

D. C. March Sparks National Debate

By PAT URQUHART

Representatives from the "March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights" appeared Wednesday April 18th in Santa Rosa to speak about the march.

In what, at times, appeared to be a well-articulated "hard sell" pitch, Rita Goldberger, one of the march representatives from San Francisco, outlined some of the plans for the march and some of its implications. Although the march slated for October 14th is the primary goal, planning and strategy is not being focused specifically around that date. "What we want to do," says Goldberger, "is to build a network of lesbian and gay organizations throughout the country," and "to provide a focus for isolated areas that aren't yet organized." Says Goldberger, "You can't build a network in a vacuum and we hope the march will provide a focus for building that network."

If there was any doubt it didn't show when Goldberger referred to the hundred of thousands that are expected to show up for the march. "We're going to have a massive coming out," said Goldberger, "not only of lesbian and gay people but of family and friends too." Goldberger expects "huge contingents of heterosexual people" marching.

But, if hundreds of thousands are expected to attend the march, the rise of interest on the west coast is slow. Low attendance was discouraging in the Northern California Area Conference for the march on Washington held April 28th in San Francisco. In fact no one showed from outlying areas even though there was outreach to areas like Chico, Mendocino, Sacramento and Eureka. Why?

Says Goldberger, who did outreach to these areas, "People generally like the idea of a march, but

photo by Pat Urquhart



Rita Goldberger, D.C. March rep

can't believe it's going to happen." But for many in outlying areas there is a thread of discontent that runs deeper. Concern is starting to surface throughout the country that the march is being dominated by an S.F./New York axis. The spring

issue of R.F.D., a gay men's rural magazine states, "While we support the march in principle, we felt the representatives from those cities are arrogantly trying to chart a timetable for activity that many of us feel is unreasonable." And in Denver, reports the Gay Community News, "There is a feeling that the wishes of gay men and women living in the vast 'wasteland' between New York and San Francisco are being largely ignored."

If this is true, lesbians and gay men who comprise the vast wasteland aren't taking it sitting down. "Hinterland" caucuses have formed not only to represent small town folk, but also cities other than San Francisco and New York. The network that march organizers are hoping for is well on its way. But the march is not the central focus. The "vacuum" is being filled with issues that address the vast differences of a wide spectrum of

Christian Anti-Gay Lobby Claims Huge War Chest

An anti-Gay lobby which claims 100,000 members and a war chest of one million dollars has been formed in Washington. The organization, Christian Voice, is an offshoot of American Christian Cause, a right-wing fundamentalist group. As a result of its tax-exempt status the parent group was legally barred from lobbying and for this reason Christian Voice was established. The new group boasts four Capitol Hill lobbyists plus a congressional advisory committee and plans action on a number of issues in addition to Gay rights such as pornography, child abuse, abortion, the death penalty, and busing.

Steve Endean, the lobbyist of the Gay Rights National Lobby (GRNL), says the one million dollar budget "could be a realistic estimate" and that the group should definitely not be taken lightly.

"We haven't seen any big action out of them yet," says Endean, "but I would not be surprised to see them introduce some anti-Gay amendments in Congress. The problem with amendments is that you have no advance knowledge and it is difficult to lobby in so short a time."

Gary Jarmin, legislative director of the American Conservative Union and lobbyist against the Panama Canal treaty and SALT negotiations, and for pro-South Africa and Rhodesia policies, heads the Christian Cause office.

In a promotional package, Christian Voice warned that "homosexuals are rampant in our schools, our government and even in many churches." The organization linked homosexuality, abortion, the ERA and pornography together, asserting, "We believe that America's rapid decline as a world power is a direct result of these things."

The Christian Voice congressional advisory committee includes Senators Orin Hatch (R-Utah), Sen. Roger Jepsen (R-Iowa) and New Hampshire's newly-elected Republican Senator Gordon Humphrey. Eight House members have also endorsed the group, including well-known anti-Gay Rep. Larry McDonald of Georgia. Entertainers Pat Boone, Lawrence Welk and Art Linkletter are also listed as endorsers of Christian Voice.

Gay lobbyist Endean warns that he is one full-time person against a potential of thousand of fundamentalist letter-writers and a large budget. "Our community has to take serious cognizance of the threat . . . If they write 200 letters to a congressperson we have to generate at least 100 to show we are there." Endean emphasizes that he is not preaching doom. The national Gay lobbying effort addressing Gay rights will be, in Endean's estimation, facing its strongest test in countering the Christian Voice Campaign. — GCN



photo by Emanuelle Gomez

Gays for Nuclear Free Future participate in San Francisco's largest anti-nuclear demonstration to date held at the Civic Center on April 21.



