



# The Sentinel

Vol. 7 No. 6 SAN FRANCISCO'S LARGEST AND MOST WIDELY READ GAY NEWSPAPER March 21, 1980  
 Next Issue: April 4 Next Deadline: March 28 (415) 864-2178

## Entrapment Bill Clears State Senate

by C.L. Demure

A bill pending before the State Assembly's Criminal Justice Committee would shift the focus of a police entrapment defense from police activities to the defendant's "state of mind." Senate Bill 1216, also known as the "Entrapment Bill," has raised serious concerns with the state's gay community and civil libertarians. Sponsored by State Senator John Foran (D-S.F.), the proposed bill seeks to undo the California Supreme Court's *People vs. Barraza* decision (March 1979). That ruling by the high court decides the validity of an entrapment defense by asking, "Was the conduct of the law enforcement agent likely to induce a normally law-abiding person to commit the offense?" According to the Supreme Court guidelines, police activities are scrutinized when a defendant claims police entrapment. The Foran Bill would turn this around. Police tactics would no longer be the issue in an entrapment defense. Rather, the defendant would have to prove he was not "predisposed" to committing

the crime. In other words, the "baggage"—previous convictions, etc.—a defendant carries to the incident would determine whether or not the police used entrapment techniques. Therefore, under Foran's law, the defendant with previous convictions could not be entrapped because "he asked for it." Jim Tucker, Sacramento lobbyist for the American Civil Liberties Union said, "The possibilities for police manufacture of crime and the consequences for due process of law are obvious." Senator Foran ran successfully for the assembly seat now held by Art Agnos in 1974 and was elected with the support of the gay community in 1976 to the late George Moscone's Senate seat when Moscone became Mayor of San Francisco. Foran says he introduced the bill "at the suggestion of the District Attorney's Association who felt [the Barraza decision] would destroy their ability to deal with drug dealers and pushers." Foran went on to say he was

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## First in Nation



The Sentinel will become the world's first home delivered gay newspaper when home subscription service begins on May 2. For details on how you can join the two men above for a chance at winning \$1000, see page 6. (photo by Fisher Ross)

## Feinstein Urges Demos To Adopt Gay Rights Plank

Mayor Dianne Feinstein became the first major politician to endorse a gay rights plank before the Democratic Platform Drafting Committee this week, winning a warm round of applause from a capacity crowd of democratic leaders and raising hopes that the Democratic party will at last break its silence on gay rights. Feinstein's endorsement was impromptu and came following her testimony in Washington, D.C. with other Democratic mayors on urban problems. During a question period from platform committee members, Feinstein was asked about gays in her administration and if she supported a gay rights plank. "The answer to your question is very simply yes," Feinstein responded. "I would support that kind of plank in the platform. With respect to my own city, there are men and women serving in my administration who are gay and I will continue that policy." Feinstein had been offered the opportunity to decline the question by Platform Committee Chairman Coleman Young, but instead turned it into a spirited defense of an inclusive philosophy of government. "My own philosophy about government is if people are represented they tend to feel that the process works for them. It is when people are left outside of the government process that they become hostile and feel alien and that their government does not represent them." Following the meeting Feinstein told *The Sentinel* that she "absolutely" would support the gay rights plank this

year. She is not a member of the platform committee, however, and therefore will not be able to vote on the issue. Feinstein also said that she had brought gay issues to the attention of the White House in earlier meetings, but that she had not discussed a democratic party plank at that time. "I think that this really breaks the ice on the discussion of the gay rights issue," said Mary Spottwood Puo, co-director of the National Conventions Project, an effort designed to win support for gay rights planks in the Democratic and Republican party platforms. "In past years we didn't get mentioned and didn't have any kind of discussion on gay rights anywhere near as early as we have this year." Although Feinstein will not serve on

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## Anita Raises \$1 Million; Spends \$150 on Counseling

by Larry Bush

Anita Bryant Ministries for Counseling Homosexuals has filed federal income tax statements indicating that she spent only \$150 for counseling from the nearly \$1 million she raised in her 1978 morality campaign. The IRS documents made available through a Freedom of Information Request indicate that Anita Bryant Ministries, Inc. instead spent over \$454,000 in "direct fees for raising contributions" and bankrolled over a half a million dollars of the remaining contributions. Under IRS regulations, information on the recipients of the fundraising fees are not made public. But IRS officials

concede that all of the \$454,000 could have gone to Bryant herself for promotion of her organization. Bryant's group received a temporary approval for tax exempt and tax deductible status in 1977 pending her ability to show her organization actually engaged in charitable activities through the 1978 tax year. IRS officials refused comment on whether the returns would justify granting permanent tax advantages to Bryant, but did indicate that as a new organization the returns would be subject to a full audit. In total, Bryant reports that her group spent only \$56,000 on programs

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## Police Clear Sylvester In Theft Charges

Disco star Sylvester languished for 24 hours in a Manhattan jail last week, after New York police charged him with stealing \$55,000 in cash and rare coins. The real culprit was an as yet unidentified man who has periodically impersonated Sylvester since last fall. Sylvester arrived in the Big Apple early this month to complete the recording of his new album. He stayed for a few days at the Essex House Hotel, then moved a block down Cen-



Sylvester

tral Park South to the more elegant St. Moritz. Several days later, the bogus Sylvester appeared at the Essex House front desk. Believing him to be the disco star, the hotel management gave him cash in exchange for a \$1000 bad check. The following day, the phony Sylvester toured Manhattan in a limousine. "He claimed he was me," Sylvester reports, "and he bought up rare coins with bad checks." The same day Sylvester was busy doing press interviews and visiting friends. That evening, New York police handcuffed and arrested him in the middle of the plush lobby of the St. Moritz. Sylvester slept that night in a jail cell in lower Manhattan. The disco star was released late the following day. A lie detector test administered shortly thereafter "without question exonerates Sylvester," said polygraph expert Nat Laurendi. Sylvester has hired a private detective in an attempt to nab the imposter, who is still at large. "I trust God will see me through this," said a harassed Sylvester. The New York District Attorney now agrees that a third party is responsible for the bad check scheme. Sylvester fervently hopes "that my public will learn of this, so my reputation will be restored."

## FCC Orders Gay TV Programming

In a ruling issued last week, the Federal Communications Commission opened the door for gay organizations to use commercial and public broadcasting to educate the public about gays. Under the new ruling all broadcasters will be required to include gay organizations when making a review of community needs to be served in programming. Under the requirement, failure to include gays after they have made their interests and concerns known could result in the loss of a broadcaster's license. The decision followed a two year review of a petition presented by the National Gay Task Force and 142 other gay organizations. Fundamentalists and Christian broadcasting outlets, who also will be subject to the new rules, bitterly contested the FCC decision. More than five volumes of letters were filed with the FCC after it agreed to propose the new rulings, and the majority of the letters condemned gays in biblical overtones.

Only a week before the vote, FCC staffers predicted the proposal would fail, but the final vote was surprisingly unanimous in favoring NGTF's petition. That resulted from the strategy that reworked the original proposal to include gays along with handicapped citizens as a second example of a "significant" community group, as well as rephrasing which puts the burden on gay organizations to demonstrate their significance. FCC aides downplayed that position, however, as meaning only that gays need to show that "at least an MCC church or something formally exists." FCC Commission Chairman Charles Farris took the lead in insisting that the FCC be responsive to gay community needs. Immediately after the vote his staff issued a press statement hailing the decision as "the essence of the American system." As new communities of interest within our geographical boundaries emerge, "broadcasters need to recognize these changes," Farris commented.

The decision was also hailed by Charles Brydon, NGTF's co-executive director, who said "they were acknowledging that lesbians and gays constitute a significant group which must be considered by broadcasters in determining programming needs." The ruling adds to the ability of gays to ensure that public affairs and news programs include their concerns. FCC officials point out that this provides benefits not available under the Fairness Doctrine which stipulates that controversies be presented with more than one viewpoint. They maintain that inclusion in the "community ascertainment primer" gives gays the opportunity to suggest programming not necessarily related to controversies or gay rights. Religious broadcasters have most recently felt the sting of the FCC fairness rulings, which now state that even religious programs discussing homosexuality are not exempt from this pro-

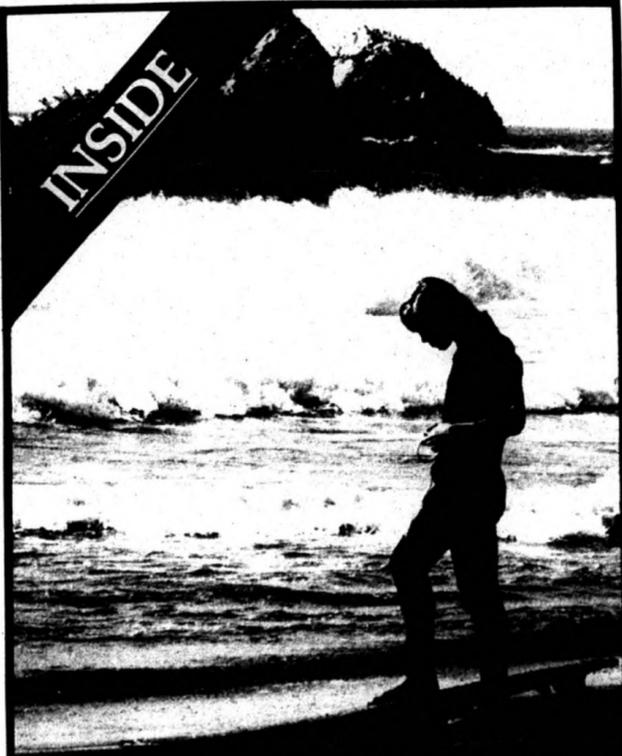
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## Gain Upheld Brutality Charges In Riots

During his last few days in office former Police Chief Charles Gain overruled the investigatory findings of his Internal Affairs Bureau and sustained police brutality charges brought by numerous citizens in connection with the "White Night" riots last May. Gain's action supports a suit asking for a total of \$550 million brought against the City by a group of people injured outside City Hall and on Castro Street the night of May 21. The complaints of police brutality originally reached Gain from a report issued by the police department's Internal Affairs Bureau with a recommendation that they be listed as "unfounded." IAB did not do a good job," insists Gain. "Citizens had complained that they had been injured, that they had been hit in the head and body, and these charges were corroborated by hospital reports. More importantly, there was no evidence that any officer

could refute the charges." In an interview with *The Sentinel* on his last day in office, Chief Gain talked at length about police conduct the night of the White Night Riots. "I watched officers waiting away, headhunting, and beating defenseless persons. I specifically saw right on the sidewalk at the Civic Center police officers beating people lying on the street. A captain wrote in his official report that he had to restrain some of his officers from doing just that. "What occurred is that several officers indiscriminately and unlawfully beat up demonstrators. Brutalized them. That occurred. I saw it. Unfortunately, because of darkness and because the officers had removed their identification numbers, you couldn't identify any of them. But it did occur." The Police Commission met in a closed session on Wednesday night to discuss Gain's unexpected announce-

ments. Commission President David Sanchez said the commission would take no position on the issues raised. "We accept the conclusions of the report issued by the Stanford Research Institute," said Sanchez, "and have no comment on former Chief Gain's recommendations." Police Officer Association president Bob Barry strongly objected to Gain's decision not to accept the Internal Affairs Bureau findings. "What he did, on his last day in office, was to take a parting shot at the San Francisco Police Department." Police Chief Cornelius Murphy acknowledged that he had the authority to overrule Gain's findings, but told reporters he would not become involved in the brewing controversy. "These were decisions made by Gain when he was Chief of Police," Murphy said, "I'm not going to change them."



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# NEWS BRIEFS

## Support Pours In For Santa Clara Gays

(San Francisco) As the Santa Clara battle for gay rights heats up, gay forces are receiving "across the board broad-based support" from local political, labor and women's organizations, according to Johnnie Stagg, leader of the Santa Clara Valley Coalition for Human Rights.

Monetary support has failed to materialize, however, and lack of funds remains the chief obstacle faced by the Coalition.

Holly Near and Robin Tyler were featured attractions at recent fund-raisers. Monies generated will help finance an ad campaign scheduled to begin next month.

Opposition tactics have been geared to raising other than religious objections to the gay rights bill. Press releases distributed by Concerned Citizens Against Sexual Orientation Ordinance claim that "this is just an issue of too much government in people's lives."

CCASOO President Rick Harrington questions the constitutionality of gay rights legislation. "Under the ordinances," he states, "if a man was a heterosexual Casanova in the office, his employer could not dismiss him."

In a continued effort to raise funds, gay rights forces are planning an auction-brunch at Toyon, 10355 Saratoga-Sunnyvale Road, San Jose, on March 23.

## New Rights Bill In Washington

(Seattle) Gays in Washington face another battle if Seattle policeman David Estes succeeds in placing a new anti-gay initiative on a statewide ballot. Estes is one of two men responsible for Initiative 13, an anti-gay bill rejected by Seattle voters in 1978.

Estes' proposed bill outlaws sodomy, fellatio, necrophilia, pedophilia and bestiality. State funding for any group that supports such behavior would be prohibited. Unlike Initiative 13, this bill has a statewide effect.

In 1978 Seattle voters defeated Initiative 13 by a 65% to 35% margin. "We're somewhat skeptical of Estes' chances," said Roger Winters, co-president of Washington's largest gay organization.

Estes' bill is unlikely to reach the state legislature before 1981, he added. "We're not frightened, and we don't feel it's time for any specific activity."

## Mass Murderer Faces Execution

(Rockford, Ill.) A jury last week convicted John Gacy of the sex-related murders of 33 young men and boys. If an appeal fails, the Chicago man will face the electric chair.

No man in the nation's history has been convicted of more murders. The courtroom, filled with relatives of Gacy's victims, erupted in spontaneous applause when the death sentence was announced.

Defense attorneys relied on a plea of insanity, claiming Gacy was the "personification of Jekyll and Hyde." The enormity of Gacy's crimes, however, quelled any merciful tendencies on the part of the jury, who returned a guilty verdict in less than two hours.

Said the mother of one victim, "He executed my son. I hope he burns in the chair and then I hope he burns in hell."

"None of us will be satisfied until he is put to death," another relative concurred.

## Gangs Terrorize Small-Town Gay

(Williamsport, Pa.) Teenage gangs hounded a gay Williamsport, Pa. man out of town following his public protest

of the appearance of Anita Bryant at a local state fair. Hoodlums hurled rocks and tomatoes in a series of attacks on the home of Dan Maneval, after a Wilkes-Barre radio station broadcast Maneval's anti-Bryant speech.

"They've broken my doors and windows, but the police won't do anything about it," said Maneval, an officer in Homophiles of Williamsport. He has been forced to sell his house and move to a neighboring town.

The uproar sent Williamsport homosexuals scurrying back into the closet. "The members of Homophiles of Williamsport have seen what happened to me," Maneval lamented, "and now we have literally no organization left."

Before the publicity, there were 25 active members enlisted in the gay group.

## Peruvian Army Troops Burn Cocaine Crop

(Lima) The military government in Peru last week announced a crackdown on cocaine production and dispatched army troops into the Amazon jungle to burn illegal coca tree plantations.

Peru's upper-Amazon coca plantations produce approximately one-half of the world's cocaine while neighbor Bolivia produces the other 50 percent.

Government control of coca in Peru is complicated because the traditional practice of chewing coca leaves by Andean Indians is legal in mountain regions more than 7500 feet above sea level.

As a result the government licenses legal production to provide Indians with leaves for chewing as well as for legal exports of the drug for pharmaceutical purposes.

Peruvian government officials have no idea how much illegal coca reaches the U.S. The jump in demand for cocaine in the United States and Europe has greatly increased coca smuggling from Peru.

Government sources estimate that coca leaves purchased for \$12,000 in the jungle bring about \$1 million in retail street sales after the drug is cut and bagged in small quantities.

## Pope Discusses Woman's Role

(Rome) Pope John Paul II recently told 12,000 Vatican visitors that women express their true nature by bearing children.

"The ministry of femininity manifests and reveals itself in depth through maternity," the pope proclaimed.

John Paul gave a series of talks on the subject of the relationship between the sexes. "He defines this relationship by saying, 'He who knows is man, and she who is known is woman, a wife.'"

## Time Capsule Contains Lesbian Message

(San Francisco) A time capsule sealed in 1879 and opened last year in San Francisco contained an official guide to the geysers of California.

Inside the pamphlet the author, Laura De Force Gordon, wrote the following inscription: "If this little book should see the light of day after its 100 year entombment I should like the readers to know that the author was a lover of her own sex, and devoted the best years of her life in striving for political equality and social and moral elevation of women."

## Hennessey Chooses Undersheriff

(San Francisco) Sheriff Mike Hennessey last week appointed William Davis, a 19-year veteran of the department, as undersheriff. Davis, a 44-year-

old chief deputy, replaces Raymond Procunier, appointed last year by former sheriff Eugene Brown.

Hennessey stated he selected Davis after intensive interviews and screenings of candidates within the department. During his election campaign, Hennessey pledged not to seek a new undersheriff from outside the department.

Among the possible candidates passed over by Hennessey was Sergeant Connie O'Connor. A number of gay male, lesbian and women's organizations publicly endorsed O'Connor, an out-from lesbian, for the undersheriff position. These included the Harvey Milk Gay Democratic Club, the Alice B. Toklas Memorial Democratic Club, the Women's Democratic Forum, and the Women's Jail Study Group.

Gays made substantial financial contributions to Hennessey's campaign in its early stages at a time when he had only marginal support. He received nearly 80% of the vote in heavily gay District 5.

Alice B. Toklas President Steve Walters commented that many gays felt "keenly disappointed" that Hennessey decided not to appoint O'Connor undersheriff.

"Connie represents the best of the new politics," Walters continued. "She is sensitive to all minorities—not just gays, but blacks and Latinos as well. What a loss to the whole community."

Hennessey has filled all three appointive positions in his department—undersheriff, attorney and confidential secretary—with married white males.

## Prison Policy Ban On Gay Publications Reversed

(Washington, D.C.) The policy of banning gay publications from Federal prisons will be revised, says Federal Bureau of Prisons Director Norman Carlson.

Various gay publications, the National Gay Task Force and Lambda Legal Defense have fought for the revision of policy in a two year old lawsuit. However, the change came after the White House and Wisconsin Democrat Robert Kastenmeier, who oversees Carter's budget, pressured Carlson.

Publications which are "non-pornographic and do not jeopardize the orderly running of institutions," may be admitted, according to the policy revision. Lambda lawyers are negotiating with Federal Prison authorities to insure that gay publications are actually distributed. Both the White House and Kastenmeier's committee have promised to keep a watchful eye on the situation.

Further negotiations between Lambda, the Federal Bureau of Prisons and the White House are expected to take place over a second lawsuit involving permission for MCC ministers to visit Federal prisoners.

## U.N. Conference To Hear Lesbian Concerns

(San Francisco) Lesbians' concerns will be formally included in the U.S. position statements at the United Nations World Conference for the Decade of Women, according to the U.S. Public Health Service.

This decision marks the first time U.S. representatives will address gay concerns at an international meeting. Lesbian health care and adolescent sex education are among the topics scheduled for discussion at the mid-July conference in Copenhagen.

The National Gay Task Force requests all interested individuals and groups to make recommendations for the conference agenda. These recommendations should be sent immediately to the NGTF at 80 5th Ave., New York City 10001.

# PEOPLE

## Wadsworth Lands Chamber of Commerce Post

(San Francisco) Kevin Wadsworth has received an appointment as Director of the Governmental Affairs Department of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce. Chamber President Bill Dauer made the announcement early this week.

Wadsworth's new post involves the monitoring of government agencies, evaluating state and local propositions, and keeping local legislators informed of the interests of the business community.

A former Administrative Assistant to the Mayor, Wadsworth is President of the Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights.

In an ironic twist, Wadsworth announced that Harry Britt, his opponent in the District 5 Supervisorial Race, would be guest-speaker at a luncheon hosted by the Chamber of Commerce Independent Business Committee next Thursday. Britt will discuss the effect of the city budget on small businesses.



Kevin Wadsworth

## Scott Qualifies For Write-In Campaign

(San Francisco) Gay politician David Scott plans to launch a write-in campaign to run against State Senator Milton Marks (R-S.F.) in the November general election.

If he receives 1475 write-in votes in the June primary, according to a little-used election law, Scott qualifies for placement on the November ballot as a Democrat. Acting Registrar Jay Patterson gave Scott the go-ahead for his new plan.

## Allard K. Lowenstein, 1928-1980

by Hugh Guilbeau

Allard K. Lowenstein, longtime civil rights activist and friend of the gay community, died in New York City on March 14 of gunshot wounds.

Lowenstein, who served in Congress from 1968 to 1970 and led the movement to dump President Lyndon Johnson in 1968, was fatally shot four times in his Rockefeller Center Law Office with a \$120 pistol allegedly bought by Dennis Sweeney, a 37-year-old contractor who lives in New London, Connecticut.

In a videotaped statement, Sweeney confessed to the killing of Lowenstein, saying that he had strong feelings of hate towards him and six other persons.

Sweeney's attorney, Charles Hinkle, said Saturday that his client believed Lowenstein was working with the CIA and the FBI to hear his thoughts through a listening device.

At the time of his death, Lowenstein was an active sponsor and friend to Senator Edward Kennedy (D-Mass) in his quest for the Presidency.

Lowenstein came to San Francisco last January to help secure a Kennedy endorsement from the California Democratic Party. He spoke at the home of gay activist Jim Foster and was instrumental in swaying a large number of uncommitted gay and lesbian delegates to Kennedy.

Lowenstein was to have been in Los Angeles at the end of March to help gain Kennedy the endorsement of the California Democratic Council, an organization affiliated with the Harvey Milk Democratic Club, the Alice B. Toklas Memorial Democratic Club, and the Stonewall Democratic Club.

In his own political career, Lowenstein championed the causes of "the little people" and pledged "always to protest injustice." He entered politics as a protégé and pupil of the late Eleanor Roosevelt. After his one term in Congress, Lowenstein suffered two subsequent defeats, primarily because of his early pro-abortion and anti-nuclear stands.

