SF. Mon-Fri: 864-8100

Quan Yin Acupuncture Ctr: experienced, licensed staff at Quan Yin Acupuncture & Herb Ctr offer acupuncture, homeopathy, Shiatsu massage, dietary counseling, Chinese & Western herbs. Sliding scale. Open 9 am-7 pm. Mon-Fri, 9:30-1:30 on Sat. 513 Valencia St at 18th, SF. Info: 861-1101

Min An "People's Well-Being" Primary Ctr offers lesbian/gay sensitive primary care to the community. Western medicine, general medicine, gynecology & women's health, 2nd opinion, nutrition & exercise counseling, relaxation & meditation techniques. Traditional Chinese medicine, acupuncture & herbal medicine. Fresh herbal pharmacy, Dentistry, general, preventative & family SL, info & MediCal accepted. Info: 771-4040, 1144-A Pacific Ave nr Taylor, SF

Fertility Awareness Classes for Women offered at District Health Ctr #5, 1351 24th Ave. SF. Learn how to observe & interpret your body's changes during the menstrual cycle. Use info to achieve or prevent pregnancy. Info: 558-2544. Partners welcome to attend class

Lyon-Martin Women's Health Sensitivity primary health care for women with emphasis on the health care needs of lesbians. Services include: gen'l medical care, gynecology, acupuncture, lesbian parenting, AIDS counseling & safe sex info, safe sex kits (available). WA. SL, 2480 Mission St. SF. Info: appt: 641-0220

Lesbian Clinic of the Berkeley Women's Health Collective provides health care by & for lesbians. Mon 7-9 pm. Call for appt: 843-6194

Women's Occupational Stress Recovery Ctr: stress groups for women workers, resource library, referral service, workshops & lectures. 264 Valencia St. SF. Info: Barbara Young 864-2364

Women's Cancer Resource Ctr info, support, resource & advocacy ctr for Bay Area women with cancer, their friends, families & practitioners. Provides individual peer counseling & drop-in & on-going support groups (see Support Groups). Info: 547-6947 or write POB 11235, Oakl, 94611

UC Infectious Disease and Tropical Medicine Clinic: specialized care for gay patients with sexually transmitted infectious parasitic diseases. 5th floor, Ambulatory Care Clinic, 400 Parnassus, SF. Call 666-5787 for appt.

The Men's Clinic: VD testing, treatment, counseling & referral by & for gay men. Gay Men's Health Collective, Berkeley Free Clinic, 2339 Durant Ave, Berk, WA. Confidential. Info: 644-0425

SF Macrobiotic Network sponsors community dinners Tues & Fri, 6:30 pm, followed by talk or discussion on alternative health & spirituality. Zen Guest House, 273 Page St., SF. Info/tours: 431-2122. \$8 or SL fee

Life in Care Natural Care Ctr, 150 Golden Gate Rd #104, Sausalito, 3 areas of service: women's health care, chiropractic care, and personal growth. Focus on empowering you so you can heal yourself. 331-LIFE

Planetree Health Resource Ctr: nonprofit group of volunteers at Pacific Ctr listen to your concerns. Also Bay Area & nationwide info—from sports, entertainment, rap groups, counseling, AIDS info. Call 841-6224

AIDS Alternative Healing Project. Info/referrals on alternative healing approaches, practitioners: see AIDS Resources

Poison Control Central: 24 hr service. Over-the-phone help w/ poison emergencies. Call 476-6600

SF Drug Line: support, info, referrals on drug problems/treatment. Call 752-3400

Discriminated Against because of your sexual orientation? Contact SF Human Rights Commission, Lesbian/Gay Liaison Unit. There are local laws to protect you. Info: Eileen Gillis 558-4901

Gay Legal Referral Services for all legal problems. 1/2 hour consultation, \$20. Some low-fee & no-fee referrals available. Info: Laura Davis, 875-100 SL. Info/tours: 285-8724

Southbay Gay Hotline: info, referrals, peer counseling. (408)293-4525. (408) 293-AGAY

Emergency Food Box Program provides 3-day supply of nutritionally balanced food to those in emergency situations. Info: 621-7571

Jewish Community Info & Referral (JC&R): SF phone-in service answers questions on all aspects of Jewish life. Free. 9:30 am-4:30 pm: 777-4545

Retners: Learn Your Rights! Old St. Mary's Housing Committee offers special clinic: gay rights counseling, workshops. Mon 6:30-8:30 pm in the Haight, 1833 Page, SF. Downtown (660 California St) clinic specializes in evictions, Rent Board procedures & leases. Thurs 5:30-8:30 pm. Info/appt: 398-0724

Options Homeshare: lonely? rent too high, or needs services in exchange for housing? Options Homeshare connects counselors fulfill housing needs by matching seniors with seniors or younger persons with seniors. Women & men welcome. Spons by Options for Women Over 40. Info: 552-4549

Rental & Home-sharing Service for Gay & Lesbian seniors, spon by Opera-tion Concern's Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders. Info: 626-7000

Senior Information Line: events & services available to seniors in SF on an information, referral & health promotion line located at SF's Dept. of Public Health. Anyone wishing to add an event should call 626-1033. The line number is 552-6216

Neighbors Driving You Crazy? Community Boards can help—CB is a free, fast & effective dispute resolution service for SF residents with problems: renter/owner disputes, noise, pet, money disputes, family or household problems, etc. Call 299-6100 & get relief.

Call OLOE (Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders) for info on services for lesbian & gay elders: friendly visitors, support/rap groups, social events, etc. Spons by Operation Concern, funded by SF Comm on the Aging. Info: 626-7000 w/vty.

Peninsula Gay Hotline: info, referrals, peer counseling & resource guide available. Info: 979-8604

nobby & group call Kit 863-1196 or write Lambda Radio Club, PO Box 14073, SF 94114

Phoebe Snow Society int'l organization of gay fans. Gay people interested in trains, railroading & travel are welcome to join. Info: 352-0301

► HOTLINES AND REFERRALS

Solano County Gay Info Line Referrals & info on local & out-of-county happenings for men & women. (707) 448-1010

SF Sex Information Switchboard: Mon-Fri, 3-9 pm. Info and referrals on all aspects of sexuality, for all ages & lifestyles. 621-7300

Battered Lesbian 24-hr hot-line, individual counseling, support grps & legal advocacy clinics. Info: Liz at WOMAN inc. 864-4722

Gay Domestic Violence: info, peer counseling for gay & bisexual men who batter. Referrals for victims of battering. Spons by MOVE (Men Overcoming Violence). Info: 626-MOVE

Gay Men's Domestic Violence Project provides direct services for male victims of domestic violence. 24-hr report hotline. Spons by CUAU. Call 864-7233 for help

Gay Area Youth Switchboard: info, referral, peer counseling. Info: 386-GAYS or POB 846, SF 94101

Gay Youth Community Coalition publishes "We Are Here," guide listing of No. Call resources for young lesbians & gays (13-25). For copy, send first class, stamped, self-addressed business size envelope, enclose statement saying that your age is 25 or under, sign name at bottom. Or enclose check to Gay Youth Community Coalition, POB 864, SF 94101

The Lesbian/Gay Switchboard trained volunteers at Pacific Ctr listen to your concerns. Also Bay Area & nationwide info—from sports, entertainment, rap groups, counseling, AIDS info. Call 841-6224

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Options Homeshare: lonely? rent too high, or needs services in exchange for housing? Options Homeshare connects counselors fulfill housing needs by matching seniors with seniors or younger persons with seniors. Women & men welcome. Spons by Options for Women Over 40. Info: 552-4549

Rental & Home-sharing Service for Gay & Lesbian seniors, spon by Opera-tion Concern's Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders. Info: 626-7000

Senior Information Line: events & services available to seniors in SF on an information, referral & health promotion line located at SF's Dept. of Public Health. Anyone wishing to add an event should call 626-1033. The line number is 552-6216

Neighbors Driving You Crazy? Community Boards can help—CB is a free, fast & effective dispute resolution service for SF residents with problems: renter/owner disputes, noise, pet, money disputes, family or household problems, etc. Call 299-6100 & get relief.

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Peninsula Gay Hotline: info, referrals, peer counseling & resource guide available. Info: 979-8604

SF Women Against Rape provides individual & group counseling for rape survivors. SFWAR also does advocacy & educational work. Holds house meetings where groups of women discuss concerns & fears, & ways to prevent rape. For info: 647-RAPE. 3543 18th St. SF 94110

California Runaway Hotline provides the following services to young people who have run away from home, & to their parents: crisis intervention counseling, referrals to resource agencies & a neutral message center. For help call 800-843-5200

Looking for a Job? 16-24? Call Job Track. 557-8551

Spanish-Speaking Employment Services for middle & older workers. Tues & Thurs 10 am-5 pm. Options for Women Over 40, 3543 18th St. SF. Info: 431-6405

Arthouse Studio Line: lists available live/work space in SF & the Bay Area. Joint project of Call Lawyers for the Arts & SF Arts Commission. For current listings: 431-6113. To register or list available space: 431-0556

► INCEST AND BATTERY

Incest Survivor Groups: both mixed women's groups & those for lesbians in recovery from drugs or alcohol. Phase 1 & 2 groups: specialized care for incest survivors. SF. Info: Angie or Deborah 864-2364

Incest Survivors Anonymous: We are no longer alone, we have each other. Incest Survivors Anonymous is a 12-step program that enables incest survivors to break out of the victim role & the nightmare of terror, guilt & confusion. Closed mtg for survivors & support groups. Original perpetrators of incest or rape or victims who later became initiators do not attend ISA mtgs. Initiation is determined by intent. Mtgs for women & men: Sun 7-8:30 pm; Mon, Tues & Thurs 7:30-9 pm. For women: Wed 7:30 pm, 3rd floor, 1111 Market St. For men: Wed 7:30 pm, 3rd floor, 1111 Market St. For info call 359-2070 anytime

Incest Survivor? Send self-addressed stamped envelope for list of survivor-writer literature. Send to: Survivors of Incest, Anonymous, Box 21817, Baltimore, MD 21222

Now What? A problem-solving group for women survivors of child sexual abuse. "I've been healing for awhile. What about sex? Intimacy? Work? Parenting? Dealing with my family?" Develop practical strategies for change. Facilitated by Laura Davis, co-author of *Courage to Heal*. Info: 285-8724

Surviving the Healing Process: 2-day weekend workshops for women survivors of childhood sexual abuse. Healing is hard work & we need to pace ourselves—get practical tools for building your support system, assessing where you are, taking care of yourself, celebrating victories. SF location. Led by Laura Davis, 875-100 SL. Info/tours: 285-8724

Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse: group for women dealing with healing, anger, grief, sexuality, trust & intimacy issues. Info: Jan Chess, MFCC 474-9985

I Never Told Anyone: weekend workshops for women survivors of childhood sexual abuse. Led by Ellen Bass, author of *Courage to Heal and Amy Pine*. LMFFCC Santa Cruz area. Some insurance accepted. Info: (408) 423-2609

Child Sexual Abuse Therapy Group for latency-aged female victims. 8-wk commitment. Info: Jan Chess, MFCC 474-9985

Group for lesbian survivors of incest & other sexual abuse as children. 12 wk groups/\$20 per session. Eastbay location. Experienced feminist therapist. Info: Heather Taylor, MFCC 843-4854

Breath & Body Class for Women Survivors of Incest & Abuse: ongoing classes focus on your relationship with your body, your emotions & your boundaries. Explore grounding, movement, breath & release work in the safety of sacred space. Offered thru the Reclaiming Collective, class works within a magical format. Instructor is a former Bodyworker & incest survivor. Info/tours: Cybele 648-3908

What About My Needs? Workshops for lesbian partners of incest/sexual abuse survivors. Learn about the dynamics of the partner position. Share experiences, discover new ways to take care of yourself. Info: Miriam Smolover, MFCC 428-1512

Gay & Bisexual Men Who Batter: Are you feeling ashamed, afraid or angry about having been violent with the man you love the most? MOVE (Men Overcoming Violence) provides assistance & support for change in a safe, confidential place. Info: 626-MOVE

Counseling for Battered Gay Men: is the hand that holds you in public the hand that strikes you in private? CUAU (Community United Against Violence) offers free individual counseling & support groups for you. Call 864-3112, or 864-7233 (24-hr hotline). Call us, we can help.

Support Group for Men who have been physically and/or emotionally abused in relationships. 12-wks, led by licensed clinical psychologist. Thurs 7:30-9:30 pm. Spons by Gay Men's Domestic Violence Project. For info/ref: CUAU 864-3112. Confidentiality guaranteed

Lesbians Who Have Been Battered: group for lesbians who are in or have left a battering relationship. Thurs eves, Oakl location. Led by Audrey Martin, MFCC. Info: 428-1505

Support Group for Lesbians who are or have been in a battering relationship. SL. Info: Women Inc. 864-4722

Battered Lesbian Drop-Out Group: spon by Sonoma County YWCA Women's Emergency Shelter Program. Info: (707) 546-1234. Call—you are not the only one

Battered Lesbians Services offered by Marin Abused Women's Services. Call 924-6616 ask for Holly or Odilia

Battered Lesbian 24-hr hot-line, individual counseling, support grps & legal advocacy clinics. Info: Liz at WOMAN inc. 864-4722

Women's Jobs Program provides counseling & support for battered and formerly-battered women. Includes resume-writing & interview skills. Free. Spons by Rosalie House of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Info: Yvette 255-0166

► ONGOING CLASSES

Yoga Class: release body tension, develop awareness & trust thru practicing the yoga postures. Iyengar style. Tues beg level, 6-7:30 pm. Sat women's adv. beg 8:15-9:45 am. 3331 22nd St. SF. \$34. Call for info, 861-1101. Info: Velleda 282-8136

Iyengar Yoga Class with Rob Vilacari. Emphasizes alignment & breathing. All levels welcome. \$24/4 classes, \$7 drop-in. Sliding scale. Mondays, 6:30-8 pm. 455-A Valencia St. SF. Info: 864-1141

Yoga for Women: 3 classes, 30 min. meditation. Tues, 6-7:30 pm, 13456 classes, \$7 drop-in. Berkeley location. Info: Ali Hammer 654-8765

Healing The Earth Bodywork Training: 150-hr state-approved certificate program focused for gay men & lesbians. Body Electric School of Massage & Rebirthing, 6527-A Telegraph, Oakl. Info: Joseph Kramer 653-1594

Music Play Group for Adults: emphasis on moving to new levels of vitality & creative expression thru sound & song, instruments, movement improv, writing, visualization, & more. Info: Lynne Wreley 465-9306

Voice Release Group for Women: breathwork, sounding, singing, improv, ritual. Emphasis on emotions/voice/body connections. Info: Yolande 527-4755

Women's Rounds Circle meets Wed eves in Berkeley to sing Elizabethan, Spiritual Folk, & African rounds. SF locations. Rhythmically & harmonically exciting songs taught by Yolande Adams. 8-wk/\$50-70 SL. Info: 527-4755

Finding the Groove: group & individual classes in drums, congas, improv, composition, classical & jazz. Gentle, electric approach. Info: Joyce 882-4795

Tai Chi Study Group: meets every Tues. 8 pm, Sebastopol. Spons by Tayu Fellowship—A Fourth Way Spiritual School. Drop-in class intro class includes Fourth Way meditation, readings & discussions. Info/directions: Tayu Order, Box 1156, Santa Rosa, CA 95406 (707) 829-9579

Tarot Classes: new & traditional interpretations. Smith-Waite deck. Feminist, humanist, interpersonal approach. Beginners/intermediate. 15 yrs experience. Taught by Suzanne Judith. Info: 652-6335

Naturally, We Bake: taught by Rob Vilacari & Bob Starkey, classes explore the wide world of natural baking. Discuss the uses of whole grain flours, natural sweeteners, leavening & baking techniques & strategies & more. Make yeast-risen breads & quick breads, cookies, loaves, pies, pastries, etc. Considered given to a variety of dietary needs & considerations. Castro location. Info: 864-1141

► PARENTING

Bay Area Gay Fathers, a support group for gay men who share the rich blessing of also being parents. Meets 1st Sun every month, 5-7 pm. New members welcome. Info: 841-0306

Gay Fathers-North Bay: c/o Neil or John (707) 887-9538 or write POB 686, Forestville, CA 95438

Gay/Lesbian Parenting Group a group for lesbians and gay men having (or interested in having) children in their lives. Info: Bill 827-2455

Lesbians Parenting Adolescents (young teens, pre-teens) support group meets 1st & 3rd Sat of each month, 3-5 pm. Self-run group. Info: 821-4332

Lesbian Mothers of Teenage & Adult Children group: call 626-7109 for info

dances, how to do the two-step. 1st Sat of every month at Amelia's, 647 Valencia St. SF. Info: Evelyn 550-8110

Study Group in Feminist Psychology & sensitive to women's experiences & ethnic, racial differences. Learn from each other. Info: Mab Maher, PhD 647-2475

Women's Aikido School of SF: beautiful nonviolent martial art, develop & harmonize mind, body, emotions, spirit. All levels welcome. Beginners encouraged. Tues, Wed, Thurs & Sun classes. 670 South Van Ness (at 18th), SF. Info: 285-2388

Soko Joshi Women's Judo Club: an interesting aspect of Japanese culture involving the arts of throwing, grappling & self-defense. Tues & Thurs, beginners, advanced & intermediate, 3:30 mo. Location: corner of 26th St & Castro. Info: 826-0566

Kenpo Karate School for Women & Men: a supportive atmosphere for women and men who have been assaulted or may be reassessing their co-ed karate school. Beginners classes on Sun & Thurs. 670 So Van Ness, SF. Info: 585-7960

Beth Abrams Dance Studio offers special workshops in jazz dance, beginning jazz ballet, jazz for kids (ages 10-16) & self-defense. All classes are fun, vigorous & taught in a supportive, non-competitive, non-homophobic atmosphere. Info: 282-6177

Quan Yin Healing Arts Ctr: classes & community workshops on various aspects of healing, from acupuncture to microbotics to crystals. Info/schedule: Gabriela 861-1101

Gay Men's Sketch Class meets every Tues, 7-10 pm, 1229 Folsom St bet 8th & 9th, SF. Classical nude modeling with a variety of models. Open to gay men of any skill level, from interested novice to skilled fine artist. Bring your own materials, comfortable clothes. Tobacco-free environment. Models with something special to offer always welcome. For info call Mark 621-6294, \$10 donation, no one turned away for lack of funds

Sunday Afternoon Sketch Group: informal drawing class meets Sun at 6 pm. Male model provided. Suggested donation: \$6. For info/location: 421-0316

Women/Minority Men: bi-weekly orientation class for getting into the trades & blue-collar work. Earn good money as plumbers, machine operators, electricians, etc. Tues, 3-5 pm. Info: Women in Apprenticeship 864-3255 or Sara Tuttle 282-3100

Interested in discussing feminist theory & literature with other lesbians? Then this group's for you! Bimonthly mtgs—call Ann 665-6746 (messages); wreley 465-9306

Writing & Performing Your Own Work: 6 wk workshops with Claire Blotter in SF's Mission District. 7:30-10:30 pm, \$95. Info/tours: 868-0589

Sign Language Class taught by a deaf lesbian. Thurs 7:30-9 pm, \$3-5 SL. Info: 647-3456

Batik & Related Textile Arts classes taught by Lisa Kikin at La Pena Cultural Ctr. Berkeley. Eve & wkend classes, all levels of development welcome. Free. Spons by Calif Arts Council. Info: 841-6227

Wingit! It's Improv for Women: create improv comedy, increase self-confidence, free the performer in you. Learn an exciting way to empower yourself. Class taught by Julie St Germaine. Wed 7:30-9 pm, \$6 at door. \$5 pre-reg. Info: 255-4686 WA

Psychic Classes & Workshops for Women: topics include self-healing with psychic meditation, astral travel & out-of-body healing, mtg your spirit guides, channeling, dream work, divination & personal growth with spiritual tools. Info: 652-6335

Naturally, We Bake: taught by Rob Vilacari & Bob Starkey, classes explore the wide world of natural baking. Discuss the uses of whole grain flours, natural sweeteners, leavening & baking techniques & strategies & more. Make yeast-risen breads & quick breads, cookies, loaves, pies, pastries, etc. Considered given to a variety of dietary needs & considerations. Castro location. Info: 864-1141

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How do you help someone to get out?
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What community help is available?

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WHERE: 220 Danvers (the corner of Caselli in the Castro)

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Lesbian Moms of Young Children/Babies: Interested in networking in the Eastbay. Come to potluck/brunch—call 540-7171 for details.

Lesbian/Bisexual Mothers support/therapy group sponsors by Pacific Circle, noon-2:30 pm. All women & their lovers/friends welcome. CO provided. Info: Gabriela Castello-Kramer 841-8242.

Info on Childbirth Classes for lesbians: leave message for Anne Arkin, CNM at 655-2949.

Midwifery Services by lesbian midwives: full homebirth services—prenatal, postpartum, blessing way, labor support, childbirth classes. Info: Wisewoman Childbirth Traditions 863-9839.

Childbirth Education by a lesbian mom for lesbians: SF location, small classes or private consultation. Info on hospital & home births. Info: Suelien Sleamaker, RN, MHS, 826-4489.

Adoption Support Groups for adult adoptees, birth parents & adoptive parents. Info: Post-Adoptive Ctr for Education & Research 935-6622.

Couples Planning to Parent: join a discussion group with other lesbian couples who are planning to get pregnant soon. For info call 653-3770.

Lesbian & Gay Parenting Project sponsors by Lyon Martin Clinic & the Lesbian Rights Project. Sponsors the following groups: lesbians considering parenthood, childbirth classes, new moms groups, mothers with teenagers & other wkshops. Info: 525-7312.

Single Lesbian Moms: a "Parents Without Partners" group for the lesbian community. Monthly potluck—meet other women for friendship, support, ideas, love. Bring the kids. Single women planning children are welcome. Eastbay location. Info: Judy 843-9069.

East Bay Lesbian Parents support/social group. Call Tom 652-8183 for info.

Donald Masuda 387-0466.

Asian Pacific Sisters: an organization of Asian Pacific lesbians & bisexual women; AFS provides its members with an atmosphere where they can openly share their experience. AFS includes women of various Asian heritage, including Japanese, Filipino, Chinese, Vietnamese & others; and sponsors picnics, potluck dinners, softball games & other events. Gen'l business meetings held 4th Wed of each month, 6:30 pm at Asian, Inc.; 1670 Pine St. nr Gough, SF. All Asian lesbians & bisexual women are welcome! Info: 750-3385.

Lesbian/Gay People of Color AA mtg in East Bay—see Addiction Recovery.

PERFORMANCE ARTS

Mother tongue Feminist Theater Collective welcomes any woman with ideas to share & stories to tell—writing & performing experience not necessary. Info: 848-6966.

Art Goers: visit galleries, museums, studios, poetry/performance events, & special films with other women & men. Focus on modern & contemporary arts. Info: Tess 994-3002 or Richard 697-2830.

Temescal Gay Men's Chorus rehearses in Berkeley. Call 843-1439

Libertarian Party of SF meets 2nd Wed of each month at Free Forum Books, 1800 Market St., SF. Info: 864-0952.

SF Jewish Sanctuary Coalition supports efforts to aid refugees seeking safe haven in the US. Info: POB 411391, SF 94141-1391; or call 922-6946, 282-2636.

Lesbians & Gays Against Intervention (LAGAI) meets 1st Mon of each month, 7:15 pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St., SF. New members welcome. Info: 821-9087.

Free Sharon Kowalski Committee works to aid Karen Thompson in her fight to gain custody of her disabled loved one. Monthly potluck—meet other women for friendship, support, ideas, love. Bring the kids. Single women planning children are welcome. Eastbay location. Info: Judy 843-9069.

East Bay Lesbian Parents support/social group. Call Tom 652-8183 for info.

Club meets every 2nd Mon at 7:45 pm at the Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St., SF. Info: 621-3296. Join & help in the fight to protect the rights of lesbians & gay men.

Harvey Milk Lesbian & Gay Demo Club gen'l mtg: every 4th Tues of month, 7:30 pm, Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St., SF. Info: 285-4742.

Feminists for Animal Rights welcomes women in working to end all forms of exploitation against animals. For info see newsletter, meetings, events, t-shirt, etc. call 547-7251.

Alexander Hamilton American Legion Post #448: a veterans' organization of gays, lesbians and straight people of various races & ethnicities working together in harmony. Meets every 2nd Thurs of the month. Info: 431-1413 or 824-3907.

Freedom Democratic Caucus: a political alliance of lesbians & gay men serving Santa Cruz County. Info: POB Box 7293, Santa Cruz, 95061-7293.

Libertarian Party of SF meets 2nd Wed of each month at Free Forum Books, 1800 Market St., SF. Info: 864-0952.

SF Jewish Sanctuary Coalition supports efforts to aid refugees seeking safe haven in the US. Info: POB 411391, SF 94141-1391; or call 922-6946, 282-2636.

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East Bay Lesbian Parents support/social group. Call Tom 652-8183 for info.

SOCIAL GROUPS

Girth & Mirth Club of SF meets Sat. Chubbies meet chasers at chubbies. For info write: PO Box 528, SF 94101 or call 24-hr message hotline: 552-1143.

The Fraternal Order of Gays: 304 Gold Mine Dr., SF. Ongoing activities. Call 641-0999 or write for calendar of activities.

Feminist Lesbian Social Group (FLSG) meets once monthly in the S. Bay for a potluck. Open to all women who want to make new contacts & re-new old ones. Info: FLSG, POB 70933, Sunnyvale 94086.

Gay & Lesbian Social: held 2nd Fri of each month, 7:30-11 pm, Eastbay location. Free, all encouraged to bring snack or beverage to share. Everyone expected to speak in Spanish. Native speakers & learners welcome. Info: Walter 776-7476; Valentin 538-4980.

UCGALA (Univ of Call Gay & Lesbian Alumni Assoc): Open to graduates and anyone else who is a friend of the University. Annual membership: \$10. For info & to get on mailing list (confidentiality assured), call 547-2200. Monthly social & cultural events.

Stanford Lesbian & Gay Alumni: group of Stanford alumni from all over the Bay Area who come together for theater, outings, parties & other activities. Come join us! For info write SLAG, PO Box 460632, SF 94146-0632 call Dick 648-5836.

Men's Social Group of Diablo Valley Metropolitan Community Church meets 3rd Sun of each month, 6:30 pm. For info: 827-2966.

Grupo Sociocultural Hispanico: Tenemos nuestra reunion el segundo Viernes de cada mes. El grupo es para Damas y Caballeros que hablan Espanol. Para mas informacion llamen a Patricia 673-4684.

BFSF (Friendly SF) social group open to bisexual & bi-curious friends. BFSF sponsors Bi Night Out—every Tues night at 7 pm, Cafe San Marcos restaurant, 2367 Market St., SF. For dinner & conversation with other bisexuals. Also BGIF (Bi God It's Friday) w/ky Fri get-together for fun & friendship—6-8 pm at Cafe San Marcos. For other activities, newsletter & info to write Box #281, 1850 Union St., SF 94123, or call 753-0687.

Bisexual Feminist Women's monthly potluck social & discussion group: meets one Sunday a month for socializing, semi-heated political discussion & warm food. If you don't need a support group, but just want to meet some positive women to hang out with, this group is for you. Call 584-9188 for info.

Social Group for Disabled Gays/Bis: meet 2nd & 4th Fri of each month for parties, potlucks & outings. Info: Carol 863-1162, Bob D 552-9640.

Dear Sir: recreation & social group for couples & singles. Don't do things alone—share your ideas, relax by being with others. Dining, films, plays, opera, ballet, etc.—or just friendly people to talk to, on a one-to-one basis, or in a group. Info: Dear Sir, PO Box 866, El Cerrito, CA 94530 or call 525-2028.

Social Club for nonsmoking, single gay men, 30-50. For location & other info call Dave 621-7949 or Gary 824-4450.

Lesbian Social/Movie Get-Together: monthly event. Casual social & movie-watching. Single, monogamous, coupled, confused, unidentified or whatever—you don't have to be lesbian. Bring goodies to share. For info: 531-3943.

333 Turk St., SF. Info: 626-7000.

Senior Information Line:—see Hotlines & Referrals.

Options HomeShare: lonely? rent too high, or need services in exchange for housing? See hotlines & referrals.

Legal Clinics for Gay & Lesbian seniors: had problems with Medicare, housing, social security or other legal issues? Operation Concern's GLOE program & Legal Assistance to the Elderly sponsors a monthly intake site at Operation Concern (1853 Market St nr Guerrero, SF) where lesbian & gay seniors can meet with an LAE attorney to discuss specific legal issues. First Friday of every month, 10 am-noon. Prior appointment necessary, call GLOE 626-7000 or LAE 861-4444 to set up an app or for more info on services.

concern for gay/lesbians & non-gay people: Rev Bob Wheatley, pastor. For Barbara Martzall, assistant pastor. Info: (408) 298-3548.

Hartford Street Zen Ctr, Zen Buddhist Meditation group in the Castro. Zazen daily, 6 am & 6 pm, Mon-Fri. Lecture 10 am, Sundays. 57 Hartford St. Info: 863-2507.

Gay & Lesbian Mass: lesbian & gay affirming worship. All welcome. Nonsexist language. Healing prayers offered each service. Sponsors by Integrity, a community of gay & lesbian Episcopalians & friends. 5:30 pm Sun at St John's, 1661 14th St., SF. Info: Deborah Franquist 648-4026 (eves) or David Bentley 431-5859.

Women-in-Integrity: Women's ministry within a lesbian & gay affirming community of Episcopalians & friends. 3rd Sun of each month, 5:30 pm at St John's, 1661 14th St., SF. Info: 647-8390.

The Paragon: ministry of the Episcopal Church in the lesbian & gay community. Programs include: prison ministry, parish outreach, newsletter (\$10 per year), personal growth training classes, bible study & more. Info: 552-2929.

Most Holy Redeemer Roman Catholic Church, 100 Diamond St., SF. Mass: 5 pm Sat, 7 & 10 am Sun, wkdays at 8 am. Info: 863-6259.

GALOC (Gay & Lesbian Outreach Committee) of Most Holy Redeemer Church welcomes lesbians & gay men to St. John's parish. Come join us! For info: 863-6259.

Tayu Study Group: see Ongoing Classes for details.

Santa Rosa Gay Men's Sitting Meditation Group: 8 pm Wed. Info: (707) 526-6618.

Avatar Meher Baba: gay & lesbian followers discuss His Discourses. All are welcome. 8 pm, Dolores St Baptist Church, 15th & Dolores St., SF. Info: Larry 441-7008.

Wed Night Meditation & Healing Circle: experience the peace & grace of the moment. Goddess/God consciousness, visualization, breathwork, 7:30 pm, 1296 Haight #25, SF. Info: 864-5483.

Eastern Orthodox Holy Ascension Mission: divine liturgy Sun 10 am; vigil Sat 6:30 pm. Counseling, sick calls, funerals available. Monthly healing services. Chapel at 1671 Golden Gate #2, SF. Info: 563-8514.

A Course in Miracles presents another way to live—ongoing mtgs Wed, 7:30-9 pm, 740 Baker St., Info: 921-3774.

A Course in Miracles text group meets 7:30-9 pm Thurs at Ctr of Excellence, 2517 Van Ness at Union, SF. Facilitated by Murai & John Herricke. Info: 474-0323, 567-4402. Donation.

Radical Faeries: an eclectic group of gay male witches, wizards, shamans, gypsies, sissies, hippies, Deadheads, pagans, anarchists, magicians.

Angel Group meets 7:30 pm, Oakland parlor sanctuary. Share Angel stories, literature, art & music. Discussion, guided meditation, candlelight ceremony. Women & men of all religious backgrounds welcome. Winged Goddess/Deva/Fairy orientation. Led by Suzanne Judith, Spiritual Guide. Info: 658-7797.

Sunday Women: a Dianic gathering SF. Info: Deborah Franquist 648-4026 (eves) or David Bentley 431-5859.

St Paul's Lutheran Church: worship & Eucharist, Sun, 10 am. 1658 Excelsior Ave, Oakl (just off I-580). Info: 530-6333.

Acceptance: Baptist Bible Study & support group meets Wednesdays, 7:30 pm. Everyone welcome. For info: 843-9705, 626-5034.

Baptist: American American Baptists Concerned (a gay/lesbian caucus) meets first Sun of each month (except summer). Also publishes quarterly newsletter, Voice of the Turtle. To join mailing list send \$7 to ABC, 870 Eriest, Oakl 94610. For mtg info: 465-2778, 465-8652.

Dolores Street Baptist Church (Southern Baptist) worship service at 11 am. Everyone welcome to a congregation where gay/lesbian and non-gay people worship openly together. Acceptance gay support group meets Tues every two weeks, 208 Dolores St at 15th, SF. Info: 861-1434.

Dignity/SF: Gay & Lesbian Catholics, friends & families celebrate the Eucharist. Info: 255-9244.

Dignity/East Bay: a faith community of lesbian & gay Catholics, our families & friends. For times & locations call 926-2535. Also raps, social events.

Presbyterians for Lesbian/Gay Concerns: nurture, study, worship, social events for Presbyterians in greater Bay Area. Info: Dick & Craig 268-9534.

Community of the Love of Christ: worship with an Ecumenical Catholic Church, healing services, AIDS ministry. Info: 474-0323, 567-4402. Donation.

Christian Women's Support Group meets 4th Sat of each month. Inclusive language eucharist, potluck, fellowship. Info: K. Wagner 534-5546, Bonita Palmer 647-8390.

Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) of SF: Sun worship services: 8:30 am, 10:30 am & 7 pm. Support Groups: antibody positive group; caregivers support; living with life-threatening illness group; healing services; AIDS ministry team. Also women's & men's groups, children's programming & educational series. Rev Jim Mitulski, pastor. 150 Eureka St., SF. Info: 863-4434.

Women's Gatherings at MCC-SF: time for spirituality & sharing. 7:30-9 pm every 4th Mon of month. Children provided childcare res. Info: MCC Women's Programming Coordinator Kittredge Cherry 863-4434.

Golden Gate MCC Sun worship services: 12:30 & 7 pm, 48 Belcher St., SF. Info: 626-6300.

New Life MCC Sun worship service: 1823 9th St at Hearst, Berkeley. 5 pm. SGN, WA. Info: 843-9355.