FORUM

TO OUR READERS:

We are providing this space every month for members of the community to express their ideas, opinions, criticisms, and feelings. Names and addresses must be submitted but will not be printed if so requested. When writing please keep in mind our limited space.

We encourage you all to use this forum.

The Northern California Gay Media Project Collective

Dear Editor:

We would like to share with your readers the following statement which was read at the May 2nd meeting of the Sonoma County Lesbian and Gay Alliance:

The women of the Sonoma County Lesbian and Gay Alliance are seceding from this group. At this point we feel we are better able to serve the needs of the Gay community by focusing our energy on a political group consisting of Lesbians only. This decision is based largely on our feelings that the men in the Alliance have not dealt with their attitudes around male supremacy as vigorously as we had hoped. The recent situation involving a Lesbian in the Mental Health Task Force should not be seen as the cause of the split, but rather as another indication of the sexism that has existed within our ranks since the beginning. It is important to us that we make clear that we know that the men in the Alliance have made some efforts to understand their privilege and hope they will continue these efforts. Those few women who have remained in the Alliance, however, can no longer afford to spend their political energies nurturing men's liberation at the expense of action. We hope that we can join forces in issues involving the greater Gay community such as the re-emergence of Prop 6 when the need arises.

We are at this time proposing the new Lesbian Alliance take control of the bank account and plan to submit amendment papers to state and federal agencies indicating appropriate changes in incorporation papers.

All interested women should write to P. O. Box 58, Santa Rosa, 95402, for meeting times.

Georgia Prescott
member of the Sonoma County Lesbian Alliance

Dear Editor:

I am writing this letter to the Lesbian members of the Sonoma County Lesbian and Gay Alliance who recently seceded from the organization. I find it very difficult to comprehend the stated reason given for leaving the Alliance and

especially the manner in which it was done.

As an active member of the Alliance and the previous SCRAP 6 organization, any demonstration of the accused sexism on the part of male members is a rarity. In addition women in the Alliance seldom made mention of male sexism within the organization.

I admit, at times, men in the organization did slip with chauvinistic remarks which may have offended Lesbian members, but at no time to my knowledge was there any or will there ever be any ploy on the part of male members of the Alliance to breed sexism or separatism. No attempt was made by those Lesbian members who seceded from the organization to discuss their feelings within the Alliance other than to set up a separate women's caucus. As far as I can ascertain, it is Lesbian separatism which has created disagreement within the Alliance, as I can see by the manner in which this select group of Lesbians seceded.

According to THE BASIS OF UNITY, established by the Alliance, "we dedicate ourselves in regard to racism, classism, sexism, and prejudices of physical difference and strive to eliminate these from our organization." We also strive to educate the general community relating to these issues. This incident gives me, and I am sure other Gay male and Lesbian members of the Alliance a clearer understanding of how sexism is executed.

If women in the organization felt a form of oppression, why didn't they communicate this to ALL the members. Why did these Lesbians, behind closed doors of the women's caucus, discuss the issue and not bring it out in the open as our basis of unity states? What are they afraid of? I feel this lack of communication on the part of this group of Lesbians is that form of sexism we strive to eliminate from our organization. For this reason I welcome their resignation.

I however do not feel it is appropriate, nor serving the best interest of the Lesbian and Gay men in this community, for this separate group of women to undermine the Lesbian and Gay Alliance as they did at the general meeting on May 2.

By charging sexism without in any way backing that statement and by illegally transferring Alliance funds, these women blatantly disregarded the by-laws and basis of unity which they themselves assisted in establishing. This lack of discretion is not only a display of separatism, but a downright disregard for basic humanism as well.

The Sonoma County Lesbian and Gay Alliance will continue to exist in order to serve the needs

of the Lesbians and Gay men of Sonoma County. We invite women and men to join us in our fight to eliminate sexism, racism, classism, ageism and the prejudices based on physical differences from our community and to establish a supportive environment for local Lesbians and Gay men.

In unity,
Dann Noonan
Member of the Sonoma County Lesbian and Gay Alliance
Box 58, Santa Rosa, Ca. 95402

SCLGA NEWS:

I very much support your organization's stated goals, but several of my friends and I will continue to decline membership in the Alliance until your name more clearly reflects those stated goals. As it is now, your name is a real put-off.

The name, "Sonoma County Lesbian and Gay Alliance" suggests to the public (gays and straights alike) that: a.) there are lesbians and there are gays (lesbians aren't gay); b.) it's the men against the women in this club with women in charge; c.) lesbian women and gay men are separate minority groups that, for some reason, got together this once.