Lowenstein was buried March 19. Among those attending the service were Coretta King, Andrew Young, William F. Buckley, Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, Senator Edward Kennedy, Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., and New York Mayor Edward Koch.

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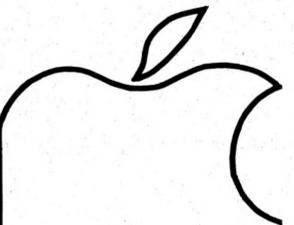
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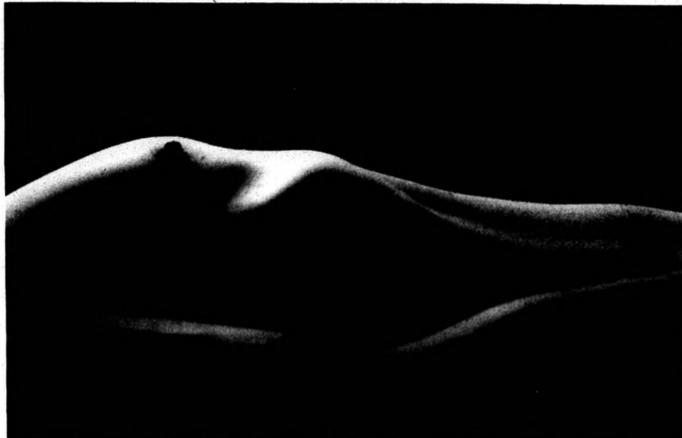


Photo by Crawford Barton from a group exhibition at the ID Gallery, March 18-24.

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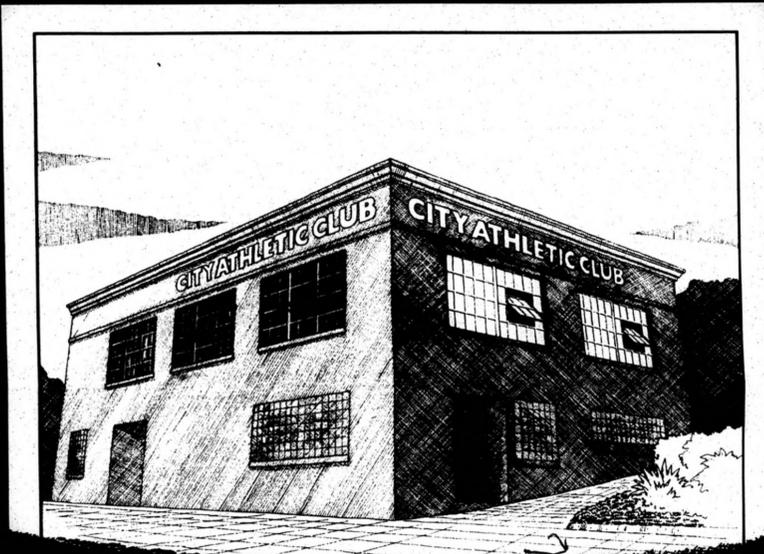
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# Lovers On Lovers

## Amanda and Sarah and Jet

by Ron Baker

The thing about relationships is that you get ownership thrust on you. We're conditioned that way. What a bunch of crap!

If Amanda needs Jet as another lover, that's o.k. For myself, sharing sexually is not an easy thing to do outside my relationship with Amanda.

Amanda and I have a relationship that's all fun. We don't deal with day to day problems. Our time together is short and we keep it carefree.

Sarah loves Amanda. Amanda loves Sarah. Amanda also loves Jet. Jet loves Amanda. Sarah and Jet tolerate each other.

An accurate account of the relationship between these three lesbians could provide rich source material for at least six episodes of Soap. These women put energy into living and loving and fortunately haven't lost their sense of humor about their lives.

Amanda and Sarah have been lovers for two years, which means they must have something good going for them. During this sometimes turbulent period, Sarah, for reasons she cannot fully articulate, has chosen to remain monogamous.

Amanda, on the other hand, realized years ago that her life lost a lot of zest when she tried to put sexual fidelity into it. Monogamy simply does not suit her needs.

"I could never be monogamous," she roared from across the kitchen table. "That's the reason I broke up with my first two lovers. They couldn't handle my sleeping with other women." Amanda speaks in a commanding voice, like Barbara Stanwyck in her early prison movies. She looks like Pat Bond, only younger and prettier.

Sarah got real pissed off. And JEALOUSY, that cursed beast, reared its ugly head, accompanied by feelings of

Isabel. Just as Sarah remains sexually faithful to Amanda, so Isabel remains faithful to Jet.

Amanda is to Sarah what Jet is to Isabel.

Amanda and Jet want to enjoy the best of both worlds. They each have a primary lover relationship, supplemented by their sexual and emotional relationship with each other.

Jet clearly wants to extend the range of her sexual contacts even further. "I wish there were more places in San Francisco where women could be sexually open with each other."

She envies gay men the proliferation of bathhouses which cater to their sexual whims. As a possible method for lesbians to increase their sexual liaisons, Jet advocates more casual sex between friends.

"Friends should enjoy having sex together and avoid making it into some

big deal." The situation is very different for Sarah, who finds it hard to accept the idea of having sex with another woman without bringing emotional expectations into play.

Despite (or because of) her own reserved, introspective temperament, Sarah admires the spontaneity and playfulness she sees in Amanda and Jet's relationship. "They're like kids together. I respect that because I was an adult all my childhood. I like being a kid with them."

The Russian River is one place all three of them can indulge their childlike enthusiasms. "My favorite thing to do is to go to the Russian River," says Amanda. "Get naked, and take some mushrooms. Wow!"

Sarah enjoys the River, too, but her primary interests are psychic phenomena and astrology. She explains that the attraction between Jet and Amanda by pointing out that she and Pisces with Gemini rising.

Sarah herself is a Scorpio with Capricorn rising. Through star gazing, or rather star plotting, Sarah seeks to find some rationale, however tenuous, for events and emotions which otherwise seem arbitrary and inexplicable.

Jet and Sarah both claim to be accomplished at astral projection, no mean task for two girls under 30. Jet admits she gets best results floating above the Russian River under the influence of magic mushrooms.

Sarah's remarks about her "psychic work" indicated she gravitated toward a more "purist" approach, i.e. without drugs.

Amanda's understanding and love for both Sarah and Jet has attuned her sensibilities in such a way that she can respond to the one's need for attention and affection without hurting the other.

Or so she says. "There's no basic problem about giving strokes to whom-ever needs them."

Amanda feels her commitment to Sarah and Jet is a lifelong one, even though all three women indicated that more than likely they would soon go different ways.

Jet wants to leave San Francisco this summer to explore living alone. How this move might affect the delicate balance of their relationship, no one ventured to guess.

"I'll miss Jet," said Amanda. "but I hope we'll find chances to see each other." Sarah made no comment.

Sometime before Jet's departure this summer, she and Amanda plan to make a home movie and set up a special screening for their friends.

Jet and an armless department store mannequin play the starring roles. Cinematographer and director Amanda takes a bit-part as the monogamous lover whom Jet adores for the favors of the armless mannequin with the big tits. "It's going to be a hilarious film," noted a smiling Amanda. Sarah didn't laugh.



(from the top) Amanda, Sarah and Jet (photo by Steve Savage)

# Jaguar Bookstore Denied Operating License

by John Schrock

The Board of Permit Appeals denied an operating permit to the Jaguar Bookstore on Wednesday, upholding an earlier decision by the San Francisco Police Department. Jaguar owner Ronald Ernst said he will appeal.

The Board cited complaints from neighborhood residents as the sole reason for the denial. About two dozen heterosexual Castro area residents attended the hearing to voice their objections.

One senior citizen proclaimed he was "ever vigilant and not afraid to testify" when it came to "banding together to stop further degradation of the decent atmosphere of District 5."

"It is common knowledge that the place is used as a brothel," reported a frumpy woman in a polyester pantsuit. She introduced advertisements the Jaguar has placed in The Sentinel as evidence of the unseemly clientele the bookstore wishes to attract.

Another woman expressed unhappiness about the large number of taxis she's seen on Hartford Street lately. Some complainants zeroed in on alleged zoning and building code violations, but the Police Department itself could find no grounds for the denial other than the objections of nearby residents.

Gay supporters of the bookstore attended the hearing in numbers equal to those of the community protesters. A petition was presented signed by 1,300 area residents in favor of the renewal of the bookstore's permit.

Ernst's attorney submitted letters with only \$150 of that going to counseling project in the appeals for funds.

In 1978, the year of the tax filing, Bryant also made contributions to the Anti Gay Initiative seeking to overturn Seattle, Washington's gay rights ordinance. Those contributions are listed as donations from Protect America's Children at Washington State's Public Disclosure Commission. That organization lists H. Edward Rowe as Executive Director, who also serves as Executive Director of Anita Bryant Ministries, Inc.

However, no record of a separate incorporation for Protect America's Children could be immediately located at IRS offices, raising questions about a possible overlap of the two groups in conflict with IRS rules and the tax filing.

Ernst has 10 days to file an appeal. "The Jaguar is obviously being used as a scapegoat by all those people desirous of putting a halt to gay expansion in the Castro," said one disgruntled gay after the hearing.

Many voted against rent control because they were duped into believing that the supervisors emergency ordinance, already in effect—a sop to tenants replete with low rents which favor landlords—would offer them adequate protection. Also influential was the sophisticated high-priced campaign to defeat Prop R financed and launched by real estate interests and masterminded by Don Solem and Associates.

Solem conducted research surveys to determine attitudes and prejudices, studied the sociological makeup of the city's different tenants and landlord populations, and flooded San Francisco with slick expertly targeted mailers at the last minute. Bewildered by the skillfully designed propaganda, tenants carried their landlords to victory last November.

Source associated with the Board feel that if Prop 10 can be defeated, the Board's position can be strengthened considerably. Amendments can gradually be introduced, and with increased staff, more space to administer, and to ignore the plight of the aged, far greater numbers of the tenant population can be protected from excessive rent increases and evictions.

Most readers are familiar with the rent increase guidelines set by the Rent Stabilization and Arbitration Board. As of April 15, landlords will be allowed to increase rents 11% annually.

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# What do the 80s hold for tenants? Wolves At The Door

by Harriet Koskoff

Panic reigns over the housing crisis. With less than a 2% vacancy rate, evictions proliferating, and almost no new housing being built, tenants face an increasingly insecure future.

Encouraged by their November victory, landlords now seek to nullify their advantage by passing a statewide law which would render it impossible for any local rent registration to be enacted.

Prop 10, fraudulently titled California's Fair Rents, will appear on the June Ballot. If it passes it will obliterate the existing Rent Stabilization and Arbitration Board. Landlords will be able to raise rents annually by the full percent of the increase in the Consumer Price Index.

This will mean more than exploitive rents. Sources inside the housing movement believe that this will be the last straw. They predict citywide rent strikes and violence in the streets.

Not since the 30s has income lagged so drastically behind survival needs. Thus it is difficult to comprehend why the R failed in a city where 75% of the population is comprised of tenants. Myriad factors include the refusal of tenants to face the fact that their position is intractable. Most will never be homeowners.

Many voted against rent control because they were duped into believing that the supervisors emergency ordinance, already in effect—a sop to tenants replete with low rents which favor landlords—would offer them adequate protection. Also influential was the sophisticated high-priced campaign to defeat Prop R financed and launched by real estate interests and masterminded by Don Solem and Associates.

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## Aging Is Becoming

by Sue Zemel

"When I first got into gay life at the age of nineteen," recalled Jordan Lee, chairperson of the G-Forty Plus Club, a 300-member social organization for older gay men, "my first question, because I was close to my grandparents was, 'well, what's it like when you're older?' And no one could tell me. They'd just look at one another and then somebody would say 'well, I guess the old gay people just disappear.'"

The world "old" derives from Latin, "to nourish, to grow high and deep." Yet in our youth oriented culture the attitude prevails that once a person reaches a certain age she or he should retire into invisibility. We shunt the elderly, unable or unwilling to examine societal myths and confront our own fears about aging.

"Nowadays you have the impression that all gay people are from twenty-one to thirty-four, caucasian, and dressed in cowboy clothes," Jordan Lee observed wryly at a seminar about older lesbians and gay men recently held at San Francisco General Hospital. "A great deal of discrimination against older gays occurs in our community."

Lee told the group of predominantly gay mental health workers and community activists. "Younger people aren't aware that we exist as a group. In fact, we didn't even realize how many of us there were."

Likewise, when psychologist Marcy Adelman, another participant in the seminar on aging, began researching the lives of Bay Area older lesbians and gay men with her colleague Fred Minnergerode, she didn't know quite what to expect. "There's been so little written about aging gays," said Marcy, who has just completed her doctoral dissertation on the subject.

Interviewing 25 lesbians and 27 gay men sixty years of age and older, Adelman and Minnergerode discovered that while elderly gays are as well adjusted emotionally and physically as straights, they must also cope with the problems of stigma and discrimination. Though self-acceptance often took lifelong struggles, older gays expressed increasing satisfaction with their gay identity over time.

"From forty on you start to learn how to live with yourself," explained Jordan Lee. "You've begun to accept what you can and can't have, what you will or won't be. And that, to an extent, creates relaxation."

Marion, a sixty-seven year old lesbian interviewed with Lee at Options for Women Over Forty, explained that she no longer feels the need to conform to superimposed values that were never her own to begin with. Marion, who says that she has always been a "rebel," fell in love with a woman twelve years ago.

She left her marriage and as she recalls, "It wasn't just my sexuality that I changed, it was my whole lifestyle." Presently she lives with her youngest daughter who is also a lesbian. "Society is restrictive but since I am me, I don't see all these big problems. I am happy with my life, with what I am," she concluded.

According to gay gerontological research, elderly gays counter problems of isolation and loneliness (common to all elderly people) by establishing friendship networks that they lean on for support.

"The aging gays whose lives we studied also tend to be integrated into mainstream society," noted Marcy Adelman. As a means of survival they learned to compartmentalize their sexuality from the rest of their lives, which is very different from younger gays today.

Jordan Lee describes what took place in the 1940's and 1950's as "a conspiracy of silence." A sense of danger prevailed, and gays stayed hidden, isolated from each other, fearing blackmail, entrapment, loss of jobs, and ostracism by friends and family members.

# What can you do to stop Prop 10?

Plan to attend the meeting sponsored by Californians Against Initiative Fraud at 7:30 March 25th at St. John's Lutheran Church, 3126 22nd Street. Find out how you can participate in your own housing future.

Be willing to give up a few hours of free time in the coming months if that's what's involved, and maybe the cost of a few beers and a movie. The landlords will spend millions on their campaign and have again retained Don Solem's services. If they're successful in June, you may not be able to attend movies at all a year from now.

The problem will not go away New low and moderate cost housing is desperately needed. Over a million dollars is now available from the hotel tax and other sources for housing. The federal government decides how money will be spent and misused.

The public has been grossly misled about the use of which monies have been put by various community groups. The distortion which the No on R committee created about the Redevelopment Agency fall bears mention once again.

The Redevelopment Agency and Bureau of Building Inspection authorities have been responsible for the destruction of far more housing than they have ever created—replacing thousands of low income households and accelerating the gentrification process.

Almost no new private rental housing has been built in San Francisco in the past five years, yet those who have a vested interest in prohibiting rent control argue that it will inhibit building here. The fact is that for a variety of complex reasons other types of investment bring faster, more lucrative returns.

With a condo-conversion an investor can triple his investment in a year. From July 1973 to July 1979, the Department of City Planning and the Public Works Department approved condo-conversion of 1,880 units. Since last July, they have received applications for conversion of approximately another 700 units. Up to 1,000 units may be approved yearly.

The conversions which have already taken place have severely depleted the housing supply. The housing stock is also eroded by the rise in second floor conversions of residential property to commercial use.

Such conversions, often illegal, have been especially prominent in the Duboce Triangle Area. Conversion of residential hotels, occupied largely by the indigent elderly, to transient and tourist facilities continues. It is not my intent to address the moral implications of the housing crisis; however, no one can totally ignore the plight of the aged—most cruelly victimized by inflation—being forced out of their homes with no place to go.

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In the Adeline/Minnergerode study, older lesbians tended to have serial monogamous relationships and satisfied their sexual needs within the context of these relationships, while this pattern was not necessarily descriptive of the elderly gay men.

The myth that older gay men prefer younger sexual partners was also disproven by their research findings.

"There are relatively few older gay men who are infatuated with the younger ones," Jordan Lee corroborated. "As one of our members in

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ON THE RACK

ON LIVE!

with Randy Alfred

ON THE MARK: "I'm sure that the management of that hotel wasn't too happy about it," reminisced S.F. State Counseling Professor Stuart Loomis on KSNB's "Gay Life" last weekend...

LOVE HAIGHT RELATIONSHIP: "It was interesting to see the gay bars on Haight Street slowly disappear..."

THEMESTERS & THEMESTRESSES: Speaking of parades, here are the official themes of the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Parade and Celebration for the last eight years...

SOME OF THE BEST THINGS IN LIFE ARE GRATUITOUS: The Gay Caucus at next weekend's convention of the California Democratic Council in L.A. meets in the Biltmore Renaissance Room...

STREET SMARTS: Answer to the riddle in the previous issue? 1st, 2nd, 5th, 12th, 14th, 17th, 21st, 27th, 28th, 29th, and 30th are San Francisco's only numbered streets that DON'T intersect other numbered streets.

CENSORSHIP AWARENESS: In the current issue of VERBATIM: The Language Quarterly, editor Laurence Urdan reviews Edward B. Jenkinson's Censors in the Classroom. Notes the learned editor, "A Save Our Children group promulgates a 'fight to eliminate homosexual literature from our schools and libraries,' suggesting the banning of works by such homosexuals as Emily Dickinson, Willa Cather, Tennessee Williams, Oscar Wilde, T.E. Lawrence, Jean Genet, Gertrude Stein, Virginia Woolf, Walt Whitman, Andre Gide, Jean Cocteau, Gore Vidal, John Milton, Hans Christian Andersen, Marcel Proust, Horatio Alger, Jr., Truman Capote, and Rod McKuen. Gee whiz! I never knew that about Emily, John, Hans, and Horatio..."

AD LIB: That late-night, personnel-recruiting television spot for Lockheed is backed up by music from Gustav Holst's 1914 symphonic suite, The Planets. The movement in question just happens to be "Mars, the Bringer of War..."

A new Levi's TV ad features a hunky, hard-hatted construction worker sitting astride a mighty girder rubbing his knee and the inside of his thigh. As the commercial ends, the camera zooms back to a perspective showing the long, stub-ended I-beam shooting from his crotch as he lights his welding torch. Unfortunately, it's too obvious to be hot.

And the recent McDonald's spot about teenage boys accepting a new friend into their after-school gang shows lots of chummy body contact. Straight or gay, it's important for the next generation to be less uptight about touching.

Former Indiana Pacers forward Steve Green, who now plays basketball in Italy, was quoted thusly in the Examiner the other week: "It took me a while to get used to guys kissing each other after a good play. They don't do that in the NBA." Yea.

TUESDAY, MARCH 25. San Francisco Gay Rap will have discussion groups concerning self-defense, and Jewish gays. Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka, 7:30 PM. \$2 donation requested.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26. The Alliance for Gay Awareness at the University of San Francisco will be sponsoring a symposium on Health Issues in the Gay Community. University Center Room 413, USF Campus, Fulton and Cole Streets. 6:55-8:25.

FRIDAY, MARCH 28. Phyllis Lyon, Del Martin, Pat Parker, Luisa Tish, and She Who Makes Music at 8:00 PM, at the Women's Building, 3543 18th St., \$3-\$6. This is a benefit for SHE WHO, a ritual performance of Judy Grahn's poetry to open in May.

MR. CASTRO PAGEANT To be held MAY 29 at the Castro Theatre. Contestants will be judged for talent and in business and swim suits. Cash awards and valuable prizes to the top three winners. For further information call 621-5365. Event to benefit the San Francisco VD Clinic.

"GAY-NITE" BOAT CRUISE San Francisco's Red and White Fleet is sponsoring its first "Gay-Nite" Boat Cruise on Friday evening, APRIL 11. The vessel (Royal Prince) will depart at 8:00 PM sharp from the Red and White Fleet Ferry Building Pier, returning around 11:00 PM. For further information call: 776-0060 or 431-5644.

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EDITOR: Ron Baker. STAFF WRITERS: Jim Murphy, John Schrock, Sue Zemel. ADVERTISING DIRECTOR: Michael W. Scott. ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE: Pierre Chapman. CLASSIFIED MANAGER: Michael Oulogro. ACCOUNTS SUPERVISOR: Mike Snyder. CONTRIBUTING WRITERS: Randy Alfred, Thomas Edwards, Chuck Chateau, Chris Kerby, Steve Abbot, Don Ballantyne, Larry Blake, Paul Chappin, Gretchen Cowan, Mary Golden, Tom Kehm, D. Lawless, Michael Mascioli, Renee Renout, Victor Camara. SPORTS EDITOR: Victor Camara. REPRESENTATIVE: Joe Di Sabato, 666 Sixth Ave., New York, NY 10010 (212) 242-6863. WASHINGTON, D.C. BUREAU CHIEF: Larry Bush.

Published by Sentinel Communications, Inc. every other Friday at 1042 Howard Street, San Francisco, CA 94103. Telephone (415) 864-2178. Advertising rates are available on request. The opinions expressed by bylined columnists are their own, and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Sentinel. The Sentinel welcomes unsolicited news and/or feature articles and photographs. If return or acknowledgment is requested, please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope. Sentinel Communications, Inc. will not assume responsibility for unsolicited material. Publication of the name or photo of any person, business, or organization in articles, letters, or advertising in The Sentinel is not an indication of sexual orientation or preference. The Sentinel is distributed in San Francisco and Los Angeles. Mail subscriptions are \$20 for 1 yr. (26 issues) or \$12.50 for 6 mos. (13 issues). Non-subscription mailed copies are available in San Francisco at \$25 for 3 yr. or \$15 for 6 mos. The Sentinel's list of subscribers and advertisers are confidential, and are not sold, rented or released to anyone at any time. Content herein is protected by one or more copyrights. All rights reserved. Reproduction by any form without written permission of the publisher is strictly forbidden. The San Francisco Sentinel was founded in 1974 by William E. Beardamph, renamed The Sentinel in 1978. © Sentinel Communications, Inc., 1980

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Events

SPECIAL EVENTS

SATURDAY, MARCH 22. The Northern California Mobilization Against the Draft plans a march starting at 11:00 AM from Halliell Plaza to the San Francisco Civic Center for a noon rally.