Maranatha MCC worship service, Sun 10 am. Starr King Unitarian Church, 22577 Bayview St, Hayward. Also open rap group Wed, 7 pm. 881-5649.

Diablo Valley MCC Sun worship service, 10 am, 2253 Concord Blvd, Concord. Wed worship, 7 pm, followed by lay ministry courses at 8:15 pm. Info: 926-2920.

MCC Santa Rosa meets 11 am at 515 Orchard St, Santa Rosa. All lifestyles welcome! Pastor JI Torres. Info: 526-HOPE.

Russian River MCC Sun worship service: Noon, 14520 Armstrong Woods Rd, Guerneville. Info: Rev Linda Laster 707-869-8552.

Holy Trinity Community Church of San Jose, a Christian church w/ special ministry to the gay & lesbian community. Emphasis on healing ministry, gifts of the Holy Spirit. Support of gay/lesbian causes. 10 am. First United Methodist Church Chapel, 24 N 5th St, downtown San Jose. Info: Rev. F. Randall Hill, (408)292-3071.

Holy Trinity Community Church of Santa Rosa meets 5 pm at Community United Church of Christ, 1336 Arroyo St, San Carlos. Emphasis on love, caring &

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PEOPLE OF COLOR

Third World Gay Men's Rap group drop-in Wednesdays, 6-8 pm, Pacific Center, Berkeley. Info: 841-6224.

Black & White Men Together gathering every Tues, 1:30-3:00 pm, 1350 Walker St nr Masonic, SF. Rap 7:30-10:00 pm. For info/mtg topic: 931-BWMT. Also see AIDS Resources for AIDS discussion group.

Lesbians of Color/Third World Lesbian Support Group meets Thursdays, 6:30-8pm; \$3 donation (one turned away for lack of funds). Pacific Ctr, Telegraph & Derby, Berk. Info: Camille Barber, 548-8283.

Gay & South Asian? You're not alone! Indian, Pakistani, Bangla Deshi, Sri Lankan, Nepali, Bhutani, Tibetan—men & women—this is our chance to find each other! Trikon, a new support group for gay men & lesbians from the Indian subcontinent. Info: Box 60536, Palo Alto 94306. (408) 729-4703.

S/M Support Group for Women of Color. Info: 647-0827.

Third World People with AIDS/ARC group sponsors by AIDS Project of the Eastbay. See AIDS Resources.

Asian Pacific HIV-Positive Gay Men's support group offered by GAPA (Gay Asian Pacific Alliance), see AIDS Resources.

Japanese Lesbian Group: Nihongo Bokokugo to suru Lesbian no Group. Matsuki Dami Nishiyuki Meeting Art. Demwa (Yoru) 563-8253.

Gay Feminist Women of Color group meets at Billy DeFrank Community Ctr, 1040 Park Ave, San Jose. Enjoy social & community activities, cultural exchanges, meeting new friends. Info: Rose (408) 298-5742.

El Grupo Sociocultural, a gay & lesbian Spanish club, meets monthly on Fridays. Everyone is asked to speak in Spanish. Native speakers & beginners welcome. Info: Walter 776-7476.

Large Black Lesbians: talk about our lives, not necessarily about weight—this is not a weight loss group. Also do some light stretching & movement. For more info call Jan 841-4888 or Sharon 531-9267.

Asian Gay Men's Support Group meets Thurs 7-9 pm at Pacific Ctr. Gay Asian men of all ages are welcome. Topics include: growing up gay & Asian, coming out to family & friends, racial & sexual stereotyping, relationships with other men, safe sexual practices, developing healthy self-images, and other topics chosen by the group. Info: 408-6283, 2712 Telegraph Ave at Derby, Berkeley.

Gay/Asian Pacific Alliance (GAPA) is an organization formed by & for gay men of Asian & Pacific Islander heritages. GAPA seeks to create a positive & visible presence for gay Asian/Pacifics in the SF Bay Area. Gen'l mtgs: every 2nd Sun of the month at MCC-SF, 50 Eureka St., SF. 6-8 pm. Also a bimonthly newsletter "Lavender Godzilla", write to PO Box 421884, SF CA 94142-1884 to subscribe. Info:

ACT UP/SF (formerly AIDS Action Pledge) meets every Thurs, 7:30 pm, MCC-SF, 150 Eureka St., SF. Direct action & civil disobedience to end the AIDS epidemic & the injustices around it. Act up! Fight back! Info: 821-9087.

BiPol: bisexual, lesbian & gay political action group of the SF Bay Area. Info: Lani Kaahumanu 821-3534 or write BiPol, 544 Castro St., SF 94114.

National Bisexual Network (NBN) acts as a clearinghouse for resources, AIDS information & political alerts. Visibility, education, pride. For newsletter, send \$2 to NBN, 548 Castro St #422, SF 94114. Info: Lani 821-3534.

Lesbian Agenda for Action: progressive, anti-racist membership organization committed to political & social action that promotes lesbian visibility. Info: 552-5677.

Lesbian Uprising! A feminist political, educational & cultural group of Bay Area lesbians who envision a return to the radical ideals of the women's liberation movement, who recognize the deep connection between the personal & the political, and seek means to embody those connections in concrete ways. Group defends & empowers women by being visible, participating in street demos, etc. Group also meets twice monthly to discuss exciting feminist literature & theory. Interested? Call Gail 441-6238 or Ann 665-6746 for info/location.

Tea Dance & Social for older lesbians (60 & over) and friends. Enjoy refreshments in a beautiful garden. Last Sun of each month... call GLOE for exact time. Francis of Assisi, 145 Guerrero St nr Market, SF. Bring refreshments to noon-8 pm. Info: 433-STBS.

GAWK (Gay Artists & Writers Collective) Join rock musicians, singers, writers, cartoonists, comedians & others for eclectic, upbeat, fun socializing. Info: Jon Sugar 731-2424 or write 901 Stanyan St #14, SF 94117.

Fat Lip Readers Theatre: political theatre collective of fat, feisty & diverse women who strut their stuff on stage & in workshops. Submissions of poetry, prose, stories & analysis with a fat liberation perspective are welcome & respected. Info: PO Box 7717, Berkeley CA 94707. Tel: 843-3939.

Dance the Samba! Sista Boom, a multicultural women's percussion & dance ensemble, welcomes women of color to join. Sista Boom performs Brazilian & Afro-Caribbean dance. Info: Hannah 658-0826.

POLITICAL

GLAD (Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation) SF chapter meets 3rd Mon of each month at MCC-SF, 150 Eureka St., SF. GLAD is a multi-media watch group that monitors local & nat'l press & television and protests homophobic coverage of our community. Info: Drew Segel 751-5354.

Stonewall Gay Demo Club meets 7:30 pm, first Mon of each month at MCC, 150 Eureka St., SF.

East Bay Lesbian/Gay Demo Club meets monthly in Oakl & Berkeley. For location & other info, call Don 527-0801.

Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Demo

Men's Brunch for older gay men (60+) & friends. Noon-3 pm, 2nd Sun of each month. St Francis of Assisi Community Ctr, 145 Guerrero St., SF. Sponsors by GLOE. Info: 626-7000.

Rental & Home-Sharing Referral Service by Operation Concern's GLOE. GLOE maintains a list of those with housing to share (either for rent or for services) and a list of those looking for housing. Rentals & the need for companionship & support make shared housing a viable option for many—call George Roosen, program coordinator, at 626-7000 for further info.

Men's Support Group for older gay men (60+), 7-9 pm, every Mon. Sponsors by Operation Concern's GLOE. 1853 Market St., SF. Call 626-7000 for info.

Writers Workshop for Lesbians & Gay Men (50+) sponsors by GLOE. Every Wed, 6-8 pm, at Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., SF. Info: 626-7000.

Bereavement Support Group for Senior Gay Men: you don't have to be alone in your grief! Operation Concern's GLOE (Gay & Lesbian Community Outreach to Elders) offers emotional support as well as practical assistance to gay men who are grieving the recent death of a lover or close friend. Info: George 626-7000.

Wednesday Matinees sponsors by GLOE: join us for a lively afternoon of movies, discussion & refreshments. Free! At North of Market Senior Services.

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Seniors

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astrologers, you name it, who all share a common love for Mother Earth & celebrate gay male mysteries. Wkly Faerie circles meet Thurs eves at 8 pm, bring instruments & energy! 24-hr info line (Tele-Faerie): 648-8065.

United Church of Christ: friendly, liberal Protestant church. Uses inclusive language, open to all. Sun eves, 7 pm, 777 Oakland Ave, Oakland. Info: 834-8135. Also discussion, movie & service groups.

The Church of Amron, a metaphysical ministry, holds science services, healing circles, classes on yoga, metaphysics, channeling, ritual, affirmations, shaman drumming, & much more. 2254 Van Ness Ave at Vallejo, SF. For info call 775-0227.

FLAME (Finding Love—All Minds Enlightened), an informal affirming gathering; an alternative to standard "Sunday worship". Music, centering, plus candid "truth talks" allow you to unfold your inner splendor. Wed eves, 7 pm in the Ballroom of 347 Dolores St (bet 16th & 17th), SF; with Rev Rick De John, sponsored by Unity Christ Church, Inc. 566-4122.

► SUPPORT GROUPS

Rap Group for Gay Men at Pacific Ctr, Mon 7:45pm & Tues 8pm. Followed by coffee & social hour for Gay/BI men. Men welcome to attend either/both activities. 2712 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley. Info: 841-6224.

Bisexual Women's Rap: you don't need to be bisexual but you MUST be female & willing to discuss bisexuality & related issues. WA & SIGN, Wed, 8:9-45 pm, Pacific Ctr, Berkeley. Info: 841-6224.

Feminist Bisexual Women's Support Group: discussion & support for bisexual women who come from, but feel a little out of place in both the straight & lesbian communities. Mtg every other Sun afternoon in SF. Not a therapy group. Info: 385-104.

Bay Area Bisexual Network: umbrella organization for bisexual groups, resources & people. Open to everyone, whether or not they consider themselves bisexuals. Info: 522-5553.

Bisexual Significant Others Group meets Sun, 7:9 pm. For bisexuals & men, regardless of sexual preference. Pacific Ctr, Berkeley. Info: 841-6224.

Bisexual Women's & Men's Group: Drop-in on Sun at 7 pm. Pacific Ctr, Berk. Info: 841-6224.

Bisexual Women's Rap sponsored by BFriendly-SF. Wkly Wed discussion of bisexual women's issues. Free. Info/Location: 695-7821.

Gay Men's Support Group: personal growth group in the East Bay. Members support each other in reaching goals. Exploring topics such as loving ourselves, relationships, sex & intimacy, coming out, 10-wk cycles, Wed or Thurs, 8-10 pm. Spons by Discovery. Info: 547-5933.

Rosenfeldian Support Group guided by the work of Paul Rosenfeld, MD, author of *Homosexuality: The Psychology of the Creative Process*, an alternative direction for gay life. Info: Tom 552-8592.

Fundamentalists Anonymous mtg: see Addiction Recovery.

Women's Cancer Support Group: Drop-in. Place to meet, share thoughts & feelings, discuss issues with other women who have or have had cancer. 1st & 3rd Mon of each month, 6:30-8 pm, Old Providence Hospital, 5th floor, American Cancer Society Offices, 3100 Summit, St. Oakland. Facilitated by Jackie Winnow & Carla Dalton. \$5 donation, no one turned away for lack of

funds. Wheelchair Accessible. Info: 547-6947.

Cancer Support Group for Lesbians & Bisexual Women with ongoing cancer: group meets Thurs, 7:9 pm in Berkeley, beginning 1/5. Specifically for those with ongoing, recurrent or metastatic cancer. Spons by the Women's Cancer Resource Ctr, call 547-6947 for info.

Family Cancer Program at SF's Mt Zion Hospital offers support, info & coping skills to kids & adolescents whose parents have cancer. Info: Janine Nesset 775-5921.

Married Gay & Bi Men's Rap group meets Wed at 8 pm, Pacific Ctr, Berk. Drop-in. Info: 841-6224.

Transsexuals & Transsexuals: rap group (women & men), 1st and 3rd Wed and last Fri monthly, 8 pm, Pacific Ctr, Info: 841-6224.

TV/TS & Friends Transgender Group meets 8 pm, last Thurs of each month. SF location. Info: 664-1499 or write ETV, PO Box 6486, SF CA 94101. We're very active & friendly folks!

Transsexual Support Group: Tues 8:9-45 pm. Drop-in. Pacific Ctr, Berkeley. Info: 841-6224.

Female-to-Male Crossdressers & Transsexuals Only Group, Newsletter & quarterly get-togethers. Info: FTM, 1827 Haight St, SF. Info: 478-3535.

Gay Men's Support Group in Fairfield. Raps & socials, Thurs 7:30-10 pm. Info: (707) 448-1010 or write PO Box 73, Fairfield, CA 94533.

Federal Lesbians and Gays (FLAG) offers support, advice, activities for Federal Employees. Mtg 2nd Wednesday of each month, 6pm. SF. Info: 695-9174.

Lesbian Adoptees: open group discussing issues around search, reunion, depression, anger, abandonment, identity, etc. Meets every other Sun in SF. Info: Amy 224-5245.

Adoptive Birth Parents & Adoptive Parents support groups meet throughout the Bay Area. For info/locations: Post Adoption Center for Education & Research (PACEER) 935-6622.

Bay Area Career Women: professional org. for lesbians that offers support, educational opportunities, contacts & more. Info: 495-5393.

SFCAN (SF Advertising & Communications Network), the Bay Area chapter of a nat'l network of lesbians & gay men in the communications field (advertising, copywriters, creative services, graphic design, etc.) provides networking, education, socials, job bank, etc. Info: Keith 821-4810 or write 584 Castro St #245, SF 94114, attn SFCAN.

Mensa Lesbians-SF: Mensa is an organization for people who score in the top 2 percent on a standardized IQ test. Mensa Lesbians-SF is a purely social group enabling Mensa Lesbians to meet in a supportive atmosphere. For info: Delene Moyle 256-9075 or write PO Box 273072, Concord CA 94527.

Partners, Intimates & Friends of chronically ill & disabled lesbians: meet twice a month to talk about coming out, sex (or lack of), caring, limits & all the rest! Lesbian only. Women born women only. SF people needed. Free. Info: 664-6842 (SF), 632-3847 (EB).

Abled/Disabled Group meets at Pacific Ctr, 2712 Telegraph Ave at Derby, Berkeley, 8:9-50 pm. Info: 841-6224.

Eastbay Lesbian S/M Support Group: for all lesbians with a positive interest in s/m & leather. Lesbians only. Have a hard time resolving your politics, spirituality or feelings with being a lesbian & into leather? Call: 654-1591 or write POB 20365 Oakl, 94611.

S/M Lesbian Support/Discussion group. No perfumes or scents. Info/Location: 668-4622.

Leather S/M Support Group meets Mon 7:30-10 pm at MCC-SF, 150 Eureka St, SF. Open discussion group, with topics. Women & men welcome. Donation requested. Info: Gordon Jones 621-6786.

Society of Janus: educational, support & social club for those interested in consensual, safe, non-exploitative s/m. Open to women & men; straight, bisexual, lesbian & gay. Info: send SASE to Society of Janus, Dept CU, PO Box 6794, SF CA 94101 or call 848-0452.

Oakland/East Bay Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (Parents FLAG) holds support groups for parents, relatives & friends of lesbian & gay people. Each 4th Sun. Info: Betty McCall 547-4657.

Berkeley PFLAG: 1st Wed of each month. Info: Ann 486-0534.

SF PFLAG: 2nd Sun each month, 2 pm. St Francis Lutheran Church, 152 Church St, SF (enter gate left of church). All welcome. Info: Mary 928-2748.

Mid-Peninsula PFLAG meets 3rd Thurs of each month at University Lutheran Church, 1611 Stanford Ave, Palo Alto, 7:30 pm. Info & support for families & friends of gay men & lesbians. Info: Verda 854-0142.

Diablo Valley PFLAG meets every 3rd Tues, Diablo Valley MCC, 2253 Concord Blvd, Concord. Info: POB 2174, Martinez, 94553 or call 372-9014.

Southbay PFLAG meets 2nd Wed of every month. San Jose location. Info: Nancy (408) 270-8182.

Marin PFLAG: welcomes & supports parents, spouses, siblings, friends & lesbians & gays to its mtgs. 2nd Wed of every month, 26 Kensington Ct, San Anselmo. Info: 478-3535.

BANGS: Bay Area Network of Gay & Lesbian Educators, meets 3rd Thurs of each month, 6:30 pm, 655 14th St, SF. Info: Rob 864-4099, Barbara 285-5078.

Peninsula Women's Group, a support & networking group for lesbians, meets every Wed at 7:30 pm at Two Sisters Bookstore, 605 Cambridge, Menlo Park. For info/calendar: Diane 349-5189.

Palo Alto Lesbian Rap Group: discussion group for all lesbians. Meet Thurs 7:30 pm at the Palo Alto YWCA, 4161 Alma (just south of San Antonio), Palo Alto. Different topics each week, see Main Calendar for details. Info: Marilyn 969-1260.

SF/Bay Area Phobia Society: help for phobia sufferers & their friends. Provides place to share feelings, goals, discuss progress. Info: 324-2630.

East Bay Lesbian Rap: fun, relaxed atmosphere to talk about new friends! Tues, 8:9-30 pm at Pacific Ctr, 2712 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley. Info: Ana or Barbara 548-8283.

Gay Men's Support Group: SF location, Tuesdays, ongoing. Self-led group deals with a wide range of personal issues. Sessions open to all. Info: 841-6224.

Gay Men's Disabled Group: are you a gay man with a physical/handicap disability? Isolated & in need of support/therapy? Call Daryl Goldman 626-7000 vity. Group held at Operation Concern, 1853 Market St, SF.

Depression Support Group for gay men: an ongoing psychotherapy group for gay men whose sexual behavior is out of control. Monday eves at Operation Concern, SF. Info: Jim Fishman 626-7000.

Drama Therapy Group: deal with stress issues, increase spontaneity, communication. Info: 626-7000.

Sexual Abuse Support Group: for gay men: an ongoing psychotherapy group for gay men whose sexual behavior is out of control. Monday eves at Operation Concern, SF. Info: Jim Fishman 626-7000.

Sexually Addicted Gay Men's therapy group—see Addiction Recovery.

Grief Group for those who have lost a loved one thru suicide. Deal with feelings of anger, confusion, guilt. Find strength, support. Meets wkly for 8 wks, lic therapist facilitates. Spons by SF Suicide Prevention. Info: 752-4866.

Gay Men's Groups at Operation Concern: 12-wk process group, meets 1st & 3rd each month. Safe place to develop your interpersonal relating skills. Preliminary interview required. Info: Operation Concern 626-7000.

Separation & Survival Group for lesbians experiencing the ending of an intimate relationship. Safe place to let go, begin the healing process. 12-wk process groups. SF location. Info: Chris Peters, MSW 531-8565.

Lesbian Couples Therapy at Operation Concern. Offers lesbian relationship therapy—this can include lovers, ex-lovers, family or friends. Low fee, sliding scale. Info: 626-7000 vity.

Bisexual Men's Group: focus on relationship & communication issues; positive feedback regarding life choices & experiences as a bisexual person. Info: Tom Fox, MA, MFCC 751-6714.

Therapy Group for Gay Men: ongoing group. Safe & supportive place where

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gay men can find new ways to deal with troublesome issues in their lives. Tues 7:15-9:15 pm. Info: Michael Bettinger, PhD 563-6100.

Gay Relationships Group for Men experiencing some depression & having difficulty starting & developing relationships. Info: Kevin Miller, MS, MFCC #011080, 826-8692.

Men's Group: wky group on self-esteem & relationships for gay men? meet men in meaningful ways, explore issues, get objective feedback, solve problems. Wed 8:30-30 pm. fee. Info/fee brochure: Adrian Bruce Tiller, MS 346-2399.

Dissatisfied with your relationships? Feel isolated from other gay men? Longterm therapy group for gay men helps you explore how you relate to others; discover more fulfilling ways to be. Wkly mtgs, highly experienced group leaders. Info/fee: Gordon Murray, MFCC 821-1718 or Mark Lodioco, PhD 845-4312.

Intimacy & Relationships Group led by Celia Bando, MFCC 776-9145.

Home Counseling for Children of Lesbian/Gay Parents. Info: Monty Meyer, MS, MFCC, 824-5532.

Pre-Relationship Support Group for Men: wky mtgs in SF for relationship-oriented men who want to connect with a life partner. Info/location: David Klein, MA (in Counseling), 343-8541.

Lesbian Therapy Groups: work in depth on your own issues, personal power & autonomy. Thurs, 7-9 pm, \$20/session. SF location. Info: Maggie Rothschild Pool, PhD, LCSW: 626-1109.

Lesbians Who Love Too Much: group to explore obsessive attractions to painful, unfulfilling relationships & what you can do to recognize, understand & change the way you love. Info: Marilyn Girard, MFCC 843-2998.

Couples Therapy Group for lesbians & gay men. Explore dynamics contributing to dissatisfaction in relationships, learn strategies to modify dysfunctional patterns, enhance relationship skills. SF location. Info: George Blotta, PhD 586-7811.

Success Support Group for Gay Men who are having trouble achieving their goals. Think you're sabotaging your success? Get professional guidance; receive valuable support & feedback while exploring ways to overcome your blocks to success. 10-wk groups. Thurs 7:9 pm, \$20/wk. Pre-group consultation, (tree) in person. Info: Bud Hinkle, MA 928-3848.

Gay Men in Our 40s & 50s: Challenge of Mid-life: explore the changes in our bodies, goals, values & work experiences that come with mid-life. SL, ins accepted. Support/therapy group led by Hal Sata, MA. Info: 832-1254.

Gay Men's Therapy: ongoing group to discuss quality-of-life issues: self-esteem, fear of intimacy, depression, codependency, AIDS anxiety, internalized homophobia. Professional, confidential & caring. Info: John Beeman, MA, 841-9198.

Lesbian Sex Workers: therapy group for lesbians working in the sex industry. Focus on issues of self-esteem, intimacy, relationships, money, health. Insurance accepted. Info: Leslie Halpern, LCSW: 863-7473.

Therapy group for Lesbians ready to seriously commit to exploring their difficulties with intimacy & to overcoming the effects of growing up in dysfunctional families. SF location. Info: Zona Gregory, MFCC: 552-9388.

Drama Therapy Group: deal with stress issues, increase spontaneity, communication. Info: 626-7000.

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Therapy Group for Gay Men: ongoing group. Safe & supportive place where

SL available, insurance accepted. Info: 566-2696 or 227-5655.

Men—Have You Abused Your Lover? Feeling ashamed, afraid or angry about having been violent with the man you love most? MOVE offers help for gay & bisexual men who batter. See Incest & Battery section for details.

Inhabiting Ourselves: movement therapy group for adults. Use explorations & dreams to explore & develop body awareness, personal imagery, self-expression. Mon 5:30-7:30 pm. Info: Marsha Hiller, MEd 548-9599.

Problem-Solving Group for Lesbians: join others in a cooperative strategy to decrease loneliness, exchange honest & nurturing feedback, make positive changes in your life. Radical psychiatry & 12-step program concepts used. SL fee. Info: Melissa Farley, PhD 681-0221 or 282-2239.

Government & Drama Therapy for children: role playing, storytelling, gestures, self-awareness. Mon, Tue, Wed 3:30-4:30 pm. Safe, supportive, small groups. Berkeley location. Info: Marsha Hiller MEd 548-9599.

Deliberate Self-Injury Group: support group for women who are self-cutters. Safe, supportive environment to explore feelings, experiences. Members encouraged to talk about the purpose & function of self-cutting in their lives. Because this group is not appropriate for women who are suicidal, all members required to have an already established, ongoing individual psychotherapy relationship. Info: Joyce Smith, MFCC, or Peg Morris at 647-2547.

Mediation: solve differences with lovers, roommates, parents, co-workers, with dignity & equality. SL fee, no insurance. Lyn Scott 826-3081.

► YOUTH

Youth Group in the Avenue! It's true, there really are gays/bisexuals/lesbians under 21! Meet others at the Richmond Youth Rap.—Tues 6:7-30 pm, 3654 Balboa, SF. Info: Diane or Rick 668-5955.

Young Lesbian Rap Group: for women in their early 20s, you meet 5:30-7 pm. Pacific Ctr, 2712 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley. Info: 841-6224.

Under 21 Gay Men's open rap. Sat 1-4 pm at Pacific Ctr, Berk. Info: 841-6224.

Peninsula Gay/Lesbian Youth group discussion/social, Sun at 2 pm. Fireside Room, University Lutheran Church, 1611 Stanford Ave, Palo Alto. Info: 856-1144, or write POB 60782, Palo Alto, CA. Group is not church-affiliated.

Slightly Younger Lesbians & Gays, a social/support/activity group for men & women under 25. Meets every Sunday, 1:30pm, San Jose location. Info: (408) 293-4526.

Under-21 Gay Men's Rap group meets at Pacific Ctr. Drop-in, 1-4 pm, 2712 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley. Info: 841-6224.

Gay Area Youth Switchboard: see Holidays & Referrals.

Young Adults Task Force open to those 16-25. Fresno Gay Community Ctr, 606 E. Belmont, Fresno. Info: (209) 268-3541.

Young Lesbians: weekly support group for those 25 & under. Santa Cruz location. Info: Valerie (408)427-3862.

Peninsula Young Gay Men: drop-in group for gay men under 23 who live in the Northern Peninsula. Info: 979-8864.

Join the GAY Group (Growing American Youth) group, open to gay men & lesbians 23 & under. Meets 2nd & 4th Fri of each month, 7 pm, Diablo Valley Metropolitan Community Church, 2263 Concord Blvd, Concord. Info: 327-9690.

"Jackson Street," weekly therapy group for lesbians & gays under 21. Work on issues: coming out, sexual identity, survival, relationships. AIDS anxiety & other health issues. "Jackson Street" was formed to provide a place for young people to talk, find support & feel comfortable exploring their sexuality. Facilitated by Ruth Hughes & Ron Henderson. 3:5 pm, Ctr for Special Problems, 1700 Jackson St, (bet Van Ness & Franklin) SF. Spons by the Sexual Minority Youth Program at the Ctr for Special Problems. Info: Ron or Ruth 566-7856.

California Runaway Hotline provides services to young people who need help, want someone to talk to, or want to send a message to their parents. See Holidays & Referrals.

Rainbow's End: Lesbian/Gay Youth Project sponsored by the Ministry of Light (a non-judgmental ministry with the lesbian/gay community) meets first, second & third Thurs of every month, 6:30-7 pm drop-in, 7:9 pm group. Ministry of Light, 1000 Sir Francis Drake Blvd, San Anselmo, 94960. Info: 457-1115.

Bay Area Gay & Lesbian Youth group meets 6:30-8 pm. Community Living Room, 28 W 37th Ave, San Mateo. Info: 572-0535, ask for Jerry, Shaleo or Wendy. A safe place for sexually diverse youth to meet in a supportive nonsexual environment. Discuss issues that affect you, meet others your own age. For youth ages 16-21.

► THERAPY GROUPS

Women's Institute for Mental Health: low-fee therapy for individuals & couples, women only. SL starts at \$10. Special interest group for lesbian incest survivors, drug & alcohol counseling (thru IRIS—outpatient only), women's occupational stress resource ctr. 264 Valencia St, SF. Open Mon-Fri 10 am-5 pm, eves by appt. Info: 864-2364.

Gay Men's Therapy Group: retrieve & rework past, with professional support. Info: 322-2010 or Dave Cooperberg, MA 841-9198.

Disabled Lesbian Group for women with physical disabilities, hidden disabilities, chronic illness & chronic pain. Wed & Thurs at Operation Concern, WA, SL. Info: Ricki Boden or Daryl Goldman 626-7000 vity. Group held at Operation Concern, 1853 Market St, SF.

Depression Support Group for gay men: an ongoing psychotherapy group for gay men whose sexual behavior is out of control. Monday eves at Operation Concern, SF. Info: Jim Fishman 626-7000.

Drama Therapy Group: deal with stress issues, increase spontaneity, communication. Info: 626-7000.

Sexual Abuse Support Group: for gay men: an ongoing psychotherapy group for gay men whose sexual behavior is out of control. Monday eves at Operation Concern, SF. Info: Jim Fishman 626-7000.

Sexually Addicted Gay Men's therapy group—see Addiction Recovery.

Grief Group for those who have lost a loved one thru suicide. Deal with feelings of anger, confusion, guilt. Find strength, support. Meets wkly for 8 wks, lic therapist facilitates. Spons by SF Suicide Prevention. Info: 752-4866.

Gay Men's Groups at Operation Concern: 12-wk process group, meets 1st & 3rd each month. Safe place to develop your interpersonal relating skills. Preliminary interview required. Info: Operation Concern 626-7000.

Separation & Survival Group for lesbians experiencing the ending of an intimate relationship. Safe place to let go, begin the healing process. 12-wk process groups. SF location. Info: Chris Peters, MSW 531-8565.

Lesbian Couples Therapy at Operation Concern. Offers lesbian relationship therapy—this can include lovers, ex-lovers, family or friends. Low fee, sliding scale. Info: 626-7000 vity.

Bisexual Men's Group: focus on relationship & communication issues; positive feedback regarding life choices & experiences as a bisexual person. Info: Tom Fox, MA, MFCC 751-6714.

Therapy Group for Gay Men: ongoing group. Safe & supportive place where

gay men can find new ways to deal with troublesome issues in their lives. Tues 7:15-9:15 pm. Info: Michael Bettinger, PhD 563-6100.

Gay Relationships Group for Men experiencing some depression & having difficulty starting & developing relationships. Info: Kevin Miller, MS, MFCC #011080, 826-8692.

Men's Group: wky group on self-esteem & relationships for gay men? meet men in meaningful ways, explore issues, get objective feedback, solve problems. Wed 8:30-30 pm. fee. Info/fee brochure: Adrian Bruce Tiller, MS 346-2399.

Dissatisfied with your relationships? Feel isolated from other gay men? Longterm therapy group for gay men helps you explore how you relate to others; discover more fulfilling ways to be. Wkly mtgs, highly experienced group leaders. Info/fee: Gordon Murray, MFCC 821-1718 or Mark Lodioco, PhD 845-4312.

Intimacy & Relationships Group led by Celia Bando, MFCC 776-9145.

Home Counseling for Children of Lesbian/Gay Parents. Info: Monty Meyer, MS, MFCC, 824-5532.

Pre-Relationship Support Group for Men: wky mtgs in SF for relationship-oriented men who want to connect with a life partner. Info/location: David Klein, MA (in Counseling), 343-8541.

Lesbian Therapy Groups: work in depth on your own issues, personal power & autonomy. Thurs, 7-9 pm, \$20/session. SF location. Info: Maggie Rothschild Pool, PhD, LCSW: 626-1109.

Lesbians Who Love Too Much: group to explore obsessive attractions to painful, unfulfilling relationships & what you can do to recognize, understand & change the way you love. Info: Marilyn Girard, MFCC 843-2998.

Couples Therapy Group for lesbians & gay men. Explore dynamics contributing to dissatisfaction in relationships, learn strategies to modify dysfunctional patterns, enhance relationship skills. SF location. Info: George Blotta, PhD 586-7811.

Success Support Group for Gay Men who are having trouble achieving their goals. Think you're sabotaging your success? Get professional guidance; receive valuable support & feedback while exploring ways to overcome your blocks to success. 10-wk groups. Thurs 7:9 pm, \$20/wk. Pre-group consultation, (tree) in person. Info: Bud Hinkle, MA 928-3848.

Gay Men in Our 40s & 50s: Challenge of Mid-life: explore the changes in our bodies, goals, values & work experiences that come with mid-life. SL, ins accepted. Support/therapy group led by Hal Sata, MA. Info: 832-1254.

Gay Men's Therapy: ongoing group to discuss quality-of-life issues: self-esteem, fear of intimacy, depression, codependency, AIDS anxiety, internalized homophobia. Professional, confidential & caring. Info: John Beeman, MA, 841-9198.

Lesbian Sex Workers: therapy group for lesbians working in the sex industry. Focus on issues of self-esteem, intimacy, relationships, money, health. Insurance accepted. Info: Leslie Halpern, LCSW: 863-7473.

Therapy group for Lesbians ready to seriously commit to exploring their difficulties with intimacy & to overcoming the effects of growing up in dysfunctional families. SF location. Info: Zona Gregory, MFCC: 552-9388.

Drama Therapy Group: deal with stress issues, increase spontaneity, communication. Info: 626-7000.

Sexual Abuse Support Group: for gay men: an ongoing psychotherapy group for gay men whose sexual behavior is out of control. Monday eves at Operation Concern, SF. Info: Jim Fishman 626-7000.

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BY NOELLE HANRAHAN

An Interview with Teresa Trull

Teresa Trull is renowned in the San Francisco Bay Area for her vocal prowess and album production skills. She moved to the West Coast at the age of 20 from Durham, North Carolina to join the Olivia Records Collective. In the thirteen years that she has made the Bay Area her home she has released four solo albums on Olivia Records, Second Wave, and most recently on Redwood Records. In addition she has in the last few years produced the albums of a variety of artists including Romanovsky and Phillips, Deirdre McCalla, Hunter Davis and the Washington Sisters.

This interview was prompted by the news that Trull will be producing Cris Williamson's next album and singing duets on it. The album will be recorded in January 1989 and released on Olivia Records in the Spring.

(Coming Up!) Let's talk about the record. How was it conceived?

(Trull) Didn't you take health education? (laughter) I have wanted to produce Cris Williamson for a very long time, because she is a phenomenal singer. I believe that if Cris put out a record that caused a lot of word of mouth excitement, the 250,000 people who bought her first album "The Changer and The Changed" would buy her new album, because the Changer has such a special place in their hearts. There is some very special magic there. I am so excited about this project as a producer because I can help recreate that energy. It's a special opportunity — it's scary, but it is special.

When I was producing Hunter Davis' album I had Cris come in and sing a duet on John Hiatt's "An Arm and a Leg." I wanted Cris to come into a great studio with great performers and see how it felt to be in that environment with me as a producer, because the hard thing is that we are really good friends. When you have been in control of your music for so long as Cris has been, it is hard to imagine such a familiar person in that role. I put her in that environment with the hope being that maybe someday she would consider me as a producer.

Instead she came up with the idea of doing a record together saying, "Let's do a country record together" and I thought, God what a great idea. All of my friends have been really pushing me to do something slightly more country oriented because it fits my voice so well.

This project with Cris is getting back to what was really important to me as a child. My other job is part of getting back to myself. I manage a horse farm. Cris and I have in common having grown up largely alone and in the country. We think the title of the album is going to be "Country Blessed." It is not going to be strictly country. It will definitely run the gamut — pop with country influences — I am totally interested in delving into not so much country and western music, but more blue grass Irish music set in a rock situation.

I know you have already picked some of the songs, or at least you are discussing the songs with Cris. Would you like to share with us some of that information?

We have not decided yet on all of them. We are doing a couple of covers, and I have this songwriter that I am connecting Cris with. When I first heard Gary Marks songs I thought he was born to write songs for Cris. I know that sounds silly, but every time I heard one of his songs I always heard that Cris would kill on this tune. There is a song he has called "All the Love We Take and Hide Away" that I always wanted to do. I thought the only way to make the song better would be to have Cris do it. And now I will get the chance. It has the message that Cris is interested in and perfect melodies for her.

What do you consider to be a producer's contribution to a project, and what are your special talents in that respect?

in Durham at that time and at that age?

I joined a rock 'n' roll band when I was 16. I had never even planned on having music as a career. I just did it because they offered me money. I was very practical at the time and I thought this is better than driving a truck; I'll take the money.

How did they hear you?

I sang at a talent show. Singing was a hobby. I had sung in church while I was growing up, and I was in a couple of groups at school. The band was much older than I was — in their late twenties — and I played with them for four years.

What did your parents think?

My mother had died when I was a teenager. And my father worked so much, he literally had four jobs. He had paper routes in the morning, a job from 8-5, another paper route, and a surveying job from 7-10, so when I saw my father he was basically asleep. My father literally came from the mountains; his family was an agricultural country mountain family, and he had very high standards morally. He had started a business and he got very sick and was in the hospital, and during that time the business went under. And he thought it was immoral to declare bankruptcy, so what he did was to work all of his contracts off. He was a carpenter. He worked all of his contracts off on the weekends, \$25,000 worth, and in those days that was a lot of money. During the week he worked to support his family and pay off the debts he incurred in starting his company.

What did you learn from that experience?

It's funny. It is my strength and my weakness. I developed an ability to take risks. I do things first and then I worry about it later. He was just very brave that way. He took a lot of risks. I don't have a fear of becoming poor; I have been poor. A lot of people are motivated by their fear for loss of money. They stay in safe places and don't take risks. I have a confidence. If I thought what was the worst thing that could happen — if my career in music failed and it was not in my life anymore — well, I have a second career right now managing a horse farm, and it is really fulfilling. My father gave me the understanding of small pleasures, and it gave me that feeling that I could survive and I could be happy.

Is that about balance in your life?

Yes, exactly. In this society music has become so glamorized. The economics of it are so drastic, either complete plenty or total deprivation. What people lose sight of is that music belongs to everyone — the real joys of music are when people enjoy singing, even if they are not singers. I wish music was on a village level or a minstrel level, where it would be a common part of everyone's everyday life, and people could enjoy it the way it is meant to be. Everyone is meant to do music and have music in their life. It was true about my family and it was part of my father's upbringing. Everyone just loved to sing.

I know you as a performer who has a phenomenal stage presence and magnetism. Given the power and talent that you have, do you feel under-utilized as a solo performer?

It's funny; I am in a strange place in my life. I can only speak from how I feel now. And I feel like, well, no. This is a new phase. There was definitely a time after "Step Away" came out, and the distribution did not happen. I got very frustrated and for the first time in my career took time out from doing solo shows. I took a job with Bonnie Hayes' band touring with Huey Lewis because I needed to get more perspective on what I was doing. I learned that at this point in my life I did not like that lifestyle. I lived through a lot of my disappointments — and I came out of it.

And I realized the thing that is so important is that I am so proud of that record, it is like a baby to me. I can't say it about any other record. I listen to it and I am just proud; I never think of changing it. I love producing, and I

(continued on page 55)

BAY WOMEN'S MUSIC

BY NOELLE HANRAHAN

BLUE ROSE BAND (November 11 at Freight and Salvage) The Blue Rose Band is an all-star, all-woman band, including local favorites Laurie Lewis on violin, Sally Van Meter on dobro, Cathy Fink banjo and guitar, Marcy Marxer on mandolin and guitar, and Tammy Fassaert on bass (replacing Molly Mason for this show only). The band was formed to record an album for the Sugar Hill label; this show was the first in a limited 10-day nationwide tour, after which the players will return to their own bands and album projects.

The talents assembled will definitely be on the bill in Bluegrass heaven. And they easily sold out the expanded Freight and Salvage.

The music was a great mix of traditional and original old-time and bluegrass tunes. The sets featured all of the cuts on the album, as well as a few songs from the artist's solo repertoires.

The second set featured an exceptional rendition of "Wild Rose of the Mountain" by Si Kahn; it was spunky and winsome. The pleasure of old time songs played with a traditional interpretation can't be matched. Cathy Fink and Sally Van Meter stopped the show with their instrumental prowess, trading solos throughout the night. These women are arguably the best women bluegrass musicians in the country.

Cathy Fink brought these artists together and also produced the album. Noteworthy: Fink produced Patsy Montana's most recent album. Patsy Montana was the first "queen" of country music (the first woman to sell one million records).

This was a one-time event — leaving the album as the only opportunity to hear this outstanding band again.

ALTAZOR (October 26 at La Pena) Altazor recently formed out of what was the Lichi Fuentes band. They perform music of Latin America in the Nueva Cancion tradition. Blending a variety of influences, Venessa Wang, Lichi Fuentes, Dulce Arguelles and Jacquelin are poised and ready for critical acclaim.

The first song was a musical story, beginning with a sparse percussive beat leading into crescendos, then turning inward down a dusty road, with notes picked out by Lichi and balanced by a bass line of a contrasting rhythm. Whether you know Spanish or not, the feelings and emotions are clearly communicated. Speaking to the language barrier, Lichi commented, "There is a language that we all speak, even though we come from different countries."

The first set included a featured solo by Jacquelin. From the first song that she played she exuded a smooth confidence and eased into the spotlight, her talents beckoning attention.

The group's excellence lies in the blending of their talents forming a compelling whole. They use their musical and vocal depth to great advantage: Lichi Fuentes has a beautiful voice and the harmonies are engaging. The song "Santiago Estas" opened with three part harmonies as the lyrics grew richer the singers traded parts, eventually singing a complex round.

By using a variety of instruments the group literally becomes an orchestra of Latin American musical sounds and traditions.

ROBIN FLOWER AND LIBBY McLAREN (October 29 at Freight and Salvage) Robin Flower and Libby McLaren as a duo go beyond their individual genres. The usually acoustic Freight hosted the electric incarnation of Robin's bluegrass mandolin style and Libby's synth driven pop sound. The audience must have been surprised by the merging of styles that ended up somewhere between the Cocteau Twins and David Grisman.

Robin Flower has always been an innovator, stretching the boundaries of bluegrass by including new wave and pop influences. This performance explored the explosive properties of the electric mandolin. "Understanding Insects" has a original opening — the notes are live but they sound sampled, the electric mandolin is clear, bright and dynamic. Robin has a special talent in her instrumental composing skills. These musical landscapes wind through a terrain of emotions. "Nine Cats from L.A.," "First Dibs" and the beautifully introduced and written "Oregon Waltz" have an upbeat jazz style.

Libby McLaren, formerly keyboardist for the Roches and vocalist for Night-Flyte, brings to the duo strong songwriting skills in addition to keyboard playing and arrangements which provide the rhythmic structure for the band. Libby's vocals are compelling, soft, and gentle. The song "Ticking" captures the heartfelt pain and frustration of the process of struggling with AIDS, while "Back to Her" has a catchy melody.

Their debut Bay Area performance had some drawbacks: the drum machine sounded too dominant and cheesy throughout both sets, and the synthesizer and mandolin parts often competed with each other rather than trading or complementing each other. Robin and Libby have just started a musical collaboration and journey that will be very exciting to follow.

FAITH NOLAN (November 5 at the Artemis) Faith Nolan leads with radical politics: that is when her message is lucid. Her stream of consciousness monologues are unsettlingly disjointed and out of control. Her musicianship is very strong: she sings and writes in a talking blues style. The songs are alive with the truth of people's struggles. The messages in the songs of Ma Rainey, Bessie Smith, Leadbelly and Nina Simone equal the music that carries it into our hearts and minds.

Nolan reminds me of Malvina Reynolds and Woody Guthrie. She stretches the timing and cadences of the songs, her talent reeling the

lyrics in while stretching and capturing the audience.

But Nolan at times barely keeps the show going — she can be annoying, embarrassing and brilliant. Throughout the show she made entirely far too many references to vaginas, clitorises and sex. Nolan is blunt; but I like more subtlety and less repetition when I discuss sex. I hope she gets her stage presence and publicity act together (only 15 people were at the show), because her talent and political insightfulness deserve a far greater audience.

PENELOPE HOUSTON (November 9 at Komotion) Best known as the lead singer for the now-defunct San Francisco punk band The Avengers, Penelope Houston is celebrating the release of "Birdboys" on Subterranean. The album is straight-ahead folk with celtic roots. As folk music goes, the lyrical treatment is just mediocre; Houston lacks a strong, poignant voice. The backup band is consistent but not particularly exciting.

But what Penelope Houston does better than 90 percent of all folk musicians is hold an audience with her stage presence and entertaining yet reserved disposition. She is a compelling figure with a cool and tough posture. Folk musicians take note: professionalism works.

The most interesting aspect of the performance is that a record label like Subterranean is issuing this material and that these audiences have probably never been to a Bay Area folk music club. I wonder what the interaction would be if these neo-folk performers started playing standard folk clubs?

GRETCHEN KOCH [MELANIE MILLER (November 11 at Mama Bears) Melanie opened the show playing a very mildly engaging set that left me uninspired. Many of the November shows have explored sexuality, including this one. In the last of three songs, Melanie examined unadulterated lust, with the chords and choruses echoing the energy and obsession.

Gretchen Koch has an original vocal interpretation and lots of talent that is obscured only by inexperience. Her personality and charm

is refreshingly open and inviting, leaving a warm impression. She is also eccentric — introducing and giving the Mama Bear's door-stop and doormat front row seats while telling us of their plight — forever shunted away from the music.

Gretchen is not only sincere — she is also vibrant and original. Her lyrical style is truncated, powerful, and deliberate. She plays the piano, synthesizer, the split drum and the 12-string guitar, displaying a variety of talents. The song "Ice In the Desert" has a stirring lyric. The passion is acute, drawn out by the musical foundation. The song "Visionary" begged to be done with a rock 'n' roll back-up band. I kept wandering back to that image, where her humorous personality would be free to roam outfront.

The encore was a rap duet that did a complete disservice to Melanie and Gretchen's talents. Automatic encores are the lowest form of undeserved politeness. They cheapen the expressive power of the audience. And this performance certainly did not deserve an encore. Melanie was dripping with false conceit; she was pompous. I wish we had left before the encore. Gretchen Koch deserves a better setting for her talents, but only she can take her career in that direction.

LOVE DOG (October 26 at Nightbreak/Female Trouble) This weekly Haight street scene continues. A fashion frontier in taste, leather, tattoos, and a hard edge. Love Dog is two women — Bassist Grace Chapman and guitarist Cheri Hubert — and two men (I could not find their names). They play peditious rock with punk sensibilities. It is almost metal, but without the glam. Instead of make-up they wear spider web tattoos and more than a little brutal energy. The bassist had her instrument hung at her knees, providing a rhythm that was leading the beat. The performance was a brief nine-song set ending with their pleas for mercy. The fifteen hour broken-down bus ride from LA had taken its toll. And again, as always, the Nightbreak gives new profound meaning to the Bushism "read my lips."



Love Dog

DANCE



Ruth Zaporah and Ellen Webb; clear and certain, startling & heavenly.

Heaven A collaboration between Ruth Zaporah and Ellen Webb at Footworks, Nov. 12

REVIEWED BY RACHEL KAPLAN

Heaven is the kind of piece that is successful because it is of inarticulate beauty, achieved only through the highly refined, skillfully articulated work of the performers and designers of the completed environment. Ruth Zaporah and Ellen Webb are both notably fine performers and this, their first collaboration, fulfills the promise presaged by their individual works. The story within this dance and the relationships between dancers in their *Heaven* was as surreal as it was common, leading me to believe *Heaven* is a place far away and strange, but also familiar and very close to home.

Heaven is a place of invention and the search for a common language between the two women inhabiting its space. The environment itself is as paradoxical as are its gestural messages. It is pristine while being lavish, organized in logical patterns and straight lines, but large enough to encompass circles, contrasts in color and form, and Daliesque gardens of unearthly delights. Through the action of the dancers, *Heaven* is a personal exploration of space, of language, of gesture, a constant exploration of communication and interrelationship. If this is so, then how can *Heaven* be very much different from Home?

Heaven is the kind of piece I feel uncomfortable talking about except personally — in terms of how *Heaven* looked to me. It read like some kind of science fiction/fantasy story about two people, newly arrived in some far off world. About all they're cognizant of is their bodies, their own language. They are without knowledge of the mysteries of interaction between these bodies — this language — with their environment or with one another. In the course of the evening they discover what there is to know of this world: the randomness of their universe; the building of their homes, and the destruction of them; how to die with one another, and resurrect themselves; where the gardens, boats, ships, and waterways are in this new land; and even their pathway to God.

It was unclear to me if the two characters knew one another upon their entrance or if they grow to know one another through the constancy of their discoveries of their environ-

ment and its almost limitless potential for emotional expression. A central element of the piece was this developing relationship: the mimicry of each other's gestures, the sharing and the competitiveness between them, the emotionality expressed through movement, sound and props. The characters are developed in relation to one another, and not simply solo, or in relation to the immediate environment. Without each other, *Heaven* is a place to visit, but certainly nowhere to live.

The largest gesture of *Heaven* circles around the discovery of language — for Webb, most clearly articulated in movement and for Zaporah, in sound. In the dialectic between the stillness of Webb's movement and the silences of Zaporah's sound these characters achieve an artfully articulated balance and performance presence. There is an essential malleability of sound and body which stretch the boundaries of language; the device of accumulation and repetition of movement and sound patterns give rise to a feeling of communication, of the actual connection between the dancers. As they begin to understand one another, the meaning of their gestural communication grows beyond a cliched reading of common gesture to include the logical and illogical extensions of such activity.

The oddities of the set, costumes and behavior of the two women enlarge the possibility for interpretation while at the same time strip its necessity. This stripping away leaves nothing but the attention of the performer in all its visibility to her moment — a moment of crawling, of noise-making, of grasping and reaching for the other. And in these moments, these stillnesses and silences, the presence of their God in *Heaven* is revealed.

There were times in watching *Heaven* when I stopped needing to know what was going on and was happy to watch the mutual exploration of the characters. I knew their discoveries were essential to themselves, but would be different from my conclusions about them and the conclusions of anyone else in the audience. Aesthetically, Zaporah and Webb seem clear and certain enough to represent themselves symbolically throughout the entire piece, generously inviting an openness of interpretation by the audience.

This freedom for audience — and ultimately, for themselves as performers — through the process of their aesthetic choice is a startlingly rare and beautiful thing. It reveals a willingness to respect the audience's imagination in dealing with the artist's creation. Instead of a dictated reality, we are offered the opportunity to view *Heaven* without having to feel there is no other option. I thoroughly appreciate the gesture of that choice, and theatre where the

imagination of the audience is a valued thing, on the level of the imagination of the performers themselves.

The Egg Dance by Gay White and Leigh Evans Footworks, November 18-19

REVIEWED BY RACHEL KAPLAN

Gay White was one of the first people I met in the dance community when I moved to San Francisco. I met her in a choreography class of Douglas Dunn's, a very appropriate place to find her. At the time, she was choreographing very dancier dances; Leigh Evans was one of the women who performed with her. You could tell even then there was an energy between these two women — who look almost like sisters — that was vital and dynamic, and basically untapped. *The Egg Dance*, the first collaboration between White and Evans, was for me a further indicator of the range of possibility between them.

The Egg Dance is not a dancier dance, though both Evans and White clearly are trained and skilled movers. *The Egg Dance* moves into the realm of high camp and drama, interspersed with moments of pure dance. Divided into six disjunct sections, *The Egg Dance* is a non-narrative tale of women in their various relationships to themselves and their culture. White/Evans explore Woman in relation to the myths surrounding Her (The Garden, The Pedestal); in relation to one another, depicted as some sort of struggle for power (The Battle); in relation to death and to change (The Crone); to their own power, through the symbolic energy of the egg played on throughout the piece (The Evocation) and ending in a more active, contemporary view of female possibility (The Unfolding).

The Egg Dance was an ambitious dance and while it was not always successful, it was interesting. Part of its allure was the tension between symbol and narrative, the unwillingness of the choreographers to remain firmly in one place or the other. White and Evans seemed to be exploring the cross-over between pure movement and theatrical gesture, and how combinations of the two give rise to the expression of mysterious questions. Certainly, eggs and women are symbols rife with complications, symbols hardly to be unraveled in a two hour dance. The presence of these symbols in the face of that which was literally rendered provided a backdrop for further distancing from the symbols and a possibility for another understanding.

Their characterizations of great Victorian ladies playing croquet with eggs as balls (The Battle) was full of humor and tension, as well as moments of great beauty and dynamic movement (even while encumbered by all those skirts!) The most successful moments in the show were these moments poised, as they were, on the fulcrum between the literal and the symbolic, the theatre and the dance. The work extended itself beyond the limits of pure dance, flirted with the limits of pure theatre, but remained very much itself throughout.

The costumes, by DeAnna Rhinefrank, and the masks by K. Ruby and Chrystene Ellis, added a dimension to the piece that went a long way towards this coalescing of movement and theatre. The delicate balance between the sets, the performers, the props, and the musicians in this piece made the ambitiousness of the choreographers painfully clear. My only real

problem with all that balancing was the excessive reliance on props, to the exclusion of a richer exploration of White and Evans' potential as movers and performers. The complexity of each individual set necessitated distractingly long breaks between each section. It seems worth mentioning only because it was the mark marring an otherwise consistently rich presentation.

The Egg Dance was an ambitious project for two young choreographers and a project boding well for future collaborations between Gay White and Leigh Evans. I appreciate their attention and devotion to their own vision, and the seriousness with which they address their work. As I noticed years ago, between the two of them is an energy vital and dynamic. I look forward to seeing where it leads them.



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CABARET

BY GENE PRICE

Montevocchi On the Boulevard

There ought to be a law against any woman wearing a mini-skirt unless her name is Liliane Montevocchi. Not that Montevocchi wears a mini-skirt. She doesn't. What she wears in her show, *On the Boulevard*, might best be described as a stretchy-knit turtle neck sweater that by sheer luck covers her just down to there.

What you see are legs, legs, legs as she strolls, struts, prances, and stretches (using the piano as a ballet barre). Like all truly sexy women she has an irrepressible sense of humor that pokes fun at her own self-created image. Striking a number of particularly silly femme fatale poses, she will immediately burst into a raucous "ha-ha-ha-ha-ha." Later, opening a folding screen to reveal panels of painted feathers, she takes stance against the feathers and brings her own Vegas billboard to life. "It's all I could afford." Then "ha-ha-ha-ing" at her own joke she flounces off into song.

Yes, Montevocchi sings, too — in a wonderfully off-hand, self-amused way (though she has a nice way with a ballad when she chooses to be serious). This star of ballet, Follies Bergere, Broadway, and Hollywood won a Tony for her chanteuse in the musical *Nine* and she also appeared in the recent concert version of Sondheim's *Follies*. She sings mostly in French though many of her songs receive second-chorus conversions into English. The songbook itself is a mixed bag of Piaf, Aznavour, Harry Warren, Rodgers and Hammerstein and others. Anthony Newley's "Sweet Beginnings" opened the show, followed by Jacques Brel's "Bruxelles" and a fractured-French-English treatment of Gertrude Stein's "Let's Call the Whole Thing Off." "It Might as Well be Spring," segued into "Autumn Leaves." Switching moods, La Liliane did a rather sweet parody of Josephine Baker warbling "I've Got You Under My Skin" in a St. Louis-flavored French accent. Her "I Never Do Anything Twice" was delightfully petulant but unfortunately we were awarded too few of the Sondheim verses.

She sang "My Man" as it was originally written for Mistinguette, star of the Follies Bergere. (Flo Ziegfeld heard "Mon Homme" in Paris, hired Channing Pollock to Anglicize the lyrics and gave the song to Fanny Brice for her star turn in his Follies.) Montevocchi delivered that tidbit with the exuberance of a child who has just learned to count to ten.

The second act, a series of cafe and street scene vignettes, revealed our star in a short, fully fringed black dress and a fully fringed black skull cap. When she breathed everything shimmered and she breathed a lot. "Cherche Un Millionnaire" brought her into the audience to check out the males. "Irma La Douce" propped her against a Montmartre lamp post, and "The Boulevard of Broken Dreams" was sufficient excuse for some saucy vamping of violinist Eric Schaberg. Pulling on a trench coat and a black fedora, she sang "Just a Gigolo." It takes a woman with a sense of tragic camp to make those lyrics work.

Montevocchi was most moving when she sat quietly on a stool and sang Jimmy Van Heusen's "But Beautiful," followed, in the same reflective mood, by "If You Go Away." Long arms extended, large eyes flashing, she brought a dramatic immediacy to Jerry Herman's "I Don't Want to Know."

Oh, yes, the prop. Montevocchi's first act accessory was a sheath of "diamond" encrusted black and white fabric that with a few economical gestures became a series of elegant gowns, wraparound skirts and stoles. While working the fabric was incidental to her songs and monologues, the effect was magical.

Handsome Dick Gallagher, classically trained

ed but pop inspired, is musical director. The composer of an Off-Broadway show last year, he is currently working on two new shows.

On the Boulevard plays at the Mason Street Theatre every night except Thursday through Dec. 31. Call 981-3535.

Sammy Cahn: One Mo' Time

What four words under a performer's name on a marquee best attest to his popularity? No contest. It's the phrase "Back by Popular Demand."

After 11 sold-out weeks at the Marines Memorial last spring and several months on tour in London and Washington, D.C., Sammy Cahn and friends are back. By popular demand.

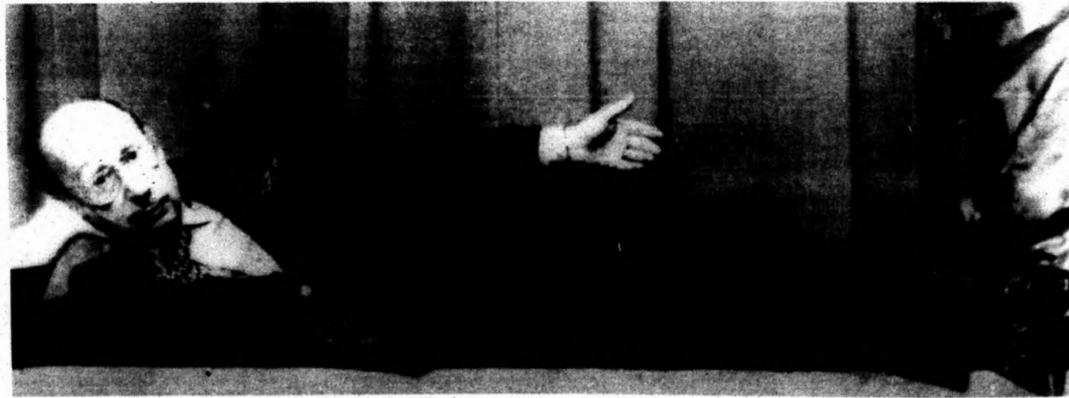
It's the same Sammy, the same show (though some of the "friends" are new) and while it's honed to a high-gloss, it's as fresh as ever. Called by one New York critic the "best bad singer in the world," Cahn is probably the most ingratiating performer in the world. He's the consummate raconteur.

He ambles on, begins to chat informally about his Lower East Side childhood and before you know it, this 77-year-old showman has sung such major hits as "Call Me Irresponsible," "I've Heard That Song Before," "Three Coins in the Fountain," "All the Way," "My Kind of Town," and "Five Minutes More," to name just a few of the hundreds of hit songs he's written in the past 60 years.

Gorgeous soprano Anne Tofflemire is the one hold-over from the original cast. Musical director Harper Mackay (whose Hollywood credits are as impeccable as they come) took over for an ailing Peter Daniels at the last moment. Also new are the warm and wonderful Alisa Gyse who sings the big torch numbers, and Dennis A. McNeil, an impressive tenor with an astounding breath control.

Tofflemire's songs include "I'll Walk Alone," the flapper-era ditty "Thoroughly Modern Millie," and a show-stopping heart-breaker, "I'll Only Miss Him When I Think of Him." Gyse solos on "I'll Never Stop Loving You," "Guess I'll Hang My Tears Out to Dry," and a truly sensational, "git-down" rendition of "Until the Real Thing Comes Along." McNeil sings the big Mario Lanza numbers, "Be My Love" and "Because You're Mine," and the softer ballad, "It's Magic."

But it's Sammy's show. He loves what he's doin' and he's doin' it for love. And for the money! Asked what he's thinking about when



Sammy Cahn, doin' it for love at the Marines Memorial.



Magical Montevocchi, struts her stuff on the Boulevard.

he relinquishes the spotlight to one of his soloists, he's quick to respond, "the royalties." He's burlesque and vaudeville and a passing parade of movie and Broadway music. He's shtick. But wonderful.

Sammy Cahn: *Words and Music* plays through Dec. 18 at the Marines Memorial Theatre. Call 771-6900.

Popovic: The Flip Side

Yes, comedy fans, there is another side to Darlene Popovic and what a delightfully refreshing side it is. This comedienne's zany antics have been on display for several seasons in such shows as "Tune the Grand Up," "With Relish," and her own "Darlene with a D." Now she's come up with a more laid back but totally gratifying "Evening of Song." It's her best effort to date. She's relaxed, more vulnerable, and much of the previous Popovic shtick is gone. Not to say she's not still funny. She is. But the humor is coming from a different place.

Under the musical direction of Donal West-coat, Popovic sings 20 songs, many of them thrust upon her by well meaning friends who insisted that she must do them. There wasn't a dog in the lot (well, maybe one) which speaks well for the good taste of her friends.

She opened with "Gee, It's Good to be Here," and quickly set the show's mood with Irving Berlin's "Let Yourself Go." That's when she punched the play-back button on her answering machine. A male voice advised that he wouldn't be able to keep their date. (Doesn't anybody ever leave a message with good news?) She released her frustration with a quietly rendered "Mean to Me," then shook off her self-pitying blues with a sweet and bouncy "I Wake up in the Morning Feeling Fine."

Feeling even finer, she donned her Yiddish accent and reprised her hilarious version of Berlin's "Sadie Salome." She topped it with another Berlin specialty tune, "Nathan," and on a Berlin roll, indulged herself in the one possible dog-of-the-night, "Do You Need Any Money Today?" (Merman belted it in *Call Me Madam* to establish Ambassador Perle Mesta's buy-your-way-to-popularity philosophy, but that's not reason enough to resurrect it. A dog's a dog.)

Murray Grand's "Hungry" gave her ample opportunity to lavish her musical comedy talents on some superb lyrics, though it took a song called "I Don't Remember Loving You" to unleash the poignant drama that her voice is capable of bringing to a lyric.

The buzz of her answering machine let go with the news of another broken date which she met with a reflective treatment of "I Wish I Didn't Love You So."

Reprising another of her popular comedy numbers, Popovic sang the parody lyrics to "I Wish You (Love)" and a languid version of "Easy Street" led into Ronny Graham's rousing march of unrequited love, "Love in a New



Comic Darlene Popovic; relaxed, more vulnerable, and delightfully refreshing.

Tempo."

The answering machine meanwhile has not been idle. The final call from that same male voice advises her that he'll be out of town and maybe he'll call her when he gets back. Her answer, poignantly hopeful, is "Say it Isn't So."

In looking back over the 20 songs in the show, I realize that most of them were comedy numbers. But the best of them were funny because they scratched the surface beneath the clown makeup. As for those too few ballads, they were well chosen, simply but intelligently interpreted. The "old" Popovic demanded our attention with her energetic brashness. The "new" Popovic commands our respectful attention with masterful subtlety.

Bobrow in Solo Debut

Composer and lyricist of the musical revues *Party of One* (now in its third year), *With Relish* (the revival previews Dec. 6), and *Quirks*, Morris Bobrow took the solo spotlight to perform his own words and music on three Monday evenings at the Plush Room.

Revealing a fine flair for clever rhyme schemes on sundry topical matters, Bobrow reprised material from past shows, introduced some new songs, and paid tribute to fellow satirists Tom Lehrer and Alan Sherman. Eschewing his own jaundiced wit, he also delivered the nicely unaffected romantic lyrics of such standard ballads as "Where's That Rainbow?" "I Can't Get Started with You," and "Everything Happens to Me." But it was "Basically Bobrow" that folks came to hear and that's just what he called his show.

Attorney by day, cabaret entertainer by night, Bobrow introduced himself with a Minelli parody called "It's Bobrow" in which he proceeded to enumerate the dozen or so incorrect ways people pronounce his name. (Strangers phone, ask for Mr. Row and start the conversation with "Hi, Bob.") But that's the least of his earthly tribulations. He explores the dreaded "two-drink minimum." He salutes that mid-life crisis discovery that not only aren't things like they used to be, but everybody is younger than he is.

His study of the unsung heroes who ride the Muni includes the dire warning that to be a survivor you may fight off teenage punks only to be mugged by the driver. But not all of his angst is turned upon himself. In "The Un-Chic of Araby" he reveals a compassion for those Arabs unfortunate enough to have been born in non-oil producing countries who must settle for the less glamorous production of salt, sorghum and dates.

From *Party of One* he sang "Single Again," and from *With Relish* he reprised "Tuna." The latter song demands to know why people who

say "tuna fish" don't also say "steak meat" and "chicken fowl." From the same show such foodstuffs as tongue, brains and tripe get their comeuppance, as do intimate couples who eat off each other's plates. One of my particular favorites is Bobrow's nod to the classics, "Titus Andronicus," a wicked exegesis of the numerous gory horrors of this early Shakespeare tragedy.

To the tune of "New York, New York," he reeled off a smart parody using the names of such Bay Area suburbs as Redwood City, Brisbane, and Colma. He sang of the prestige of having a secretary with a British accent and of the plight of a Julliard graduate who plays cocktail piano for Nordstrom shoppers.

Attorneys in the audience were especially impressed with Bobrow's hymn to the financial rewards of personal injury cases. In "Good Injuries," he sings:

A gory, wrongful death case
Makes me passionate
'Cause there's cash in it.

Cole Porter? No, Bobrow. Good-natured and gracious, this entertainer sings his own lyrics in a straightforward, unassuming manner. He has cast a satiric eye at the frailties of his fellow man and the result is sometimes witty, sometimes charming, often both. The success of this debut may augur well for future "Basically Bobrow" concerts.

Mary Cleere-Haran: Classic Pop

After a critically acclaimed three weeks at NYC's Ballroom, six weeks in Chicago, and a sold-out gig at the Hollywood Roosevelt, San Francisco's own refugee from the Haight-Ashbury, Mary Cleere-Haran returned for her annual fortnight at the Plush Room.

She made her entrance in a "little black dress," very Piaf, but with a very short skirt, very un-Piaf. A short black jacket and long black gloves (a throwback to the forties) completed the ensemble.

Haran's got what it takes: a gorgeous, smoky contralto; almost impeccable taste in choosing her music; the kind of glamour that's reminiscent of Hollywood beauty queens; and if a certain nervous tension can be considered a plus, she's got that, too. Her elegant diction and easy phrasing reveal an obvious homage to Ella Fitzgerald — but who better to study?

On the debit side Haran's dialogue is over-written and over-rehearsed. It's much the same as we heard last year and is much too "literary" for aural consumption. While her researched anecdotes cannot be faulted for their interest, they are delivered with a disturbing archness. (The *written* word and the *spoken* word are seldom the same word — which is what separates the novelist from the playwright.) More songs, please, and less talk.

Rather surprisingly, she opened with a so-so "Old Devil Moon," and then captured my imagination with a sweet throw-away number, "He Loves and She Loves." An extended introduction led into the throbbing beguine rhythms of Cole Porter's "I Concentrate on You," and her fine, introspective interpretation of "Blue Room" exuded an air of melancholia rather than joyous anticipation.

She swished and swayed through "The Lorelei," a second-rate song at best, and later led us through the tongue-twisting maze of "Waters of March," a number jarringly at odds with her sophisticated persona.

This vocalist's forte is ballads and I'd have been happy with even more of them. Her "Alfie" was exquisite. Her "Embraceable You" revealed a tender vulnerability. She brought an impressive sensitivity to "My Shining Hour" and "You Keep Coming Back Like a Song." She sang "That's Him" with a nice hint of irony (though her introduction was longer than the song) and her "Glow Worm" was radiant.

Albert Sarko played opening night although Bob Bauer took over later as musical director. Neal Heidler on bass and Ron Marabuto on drums completed the ensemble.