A Spring Fever Festival will be held at the Women's Building, 3543 18th St., featuring a cabaret of local talent. The event is a benefit for Natural Lighting, a new creative magazine for women. Admission is \$2, \$6-\$5.25.

Women Aloud will hold its first workshop in personal communications and public presentations skills. The fee for this three-part series is \$75, adjustable for women with limited income. For more information call 457-4453.

Olivia Records presents Cris Williams in a concert to celebrate the release of Cris's new album, "Strategic Paradise." 8:30 PM at the Berkeley Community Theatre. For more information call 655-0364.

Drawings by Leslie Aguilar, through April 5 at Cheap & Available, 3674 18th Street, 2 PM-7 PM. Designers Showcase 80 through March 30 features outstanding Bay Area designers decorating the Knowledge Mansion, 25 Seaview in Piedmont. For information call 254-6162.

The Gay Life on KSNB, 95 FM, will feature interviews with Janel McCrary and Mary Dunlap, staff at the Jewish Community Center, 3200 California. Sponsored by Congregation Sha'ar Zahav.

THURSDAY, APRIL 3. An illustrated lecture on the Struggle for Freedom in Chile, at the Network Coffeehouse, 1036 Bush, 8:00 PM. Donation.

FRIDAY, APRIL 4. Art Leaffer from the Bay Area Council on Soviet Jewry will speak at the Jewish Community Center, 3200 California. Sponsored by Congregation Sha'ar Zahav.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25. San Francisco Gay Rap will have discussion groups concerning self-defense, and Jewish gays. Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka, 7:30 PM. \$2 donation requested.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26. The Alliance for Gay Awareness at the University of San Francisco will be sponsoring a symposium on Health Issues in the Gay Community. University Center Room 413, USF Campus, Fulton and Cole Streets. 6:55-8:25.

FRIDAY, MARCH 28. Phyllis Lyon, Del Martin, Pat Parker, Luisa Tish, and She Who Makes Music at 8:00 PM, at the Women's Building, 3543 18th St., \$3-\$6. This is a benefit for SHE WHO, a ritual performance of Judy Grahn's poetry to open in May.

MR. CASTRO PAGEANT To be held MAY 29 at the Castro Theatre. Contestants will be judged for talent and in business and swim suits. Cash awards and valuable prizes to the top three winners. For further information call 621-5365. Event to benefit the San Francisco VD Clinic.

"GAY-NITE" BOAT CRUISE San Francisco's Red and White Fleet is sponsoring its first "Gay-Nite" Boat Cruise on Friday evening, APRIL 11. The vessel (Royal Prince) will depart at 8:00 PM sharp from the Red and White Fleet Ferry Building Pier, returning around 11:00 PM. For further information call: 776-0060 or 431-5644.

ADVERTISING: Michael W. Scott, 1042 Howard Street, San Francisco, CA 94103. Telephone: (415) 864-2178. Advertising rates are available on request.

EDITOR: Ron Baker. STAFF WRITERS: Jim Murphy, John Schrock, Sue Zemel. ADVERTISING DIRECTOR: Michael W. Scott. ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE: Pierre Chapman. CLASSIFIED MANAGER: Michael Oulogro. ACCOUNTS SUPERVISOR: Mike Snyder. CONTRIBUTING WRITERS: Randy Alfred, Thomas Edwards, Chuck Chateau, Chris Kerby, Steve Abbot, Don Ballantyne, Larry Blake, Paul Chappin, Gretchen Cowan, Mary Golden, Tom Kehm, D. Lawless, Michael Mascioli, Renee Renout, Victor Camara. SPORTS EDITOR: Victor Camara. REPRESENTATIVE: Joe Di Sabato, 666 Sixth Ave., New York, NY 10010 (212) 242-6863. WASHINGTON, D.C. BUREAU CHIEF: Larry Bush.

Published by Sentinel Communications, Inc. every other Friday at 1042 Howard Street, San Francisco, CA 94103. Telephone (415) 864-2178. Advertising rates are available on request. The opinions expressed by bylined columnists are their own, and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Sentinel. The Sentinel welcomes unsolicited news and/or feature articles and photographs. If return or acknowledgment is requested, please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope. Sentinel Communications, Inc. will not assume responsibility for unsolicited material. Publication of the name or photo of any person, business, or organization in articles, letters, or advertising in The Sentinel is not an indication of sexual orientation or preference. The Sentinel is distributed in San Francisco and Los Angeles. Mail subscriptions are \$20 for 1 yr. (26 issues) or \$12.50 for 6 mos. (13 issues). Non-subscription mailed copies are available in San Francisco at \$25 for 3 yr. or \$15 for 6 mos. The Sentinel's list of subscribers and advertisers are confidential, and are not sold, rented or released to anyone at any time. Content herein is protected by one or more copyrights. All rights reserved. Reproduction by any form without written permission of the publisher is strictly forbidden. The San Francisco Sentinel was founded in 1974 by William E. Beardamph, renamed The Sentinel in 1978. © Sentinel Communications, Inc., 1980

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ON CALL



Alcohol Abuse in the Gay Community PART III - CoAlcoholism in the Gay Community Tom Smith, M.D. and Scott Whitney

In recent years there has been increasing emphasis on the fact that alcoholics disrupt not only their own lives, but also the lives of those around them. Many would like to regard alcoholism as a very private affliction, but it has become all too evident that those around the alcoholic (coalcoholics) suffer as much or more from the effects of the disease.

Many coalcoholics report the feeling of "walking on eggs" around the alcoholic. The coalcoholic pattern begins subtly with feelings of social embarrassment, anger and guilt. These feelings grow over time to become depression, hopelessness and a generalized sense of powerlessness which begins to produce symptoms in the coalcoholic such as headaches, overeating, social isolation, anxiety attacks, fatigue and sexual dysfunction.

Many times, as coalcoholic lovers attempt to help their alcoholic partners end up, paradoxically, prolonging the course of the disease. This happens because, if alcoholics are to recover, they must begin to see clearly the consequences of their actions. If the coalcoholic is always cleaning up the alcoholic's messes, making excuses, covering bad checks, etc., the alcoholic is ever more free to pursue his addiction.

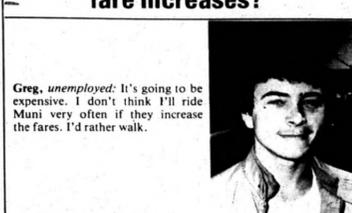
At first the coalcoholic shares some of the alcoholic's "fun stage" denial of the problem. They say to themselves that if other things were in order the alcoholic wouldn't drink as much, or that it's only a passing phase. As the severity of the problem becomes clearer - because of blackouts, personality changes and the other organic symptoms of alcoholism, the coalcoholic begins the home remedy phase. This involves nagging, pouring out bottles, searching for the alcoholic in bars, etc. As the alcoholic resists these attempts to help, the coalcoholic slides ever more deeply into his own despair and isolation. The coalcoholic will call what T.A. would call the "critical parent" to the alcoholic's unruly "child."

What can someone involved with an alcoholic do? First of all, get information on the disease of alcoholism. Begin to set limits within the relationship. Also increasingly separate your areas of responsibility. Rather than going through more home remedies, strongly encourage the alcoholic to seek help through A.A. and counseling. It is just as important to learn how to say no as it is to know when to be supportive. It is also important that you become involved with others who are in similar situations. You can get information, support and involvement with other gay coalcoholics in the Al-Anon Groups (421-6198) or at the Whitman-Radcliffe Foundation (929-1538).

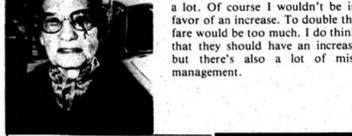
©1980, Bay Area Physicians

Question

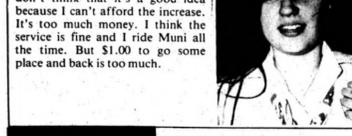
What do you think of the proposed Muni fare increases?



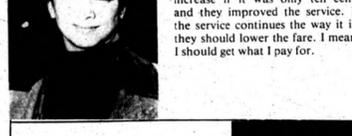
Greg, unemployed: It's going to be expensive. I don't think I'll ride Muni very often if they increase the fares. I'd rather walk.



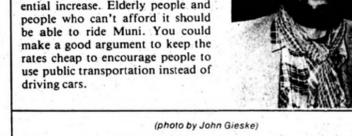
Stella, retired: I would stay home a lot. Of course I wouldn't be in favor of an increase. To double the fare would be too much. I do think that they should have an increase but there's also a lot of misinformation.



Elena, actress and seamstress: I don't think that it's a good idea because I can't afford the increase. It's too much money. I think the service is fine and I ride Muni all the time. But \$1.00 to go some place and back is too much.



Aimee, dancer: I wouldn't mind the increase if it was only ten cents and they improved the service. If the service continues the way it is, they should lower the fare. I mean, I should get what I pay for.



Jeff, psychiatrist: On the one hand, given the economic situation, it's necessary. Everything is going up, but I think it should be a differential increase. Elderly people and people who can't afford it should be able to ride Muni. You could make a good argument to keep the rates cheap to encourage people to use public transportation instead of driving cars.

(Photo by John Gieske)

by Randy Alfred

Aging (Cont. from page 5)

his 60's said, "I like sex but I like it with someone who's read a book..."

While older gay men and lesbians do have contact with younger gays, they prefer to spend time with their peers. Bay Area organizations and support groups like the G-Forty Plus Club, Options For Women Over Forty, and the Slightly Older Lesbian Group, provide valuable self-help oriented services and social outlets and other gay men and lesbians. But as Jordan Lee pointed out, "for every person we get here, there are probably at least five who have given up."

Eliisa, a staff worker at Options for Women Over Forty, stated that the biggest option of the 500-member organization provides is "that women, straight and gay, can come here and get connected with other women their own age and older." Options has a job referral service, provides housing information, holds monthly socials and pot luck dinners for its members, and publishes a monthly mid-life magazine called Broomstick. Each Sunday the group holds a brunch at the Artemis Society, a women's restaurant and coffeehouse. It costs \$12 a year to belong to the Options, which operates out of the Women's Building in San Francisco.

The G-Forty Plus Club meets the first and third Sunday of each month at 1668 Bush St. at 2 p.m. A speaker usually addresses the group on the first Sunday, and the second monthly meeting is devoted to talking in smaller groups where people can get to know each other better.

"Many of our members take a lot of interest in what's happening in the community," said Jordan Lee. "They read all the gay publications and participate in several gay organizations in the community." Group members also have collaborated in research efforts that deal with the subject of gay aging.

Although recent studies show that the majority of elderly gay men and lesbians function quite well in society, participants at the seminar on aging agreed that older gays need social services. Marcy Adelman cited the area of health, economics, and housing as critical concerns of older gays (as well as elderly heterosexuals).

Mental health workers and community activists of all ages puzzled over the question of reaching out to the elderly gay population. While some older gay men prefer openly gay-identified social services and facilities (i.e. gay retirement and nursing homes), others would prefer to remain in heterosexual contexts. "They figure that if it's worked for them, why not to disclose their gay identity so far, it'll work tomorrow," suggested Marcy Adelman. "And it probably will," she concluded, reiterating the theme discussed by seminar participants - that elderly gays must be where they are at in terms of how they perceive their gay identity.

"It's not just the older lesbians and gay men who suffer from the myths and stereotypes about aging," Lee Greener concluded. "It's the younger people who also miss out by not seeing the positive role models these older people provide."

Though times have changed and as Jordan Lee aptly observed, "today's gay people sometimes suffer from over-exposure whereas we suffered from under-exposure," intergenerational sharing between gay men and lesbians of all ages enriches everyone's lives.

Yege disagreed with Lindley's version of the incident: "This guy walked over to my car and said, 'You want to buy some sex for \$50?' I said 'My God, no, that's too expensive.' He asked what was reasonable and I said I supposed \$20 was. The next thing I knew he arrested me."

\*\*\*\*\* CORRECTION \*\*\*\*\* Credit to John Gieske for the photo of Freeman photograph on page 16 of the last issue was inadvertently omitted.

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Outlook

An Anniversary and The Future

This issue of the Sentinel marks the end of my first three years as owner/publisher of this paper. They have been exciting years and looking towards the future is even more exciting.

The growth of the Sentinel in these last three years has been phenomenal, years in which we have more than doubled our circulation, increased the average size of our issues by almost 100%, and more than quintupled our full time staff.

And the future seems even more promising than the past. Beginning with last issue we opened a Washington, D.C. news bureau and will shortly open another news bureau and advertising bureau in Los Angeles. The Sentinel is currently being distributed not only in San Francisco but from Hawaii to Washington, D.C. Starting with this issue we will begin mass circulation in Los Angeles. On May 2 we will become the world's only gay newspaper to offer home delivery subscription service when we inaugurate home delivery here in San Francisco.

Recently I was asked what I believed to be the philosophical difference between the Sentinel and another leading gay newspaper. I have always believed and will continue to hold to the conviction that a newspaper's primary function is to inform its readers. Another journal may believe it is their function to transform their readers. Our function will continue to be to inform our readers.

Several months ago this newspaper was shaken by a mass walk-out of its full time employees. In the months since then we have gathered an entirely new staff. The feedback I have received from many of our readers is that they much prefer "the new Sentinel."

I think it fitting in this anniversary issue to pay tribute to the bright, talented and dedicated staff which makes this paper possible every two weeks. From the editorial and advertising staff to production personnel they are a marvelous group of people with whom to work. In the months to come we believe you will see more exciting changes in the Sentinel. Obviously we will not and can not completely satisfy everyone who reads this paper. However, we intend to continue presenting news and features to our readers in as expanded a range as possible and with as much objectivity as any newspaper can muster.

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MAKING SIDES

The Economics of Libertarianism

Where governments exist, they must violate the rights of any individual, namely, (1) the right to life—accordingly we support prohibition of the initiation of physical force against others; (2) the right to liberty of speech and action—accordingly we oppose all attempts by government to abridge the freedom of speech and press, as well as government censorship in any form; and (3) the right to property—accordingly we oppose all government interference with private property, such as confiscation, nationalization, and eminent domain, and support the prohibition of robbery, trespass, fraud, and misrepresentation. From Statement of Principles, Libertarian Party.

Without laws, property as we know it simply wouldn't exist. The same legal system which permits certain rights in the ownership of property can and does also limit it—through zoning and use laws, eminent domain, and so forth. Though we sometimes forget it, the oil and mineral wealth of this nation formerly (and rightfully) belongs not to the individuals and firms which are granted the rights to extract, refine, and deliver those resources in return for the opportunity to profit, but to the people whose laws and government grant those rights.

Property is not absolute, and most resources are limited. We can change the laws and change the definitions of property. Property must be limited, says environmental engineer Howard T. Odum, wherever it interferes with "the human right to a safe life-support system." A fundamental flaw in the legal system [has] allowed owners of land to assume special rights to the public life-support means.

That life-support system includes a living wage and non-toxic food, air, and water. What we need is not an absence of regulation, but regulatory mechanisms consistent with human needs, human rights, and environmental limitations. The Libertarian Party seeks to end the outdated and unlimited demand for special rights to the public life-support means.

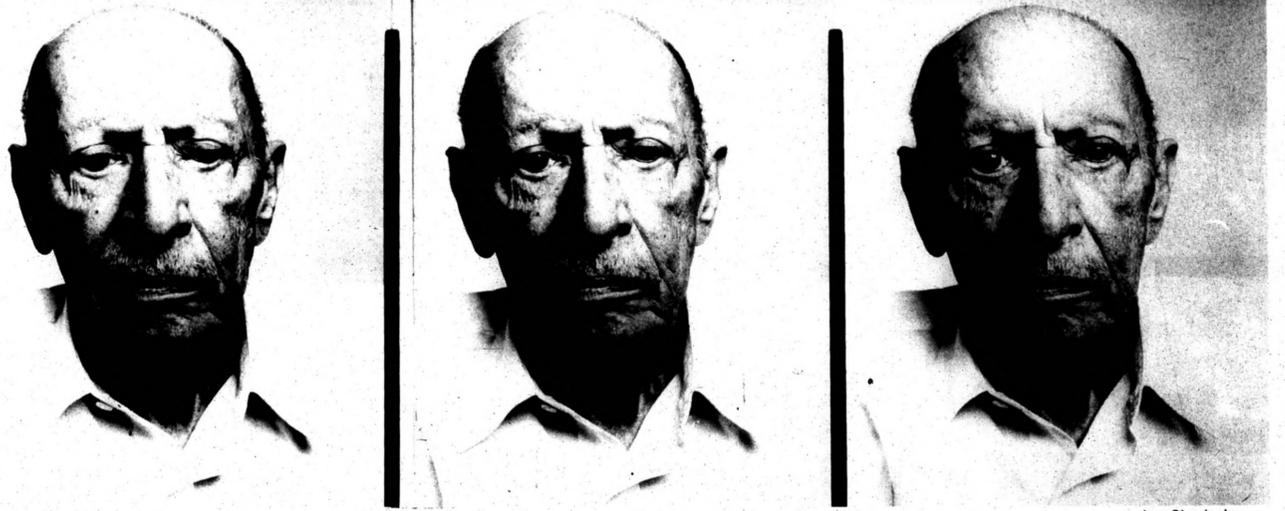
Our notions of land ownership and sale, for instance, are fundamentally foreign to Native American concepts of stewardship of the individuality of the land, and its sacred relationship to the people who live on it.

Specific economic ideals, again using the foundation I have just noted, are wholly compatible with the American Concept of free enterprise: reduction of taxes, and an end to deficit spending; repeal of all controls, whether they be wage and price, or rents and profits; opposition to personal and corporate taxes; repeal of state usury laws; condemnation of coercive monopolies, specifically government; and abolition of all subsidies.

All of the above, inter alia, is nothing more than the free market which is in reality a growing and parasitic burden on (production). There is much more which can be written in behalf of the advocacy of Libertarianism. Yet, it would appear to me that the basic concept to repeat here is that it is the integrity and sanctity of the individual which is paramount. Without each human being having the right to own something (property), that person can become a slave to whichever entity controls him, and/or his property.

A slave, whether he be wholly in servitude, such as with the draft, or economically so, as with confiscatory taxation, is not a free man. This Nation was established to secure certain rights among its citizens. Property rights afford certain degrees of dignity, as well as a manifest concept of pride and productivity. Granted, there is the risk of loss, as well as the potential for gain. Such is the right of each man to choose for himself. Such is the ideal, now, of the Libertarian Party, and such was the ideal of the Founding Fathers.

by Thomas M. Edwards



Igor Stravinsky

## "Photo by Avedon": A Retrospective, 1947-1980

"... Ultimately, I am trying to communicate something very deep and important to me... but I leave it to you to discover what those meanings are... to find, so to speak, your own meanings in my work based on what I have given to you..."

by Aaron Walden

... Staring, glaring, obvious, knock-down, beauty, as plain as a poster on a wall, an advertisement of soap or whiskey, something that speaks to the crowd and crosses the footlights, fetches such a price in the market that the absence of it... inspires endless raptures and constitutes... a sort of social bankruptcy."

Henry James  
The Awkward Age

The little boy with the tree looks at us with genuine joy and anticipation. And yet there is something in his face that questions us. This is a photograph that was taken in Sicily in 1947, so we know that this is a little boy who has lived through war and privation, and yet he seems to face his future unafraid and with eagerness.

What is most important in this photograph is, perhaps, that we see the artist looking into his own future, questioning and searching for answers to questions.

This photo has been placed at the beginning of an exhibition that represents Avedon's first efforts at a retrospective of his work. The technique of the photograph is unrefined, but the clarity of the ideas and feelings expressed in the photo gives it freshness and importance. Many of the elements and themes that are fundamental to all of Avedon's work are here: the problem of growth and fulfillment, the probing of manhood and sexuality, and the consuming puzzle of innocence and beauty that would find expression most vividly in his photographs of women. On the level of craft, the photo is stylistically precocious. The background has been whited out, and the figure is shown straight-on in the style that typifies Avedon's later portraiture.

Avedon has given us unblinkingly steady portraits that speak back to us, that force us to respond and to become involved with the questions we find in the gaze of these faces. He has created art that depends upon our participation. We must look hard, study the photographs, and become involved.

The portrait of Emilian Bouglione—the circus performer with a boa constrictor—is the portrait of a man who is lean, efficiently muscular and exotically sexual. His body is almost pure in the abstract perfection of its flowing volumes.

But this is a body that has become dominated and possessed by the equally muscular snake that has wrapped itself around the circus performer's chest and shoulder. Bouglione, keeping a strong and careful grip on the snake's head, displays the animal as though it were a proud and beautiful appendage.

Bouglione's nose and lips are broad and sensual in a way that confirms the sexual symbolism the snake suggests. Pride and strength are expressed through sexuality openly and overtly...

and yet, Bouglione's eyes—the thing we look at last in this photograph—make us aware of the almost fearful struggle between man and his sexuality. The achievement of manhood seems an arduous and private battle.

Hanging nearby is a portrait of Marilyn Monroe. Her dress gleams with the glitter of black scales that wrap around her, so her dress recalls the boa constrictor in Emilian Bouglione's portrait. She has been caught unaware, passive and almost distraught. Her expression comes from deep within, so her beauty seems outside of and detached from the expression on her face.

It is a portrait that is unrelenting in its portrayal of the uselessness of beauty. The pose expresses Monroe's gnawing vulnerability, her overwhelming loneliness, and, strangely, her mysterious strength. She does not look at us. She looks away. And yet she seems aware that she is being observed. She performs for us, informing us of the impenetrability of her solitude.