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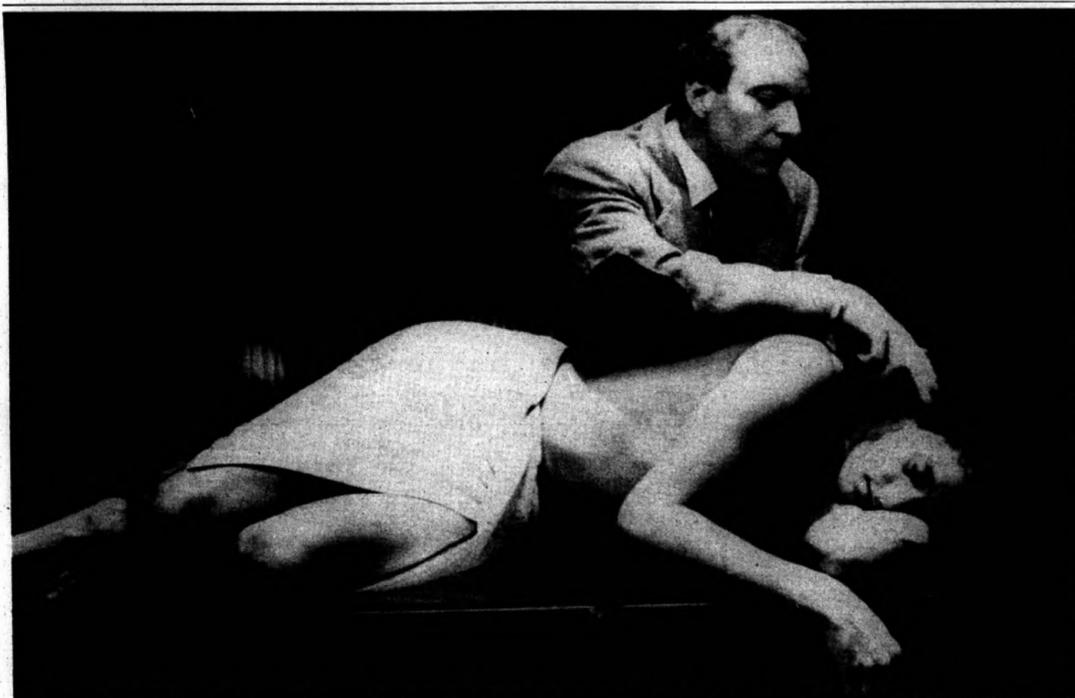
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THEATRE



Bruce Williams pets David Carrera in *Breaking the Code*, a brilliant juxtaposition of heroism, computer genius, and emotional honesty.

Breaking the Code

REVIEWED BY GENE PRICE

In the past quarter of a century we have become inured to the fact that computers spin the wheels of government, finance, religion, the county jail and the check-out counter of our nearby supermarket. And is there a high school kid who doesn't have a pocket calculator that allows him to come up with the sum of 2 plus 2 within seconds? We forget that not so long ago there were no computers.

There was, however, Alan Turing, a reticent, stuttering Englishman who was brought into government service during World War II to work on breaking the German code. Turing, a mathematical genius whose understanding of his own brain seemed to presage the digital computer he later invented, did break the Nazi's "enigma" code and turned the tide of war. It was secret work and few knew of it, or of him. And though he was much respected by such as Winston Churchill, he was persecuted by his local police for an offhand admission of homosexuality and brought to trial. His conviction for "gross indecency" (homosexuality) led to jail and subsequent suicide.

Hugh Whitmore's documentary drama, *Breaking the Code*, is given a splendid production at the Magic Theatre. Albert Takazauckas directed this stunning portrait of Turing. The dramatic concept is filmic. Time moves forward and backward as characters enter and exit in overlapping sequences. Actor Bruce Williams is on stage throughout, and it is as though we are watching the kaleidoscopic memories in his tortured brain converge in a final burn-out.

Williams dazzles us with the complexity of Turing's different personalities. He is ill at ease, even hostile, in his relationship with his mother (Sandy Kelly Hoffman) who apparently made little attempt to understand him. Their final reconciliation actually reads as a stand-off. He is romantically indifferent to the

adoration of a code-breaking associate (Molly Mayock), but when he talks to her about "numbers," about the infallibility of the code that governs numbers, his hands move and his face glows with an ecstasy approaching the sexual. There is no question in his mind but that a mathematician created the universe. Facts are facts, and because there is no moral right or wrong to a fact, there should be no right or wrong with his sexual preference. He matter-of-factly volunteers his homosexuality during the course of a burglary investigation.

We are made privy to Turing's brief affair with a young hustler (touchingly played by Mark Manske) he has picked up in a pub. After accusing the young man of stealing from him, he recants and offers even more money to salvage their tenuous relationship. Unsophisticated to the point of self-destruction, he rejects the friendly warnings of his administrative superior (Edward Ivory) to keep his private life under cover. David Carrera, a native Greek boy and physical symbol for sensual gratification conversely brings out in Turing an enthusiastic compulsion to share his mathematical theories.

Chris Ayles is the officious policeman and Hugh Palmerston is the bureaucratic police chief who brings Turing to his knees for admitting his deviation from the legal code.

The role of Alan Turing is an actor's dream and Bruce Williams makes the most of it. His portrait of the self-effacing but intellectually excitable man who broke the German code (and society's code of behavior) is one of shattering intensity. Takazauckas has assembled an impeccable ensemble cast.

John B. Wilson's set, the stark, metallic internal circuitry of a computer reacts with a life of its own to the drama. An actor's emotional or intellectual reaction creates a stimulus that signals a terminal that takes a light from dim to bright. The all-important lighting was designed by Kurt Landisman.

This is the play of the season. It is not to be missed.

Breaking the Code plays at the Magic Theatre, Wed. thru Sun., thru Dec. 18. Call 441-8822.

Karen Finley: Puking Her Way to Fame

REVIEWED BY RACHEL KAPLAN

Karen Finley pisses me right off but I like the way she speaks, if not what she speaks about, I like the way the words rush out of her mouth like some spell she is trying to cast, the ceaseless rapture of the words that never come together and never make a whole. There is something appealing about the pace at which Finley delivers her trash: the constancy of the language and its urgency, the pace of all those words and all that repetition, all those objects just heaped together in language the same way all those kitschy objects are heaped around the stage. But I think Karen Finley is a pervert and I think Karen Finley thinks she's a pervert (and an artiste too, of course) and I think that Karen Finley gets off on being a pervert and probably has lots of nice aesthetic and artistic reasons why being a pervert is so fun and so important but I'll tell you right now, I think it isn't. I remain unimpressed in the face of her desire to gross me out, in the revelation of what she knows is disgusting and revels in because of that — so she spits on the stage to clear her throat, so her dancers cross-dress (in outfits no self-respecting drag queen would touch), so her male lead grabs his dick and speaks right from it (what else is new?), so she glibly mentions rape, incest and every other unmentionable, from snot to shit. I think it is a puerile, attention-catching PR trick, but other than that? Nothing much. I am tired of No Exit art. I'm tired of being dropped down down down, of being assaulted by shit and piss and cock and cunt and the hopelessness of it all and isn't it disgusting? and aren't we depraved? but isn't it fun fun fun? And think of the great artistic statement we are making. Yeah. And it's loaded so that people who say this about Finley are thought to be prudes, and maybe that's the

truth of it, but this stuff makes me feel bad and lonely and unloved and hopeless and I don't go to the theatre to compound feelings I walk around with every day of my life. I could stay home and just as easily entertain — or depress — myself with this end-of-the-'80s miasma of pain and abandonment, and pain and violence, and pain and political despair, and pain and personal despair and I, unlike Karen Finley, she who "has a hard time looking at the audience, because... (she) does," am willing to do it with open eyes. Why doesn't she just stay in her closet if she doesn't even have the grace enough to acknowledge the people who've paid \$12 to be assaulted by her perverted and oh so depraved verbiage? This stuff is useless, except for this aimless pace I am trying so hard to keep up in this review. I want you to notice it as you go along. How am I doing? I like this incessant battering at the limit of sound and hearing, almost getting beyond sound but not quite, not quite, still we can hear. It's good material. The role of the critic is a derivative one. This pattering goes a long way towards objectifying language, and all of us who are coded by it. A consciousness of objectification is about all Finley offers; she fills her stage with objects (and words) so encrusted with meaning they have no more meaning, objects so big with meaning they grow flat with repeated looking, or songs like "Do You Know the Way to San Jose?" that you don't even have to listen to. You know the way: it's Highway 101, its simple: no sense listening even. It's flat, it melts into the air, there is too much heart and no heart, too much feeling and no feeling, all that feeling only makes you numb. Finley's set is a good metaphor for her performance and the content of her material: too much not enough, so much meaning that meaning evaporates, so much screaming it is beyond the barrier of sound, so much pain and ugliness it is beyond its power to move us, so much ugliness, so little heart, so little care for these things, such a willingness to lie down and die with them, so little care other than to use them — like any visit to the family, to other places laden with meaning — as "material" for a show. I've had it with this attitude — I don't think life is to be lived as material for a show where you puke your way to fame and do your best to gross out your audience, taunting them at the same time, challenging them to take it for what it is, as ART for gods' sake, challenging them not to fall into their petty bourgeois fear of the body, of shit and piss and rape, challenging them to accept and say "yes, this is the world I live in and isn't that funny," because underlying that is garden-variety defeatism: there is no choice in this acceptance; there is no message in this work except of our powerlessness in the face of our modern world. Finley objectifies herself like the objects she litters her stage with: the madonnas lava lamps christmas trees santa claus television overstuffed armchairs doilies light-up busts of women tack tack tack talk talk talk: I think her sense of manipulation is extremely acute. She knows the emotional value of bringing up incest, and rape and child abuse. And how many audience members does she draw with Alanon rhetoric never fulfilled by action? How many feminists and those sick-of-feminist-rhetoric does she bring in with her startlingly-injective of radical feminist rage — preceded by the statement: This is not feminist theatre — all delivered, in a house dress, to a man in paisley underwear? She conflates her feminist rhetoric with her position as object among her world of kitsch possessions, in which she is just another jewel in the hoard, or by her terms, just another turd on the dung heap. How many will she bring in and then leave there, on the precipice of this despair, sprinkled with a little of that depraved humor? I don't know what I expected anyway this woman got famous for sticking yams up her asshole and cling peaches up her cunt but what I want to know is, is that considered safe sex in the 80's? I mean, who knows where that yam's been? shriek. horror. Oh right, maybe that's her point, maybe this is social commentary after all. All I know is I don't want to live in a world commented on



Kitch possessions on the precipice of despair; Karen Finley's *A Suggestion of Madness*.

or created by Karen Finley, BUT I DO and I am angry. If I saw someone on the street doing what Finley does on stage, I'd give her a quarter — maybe, if I were in the mood — and think she was crazy, or maybe scuttle to my safe (?) and happy (?) home and forget about it and the rest of this brutal, cold world — if I could. I'd like to forget about Karen Finley but what she represents really pisses me off: That this is the height of performance art; that this fills a theatre (even on a Thursday night); that people look askance when I say NO I did not like Karen Finley at all; that this despair is the epitome of performance and we are so numb as to be entertained and "enlightened" by it. Maybe I speak without knowing — after all, I walked out halfway through because I knew the season premiere of *Dynasty* would be better — and who's to say, maybe she came to her senses, made some conclusions, drew some other pictures, got out of that indecent charade about that which causes people real pain in the midst of all their kitsch. Finley says she chooses performance in lieu of madness, thus the title of her show *A Suggestion of Madness* has some content, but by her definition there isn't much difference except she gets \$12 a head, and the person on the street, maybe, a quarter.

Lloyd's Prayer

REVIEWED BY GENE PRICE

You are strongly urged to take it on blind faith when I suggest you see *Lloyd's Prayer*. It would be impossible to give you a sensible outline of what this morality charade is all about because you wouldn't believe it anyway. Take it from me, it's outrageously off the wall, and if there's a message there, welcome to it.

Kevin Kling's play, a West Coast premiere, is directed by Oskar Eustis. Here are the actors and you can take it from there.

Bob the Beast Boy is played by John Bellucci, a fine actor with a comic flair and a face of rare, sensitive beauty. (Bob has been raised by raccoons, and when his mother is struck down by a speeding car, he is adopted by a couple of childless humans.)

Dad is played by that clown of clowns, Michael McShane, who also plays in sundry reincarnations, Boss, Peter, and a cigarette-smoking porpoise.

Mom, played for the frump by Lorri Holt, deserts her family for the bed of her female therapist. Versatile actor Holt also plays the trumpy beauty queen Linda and, haloed and winged, an Angel of the Lord.

Will Marchetti is Lloyd, a "reformed" con man who chances upon the caged Bob and in a fit of evangelistic zeal sets up a little salva-

tion business using Bob as the shill. This religious mockery eventually irritates the Lord, who sends his Angel down to set Lloyd straight. The fact that the Angel looks remarkably like the Beauty Queen complicates matters for the sexually inquisitive Bob.

There you have it. The cast, one and all, is superb. The stage hands and technical people also operate in full view (moving props, creating thunder, etc.), so the comedy offers double delights.

McShane is at his peak. He is wonderfully funny as Dad, swatting at an invisible dog and trying to teach Bob a couple of English words. His delight is boundless when Bob finally forms the phrase "What's in a hot dog?" but he unfortunately has a massive heart attack and dies beside Bob's cage. Left with no food, Bob washes his hands in the best raccoon tradition, and eats the lower half of Dad. Fortunately McShane bounces right back in the next scene as Boss ("You're fired... just kidding") and the good times roll... and roll.

Marchetti has just the right touch of humility and sincerity in his portrayal of the slick charlatan/preacher who finally comes to love Bob — and maybe the Lord, too — despite his larcenous instincts.

Holt is broadly loopy as the disgruntled, forever-ironing-shirts Mom. She's sweetly obliging as the Beauty Queen, then, as Angel, touching in her unsuccessful attempt to resist emotional involvement with her human wards.

The imaginative set and lights were by Joel Fontaine and Ellen Shireman, respectively. Sound by Earwax Productions. Costumes by Jill Whitcroft (with Beaver Bauer).

Lloyd's Prayer plays at the Eureka Theatre through Dec. 11. Call 558-9898.

La Cage aux Folles

REVIEWED BY GENE PRICE

Jerry Herman's musicalized version of that hilarious French film, *La Cage aux Folles* (the most successful foreign language movie ever shown in the U.S.), was the season opener for the San Jose Civic Light Opera. Those who remember the national touring company version a couple of seasons ago will recall a so-so book by Harvey Fierstein, some typical Herman tunes ("Song in the Sand," and "The Best of Times") in addition to the big show-stopper, "I Am What I Am," handsome sets, and Theoni Aldredge's gorgeous costumes.

Having already seen the film, most of the civilized world knows that Georges and Albin (aka Zaza, the transvestite star) have been lovers for many years and have raised a son fathered by Georges during an over-night af-

(continued on next page)

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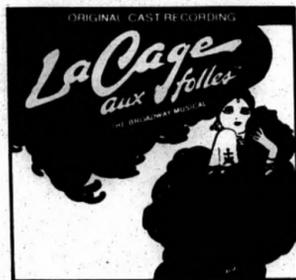
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RCA VICTOR



Harvey Evans and Larry Kert team up and do La Cage for San Jose.

fair with a chorus girl. Son Jean-Michel has come home to St. Tropez to announce his engagement to Anne, daughter of a French bureaucrat who has threatened to close all of the Riviera's transvestite clubs.

Jean-Michel advises his father that Anne's parents are arriving imminently and he begs him to send Albin away for the night and install his "real" mother in her place. Albin who considers himself Jean-Michel's "real" mother is alternately hurt and adamant, but finally agrees to get into male drag and be presented as Uncle Al. (The scene in which he is given "butch" lessons is still a charmer.) When the real mother doesn't show, Albin dons his little Chanel daytime suit and sweeps in as "mother."

With the right, light touch how could such shenanigans not be frothy and delightful and pretty to look at? Especially with a line of spectacularly beautiful chorus "girls," one of whom — just to confuse the issue — turns out to be a real girl.

And that's just exactly where this production let this reviewer down. San Jose's "Cagelles," the ten chorus "girls" who should have taken our collective breath away with their beauty and showgirl graces (until the moment they remove their wigs), would be hard

pressed to find employment in a Tenderloin drag show. They moved like fraternity brothers in a charity drag show. They rolled their eyes and tongued their lips lasciviously at the audience. They played the show for low camp.

Broadway's Larry Kert and Harvey Evans were Georges and Albin. Both are competent performers and that's just what they delivered. Competence. Perhaps the roles should have been reversed. Kert does a marvelous drag. At the other end of the spectrum, Kent Cash as Jacob the butler/maid overacted outrageously, diminishing the inherent humor in his role.

But there's good news, too. Brian L. Green as Jean-Michel provided the major surprise of this production. He is attractive, he can sing, he can act, and he has an ingratiating personality with none of those actorly traits we too often see in young romantic leads. Wendy Oliver as Anne is a real beauty and revealed an impressive talent as a dancer in her too brief, dance-on, dance-off role.

Bonnie Henry was especially amusing as Anne's mother, Mme Dindon. Jack Ritschel was the pompous guardian of French morals, Edouard Dindon, who ends up in drag at the finale. His pitiful protestation that "white isn't my color" may have been the wittiest line in the musical.

Henry Mollicone conducted, Ken Holamon designed the lovely sets, and Theoni Aldredge's costumes are still gorgeous. Director/choreographer was Sam Viverito. Where fluff was called for, we were given overkill. Where the illusion of glamor was called for, we were given vulgarity. It's all a matter of concept. *La Cage* may not be a great musical, or even a very good musical, but it deserved better than this.

View from the Bay

REVIEWED BY GENE PRICE

Scott Thomas Champlain's musical homage to those sexually carefree years in pre-AIDS Castro gets a nostalgic treatment in his three-man revue, *View from the Bay*.

The author/composer has chosen three types to represent the golden era of Castro's subculture: a leather stud, Todd Menard; a drag queen, Robert Sokol; and a Lacoste prepie, Mykel J. Mengert. (The thousands of young men who either lived in or flocked to the Castro during the late seventies may have some problem in identifying with any one of the author's three chosen symbols.)

In a dozen musical numbers these men meet, pass in the night, and establish a tentative rapport that signifies live-and-let-live gay friendship. Champlain's compositions, from urgent ballad to disco beat, were written on piano, fed

into the computer, and subsequently delivered fully orchestrated. Since there is little connecting dialogue, the songs must stand on their own while serving double duty in moving the tenuous story line forward. Transitions are not always as smooth as they might be, though radio tapes of traffic reports, department store commercials, weather reports, and a cursory treatment of a major news break do create a sense of time and place.

After a flashback statement of the show's concept (to understand death we must first understand the life that leads up to it), the three men open the "re-view" with "In the city," one of the better and more complex of Champlain's songs.

"Saturday Pretense" finds Sokol at his makeup table. While the lyrics were clever, the number itself was flagrantly reminiscent of the "little more mascara" song from *La Cage aux Folles*. When finally re-assembled, Sokol is Liza, "our Lady of the Perpetual Hand Gestures." As a drag Liza, Sokol is without subtlety and in the close confinement of the Rhino's Studio we are given caricature rather than impression. Yet in the show's one dramatic monologue when Sokol's character is spilling his all to his shrink, he's sweet and endearing, even pausing at the end of his session to thank his doctor "for whatever it is you do for me." It's a funny scene with some fine bits of bitchy wit.

Hunky, handsome Todd Menard sings with a warm conviction and brings a fine sense of reality to his lyrics when he sings of the joys of the "Jaguar Bookstore." Even in duets and trios Menard's vocal phrasing brings an added glow. He was especially effective in two of the evening's more memorable songs, a medley of "One Night Stand" and "Falling," which he sang with Mengert.

Mengert, who was featured in all but four of the musical numbers, tended to over-act, over-sell, and occasionally punctuate his phrasing against the music. He seemed unable to create a believable character from the most representative of the three types on view.

But the good times roll to an end with the three men delivering a round-robin monologue about the death of a friend. It is 1978 and one of the three has developed his own health problems. Champlain wraps up his overview with a final trio "Under the Rainbow." The lyrics caution that "dreams don't come true... they very rarely do... under the rainbow" and that you must believe in yourself if you want your dream to become a reality.

The basic weakness of this musical is the lack of characterization. Songs such as "Saturday Night Cruising" (a funny bit with life-size cut-outs of James Dean and Clint Eastwood) give us little more than surface clues about the three men. Who are they? Where are they from? What do they do when they're not cruising?



Todd Menard, Robert Sokol and Mykel J. Mengert camp it up in the carefree Castro of the late seventies.

Have they ever loved or been loved? Asking the audience to make an empathic commitment to three symbols is perhaps asking too much.

Composer Champlain also designed the set (a handsome three-dimensional skyline construction) and the lights. The musical's poster, already a collector's item, was designed by Kirk Frederick.

View from the Bay plays through Dec. 18 in the Studio, Theatre Rhinoceros. Call 861-5079.

Poison Hotel

REVIEWED BY RACHEL KAPLAN

In a wordless, nearly seamless, mysteriously lucid explosion of sound, color and movement, Soon 3's *Poison Hotel* at Theatre Artaud, was engaging from start to finish. *Poison Hotel* is a "new performance landscape" about love, mystery, intrigue: the stuff of which great love triangles are made. The designed environment — a large trapezoidal boat shape viewed by each audience member from outside through a private porthole — was the set for this movement, film, and sound collage. Stark white — relieved only by red cloths, black set pieces, and indigo velvet — the effect of the set was riveting, drawing the eye to nothing and everything at once: the disembodied head of the audience member on the opposite side of the stage, Epperlein's flapping red dress, a red swing descending from above, the blankness of the floor.

The three principal movers — Robin Bowen, Henry Steele, and Karin Epperlein (also credited with the stage direction of the piece) — created a tabloid of inter-relationships, each playing off one another with active movement, expression, touch. The "couple," Man and Woman (Bowen and Steele) are represented both on stage and in the film by Varda Hardy, shown at intervals throughout the live dramatic action.

The film tells a story of two people in the Hotel (an old European affair) looking for one another, knocking on doors, looking out windows in various states of undress, swimming naked before the camera. We are given to think that this search for the desired other is the central drama of the piece for it is the only segment that reaches any state of temporal coherency. The film was evocative, a noir version on the theme of love-lost-then-found. It was as mysterious, as unfinished yet complete, as the rest of *Poison Hotel* and integrated into the live performance in a way few films are.

I can't think of any better subject to focus on than the question of the desired one — the fluxuating terrain of this piece. The drama

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played out by Bowen and Steele was your typical approach/avoidance sort of relationship. Epperlein, in red dress and with wild, racy, sometimes out of control movements, plays Love, that red heart imaged here always in relation to water — "the heart of water/H₂O" that becomes the foil for the couple's mutual approach and distrust, as well as the obvious third of their triangle. Love is its own self, separate from the couple; there are three energies in every relationship.

There was mystery in *Poison Hotel* — the Hotel itself was mystery. We see Love serving wine to certain audience members like a lascivious hotel waitress — a long "swim" beneath a piece of indigo violet unrolled across the stage which degenerates into a fight between Love and the Man and ensuing encounters of Man with Love, and Woman with Love. The piece was strongest in its commitment to this intrigue, strengthened by the narrative incoherence of its images and the wordless exploration of itself.

Water is the pivotal metaphor of the piece — with images of swimming, boats (the set and other props, including a toy boat and the mast of a boat as represented by a triangular shape moveable throughout the theatre environment) and Epperlein's unveiling of the other actors with their arms wrapped tightly around life preservers. It works formally and contextually: the narrative flow is suggestive of the movement of uncontained water, the movements between the characters reiterate this flow again. At one point, from a red cage with a window shade, Woman sent out postcards which Love delivered to certain audience members which said "The water is cold here. How are you?" The next time the film image was of water, I knew it to be cold, but I didn't know how I was.

Except that I was excited by this piece, by the attitude of the performers — alert, attentive, engaged; by the sparse beauty of the set with its simple lines; by the gorgeousness of the taped music and the music of the live singers, Aina Kemamis and Sheila Glover; by the clarity of the filmed images; by the intensity and beauty of the performed images.

The theme was simple but rendered with intelligence and the fullness of an aesthetic vision. I was right there with *Soon 3* in the *Poison Hotel* until the very end which, however, lapsed into a questionable sentimentality. The lights drop, and the performers leave us, without their much-deserved curtain call, after a final image of Woman grandly swinging, pushed by Man, with Love behind him.

In *Poison Hotel*, Love is desired, chased, pushed on a swing, fought with, argued over, run away from, competed over and drowned. My questions are these: Do we really end swinging with Love as if Love were the girl or boy next door? Do we walk off hand-in-hand with Love to meager and hesitant applause after we have denied and vilified Love? Do we end with Love on our swing simply because we cannot bear the truth that Love is sometimes hollow and sometimes cold? Or does Love end on the swing, smiling, because that is what Love is — that back and forth, that approach to dizzying heights, followed by vaguely nauseating drops back to earth? I don't know, and I suspect *Soon 3* doesn't know either whether the poison we take is inflicted or chosen, and whether or not it won't kill us in the end. And even so, whether or not it isn't the death we would have chosen in the first place.

Kudzu

REVIEWED BY RANDY TUROFF

Martha's mother, Ginger, is a wry old lady. As she says, when a woman gets to be her age and feeble, the only pleasures seem to be in letting go of water and in counting orioles. She also turns her acerbic wit against Martha in a manner in which only



After 40 years together Jo Farkas and Carol McElheney find their love is stronger than ever in *Jane Chambers'* Kudzu.

family members seem to be able to get away with. She gives Martha about the fact that Martha had to have her female organs taken out, and adds that it doesn't really matter much because she never made any use of them anyway.

You see, Martha is a lesbian. Martha lives with her lover of 40 years, Katy, under mama's roof, and the two of them take care of the feisty old lady for room and board and out of obligation. Household money comes from the insufferable cousin P.T., the patriarchal bane of their existences.

It's a credit to the late playwright Jane Chambers that she was able to fashion a heartwarming and rather charming piece of theatre from the difficult and emotionally charged family dynamics between the four characters thrown together in their old age. What's even more amazing, is that Chambers created a fine portrait of a very long-term lesbian relationship in the midst of this conservative Southern family and placed the loving couple at the heart of the family photo. The relationship between Martha and Katy was neither over-sentimentalized nor diffused of its power and strength as they lived their love unashamedly amidst disapproving kinfolk and social backlash. In fact, to see two older women kissing and touching each other on stage, affirming their roles as lovers, is a powerful statement. Their ability to maintain their lover relationship to themselves and within the highly repressive social milieu, is a testament in itself to gay pride and serves as a god example of unabashedly gay/lesbian theatre. The women have no trouble with their gay identity or with their love for one another, despite that the family calls it an "affliction" and that the history of the relationship has been fraught with negative social repercussions.

The main interest of this play lies in the intradynamics and history of this long-term lesbian relationship. Through the larger play at hand, we are able to piece together the Martha and Katy story: the story of how they first met, who brought whom out, the ramifications of their coming out in the pre-Civil Rights South, the economic and social history of their union vis-a-vis the family to which they are still connected.

The three female characters: Martha, Katy, and Martha's mother Ginger, are richly drawn and the familial intimacy between them plays out very well. The fourth character, cousin P.T., the pompous old Southern politician and patriarch, is too much of a caricature. Although his reason for existing in the play as a foil is understood, he really is awarded too many lines and too much stage time for the stray dog that he ultimately is. When Katy and Martha are recounting the difficulties they've shared together, such as the time that "Lady

Lovers" was scrawled on their windshield when they were living in Atlanta and they were forced to move by a homophobic landlady, we are made to feel the indignities they've suffered. The narrative reminiscences are much more effective in depicting the injustices than are P.T.'s racist speeches and soapbox judgments. He is essentially an outside force symbolizing all the repugnant attitudes of patriarchal society and would have worked better, indirectly, as a more threatening off-stage presence rather than as a full-bodied stereotype in the spotlight.

In any event, this world premiere post-humous production of Jane Chambers' *Kudzu* at Theatre Rhinoceros, is an excellent one. Perhaps if Chambers had lived long enough to have pulled together some of the loose ends and uneven parts of the plot and characterizations of this work-in-progress, we would have had in *Kudzu*, a play as tightly woven as say, her *Last Summer at Bluefish Cove*. Director Donna Davis did a marvelous job with the material. The acting by Carol McElheney, Jo Farkas, Jane McFagan, and Milt Commons was remarkably good. The set design by Sandra Howell worked perfectly, and the entire technical production was right on cue.

Kudzu, by the way, is a tenacious vine which was first imported to the South in order to stop soil erosion. Although it functions in this capacity and produces beautiful purple flowers, it has become destructive in its overzealous reproduction. As Ginger says in the play, kudzu is like kinfolk, it grips you and is with you for the rest of your life.

I Was a Go-Go Dancer for Gurdjieff

REVIEWED BY RACHEL KAPLAN

Have you ever had a conversation with someone who's obviously got something to say, who you think is right, (and who's also convinced he's right), but who continues, over and over, to express the same point, ever and always increasing the decibels at which he does so? And you so want to listen, because what is said is interesting and may even have some sort of value to you, but the manner of presentation is so difficult it hardly matters anymore? I thought so.

I Was a Go-Go Dancer for Gurdjieff (written and directed by playwright Gary Aylesworth) was like that, starting simply enough, with flashes of humor and wit, but building to

the sort of crescendo that makes it impossible to really listen to the sounds. *Go-Go Dancer* is about one woman's search for herself in the Haight-Ashbury of the 60's, her involvement with the Gurdjieff group, and her work in the porn industry to pay her dues. Mixed in every which way are the issues of an adult child of alcoholic parents, the general American quest for a spiritual life, the failure of the drug-culture of the '60s to deliver its promised goods, and sexuality, and gender, and etc. In a 90-minute show that could have easily been about 60 minutes, Aylesworth and Co. regale us with an energetic display of such material.

Aylesworth and his players, Harriet Schiffer and Peter Newton, are all gifted and versatile actors. Aylesworth himself played no less than nineteen different characters, from Gurdjieff to an old bum on the street. His range of movement and character expression was quite extraordinary and engaging. All three actors moved effortlessly from one character to another; Schiffer and Newton played their various roles skillfully, with humor and poise. Schiffer, as Megan Muldoon, our girl in the back room of Carol Doda's, played her with the right mixture of pathos, humor and camp. Newton's musical accompaniment, and his characterizations were well-paced and well-portrayed. The written text was almost consistently funny, with only a few lines really reaching for that laugh. But it was like that tedious discussion — it just kept repeating itself until I wondered if Aylesworth either had some personal ax to grind or didn't know the details of the Gurdjieff group specifically enough to know whether or not his point was being made.

Go-Go Dancer's most salient points — about the search for spirituality and the general spiritual impoverishment of Americans, and the failure of the "Teachers" from the Far East to improve anyone's lot but their own — are well worth noting. Aylesworth represents them with a blend of humor and cynicism they deserve; his skill as playwright is admirable. It's his skill as editor that needs some fine tuning.

I also wonder if we are now going to be subject to drama of this sort about the failures of the '60s, done tongue-in-cheek, as if to say "We know better now, we were so young then," with that proverbial wink of the eye. It is logical for theatre in the '80s to deal with the failures of the '60s, and for the actors, playwrights and directors whose consciousness was formed at that time who are now experiencing, perhaps, their own disappointments with the passage of time, to take it out on the audiences who attend their work. It isn't problematic, on the level of material for the theatre — it's a completely valid dialogue. But it does get somewhat wearisome if the point needs to be made over and over again in this cacophonous way.



Harriet Schiffer, Gary Aylesworth and Peter Newton: *Go-Go without boots*.



Run-away Stacie Ditchek confronts closeted Oberlieutenant Greg Hoffman in an unpolished staging of *Pavanne*.

Pavanne

REVIEWED BY GENE PRICE

Earlier this year AART (Artist and Audience Responsive Theatre) presented a play reading series in cooperation with the S.F. Public Library. *Pavanne*, a one-act drama about love in wartime, was selected from this series for a recent production at The Capp Street Center. The two-character play, according to the author's note, concerns itself with how one must pay for being true, or untrue, to oneself.

The scene is occupied Belgium, winter, 1943. Marieke (Stacie Ditchek), a 17-year-old, has run away from home in pursuit of her German lover, but a threat of sabotage has halted her train at Leige. Marieke, without identification papers and under suspicion as an accomplice of the saboteurs, is turned over to the Nazi Oberlieutenant (Greg Hoffman) of Railway Security.

The cold, officious officer attempts to confirm the young girl's story by contacting her father while explaining to her the impossibility of locating her lover among the thousands of young men being entrained for movement to another front. The girl unleashes a tirade of verbal assaults at him and demands that she be allowed to leave the security station to search for her lover.

Whether it was the playwright's intention, the director's conception, or the actor's interpretation, Marieke was aggressive, irrational, rude and monotonously irritating. I lost sympathy for her problem almost immediately. It is doubtful that a young girl in wartime 1943 would have flouted authority (her father's or the Nazi officer's) so arrogantly and willfully. In real life, the Nazi would have slapped her across the room. I was sorry that the stage Nazi did not.

In too brief moments of calmness, she talks of her affair, of the young man who called her "princess," and of her father's disapproval of him. But moments later she is uncooperative when the officer attempts to create an alibi for her. In answer to her question about the photograph on his desk, he says it is of his deceased brother. She retorts that men usually have photos of their wives or sweethearts on their desks. Further defied in his attempt to search her, he blurts out that he has no sexual interest in her. She guesses that the photograph is really of his lover and he admits the truth.

A bomb explodes. Lights go out. In the noise and confusion, Marieke tries to run outside. The lieutenant throws her back and

threatens to shoot her if she tries to escape again. In the ensuing altercation, she is shot. The lieutenant places her body on his cot, lays the photo of his lover on her chest, and plays Ravel's "Pavanne for a Dead Princess" on his flute.

Is that sentimental or is that sentimental? Much to my surprise, neither the author nor the director realized that the play really ended immediately after the officer shot the girl. In shock, he leans over her body and whispers tenderly and too late, "You can't love that much." That's the moral. And what a curtain line!

Richard Wiltshire's play is based on a dramatically valid concept and some of the writing is good, but transitions from mood to mood are abrupt and a number of Marieke's childish attacks aren't sufficiently motivated. Some of the staging came off as stilted — particularly the final shooting scene which should have read as accidental rather than as a deliberate across-the-room shot. Let's hope the author rethinks, rewrites, and polishes *Pavanne*. It deserves a second chance.

Steve Omlid directed. Jacqueline G. Starren and Jesse Kane designed the set (primitive, especially by Nazi standards). William Brent designed the sound and Marc Herberg designed the lighting.

Black Cat's Tale

REVIEWED BY GENE PRICE

Tale Spinners Theater is a company devoted to developing new works that are dramatic reconstructions of an event or era based on oral history. The first of three fall productions (in association with the Julian Theatre) was *The Black Cat's Tale*, a fictional recreation of one night in 1951 at the legendary Black Cat.

Kimberly Brown wrote the script. Jill Lounsbury directed. The play is deserving of an extended production in the future. The extensive production staff must also be commended for a polished workshop production about a place and a time important to San Francisco's gay history.

For many years *The Black Cat* at Columbus and Montgomery was the home of Jose Sarría's operatic endeavors. It was a notorious hang out for homosexuals as well as for scores of curious tourists who made pilgrimages there to see what the homosexuals looked like. It was also frequented by attractive members of the vice squad who encouraged propositions

(continued on page 52)

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Latinas in Media

BY SKYE MORRISON

Hollywood stereotyping of ethnic and racial minorities has long been a controversy in this country. And though today it is possible to see a few more people of color on the air than what were shown ten years ago, still the numbers are statistically minute when compared to the proportions of these groups in the U.S. population. According to a recent study done by the Annenberg School of Communications, Latinos comprise only 2 percent of all television roles, and of that only 1 percent are major roles.

Those connected with the business say the problem is really three-pronged: minorities are not getting access to acting roles; the few roles that are made available tend to be demeaning and stereotypical images reflecting mainstream prejudice; and minorities are not moving up the ladder into decision-making positions in television corporations.

Patricia Aguayo is the 34-year-old community affairs producer on Channel 44. She's made it to where she is today in an incredibly unorthodox climb to — if not the top — at least a relatively secure position at heights few women of color have yet to see.

Aguayo has truly come a long way in her 10 years at the station and she recalls her rise with a mixture of pride in her achievements and real sadness at all she's had to go through to get where she is. The racist jokes, the lack of professional recognition, the business parties she's not invited to, all add up to a feeling of being, "like an unwanted stepchild," she says.

"I feel that many people here think I got my job because of affirmative action. I won an Emmy two years ago for a public service announcement on elder abuse. I'm only the second person at the station to ever win an Emmy. But I felt that this didn't mean anything to my co-workers. My boss didn't even mention it to me! There's this feeling that I must have won the award because I'm Mexican, that I couldn't possibly have won it for its creativity. I feel that whatever I achieve here, in the eyes of the mainstream people in the media I still won't be accepted at their level," she said.

Aguayo closely watches new shows that come out to see what role — if any — minorities are given. She becomes infuriated when talking about the stereotypical images of Latinos on television. She worries about how this negative stereotyping will affect the young people in her community.

"The fact that there are no doctors, lawyers or detectives on television who are Latinos — what does that say about us, about our people?" she questions.

Soap operas are one of Aguayo's pet peeves and the most insulting one she's come across recently is aired on Channel 5. It focuses on a character who plays the Latin-lover type. "First of all I find out he's not even Latin, he's a white guy. He is portrayed as a real womanizer, he's screwing everybody. And he is a wife beater. He is all the stereotypes that people say about Latin men. And on top of all that he had to lose his accent in the soap opera in order to be successful! I mean look at this crap — we haven't gone anywhere. There hasn't been any real progress."

Another perfect example of the programming Aguayo detests is a show called, "I Love Flora." It's the story of a white man who has a Latina maid who is going to be deported, so he decides to marry her.

"I have a problem with this show because first of all she's a maid, second of all she is undocumented, and then why does she fall in love with a white guy? It perpetuates the attitude



that unless you can break into the white community you are never going to amount to anything.

Aguayo says that films made for cinema are just as exploitive as their television counterparts. She totally discounts as a fad the recent flux of movies about Latinos. "We just happen to be in style at the moment. But I want to see us do this for years. I want to see us do Shakespeare. I want to see us in the big roles, standard roles. Why can't we play everything? Why do we have to play these menial roles or these movies like 'Salsa'? I mean come on — give me a break!"

Aguayo is the community affairs producer of the shows *El Amanecer*, *Black Renaissance* and *Weekday*. Her shows have dealt with such controversial subjects as the war in El Salvador and Nicaragua from a perspective far from the mainstream of opinion. She was also one of the first local television producers to explore problems of domestic violence and incest — horrors she herself was immersed in for much of her life.

Aguayo is a woman with a deep sense of community. Born and raised in the Mission, she spent many years as a single mother dependent on welfare and living in the projects. Today she makes good money and could probably live in whatever neighborhood she chooses, but her choice is still the Mission.

"A lot of people say to me, 'God, how can you stand to live in the Mission?' Well, I love the Mission! I like the smells, I like the people, I like the stores. I like the way it feels because that's my home.

"I think one of the gifts my grandmother gave me is an incredible amount of pride in my heritage. I always think — God, I'm proud to be Mexicana! I love speaking Spanish. I love looking the way I look.

"That's what keeps me going when someone puts me down here. Like someone at the

station once said, 'You're so Mexican! Why do you have to be so Mexican?' And I said, 'Well, why do you have to be so white?'"

Aguayo is a wonderful-looking woman, exuberant, extravagant, overflowing with good humor — and sometimes, righteous anger. Tall and with a magnificent mane of red hair falling far below her waist, long red fingernails and an almost-tight, yet elegant purple dress, she certainly stands out among the business suits and homogeneous look most corporate entities tend to cling to. But for Aguayo being an individual and being a Mexicana is really what it's all about. And if she's going to make it she is determined it will be on these terms.

"You know, we have people like Ana Chavez, Bob Jimenez, but they themselves are so Americanized. They've gone right into the melting pot. I mean, it does feel good that there's a Chavez out there, that there's a Jimenez, but at the same time I think that because they're up there on the screen they have to be more aware, they have to have a sense of those kids out there and help to cultivate a pride among our people.

"I think that the minorities that get along really well in this business are the ones that say 'yes' without questioning. That's why I sometimes wonder how I can survive in this business. Well, probably one of the reasons I've been able to stay here so long is that they know I have a lot of community clout."

Aguayo is extremely active in the community and currently sits on the board of ten local organizations, ranging from cultural to health and political groups. The mayor recently nominated her to hold a position on the Relocation Appeal Board, which hears eviction cases for public housing. She has also been known to take to the streets in public demonstrations when she feels the fury rising, and she laments that more Latinos don't participate in the political process. But with all of her activities Agua-

yo is never too busy to try and help someone from the neighborhood who is down and out. "People call me at the station here and they ask me what to do — they say they're being evicted, or that their kid ran away — I mean, I get all kinds of calls! But I always make time for people because I know what it's like to be out there and not know what in the hell you're going to do. I am a resource of information because I meet a lot of people, therefore I'm going to share that resource."

Aguayo certainly does know what it's like to be out there with no one to turn to. She was raised primarily by her grandmother, as both parents abandoned her when she was quite young. By the time she was five years old an uncle was sexually abusing her. Pregnant at 15, the cycle of abuse continued with the lovers she herself chose.

Aguayo dropped out of school after the eighth grade and never returned. But her sharp intelligence and the aura of confidence which surrounds her worked to her advantage. At 24, alone and by this time with three children to support, she got a job at Channel 44 as a secretary, work which she says she despised. But she made it her business to learn everything she could about the station and her diligence paid off as promotion quickly followed promotion.

"I think that I've reached a point at Channel 44 where I've probably gone as far as I can go — they won't let me go any farther. Because the station is most definitely white. Those people at the top making the decisions are white. They don't want someone up there like myself. They want to have as much control over the situation as possible. I don't feel badly that I've gone as far as I'll probably go here because I've certainly had some good years from it. What I feel badly about is that there's so few of me around."

Aguayo says a position recently opened up at the station which would have been the obvious evolution for her from her present position. She says she was discouraged from applying and was told that applicants had to have documentary experience, which she doesn't have. Then she found out that her new boss — a white woman — has not had documentary experience either. Aguayo now feels she was purposely kept from applying for the job because it would have complicated matters for her employers if they had to explain why she was not promoted.

"I don't mean to make the station sound like it's a horrible place because there are some good things happening here. But what hurts is that there is a lot of discrimination, there is a feeling that, well, that I don't belong here.

"I have a certain amount of power but not really that much. What I want to see is Latino program directors, Latino general managers. I want to see Latinos buying their own stations. All I'm saying is that people should be given an equal opportunity. History shows that Latinos have not had an equal chance."

Lair of the White Worm

REVIEWED BY JACK FERTIG

Ken Russell's latest film is called *The Lair of the White Worm*, but it might have been entitled *Scream, Writhe, and Moan for the Return of The Brides of the Snake of Dracula*. Along with the hyperbolically lurid visuals that fans expect of Ken Russell this is little more than a very glossy version of the schlocky old bite-em-ups that were produced through the early 60's by the Hammer Studios with Christopher Lee and Peter Cushing.

Like any of the Hammer films and most of Ken Russell this is silly trash, easily dismissed, but lots of fun for people with twisted humors and other manifestations of bad taste. I loved it!

Two sisters, a young Scots archaeology student and a very handsome young Lord of the Land descended from the legendary killer of a local medieval albino dragon get caught up in the nefarious goings on and, well, you can guess the rest....

Of the two sisters, Eve, innocent yet temptingly beautiful, encounters the very pale and reptilian Lady Sylvia sitting in a tree. Catherine Oxenberg, as Eve, unwittingly inspires giggles and yawns. Her sister Mary (Sammi Davis) maintains Mercy Rest bed-and-breakfast and wears homey blue and white. It's all so symbolic! Can you guess what color the garden hose and the vacuum cleaner hose are as they are tripped over at dramatic moments? A fight around a sundial has the obvious result with an unexpectedly gorey twist. If the general outcome weren't so obvious the extra violent twist would be entirely gratuitous. Such can be said of almost every scene Mr. Russell's ever filmed.

Wide angle lenses hold scenes in slightly off-center unrealism and give a nicely eerie if obvious quality when they move. Amanda Donohoe as Lady Sylvia appears to be working at an imitation of Glenda Jackson imitating Ingrid Pitt. She's a near-typical vampire queen whose totem is not a bat, not a wolf, but a grotesquely phallic creature. With better lines she could have been a classically camp character. The rest of the cast is bland and forgettable except perhaps when undressed.

With his typical blend of Freudian association and Pee-Wee's Playhouse, Mr. Russell never lets us forget the phallic quality of his beast. And do we know what Mr. Worm likes to eat, boys and girls? That's right: virgins! How did you ever guess?! It's to Russell's credit that Whitey likes virgins of either sex and the nudity is rather equal handed. The sexism becomes as ridiculously obvious as everything else when the hapless girls are chained and screaming as slinky Sylvia calls up the Worm god and the big strong Man comes to save the heroines.

Ken Russell's pretentious middle brow trash and demi-entendre symbolism are unrelenting as ever. Lots of blood and gore. One great pagan god beast. Snakey lady breasts. Handsome hunk breast. Reincarnated nun breasts. British boy scout chicken breast. Wrestling Stewardess Fu. Giant White Dildo Fu. Sundial Fu. Ken Russell Silly Foo. Jack Bob says check it out.

Lair of the White Worm is playing at the Lumiere from November 24 for "three or four weeks, depending how it grosses," according to a gentleman in the theatre's employ, "And it's grossing pretty well." I couldn't have said it any better.

Stripped Bare; Sadobabies

REVIEWED BY RANDY TUROFF

Two controversial video documentaries were presented last month at the Roxie as part of the 4th Annual Film Arts Festival. *Stripped Bare* (1988), produced by Caitlin Manning, is a look into the San Francisco strip scene through the eyes of a number of strippers who speak about their experiences in the sex industry. The film juxtaposes their raps along with footage of their acts on stage. The other presentation, *Sadobabies* (1988) by Nancy Kalow and May Petersen, is about the subculture of young runaways living on the streets of San Francisco. The film exposes their uniquely distressing lifestyle through their own stories, rap songs, and footage of the troubled kids living in an abandoned highschool.

Both *Stripped Bare* and *Sadobabies* bring subterranean social concerns to the surface by situating the kinky material up front, directly in the lap of mainstream culture from which it has derived. *Stripped Bare* focuses on working girls trying to make a buck. *Sadobabies* examines the alternative "family" of teenagers

who've run away from their own sexually abusive original family situations. The invariable links between sex, money, power tripping, and fantasy projection are reflected in both the shadowy worlds of the sex entertainer and of the displaced teenagers.

Each of the films professes a non-judgmental attitude and attempts to overcome the pitfall of objectification or exploitation of its subjects by encouraging the characters, the women who work the strip clubs and the teenagers who live in the streets, to speak for themselves. The film scripts in each case were largely dependent upon the editing process and the voices, insights and material brought up by the subjects themselves. The interest of the films lies in what the subjects have to show and tell us about themselves and their lifestyles. It's up to us, the viewing audience to draw our own conclusions and to determine how we feel about the material presented.

Teenage dropout culture is largely constellated around sex, drugs and rock n' roll. But what really marks this particular culture of teenage dropouts in *Sadobabies*, is the heavy preoccupation with bad attitude. It's not just that swastikas replace peace symbols, but the collective mass of negativities are seen as what's real. The prime symbol for youth culture in the '60s may have been the flower in the barrel of a rifle, but now it may very well be the symbol of the "sadobaby." If rebellion used to be against the sado-society and the mass of negativities associated with a repressive culture, here it's more an embracing of the blade and a fetishizing over the objects of repression. As one Jewish kid, wearing a holocaust yellow Star of David on his jacket said, "It's fun to be a martyr." And so the pendulum swings and the phenomenon of sadobabies emerges.

According to May Petersen, sadobabies are a world-wide thing. What is a sadobaby? A sadobaby is a doll, usually found in a dumpster which the runaways dress up like themselves and then proceed to torture. Often the kids will play out scenes, sexually abusing the dolls in much the same way as they themselves have been abused by their parents. One kid was shown on film using the voice of his father as he was beating up his doll, his surrogate self. Needless to say, this was disturbing to watch, but then again, an s/m scene is just a scene, and psychodrama is just psychodrama. The real distress comes from the realization that there are so many fucked-up kids out there, 15-year-olds already trapped in dead end lives. The cycle is perverse: sexual/emotional abuse linked to running away linked to street survival linked to sexual/emotional abuse, detention centers, psychiatric wards, etc. They are after all, children, victims under the age of consent. A teenage girl looks at the camera: "What do you say when your dad fucks with you all the time and your mother's just afraid of losing her marriage?"

The film kind of ends just like that: like graffiti whizzing through a subway tunnel passing through to the next stop. I think the film needed some follow-up work, some narrative overview, a context for the material presented. It feels too sensationalized otherwise. What was the producers' intention in making this documentary film?

Stripped Bare invites its subjects, female strippers, to talk about their work. The overriding sentiment is that stripping is a job, a job which can for some be quite lucrative. As one woman, Katie, said, "I used to do dental assisting, and when I got a job stripping I found it was a lot more fun, for the same amount of money, and a lot less hassle." Debi, when she was fresh out of college, was thumbing through the want ads and found a job description that fit her needs: "great part-time job for students and homemakers." She started her career as a stripper. Stripping is part time, has flexible hours, and you can take off when you need to. One woman described going to work as going to a social gathering: we go in, drink, see each other, and it's like being in a sorority. She prefers stripping to going to an office and listening to some guy's bullshit all day.

Several women have been prostitutes as well as erotic dancers. A woman named Daisy put it this way: "I went out job hunting day after day and couldn't get anything. I turned a 20-minute trick for \$75 and I started prostitution." Tanya, a streetwalker, also turned to tricking because she couldn't get a job. She says streetwalking is a lot more dangerous, and she'd rather be a stripper. In any case, for Linda, whose mother was a prostitute, and for herself as a former stripper, she admonishes: "Don't be so quick to judge or call names or assume 'these people' are low class... It's called

keeping a roof over your head and putting food in your stomach." The women who spoke came from various economic backgrounds and had different feelings towards their work beyond the aspects of financial remuneration. A number of women spoke about having been sexually abused as children, about learning at an early age to use the sexual aspects of their bodies for survival. Linda, the ex-stripper, holds a bitter resentment for the role she'd always played as "the one who is sexually available... my sexuality

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Monika Truet, doctor of de Sade and director of the *Virgin Machine* is currently writing a book on romantic love.

(continued from previous page)
as a commodity." Daisy sees the situation from another perspective: "I was regularly raped by my father between 3 and 12. I hate the thing that prostitutes are prostitutes because they were abused as children. Prostitutes are prostitutes for economic reasons." Aside from prostitution, Daisy enjoys being a sex worker in the realm of erotic dancing because she likes to dance. Part of her routine involves lap dancing, where she sits on men's laps, uses her "little girl stage persona" and asks them: "Do you have a present for me?" She works them for tips.

Anyway, the stories and the raps go on for an hour with alternately contradictory and paradoxical points of view, with detours into a sales pitch for vibrators and a diatribe against feminist anti-pornography campaigns. There was the familiar rhetoric by Debi Sundahl and Susie Bright (publisher and editor of *On Our Backs*, respectively) about "feminist alternatives to the male dominated sex industry" and about women reclaiming their sexual fantasies. Working as a stripper in a sex club, Debi was turned on by her exhibitionism, and she says she "found a context where it's OK to be objectified." Other women found the objectification to be less satisfying. As one woman said, "I'm 160 pounds of woman, but all they want to see is one part, the one small triangle..."

The issue of violence and abuse by producers, club owners, and managers came up, and Linda told of being raped by a customer while she was working backstage at a club. The film ended and a discussion panel assembled at the Roxie. Flyers were distributed on the Green River murders: "On Wednesday, Oct. 26, 1988, the body of Alice Cecilia Worthy was found in the Green River (near Seattle/Tacoma). The 29-year-old dancer's fully clothed body was found one-half mile from the Meeker Street Bridge where the body of 16-year-old Wendy Lee Coffield, the first 'official' Green River murder victim was found in the summer of 1982." Most of the Green River victims have been Black teenage prostitutes. Over 100 unsolved murders of young women have happened in the Seattle/Tacoma area.

Working in the sex industry is not as much fun as a flippant attitude might suggest. Working conditions are often deplorable, and as a friend of mine who worked regularly as a stripper told me, "As far as the owners go, the customer is always right. You're just another piece of meat. There's no protection." She's worked for female-owned companies as well as male-owned companies and she said that "the women didn't pay shit." As far as female customers, "They tip much worse than men." The question still stays in my mind: what

really is so different about female hardcore fantasies from male hardcore fantasies? What does "owning our own fantasies" really mean in the context of pornography?

The Virgin Machine

REVIEWED BY RANDY TUROFF

My hopes were dashed. The sex scene was a bomb: some breast fondling, an uneventful stroke or two, and some camera shots of two women reclining and posing as unemotionally, as coldly as a couple of statues. That scene lasted all but a few seconds before cutting into a shot of a streetlamp at night. Not even a suggestive moan was thrown in.

The best scene in this film was the outrageous strip act by Ramona. In male drag, moustache, boxer shorts and all, she plays a slimey kind of guy jerking off a beer bottle between her legs.

Various dykes on bikes put in their cameo appearances, and Mistress Carla, as the neighbor across the hall, brought a bit of the nether leather world into the film as we catch a peek of her screwing the clamps on some guy's nipples. Susie Bright as Susie Sexpert did a rather amusing parody of herself as a sidewalk dildo salesperson, grotesquely fish-eyed up against the camera lens. The motto of the San Francisco part of the film was something along the lines of girls just like to have fun.

The Virgin Machine was two films in one. The first half took place in Germany; it was heavy and lugubrious and full of fat men doing gross things in an artsy European way. The first film was very boring, with lots of talk about chimpanzees and hormones and the death of romance and sperm counts. It's no wonder the ditz heroine decided to come to San Francisco to become a lesbian: so that she too could wear a leather cap and be burned by a lesbian prostitute, and laugh at herself instead of brooding over eternal damnation and sexual demons and the troublesome incestuous relationship she was having with her half brother. I guess it all goes to show you that you can indeed escape from yourself and find satisfaction from T.V. ads in a language different from the one spoken at home.

Aside from Shelly Mars' (Ramona) strip, I enjoyed the film score. The musical cuts were interwoven quite effectively, often serving as narrative interplay with the story on screen. Performance spots by *The Blazing Redheads* and by Mona Mur were fun to watch. The character of Dominique, the hostess from Uruguay, added a touch of hominess to Doro-

thy's stay in San Francisco, but the acting was totally undeveloped and the dialogue was as labored as stretched taffy.

The S.F. part of the film was very home video, especially in contrast to the self-conscious (but at least well-acted) German half of the film. The cinematography was interesting throughout. The major shortcoming was in the direction. It didn't feel as if the director, Monika Truet, knew which film she really would like to make.

Truet studied literature and philosophy and wrote her PhD thesis on the Marquis de Sade and Sacher Masoch. Her first film, produced in 1983, was a short about the pleasures of bondage. In 1985, she co-directed a feature film with Elfi Mikesch, called *Seduction: The Cruel Woman*, a film about sadomasochism. *The Virgin Machine* (1988), an entry in the San Francisco Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, was written and directed by Truet with Elfi Mikesch as cinematographer.

Rescue...

(continued from page 11)

ings at the demonstration.

The police department began an internal investigation involving interviews with clinic staff, OR marshals and police officers, as well as video footage from local TV stations. Although Barba refused to comment on specific allegations, he said the department's goal in handling the demonstration was "primarily to prevent physical injury to anyone." "We also want to allow OR to express their views, to allow BACAOR to express their views, to allow the clinic to stay open. That's the ideal. You have to go by the resources you have at the time," he said.

"We didn't want to do anything that was going to precipitate the use of force by anyone," he explained. "The FPA felt the objective should have been to allow the clinic to stay open at any cost. OR's objective is not to allow access to the clinic, at all costs. The police are in the middle."

The 251 "rescuers" have been charged with trespassing, Barba said. Regarding the attack by "rescuers" on BACAOR members, he said he had no reports and had seen no evidence of anyone who was injured, but if anyone was, "If BACAOR knows they're coming and are trying to obstruct them, they are incurring a certain responsibility for getting pushed and shoved. You know, if you don't want to get wet, you shouldn't go out in the rain."

As for Pipkin, the lieutenant who spoke at the rally, Barba said, "That individual addressed a church group, not on the issue of the rally. He addressed a church service on the issue of the office he was running for."

After saying all this he cautioned that results of the internal investigation, which will conclude in early December, "may change what I have to say. I haven't yet formed any conclusions. But no matter what the result of the investigation, I guarantee there will be two different stories. That's just human nature."

"Minuteman" Attack

Perhaps bolstered by their experience at Sunnyvale, OR staged a "minuteman rescue" on November 18. "Minutemen" are open only to experienced res-cuers, I was told when I called the OR office. When I said I was interested in participating, the (male) secretary asked who I had heard about the rescue from, and whether I was sure she was "legit." He asked me what rescues I had attended and verified the information on their computer, then told me when and where to be the following morning.

When BACAOR learned the "rescuers" would be meeting at a Redwood City church, they called area clinics to find which would be performing abortions that day, and then organized clinic defense that night.

When OR showed up at the Redwood City Planned Parenthood (RCPP) the following morning, most clients and providers were already inside, and BACAOR members form-

ed a strong line of defense on the front steps. The marshals were clearly uncertain what to do when thwarted by BACAOR in daylight. Unable to strong-arm their way through in the presence of video cameras and police, the caravan circled the block again and again while marshals stood on the corner using sophisticated walkie-talkies to communicate with their command post. Occasionally groups of them would walk by the clinic with measured steps, staring at the clinic defenders as they passed.

An hour later, the caravan headed toward the freeway, and about half the clinic defenders followed them to the Fremont Planned Parenthood. The two clinic employees who tried to keep the clinic open were overwhelmed by "rescuers" before BACAOR arrived.

Police in Fremont responded swiftly and powerfully. Squad cars arrived with lights flashing, and, as at Sunnyvale, the police formed a line between BACAOR and OR,

with the police facing the pro-choice group. Arrests began at the back door at 9:15 a.m. As police began handcuffing the rescuers and hoisting their limp bodies into the van, marshals distributed tubes of Vaseline which the protesters smeared on their arms and wrists. Ostensibly this would make it more difficult to handcuff them; the officers just yanked sleeves down or used paper towels to wipe off the grease.

As the van became full, rescuers near the van door let their limbs hang out so police could not close the door. Officers would tuck one body part in and another would fall out. Jeff White, one of the marshals, stood behind the van saying, "Scooch toward the door! Don't let them close the door!" He was tackled and pushed against the wall by an officer. Police managed to close the van door and as the vehicle backed out of the alley, Lawrence Schrank, another marshal, crouched behind the van. He also was tackled by an officer, pushed against

the wall and struggled to prevent the van from moving as he was handcuffed.

A woman who knelt by White was threatened with arrest if she didn't move away. Moments later she was on the ground screaming in pain and fear as she was roughly handcuffed. Members of BACAOR began urging the police to be more gentle. White told her to be strong as her screams turned to moans. Both lay face-down on the ground with hands cuffed for 15 minutes until the next van arrived.

Meanwhile BACAOR members conversed with White, telling him he and the other anti-abortionists were sheep who unquestioningly followed orders. White raised up his head and declared stoutly, "I'm proud before God to be a sheep."

When White learned he was being charged with resisting arrest, he ordered the other rescuers to hide their 3x5 identity cards and refuse to give their names. (As police cuffed

(continued on page 52)

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REVIEWED BY KENNY FRIES

Alan Hollinghurst's debut novel, *The Swimming Pool Library* comes to us highly recommended. Edmund White, in his London Sunday Times review, told us he could think of "no book that is at once so literary and so highly sexed, with the exception of *Lolita* and Genet's *Our Lady of the Flowers*."

Literary, yes. This British bestseller is full of precisely observed descriptions of old London architecture and of the behavior of the contemporary British gay male set. The dialogue is intelligent, witty, and written with sparkle. Literary allusions abound — from Firbank and Wilde, to Conrad and Forster.

Highly sexed, very. Every chapter is ripe with sexual flirtations, casual encounters, and full-blown, boldly written sex scenes.

But throughout the first two-thirds of Hollinghurst's novel I kept asking where this obviously talented writer wanted to take us? When would the point of the book rise above its often glittering surface? Somewhere in the penultimate of the book's twelve chapters, the themes of the novel finally come to light. When they do, I am sorry to report, Hollinghurst makes do with riding the surface some more, instead of probing deeper into the fertile waters in which he has been swimming from the start. We get disappointment, not ecstasy.

The Swimming Pool Library is William Beckwith's story of "the last summer of its kind there was ever to be." The story takes place in London in the early 1980's just before AIDS would make sure one could not live, as the blurb on the book jacket tells us, the ways of William Beckwith "without impunity." We follow Beckwith, aristocratic young heir to the title of Lord, to pubs, public bathrooms, gymnasium showers, porn-cinemas, and through two obsessively sexed relationships with younger boys. As the book progresses, we increasingly focus on Beckwith's relationship with Lord Charles Nantwich, an octogenarian aristocrat whom Beckwith first encounters in a t-room ("cottage" to the British). This initial encounter is one of the best written scenes in the book. Pages later, they meet again, this time in The Corinthian Club, the gymnasium they both attend, and where much of the book takes place.

When the book opens, young Beckwith is involved with Arthur, a seventeen-year-old black boy who is mixed up in unsavory and dangerous drug dealings. They spend their days together, closed up in Beckwith's flat, the curtains drawn so nobody can find Arthur, who confesses to Beckwith that he has killed his brother's mate. Beckwith himself leaves Arthur only to go out to the Corry Club, having sexual adventures both to and fro, and to see his best friend, James, who attended Oxford with Beckwith just a few years ago. One day when Beckwith returns, Arthur is gone.

Will takes up with a young blonde boy from the Corry, Phil, with whom he might or might not have had sex, previously, in a cinema — it was too dark to know for sure. Will falls in love with Phil, but still pines for Arthur. Hollinghurst peppers Beckwith's scenes with Arthur and later, Phil, with insightful eroticism. The relationship with Arthur gives the author a chance to observe the sexual machinations of the bordering on sado-masochistic underpinnings of the Beckwith-Arthur couplings.

Hollinghurst begins to penetrate the depths of the territory of relationships that cross racial and class barriers, a theme reinforced later, when we learn of Lord Nantwich's career in Africa.

For too much of the book, however, we have to make do with gleaning what we can from the various erotic entanglements. For example, after Will and Phil make love, Phil must go to work. Will feels Phil "already preparing to abstract himself." But Phil's distancing himself gives Will "a little qualm" and as Phil is getting dressed Will pushes Phil "back roughly and fucked him hard and fast." These psycho-social-sexual observations are well-documented, but do not accumulate and deepen. Instead they become repetitive and we begin to doubt how much our narrator is capable of understanding.

But soon Will finds himself enmeshed in the life of Lord Nantwich, who asks Will to write a book based on his memoirs of his lordly life in England and abroad in Africa. Nantwich introduces Will to a coterie of strange characters, including the well-known photographer Ronald Staines, who shoots pornographic photos and films. The diaries of Lord Nantwich remind Will of his own earlier years at prep school, his years at Oxford, and of his similar attraction to men of color. Nantwich's diaries even include a meeting with Ronald Firbank, the author, who is James' favorite writer. For a while it seems that the novel is

heading in the direction of showing us how one generation passes on its way of life to the next.

This theme is reinforced when Will and James, accompanied by Will's grandfather, the Lord Beckwith, go to Covent Garden to see a performance of Britten's *Billy Budd*. As the audience settles in after an intermission, Will spies Peter Pears, Britten's long-time lover and the original Captain Vere in the opera:

Pears was shuffling very slowly along the aisle towards the front of the stalls, supported by a man on either side. Most of the bland audience showed no recognition of who he was, though occasionally someone would stare, or look away hurriedly from the singer's stroke-slackened but beautiful white-crested head. Then there was the protracted and awkward process of getting him along his already repopulated row. James and I were mesmerised, and seeing him in the flesh I felt the whole occasion subtly transform, and the opera whose ambiguity we had carpentered at take on a kind of heroic or historic character under the witness of one of its creators. Even though I felt he would be enjoying it, I believed in its poignancy for him, seeing other singers performing it on the same stage in the same sets as he had done decades before, under the direction of the man he loved. It had become an episode in his past, just as the blessing of Billy Budd was in the memory of the elderly Captain Vere. Indeed, gazing at Pears, who was doubtless embarrassed and uncomfortable as he finally regained his seat, I

reacted to him as if he were himself an operatic character — just as I had entered with spurious, or purely aesthetic emotion into Charles Nantwich's wartime adolescence, and the loss of his shell-damaged idol in a Hertfordshire mental hospital. It was an irresistible elegiac need for the tenderness of an England long past.

I quote this passage not only because it is a sterling example of the extraordinary literary gifts Hollinghurst displays, but also because it is the first time in the book we get a glimpse into the novel's interweaving themes, the overall design.

But soon the story takes a macabre turn. This is foreshadowed when Will, finding Arthur's address in a pair of pants, goes outside of his usual city haunts, to an outlying suburb where he locates Arthur's home, a flat in a public housing development full of menacing skinheads threateningly riding on skateboards and racist graffiti written on the stairway walls. Finding no one at home, Will takes his leave only to be brutally attacked by the skinheads. His face is badly cut, his nose is broken.

Recuperating at home, Will becomes more and more involved with the Nantwich diaries, and when recuperated, with Nantwich's friends. When Nantwich gives Will a later portion of the diaries, written in a different, more controlled hand, Will is faced with revelations that connect his life ever more closely with Nantwich's past. This information calls many of Will's relationships with members of Nantwich's circle into question. Without giving too much away (these revelations are the reader's

"Every chapter is ripe with sexual flirtations, casual encounters, and full-blown, boldly written sex scenes."

primary delight) suffice to say that Will is forced to re-examine his family's past, as well as his current relationship with Phil, in light of the new information given to him through the Nantwich diaries. In Dickensian fashion, we view characters we have met earlier in the novel differently as we learn of their relationship to Nantwich and their place in Nantwich's life. Everything we learn is plausible and expertly handled and the book races to what one hopes is a cathartic conclusion.

Alas, this never happens. Some loose ends are tied up, but more and more one becomes aware, and annoyed at, Will's refusal to learn from the experiences and revelations. For example, after he is beaten Will sees himself in the mirror and the only insight he can muster is: "For a while I became the sort of person someone like me would never look at." Looking for meaning in his friendships all Will can say is: "I must have needed their discretion just as much as they were freed by my lack of it."

One hopes that Will can leave his idle life of leisure, sex, and superficiality behind. He has shown, especially in his relationship with his young nephew, Rupert, a tender intelligence that would enable him to make changes. But after all he has learned and been through, and with best friend James' trial for public indecency pending, we see little change.

If the book had not come so highly recommended one might simply call this a good first novel and look forward to the next. We could just read the novel as an indictment of British "distrust of the life of instinct" and "their pleasure in conformity." Or with the coming of AIDS we can read the novel as an elegy to times gone by. But Hollinghurst demonstrates a talent too confident to let it go at that. There is more inherent in the story he has chosen to tell.

Taking up White's comparison to Genet and Nabokov this book's weakness is glaring, and

telling. Both Genet and Nabokov (and closer to home for Hollinghurst, D.H. Lawrence) are able to dig deeper into the sexual psyche. When depicting sex, these authors are not afraid of what they find beneath the veneer of social inacceptability and in so doing they question the validity of such social restrictions.

Perhaps it is too much to ask of the first novel of an author as talented as Hollinghurst. But I have a suspicion that Hollinghurst is at a distinct disadvantage in regards to his material because he is too close to his narrator, William Beckwith — both are a product of the British pleasure in conformity. Both author and his narrator have not yet been able to come to terms with the contradictions inherent in the pleasures of the privileged and how they differ from and how they are the same as those of another class. It would be easier to let Hollinghurst (and Beckwith) off the hook by saying he gets caught up in a story too difficult to tell for a first novel. And I'm not convinced that Hollinghurst, like Beckwith, knows what to do with what he has found in Nantwich's diaries, how to resolve his story in light of all the implications. His instinct is to stay with what he knows best, his instinct for pleasure. He dare not take the leap that could turn the novel back on itself and demand a second reading. He does not question his narrator's behavior sufficiently enough to truly break through the surface of homosexual manners he has so evocatively portrayed.

Unfortunately, we will have to wait for Hollinghurst's next book to see if he decides to take the leap from privilege into knowledge. One surely hopes Hollinghurst takes up the challenge because he spins out sentences, paragraphs, and chapters of truly delectable prose. It is to his credit that his prominent talent leads us to wanting more.

Untold Decades: Seven Comedies of Gay Romance
by Robert Patrick
St. Martin's Press, 1988, 212 pp.

REVIEWED BY KENNY FRIES

Robert Patrick is one of our most prolific playwrights. Ever since the early days of the 1960s when Patrick's plays were an integral part of the burgeoning Off-Off-Broadway movement started at New York's Caffe Cino, it seems like every year another Patrick play appears. Now, St. Martin's Press has published a collection entitled: *Untold Decades: Seven Comedies of Gay Romance*, a group of one-acts, each taking place in a different decade of this century, starting with the 1920s. In these plays Patrick follows the course of gay male life, charting the roles we have played in society, both alone and in love.