This photo is a summation of many of the questions and themes that dominated Avedon's fashion photography in the years from 1947 to 1977. The questions Avedon had raised about manhood and growth could wait, it would seem until he

has settled his account with "Woman": woman who was valued only for her beauty—woman as object, woman who is the possessor of almost mystic powers that are somehow achieved through beauty.

Avedon developed a style of fashion photography that capitalized on his natural storytelling abilities, so the photographs seem easy and entertaining. Gloriously beautiful women are seen in situations that are revealed rather than flatly shown. The settings appeal to our desire for a genuine and positive romanticism, but the images have a worldly and ironically bitter edge. The questions we found crystallized in the portrait of Marilyn Monroe are perceived in a subtle and seemingly unconscious confrontation between beauty and spirit.

Even a light-hearted photo such as that of Carmen at the Moulin Rouge (#102) is rich in ambiguities. She looks askance with an abandoned air as her lover's attention is diverted by two male acrobats in the background. Her great beauty and her elegant attire, which are the firm focus of this photograph, are incapable of sustaining her lover's interest.

A photo of Sunny Harnett (#105) shows her leaning over a roulette table. Her white gown clings to her, emphasizing the sharp points of her breasts. The harsh linear rhythms of the photo are repeated in the dramatically horizontal slits of her eyes. Her worldly and suspicious glance informs us that she values surface, money and show. She is a mannequin with brains... a woman who has learned the pleasures and fulfillments she can achieve through manipulation and cunning... and through her beauty.

Elise Daniels (#133) is a woman in an elegant suit, wearing a wide-brimmed hat, with an enormous beauty mark on her left cheek like the dots on the face of a clown. She stands with a weight-lifter, and a contortionist nearby bends backwards to put his head between his legs. A crowd has gathered to observe the freaks. Daniels's beauty is seen as something both abnormal and entertaining—something to edify the crowds that gather both before and behind her in this photo.

But of all the early fashion photographs it is the woman who peers through a car window who most affects us (#107). She stares at us through the thick glass that is spattered by rain like useless tears that glitter and catch the light. Her hat (the object of this photograph) seems incidental to the woman's sad and distrustful gaze. In the background, the shadowy figure of a man, whose face we cannot see, announces ownership.

Avedon's later fashion photography is less emotionally involved with the problem of beauty. He tells stories with less frequency, and seems less intent on revealing harsh simplicities.

The photographs become less judgmental and more philosophical.

The images of women slowly change from that of icy mannequins into free and mysterious creatures possessed with airy spirit. The women jump and leap about in elegant dress, creating images that are no longer portraits of specific women, but rather, rarified glimpses of a free and powerful race. These

The portrait of Emilian Bouglione—the circus performer with a boa constrictor—is the portrait of a man who is lean, efficiently muscular and exotically sexual. His body is almost pure in the abstract perfection of its flowing volumes.

But this is a body that has become dominated and possessed by the equally muscular snake that has wrapped itself around the circus performer's chest and shoulder. Bouglione, keeping a strong and careful grip on the snake's head, displays the animal as though it were a proud and beautiful appendage.

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Emilian Bouglione

women defy gravity and leap about with superhuman energy, and Avedon—mere mortal man—seems at once, fascinated and amazed.

Nearby is a room that Avedon describes as being "... like a chapel." Six giant portraits of women hang within, and a seventh guards the exit. It is here that Avedon displays his final sense of awe over the mysteries of women and their beauty. These women gaze out from their private worlds, secure and fulfilled. The portraits seem like vast pre-renaissance murals because the images seem primitive and vital and representative of a serenity beyond our grasp.

The portrait of June Leaf shows a woman who has gained her beauty by living and experiencing. Her arms wrap around

(Continued on page 15)

## The Feast of Eros Part Three

by Randolph Phillip Conner

Shiva, one of the myriad deities of the Hindu pantheon, is lord of the cosmic dance, he who destroys life so that it may continue. Shiva is said to be the lover of Vishnu, the preserver. He is also the husband of Ardhanarisvara, whose name means "half man-half woman." Once upon a time the fire-god Agni masturbated Shiva. From Shiva's seed, which Agni dropped over the Ganges, the war-god Kartikey sprang forth. Krishna, the beautiful blue god who never ages, is referred to by Mitch Walker in *Men Loving Men* as the symbol of "jacking off," by which he delights in men given to mutual masturbation.

Loki, the trickster figure and sometimes "Evil One" of Norse mythology, is "argr," or gay, according to Thorik Vangard in *Phallos*. In various myths, Loki transforms himself into the female of a certain species so that he may become pregnant and bear offspring. In one of these, he falls in love with a stallion, changes himself into a mare, and brings forth Sleipnir, the eight-footed horse of Odin. It was from the blood of Sleipnir, by the way, that the red hallucinogenic toad-stool, fly agaric, was created.

In a second tale, Odin accuses Loki of spending eight years in the underworld as a continually pregnant milk-cow. In a third, Loki is said to be the mother of many witches. All this may seem a bit odd, but we must remember that Zeus often changed himself into animals to attract mortal women. Moreover, many homophobic patriarchy of the ancient world feared that a homosexual union might result in the creation of monsters.

Perhaps the most tragic tale associated with Loki concerns his love for Balder, the most beautiful of all the Norse gods. When Balder, who was very happily married, rejected Loki's advances, Loki decided to do away with him. This presented

a problem, as a certain goddess had seen to it that all living things promised her that they would do nothing to harm Balder. All except one, that is, The mistletoe. Loki discovered this loophole by dressing as an old woman and making inquiries of his own. So he formed "an arrow out of the mistletoe with which to kill the god." The tree beside which Balder was standing when he fell received his blood and brought forth holly berries. And when Balder's wife wept upon her husband's corpse, some of her tears fell upon the arrow and changed into the pearlike berries of the mistletoe. The mistletoe, as the weapon used to murder Balder, was henceforth banished from the temples, while the holly became a sacred plant. Loki, undoubtedly, felt little happiness when he looked upon the corpse of the god he had loved.

Amæthon, one of the chief Celtic deities, is the son of the Goddess Danu, who is the Great Mother of the Tuatha De Danaan, an ancient faery people. He is a god of agriculture and is credited with having taught his brother Gwydion the magic arts. He is known to us for having stolen a dog and a reebuck from Arawn, King of the Underworld, bringing about a great battle between the Tuatha De Danaan and the citizens of the Underworld. To win this "Battle of the Trees," it was necessary for the Tuatha De Danaan to discover the secret name of one of the Underworld deities. To do so, Amæthon seduced a male priest of the god and thereby discovered the god's name to be Bran.

The dog which Amæthon steals from the Underworld is linked to the Egyptian Anubis and the Greek Cerberus, as well as to the Dog-star Sirius. The dog and the Dog-star appear frequently in legends and mysteries associated with homosexuality. Robert Graves explains in *The White Goddess* that part of the tribe of Amæthon migrated to Syria, "where they continued to worship their Goddess under the name of Ashima." Might not this Ashima be a variant form of the Canaanite goddess Asherah, worshipped by the gay male prostitutes known as the kadeshim? And if the followers of Asherah, like those of Ashima, worshipped the dog as a sacred animal, then might not this have been one of the reasons that the Hebrew patriarchy referred to the kadeshim as "dogs"?

(Continued on page 15)

## MAGGI PAYNE

by D. Lawless

From a skillful fusion of abstract visuals, electronic media and dance, artist-composer Maggi Payne fashioned a floating tableau of celestial serenity, at the Performance Gallery, March 8. The evening was comprised of four short pieces—ranging from "Lunar Dusk" through "Lunar Earthrise." Payne employed pre-recorded electronic tapes and simultaneous dual slide presentations to create color/tones that fluidly scanned the horizon in waves of light. The gently overlapping images flowed slowly and evenly.

Gradually unfolding in this smooth-shifting manner, "Lunar Dusk" featured Moog-generated, oscilloscopic frequency graphs with skeletal, curvatures and toothpick prisms of light. "Lunar Earthrise," on the other hand, featured color slides that were more massive, fleshy and radiant. With the aid of food coloring, the images were suggestive of yawning sensory organs (ears, mouths) and large anatomical cross-sections. As shafts of light glinted from the slides the music suggested an icy grandeur with a subtle foreshadowing of verdant vegetation beneath a glacial surface. The optimistic concluding flourish of "Earthrise" was a pictorial depiction of the ultimate merger of bleeding raw color with ornate and fine-lined flames.

Both pieces were overlaid with many red and blue filters (backlit to achieve a sort of melting glow) and reflected Payne's fascination with primal-skeletal root forms. Payne's obsession with balance—her ever-steady visual presentation and graceful flow—was lulling rather than exciting. She used dual slide projections—a perfect opportunity for some really adventurous, topsy-turvy editing—and opted, instead, for boring, old balance. Killjoy!

The second piece, "Rising," a misbegotten song-and-dance vaudeville turn, was performed by Carla Blank and Jody Roberts of the Oberlin Dance Collective. The dance refocused the spotlight on more obviously human activity, but it seemed coy and unfunny.

In "Hum," Maggi Payne delivered a performance that contained genuine flame-throwing magic. Under a lone spotlight offset by the vast darkness of the Performance Gallery, Maggi appeared to be blowing into a silver flute, producing a skittering variety of wild notes rather than melody. Stepping forward aggressively, she whapped a startling chunk of metallic feedback into the audience, brought in some distant croakings from somewhere out in the ionosphere and flew into a twilight zone of grumbling dissonance. A lung-busting onslaught of crevasses and chasms split the air, scattering filaments of sound to all corners of the room.

As Maggi played off a backdrop of wailing, sirenish tones with a full assortment of trills, flutters and flurries, I wondered whether she was playing the wind or the wind was playing her. Suddenly wrenching herself away from the flute, she exhaled directly into the mike for one full measure of pure living breath. I then realized that Maggi was actually a visual anchor for the pre-recorded electronic gale's force—that her role as activator-conjurer was a captivating illusion. Just when I had begun to absorb that fact, cataclysmic storm waves of sound ripped the room. A super-sonic hurricane thrust me into full-gallery space, and all at once the piece subsided. I was exhilarated!

Lithe, pale and long haired with wide almond-shaped eyes, the 34-year-old Payne stated that she'd been working with film, sound and photos for the past 10 years, and that she used about 20 tracks and from 4 to 6 flutes in achieving the supernatural respiratory ebb and flow of "Hum." I was also somewhat surprised to discover that the high-density electronic score for all four pieces was composed piecemeal over some duration of time and later re-synchronized into fully-interlocking aural-visual structures.

Payne showed a fanatical zeal for perfect equalization and total compositional balance, avoiding the jarring visual juxtaposition of counterpoint and progression. With regard to her compulsion for absolute balance, she might well consider utilizing a more marked dissimulation of images in her slide show. Perhaps she needs more rapid rate of projection or a broader degree of contrasts. "Hum," however, achieved its effect through Payne's free (but thoroughly planned) unleashing of her powerful imagination.

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POP

Manhattan Transfer

By Steve Warren

If it sounds like a left handed compliment when I say the Manhattan Transfer is more to be respected than enjoyed...

asked Hauser if the Manhattan Transfer was open about their gayness. "We're not gay," he laughed...

year for Atlantic. "Coming Out" was their second. "That was an unpleasant experience I'd rather forget..."

years, because they had been losing rapport with their audience playing large concert halls.

Fonda Holds Gay Western Hoedown (Los Angeles) Forty gay men recently attended a "Gay Western Week-end" at the mountaintop ranch of actress Jane Fonda...

DANCE

By Renee Resnau

Swan Lake (or It's All Your Fault, Ma) received a glorious interpretation from Anthony Dowell and Natalia Makarova March 13 at the Opera House.

apparently carries these images within, for the phrasing of those familiar penches arabesques and supported attitudes are sculpted totality.



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# JAZZ

by Mary Golden

"Oregon," one of the most innovative musical groups today, returns to its favorite concert hall on March 30-31. According to bassist Glen Moore of "Oregon," "We've always been a bit at the Great American Music Hall. It's nice, clean, and everyone can see the stage well. It's a real comfortable setting in the tradition of great San Francisco music halls."

Moore appeared there in February on a bill with Herbie Mann. Moore and Mann acknowledged the support of Great American's Tom Bradshaw. Mann thanked him for letting him do a solo concert, commenting wryly, "Bradshaw happens to like music, which is very strange in the music business today."

The Mann/Moore show provided an interesting contrast in style. Moore is a brilliant innovator and a somewhat kooky, but sincere entertainer. Mann is a cool professional who has been acknowledged as a shrewd and accomplished band leader by critics, but who is best known to the public for his soothing ethnic flute.

Two of his best albums are "Herbie Mann at the Village Gate" and "Memphis Underground." Mann will record a live album at Great American in April.

For the February show, Mann focused on the Afro-Cuban sound he made popular more than two decades ago. "I decided that this year, since I'm going to be fifty in April, it's only to quit screwing around—to do the music I want to do. To get back to basics."

Mann was supported by percussionist Armen Halburian who played more than a dozen instruments. These included the tamboura and solid-bar, graduated chimes which he designed and markets himself. Mann has recorded and toured with some of the best studio musicians in New York City and with players such as Coleman Hawkins, Doc Cheatham and Zoot Sims. Mann has helped millions of people learn to love jazz.

Both Mann and Moore appeared confident before the large audience at Great American. Moore, however, seemed oblivious to the heckling he received during his performance. Some people had come only to see "the

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# MOVIES

## COAL MINER'S DAUGHTER.

by Steve Warren

*Coal Miner's Daughter* is a treasure for those who like to be one step ahead of the script when they're watching a movie. Within the limitations imposed by strict fidelity to its genre it's a well made film.

Based on the autobiography of Loretta Lynn, "the first lady of country music," this is the standard rags to riches story unfolding with such inevitability that there's never a sense of crisis. Whatever happens to Loretta—be it her best friend's death or her own nervous breakdown—she's over it in the next scene and singing again. When she catches her husband with another woman, they quarrel briefly. CUT TO: Inspired by the incident, Loretta is composing "You Ain't Woman Enough (To Take My Man)."

Country music fans are somewhat shortchanged in *Coal Miner's Daughter*. The melody behind the closing credits reprises virtually every note of every Loretta Lynn song heard (sung by Sissy Spacek) in the preceding two hours. Few songs are done in their entirety, and it's only in the closing number, the title song, that Spacek sounds much like Lynn. Until then her voice is more like Patsy Cline's; which

is more than can be said for Beverly D'Angelo, who gives a good performance as Cline but has little vocal similarity.

One consolation—and it's a big one—is the chance to see the Grand Ole Opry back on the stage of "Old Ryman," the Nashville auditorium that housed it for about 50 years. That was where I first (but not last) saw the late Tex Ritter holding hands with his pretty blond guitar player before Ritter ran for governor of Tennessee and started oppressing gays for political reasons. That story could possibly make a better movie than *Coal Miner's Daughter*.

But I digress. Director Michael Apted captures the surface of rural lifestyles and the world of country music, but he obviously has neither the affinity nor the gut knowledge that he showed when he dealt brilliantly with the English pop scene in *Star dust*. The milieu, like the story, is treated slickly and with all the authenticity you expect from a Hollywood movie.

Spacek is fine in the lead but makes little departure from her standard performance. She's more believable at age 13 than as a woman presumably in her 30's in the final scenes. Tommy Lee Jones is more impressive as her husband, his short red hair making him look like Buck Owens.

As hard as I may seem to be coming down on *Coal Miner's Daughter*, I en-



**No Maps on My Taps** features Lionel Hampton, Chuck Green, Sandman Sims and Bunny Briggs, in a film about the black tap dance tradition. The film will open at the Roxie Theater April 1 for a ten day run.

joyed just about every minute of it, Hollywood's legendary "golden age" was a time of predictable movies with recognizable stars doing the same thing in picture after picture. Since the happy ending came back in style the pendulum has been swinging back toward this approach. It doesn't always work because many of the new directors

don't have the old skills; but *Coal Miner's Daughter* is a shining example of a new filmmaker turning out a movie "like they used to make" with the craftsmanship that's almost a lost art today.

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remembering faces (like Holden's, Fonda's, Ferrer's), preserving faces, and saving face. Think about it, a whole film about the lengths a vain woman and assorted conspirators will go to to preserve her skin and save her face. That's what we have here. It's ludicrous, and of all the directors in Hollywood, tough old Billy Wilder knows it. Or at least I suspect he knows it and that he must have looked on the action in this film as so much silliness and the film itself as a deliberate and uneasy mixture of cynical and loving decadence. In other words, camp.

I've been known to get into camp, so it is reasonable to think I might have

## HIDE IN PLAIN SIGHT

by Dick Hasbany

*Hide in Plain Sight* joins a growing list of what must be called populist films, that is, films that show powerless people confronting entrenched and powerful institutions. The quantity of Hollywood's populist films has never reflected the movement's importance in the country's regional politics. Nonetheless, a populist filmography boasting of *The Grapes of Wrath*, Capra's films, and more recently, *The Electric Horseman* and *Northern Lights* need not cause the industry great embarrassment.

*Hide in Plain Sight* is a worthy addition to the canon; it entertains and involves us, and it has some integrity. It even tries to be fair to the usually unreluctantly villainous official institutions and their representatives. Even though we must hate the government and police officials' actions in hiding Tom Hacklin's children from him, the movie is brave enough to let us see that their motives are basically decent and the agents are pained by what they do. The only group that is portrayed without redeeming qualities is the Mafia, apparently still among the diminishing pool of groups (which still includes gays, I fear) that can be drawn on safely for villains and otherwise disgusting types.

There is a problem that seems inherent in populist films, and it is evident in *Hide in Plain Sight*. The genre, if we may call it that, tends to create types rather than individuals. The Joads (*Grapes of Wrath*) are the poor of the world even more than they are the Joads. The use of symbolic types or caricatures has its limitations. Though we may be able to respond to its issues

of the movie and side with the Little Man/Woman, our deepest responses, understanding, and commitment come only, I suppose, when we come in close touch with characters whose emotions are both as intense and as full of ambiguous nuances as our own. In other words, caricature may clarify the various polarities of a conflict, but only fully developed characters can make us laugh and hurt enough to come to a profound understanding of a given situation.

With graceful understatement, Caan suggests a great deal with the merest of movements. A slight, eccentric turn of the head shows his shyness with new girl friend, Alisa (Jill Eikenberry). When he is with his children he uses his body unselfconsciously to express his love for them. The entire cast, largely unknown, is good. But it is primarily Caan's performance that makes this film work. Hacklin becomes someone whose dilemma hurts us almost as much as it does him.

A final note: I can't help but feel a bit amazed. In the last few months we've had both *Kramer vs. Kramer* and this film. Suddenly we are seeing images of men who are willing to fight to be good fathers. Suddenly Hollywood seems to have decided to allow images of sensitive and loving men. Maybe Hollywood is on the brink of showing men as humans instead of the always out of touch, usually brutal figures we've seen for so long. I'm encouraged. Do we dare hope for a day soon when we will see an ordinary, loving gay man, or possibly even a loving gay father on the screens of a neighborhood movie house?

Alan Bates and George de la Pena

## NIJINSKY

by Paul Chaplin

What men! Nijinsky was the most celebrated and inventive dancer of his day. Sergei Diaghilev, his lover and director of the Ballets Russes championed works by Stravinsky, Debussy, Picasso and Cocteau—artists who set standards for art and culture in the turbulence of the early twentieth century.

Herbert Ross' film *Nijinsky* falls short of visually and dramatically evoking the effect these rebels had.

The director deserves credit for the



Alan Bates and George de la Pena

## TO FORGET VENICE—

by Ned Brown

The dreams of adolescence—above all love—bewitch the characters in this romantic parable and hold them spellbound like spirits trapped in a crystal ball. But time is more powerful than any magic, and time is rustling in the wings.

Nicky (Erland Josephson), a trim, well-preserved gay man and his young lover, Nicky, travel from Milan into the Italian *campagna* to visit Nicky's sister Marta. Marta (Hella Petri) is a retired opera singer, ailing, widowed, and childless, who shares a dilapidated villa with Anna (Mariangela Melato), and Anna's lover, Claudio.

Marta is the fulcrum of these two delicately balanced relationships. As a once-famous diva and Queen of the stage, she is a mistress of fantasy, a sorceress of the imagination. She enjoys giving and being everything to everybody. In return she receives the adulation of those who surrender to her spell.

Marta is the image of the fully-lived, fully-shared creative life to which Nicky and Anna, in particular, cling. She has

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provided the secret garden in which their fantasies can bloom undisturbed. She is the center of the safe, magical sphere to which they have gravitated. She is home, hearth, the past, *la serenissima*. She is their fairy-godmother, the bestower of Wealth, Beauty, and Love. She is the crystal ball in which they can see their desires fulfilled, the protector of their dreams.

Petri gives a bravura performance as Marta. Gutsy, seductive, elegant, touching, she is a diva to die for.

But time waits for no one, not for Marta, or the spellbound lovers, or the once-splendid Venice of their dreams. The next morning, as they prepare to depart for Venice, all discover they must face change. They can no longer stand bewitched by the phantoms of the past. The spell has been broken and reality crashes in with the sight of breaking glass and the sound of screeching jets.

The film contains some florid acting by Melato, and a doddering cliché of a loony maidservant (played by an Estelle Winwood-look alike). But the conventions of Italian romance are nothing if not all-embracing and the picture survives these excesses.

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Theater: Double Feature

by Sue Zemel

Ripe as ever, Lillith is back from a hiatus in Europe with Double Feature: Pizza, Trespasso. The evening of two one-act plays confirmed my opinion that this pungent group is one of the best things happening in Bay Area theater. Bravissimo.

It's not just the interesting work they do, but how the women of Lillith do their work that is interesting. Intimate and intense, they interact with verity and vitality. The ensemble involves and engages you with their unpretentious presence. Where else but at a Lillith performance would the audience feel comfortable enough to partake in eating leftover pizza at the end of the plays?

Trespasso, the first play on the bill, is an absurdist adventure story by Martha Boesing. Wide-eyed and wonderful Joan Mankin portrays the slightly pathetic and evanescent Agatha, who is afloat in a sea of unsettling paradoxes.