Taken individually, each play, except the last one about the 1980s, is better called a sketch. The characters are archetypes at best, stereotypes at other times. The dialogue, often very funny, too often blatantly announces a character's feelings, and the plots are schematic. Even so, the plays have an ability to move us because we see a bit of ourselves, and our history, mirrored on stage. Even at his most sentimental, Patrick's knowledge of the territory of gay love, and our struggle to express it, comes through. And even when the construction of the play is too obvious, we never cease to care about his characters.

But taken as a whole these seven plays take on a different reading. We are taken from the innocent would-be lovers of the '20s piece, *One of those People*, to the down-and-outs (one who sells his body to support his family during the depression) in *The River Jordan*, into the home during World War II in *Bill Batchelor Road* in the 1940s, through the military politics of the 1950s in *Odd Number*, and into the *Fog* of the Central Park cruising grounds in the 1960s. And, then it is the 1970s and our love

finally dares to speak its name, to come out of the shadows in the reunion of the highly successful songwriter/singer duo of *Fairy Tale*.

Although the reunion of the two men, Amos and Sphinx, in "Fairy Tale" is at times unbelievable, Patrick still is able to point to important issues. Sphinx tells Amos that gay teenagers finally had a role model when they hit the charts with their album, "Fairy Tale," and that even though the mainstream does not know they're actually a gay couple, these kids do. They know. And it is important to them. And straight people are singing the words Amos has written as if these words were written about their own love, as well. Gay love has spoken and taken root.

Patrick shows us the importance of our art, the public expression of our love, and in comparison to the opening play of the series, the contrast is startling. In the 1920s, the famous writer, called the Man, and the younger Ralph can only imagine what a life together would be like. They dare not live it, and only through their imagination, talking together on a moonlit porch somewhere in the American Midwest, do they express their love, privately, to each other.

In his preface Patrick tells us that originally the piece on the 1980s was called "Sit-Com." It was "composed in 1980 when it seemed the decade was going to center on liberated gay men's discovery of the simple, everyday facts of living and loving together that have always been such common stock for heterosexual comedy." This, of course, was not to be. "AIDS has spread its pulpy wings over the age." In place of *Sit-Com* we get *Pouf Positive*, which was recently published in *Out/Look*.

Pouf Positive is the strongest piece of the set. It is a comic monologue spoken by Robin, a person with AIDS, on the phone to an ex-lover. The play, written in free-verse, is at the same time campy, biting funny, and heart-breaking. The puns ("No, I don't need anything. I already have/Cancer, pneumonia, and my mother at my side —/All the things that make life worth leaving") alternate with insights ("The brain goes first, you know —/Except for the portions dedicated to pain,/Which are apparently immune").

Reading these plays as a sequence we appreciate the struggles that have come and gone. We see how the struggles we have won enable us to cope with the crisis caused by AIDS. It gives us hope that by standing proudly for our love we can eventually lick this thing, though the price we pay is high.

Thanks to these plays by Robert Patrick, our "Untold Decades" are now securely a part of our recorded history. The decades that make up this collection serve not only as a chronicle of where we have been, but read together give us a firm sense of where we are going. After the telling of this decade, perhaps we can, like Amos and Sphinx, look forward again to singing.

Taking a Chance on God
by John J. McNeill
Beacon Press, 1988, 213 pp., \$17.95

REVIEWED BY THOMAS TAVIS

Despite his recent dismissal from the Jesuit order for having publicly acknowledged his gayness and objecting to the Roman Catholic church's increasingly intolerant stance on homosexuality, there is no bitterness to John McNeill's new book. Unwilling to reject the church in retaliation McNeill sounds a theme of reconciliation in the sermons collected in *Taking a Chance on God*.

A psychotherapist as well as a priest, McNeill would reconcile theology and psychology, inviting gay Christians to review the articles of their faith — "to scrutinize... and distinguish between those belief systems that support our need to achieve healthy self-acceptance and those that are destructive of our psychic health and maturity." To this end his

tonic assertion and frequent refrain is "whatever is good psychology is good theology and vice versa."

The method of re-evaluation McNeill advocates is the ancient Christian practice of dis-

cernment, a conscientious communal weighing of scriptural precepts and personal experience recently revived as a fundamental principle of liberation theology. McNeill agrees with the-
(continued on next page)

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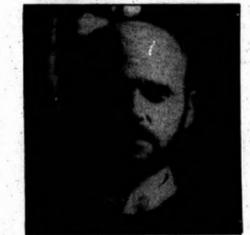
Saturday Dec. 3 3-5 pm
MEATMEN and OH BOY!

In person: Kurt Erickson, *Murphy's Manor*; Vaughn, *Restorations*; David Young, *Bernie*; Gerald Donelan, *Eight Cartoons*; Prof. I.B. Gittendowne, *Cathartic Comics*; Michael Goldberg, *Swishy Fishy*; Bruce Billings, *Castro*; The "Hun," *Big Sig* and *Cabin A*; Brad Parker, *Oh Boy!* and Winston Leyland, publisher.



Sunday Dec. 4 7:30-8:30 pm
PAUL REED

The author of *Facing It* and *Serenity* will appear to read from and sign his newest novel, *Longing*, "a haunting tale of a young man's search for love and meaning."



Sunday Dec. 11 7:30-8:30 pm
GEORGE STROMBOLIAN

Celebrating the publication of *Men on Men 2*, the best of new gay fiction by eighteen writers, George Strombolian will read from and sign the new book.



Saturday Dec. 17 2-4 pm
TOM OF FINLAND

The legendary artist will sign copies of *Tom of Finland: Retrospective*, a collection of more than 175 of his erotic drawings from 1946 through 1987.



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(continued from previous page)
 ologian Gustavo Gutierrez that "the future of history belongs to the poor and the exploited. True liberation will be the work of the oppressed themselves; in them the Lord saves history."

Convinced that, like the poor and the exploited, gay people are entitled to full participation in the New Testament covenant, McNeill has sought in his two books to reclaim Christianity, demonstrating that there is scriptural support for and psychological validity in the celebration of homosexual love.

While his first book, *The Church and the Homosexual*, dealt extensively with a re-interpretation of the Sodom and Gomorrah story (McNeill thoroughly substantiated, with numerous Old and New Testament passages, his assertion that the cities' sin was inhospitality rather than homosexuality) and refuted the mis-interpretation of several New Testament sources — especially Paul — often presented as damning homosexuality, *Taking a Chance...* takes a more exhortive, inspirational tack. A collection of individual sermons as opposed to a sustained argument, it is intrinsically more episodic than the earlier work, upon the closely argued conclusions of which it builds.

As a consequence the selections in this new book are probably best read as they were originally delivered: piecemeal, as singular meditations rather than all of a once. One further stylistic note is that each homily closes with a short summary prayer reflecting its initial liturgical context; one senses that for McNeill to talk about God is inseparable from talking with God.

In accord with his advocacy of discernment and his efforts to subject theology to the insights of psychology, one of McNeill's addresses distinguishes between "pathological religion," which is based on fear of punishment and "healthy religion" which nurtures spiritual and psychological growth. In short, if we are to believe in a God of love, it is only logical and absolutely necessary that we believe in the love of God.

Yet McNeill's message of love is no mere maudlin whimsy. He insists that, having cast

out fear, one is free to be angry with God. For he believes that intimacy always involves frustration and that trust includes the ability to honestly express anger. McNeill recognizes that coming to grips with God, like the process of loving another human being, is a constant challenge.

In another homily McNeill reaches out to atheists. Encouraging gay Christians to purge their belief systems of destructive (e.g. homophobic) elements, McNeill suggests that "most atheists are involved in an unconscious effort to purify the concept of God." While he would hope that unbelief is only a phase, McNeill allows that the atheist's skepticism can inform the Christian process of discernment, noting that atheists "are very quick to pick up on the neurotic and immature aspects of our faith."

Adamant that those who construe AIDS as a punishment for allegedly sinful behavior are at odds with Christ's message that suffering is not a rebuke but an opportunity that "the works of God might be displayed," McNeill chalks such vengeful attitudes up to "ignorance of the God whom Jesus revealed." Just as he believes that Christ, by assuming human form and accepting crucifixion took on human pain unto death, McNeill maintains that our suffering nurtures compassion — that we are called upon to be "wounded healers," transforming our difficulties into an understanding and concern for the suffering of others.

"God," wrote John the Evangelist nearly two thousand years ago, "is love and if anyone loves he knows God." In *The Church and the Homosexual* McNeill cogently argued that there was no scriptural basis for excluding gay love from their formulation. In *Taking a Chance on God* he encourages gay Christians to gather together and — by the practice of the fundamental Christian values of tolerance, compassion and acceptance — experience what Ignatius Loyola termed "consolation, that is, a deep feeling of peace and joy and a strengthening of trust, faith and hope." At the very least John McNeill's God is a healthy notion.

Mortal Embrace: Living with AIDS

By Emmanuel Dreuille Hill and Wang, 1988

REVIEWED BY BRETT McDONNELL

For 160 intense pages, Emmanuel Dreuille weaves a grand metaphor of AIDS as war — a war waged in his body and the bodies of other people with AIDS, a war waged in hospital rooms and private rooms, and a war waged in the streets and in statehouses and courthouses and in the daily papers and nightly newscasts. It is a war between individual bodies and the virus and opportunistic infections; between persons with AIDS and their sometimes helpful, sometimes distant, friends, lovers, and families; and between the gay community and a sometimes sympathetic, often frightened and hostile general public.

Mortal Combat is the extremely literary diary of a man living with AIDS. Dreuille grew up in French Indochina and now lives in New York City. His French background suffuses the book, which was originally written in French: there are many references to French literature and history, and the entire style is much more typical of a French intellectual than of an American. That style determines one's basic reaction to the book.

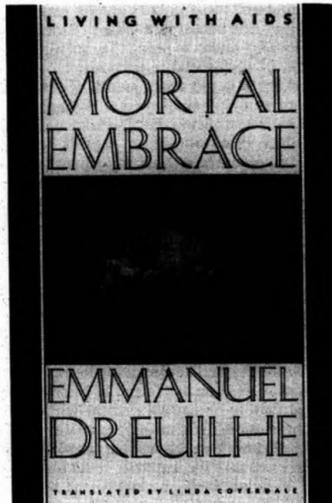
My own reaction was mixed. The book is filled with insights, striking images, witty comments, and some moving personal passages. But I'm not sure what to make of the overarching military metaphor. Pacifist objections aside, it struck me as somewhat forced. Too often it seemed like an obvious literary device that distances the reader, or at least this reader, from the author's experiences.

Yet the military imagery seems to come from the core of Dreuille's soul. Perhaps my problem is that the book plunged me into a world that in many ways I cannot really imagine yet. As a civilian in the AIDS war, I have no experience comparable to the total impact of AIDS on Dreuille's life. The disease has completely consumed him. In eloquent sentence after sentence, paragraph after paragraph, chapter after chapter, Dreuille sets out the strategy he has followed in fighting the deadly enemy.

Some general themes emerge from this map of the battle. One is set out in a chapter called "The Trojan Horse" and returned to several times. The "Trojan Horse" is the internalized guilt and shame that many persons with AIDS carry inside them and which the disease has exacerbated. In one of his bleaker moments he writes, "Even more than our immunity, it's our confidence that the virus has destroyed. We no longer believe in ourselves, or in all those who have betrayed and deceived us. Like so many King Lear's stripped of our illusions, we must wander blindly and alone, exposed to the bitter winds of doubt and suspicion."

Yet all is not despair, not by a long shot. A major point of the book and the war motif is that this is a battle worth fighting. Though Dreuille has recurring thoughts of giving up ("The Temptation of Desertion"), he fights on. Writing the book helps keep him going, and he hopes that its publication will shore up the troops' morale. And he clings to a hope, however slim, of ultimate victory. "Victory belongs to those who outreason and outfox the enemy," Dreuille writes. "Patience is an essential virtue in any war of attrition. Instead of boasting and swaggering around, one must devote oneself entirely to the complicated and laborious job of undermining, day after day, the actions of the invading virus, like the Vietcong digging their labyrinth of tunnels under the very feet of their adversaries."

Dreuille also devotes much attention to the radical change in his sex life, and that of gay men generally. His partner died before Dreuille was seriously affected, and the most heart-rending passages in the book describe their relationship during his partner's quick decline.



"I often found myself wondering whether Dreuille was contributing to the further mystification of AIDS." The virus is not an intelligent opponent... nor a welcome chance for the gay community to mature."

Now Dreuille is "Sans God, Sans Men," and the loneliness and isolation is one of the worst parts of the ordeal.

Yet, he also finds that he has forged strong new ties with other people with AIDS and with the gay community. The chapter on this is called "Comrades in AIDS." As that title suggests, Dreuille sees a camaraderie similar to what occurs between soldiers in times of war. He makes many references to the French resistance in World War II. Summing up this line of thought, he writes, "We're true freedom fighters, all of us, struggling for our homosexual homeland."

Much of this is inspiring and thought-provoking. Yet, I often found myself wondering whether Dreuille was contributing to the further mystification of AIDS. The virus is not an intelligent opponent, after all, and this is neither a judgment from God nor a welcome chance for the gay community to mature. It's a natural disaster, a horrendous accident, with no inherent purpose or meaning.

Dreuille realizes this. He knows that he is reading his own meaning into his disease. There is sufficient irony and self-deprecating humor in his comments to make this clear, and at one point he writes of "the jumbled universe I've concocted for myself to rationalize my situation." Still, I'm not sure whether this self-awareness is always adequately advanced. I'd prefer to see people deal with AIDS without resorting to mythologizing, but then, my preferences don't and shouldn't count for much in this crisis.

Still, I think Dreuille would have had more

of an impact, on me at least, had he been a bit less relentless in the martial metaphor and put in more concrete and vivid details about his life with AIDS. One of the passages that most affected me was where he discussed his continuing bowel troubles in relatively graphic detail. It's not easy to take, but it drives home the point. Through too much of the book Dreuille seems a bit too much like a slightly pompous literary figure rather than a human being whose condition I can imagine.

Overall, though, it is an impressive achievement, as Dreuille attempts to make sense of the disaster that has struck him and his community. This book should stand as a memorial to his struggle and that of those like him. I want to end with his words, as those words are his attempt to give witness to a life courageous-ly lived:

We should not allow the virus to dismember our homeland, the sense of community that has been so precious to us in our past trials. Surrounded by hostility, like Israel since biblical time, we should show a united front and take advantage of our common bonds... Day after day, we must burn our Trojan horse to ashes and in its place construct the Ark of our Covenant. The war memorial to those felled by AIDS should logically resemble the Walling Wall, where true believers pray in memory of ordeals visited upon their people by God. Like Job, we should refuse to curse our fate, instead devoting all our strength to surviving until both God and the devil tire of tormenting us and the virus is expelled from our desecrated Temple."

Erotic by Nature

edited by David Steinberg
 Shakti Press/Red Alder Books, cloth \$35.

REVIEWED BY MARK I. CHESTER

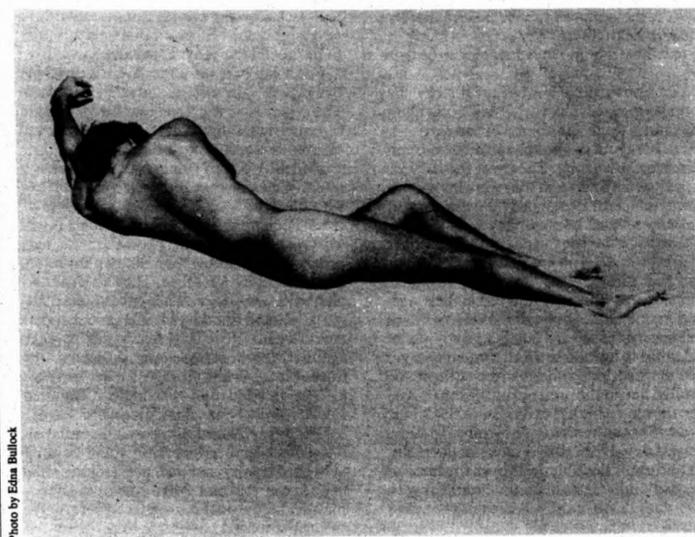
Erotic by Nature is a handsomely conceived and produced collection of photographs, drawings, poems and short stories that attempts to blaze a new path for erotic materials. Affected by the men's and feminists' movements of the 1980's, Steinberg wanted to create, "... an alternative to pornography — something strong and sexy, but with a completely different feel: something closer to what interested me about sex, something that touched the heart of the sexual experience with aliveness, perception, subtlety, and depth."

This monumental task took Steinberg over 5 years. He wanted material that would speak to men as well as women. He chose work "that was truly celebratory of sex; that saw sex and sexual desire as beautiful, joyous, powerful and life affirming," yet "... addressed some of the more unsettling, even frightening aspects of sexuality — the unpredictability, loss of control, fear of intimacy and supreme vulnerability that are such important parts of sexual experience."

Steinberg has created a book of erotic materials that as a whole expands the boundaries of sexual materials that are currently available and challenges most any reader at one point or another. Although its images and ideas range from the artistically acceptable to the sexually frank, the book was designed to be at home on a coffee table or on a shelf with your prized books, not shoved amongst your well-thumbed sex "stuff."

And while the central focus of *Erotic by Nature* is undeniably heterosexual, photographs and written material about male/male contact and woman to woman sex are definitely part of the fabric of the whole. Among the contributors are gay artists, many well known in the San Francisco/Bay Area lesbian and gay community including: Steven Baratz, James Broughton, Tee Corinne, Greg Day, C.M. Decarín, Dreaminhawk, Jack Morin and Gypsy Ray.

Beyond its general concept and execution, the book is most successful in challenging stereotypes and creating new pathways when it presents sexually frank material. Ron Raf-



Erotic by Nature, a photo collection of sexual experience with perception, subtlety and depth.

faelli's photographs of heterosexual sex are clearly the most joyous, mutual, and passionate sex photographs I have ever seen. Tom Millea and Michael Rosen give a serious and artistic edge to their soft and sexy images of pleasure. Hella Hammid's photograph of an ecstatic nude woman with one breast, and a tattoo that covers her breast surgery scar on the other, is uplifting and amazing. Equally very different styled drawings by Greg Gervais, Betty Dodson and Harriet Moore indicate that deeply sexual art with vision is possible.

But more than anything, Steinberg's choice of writing explores sex and sexuality, in a multitude of fine tints of emotions and multi-layered desire. Consider Donna Ippolito's lyrical exploration of feelings of disgust and then joy at being fucked while she is menstruating: "You wear my stain exultantly. I could bloody your pale hair with my cunt, the blood covering everything like some kind of joy dust. I open my legs offering you not only my cunt but my blood. And you take all of me with pleasure. You are so smooth this way, slippery and deep. The glossy blood lifts us as you pierce me, light through a pane. I am spilling my cunt, spotting small brilliant flowers. I am ripe, dripping, and my blood sings, the song slapping between us." Whew! It takes my breath away. Also challenging and inspiring are Dreaminhawk's paens to putting her fist up her lover's cunt.

Steinberg realizes that by using his own sexual values and beliefs as the guiding principles for choosing material for this book, he has literally provided a blueprint for erotic according to Steinberg, revealing contradictions and hidden prejudices that even he might not be aware of.

He decries commercial pornography. But when he decries the genre of pornography because of commercial pornography's abuses, the circular logic gets confused. This book is to be arousing, but not titillating. It is to be stimulating, sexy and powerful, no less stimulating and engaging than pornography, but "without needing to do anything with the feeling other than relax and enjoy it." It leaves me with the uneasy feeling that Steinberg feels that there are right and wrong ways to get turned on; acceptable or unacceptable; correct or incorrect.

Erotic by Nature is the kind of book to be leafed and read while curled up in front of a fire with a loved one, or in a reflective mood to leave you with a tingle throughout your body. That does not make it an alternative to pornography, if pornography is defined as writing and pictures intended to arouse sexual desire, as does Webster's New World dictionary.

And despite Steinberg's attempt to "ac-

was by and about heterosexuals. Lesbians put their fists in their lovers' cunts and men mutually masturbate, but that is about all.

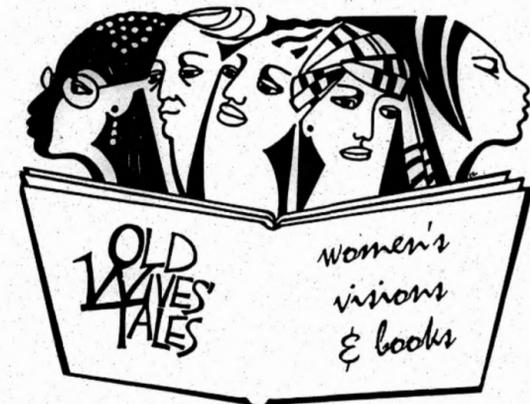
There is a lot of room for growth here. A greater diversity of races and mixed race couples. A greater diversity of non-standard bodies including the physically different. And

"*Erotic by Nature* is the kind of book to be leafed and read while curled up in front of a fire with a loved one...."

a greater respect and exploration of the importance of auto-eroticism alongside the respect that Steinberg offers shared intimacy.

Steinberg also clearly uses each medium differently in this book. The great majority of the photographs are non-sexual nudes and portraits, while the drawings that he uses are overwhelmingly of sexual acts. He takes the greatest risks and explorations in poetry and prose, knocking down self-imposed barriers erected for his chosen photography and writing.

Still, all in all, *Erotic by Nature* is a challenging, thoughtful and sexy book. Hopefully this will be just the first step on a growing path for Steinberg and other new-age eroticists.



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McNeil...

(continued from page 7)

the gnostic gospels could be just anybody's wild imaginings that they tried to foist off as having to do with Jesus, were for the most part it's just their imagination.

So at best you'd consider them apocryphal?

Yes. But I do think they are very useful at times in getting a concept of those early Christian times, and they are also important because they are so vastly different from the spirit you find in the four gospels. The spirit is much more magical and alchemical, so you realize that there really is a fundamental difference. The four gospels present a very human story whereas these others tell a sort of creature-from-outer-space kind of story.

In re-examining the scriptures, do you believe gay Christians are called upon to distinguish between the message and the messenger? For example, ought one take into account Paul's hangups and misogyny?

Yes, definitely. Now, in Romans I would argue that Paul is not talking about two gay people having sex but a mutually destructive same-sex activity. However, you could argue with me — and you might be right — that Paul felt all gay activity was of that nature. And, OK, if that's the case, then he was a homophobe. Two gay people can definitely love one another and love God. If Paul were to deny this to be possible then he would be wrong.

It seems that the whole New Testament message is one of compassion and inclusion. Yet so many who call themselves Christians are convinced that AIDS is a divine punishment —

It would be blasphemous to see AIDS as God's punishment. Jesus makes it very clear in the New Testament that God doesn't act that way. He doesn't intervene in this world to punish evil. He lets the good and evil prosper together. We can be absolutely sure that AIDS is not God's punishment for anybody anymore than breast cancer is God's punishment for motherhood. It's just a disease, and like all suffering in this world it allows God to draw closer, and there can be extraordinary manifestations of God's presence. Remember, Jesus hugged lepers. Perfect love casts out all fear.

Well, we're certainly seeing a tremendous surge of interest in spirituality of all stripes in the gay community.

And it's because we have to deal with death. We can no longer ignore or deny it. There has always been at the heart of christianity the hope that our loves and our lives could survive death through some sort of resurrection. And I think that hope and strength are very much present in the gay community.

Do you mean literal resurrection?

I believe in literal resurrection.

Umh... how literal?

Well, it is a mystery, but I believe that I'm going to be there and I'm going to know me — and those whom I love are going to be there too.

You know, there's a beautiful story that John Boswell will have in his new book about gay marriages in the church in the early centuries. It's about two Roman soldiers who converted to Christianity. They were high officers in the Roman army and they were lovers. The Roman emperor demanded they worship him and they refused because they were disciples of Christ. So he got furious at them and had them both dressed up in women's clothing and marched through the streets of Rome to ridicule them. But they rejoiced in their wedding garments as they called them and sang wedding hymns to each other. And so — as he had failed to humiliate them, the emperor got even more furious and took one of them and tortured him in the presence of the other. And then the other was left overnight to think over his decision, as he was to be tortured to death the next day. He began to waver in the night, but during his sleep his dead lover appeared to him and said, "Do not hesitate tomorrow to go to your death and I will be your reward in heaven."

Love, then, you believe, outlasts the grave? That's Christ's message, his promise is, as Paul puts it, "Everything else passes away, love never passes away..." God is love, and if anyone knows love they know God. Love, insofar as it is a participation in the divine will, never ends.

I still have some problems with this concept of resurrection. Well, I believe resurrection is simultaneous with death. At the moment you die you enter into God and you see things as God sees things and God is present throughout time.

But the afterlife, say heaven, can seem almost like a bribe, a promise of future reward used to keep people subjugated and obedient now.

That's a misuse of the concept. My point is that heaven is right here and right now insofar as you know love. If you live for love that's what you become — forever.

Black Cat... (continued from page 43) so they could make on-the-spot arrests. Periodically harassed, the Black Cat took its case to the California Supreme Court in 1961. The Court ruled that henceforth homosexuals had the right to congregate in a place of public accommodations.

Diva Jose was played very creditably — in and out of Carmen drag — by Michael DeMartini. The bar manager, Rose, was played most impressively by Justine Shapiro. Bar stool habitués included another would-be drag entertainer, a good-natured nice-looking guy, an obnoxious pre-Beatnik poet, Jose's pianist,

and the bar owner who cautions everybody to be on their good behavior (not touching!) prior to his upcoming court appearance. For a gay bar, the atmosphere is anything but gay. It is, in fact, oppressively paranoid. The rumor is on the street that the vice squad has put a new, attractive blond on the beat and all eyes nervously watch the door.

Madeline (Karen Prins) enters and takes a table. We learn that she is the Army officer who blew the whistle on Rose and scores of other lesbians in the military. Frankie (Genevieve Kepert) drifts in, plays the juke box, orders a drink and within minutes has introduced herself to Madeline. They hit it off and plan to leave together. When circumstances begin to point to Frankie, a blond, as the undercover agent, Rose anticipates her revenge against Madeline. Relenting, however, she warns Madeline and arranges for her hasty exit. The rejected and seemingly bewildered Frankie finishes her drink alone and leaves.

Everybody relaxes. The paranoia vanishes. It's almost closing time and would-be drag Leroy invites good-natured, nice-looking Mike to go home with him. Mike clamps the handcuffs on Leroy. Jose has seen it all before. He picks up a hat and passes it to raise money for Leroy's bail and leads the bar's hangers-on in a chorus of "God save us nelly queens."

Actor Prins was most effective as the cold, arrogant Madeline who finds herself at the mercy of the woman whose army career she destroyed. She was well supported by Genevieve Kepert as Frankie, the blond mistaken for the vice squad plant. John McNamara was the obnoxious, drunken poet. Pity the vice cop didn't drag him off to jail for the sin of overacting.

The basic problem with *The Black Cat's Tale* is one of staging. With the two women, Madeline and Frankie, sitting at a table just a few feet from the bar, it is impossible they would not have heard Rose and the men loudly debating the possibility that Frankie was vice squad. Asking the audience to pretend that they're not there is not the solution.

Rescue...

(continued from page 47)

the very last rescuer at the back door, they searched his pockets and found everyone's cards.)

As police made more arrests and the ranks at the back door thinned, marshals sent some people from the front to "living dead" walk into the back door blockade. Before they even reached the group, angry police pulled them down and cuffed them.

As at Sunnyside, the press made its appearance, negotiating with police so they could film directly in front of the anti-abortionists. After scuffles broke out between rescuers and police, one police officer told BACAOR that they alone were provoking the cameras to stay, the cameras were provoking the rescuers to resist arrest, and if only BACAOR would go away everything would be handled more smoothly.

BACAOR members retreated from the immediate area where officers were making arrests but stayed to observe police conduct.

BACAOR member McMahon says OR itself is responsible for provoking the police. Though the anti-abortionists traditionally cooperate with police, "because (OR) had so few people this time, they had to make a decision to forgo the support of the police in order to meet their goal of keeping those doors blocked." At noon, the last of 57 anti-abortionists were arrested. Amy Weitz of Planned Parenthood says six abortions had been scheduled for that day, most in the afternoon, and the women who arrived in the morning were seen at other clinics.

Kelly Connelly, press liaison for OR, declared it a victory nonetheless. "They weren't able to contact all of them, I'm sure. Two came here for appointments and our sidewalk counselors talked to them. Now they'll have some time off to think," she said. "The clinics rush them into it. Abortion is big business, \$500 million a year. They have other motives than caring about women. At OR we're all volunteers."

Anti-abortion volunteerism in the Bay Area seems to have leveled off, however, while participation in BACAOR is increasing steadily. Not only are men and women showing up to defend clinics, but to provide a pro-choice presence at other OR events. When OR founder Randy Terry appeared at Stanford on November 14, about 30 hecklers, including some from BACAOR, caused him to abandon his prepared speech and spend only a short time answering questions from the audience before leaving the stage.

As the fifteenth anniversary of Roe v. Wade approaches in January, Bay Area OR is turning up the heat. A flurry of unannounced sit-ins will probably occur before the next big "rescues" on December 10 and January 14. A week-long national protest will begin January 15 to mark the fifteenth anniversary of Roe v. Wade. BACAOR hopes to expand its clinic defense and become more pro-active by staging pro-choice demonstrations independent of any action by Operation Rescue.

Anyone wanting to participate in BACAOR should call 665-6746 for more information.

Resource...

(continued from page 47)

visual, video & performance artist Nancy Buchanan at SF Art Institute, 800 Chestnut St. SF. Exhibit runs thru 12/22. Public lecture on 12/2 at 7:30 pm in SFIAI Lecture Hall, admission free. Info: 771-7020.

Island Fever: an exhibition of painting, drawing, film & video by eight artists at Artists Television Access (ATA) Gallery, 992 Valencia St. SF. Exhibit runs thru 12/20. Info: 824-3890.

Exhibition of Arte Art-to-Wear collection, with original graphics. Thru December at Circle Gallery Union Square, 140 Maiden Lane, downtown SF. Info: 989-2100.

The Exotic & The Tropical: watercolors by Audrey Yuen. Exhibit runs thru 12/19 at Cal State Hayward University Union Gallery, 3rd Floor, University Union, Cal State Hayward. Info: 881-4158.

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A.C.A. Group for Adult Daughters of Alcoholics. A long term group for women who came from alcoholic families. Focus will be on your family of origin and how your role within the family has prevented you from making the desired changes in your life you had hoped for. Group meets Monday evenings in S.F., and Thursday evenings in Berkeley. Individual therapy also available. Contact Randi Hepler, M.A. 849-4959.

Coming Out Group for Women new to woman-loving feelings/identity — for women in any stage of coming out — 8 weeks — S/S \$125-\$175 — San Francisco or Mountain View — Call Doty Calabrese (415) 968-1981.

Lesbian Therapy Group for women who want to improve their ability to establish close and gratifying relationships, increase self-esteem, achieve potential and overcome the effects of growing up in dysfunctional families (i.e. alcoholism, drugs, abuse, incest, emotional deprivation). Minimum six months commitment. Insurance accepted. Facilitated by Zona Gregory who has twelve years experience with individuals, couples and groups. For information call 552-9388.

Women's Groups: Professionally facilitated therapy groups for ACA's (and other dysfunctional families) Tuesdays, 7-10-8:40 pm; Codependency (2 groups) Tuesdays 5:30-7pm, Thursdays 7-10-8:40 pm; Early Recovery for women addicts and alcoholics in first year of sobriety, Thursdays, 5:30-7 pm. Piedmont Avenue, Oakland. Thana Christian, LCSW. 547-1779.

Anorexia and Bulimia frequently have difficulty talking about their "secret" and sharing with others. Group therapy can help. We currently have two openings in a women's (lesbian and straight) group that meets in SF on Thursday evenings. Fee is \$25 wk. Approved for medical insurance. Call Pat Sax, PhD, LCSW at 661-7158. Gay men's therapy groups on Tues & Wed evenings. Refer to ad in this issue. George Blotta, PhD 586-7811.

Life transitions: a group for individuals interested in exploring the impact and meaning of loss and change. Learn new strategies, deepen feelings and strengthen self. Tues. evens. Corte Madera. Begins January 25. 8 week commitment. \$20/session. Call Linda Silver, M.F.C.C. 472-5074 for information.

WORKSHOPS/CLASSES
Kenpo Karate School For Women is now also a Karate School for Men Call 585-7960.
Women Writers Improve your skills. Experienced tutoring, fiction/non-fiction, for women of all ages. Fiction class starts in January. Call Laura McCamy. 626-7821.

Autobiography Classes for Women w/Wendy Maryott-Williams using photos, dreams, scrapbooks, music and writing exercises to explore our unique voices. Very supportive. Next round begins early January, Tues. Wed. Thurs night classes. Call 654-8540 now!

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lesbiana gouine
Lesbian Activism
Connections, an international women's quarterly magazine, seeks volunteers to work on its upcoming issue. We hope to gather material by lesbians from outside the U.S. including foreign women residing in the U.S. who are or have been actively involved in sociopolitical issues.
Connections has been publishing women's views for six-and-a-half years, and has printed two other lesbian issues: Global Lesbianism (1982) and Global Lesbianism II (1983). If you have contacts abroad and/or you would like to volunteer, please call. We would like to emphasize activism in this issue, but will consider personal histories (from foreign women) as well. Please contact Donna or Pat, 654-6725.

MARRIAGE
Attractive American Man, 29 yrs. old, bisexual, in great physical condition seeks a permanent relationship with a French female. This is not a "marriage of convenience" I want to meet a quality woman. All letters answered. Box 21240, Oakland, CA 94620.

PARENTING
GWM, 38, intelligent, healthy, happy professional, emotionally and financially secure, upbeat, energetic, HIV negative; in a 7-yr monogamous relationship - seeks to be a known donor/couple parent with a compatible lesbian woman/couple. I have explored the possibility in parenting workshops. I am ready for commitment. Reply CUI (NEEDS NUMBER)

PARENTING SERVICES
Midwifery Services by lesbian midwives offering full homebirth services - prenatal, birth, postpartum, blessing way, labor support, childbirth classes. Info: Wisewoman Childbirth Traditions 863-9839.