While their coy lyrics blatantly capitalize on the blank innocence of their blind youth, oddly enough, they exude as performing musicians is dependant upon nostalgia—from the Laurel & Hardy antics of vocalists Graham McPherson and Chas Smith to the James Brown-Jr., Walker saxophone licks of "Kix" Thompson. Songwise, the most impressive group efforts were "Mistakes" with bassist Mark Bedford's Sun records' twanginess, and "Tarzan's Nuts" with some Charles-Like dancing from Chas Smith.



Vicki Lewis and Joan Mankin in Trespasso (photo by Neil Miller)

and strongly sung by Biaja moves the interchange along. Biaja also creates inventive sound images that greatly enhance the piece. Pizza, written by Lillith member Michele Linfante, is a spicy love story about a mother and daughter who work, fight, joke, sing, and mainly live in the family's New Jersey pizzeria. Ethnicity informs and enriches Linfante's autobiographical work.

As the play begins, Gracie, played ingeniously by Reno, sits in her apartment ordering pizzas and anxiously waiting for her deteriorating mother to arrive for a visit. She steps in and out of a flashback, and the scene shifts from present to past, and back again. The transitions were smooth and well done. Linfante, with a sense of humor and poignancy, explores the frustrations, trials, and tribulations of growing up and growing old. The mother-daughter relationship strikes familiar emotional chords without pounding cliché-ridden messages into your head.

At times the older Gracie was a touch too self-conscious, but otherwise the characters deepen and grow as you get to know them. Joan Mankin's performance as the mother, Lena, avoids the stereotypical image of an Italian mama. Instead we see a hardworking woman, who has a great deal of dignity as well as her share of problems. Marga Gomez and Vicki Lewis create colorful minor characters who share slices of pizza and of life with the Innocent family. Robyn Samuels ably directs both of the plays, and the integrity of the evening attests to her fine work. The evocative sets were artfully designed by Debra Arzac.

At Fort Mason's Marina Theater, Building B, thru the end of March. Call 861-4221.

MADNESS

by D. Lawless

Early-mid '60s American youth parried down at Ft. Lauderdale, while Britain's original Mod youth cult gulped fistfuls of bennies and ran riot in the seaside resort of Brighton. Trademarks of the Mod fashion were pork-pie hats, mohair jackets and maximum R&B—one fact of which was Ska or bluebeat music. The pre-reggae Jamaican (native roots) music of English blacks, Ska was bouncy, brassy and fast-paced—more concerned with good time dance kicks than with either racial inequality or Rastafarian placebos.

Reflecting pop music's unabated fascination with the source of youthful joy, the U.K. pop scene is currently in the midst of a Mod-Ska revival. Buoyed up by a heavy reputation as leaders of the revival and wrapped in the fashionable two-tone mohair mode, the self-professed nutty sound of Madness in concert was amiable—but shallow—like an old dance hall joke. Well, ha-ha... and too bad this joke wasn't funnier or fresher. Dominated by scattershots of romping r&b sax riffs, the septet's sound featured New Orleans-cum-British music hall keyboards, two alternating lead vocalists and an undermiked lead guitarist—underpinned by a gummy bassline and cardboard drumruts. From Chas Smith's choiced rap-intro on "One Step Beyond"—title track of their hit debut LP—to the conclusion of their set, the gangly 7-man crew hopped around the stage like a gang of kangaroos on methedrine but were unable to transcend the vapidty of their material.

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Avedon (Continued from page 8)



Marilyn Monroe

her body in a loving embrace, but her breasts remain unguarded. She is like a monumental and kindly goddess—a spirit of the wilderness who beckons us to accept ourselves and others with simplicity and love.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

by Anthony Weaver

To the uninitiated a Gilbert and Sullivan operetta can seem very mysterious indeed. All those simple little tunes with unintelligible words laced together with a very silly scrap of a plot being ever so earnestly and often ineptly performed by the local G & S Society and sending devotees into transports of delight can be an abiding puzzlement.

woman who has gained strength and value through her beauty, so that finally beauty of the flesh is accepted, resolved and exalted by the spirit of womanhood.

Just as we feel the satisfaction of a circle complete—of a question resolved—we turn to the door. Before us we see the portrait of Marcella Agnelli (#267). Her expression is proud, mysterious and almost dangerous. She stands like a modern Medea in a black dress with rough and primitive beads around her neck, and her eyes look out at us imperiously. It is an image that is ageless and classical—and that refuses to speak. Agnelli seems to observe us with no desire to communicate. Her beauty is a key that turns fruitlessly in the lock of the mystery she represents.

In his fashion photography and portraits of women we see Avedon meditating on questions of beauty and personal identity. In the faces of these women he seeks to find their souls. The portrait of Marcella Agnelli seems to indicate that this is a search that failed to reveal concrete answers. We are confronted with dark and frustrating mysteries.

The Portrait Gallery that contains examples of Avedon's portraiture from 1960 to 1976 shows a body of work that spans easy beauty and that seeks to find answers in new ways.

At the entrance of the Portrait Gallery hangs the portrait of Andy Warhol (#340). He is seen headless, with his torso exposed. Scars trace an almost decorative pattern on the skin. With the unpleasantness and brutality of this portrait Avedon is warning us that the images we are about to see are attempts to reveal more than mere faces. Warhol's scars look like a dissection plan, and Avedon's portraits seem designed to dig deep into the interiors of his subjects. In one sense, Avedon's portraits are intense and personal dialogues between the photographer and his subject, so the appeal they make to us as an audience is incidental to the process of discovery they represent. But the portraits are also designed to make us, as an audience, impose ourselves on this dialogue, to find the depth and reason necessary to include ourselves actively in this search for answers.

The triptych of Igor Stravinsky shows the subject abstractly and self-containedly. Stravinsky is in the process of becoming aware of the camera—of turning his gaze upon us. Because Stravinsky has a face that is attached to a reputation, we can



June Leaf

associate specific accomplishment with his face, and Avedon invites us to search with him for clues to the effect of this life of accomplishment on Stravinsky. There are many accomplished people in these portraits. In a sense, these "celebrity portraits" are training tools to help us dissect the faces without names and reputations that sur-

round us daily. Those ordinary faces are to be found here too—the portrait of the caterer who lives across the street from Avedon.

The probing for value and meaning that we see so vividly in the Stravinsky portrait was eventually expressed in an awesome series of portraits of one of the most familiar, to Avedon, of faces—that of his father, Jacob Israel Avedon. This series was photographed from 1967 through 1972, and in them we see a record of the death of an old man. He looks out at us with wide and trembling eyes, and we watch his wordless confrontation with his own death. His eyes seem to have seen terror in the empty abyss of death, and the reflection of emptiness in those eyes haunts us.

With these portraits, Avedon seems to have ended his search. As we leave the exhibition, we find on our left, the image that dominates the exhibition because of its size and placement. We see a young boy with a decapitated snake. The entrails of the snake rest against the boy's belly, and he looks out with an impassive expression. There is something Grecian and ancient about the image. The boy seems sexless, timeless and unexplainable.

Perhaps Avedon has begun to resolve the questions that drove him to create a body of work that fastened on beauty as a means of accepting the mystery of life and value—a work that hoped to find value through pure accomplishment. This image—the boy with the snake—seems effortless. And it recalls, worlds away, the boy with the tree. We look, once again, into the face of innocence. Perhaps it is the knowing and aware innocence we see here that is the well-spring of art and perhaps it is in innocence that we can find comfort and strength.

Feast of Eros (continued from page 8)

The homosexual practices of dogs, as well as those of partridges and doves, Graves reluctantly reports, "may have inspired the organized sodomy in the temples of the Syrian Moon-goddess." With the same reluctance, Graves speaks of the dog-priests, called Enarié, who attended the Great Goddess of the Eastern Mediterranean and indulged in sodomitic frenzies in the Dog-days at the rising of the Dog-star, Sirius.

In a prophetic dream, the epic hero Gilgamesh finds himself attracted to a star. This star, his mother explains, is none other than the man "whom he will love as a woman," Enkidu. In The Sirius Mystery, Robert K.G. Temple equates this star with Sirius. Later, it is Gilgamesh himself whom Temple compares to the Dog-star. If, as Temple claims, the ancient Sumerians were visited by travelers from Sirius, it is not reasonable to suppose that Gilgamesh and Enkidu may have been among the members of the crew? The Ophites, a gay Gnostic sect, dreamed of one day returning to their "true" home, which lay just beyond Sirius.

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Events (Continued)

FRIDAYS. Gays under 21 rap group, 7:30 PM, 330 Grove, SF. Younger Lesbian drop-in Rap/Support Group, 4:00 PM at the Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph, Berkeley.

SATURDAYS. Young men's gay support group, gays under 21: Third World Support Group, 12:30 PM, at the Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph, Berkeley. Call Karen or Bill at 548-8283.

SUNDAYS. The Unitarian-Universalist Gay Caucus sponsors a series of lectures, discussions, and talks by various speakers at its Sunday Series. First Unitarian Church, Franklin at Geary.

MONDAYS. Gay Men's Drop-in Rap Group, 7:30 PM, and Drug & Alcohol Abuse Group, not drop-in (call Tama, 538-9722), 6:00 PM, at the Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph, Berkeley.

Third World support/rap group for bisexual and gay women under 21 living in SF, 6-8 PM, 3129 16th St., SF. Tel: 558-4801. Sponsor: Center for Social Problems.

TUESDAYS. San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band rehearsals at the Eureka Valley Recreational Center, Collingwood between 18th and 19th Streets, 7 PM, 864-0326.

How to Find the Right Job—The San Francisco Weekly Job Rap, at the Network Coffeehouse, 1036 Bush St., 8 PM. \$1 unemployed, \$2 employed. Call 989-6097.

Lesbian Drop-in Rap Group, 7:30 PM; Men's Bisexual Drop-in Group, 7:45 PM; Gay Men's Substance-Dependence Group (not drop-in, call Taj at 626-6291); and Lesbian Substance

Abuse Group (not drop-in, call Randi at 841-4776 x 65). All at the Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph, Berkeley.

WEDNESDAYS. Writer's workshop, directed by Ron Silliman, 7 PM, Hospitality House, 146 Leavenworth, SF. Open to all.

Married gay and bisexual men's group, 8 PM, Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph, Berkeley, 841-6224.

Lesbians over 30 rap group. Child care available. 7:30 PM, Women's Bldg., 18th St. at Valencia, 863-5255.

Young gay male problem solving support group. Tel: Daniel Ostrow, Center for Special Problems, 558-4801.

Gay support services, a peer support group, 7:30 PM, 330 Grove.

Gay Mixed Chorus rehearsals at the Everett Middle School, 16th & Church, 7 PM, 864-0326.

Bisexual Rap Group at the Bisexual Center, 1757 Hays St., 7:30 PM, 922-2300.

Entrapment (Continued from front page)

"shocked to hear from the gay community" about the bill because he does not believe it would be "used against gays."

Pressed further on the concern gays have about entrapment vis-a-vis sex crimes, the San Francisco Democrat expressed his belief that such "entrapment does not occur in the Bay Area, or in the state of California."

California Human Rights Advocates lobbyist Alan Robertson related the gay community's displeasure with SB-1216, and asked the Senator to withdraw the bill. Foran refused to do so.

"The Foran Bill raises serious questions of due process," says Robertson. "Although it is not aimed specifically at gays, SB-1216 would have far reaching consequences and should be opposed by the community." Up to now, little attention has been given to this legislation, Robertson stated.

State Assemblyman Art Agnos strongly opposes SB-1216. When his office received word from the gay community and the ACLU characterizing the Foran Bill as "dangerous," Agnos took a closer look at the measure and decided to try to block it.

"Should the bill reach the floor," says Agnos aide Eric Schlockman, "his chances of defeat are at best fifty-fifty." This legislative session has dis-

played a streak of "law and order mentality," Schlockman continued. The State Senate has already passed the measure.

The lawmakers have already endorsed such stringent measures as the "Rob a Home, Go to Prison Bill," which, if implemented, some observers feel would jam the state's already overcrowded jails with mandated sentences for the five percent of home burglars that are apprehended. With election year pressures pressing legislators to visibly "do something" about crime, the bill "must be halted in committee," Agnos says.

Those contacted stressed the important role community pressure must play in bringing an end to SB-1216. California Human Rights Advocates urges the community to contact members of the Assembly Criminal Justice Committee, in particular John Knox (Richmond) and Elihu Harris (Oakland), Mike Roos (District 46, L.A.), and Mel Levine (District 44, L.A.) are sympathetic to the state's gay community, gay lobbyists claim, and probably could be counted on to vote the bill down if they were aware of its implications.

The importance of making gay concerns known in Sacramento cannot be overstated, Robertson believes, and asks that all letters be addressed to Assembly Criminal Justice Committee, Capitol Building, Sacramento 95814.

Senator John Foran, one legislative aide added, might also benefit by hearing from the gay constituents who helped elect him. His address is: Senator John Foran, 15 Southgate Ave., Daly City.

Bisexual Women's Group. Drop-in Rap, 7:30 PM; Slightly Older Lesbians drop-in rap group for women over 30, 7:30 PM; Sign Language Class, 5 PM (call Rachael, 549-0738). All at the Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph, Berkeley.

2nd & 4th WEDNESDAYS. Black gay support group, 7:30-10 PM, Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph, Berkeley, 841-6224.

THURSDAYS. Drop-in gay rap, 7:30-9:00 PM, Gay Community Center, 330 Grove.

Feinstein (Continued from front page)

a Democratic platform committee, two openly gay representatives have been appointed this year for the first time.

This week officials announced the appointments of Bill Kraus, president of the San Francisco Harvey Milk Democratic Club and Sheldon Andlestone, a Los Angeles lawyer. It was Andlestone's questions that prompted Feinstein's response. Democratic officials also hold out the possibility that other out-front gays will be named to the platform committee.

Last week Feinstein called for support for the National Convention Project. As co-chair of the NCP national advisory committee, Feinstein wrote, "Something frightening and unthinkable is happening in America and we need your help to stop it. Groups like the newly formed Moral Majority and the California based Christian Voice want Gay and Lesbian lifestyles outlawed." (Those groups plan a march for Jesus in Washington in late April)

vision. In a meeting of Christian broadcasters in Washington last month FCC officials reiterated that gay viewpoints must be included whenever gays are attacked by ministers on the airwaves.

Religious broadcasters sought to avoid the issue by excluding homosexuality as a topic in broadcasting. That approach was acceptable by the FCC until last week's ruling, which now will require them to meet with gay organizations about overall programming. If those meetings were to be continually non-productive, FCC lawyers say,

a case could be made that the broadcaster was failing to meet community needs. If the broadcasters refuse to meet with gays outright, that would now be grounds for immediate license challenge, one of the most expensive propositions for broadcasters.

All stations must perform a community ascertainment survey at least once during their license period, which lasts three years. California stations which come up for renewal as a group will make community surveys by this fall.

Further meetings of the Democratic platform committee will be held in four cities, beginning April 10 in Baltimore. The National Convention Project will coordinate testimony supporting a gay rights plank at those hearings.

"It's going to be very helpful to have gay members on the platform committee for the first time," Pous said.

FCC (Continued from front page)

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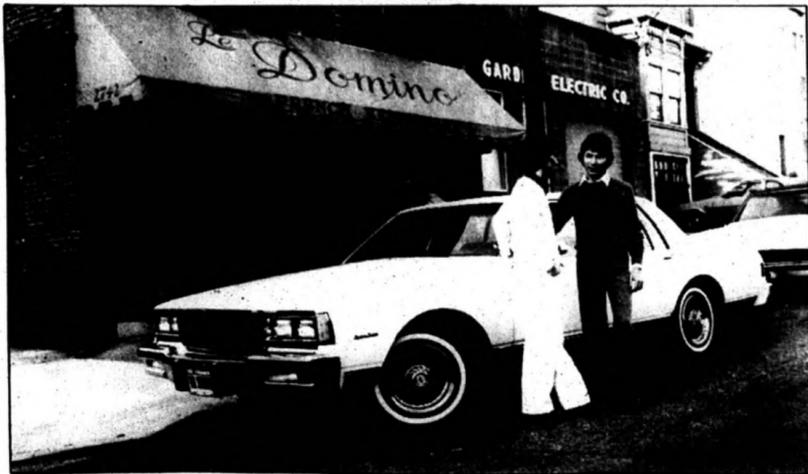
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# The Sentinel

**The Bay Area At Your Feet**



Photo by Host Fenske



Secluded Beach near Limantour (photo by Horst Fenske)

## On The Beach

by Ron Baker

### San Gregorio

A visit to San Gregorio restores your belief in beauty and magic. A temple to the sun god Apollo stands here, fashioned not by humans, but by the forces of nature herself. The aesthetic magnificence of San Gregorio, coupled with its atmosphere of ripe sensuality, compels discerning sun worshippers to undertake regular pilgrimages to its shores.

Your introduction to this spectacular beach comes after a brief, bumpy ride down a dirt road flanked on either side by fields of California poppies. As you stand at the cliff's edge, your gaze sweeps over the panoramic view 300 feet below: a three mile expanse of white sand beach embracing the endless horizon of the azure blue Pacific.

The eye bathes in the richness of contrasting colors—a blue sky bordering on purple, dazzling white sand, green plants in golden brown soil, yellow, orange and red flowers, driftwood bleached silver-gray by a white-hot sun, blue sea shot through with moving white streaks.

The ear attends the rhythmic sound of the surf, gently caressing the shore or fiercely pounding against limestone rocks. Seagulls cry into the breeze.

San Gregorio is a place for people who like to play.

You need not restrict your day to lying motionless in the sun. San Gregorio allows you plenty of room for running, playing frisbee or rally tennis, or simply walking leisurely down the shore.

At the northern end of the beach clay and limestone cliffs shoot straight up from the water's edge. Water seeping from underground springs has carved exotic markings on the cliff walls, calling up images of Egyptian deities.

During low tide beachwalkers search out the starfish which cling to the rocks in the tide pools. More adventurous souls clamber down rock formations on the northerly shore to reach an otherwise inaccessible beach. At the farthest end a cave winds deep into the face of a cliff, carved out by the relentless pounding of the waves.

San Gregorio is a place for people who like excitement.

Swim at the risk of your life—the water is cold and the undertow sometimes treacherous. Yet on a hot, sultry afternoon a running leap into the surf brings an exhilaration beyond expression, especially when it follows a session of lovemaking.

San Gregorio is a place for loving.

As the day progresses, the lighting changes, creating entirely different feasts for the eyes. Toward late afternoon the brilliant glare of the sun softens, the seascape mellows, and the towering brown cliffs glow with a golden radiance.

In keeping with the pervasive hedonism of San Gregorio, almost everyone goes nude on the beach. To do otherwise seems inappropriate in an atmosphere whose very essence is freedom of spirit.

San Gregorio encourages you to suspend thought for a moment, to put aside the workaday world and enter a realm inhabited by the ancient gods and goddesses.

If you look and listen closely they will speak to you there, whispering secrets in your ear to make you laugh and play again like an innocent child.

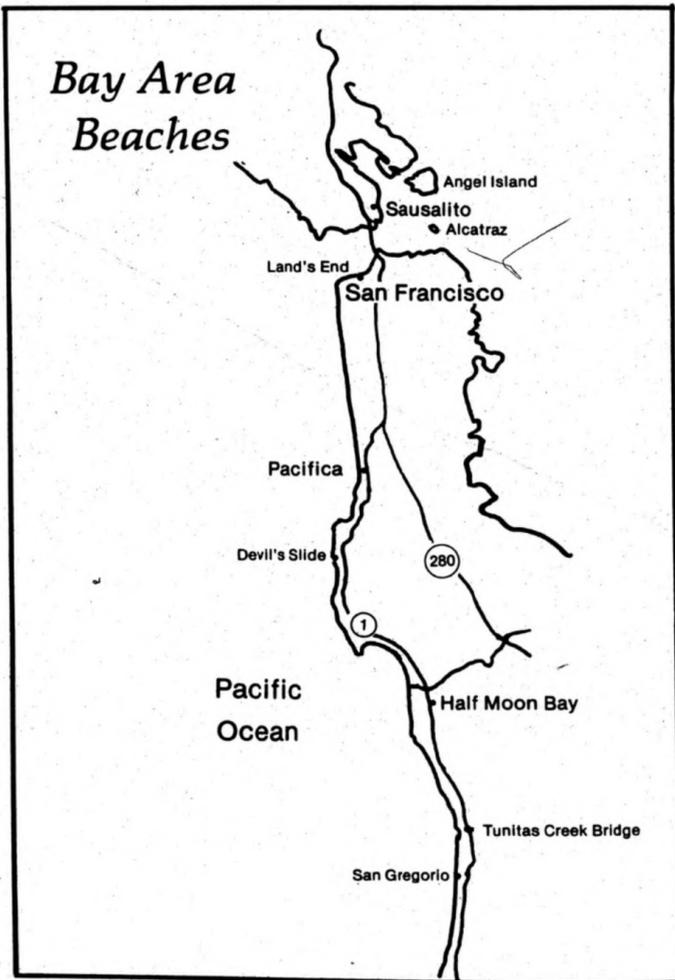
Spring officially arrives today and after a very long and very wet winter it's time we all shed our winter duds, donned our gay apparel and enjoyed the rites of Spring.

Northern California abounds not only in natural beauty but provides some of the finest recreation in the nation.

In this issue *The Sentinel* presents a guide to a portion of the extended Bay Area, from the resorts of the Russian River to hot air ballooning in the Napa Valley; from the spooky mysteries of San Jose's Winchester House to the overwhelming mystery of the sea and its beaches.

We chose areas diverse enough to lead our readers North, South, East and West.

The gloominess of Winter will soon be departing and we chose areas, all within a two hour drive of the City, where we can enjoy the radiance of Spring.



**How to get there:** (Approximately a 1 hour drive from San Francisco.) Take Highway 1 south to Half Moon Bay or take Interstate 280 and turn off at the Half Moon Bay exit. Exactly 0.8 miles south of Half Moon Bay on Highway 1 you will reach the Tunitas Creek Bridge.