PERSONALS

You're Not Alone! 1000s of real men are waiting to share your most intimate activities on the Private, Low-Cost, Sex-Link. For free info call (415) 346-8747.
Women Women Meeting Women Straight, Lesbian, Bi - women only. Bay Area introduction service (for friendship and/or romance). Send descriptive letter, \$10, SASE, to: WWM 1010, 3301 El Camino Real, Atherton, CA 94025.

Want a Challenge? PWA (2 1/2 years) working toward goal of capably competing in bodybuilding and/or racquetball in the 1990 Gay Games, needs experience and encouragement from a bona fide professional trainer/nutritionist and an A-level racquetball instructor. I'm broke, with limited income, so all I can offer is a chance to share in the credit, satisfaction, and joy of beating the odds. If that's enough for you, please write. Box 194, 6116 Merced, Oakland 94611.

Need a Date GWM 28 very good looking 5'7", 140 lbs., brown hair, blue eyes. I need a date for my company Christmas party. They think I am straight and expect me to bring one. You have same problem, attractive gay female. Under pressure from work to bring a date to your company party. I will return the favor. Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 1071, Petaluma, CA 94953.

Houseboy Busy SF Exec, 38, seeks ying smooth type to 23, to work 20 hrs/wk & put out in exog for rent/food & \$\$. No exp necessary, will train. PO Box 11215, SF 94101-7215.

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Intense! Too Romantic!
I'm really tired of wimps who waste my energy trying to make up their minds. I'm 40, responsible, adventuresome, creative, capable of making a choice and looking for commitment. I like the usual cycle of things to do and to love to add the element of surprise and fun to all of them. If you're a real woman, share life with me in mutually supportive committed relationship. I am willing to take the time to know you and work things out. If interested Reply CUI Box DC13.

Communication
is what I seek! Make my fantasy of a healthy relationship come true. I deserve a happy & sane relationship where both partners work on themselves in harmony. Ability to change and communicate are a must. Seeking a partner who can balance intimacy with autonomy and is truly available. Strong preference for someone in areas of Silicon Valley. I enjoy the outdoors, weekend travel, physical fitness & romance. No smokers, drug users & light alcohol use only. Reply CUI Box DC5

Tennis Partners Wanted
I'm an intermediate, take lessons and am looking for playing experience. Seek women with similar and better skills, including patience. Flexible schedule. San Francisco. Reply CUI Box DC14.

Pleasant Surprise
Attractive, dark-haired/green-eyed poet full of contradictions, currently masquerading downtown and clocking in at 5'6", 215 lbs. Warm, intelligent.



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Town Hall...

(continued from page 4)
a woman from the audience asked Bright if she thought the majority of lesbians practice safe sex. "The CDC put out the idea it's not a problem, and when people are concerned you sound like a nutcase because you're not getting any official recognition," Bright responded. "In fact, there's a tremendous panorama of things lesbians do that has never been reported. There's this Well of Loneliness idea that lesbians are these suffering, noble, weird

women."
Kingston said that even with men there's no consensus about what is safe and unsafe sex. "When people talk about safe sex, no one really knows what it is. It seems to be restricted to standing on opposite sides of the room and jacking off. There's a whole dark area where talking about sex has been handed over to the medical community."
At that Lamble announced an end to the meeting, but at the reception it looked more like it had simply reconfigured. At least for one night, talk about sex in the gay community was alive and well.

Trull...

(continued from page 33)
am at a very peaceful point in my career. I could live with any amount of success or lack thereof, because inwardly I feel that I have succeeded.
I am content because I have been doing a lot of things outside of music, and I am feeling more of my value as a person outside of just music. Music does not define who I am. In that way I am able to give just a little more to the

music.
How has your lesbian identity made you more strong and alternatively more vulnerable.
The way I have found to keep myself sane and keep myself strong is to keep all of the parts of myself in perspective. Being who you are and having that be controversial definitely has made me a stronger person, but there are things about it that I resent. I don't like the limitations. And it has forced me to stretch beyond those limitations. It has made me hope that in my life that I can be as fair to everybody as I want them to be to me.

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INSTRUCTIONS: Type or neatly print your ad exactly as you wish it to appear. Regular type is 35 cents per word, bold type is 70 cents per word. Add up the total cost of your ad. If you wish your ad to appear more than one month, multiply the number of times you wish your ad to run times the cost of the ad. If you run the same ad copy for six consecutive issues, you can deduct a 10% discount from the total.

CUI OPEN EXCHANGE REPLY BOX MAIL PICK UP OR FORWARDING: If you do not have a P.O. box and do not wish to use your name, address or phone number in your Open Exchange ad, you may rent a CUI Open Exchange Reply Box for \$10. You may pick up your mail every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 2-6 pm from your reply box. You must bring picture I.D. to pick up your mail at the office. MAIL WILL NOT BE GIVEN OUT AT ANY OTHER HOURS. If you are unable to pick up your mail during these hours, you can order CUI mail forwarding for an extra \$10. Mail will be forwarded weekly. All boxes remain active for two months.

AD COPY DEADLINE is the 20th of the month preceding publication. All ad copy must reach us by that date - no exceptions. Ads cannot be taken over the phone. All ads must be prepaid. No refunds. Changes in ongoing ad copy cost \$5 each, in addition to any cost for extra words.

Form with fields for Name, Address, City, State/Zip, Phone (days), (eves), and checkboxes for Enclose \$10 for Open Exchange Reply Box, Enclose \$20 for Open Exchange Reply Box and Mail Forwarding, and Check here if you wish to order a CUI Open Exchange Reply Box.

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This coupon is for "Open Exchange" (classified) only. For personal ads refer to the coupon in that section

THE PERSONALS

WOMEN
Interested in meeting a new woman? After you meet - then what? Do you have some time to spend getting to know one another - or do you require instant chemistry? I'm in my 40's, mature, perceptive, kind, funny. I like to go places - plays, movies, dancing, woman's events, out of town. I like to talk on the phone, be comfortable at home, dress up occasions. I want love, affection, sex in a close and intimate relationship, and I'm willing to work toward developing that. Are you? Write and tell me how you feel, and how you'd like to go about getting what you want. Reply CUI Box DC8

Self-Realization Fellowship Woman
Wants to meet disciples of Paramahansa Yogananda. I'm committed to my path as a way of life and desire you to be as well. I can be described as a mature, attractive, interesting, intelligent, classy lady who is artistic and successful in her career. Would like to share fun, laughter, allergic to games, roses, cats, smokers. Live downtown. Reply Boxholder, Box 13, Oakland 94604.

Let's Make a Date
Sure, I'd love to be in another relationship - maybe even the relationship. But, along the way, wouldn't it be fun to do some dating? The fun of "getting to know you," of going out, lively conversations and, hopefully, increasing intimacy without expecting the relationship of a lifetime. I'm a 34-year-old lesbian who, after a somewhat recent coming out, is feeling stronger and more excited every day about who she is and where she's going. I'm a political progressive looking for healthy alternatives to cynical despair or apathetic denial of social injustices. If Jesse Jackson's Democratic Convention speech brought tears to your eyes, we'll already have much in common. We needn't have everything in common - warmth, intelligence, sense of humor and lack of pretentiousness count more than any specific interests. But to help you decide whether to respond to this ad, my interests include playing cello, concerts (wide variety of music), playing softball, sports events, theater, walking and all kinds of intimacy with other women. I'm 5'7", brown hair, blue eyes, prefer ages 28-40. No drugs, smoking. Reply CUI Box DC1.

I'm Ready
to share my life with you, 54 years worth of Jewish wisdom, energy, spirit and just plain fun. Music, talks, walks, politics, books, family & good friends fill my waking hours. You would be the icing on the cake. You bring the bagels, I've got the lox, cream cheese & tomatoes! Reply CUI Box DC10.

What About You?
L 41, Minnesotan, needs lots of intellectual stimulation, but enjoys good down-to-earthism. Is a foreign film buff and ethnic foods connoisseur. Enjoys reading, cooking, walking and traveling. Would like correspondence with Bay Area folks who share the same enthusiasms. Reply CUI Box DC11.

MacDyke
Looking for Programmable Affairs with strong, sensitive, sweet things into Software. Please send Assembled or Compiled Basic info; size of your core in megabytes and Terminal organic tastes. You can take me for a Disk Drive. Your Dump or mine? Not into hardware, viruses or AC-DC. Reply CUI Box DC12.

Mature, Available Jewish Woman Sought
Do these words scare you? Jewish humor, warmth, hamsche, fun, humor, commitment, etc. Then don't respond to this ad. I am young 40's, Jewish, stable, flexible, very attractive, professional, goal-oriented, growth-oriented, adventurous, enjoy many things. I am looking for a woman to share life with in mutually supportive committed relationship. I am willing to take the time to know you and work things out. If interested Reply CUI Box DC13.

Are You Really
Interested in meeting a new woman? After you meet - then what? Do you have some time to spend getting to know one another - or do you require instant chemistry? I'm in my 40's, mature, perceptive, kind, funny. I like to go places - plays, movies, dancing, woman's events, out of town. I like to talk on the phone, be comfortable at home, dress up occasions. I want love, affection, sex in a close and intimate relationship, and I'm willing to work toward developing that. Are you? Write and tell me how you feel, and how you'd like to go about getting what you want. Reply CUI Box DC8

I Want to Date - Not Marry
Me: good-looking, intelligent, witty, sexy, sensitive, professional woman. Spiritual not cosmic, conscious not correct. Am comfortable at the Box or the theatre, in lycra or heels, indoors or outdoors. Have heavy career demands. You are: 30's-40's, energetic, positive, good-looking woman who can appreciate the above, and is aware and creating her own good fortune. Please - no smokers, drugs (light etoh ok). Reply CUI Box DC9.

Poetically Miracles
Outgoing, attractive lover of living, 26, seeks non-smoker/non-drug who celebrates companionship with gratitude, integrity and romance. I like politics, plays, metaphysics, a sense of humor, intelligent dinner conversation and weekend getaways. If you are a woman who chooses happiness over fear, knows what you want (even in bed) and delights in the challenge of high energy relating - I'm ready. Reply CUI Box DC4.

Clean & Thoughtful
Quiet using, but don't enjoy AA's religion and closed-mindedness? I'm seeking others who don't worship at the 12-step altar, but still desire mutual support. (I do go to meetings.) I'm 32 this month. East Bay resident, single, non-smoker, physically active, honest, responsible, deep thinker, care about people. You won't regret writing me, so pick up a pen and brighten my birthday! Reply CUI Box DC19.

Wardly, Stable, Kinda Butch
Interested in meeting intelligent, humorous, mature, self-confident kinda feminine woman with chutzpah. I enjoy adventure, spy & foreign intrigue novels, the arts, architecture, history & museums & exploring our environmental gifts. If you'd like for us to meet, please Reply CUI Box DC20.

Is It You?
Two wonderful women such as you and I should be with each other this very evening! As you read on, see if you agree. This thirty four year old romantic (who refuses to become jaded), wishes to share special loving, laughter and the entire spectrum of human emotions. Perhaps leading to a healthy, committed relationship for us both. I'm a fairly fit, attractive professional who enjoys the outdoors, the splendor of a blazing fire as I cuddle with a lovely, loving woman. So if it's you, I hope you'll pick up your pen and write. Reply CUI Box DC21.

Sensuous Adventure
Attractive, feminine woman, 44, seeks feminine snuggler, 35-50, for non-exclusive intimate friendship. I have a terrific sense of humor, a zest for life, and am attracted to people who are generous of heart and spirit. Looking for a quality relationship without possessiveness. Reply CUI Box DC22.

Where Are The Over-60's?
I chafe drop-in friends, literary gossip, bicycling buddies, collaborators and charming time-wasters. Would like to borrow a big dog sometimes for beach runs and night wanderings. (No photo necessary, just draw the dog.) I drive a truck licensed YR STORY. Honk if you see me or write Reply CUI Box DC24.

New Pal, Sex Included
I am interested in meeting a GWF 35-45. I am in a committed relationship, however, my partner isn't interested in an active sexual relationship. I would mostly like to meet a new friend where a sexual relationship can develop. I am 38 in reasonably good shape, would like to meet a woman with a hard body between 5'6"-6" - interested should include outdoor activities, reading, theater, music, politics (mainstream 2 party), lots of affection, kissing, good passionate driven sex, and most of all, communication. I like to be recognized. We can discuss anything. What I like in me is what I hope to find in you. I'm gentle, full of life (no, no - not full of it) a little shy and I love to laugh. I tend to keep mischief under control at first but then... I'm 33, Asian, low-key but earthy. I want someone warm, accepting, honest who can appreciate my subtleties. Let's discover. Reply CUI Box DC18.

Clean & Thoughtful
Quiet using, but don't enjoy AA's religion and closed-mindedness? I'm seeking others who don't worship at the 12-step altar, but still desire mutual support. (I do go to meetings.) I'm 32 this month. East Bay resident, single, non-smoker, physically active, honest, responsible, deep thinker, care about people. You won't regret writing me, so pick up a pen and brighten my birthday! Reply CUI Box DC19.

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Mustang
seeks adventurous romance: Urban, rural, or wilderness. Long, short, near, far, indoors, out. Wet, dry, or frozen. Age 30-59, 155, curly brown hair, HIV+. Very sensual and versatile. Built to please. You: Of no set physical type. Healthy, strong, athletic, like me. Honest, open-minded, eager to explore safety. Letter and photo guaranteed a prompt response. Reply: Mustang, P.O. Box 3506, Berkeley, 94703. Imagine the possibilities.

It's in the Mix
My dream is to couples-dance in Bay Area contests. What kind? Ballroom, swing, funk, salsa or titterbug. I'm a fast learner with a sexy smile and dedicated legs but at 32 years, maybe I was born too late. Can you help? Ideally, you can follow or lead, be 5'-5'6", single, under 140 pounds and know the molecular result of compressed sexuality and elegant timing when heated to a perfect mix. Did you get a rush reading this ad? Tell me more, girlfriend - I'm worth it. Write to Reply CUI Box DC32. Reward negotiable.

Recreation
24 yr/dark eyes & hair looking for friends to go out for cocktails and recreation. I just recently moved to the heart of Castro & would like on my free time to have some fun & meet some new people, without the hassle of walking into a bar alone, etc. Reply CUI Box DC33.

Pushing 40 - Not Realizing
Have bicycle riding, dreamy ecstacy & hot passion become the new lesbian norm? I doubt it. Immediate bonding makes my radar tilt. So do rules and slogans. Looking for my real time. Yes, I'd like the long term, but for once, let's start without the pressure. Am not in recovery but definitely trying to get over myself. And you? Don't forget the wit. Reply CUI Box DC34.

Down to Earth
And looking for the same. My birthday's just around the corner, so I decided this ad would be my present to myself. I have a variety of interests (gardening, traveling, cooking, camping, etc.), a job that I like, a dog & a cat, and lots of friends (there's always room for more). I'd like to find someone who cares about others, but can still pamper herself; who can be involved yet independent; who is honest, communicative, and likes to share; who likes fun & adventure, yet appreciates quiet times; who's passionate and likes to touch and be touched. This is a start - the rest to be discovered. Please no smokers. Reply: Boxholder, 584 Castro St., Box 413, SF 94114.

Endless Possibilities
Lively 28 y.o. BWFF wants female lover, someone who is enthusiastic, friendly and shares interests in music, reading, movies, photography, nature, walking around town, theater or whatever seems like fun. I am unpretentious, non-mainstream, happy and open to new experiences, but not interested in bars, drugs, scenes or wounded birds. Reply CUI Box DC29.

Aloha
When I think about what I want in a friend/lover I realize that spirituality and a sense of humor are of equal importance. I love to play and laugh - to do routines that make myself and others feel alive and happy and I also believe that I totally and completely create my own reality by my thoughts and feelings. I am upwardly mobile, down to earth, androgynous and almost 40. I am sensitive, affectionate and nurturing. I try to see the good in all people and the lesson in all situations no matter how negative they may appear. I want to meet someone who is creative, soft, lovable and funny - who is into animals, nature, music, movies, art, travel, and would be open to moving to Hawaii in the future. Someone who will challenge me in a nurturing way. I see the good in all people and the lesson in all situations no matter how negative they may appear. 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Down to Earth
Guy next door type, attractive, GWM, 30, 5'11", 160 lbs., sandy hair, HIV +, loner, live-105 tuner, with good wit and sense of adventure looking for non-preferious guy to hang out with. Reply CUI Box DC113.

Serious, Stable Relationship
I'm 43, 5'6", 150 lbs., blond, green (w/ some blue) eyes, nice gym shaped body, versatile, average, uncut. I've lived in the area almost 20 years and have had two eight-year relationships. I am "professionally" employed, enjoy music (mostly "classical"), travel, film, theatre, food, dancing, keeping fit, and, naturally, sex (generally the basics with much kissing and touching). You are reasonably attractive, intelligent, well employed, and looking for a reciprocal, mutually supportive relationship that will be durable. On the important question of looks the proof is in the viewing, opinions expressed of me have ranged from handsome to no thank you, with the average opinion somewhere around nice or cute. But, your opinion is the one that counts to me now, so let's begin with that exchange of photos and phone #'s at Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 26458, SF 94126.

New Arrival
Genuinely handsome, very muscular GWM at-

torney, 5'6", 165, 31 yo, looking to meet accomplished, ambitious, politically inclined and generous men who are stable and secure and who may wish to establish a friendship and perhaps a relationship. I am HIV negative and prior to moving here from PA I had a 7-year relationship. I enjoy the beach, exercising, cooking and passionate sharing. I never smoked, took drugs of any kind nor have I abused alcohol. Please send me a letter with your phone number and something about yourself. I will respond to each one. Reply CUI Box DC111.

Wanted: Hairy, Hung & Versatile
Good looking WM, 5'11", gym body, hung big and versatile. Wants safe sex with good looking WM, hairy body, hung big (cut), well built and over 5'8". Interested in long, aggressive sessions. Local preferred. Photo/phone to Reply Boxholder, Box 274, SF 94101.

Every Inch a Man
Handsome, masculine, native Californian, professional, 6'1", 165 lbs., 33, br/br, healthy seeks men open to friendship and possibly more. Enjoy backpacking, skiing, swimming, bodybuilding, the arts, cowboy boots/50's to Calvin Klein, fireplaces, soft light, sunbeds, crashing waves, capuccino, intellectual stimulation and metaphysics. If you're emotionally and financially

stable, have and enjoy a good sense of humor, tall, masculine, good looking, athletic and not a casualty of the drug/alcohol scene, drive a jeep (just kidding!) I want to hear from you! Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 390122, Mountain View, CA 94039 with letter/photo a plus. (will return) All replies answered.

Monogamous One-to-One Man
I am GWM, 43, 6', 175 lbs., blue eyes, brown hair, Good looking, college educated, possess wide variety of interests. Seeks GWM 25-50 for an eventual committed relationship based first on love. Settle down and live together. Oral active/passive sex only. You should know what you want and be able to develop a loving relationship. Serious responses only, please. Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 1397, El Cerrito, CA 94530.

Tit Play
Tall, good looking man into mutual tit play and slow. Also into leather boots, pants, hoods, etc. If you're into tit play, drop me a letter and tell me about yourself. Photo appreciated, but not needed. Reply CUI Box DC114.

Natural Man
Attractive, masculine, 5'8", early 50's, dark hair and moustache, adventurous, low-key. Looking for honest, gentle, loving intimate relationship. Non-smoker, no drugs, healthy. Like walks,

beaches, movies, art, music, travel, weekends away. Sunday morning in bed, good coffee. Want someone in decent shape with youthful outlook, humor, ability to love, laugh, willing to work at a relationship. Reply Boxholder, #440, 2215-R Market St., SF 94114.

Versatile Man
Do you like it on top and on bottom? Do you become more excited beforehand when you think it will go either way? Would you climb a little higher, doing me as just did you? Then let's be buddies? Me: 38, cauc, br/br, 6 foot, 175 pounds, athletic, attractive. You: 20-40, any race, trim and smooth, attractive. Let's exchange photos, then let's trade places. Reply CUI Box DC115.

'Twas the Night Before Christmas...
And all through the city/the boys were trying to be so pretty./But standing on the side, waiting all ever/was a single guy slightly fevered./A real romantic with all kinds of passion./An easy going guy, not into the hippest fashions./A Latino 6ft., 185 lb. guy/let me catch you staring into my brown eyes./I'm 25 y.o. I like to dance/Asians make me stand and glance./So drop me a line with phone # to call./And to each reply Christmas wishes to all. Reply CUI Box DC116.

Only the Best...
Responsible, attractive, professional masculine.

tall, BM 42, HIV-neg, seeks similar mature male (any race) as buddy/friend. Let's share occasional quiet dinners/conversations/walks/hugging and warm safe pleasures. Your returnable discreet photo and letter the beginning to Only the Best Reply Boxholder, #210, 2550 Bancroft Way, Berkeley 94707.

Birthday Party
Turning 34 on New Year's Eve, this good looking, masculine, bearded and moderately hairy GWM (5'10", 150, br/br) wants nothing more than a hot, new boyfriend to celebrate with. Someone into sharing, learning and trying ideas and experiences; who prefers a long courtship over instant commitment, who ultimately desires a primary long term partnership that encourages independence, supports personal/spiritual growth and respects the individual and the need for privacy in each of us. We both have established social circles, emotional support networks, full and busy lives, yet can and will make time for someone special. I'm generally turned on to short or tall guys who are masculine and into working class, creative or work with their hands, guys who are snuggly, fuzzy, balding, bearded, moustached, pierced and/or tattooed, and generally turned off to exclusive tops, Republicans, Yuppies, smokers, dopers, drunks, couch potatoes, closet cases, radicals, sexaholics and junk-food junkies. RSVP (with photo) to Reply Boxholder, 2261 Market #153, SF 94114.

Uncut Athletic Body
Handsome, hot & masculine, good good so far? GWM mid-40's, 5'10", 180#, physically fit, and active. Happy, healthy, hung & more. Looking for life-companion possibilities. I'm successful, independent, free to travel, loving, and relatively problem free. You too? Let's connect! You won't be disappointed. Photo appreciated & returned. Reply CUI Box DC117.

Healthy Man Seeks Same
GWM, youthful, trustworthy, well-educated (Ph.D.), college teacher (Humanities); Physical: 6'1", 155#, dark hair, moustache, brown eyes, hairy legs, uncut, healthy, attractive, energetic, 42, good appearance, hobbies: cultural/educational interests, travel; Intentions: mutual pleasure/commitment, fun, personal enhancement, extending life; Objective: permanent relationship; Preference: healthy, slim, hairy, friendly, professional man interested in beneficial bonding. Reply CUI Box DC118.

East Bay Adventure
GWM, 40, 6'2", 185 lb., hairy, brn/blu, HIV-, open to meeting relationship oriented men in the Bay Area. I enjoy films, bicycles, beaches, talks, mountains, long runs, high erotic states, healthy dinners, walks, and lots of spontaneous fun. I'm spiritually metaphysical, goal oriented and full of positive energy. Prefer honest no games and addictions. If you have similar interests and celebrate your individuality communicate by letter with your favorite photo. Reply Boxholder, Box 5392, Berkeley 94705.

First Time
Placing a personal ad, attractive, masculine, professional, 36, 5'8", 160 lb., HIV-, unpretentious GWM wishes to meet good looking (without an "attitude"), masculine (but not "macho"), HIV-, professional, GWM between 31-41, height/weight proportionate who's an emotionally/financially stable, honest, sincere, "nice" guy seeking friendship/possible relationship. (No drugs, tobacco, heavy alcohol) interested? Curious? Communicate! Send letter (include phone # photo optional) to Reply CUI Box DC119.

Solely in the interest of "breaking the ice," let it be mentioned that placing and/or responding to "ads" has not in the past been a method exercised in the meeting of certain individuals. However, assurances reflect that it remains superior to the bar "scenario." Therefore, here goes GWM, 5'11", 165#, dark brown hair/moustache, hazel eyes. Striking looks, extremely well endowed (opinion shared twice by Playboy). HIV+ top 99.44/100% of the time but yet not "pseudo" interested in sharing with M 25+, be it dinner, recreation, humor, fun times, travel. In short and as "corny" as it may sound, sharing the living of "life." Reply with telephone number and photo (preferred and returned upon request) to Reply Boxholder, 633 Post Street, #360, SF 94109.

All Races Welcome, 21-35...
Good looking GWM, 28, 5'9", 150 lbs., hairy, clean-shaven, easygoing but very independent — seeks drinking/yo buddies with similar interests: Kierkegaard, Nietzsche, Jaspers, Lovcraft, Tolkien, Poe, the Far Side, Grimm, Monty Python, Night Court, Basia, Sade, Simply Red, Timbuk 3, Sanborn, Ritenour, Santana, Beethoven, Fantastic Voyage, Alien, the Shining, Koyaanisqatsi, Greenhorn. Send interesting letter, photos returned. Reply CUI Box DC120.

Changing Your Life?
Are you a fellow Baby Boomer thinking less of continuing fast-lane lifestyle stardom and more about the stability of cozy nesting? Intrinsic loner who has beautifully surived Woodstock, Watergate, White Night riots, Trocadero, nude beaches and drugs now wants to engage in intense, wholesome, bonding. Express lanes will be open to ACLU members, dog owners, non-fiction readers, pensive romantics, video buffs, news junkies, semi-couch potatoes, writers, Honda drivers, and those possessed of extensive 501 and tank top collections. Your professional, financial and HIV status irrelevant. Child-like sense of wonderment and vulnerability beneath surface a definite plus. Qualities such as dark hair, moustache, chest hair, muscular legs, shortness of height, and being well-endowed hardly constitute a make-or-break litmus test in the eyes of sophisticated in-

telligent adults — but will not go unnoticed. Just let me know you're out there. C'mon, get outta that rut, go for it! We may be the only two "good ones" left. Potential lifetime bliss for the price of a stamp. What a deal! Reply CUI Box DC121.

HIV + Plus HIV +
Are you smart, accomplished, devilishly good looking, HIV +, 5'5" to 5'11", about 40 and better heeled than most of the men I've gone out with? So am I. After a breather from 2 good relationships spanning 13 years I'd like to meet a man that enjoys it all as much as I do. My life: distance running, country weekends with friends, eating out, traveling (anywhere), time alone, psychology, law, hunting, fishing, family and home. Reply CUI Box DC122.

Muscle Worship
WM, 5'6", 150 lbs., seeks muscular guys who enjoy pumping up, flexing, posing, oil, mirrors and having their muscles appreciated. Seek big bodybuilders as well as lean, defined types. Also Blacks and Asians. Into mounded pecs, rippled abs, calves that turn heads, anatomy chart definition, prominent veins, sweaty armpits and especially peaked, baseball shaped biceps. Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 6555, SF 94101.

Husky, Bearded and Real
GWM 38 years, 5'9" and 175 lbs. Successful contractor with a good education would like to meet others who are generous and intelligent to establish a friendship. I enjoy beaches, biking, horticulture, music, comedies and travel. Prefer to meet those around my age or younger with good physical proportions and some similar interests. Not into heavy alcohol or drug or unsafe sex. Please Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 565, San Rafael, CA 94901.

Leather Hood on Halloween
I met you at the S.F. Eagle's "Leather and Feathers" event on Halloween. You wore a full-faced hood and had a yellow bandanna around your right thigh. I also was in full leather with a hood. We played in front of the stage. I felt great. I'd like to get to know you better. Reveal yourself to. Reply CUI Box DC123.

You Could Do Worse!
Prof. masculine white male, 45, 5'10", muscular 175 lbs., versatile, attractive/athletic looking who enjoys running, weightlifting. Seeks employed stable male or similar description who enjoys quiet evenings, weekend getaways for friendship and possibly more. No drugs or alcohol problems. Smoker OK. Good sense of humor, a strong plus. Black men urged to respond as well as Italians, Greeks, Jews, Scandinavians, etc. etc. Photo appreciated. Reply CUI Box DC124.

Be a Sport
Attractive, independent, quick-witted guy (30) seeks spirited one (18-35) not overly identified with being "gay." Prefer androgynous (Europeans welcome) and open-minded type, though perhaps timid about answering personal questions. Those too sure of themselves make me nervous anyway. Bi, shy, or tentative OK. A good sense of your own personal propriety, intellectual curiosity, and a self-deprecating sense of humor are pluses. If you feel like a nice, normal guy, but not that in sync with gay labels and mentality, I'd like to hear from you. Could be a winner. Send a line and photo to Reply Boxholder, POB 460765, SF 94146. I'll do the same.

A Man of the Heart
is who I am and who I seek. My work, my friendships, the life of my body, mind and spirit — all these engage me greatly. To add to these things, I seek the healing and joy of intimacy. I am strong, confident, and caring and I create around me an atmosphere of warmth, excitement, fun, and safety. Past relationships have taught me a lot about the work and play of love and I am ready to begin again. The man I am looking for is seeking an intelligent, comfortable, passionate companion. He is ready to work toward partnership and able to find excitement in that great adventure. He is in his mid-thirties and sexually versatile or mostly top, without alcohol or drug dependency and not a heavy smoker. I am in my mid-forties, bearded, balding, elfishly cute, average height and weight and in good shape. I work as a lawyer. If this sounds like a match to you, I would like to hear from you. Drop me a line and I will give you a call. This could be exciting! Reply CUI Box DC125.

Hot Walnut Creek Men Seek You!
Masculine GWM 40's, HIV + couple seek top or versatile single or couple for hot fantasies. Receptive eager bottom(s) for your pleasure. Couples or singles show off your stuff and how you do it! Leather, cowboy, jock straps, boots, levi's, uniforms, toys, shaving, verbal, home video. Desire safe fun sex luv buddies and so do you! Let's play together! Reply Boxholder, Box 5351, Concord, CA 94520.

Attention Christmas Shoppers
This very handsome, happy, 6', 165#, 40 y.o. with black hair and ice blue eyes is tired of being alone in this great city! Blessed with fine friends, self-employment and excellent health (I don't believe having HIV is the end) somehow doesn't replace intimacy or a good ol' fashioned screw for that matter. Either I'm a well-grounded, fairly secure, iconoclast and have worked hard for my health and spiritual growth but not at the expense of a well-developed sense of humor. I'm most attracted to relaxed, tall, wavy men but not hung up on a "type." So don't be shy thrill-seekers, write, send a pic because I will at least respond with same. Merry Christmas to you all. Reply CUI Box DC126.

Seeking Passive J/O Buddy
I'm a WW, 41, friendly, sense of humor, OK looks, disease free but very passive. That is very low

sexual, physical, emotional energy. I like to be alone most of the time but I'm bored with jacking off and wonder if there are any similar guys out there who'd like a J/O buddy. I like very young (18-30), skinny, smooth guys. Photo appreciated. Reply Boxholder, POB 22201, SF 94122.

Companionship Sought
GWM, 25, 6'2", 175 lbs., brn hair, blue eyes seeks friendship with others of similar interests, which include music (I'm a member of SGLC and SF Symphony Chorus) movies, Chinese language, reading, provocative conversation, Scrabble, Stravinsky, travel, Monty Python, romantic dinners, gentle sex. I'm HIV + and seek same, preferably 20-40 yrs, to share hopes and dreams. Please respond: I will answer all responses. Reply CUI Box DC127.

Red
Good-looking, nonsmoking/drinking/lipsing 29 y.o., 5'4", 130 lb., red headed, moustached and muscular GWM is ready for a relationship. I am sincere, aware, even-tempered, HIV-, a bottom, unpretentious, huggable, dislike bars and into cars, scooters, make, films, Depeche Mode and much more. If you're a nonsmoking/drinking GWM or GWM that is a muscular (stocky?) and masculine top, straight acting, sincere, humorous, (despised a plus) and under 40, then forward your photo and letter (for mine) to: Reply Boxholder, 2370 Market St., Box 99, SF 94114.

I Want You For Xmas
Euro-GWM, 27, 6', 160, br/br, very handsome euro-looking guy. I like cool, sunny days, libraries, modern rock. I'm witty, bright, a good chef, etc. Speak Italian and some Spanish. Sometimes hyper, sometimes kicked back. Down to earth, but I love the city! You: Asian, Latin, cauc, with dark hair & eyes, 22-32, 5'5" and up, handsome, not skinny, all-around nice guy, warm, clean, in good shape. Both of us

easygoing, healthy lifestyle, considerate, unselfish, friends-first, humorous. Reply CUI Box DC129.

Heaven is a Loving Person
with charm and a great personality. You have ups and downs but manage your life well and so do I. Where is my tall romantic who can kiss, touch and ready to settle down with an attractive black male, 43, 5'8", 158 lbs., must be healthy, HIV neg., like me for the long haul. Any race, any physical, with a great persona, charm, humor and wit. Bodies do not excite me, human qualities do. Please write to Reply Boxholder, Box 28174, Oakland 94604, soon.

Affectionate Cultures
Warm & handsome 25 y.o. Latin seeking friendship and/or sexual partnership with sensitive, affectionate, intelligent and dynamic men. My interests are diverse: music, politics, different cultures, good friendships languages, passionate sex, nature, literature, cinema, etc. For a visual sample please refer to CUI October issue (p. 7). You may send photo (returned) and letter. Reply CUI Box DC130.

Nothing serious
...just good clean fun. Creative, hot J/O buddies wanted by playful, sexy hedonist. I'm 50, 5'6", 135 lbs., salt-pepper hair and beard. You are HIV wt proportionate, a non-smoker (grass OK) and SF resident. Photo appreciated and returned. Reply CUI Box DC133.

Wanted: Hot & Wild Guy
By GWM, 5'8", 195+, blonde/blue, hairy, into rubber, leather, costumes, other gear, motorcycles, horses, trucks, 4x4's, bikers, cowboys. Likes Western/Leather bars occasionally, plus home life. Versatile at play, turns onto C.B. & T.T., bondage, s&m, etc. as a top, plus loves to put hoods/masks on guys. I have many hobbies. Love to cook & make clothes to match for us. Would like to meet guys that are half crazy or a real big tease, yet also know when to be serious. Also, they're downbearing/top, but can be versatile at play. A guy who is pushy to get together, no & maybe are not in his vocabulary. He's very aggressive, wants us to be together all the time or as much as possible. When out to gatherings or

Christmas present — a Prince Charming who is a nonsmoking top man who loves movies and dining out and is attracted to a 27-year-old tall, chubby lady bear who is ready to make someone happy. Santa, we have him send a photo, phone # and letter so we can begin a joyous holiday even before Thanksgiving. Reply CUI Box DC131.

No Big Deal
No intimate little details about who I am and who I'm not. Just an appeal to another mature man and the chance we might meet and perhaps be right for each other. Likewise, you don't have to bare your soul in a letter; just the essentials, and phone number. Me: 5'11", 165 lbs., in my late 40's, educated, a responsible career. You will be of similar age, educated and in good physical shape. Please reply to Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 460145, SF 94146.

Trains Anyone?
GWM, 39, enjoys riding and watching trains. Seeking friend or more, 30-45, who shares this and other interests including outdoors, skiing, animals, home improvements, and country lifestyle. I'm 6'5", 195 lbs., HIV-, trim, versatile, stable, nonsmoker. Santa Rosa area. Reply tall, trim, nonsmokers. Replies with photo and phone appreciated. Reply CUI Box DC128.

Hot & Wild Guy
By GWM, 5'8", 195+, blonde/blue, hairy, into rubber, leather, costumes, other gear, motorcycles, horses, trucks, 4x4's, bikers, cowboys. Likes Western/Leather bars occasionally, plus home life. Versatile at play, turns onto C.B. & T.T., bondage, s&m, etc. as a top, plus loves to put hoods/masks on guys. I have many hobbies. Love to cook & make clothes to match for us. Would like to meet guys that are half crazy or a real big tease, yet also know when to be serious. Also, they're downbearing/top, but can be versatile at play. A guy who is pushy to get together, no & maybe are not in his vocabulary. He's very aggressive, wants us to be together all the time or as much as possible. When out to gatherings or

Christmas present — a Prince Charming who is a nonsmoking top man who loves movies and dining out and is attracted to a 27-year-old tall, chubby lady bear who is ready to make someone happy. Santa, we have him send a photo, phone # and letter so we can begin a joyous holiday even before Thanksgiving. Reply CUI Box DC131.

Nothing serious
...just good clean fun. Creative, hot J/O buddies wanted by playful, sexy hedonist. I'm 50, 5'6", 135 lbs., salt-pepper hair and beard. You are HIV wt proportionate, a non-smoker (grass OK) and SF resident. Photo appreciated and returned. Reply CUI Box DC133.

Wanted: Hot & Wild Guy
By GWM, 5'8", 195+, blonde/blue, hairy, into rubber, leather, costumes, other gear, motorcycles, horses, trucks, 4x4's, bikers, cowboys. Likes Western/Leather bars occasionally, plus home life. Versatile at play, turns onto C.B. & T.T., bondage, s&m, etc. as a top, plus loves to put hoods/masks on guys. I have many hobbies. Love to cook & make clothes to match for us. Would like to meet guys that are half crazy or a real big tease, yet also know when to be serious. Also, they're downbearing/top, but can be versatile at play. A guy who is pushy to get together, no & maybe are not in his vocabulary. He's very aggressive, wants us to be together all the time or as much as possible. When out to gatherings or

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MORE OPTIONS MORE ACTION!



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Leave a message or listen to one left by other men!
CONFERENCE
With up to 8 hot guys
MAN SCAN
Exclusive one-on-one rematch feature!
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THE BACK ROOM
Privately coded connections!

79¢ per minute, you must be 18 or over!

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The Outrageous Bulletin Board
Leave a message . . . Listen to others!
Only discreet messages accepted.



Consider your options
Conference
with up to 8 hot guys
One on one with Manscan
Our exclusive rematch feature
The Back Room
Personally coded Connections
Party!
Monthly information



976-BODS
2 6 3 7
\$2.00 FOR 3 MINUTES
YOU MUST BE 18

whatever, he hovers over me and watches me like a hawk. He has a mean or rough look to him, but can be as playful as a teddy bear with a growl. Loves to wrestle, and maybe he's a guy who wants a son/lover/brother, but also wants a servant/slave on the side. Or maybe just wants to dominate over me. And maybe he's a close bottom. I'm open to Whites, Blacks & Latino/ Spanish. Serious only. Hot, demanding letters would be welcome. If you drive a truck, ride a motorcycle, and live in the country, that's a plus. Send photo & photo (if possible — full length) to Reply Boxholder, 537 Jones #213, SF 94102.

HIV+ Seeks Sonoma Friend
Healthy, active SF resident (48, 6'2", 166 lbs.) w/strong interest in living in the country, seeks Curnevilles area country guy for friendship possible relationship to expand avenues of maintaining health/attitude while absorbing the slower, quality country life. Interests are hiking, biking, picnics, reading, film, most music, campfires, cuddling & learning to know someone & oneself "simultaneously." Pls. write & suggest why we should meet. Returnable photo appreciated. Reply CUI Box DC132.

Perhaps...
you too know velvetta cheese when you smell it, can tell the difference between red and white wine without looking, or can detect the subtle nuances that separate Mozart from Guns 'N Roses.

If so there's a pretty good chance we have something in common. I'm a very good looking 6', 165#, blue eyed, black haired professional with diverse interests who doesn't do well with the bar scene and is looking to meet those not afraid of a responsible, healthy HIV+ man. Self-assured, solidly built men looking for an equal & who take care of themselves get my vote. Long slow, wet kissing followed by a good raunchy screw job gets points too, so get out your pen, paper & photo and I'll do the rest. Reply CUI Box DC134.

ARC?
GWM, 31, 5'11", 160, blond, blue, very good-looking, masculine, professional, lowered T-count, but otherwise asymptomatic, stable and optimistic, enjoys music, film, travel and current events, visiting San Francisco, would like to meet bright, attractive, similarly situated person between 20 and 40, absolute confidentiality guaranteed, photo appreciated and returned. Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 91821, Los Angeles, CA 90009.

North Woods Buddy
Bro bear beastly baffled, can't cotton to lonely fair with winds of winter near. Hairy, husky, horny, healthy (neg.). Turned on to truckin' west — mountains, sun and sea — the best. Citylites seldom satisfy this hirsute hiker, good buddy, constant companion, cuddle-champion. But beware!

...this buffalo beauty barely runs with the herd — very independent — seeks buddy to run with (not into being run). Grown man only need apply. Reply Boxholder, 584 Castro, Box 436, SF 94114.

Does Life Begin at 40?
Oh, Mary, it sure does! After the angst of the 30's, I'm having a ball as a part-time college professor and an actor/director/writer for stage and television. I'm also going through some fantastic personal/spiritual growth experiences. What more could I want? Well, how about a special someone and a chance to celebrate the high points of our lives and nurture each other during the lows? After healing from the breakup of a six-year relationship, I've started looking again. You'll find me friendly, playful, romantic, witty and funny and with a good balance between my head and my heart. I'm also 5'11", brown-haired, blue-eyed, HIV negative, non-smoker, occasional nibbler and sexually versatile (though not into kink). Are you similar enough — and different enough — for an adventure together? And do you go for great conversations, intimacy, cuddling, jogging, sign language, camping, theatre, movies, travel, dancing at Rawhide II? Let's give it a try. Please send photo and phone to Reply Boxholder, Box 9680, Berkeley 94709.

All I Want For Christmas
Is a nice pair of buns to play with. This attractive

top, GWM, 38, 6'5", 190, brown hair, moustache, hairy chest likes to look at, touch, massage, squeeze, tickle and probe a nice ass. Light spanking optional. Safe sex follows. Put a smile on your face for the holidays. If you're attractive, GWM, 18-40 send photo and letter. Reply CUI Box DC135.

I've Heard It Said...
If it's too good to be true, it usually is... Well maybe not. I'm a just turned 30, 5'8", fit, attractive, sensitive, professional and funny Asian guy who has lots to offer to a special person. You're hands, warm smiles, health and believe in holding court and I know you are out there. Safe sex practiced. Go for it. Photos exchanged. You: 35 to 55 in good shape, voyeur, exhibitionist, open, honest, liberal, lit works, light sm, bondage. Reply CUI Box DC138.

Serious and Fun
GWM, 27, 6', 155#, fair skin, eyes, hair, HIV neg., excellent physical condition, seeks man 25-35, who combines literary/artistic sensibility with emotional and financial stability. Sense of direction and humor required, sports participants and travel enthusiasts preferred. I love sex, but I'm interested in a meeting of the minds first. Letters of interest with photo get mine. Reply CUI Box DC139.

Hey, Musclehead!
Irreverent, analytical, junior col. Biol Berkeley major in environmental science/cyberology. GWM, 31, brwn/blue, 130 lbs., 5'7", cute, trim, firm, cynical sense of humor. Enjoy: bikes, obscure documentaries, studying, cloths, trendy hair cuts, arboretums, cappuccino, cigarettes, cafes, old porno and pondering irrelevant existential enigmas. Seeking fellow muscle heads for dates, cracking up and homo erotic adventures. You are: hip, yourself, same age/range and have a lot to say. No moustaches or gym obsessed bodies. Reply Boxholder, Box #259, Bancroft Way, Berkeley 94720-1111.

Love's Muscles
Attractive GWM, youngish 40's, 150 lbs., nice nautibus defined body seeks muscular guys who enjoy posing, flexing, oil, mirrors, and safe sex. Shipped by one who fully appreciates them. Like mature, big muscled men who enjoy long sessions of total worship by my hot, trained mouth and roving hand, and verbal praise. I want to admire you and please you for the hunk you are. All races welcome. Photo appreciated but not essential, will return. Reply CUI Box DC140.

Asians
WM seeks Asians for friendship/relationship or just good times in an on-going basis. Preferably under 45. I am 5'6", 155 lbs., excellent body. Enjoy the beach, swimming, cocking, bicycling, classical music and other extra-curricular activities and am amenable to the interests of others. Where are you gee? Photo optional. Reply Boxholder, PO Box 225, Moffett Field, CA 94035.

Are You Super Tall?
I'm searching for a really tall guy. He's at least 6'6" (bigger the better), sweet, cuddly and kind who I sweep me off my feet. I'm 31, 5'11", 160, handsome, fun, warm, HIV-, a pretty cool guy. I dream that soon we'll meet, finding in each other what we've always wanted but never found. Hurry, Christmas is coming and I'd like to spend it curled up with you! Your picture's appreciated. returned. Reply CUI Box DC141.

Read This One
A bright, educated, well-built, truly decent guy who is also very, very good looking? That's me. 26, 6'1", 175#, gr/br. Clean-cut and all-American as a bowl of Wheaties. I want a man of about the same description who enjoys deep, serious conversation and really stupid jokes, extended foreplay and intricate word play. Strong sensuality a must. Interested? Send letter and photo to: Reply Boxholder, PO Box 9751, Stanford, CA 94309.

Sore Rear End
That's what you want, buster, that's what I'll deliver. Turn up your round rear end, pants at your ankles, skivvies at your knees, bite down hard cause you're in for a blazing hot spanking. Take your slaps in whatever spirit you want — laughing, crying or stammering. "Christ, that hurts!" — however you like, as long as it hurts. Hurt is a relative thing, but we'll find out how much hurt you want and how much you can take. Punks get the belt, college boys get paddled, smartasses get the strap. I want you to be trim, attractive, with a good butt, good attitude. I'm GWM, 35, 5'8", 145, attractive, intelligent, experienced, hot. Safe practices only. Write an honest letter, photo appreciated, include phone, to Reply Boxholder 537 Jones, #444, SF 94102.

Mister: Write!
Intense, perceptive, romantic, good looking 5'9", 145 WM br/br, very healthy HIV pos, youthful 44 — seeks bright, charming, well-built man for cuddling, great (safe) sex, caring, important time spent creating something meaningful. Please respond w/photo (returned). Reply CUI Box DC142.

Style & Substance
SOMA art receptionist? Eclectic cuisine across town? Modern dancing at The Stud? Cosmopolitan 27 yo GAM professional combining Eastern graciousness and Euro style seeks 25-35 yo financially stable original to pursue urban adventures and maybe more. I have a hip "boy" look in 5'8" bodyframe well-conditioned via daily workout. My demeanor is charmingly masculine, my values progressively wholesome, and my life-style post-modern minimalist. If you are similarly inclined, Reply CUI Box DC143 with the full force of your personality and photo.

Traveling "Companion" Wanted
Not a sex ad. I'm looking for someone who likes to travel and is adventuresome, congenial & re-

latable. Would like to plan trips for 1989, either domestic or international. I'm 36, healthy and ready to pack. Contact Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 14822, SF 94114.

Exceptional Quality
Creative, lively, independent, intelligent, playful, sensuous, confident, multilingual, musically talented, well-traveled, masculine, athletic (gymnastics, volleyball, windsurfing, sailing, swimming, 155# at 5'11"), sandy haired (with moustache) and blue eyed outdoorsman (hiking, camping, rafting, snorkeling, ski touring) who is newly arrived in the Bay Area (Santa Cruz) from San Diego seeks energetic, healthy, attractive, non-smoking 30 to 45 yr-olds of similar exceptional quality for fun(?) mutual warmth and stimulation, long term friendship, etc. (You fill in the blanks) Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 1398, Boulder Creek, CA 95006-1398.

Quiet Sleeper
Very attractive, healthy HIV pos 5'9", 145, br/br WM seeks well built, rich, intelligent man who wants more than hot dates. Your photo (returnable) and your interests and needs outlined. Reply CUI Box DC144.

Mid-Penisula
GWM, 39 yr, 6', 185 lbs, brn/tzl, hsm, ex. executive, works peninsula, lives SF, seeks other masculine man for friendship, companionship, and possibly more. Adapted to suburban existence with cosmopolitan interests. Respond to Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 42552, SF 94142.

Texas Tits
5'10", 170#, handsome unwell endowed 32 yr old white male, with heavy set pees with inter-ests ranging from much more gratifying situations than a gym or bars. Looking for other guy with large overhanging pees and a smile to explore sensual possibilities. I've given up on the bars long ago due to terminal boredom. Write about yourself and please enclose a photo and I'll reply. Reply CUI Box DC145.

Personal Attention
Healthy, handsome HIV pos, seeks well hung muscular, body builders, construction workers for body worship, tit play hot (safe) sexual action, no strings, married OK. Discreet private meetings. Revealing photo (returned) and frank letter, please. Reply CUI Box DC173.

Buddy
Trim muscular man seeks similar buddy, 25 to 45, 6' or less, for workouts, backpacking, skiing, music (spectator/performer), food, movies, art, lectures, or excursions. I'm a gregarious, homeowning architect with diverse interests — unconventional handsome, 39, 5'8", 150#, wrestler's build (swim, run, lift, and bike), HIV-negative, hard and thick. Top, mulish J.O. or french. Photo and phone to: Reply Boxholder, Box 852, Berkeley 94701.

Hot Off the Press
WM 30, 6', 165, (diminishing) brown hair, blue eyes, moustache, slim not muscular, better than average looks, exceptionally bright, sharp wit, caring, sensual, eager to commit to a monogamous physical and emotional relationship; non-smoker, HIV-negative, sexually versatile; love the outdoors; racing to beat publication deadline; low lines and 25+ stamp could bring us much closer together — why not give it a shot? Reply Boxholder, PO Box 1692, Oakland 94612.

I am not Perfect
and I don't expect you to be. While my Indian looks (not the American kind) have been called attractive, and my sense of humor engaging, I confess I don't have a Solofex body (though I run daily, and work out). I find pleasure with good friends, but have ample space in my heart for a special person like you, about my height (5'7"), slim, affectionate, perhaps Latin or Asian (perhaps not) and mature, though probably younger than me (I am 38). Photo appreciated. Reply CUI Box DC146.

My Ex-Lover...
met the man of his dreams through these ads. Now it's my turn! I'm 37, handsome, physically fit, and have beautiful blue eyes. I would like to develop a friendship/relationship with someone my age or younger who (like me) is career and goal oriented, sensitive, spiritual, well built, and has the ability to be open and honest. I enjoy theatre (especially musicals), dining out, exercise, biking, hiking around Muir Woods and Mt. Tam, meditation, and the outdoors. Photo a must. Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 1571, Ross, CA 94057.

Do you love yourself?
Are you happy, healthy and in touch with your own magnificence as a glorious manifestation of the divine? Are you looking for a boyfriend? If yes — we have something in common. What else? Well, I'm a cancer (a nest builder), 32, 6', 150 lbs., smooth, lithe physique, boyish good looks, with a big heart, a quick mind, and a quiet, gentle nature. Interested? Great. Tell me about you. Reply CUI Box DC147.

Daytime Playmate
Horny? No one to play with during the day. Attractive GWM, 32, 5'8", 160#, HIV-, looking for daytime fun, J/O, hot mouths, bulging crotch/underwear. Safe Sex. Discreet. For early morning or daytime relief, write to: Reply Boxholder, 740A 14 St., Box 250, SF 94114.

Strong Man Seeks Strong Man
Currently available: one young 34-year-old GWM, 5'7", 145 lbs., truly handsome, intelligent, well educated, career professional, muscular build, mousy brown hair, blue eyes. Fun, sincere, warm, and sharing. Enjoy running, camping, travel, working out, skiing and semi-guaranteed partying. This unit is accompanied by a bonus: one

able. Would like to plan trips for 1989, either domestic or international. I'm 36, healthy and ready to pack. Contact Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 14822, SF 94114.

Back-Country Ski Romp Under
Love the snow? Wilderness and outdoor sports fan who loves spending time in nature in all seasons seeks a buddy to cross-country ski with this winter, and to join me while water rafting, ocean kayaking, scuba diving, and backpacking next year. I'm 34, 5'10", 160, definitely not into the gay "scene." I live in Oakland, where I love tending my garden, running and hiking the East Bay Regional Park trails, going to movies, plays, and classical concerts, and cooking healthy meals — heavy on the garlic and cilantro. I like progressive men of substance who don't bullshit, who get off on both tender holding and ardent horsing around, and who are sensitive to other people. I want to avoid tobacco users, substance abusers, "gay" Republicans, and the environmentally unconscious. If you think we've enough in common to warrant checking out the chemistry face-to-face, please respond (photo essential) to Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 13207, Oakland 94615.

Finally Ready???
I am! To work into a loving, affectionate, nurturing relationship with a sensual, spiritual, responsive guy. My interests may be: theatre, dining, movies, literature, the twelve steps, a course in miracles, transcendental meditation, being vegetarian. My professional interests are: journalism, public relations, entertainment and stage magic. I am friendly, 37 years, 6'2", tall, 165 lbs. I have blue eyes, a short beard, I'm balding with light auburn hair, and have hairy chest and legs. Like sharing, wit, excitement and lovemaking. I am not into bars, drugs, game playing or roughing it on weekends. You are: attractive, younger, trim, maybe tall, very sexual, sincere, spiritual, with an extraordinary sense of humor and well-read. I'm a neat freak. Reply Boxholder, PO Box 11819, SF 94101.

Kinky Bottom
needs one (or two) arrogant jocks, nasty punks, jaded preppies to administer creative humiliation, abuse, dominance, punishment to hot, muscular GWM, 36, 6', 185, clean-shaven, into sweat, feet, tits, games, ass play, head trips, challenges, tasks, initiations. If you'd get off on working out some of your nastiest fantasies with a willing butch dude, we can have some fun together. Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 421207, SF 94142.

Seeking Playmates
Very attractive GWM, 5'10", 150 lbs., 30, clean-cut, nice trim body, easy going personality seeks similar type guys (21-35) in fun times, laughter and safe playful sex (I'm versatile). I enjoy a number of activities (sports, movies, etc.) and I love that I can enjoy myself most any place with good friends around. Reply with photo (definitely returned) to: Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 410832, SF 94141-0832.

Asian Partner Wanted
Warm up by the fire with this good looking, trim, tall, brown-haired/blue eyed guy. Intelligence, sensitivity & communication are part of what I have to share & look for in a partner. Looking to meet someone good looking and of compatible intelligence. Photo appreciated. Reply CUI Box DC148.

Alone in Paradise
Napa Valley is a beautiful place to live and work, but this very handsome 33-year-old longs to meet a contemporary with similar interests. I enjoy the outdoors, skiing, running, biking, travel, and fine food and wine. I love the city for culture and entertainment, and the country for peace and tranquility. I'm honest, open, fun-loving, have a good sense of humor, and a great smile! So let's talk! Photo a must. Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 978, Calistoga, CA 94515.

I Want All of You!
Will you take all of me while I give you the physical pleasure and mental stimulation that makes ours a lasting association? I am a handsome, olive-skinned, 38-year-old professional. You are cute and slim, socially versatile, professional, younger than me, and probably well tanned or darker complexioned. HIV neg. like me. Picture requested. Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 11683, SF 94101.

Sonoma, Mendocino, and Farther North
Out-of-the-Mainstream, adventurous, expressive outdoors man loves spending time in the country and wants to meet other naturally masculine, gay men who share my preference for an unhurried, gentle, nurturing rural existence. Progressive politics, wilderness sports, organic farming, and a healthy diet are some of my interests. I'm in my mid-thirties, 5'11", 165, clean-shaven, a non-smoker, and would like to find another shape guy around my age who also genuinely loves plants and relishes the outdoors. Please reply with photo to Reply Boxholder, PO Box 309, Healdsburg, CA 95448.

Cosmopolitan Cuddles
I'm 37, 5'10 1/2", 160lbs., dark brown/green, bearded, hairy, warm, energetic, sensitive, communicative, intellectual, non-hecky big city person. Non-smoker, garlic lover. Am seeking a very affectionate/demonstrative, unconventional man with varied interests and a good sense of humor who likes quiet times with friends. Please respond with photo (which I'll return) to: Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 5247, Berkeley 94705.

Older Men Make Better Lovers!
Are you attracted to an older masculine man? I'm a well-rounded, stable, clean living guy, monogamous and loving by nature, you

can count on to be there by your side. I'm honest, I express my feelings and I like to touch. I'm 5'11", 175, fit, active, well-endowed, hairy chested 58 with outdoor interests along with photography, pets, computers, movies and dinners out. Best of all, I like to share simple, quiet, companionable evenings at home with my lover. If you're a stable, loving man who is ready to settle down, I'd like to hear from you. I'm flexible on age and race, so don't hesitate to Reply CUI Box DC150.

Goodlooking, Masculine Guy Seeks
Companion. The stats: GWM, 34 (smoker 27), 5'11", 150 lbs., lean, fit, active, well-endowed, dark blond, blue eyes, clean shaven, non-smoker, no drugs, good health, HIV neg., occasional light alcohol, well educated, successful in business with a focus on real estate, construction; who enjoys fine dinners with good friends, theater, music (from New Wave to symphony), dancing, day trips or a weekend away at the River, and, of course, those times spent with someone "special." I'm very masculine, strong emotionally, responsible, caring, loving, gentle, tender, passionate, versatile to primarily top. GWM, younger, 21-33, with youthful looks, emotionally mature, educated or headed in that direction, tall, athletic build (5'9" to 6'2"), weight proportional to stature, swimmer's build (plus), HIV neg., clean shaven, diversified interests, no drugs, non-smoker, light alcohol, masculine, "clean-cut," versatile to primarily bottom; who knows what he wants, is comfortable with who he is, and can accept the responsibilities of a relationship. You should be willing to work on building a strong friendship which has the potential to become a lasting union. I have a lot of wonderful qualities and warmth to give the right guy, and I would hope you would have the same. If you fit the bill and want to explore the possibilities, please send a detailed letter, recent photo, and phone number to: Reply CUI Box DC151. All responses with photo and phone number will be answered. Make the effort; you won't be disappointed.

Positive and Optimistic
HIV+ GWM feels good and has a positive, practical, optimistic outlook on life. Mid 50's, 5'10", 160#, hairy, sensible, sensitive, masculine, down-to-earth, seeks a kindred spirit — friend, buddy, love! Let the old familiar reasons, F/A/P, GF/P, hot and horny. Enjoy quiet times, gardening, home life, good food & music. No drugs, no smoke. Faded foto appreciated (returned). Reply Boxholder, 31134, SF 94131.

Daddy Wants Son
Daddy is WM, late 40's, ex-builder, into leather, levi's, masculine. Looking for a son, who will love, caring dad. Son must be masculine, versatile, very active, healthy, horny like daddy. Must be able to satisfy each other's desires. Age, looks not important, but must be honest, drug free, nice body with hot, beautiful ass, well endowed, clean cut with moustache. Send letter, photo. Reply Boxholder, 1293, 537 Jones St., SF 94102.

Loving Men of Any Race
Tender, companion sought for quiet man of substance. I'm a WM, 43, 5'11", 172 lbs., trim beard, hairy chest, dark hair. I'm caring, sensitive, confident, easygoing, growth-oriented and very real. I enjoy many things, especially movies, traveling and cuddling with the right man at all times. I'm a non-smoker and non-drinker who really wants what I have to offer. Sex is not important for me right now, but lots of affection always is. Light smokers and light drinkers OK. Photo optional. Reply CUI Box DC152.

Outgoing PWA
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European Preferred
Well traveled 40 y.o. would like to meet quality guys from Europe. I have a deep fascination with the many cultures I've experienced and find European people very appealing for many reasons. Myself, I'm a good looking, intelligent, charming and personable guy who is a sensual Frenchman who appreciates the finer things in life. Frenchmen especially welcome. Photos returned. Merry Christmas! Reply CUI Box DC166.

Are You 25-37?
I'm looking for a GWM similar to myself — honest, responsible, unpretentious, stable, sensitive, attractive, youthful looking, energetic, playful, positive, very affectionate, emotionally giving, non-smoker, with an open heart and mind who wants a loving monogamous relationship. Our lives are together, goal oriented, we love the outdoors & a quality home. We'll share endless love in an equal relationship. I'm attractive, masculine GWM, 29, 6'3", 165 lbs., brn/brn, very satiate, safe & willing to relocate. Interested? Then reply with photo/phone. Reply Boxholder, P.O. Box 2421, Danville, CA 94526. Quick response guaranteed!

Tantric Ecstasy
Awaits us! I want to share hugs & kisses, laughter & sex-play, dancing & nature excursions, oral & safe sex, and more. GWM (5'10", 150, green, brown, short trim beard), into massage & meditation, literary, artistic, & many other diverse interests seeking a friend and tantric partner who is a hirsute, non-smoker, non-overweight mediator. Drop me a line with your number & photo to: Reply Boxholder, POB 11318, SF 94101.

Let's Dance — And More...
You and I love to dance together. My favorite is C/W at the Rawhide. Be able to both lead and follow. Teach me a new step? You're masculine, have excellent rhythm, a firm hand, big smile, and celebrate life with humor. Good conversation a plus! I'm 33, 5'6", 130. Photo exchange. Please no smokers, users. Reply CUI Box DC157.

Chicano Cuddle Buddy Available
This 6', 180 lb., 33-year-old man with broad shoulders is seeking someone to kiss, cuddle and/or practice safe sex with on a regular basis. My almond shaped dark brown eyes sparkle, and my full lips smile when I'm with a man who is willing to communicate what he needs in (or out) of the bedroom. Let's meet and explore new ways to enhance man to man physical encounters! Please send photo and letter. Reply CUI Box DC158.

The Good Life
Should start right about now. GWM, just turned 45, 5'8", 154#, br/br, HIV neg, looking for equal for friendship or more. You should be HIV neg, not overweight, have a positive attitude, and be

careful, attractive and financially secure and like to have hot safe fun in and out of bed. No drugs. I express my feelings and I like to touch. I'm 5'11", 175, fit, active, well-endowed, hairy chested 58 with outdoor interests along with photography, pets, computers, movies and dinners out. Best of all, I like to share simple, quiet, companionable evenings at home with my lover. If you're a stable, loving man who is ready to settle down, I'd like to hear from you. I'm flexible on age and race, so don't hesitate to Reply CUI Box DC150.

Goodlooking, Masculine Guy Seeks
Companion. The stats: GWM, 34 (smoker 27), 5'11", 150 lbs., lean, fit, active, well-endowed, dark blond, blue eyes, clean shaven, non-smoker, no drugs, good health, HIV neg., occasional light alcohol, well educated, successful in business with a focus on real estate, construction; who enjoys fine dinners with good friends, theater, music (from New Wave to symphony), dancing, day trips or a weekend away at the River, and, of course, those times spent with someone "special." I'm very masculine, strong emotionally, responsible, caring, loving, gentle, tender, passionate, versatile to primarily top. GWM, younger, 21-33, with youthful looks, emotionally mature, educated or headed in that direction, tall, athletic build (5'9" to 6'2"), weight proportional to stature, swimmer's build (plus), HIV neg., clean shaven, diversified interests, no drugs, non-smoker, light alcohol, masculine, "clean-cut," versatile to primarily bottom; who knows what he wants, is comfortable with who he is, and can accept the responsibilities of a relationship. You should be willing to work on building a strong friendship which has the potential to become a lasting union. I have a lot of wonderful qualities and warmth to give the right guy, and I would hope you would have the same. If you fit the bill and want to explore the possibilities, please send a detailed letter, recent photo, and phone number to: Reply CUI Box DC151. All responses with photo and phone number will be answered. Make the effort; you won't be disappointed.

Positive and Optimistic
HIV+ GWM feels good and has a positive, practical, optimistic outlook on life. Mid 50's, 5'10", 160#, hairy, sensible, sensitive, masculine, down-to-earth, seeks a kindred spirit — friend, buddy, love! Let the old familiar reasons, F/A/P, GF/P, hot and horny. Enjoy quiet times, gardening, home life, good food & music. No drugs, no smoke. Faded foto appreciated (returned). Reply Boxholder, 31134, SF 94131.

Daddy Wants Son
Daddy is WM, late 40's, ex-builder, into leather, levi's, masculine. Looking for a son, who will love, caring dad. Son must be masculine, versatile, very active, healthy, horny like daddy. Must be able to satisfy each other's desires. Age, looks not important, but must be honest, drug free, nice body with hot, beautiful ass, well endowed, clean cut with moustache. Send letter, photo. Reply Boxholder, 1293, 537 Jones St., SF 94102.

Loving Men of Any Race
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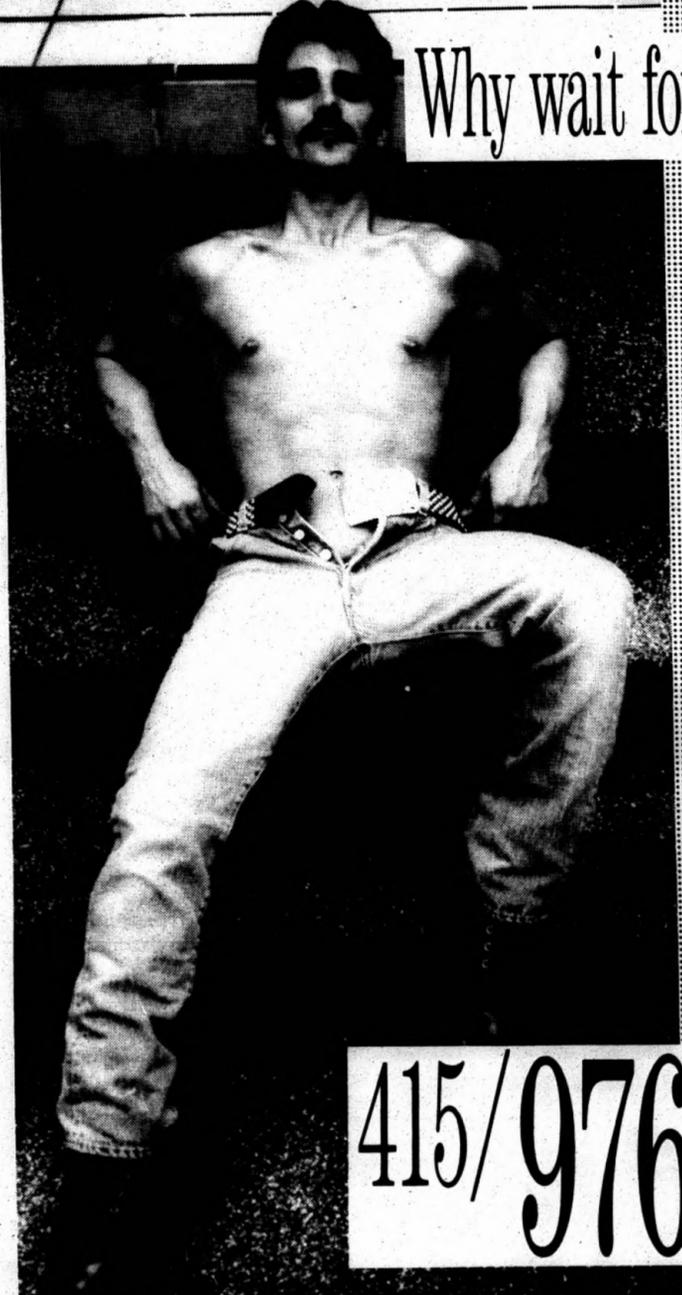
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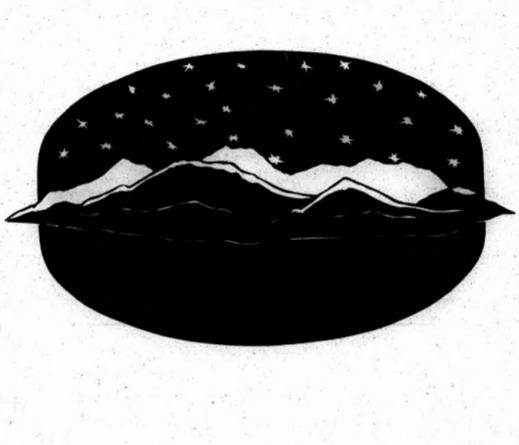
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by James Broughton and Joseph W. Bean



I'm hungry said the Bulldozer. I want a hillburger for lunch.

**We need you
because
people with AIDS
need you.**

People facing AIDS
sometimes need a friend
willing to just listen
or give them a shoulder
to cry on. **The next
Emotional Support
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People living with AIDS
often need help with
everyday chores like
shopping, cooking, cleaning
and childcare.
**The next Practical
Support Training
begins January 27.**

Anyone concerned
about AIDS can learn
how to give support
to those in need without
making a formal volunteer
commitment to
Shanti Project.
**The next Community
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begins January 20.**

Volunteers are needed
to help in the office
or to do special projects.
**Become a Shanti Office
Volunteer.**

And to help us continue
this urgently needed work,
you can make a
tax-deductible donation
to Shanti Project.

The more than 2000
clients of Shanti Project
thank you for your
continued support.

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*To some people
an eclipse
signals a change
into total darkness.
To others it means
moving forward
into the light.*

*Today,
we are moving forward
into the light
to create an even better
Shanti Project.*

*We need you now
more than ever
to help us provide
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