From here the turnoff to the beach is 1.3 miles up the road. The only landmark—*easily missed*—is a small orange flag at the entrance to a dirt road on the west side of the highway. Make a sharp right turn.

Continued on page 3

## Beaches (Continued from page 2)

### Devil's Slide

Don't go to Devil's Slide (also known as Eden Cove) on a sunny weekend unless you are prepared to deal with wall-to-wall people. It is by far the most popular nude beach in Northern California, probably because it is both beautiful and easily accessible to the City.

Several years ago, before the common herds 'discovered' the beach, Devil's Slide boasted a predominantly gay male population. Now the ratio approaches 70-30, with the breeders and their children in the majority.

The main beach consists of coarse white sand, kept meticulously clean by property owners Jean Brunning and her husband, who, to their credit, allow no dogs, no fires, and no overnight camping.

Harsh winter storms during the past two years have taken a heavy toll on the small beach at the northern end of the shore where most lesbians and gays congregate.

Another limiting factor at Devil's Slide—a heavy presence of teenagers with radios and six packs of beer whose primary purpose in visiting the beach seems to be to gawk. Regrettably, Devil's Slide has fallen into the hands of the philistines.

But on a sunny *weekday*, if you don't have time to drive to San Gregorio, Devil's Slide can offer you the prospect of a fine day at the beach.

**How to get there:** (A twenty-five minute drive from San Francisco.) Take Highway 1 south to Pacifica. Devil's Slide is exactly 3 miles past the stoplight in Linda Mar.

Drive through Pacifica, continuing on Highway 1 as it rolls up a big hill. Your best landmarks are a large American flag on the left and a sign that says 'Parking' on the left side of the highway.



Land's End (photo by Horst Fenske)

### Land's End

In the wake of \$1.25 a gallon gas, many sun worshippers realize that you don't have to drive outside the city limits to enjoy a nude beach which offers spectacular views of San Francisco Bay, Golden Gate Bridge, Mt. Tamalpais, and the Marin headlands.

Land's End is much beloved by the lesbian and gay commonfolk of San Francisco. They regard it as their backyard paradise, a beautiful and gentle patch of nearby wilderness always there as an escape from the City.

Up close it offers the visitor a varied landscape: Monterey pines standing on sheer cliffs overlooking the ocean, open meadows filled with blossoming wildflowers, Monterey cypress trees on grassy knolls, mimosa groves surrounded by patches of anise.



Building sand castles at Devil's Slide (photo by Fisher Ross)

The upper slopes, covered with manzanita thickets and blackberry vines, dip dramatically into the sea. On warm days you could easily imagine yourself on Crete or some far-flung Aegean island.

Undoubtedly the finest season for experiencing Land's End is spring, when the grassy slopes turn luxuriant green, the wildflowers bloom abundantly and the days grow increasingly longer. For sheer spectacle there are few places to match it.

Like San Gregorio, Land's End possesses a unique quality which can only be described as magical.

But avoid weekend visits.

Only two years ago, gays could lay claim to almost exclusive possession of the three small beaches which make up the Land's End shoreline. Now, especially on sunny weekends, female Japanese tourists in pedal pushers and daddies with kiddies manage to scramble down the rough dirt trails which lead to the once secluded beaches.

Usually, however, the shock of confronting scores of naked men, some engaged in affectionate embraces, is enough to send them scurrying in another direction.

**How to get there:** Land's End is north of the area of the Cliff House and the ruins of the old Sutro Baths. Follow Geary Boulevard west or the Great Highway north to Camino del Mar.

Turn north onto Camino del Mar at the stoplight opposite the Seal Rock Inn. Park in the large lot at the end of Camino del Mar. Take any of the dirt paths which begin at the end of the abandoned roadway behind the parking lot.

### Muir Beach

Several years ago, prior to its switch to state jurisdiction, most of this beach was a popular hangout for nude bathers, many of them lesbians and gay men living in Marin county.

Presently, although ordinances forbid nudity in the 'public' portion near the parking lot, basking in the raw still reigns on a free beach just to the north. Most gays congregate there.

**How to get there:** (A 40 minute drive from San Francisco.) Head north from San Francisco on Highway 1. Muir is just south of Stinson Beach. Reach the public parking lot via Pacific Way. Turn right and cross the rocks which separate the two Muir beaches.

### Stinson Beach

When summer fog has socked in San Gregorio, Devil's Slide and Land's End, Stinson Beach may well bask in brilliant sunshine.

Unfortunately, the beach fills to overflowing every sunny weekend and even weekdays can present crowded conditions. Your best bet for more privacy—and finding fellow gays—is to search out Little Beach which lies between the two coves north of Red Rock Beach and south of the public chunk of Stinson Beach.

**How to get there:** (A 45 minute drive from San Francisco.) Take highway 1 north and follow signs to Stinson Beach. To find Little Beach, walk south from Stinson Beach.

### Point Reyes

Geologists predict that in a half million years Point Reyes will be an island off Seattle. For the moment, however, this spectacular wilderness lies within an hour's drive of the Bay Area megalopolis.

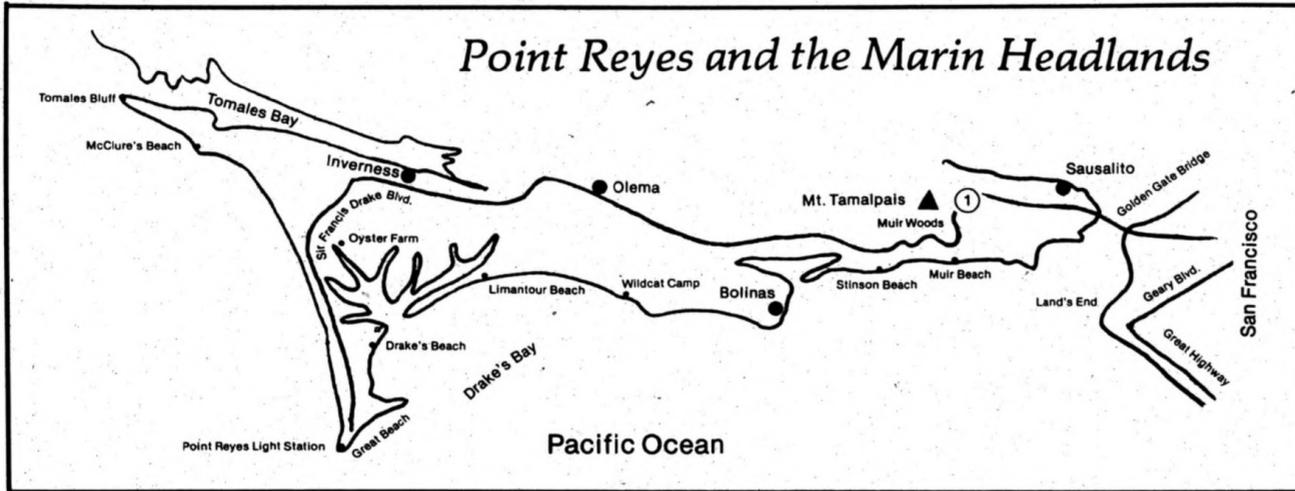
Eighteen years ago an act of Congress created the Point Reyes National Seashore in Marin County. In a time other than the ecology-minded 1960s, or in a place other than northern California, this magnificent area might have become another overdeveloped park, with hospitality houses, pleasure piers and seafood restaurants.

Fortunately for those who enjoy wilderness parks, this did not happen. The Point Reyes Seashore is essentially a backcountry park which appeals almost exclusively to people who enjoy walking on untamed, stormy beaches or in the solitary grassy and wooded headlands.

You can visit Point Reyes again and again and each time experience something different. Sometimes you walk to beaches enveloped in a chill fog, when you

Continued on page 4

Beaches (Continued from page 3)



can see no farther than the sandpipers darting in front of you at the wave line. On some days when the cold, relentless winds blow across the headlands, you must wear gloves, a hat and warm jacket. On still, sunny days you can sunbathe naked beneath the white cliffs at Drake's Beach or pass several hours beside a sheltered swimming pond in the hills.

After the first few winter rains, the uplands turn a brilliant emerald green, kept trim like a fine English lawn by grazing cattle.

Beginning now (late March) the hills take on patches of color from the bloom of wildflowers. By mid-April you can wander for miles along trails crisscrossing the areas ablaze with flowers.

In summer the hills turn cracker-brown, covered in long dry grasses. The landscape varies dramatically—you can walk in dark pinewoods, then along rocky wave-battered beaches, or beside the shores of estuaries noisy with birds. On a weekday you might not come across another hiker all day.

To explore the southern reaches of the seashore, drive to the village of Bolinas and follow Mesa Road to its end at Palomarin Trailhead. The hiking trails that wander north skirt a number of small, beautiful lakes that shimmer in the rugged hills above the ocean. Bass Lake, a 2 1/2 mile hike in, offers a number of secluded spots for sunbathing and swimming.

If you feel up to a longer hike, continue on to Wildcat Beach, where underground springs seep down the bluffs through yellow monkeyflower and patches of wild watercress.

To reach the spectacular beach at Limantour, take Sir Francis Drake Boulevard, turn left onto Balboa Ave., which leads into Limantour Road. The wide beach at the end of the road lies on sheltered Drake's Bay, safe for swimming, provided you can tolerate the cold water.

With an incredible 7 miles of rolling sand, Limantour isn't just one of the most beautiful beaches in northern California—it's probably the longest nude beach in the world.

The beaches at Point Reyes are ideal for lovers who want privacy. To explore other areas, follow Sir Francis Drake Boulevard through the town of Inverness. Turn right on Pierce Point Road to reach the northern areas of the seashore. At the end of the road is the parking lot for the short trail to McClure's Beach, with its rich tidepools, sandy beaches and soaring cliffs.

If you feel up to a real adventure, take the exhilarating 10 mile round trip hike from here to the tip of Tomales Bluff. The trail meanders high above the rocky shore, past rugged canyons where hawks and turkey vultures ride the sea winds.

For the last mile there's no real trail—you make your way through the lupine hummocks along the backbone of the narrowing peninsula. Suddenly there's no more land, only the turbulent meeting of the ocean and Tomales Bay.

Sir Francis Drake Boulevard extends all the way to the Point Reyes promontory. On the way you pass a blue sign announcing the 4 mile Drake's Estero Trail. This trail climbs through ranchland, dissects an old tree farm, skirts the bluffs above the estero, and ends at Drake's Bay.

A worthwhile stop further up the road is Johnson's Oyster Farm where you

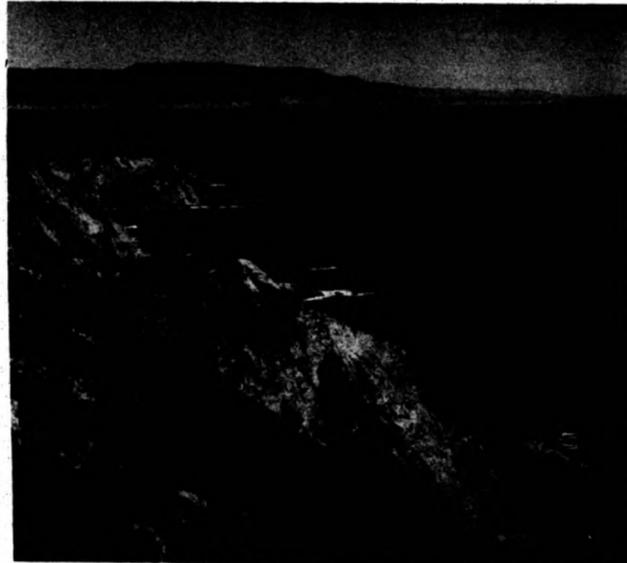
can buy fresh oysters for a picnic.

Two spur roads lead to parking areas beside the Great Beach. If you hike for 1/2 mile south, you'll find yourself completely alone. On a windy day you can seek protection among the sand dunes which slope down to the beach.

If you want to spend the day on milder shores, drive down the side road to Drake's Beach, a wide shoreline with soft sand, surrounded by beautiful white cliffs.

The Point Reyes lighthouse has been closed for years, but there are other things to do around the promontory headlands at the end of the road.

You can watch herds of sea lions on the shore below, gaze at the Ferallon Islands, or on a clear day, look for the white towers of San Francisco rising from the sea far to the south.



View of Point Reyes Beach

(photo by Horst Fenske)

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The Bay & Marin

by Michael McGuinness

Jack London's novel *The Sea Wolf*, begins on a day when impenetrable fog hugs San Francisco Bay. Suddenly, out of the invisible, a huge ship appears and crushes a small ferry filled with commuters from the city. One young man is rescued from the deadly waters by the murderous vessel whose captain, the Sea Wolf, impresses him into a life-altering journey.

With this story in mind to give an edge to your afternoon, select a voyage of your own on the bay.

You can catch the boat to Alcatraz near Fisherman's Wharf. The old federal prison sits ruined in the middle of the bay like some bitter continental counterpoint to the Statue of Liberty.

Here a few members of the tired, poor, huddling masses wound up watching the days of their lives blowing away in the cold wind of the Golden Gate. Pleasant on a bright warm day, but memorable if visited in the cold and damp.

You can't get to Angel Island from our Devil's Island, and that is appropriate. But you do catch the boat from approximately the same place and that is appropriate, too.

Angel Island rises from the bay like the tip of a submerged mountain. It is a ragged, largely undeveloped State Park which cries out for a latter day John McLaren to turn it into an Ischia or Cythera. But with public benefactors like Howard Jarvis tramping out the vineyard, be glad it's not an oil refinery and climb or bike to the peak. Share your picnic lunch with the deer and get high on a unique panorama of water, sky and land.

Alcatraz and Angel islands are like two moons frozen in orbit around otherworldly Marin County.

Marin can be pleasantly reached by boat leaving from the Ferry Building and depositing you either in Sausalito or Larkspur. But the best way to enter this magic kingdom is to follow the orange bridge road. The long, curving, processional way begins at the temple-like Palace of Fine Arts in the Marina district, bows past the cemetery, pauses slightly at a toll booth to catch the view before making a breathtaking leap via the apparitional span across the Golden Gate.

But before you pass under the twin rainbows of the tunnel that takes you into the heart of the county you can find two roads diverging at the north end of the bridge.

Following signs at the Alexander Avenue exit will give you two very different choices.

To the right is Sausalito. This old town, despite being overwhelmed by tourists, still has charm which can be enjoyed on an off-season weekday and almost any evening for that romantic cocktail with a view of San Francisco twinkling through golden light into diamond laden night.

The road to the left leads into the kind of wild hill country that is so typical of California. This is military land and it is full of old bunkers and revetments that are some of the most evocative and dramatic architecture in the area. But the main attraction here is the land.

Recreation area, which stretches miles up the coast and is an unparalleled place for urban prisoners to escape to.

Down near Rodeo Beach you can visit the California Marine Mammal Center which cares for sick sea creatures.

From the breezy top of Mt. Tamalpais you can see Highway 1 winding north along the coastal cliffs. Near Bolinas Bay the road passes the Audubon Canyon Ranch where, in mating season, voyeurs can climb the hills and, with binoculars, look into the treetop nests of newly hatched herons.

Just across the bay from the Audubon refuge is the little town of \_\_\_\_\_ . The residents of \_\_\_\_\_ do not encourage visitors and so have taken down all of the road directional signs. They were so successful at thwarting tourists and would-be residents that they wrote a book about how they did it. In the book they changed the name of the town to protect its innocence. If you go there (and no one wants you to), stop in at the bookstore. It holds a shelf of works by townspeople. Besides being beautiful, it's brainy, the little town of \_\_\_\_\_ .

Directly east of \_\_\_\_\_, in the hills of northern Marin is Samuel P. Taylor State Park with a pleasant redwood picnic and camping area and a spectacular hiking trail along the Bolinas ridge.

The road running through the park will take you east toward San Rafael and the Marin Civic Center, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. This graceful building is a utilitarian fantasy in orange and blue and stands as a magnificent but unheeded example of how to build to complement the landscape and elevate the soul.

Going south of Highway 101 you can take the turnoff to reach Tiburon. This little town sits on the bay and has a main street that looks distressingly like a set from an old Sonje Henie film. However, the real attraction of Tiburon is the hill that rises above the town and the spit of land called Belvedere. A tour of the area gives discrete views of homes rising in luxurious terraces from the sea to the sky. This is the place where most San Franciscans hope to go after they die.

From Tiburon you can take a ferry or a Golden Gate Transit bus, both of which will get you back to Market Street faster than you might wish.

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# RUSSIAN RIVER THE GREAT ESCAPE

Last summer *Newsweek* magazine described the Russian River resort town of Guerneville as "a gay boom town," a description with which the local resorts newspaper took strong exception. Judging from the growth of gay resorts, restaurants, home buyers and night spots in the river area in the last three years, *Newsweek* probably more closely approximates the realities of the river area than the vehement denial of the local press.

Since the *Sentinel's* last gay guide to the Russian River in September of last year, three more resorts have been sold to gays and are drawing largely gay clientele.

In short, the river is rapidly becoming to Bay Area gays what Fire Island and Provincetown have long represented to East Coast gays: a retreat from the hustle and bustle of city life. One man, knowledgeable of the real estate transactions in the river area, estimates that easily half of the sales of residential property in the last year have been to gays. Another source told the *Sentinel* that every resort on or near the river that has been sold in the last few months has been purchased either by gays or as a resort catering to gays.

Many of the longtime residents and business people in the river deeply resent the huge influx of gays. However, for the most part, they seem willing to accept one economic fact of life along this fabulous stretch of watery splendor: the gay influx has halted the rapid deterioration of a once thriving tourist area and its revival can be directly attributed to the influx of gay money.

By the late 1960's and early 70's the most prominent river town, Guerneville, was threatened with a bleak future of marauding teenagers spending drunken days there as the primary source of tourism, the lifeblood of the river. The river verged precariously on the ledge of financial ruin and the fringes of decay.

The gay migration into the river area has proved a tremendously vitalizing influence for the area.



Sunbathing at Fife's on the Russian River (photo by Gary Thompson)

No one knows exactly how old the Russian River really is. But the eighty-four mile stretch of waterway is one of the oldest rivers in California, its waters gently flowing down from the north and into the Pacific Ocean for untold thousands of years.

One way of measuring the age of the river is by the number of "muleshoes"

Continued on page 7

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## Russian River (Continued from page 6)

along its trek from the mountains to the sea. "Muleshoes" are created when a river has flowed for so many years that it wears away the sharper points of its turns and instead gracefully curves just ever so slightly. The Russian River is dotted with hundreds of "muleshoes."

Earlier in this century the fabulously wealthy likes of William Randolph Hearst built magnificent estates along the river's edge and the area became a playground for the super-rich and near-rich. One of the world's most exclusive clubs, the Bohemian Club, still owns a vast enclave along the river and each year the movers and shakers of international finance and politics gather there for a highly secretive summer encampment.

Then, in the 50's and 60's, upper middle class families discovered the river and established get-away-from-it-all weekend and summer residences there.

Although gays in small numbers occasionally ventured up to the river for a weekend drive and isolated pockets of gay men and women began moving into the area, it was not until the mid-seventies that the first openly gay resort flung open its doors, precipitating the rush that would follow.

Eight resorts are now flourishing on either exclusively gay clientele or enjoying a mixture of gay and non-gay patrons alike.

Three night spots now offer a variety of nightlife and three restaurants welcome the flourishing gay trade.

An area of spectacular beauty and even more fantastic weather, the Russian River lies only about seventy miles from San Francisco and driving time generally runs no longer than an hour and a half.

One of the truly enjoyable aspects of gay life at the resorts is that each is very distinct and offers a wide variety of experiences and surroundings. There is, to borrow a phrase, "something for everyone." Options run the gamut from isolated splendor atop a mountain range to crowded poolside and discos.

Starting a Russian River adventure is as simple as crossing the Golden Gate Bridge and following Highway 101 north past Santa Rosa. Just beyond Santa Rosa you will come to the River Road (Fulton) exit. Follow it a very short distance until you come to a stop sign. Turn left and you are well on your way into the river country.

### Russian River Lodge.

Driving along River Road the first of the gay resorts you will encounter is the



Russian River Lodge (photo by Gary Thompson)

Russian River Lodge, which has just changed ownership. Look for the Wohler Road sign on your right as you wander along the highway and when you've spotted that sign the Russian River Lodge will be situated directly across the road on your left.

Accommodations at the Lodge vary from cabins (complete with kitchens) to rooms in the large old fashioned farmhouse which is the main building on the seven acre spread. Campsites are also available.

The new owners have made several exciting changes, including opening up the main house to guests, where co-owner Jim Finch assures us the "coffee pot is always on." They have also created a lounge and game room in the hotel and if you get off on playing pinball machines you are indeed in luck.

The "treehouse" at the lodge is well known to previous guests and if a little nighttime trysting strikes your fancy inquire about the treehouse when you check in.

Besides the treehouse, the Lodge also offers a large, clean pool where nudity is allowed (as it is on much of the rest of the property). Men and women mingle

Continued on page 8

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## Russian River (Continued from page 7)

easily here as they wander the trails up into the hills behind the Lodge or laze around the pool.

The new owners have also installed a hot tub which does not seem in the least incongruous with the relaxed and rustic atmosphere of the Lodge.

Campsites are available for those who prefer spending their nights outdoors and many of the sites border on the idyllic.

The Lodge also affords easy access to famed Wohler Beach, the nude beach which the County of Sonoma has vowed to close and was largely the reason the county passed an anti-nudity ordinance on public beaches. The beach is located on property owned by actor Fred MacMurray and they have installed a fence to keep visitors out. Your best bet is to check with the staff at the Lodge on the current conditions for Wohler Beach before venturing over there. If the local sheriffs are out and buzzing around you could get cited.

Rates at the Lodge vary from \$5 per day per person for camp sites to \$40 per day per person for the largest of the cabins.

The Lodge is also close to some of the hot night spots at the river.

Seven miles farther down River Road a cluster of gay resorts begins in the town of Guerneville itself.

Once you have arrived in Guerneville you can turn right on to Armstrong Woods Road and you will be approaching two resorts, Highlands Resort, recently purchased as a gay resort and Hexagon House, which draws a mixed crowd of gay and non-gay clientele.

### Highlands Resort

Earlier this year the three-and-half acre Highlands Resort changed ownership and is being remodelled for a May 1 opening catering to gays.

From Armstrong Woods Road just proceed to Woodland Drive and turn right. That will take you directly to Highlands Resort.

Seventeen cabins and a lodge comprise the facilities available for overnight guests (they are also preparing other facilities for day patrons). The swimming pool is already in and the new owners are installing a sauna and a jacuzzi. Nudity will be allowed in the jacuzzi area.

A continental breakfast is served in the lodge but you may prefer to delay breakfast, pack a huge picnic lunch and take off up the road to Armstrong Woods State Park, a 400-acre wilderness of virginal redwood stands and lovely shaded meadows where picnics seem wrapped in the romantic aura of a Hollywood love film.

If you choose to picnic but don't care to jaunt off to Armstrong Woods, Highlands Resort has picnic tables available to accommodate you.

Rates at Highlands range from \$27 to \$48 for the deluxe two bedroom cabin with kitchenette.



Lounge Area at Hexagon House (photo by Gary Thompson)

### Hexagon House

Far and away the plushiest resort on the river is Hexagon House, which is located farther up Armstrong Woods Road just before the entrance to the woods themselves.

The resort itself is cozily nestled away from the hubbub of downtown Guerneville and the dining room and bar are some of the finest examples of rustic decor anywhere on the river.

Hexagon House, which draws probably a sixty percent non-gay crowd, offers the most complete facilities of all the resorts, with two swimming pools, individual cabins, and motel rooms to choose from for accommodations.

Actress Betty Hutton owns part of Hexagon House and entertains there for one month every summer.

Rates vary from \$40 to \$55.

### Fife's

Back down in the main section of Guerneville there are three resorts to pick from: Fife's, Fern Grove and Sleepy Hollow.

The largest of all the gay resorts in the area, Fife's wanders over fourteen acres of riverfront property, with well tended lawns and flower and vegetable gardens

(Continued on page 9)

## Russian River (Continued from page 8)

adding a delightfully visual touch to what is already a friendly, relaxed atmosphere.

Forty-eight cabins cluster around the main encampment area, most of them one bedroom accommodations but several are two bedrooms.

Fife's draws a casually relaxed mix of gay men and gay women who are there either as weekend long guests or day patrons (the facilities for day patrons are more than adequate for those venturing north for just a one day's jaunt).

Friday and Saturday nights the lodge is converted into a disco and this year they have installed a new sound system.

Two excellent chefs furnish the dining room with a small but delicious variety of seafood dishes, with vegetables grown in Fife's own gardens.

A canoe trip along the river is an excursion well worth while and you can rent canoes for just that purpose. They suggest, however, that you reserve a canoe when you reserve your room.

Fife's also plans a series of special events this Spring and Summer, including their popular Games Weekend April 18-20 and a special Easter brunch on April 6. Robin Tyler, the fabulously funny lesbian comic, will perform there on May 4.

The large expanse of lawns also provides ideal spots for camping.

Spring rates will be in effect until the end of April but the regular summer rates range from \$39 to \$59, with a 25% discount for Sunday through Thursday nights.

Often you will find guests at Fife's who have not left the premises at all during their stay there. No need to leave really since almost everything you might need is available on the grounds.

### Fern Grove

Located directly across the street from Fife's is Fern Grove.

This resort is ideal for those who want to get away from home without ever having to leave the convenience of life in the City.

Last year the owners renovated and redecorated all of the cabins and they are an absolute delight, complete with kitchens and televisions.

If a blazing log in a fireplace strikes your romantic fancy, Fern Grove's cabins will certainly fulfill your fantasy.

Bob and Jay, the owners, don't even mind if you bring along your family pet if you've called and let them know beforehand that you'll be bringing the little critter.

Gay men and gay women are fond of Fern Grove and they spend long hours socializing around the pool.

The rates range from \$29 to \$63.

### Sleepy Hollow

The third gay resort in the heart of Guerneville is Sleepy Hollow, which is only three blocks from the river and just two blocks from Fife's.

The Hollow has only seven units at the moment but it is a cozy, intimate atmosphere. Cabins are either one or two bedrooms, with the one bedrooms featuring kitchenettes while the two bedroom accommodations have full kitchens.

There are also barbecue and picnic areas available at the resort.

Opening date is set for mid-April and rates will start at \$29.

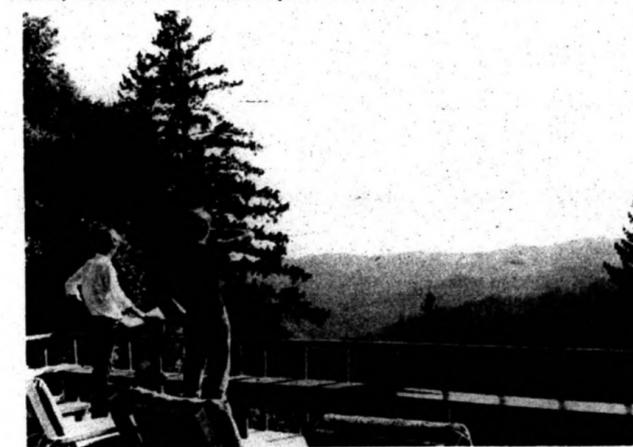
To find Sleepy Hollow, turn right at the Bank of America building in Guerneville and go down two blocks to Mill Street.

### Wildwood

For sheer isolated splendor perched high atop a mountain it would be difficult to surpass Wildwood. Located on Julie Andrews Point, Wildwood offers an incredibly spectacular view of the mountain ranges which surround the Russian River.

Creighton Ridge, which is ten miles across the valley, looks almost close enough to reach out and touch as you stand on the deck of the lodge.

Total seclusion from the rest of the world is what Wildwood offers on its 200 acres, which includes streams and pools formed from them. Because of its isolation



Creighton Ridge from west deck at Wildwood (photo by Gary Thompson)

you can wander around naked as the day you were born and nobody blinks twice. East Austin Creek flows through the property and flows into two pools where you can dive and swim to your heart's content.

For the heartier of spirit, you can follow a myriad of trails during days filled with hiking and exploring the fabulous mountain range.

You can choose from individual rooms, a bunkhouse, or completely furnished campsites (including tents on elevated platforms) to stay in at Wildwood.

Meals are included with the rates.

One word of caution: the drive up Old Cazadero Road is difficult at best.

Wildwood's management suggests that you call for directions and leave the City early enough so that you won't be driving up the mountain in the dark.

Rates vary from Spring to Summer. The Spring rate, in effect until the end of May, may vary from \$25 to \$45. Summer rates range from \$28 to \$50.

### The Village Inn

A few miles beyond Guerneville (still travelling down River Road) you'll come to Monte Rio, where the last of the current gay resorts is situated.

When you spot the Monte Rio Vacation Wonderland sign turn left. As soon as you go over the river turn left again and you'll be on River Blvd.

Local legend holds that the Village Inn, a New England style three-story shingle building built in 1906, was originally a brothel. Kurt Visser, the current owner, jokingly says he wonders sometimes if that might not still be the case with the amount of nightly activities taking place there.

Two buildings comprise the Village Inn, the Indian Lodge and the hotel itself. The property fronts right on the river.

Some of the rooms have one bedroom, a kitchen, and a sitting room and the rates range from \$15 to \$35.

It's a relaxed, friendly atmosphere, ideal for a large group of very friendly people to use for a group holiday.

### Resorts

- Fern Grove, 16650 River Rd., Guerneville (707) 869-9992
- Fife's, 16467 River Rd., Guerneville (707) 869-0656
- Hexagon House, 16881 Armstrong Woods Rd., Guerneville (707) 869-3991
- Highlands Resort, 14000 Woodland Drive, Guerneville (707) 869-0333
- Russian River Lodge, 7871 River Rd. (Trenton Rd.), Forestville (707) 887-1524
- Sleepy Hollow, 14220 Mill St., Guerneville (707) 869-0888
- Village Inn, 20822 River Blvd., Monte Rio (707) 865-2738
- Wildwood, P.O. Box 78, Guerneville, Ca 95446 (707) 632-5321  
(located on Old Cazadero Rd., call for directions)

### Restaurants

- Burdon's, 15405 River Rd., Guerneville (707) 869-2615
- Fife's, 16467 River Rd., Guerneville (707) 869-0656
- Hexagon House, 16881 Armstrong Woods Rd., Guerneville (707) 869-3991
- Le Chalet, 16632 River Rd., Guerneville (707) 869-9908

### Night Spots

- Fife's, 16467 River Rd., Guerneville (707) 869-0656
- Hexagon House, 16881 Armstrong Woods Rd., Guerneville (707) 869-3991
- Rainbow Cattle Company, 16220 Main St., Guerneville (707) 869-0206
- Rusty Nail, 9117 River Rd., Forestville (707) 887-1322

## River Resort Guide

	Fife's	Russian River Lodge	Hexagon House	Fern Grove	Wildwood	Sleepy Hollow	Highlands Resort	Village Inn
Cottages, cabins, private rooms	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Bunkhouse					x		x	
Hotel		x						
Allows camping	x	x			x			
Bar	x		x					x
Pool	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
River access on property	x							x
Dining room	x		x		x			x
Meals included with lodging					x			
Dancing	x							
Canoe rentals	x							
Open year round	x	x	x	x	x		x	x
Facilities for day patrons	x	x					x	x
Kitchens in rooms		x	x	x		x	x	x
Furnishes kitchen utensils				x		x	x	x
Provides camping equipment					x			
Allows pets (call in advance)			x	x		x		x
Accommodates large parties	x		x	x	x	x		x
Game or recreation room	x	x			x		x	x
Live entertainment			x					x
Television in rooms			x	x				
Mostly men	x	x			x			
Mostly women								
Mixed, men and women	x		x	x		x	x	x
Predominantly gay	x	x		x	x	x	x	x
Full restaurant	x		x					x
Coffee shop			x					
Nudity allowed		x			x			x



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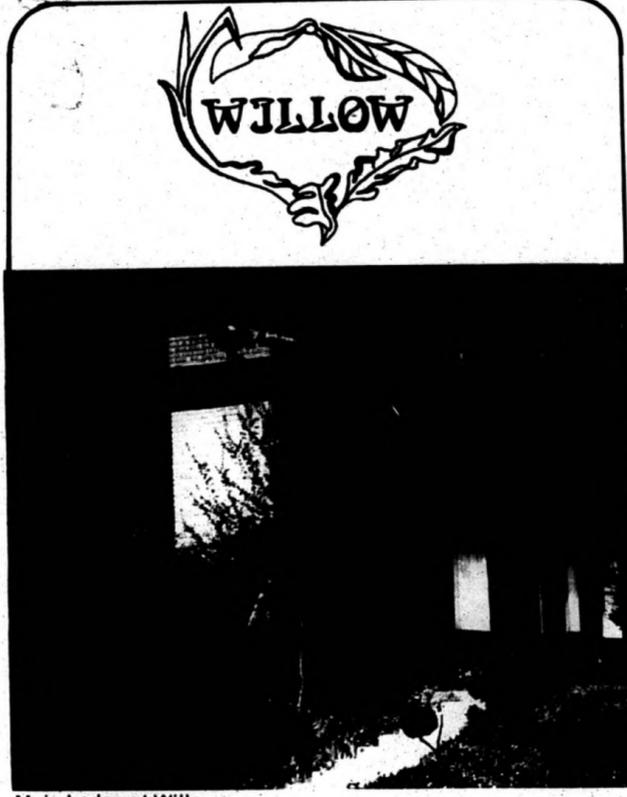
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Main Lodge at Willow

**Willow Welcomes Women**

by Sue Zemel

In the green mountains just north of Napa is a very special place for women to get away from it all. Willow.

This secluded retreat's guestbook reveals the following rave reviews written by appreciative visitors: "I'll tell my tribe about this paradise." "Peaceful and non-intrusive. The deer seem more like they have allowed us here than us them." "I loved the hot-tub mixed with the moon."

Women come to Willow to be alone, to be with a lover, or to spend time with a small group of friends. Healing workshops, therapy groups, and seminars also take place at the retreat. It is a perfect spot to write, read, and play. The rates are \$17 on weekdays (Willow's least crowded time); \$35 (2 days) on weekends; \$20 (1 day) on weekends. For reservations call (707) 944-8173, or write Willow, at 6517 Dry Creek Road, Napa, California 94558.

Unlike most resorts, at Willow guests take care of themselves. You bring your own food, make your own bed, and water the plant that grows in your sun-filled room, named after a famous woman like Harriet Tubman, Virginia Woolf, and Amelia Earhart.

The facilities at Willow include a residence building with a living room, study, huge kitchen, dining area, 5 bathrooms, and 7 bedrooms. Fireplaces and Ashley woodburning stoves heat the house, which can sleep up to 22 visitors. A sauna, hot tub, solar heated swimming pool, tennis court (with an automatic ball machine inappropriately brand-named "the Prince") and jogging trail through the oak and fir forest complete the facilities.

An orchard and vegetable garden are also located on the land, and Willow's co-owners Liz Luster and Abby Freedman plan to plant a vineyard in the near future and bottle their own brand of women's wine.

Staffers Abby and Celia, who care for Willow from day-to-day, live in a re-modeled barn and cottage on the 40 acres of property. They work hard to keep the place sparkling and well-maintained. The effect of their loving labor is reflected in the comfortable and aesthetically pleasing environment.

Willow, "a healing sanctuary for mind, spirit, body and heart—a welcome oasis of woman sharing," is truly a home away from home.

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**Wine Tasting**

by Susan Reiner-Lyon

A visit to the county dairy, during the summers of our childhood, is a memory most of us can savor. It was our only link between Ernie, the milkman and our routine glass of milk with every meal. The days we visited the dairy were enhanced by the excitement we felt from the sights, smells, noises and especially the tastes—milk always tasted best at the dairy.

Likewise—wine tastes best at the winery—"Cause Celebre!" For-tunes of adventures abound just to the north, just beyond the Golden Gate; and to the south, past "Silicon Valley"; and even to the east, Land of the Rising Sun! The journey can be near or far.

With our present situation of escalating gasoline prices (Who knows? We may soon travel to the wineries to tank up on gasohol, as well as to get tanked up!), I can only suggest that groups of three or more friends and/or family members share the costs by traveling in one car or tour bus. A secondary utilization of this method, one hopes, is to insure that someone will be sober enough to drive home!

Wine country exploration provides a diversity in entertaining out-of-town guests and can impress that someone you've just recently met. It also can break the monotony of the same-old-thing we do together on Sundays . . . and, speaking of brunch, a romantic and peaceful morning is alluring enough to have us packing said brunch into a picnic basket and driving north on U.S. Highway 101.

Follow it past San Rafael and turn right onto Highway 37 (heading east), then turn left (yes, that's north again) when you see the road marker for Sonoma. You may also see a sign advertising the Sebastiani Vineyards' tasting room. When you arrive at the Town Square in the heart of Sonoma, turn right and travel through a touch of suburbia. Ignore the signs for Sebastiani, and continue blithely along the main artery until you've traveled approximately one mile east of Sonoma. Old Winery Road is your next left turn. Follow it until you pass through the gates and into the parking lot for Buena Vista Winery.

This is truly a pot of gold at the end of a rainbow! The winery is also known as the Haraszthy Cellars (founded by The Count himself during the 19th Century). It's a State Historical Landmark and is a charming spot to begin winery-hopping. The picnic area is situated in the courtyard of the old stone winery. A waterfall flows down the wall of the winery, and the property is edged by a forest and babbling brook.

A self-guided tour may no longer be possible, since the winery was recently purchased by a large German firm, whose interest and dedication will doubtless be exemplified by a more personal approach to the tour. The tasting room is handsome, large and welcoming. I recommend tasting a few select styles of wine and then purchasing a bottle of your favorite wine to complement your brunch. Picture yourself and company passing pates, cheeses, sourdough baguettes and other delights while imbibing your fresh-picked wine—which, incidentally, does taste best at the winery!

Sonoma is a mere 45-50 minute, picturesque drive from downtown San Francisco. Its environs offer four styles of wineries:

1. Buena Vista has old-world charm.
2. Hacienda Wine Cellars (a quick hop from Buena Vista) is a small family-style winery with heritage. The family was issued the property during the Land Grant and the winery is situated on Buena Vista Vineyard property. Tastings of these interesting wines are available from 10 to 5 daily; however, tours are by appointment only.
3. Now that you've sufficiently increased the alcohol/blood sugar count, try to find Gundlach-Bundschu Winery—actually, try to say it ten times . . . fast! This winery is a "get-lost-twice-in-a-wrong-turn-down-a-back-road-no-frills," bare-bones, but delightful, experience. The tasting room (or rather, alcove) is open 12 to 4:30 Sat. & Sun. only. Tours are possible; however, once you have walked in the front door, you've seen most of the facilities.

The afternoon my playmates and I were there, we experienced a brief and very pleasant tasting, guided by an extremely gracious and knowledgeable young lady. After we got the car out of the rut, we retraced the ride along the same twisting, hilly road—fantasizing how easy a commute it would be if we lived here and we'd be home already. Gundlach-Bundschu is high funk, to be sure!

4. At this point, it is time (at last) for Sebastiani. Just follow those signs! After parking, one member of your party should hold a place among the groups awaiting turns for the tour. The rest of your party should take the opportunity to utilize the restrooms as well as refresh your palates with spring water, which is accessible from a small outside fountain. The Sebastiani Winery provides a tour with a tasting of most of their line of wines.

The tasting room is in the interior of a large wine vat. The real treat is not so much the wines but the collection of hand-carved cooperage and a bevy of winery antiques. I would venture to say that the quality of the tour excels that of most of the wines. This completes the first day of winery hopping. Now go home and sleep it off!

Winery hopping is only one method of exposure to wines—one can experience tasting wines from at least ten wineries in one afternoon and evening, although without the advantages of the tours. This will be, literally, having the Bay Area at your feet.

Start out on any weekday afternoon by taking a bus to Union and Fillmore. The Sonoma Vineyards has set up a retail outlet and a tasting room at the Epicurean Union.

When you've finished, step out onto Union Street and turn left. Walk up, remaining on the same side of the street, to Crane & Kelly Wine & Cheese Center. This small downstairs shop encompasses a wide, international selection of wines and an extraordinary array of cheeses from the cheese producers of the world.

Continued on page 12

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## Wine Tasting (Continued from page 11)

A tasting schedule is posted and you can sign up to be sent a mailer which announces the dates for tastings and the wines to be tasted. Of course, a slight tasting fee is charged, commensurate with the bottle cost of each wine—ranging from \$.25 to \$1.00 or more.

You have now crossed over from only California wines to wines representative of Italy, Germany, Austria, South America, France, Australia and Spain, *et al.* The lack of physical space is insignificant at Crane & Kelly, given the ambiance and attentive services.

If it is still before 5 p.m., take another bus to Sansome and Clay. Enter the spacious, somewhat austere world of San Francisco's original wine bar! The London Wine Bar. No descriptions are necessary—you are no longer a novice wine taster and are able to step right up to the bar and order Trockenbeereauslese without an effort. The tasting board announces the daily and weekly selections. Hob-nobbing here is "de rigueur."

Time for dinner now, if you've over-stayed the closing time for the London Wine Bar (between 6:30 and 7:00 p.m.). Do not despair: our next journey is into the heart of the East Bay.

Open seven days from mid-day to 2:00 a.m. is The Lobby. If use of an automobile is difficult—take BART! The Rockridge Station is your stop and downstairs is College Avenue. Attempting to determine which direction to walk can be a problem—therefore, face west, across the street towards San Francisco, then turn left, walking ¼ of a block to The Lobby. Enter into the posh, well-appointed world of The Lobby (observe the back bar—purchased in auction from the Crocker Mansion).

If you arrive between 4 and 5 p.m., seat yourself at the bar and before you will appear a tray of irresistible herbed cheese spread and crackers. The tasting board is on the wall and the very knowledgeable and attractive bartender can attend to your needs. I suggest ordering a taste of each wine on the wine board and then selecting a favorite to nurse by the glassful.

However, the back bar offers 1963 port, a variety of dry and sweet sherries, honey mead, a wine list of 1971 Pommard, a 1973 Mondavi, '76 Burgundies and, if you should so desire, request a wine cocktail—Screwdrivers, Margueritas and Jamaican-styled house inventions—all wine-based! By 7 p.m. the place is jumping and by 8 p.m., the jazz singer/pianist has you in her spell.

If you care to make a weekend out of College Avenue and environs, please make your reservations now for the Claremont Hotel. Stately and demure she sits, nestled in the Berkeley Hills, a mere three-minute taxi ride away from The Lobby. Friday night is the best time to begin this marvelous weekend of diversion. Saturday is the day for shoppers on College Avenue and, from Bancroft to Broadway, the street is alive with the bustle and enjoyable nature of Berkeleyites.

Take breakfast early at the Claremont, and a dip in the pool or a set of tennis would work in well during the day. First on the agenda is to get to 4th and Addison in Berkeley. Lay back, take off your shoes and sip hot wine (approx-

Continued on page 13



## Wine Tasting (Continued from page 12)

mately 102°F.). This is the Land of the Rising Sun—The Numano Sake Company established itself in Berkeley two years ago and planted its roots in the structure of the Challenge Dairy (you know you'd eventually re-visit that proverbial dairy!).

The tasting room is comfortable and inviting; a tasting bar features hapi-coat-clad, informative guides to the whys and ways of rice wine and sake and plum wine. Our guide was a gent named Preston whose tatami-bedside manner enthralled us as he introduced us to new taste sensations. Most of the attendants in the tasting room double as winery guides, and by advance reservations, you can take a tour of the winery. The only fee incurred is a \$.25 plastic-bootie charge for shoe coverings; however, the Numano Company offers a complimentary cocktail at the end of the tour. Call Kristine Lam, tasting room manager, for reservations.

Demystifying wine-making can be a thirsty proposition, and I find that one quick stop in the neighborhood will enlighten you even further. Proceed to University Avenue (one block north) and east to Wine and the People. Not only can you sample wines made by them, but you will be briefed on how to make your own wine.

For your next thrill, it's time to return to College Avenue and Alcatraz, where-upon your feet halt at Curds and Whey, a complex of cheese shop, charcuterie and wine shop, with tastings. Pick up a Curds 'n' Whey mailer while you're there; submit your name for the mailing list; check out the tasting board; taste an array of wines from several wineries representing one or more areas, styles and varieties—or, quite possibly, taste the wines from one winery, and meet the winemaker!

The wine shop features personal appearances by the winemakers for Saturday tastings. In order to plan a perfect weekend, it's important to know the tasting schedule, for who wouldn't be impressed with a weekend highlighted by meeting a winemaking luminary?

You're still on College Avenue and you can cap off the day at The Lobby or, if you're staying another night at the Claremont, save The Lobby for late night or for brunch on Sunday! You will agree the "there" in Oakland is alive and well on College Avenue.

Also, Oakland's Lake Merritt offers boating, jogging, and the Lake Merritt Wine & Cheese Revival—a wine shop with wine tasting, restaurant, and a cheese and gourmet shop all-in-one.

Back in Berkeley, in Trumpetvine Court, off Shattuck near the center of the shopping district, is a wine and cheese shop called Trumpet Vine Wines, which also offers wine tastings.

Before we journey once again to wine country, let's return home to the Castro. Upstairs at the Neon Chicken is a marvelous wine bar setting—replete with guitarist, backgammon, dominoes, chess and other games. The current tasting schedule is comprised of standard house wines and some premium wines; however, more wines for the tasting board will be introduced very soon.

Upper Castro, one block west on 24th St., offers Taylor's Public House and Wine Bar. The selection of wines for tasting will astonish your palate, so start slow and stick around for the movies and popcorn. If you wander east to 24th and Noe and it's around 5 p.m., Panos' offers one or more wines by the glass and the bottle. Recently I sidled up to the bar and enjoyed an Italian Chardonnay and a Greek Retsina along with some Greek appetizers. So you can see that you can run the gamut of wine tasting in your own backyard!

But if you're tired of your own toys and familiar sights, and want to roam a bit, the Wine Country lies just north, east and south of you. The best method for getting to the wineries which offer what you want to see, learn and taste, is to carefully plan your sojourns. The Wine Institute at 165 Post Street, San Francisco 94108 (Phone: 986-0878) offers publications listing wineries and related information.

## Marvelous Marin

by Jim Murphy

Marin County has a reputation as a sort of populous Eden poised between the Fall and the Flood, the overcrowded home of well-to-do commuters with a laid-back attitude towards life made famous in a television documentary subtitled "I want it now." (And it is a testament to the accuracy of the program's portrayal of them that the county's residents were so outraged by it.)

Along with this reputation—based on a 10-15% per year population growth rate—go images of hot tubs, redwood decks, lots of cocaine, Perrier, and granola. (The standard joke is, "Living in Marin is like swimming in a bowl of granola—what's not fruits and nuts is flakes.")

But in reality, Marin is the least developed county in the Bay Area, due to state and national park area development and protection of its lands. Three separate park systems in Marin encompass nearly 40,000 acres of unspoiled wilderness north of the Golden Gate, a remarkable fact considering that all three are easily accessible to the more than 5 million people living around the Bay.

### Muir Woods

The first of these parks, Muir Woods National Monument, is only 17 miles from San Francisco. Reached by U.S. 101 and CA 1, the road to Muir Woods winds through groves of blue-gum eucalyptus as it skirts the coastal bluffs below Mt. Tamalpais.

Nestled in a deep cleft of the mountain's southern foothills is the famous stand of ancient redwoods. The trees are of the species (*Sequoia Sempervirens*)

Continued on page 14

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**Marin** (Continued from page 13)

that produces the tallest trees known and whose biological ancestry can be traced to 150 million years old. These redwoods are estimated to be between 400 and 1,000 years old. Some are nearly 15 ft. in diameter and soar as high as 240 ft., forming magnificent shaded groves above the forest floor.

But don't miss the forest for the trees. "Muir Woods," according to one park pamphlet, "is a unique ecological region whose plants depend on each other and on delicate environmental factors such as coastal humidity, soil chemistry, and temperature."

"Where loam soil is abundant and moisture is greatest, find red alder, big leaf maple, western azalea, and lady ferns. Swordfern and redwood sorrel carpet the banks along Redwood Creek. Aromatic California bays and laurels twist their way in search of sunlight. Mosses, lichens, and fungi thrive in the heavy shade."

Hundreds of varieties of wildflowers are scattered throughout the woods too. The best time to see them is March and April, on a clear day when soft light filters through the towering boughs overhead. These months also mark the end of the salmon's migration up Redwood Creek and are a good time to view deer, raccoons, or even bobcats along any of the park's 6 miles of trails.

Muir Woods was dedicated as a National Monument in 1908, under the Act for the Preservation of American Antiquities, an energetic conservation movement continued today in the activities of such organizations as the Tamalpais Conservation Club and the nationally known Sierra Club. (The latter was organized in 1892 by pioneer naturalist and conservationist John Muir, for whom the woods are named.)

The National Park Service maintains botanical exhibits and a relief map, and rangers will furnish guidance upon request. A picnic area is maintained beside a small refreshment and souvenir shop near the entrance, where there is a large parking area. The entrance gate opens at 8 A.M. and closes at sunset. But try to go on weekdays or to arrive early on the weekend, when the park becomes the most heavily populated forest on earth.

**Mount Tamalpais State Park**

Mt. Tamalpais—the name means "Bay Country Mountain"—is reached by continuing North on the Panoramic Highway from the junction of Highway 1. The road ascends along a ridge with spectacular views of the mountain and the coast.

Much of the mountain's south and west slopes are included in the park, through which the road continues. These hillsides are beautiful and typical California coastal scenery, wooded with redwoods, madrone, scrub oak, manzanita shrubs, and in the high country, chaparral. A perfect setting either for the Marlboro man or for Dorothy, Toto, et al.—especially in the spring, when the slopes are splashed with poppies, purple and white lupine, and other wildflowers.

The Mountain Home, a modest Bavarian-style restaurant and beer garden with a gift shop, is high on the ridge, the only eating place on the mountain. It usually has for sale a map of the park's 4,933 acres detailing trails, campsites, and picnic grounds.

From there, trails lead to Bootjack and Pan Toll, two small, steep and rocky sites which are the closest campgrounds to San Francisco. Both have stone stoves, tables, water, and toilet facilities—and so are blighted by campers.

Another feature of the State Park is the Mountain Theatre, a small natural amphitheatre with terraced stone seats and a grand view, used for the annual "Mountain Play" at the end of May and popular with sunbathers and strollers at other times.

The higher West Peak of the mountain is closed to the public, but the East Peak (2,586 feet) is accessible by a paved spur road and provides an unforgettable panorama of the region. The beauty of this spot has been marred recently by a series of murders along Mt. Tam's trails; but there are still few better spots to sit and take stock of your life, especially when the peak is bathed in late afternoon sunlight, while the lower slopes and the bay beyond are covered by a pink-flannel blanket of fog.

**Golden Gate National Recreation Area**

At one time, visitors to Muir Woods and Mt. Tamalpais arrived on foot, on horseback, by buggy, and via the Mill Valley and Mt. Tamalpais Railroad, with a branch line down Redwood Canyon dubbed the "crookedest railroad in the world" because of the many twists and turns made by the tracks as they climbed the mountain.

Now that the old train is defunct, most people tour the Marin parklands by car. But if you're anxious to exert yourself and the weather is good, consider the option of touring on a bicycle.

The parklands can be reached on bike via the ferry to Angel Island—which is encircled by paved roads—and on to Sausalito. Or you can ride across the golden span and enter the vast acreage of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

By an act of Congress in 1972, the coastal lands in San Francisco and Marin Counties were placed under the protection of the National Park System, to prevent commercial development and to provide an urban park for the heavily populated San Francisco area. Few urban shorelines contain the diversity of these 39,000 acres: islands, maritime parks, yacht harbors, ocean beach, obsolete military installations, historic points of interest.

Across the bridge, the Marin areas of GGNRA offer an endless expanse of wild and open terrain: rolling hills covered with shrubs and brown grasses, wind swept ridges and redwood valleys, small coves sheltering delicate tidepool communities, large beaches and rocky coastal cliffs.

Close to San Francisco in distance and time but many moods apart, the trails of the Marin Headlands offer nature's best on the city's doorstep and stand as a reminder of the way much of the surrounding Marin County land once appeared. Here may be found an environment which can heighten our awareness of the gaps between "progress" of the 20th Century technology and the quality of our lives.

**Up Up and Away**

by Sue Zemel

Viewing the Bay Area from the air is spectacular, breathtaking, and almost as fun as the sheer feeling of flight, no matter what form of it you choose.

Seaplanes, blimps, hot air balloons, helicopters, and hang gliders are all at your disposal. Depending on your particular sense of adventure, any one of these experiences guarantees an amazing high. Erica Jong and World Airways be damned. Flying is fantastic.

Hovering over the tip of the Trans-Am Pyramid in downtown San Francisco, floating over the wineries in the Napa Valley, or leaping off cliffs that overlook the ocean north of Point Reyes quite simply frees the spirit.

As clouds billow by and the fog rolls in, out, and around, the herons, gulls, hawks and crows will keep you up on current events. You can see the world below, above, and beyond from an entirely different perspective. Uplifting.

The Pacific coastline playfully curves its way along. Sea meets land and the ground rises and swells, green, rust, and golden. Light dances on houses and buildings, glimmers across the surface of the Bay and ocean. Shadows stretch out for miles over forests and mountaintops, as vineyards crisscross the valley, carving elaborate lines in the earth.

Heavenly. The sky, cerulean and silver, is expansive and while experiencing it is no cheap thrill, your flight may not be as expensive as you thought. You certainly get your money's worth, no matter which way you fly.

There is, however, something you should know before you decide to take off. Flying is dangerous, mostly because once you go up, you'll probably want to do it again. "It's easy to get hooked," admitted the aviators.



Floating above the Napa Valley

(photo by John Gleske)

**Hot Air Ballooning**

You'll literally be blown away if you join Adventures Aloft on one of their hot-air balloon voyages over the Napa Valley.

Ballooning is the oldest form of aviation. The first passenger balloon was built in France in 1783 and carried a duck, a rooster, and a sheep. On November 21, 1783, the Marquis d'Arlandes and Pilatre de Rozier made the first human voyage.

Magic was in the air as we pulled into the Vintage 1870 shopping center parking lot in Yountville (about an hour and a half drive from the city) at 7:00 a.m.

There are about 1500 hot air balloons in the world, and 15 of them fly in the Napa Valley where winds are gentle and usually perfect for flying. Three triangular wicker baskets (that hold a maximum of 5 people) rested on the ground. The weather was magnificent, and we wasted no time getting the balloons ready for flight.

We helped the Adventures Aloft crew unravel the 1000 yards of rainbow colored dacron material. Using a portable fan we filled each awesome balloon (95 feet high, and 85 feet in diameter) with cool air. Then, blasts of very hot propane gas were shot into the balloon from a special burner system attached to fuel tanks in the baskets. The difference in ambient air causes the balloon to rise.

Ron Abernathy, an accomplished balloonist who took us up, calls this wondrous sport "three-dimensional sailing." There is no steering mechanism to guide the balloon but by filling it with blasts of hot gas, the pilot can change the balloon's altitude in order to catch the varying wind currents. Though there are instruments to measure direction, altitude, and air pressure in the balloon, Ron says that he flies mostly from feel.

The sensation of flight is one of gentle drifting. Skimming tops of eucalyptus trees, floating up and away over vineyards, meadows, and farmhouses, the sights and sounds on a sunlit morning transport you to an Oz-like land. As dogs bark and people wave from below you feel utterly alive.

We landed much to the amazement of neighborhood children in a suburb of Napa, about 7 miles from where we took off. The touch down was remarkably

Continued on page 16

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# Ballooning (Continued from page 15)

smooth, with flexed knees we could hardly feel a thing. With the aid of chattering children we deflated the balloon and loaded the gondola into the truck which had chased us from the ground.

Returning to the parking lot we drank Chandon Napa Brut champagne with the Adventures Aloft aeronauts. The poetic toast proposed by our pilot described our phenomenal experience: "The wind has welcomed you with softness. The sun has touched you with warm hands. You have flown so high and so well that the Gods have joined you in laughter and have set you gently back again into the loving arms of mother earth."

You can contact Adventures Aloft at (707) 255-8688, P.O. Box 2500, Yountville, Ca. 94599 and arrange for a voyage. It costs \$75 per person.

## Blimps

Remembering comic Robin Tyler's line, "Phyllis Schaffly is to women, what the Hindenberg is to flying," I called the Goodyear Corporation in San Leandro (483-2900) requesting information about taking a ride in the blimp.

"Have you seen her in the area?" asked the woman I was referred to. "Not lately," I said.

"Well, then she's probably travelling down in Southern California," the woman explained. "She'll be back in the area around May. Call us then if you see her in the air. You might get lucky and arrange a trip, free of charge."

The hydrogen-filled blimp holds six people, takes off from the Oakland Airport, and stays airborne for approximately a half-hour per flight. The Goodyear Corporation uses her primarily for promotional purposes and you've probably mistaken the flashing neon advertisements for a UFO if you've seen her at night.

By day the Goodyear Corporation provides blimp rides to business associates, employees, and fortunate members of the general public who happen to be in the right place at the right time. The woman who gave me this information said that she worked for the company for over twenty years before she finally got to go up in the blimp. "It was really something—an experience," she confirmed, reiterating that all you have to do is procure a ride is call the Goodyear office as soon as you spot the blimp in flight. "If at first you don't succeed, keep trying," she advised.

## Seaplanes

The Command Seaplane Service is located off Highway 101, at the Stinson Beach exit in Mill Valley. The service gives scenic tours of the San Francisco Bay Area and Marin County, offers flight instruction, and provides perfect angles for aerial photography, according to Robert, one of the three licensed pilots and instructors.

It costs \$35 for a half hour tour for two, and \$45 for a maximum of three people. For an hour you can charter the seaplane for \$70.

Resting on large floats that resemble rockers, the brightly colored seaplane (a Stinson 107-8 model built in 1947) can fly as low as ten feet above the water's surface; and it reaches an average altitude of about 1500 feet.

Step-taxiing through the mud (the tide was out at Richardson Bay), Robert gently took the plane up, flying over the houseboats of Sausalito. We headed out across the San Francisco Bay, over to Golden Gate Bridge and towards the green mazed Presidio, and Baker's Beach.

From here Robert went to downtown San Francisco, assuring us that he never flew anywhere that was more than five minutes from the water. The tall buildings caused some turbulence, but the view of the scale-model like metropolis was thrilling. We passed by Pier 39 and the Wharf and started back towards Richardson Bay. Angel and Belvedere islands were especially beautiful from the air.

Landing and taking off in a seaplane creates quite a splash. But it's remarkably smooth and easy. The combination of elements—water and air—makes seaplaning a unique trip. For further information call 332-4843, or next time you take a drive over the bridge just stop by Command Seaplane Service and check it out for yourself.

## Skydiving

If you're looking for the leap of a lifetime, Stevens Para-Loft located at the Antioch airport is the place to go. You can learn to exit an aircraft at 2800 feet and land safely in the target area below for a mere \$65 per jump.

The more people you take with you the cheaper the rate. The plane holds a maximum of 15 people.

Instruction begins at 9:00 a.m. on Saturdays and Sundays and the training takes between 5 and 7 hours. You'll probably make your jump later in the afternoon or early on Sunday morning.

The parachute opens automatically by the static line as you leave the airplane. Instructors say that you experience only a gentle tug at your shoulders as the canopy is deployed. The school also offers free-fall instruction for those braver souls. For further information contact Stevens Para-Loft at 276-3211 or 757-9957.

## Hang Gliding

This is the closest to true flight a mere human can come, and according to everyone who tries hang gliding, it is an incredible feeling.

Although reputedly dangerous, experts maintain that the sport is as safe as sailing or skiing once you learn the essentials.

The best winds for gliding are usually westerly. They blow in from the ocean and are deflected against the cliffs, creating a wave of rising air. Pilots ride this wave upward. Another wind condition is called thermal. The ground heat rises and expands forming a tubelike bubble that lifts the glider at a rate of 500 feet per minute.

There are several schools in the Bay Area that offer flight instruction and rent the multi-colored dacron wings with thin-walled aluminum aircraft frames. If you're not quite up to gliding yourself, go down to the beach, or up to the cliffs, and watch the bird-like people take to the air. It's a wonderful spectator sport as well.

For more information contact: Hang Gliders West/Dillon Beach Flying located in Ignacio at 884-3494; Chandelle San Francisco, located in Daly City at 756-0650; Mission Soaring Center in Fremont at 656-6656; or Suspended Animation in Concord at 798-9993. Most beginner's flight packages cost about \$100.

# Adventure in San Jose

by John Schrock

The ghosts of all the men ever killed by a Winchester rifle haunted the heiress to the Winchester fortune. A medium had informed her that those ghosts were responsible for the deaths of her husband and child.

There was no way to appease them, the medium advised. Sarah Winchester's only hope was to enlist friendly residents of the spirit world as allies to help keep the vengeful ghosts at bay.

In 1884, the widow Winchester purchased a modest farmhouse near San Jose, and immediately began to turn it into one of the most bizarre structures on the West Coast. Construction plans were drawn by the widow herself, often on tablecloths and wrapping paper. She had no architectural background—she relied on friendly spirits to guide her untrained hands.

For 38 years, the sound of hammers was heard 24 hours a day, seven days a week. She believed that if the hammers never stopped, she could not die. The farmhouse was transformed into a 6-acre mansion, containing 160 rooms, 10,000 windows, 47 fireplaces, 52 skylights and 9 kitchens.

The mansion was cleverly designed to confound evil spirits. There are stairs that lead to the ceiling, doors that open to drops of 50 feet, and other doors that open up to brick walls.

Corridors and stairways twist disconcertingly. Many doors only open from one side. Of the 160 rooms, there are never as many as a dozen on the same level.

There existed an underground labyrinth, the secret of which was known only to the Japanese butler. Every night at midnight, he would wend his way to the center of the maze and tug a long bell rope, summoning spirits to Winchester House. The widow's nightly seance was about to begin.

Only Mrs. Winchester knew the secret entrance to her seance room. It took more than an hour for her to reach it. A secret passageway led to a room where she would hop out the window. A flight of stair awaited there leading to a room filled with a wide assortment of balconies. The seance room was entered through a clothes press in an adjoining apartment.

At 2:00 A.M. the butler would toll the bell once more, and the spirits would depart. Mrs. Winchester often retired to the ball room where she played the pipe organ until dawn.

For 38 years, only men and women on the widow's payroll were admitted into the house. President Theodore Roosevelt, passing through San Jose in 1903, was struck by the mansion's odd appearance and requested a guided tour.

Through a servant the widow informed him that strangers were not welcome. The house has been open to tourists since her death in 1922. No expense was spared to gratify the more tasteful of Mrs. Winchester's spirit companions, and priceless stained glass windows and mahogany carvings abound.

Restoration is incomplete but effective. Six moving vans took six weeks to remove the furniture when she died, and only a fraction of the many rooms have been refilled. But the house is well worth the trip.

The mansion may be ghostly, but the adjoining museum and gift shop are ghastly, so don't waste your time. Tours are given hourly, beginning at 9:30, at the Winchester Mystery House, Winchester Boulevard between Interstate 280 and Stevens Creek Boulevard, San Jose.



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## The Delta

by Linda Michel

A little more than an hour's drive from San Francisco, the California Delta offers harried city dwellers a change of pace and climate. The Delta's maze of waterways, some natural, some man-made, are perfect for swimming, water skiing, fishing, boating, and a myriad of other diversions.

The Delta was once a marsh teeming with wildlife, although the only non-human creatures you're likely to see these days are fish, birds, and an occasional beaver. The levees were built (mostly by Chinese labor) after the gold rush to make the land suitable for farming.

The original foundations of peat and soil still remain, which is why the recent flooding did so much damage this spring.

Roads built along the tops of the levees are connected by a network of bridges and drawbridges, and were once served by ferries as well. The flat, winding, virtually traffic-free roads are perfect for bicycling (bring a picnic lunch and a fishing pole).

The most interesting way to explore the Delta is by boat. You can rent anything from an aluminum fishing boat with a 5 HP engine (for around \$20 a day) to a fully-equipped houseboat (rates vary but are available by the day, weekend or week).

An essential item to have with you is a map of the area, available at bait shops and marinas for \$2, and, unless you have an unerring sense of direction, a compass. The map shows the location of marinas (for gas, food, supplies) and also gives information on launching ramps, camping sites and overnight anchorage, tides, sand bars and other submerged dangers, beaches, ski areas and best fishing spots.

The busiest season is between Memorial Day and Labor Day, and on summer weekends the water is thronged with boats pulling skiers. If you want to avoid crowds, try to go during the week. It's also pleasant in late spring and early fall, although the water can be very cold.

Delta marinas run the gamut—from mom-and-pop operations pumping gas and selling bait, hamburgers and beer—to waterfront complexes with restaurants and discos. Some have cabins for rent (in the summer it is essential to have a reservation). All seem to be run by helpful and friendly people who will give you directions when you're lost or advice on where the fish are biting. A few are so difficult to reach by land that they are virtually accessible only by water.

You can also reach some interesting small towns by water. My favorite is Locke, a rural Chinatown, which still has its original wooden sidewalks.

The vastness of the Delta contributes to its never-ending variety. One never knows what's waiting around the next bend, and it could be anything from a pirate ship straight out of Peter Pan, to a wild pig on the bank or a friendly restaurant whose owner will invite you to come back later for a barbecue.

To get there, take Highway 680 to Concord, then turn east on Highway 4. You can stop along the way to visit John Muir's house or to buy fresh produce at numerous roadside stands.

For more information on specific resorts, facilities and rentals, Delta maps are available (\$2 for pocket edition, \$4 for poster edition) from Recreation Maps, P.O. Box 878, Oakland, CA 94604.

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