I doubt that you consciously set about to mislead the public in this way, but I must say that much of the literature you put out also tends to support these three notions. However your unfortunate choice of name, in particular, serves to strengthen several misconceptions straights and gays hold about gay men and gay women.

What's wrong with an inclusionary (rather than exclusionary) title such as: "Sonoma County Lesbian and Gay Men Alliance," or "Sonoma County Alliance of Gay Women and Men"?

Sincerely,
David L. Perschau
Forestville

The NEWS is produced by a collective of four women and three men. The collective is: Donna Canali, Scottie Ferris, Sandy Lowe, Adria-Ann McMurray, Melvin Muller, Karen Ryce, and Pat Urquhart.

Contributors this issue: Annie

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Nevada Faces Prop 6 Threat

Nevada may soon have its own version of Prop. 6, the measure that would have outlawed gay teachers in public teaching in California.

A bill in the state legislature to fire or refuse to hire persons who engaged in "public homosexual activity" might soon be introduced by Assemblywoman Karen Hayes (D-Las Vegas), chair of the Judiciary Committee.

The wording of the measure is similar to the initiative authored by California Sen. John V. Briggs (R-Fullerton) last year and overwhelmingly defeated by state voters. The Nevada proposal defines public homosexuality as "advocating, soliciting, imposing, encouraging or promoting public or private homosexual activity in a manner that creates a substantial risk that such conduct will come to the attention of school children or employees."

Opposing the proposed measure is a group called Nevadans for Human Rights, 620 Minnesota St. N., Las Vegas, NV 89107.

— Advocate

The NEWS Needs You

Sorry, but due to rising costs of doing mailings, we can no longer continue to mail the NEWS to your home free of charge. The June issue will be the last you receive unless you complete the coupon below and send it to us along with the subscription fee.

If you appreciated receiving the NEWS in the past, please give us your support now.

The NEWS will still be available free at various distribution points, many of which are listed on this page.

We regret that our budgeting limitations force us to consider all money received previously as donations.

If you are able to help in any way, please contact us by mailing in coupon or contacting Melvin (707) 544-4109 or Pat at (707) 544-6482.

O'Donahue.
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We welcome contributions of articles from our readers. To insure return of articles enclose a self-addressed stamped envelop.

The Weber Case

Affirmative Action Faces New Threat

The newest attack on affirmative action, which threatens along with the Bakke case to turn civil rights gains around, will be ruled upon by the Supreme Court in late June. Brian F. Weber, a white male lab technician at Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical Corporation's Gramercy, Louisiana plant, has charged "reverse discrimination" after being turned down for a skilled job training program in which one-half of the positions were reserved for minority workers.

The 5th Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans ruled in Weber's favor on the basis of Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act which prohibits companies or unions from engaging in race or sex discrimination.

Weber claimed he would have been admitted to the program if the applicants had been judged on the basis of seniority.

The fact is, of course, that both women and racial minorities have traditionally been excluded from skilled positions so they have not achieved any seniority. Affirmative action programs, such as the one negotiated at the Kaiser plant with the United Steelworkers of America that called for craft positions to be filled by one black for every white

until the proportion of Black skilled workers equalled the proportion of Blacks living in the surrounding area, have helped remedy the disparity.

It was an investigation of Kaiser by the federal government for violation of Executive Order 11246 (which forbids discrimination by federal contractors) that pushed the company into agreeing to the affirmative action program. Although 40 percent of the surrounding population was Black, only 15 percent of the work force was black and only five of the 290 skilled craft positions were held by black workers.

A decision in favor of Weber would not only erode affirmative action gains, but also challenges the right to collective bargaining since the affirmative action program was a voluntary agreement between Kaiser and the union included in the contract.

A Bay Area coalition to protest the Weber decision was formed in February with the following demands: Overturn Weber, maintain and expand affirmative action, and end all racial and sexual discrimination. Participation from women and women's organizations is especially welcomed.

Call Sheila McEvoy at 431-2355.

Farm Workers Committee Forms To Aid UFW Strike

A Sonoma County United Farmworkers Support Committee has formed to bring local attention to the plight of 5,000 members of the UFW and approximately 15,000 dependents currently on strike against 11 vegetable companies in the Salinas and Imperial valleys.

A UFW spokesperson said that 20,000 persons in the Imperial Valley alone are in desperate need of food and money to continue the two-month old strike against 28 California and Arizona lettuce growers.



Both are controlled by United Brands.

Donations are tax-deductible and checks should be made out to National Farmworkers Ministry - Food and sent to Betty Meredith, 3824 21st St., San Francisco, 94114.

For more information, to join the UFW support committee, or to make donations of food, money or clothing, contact: Scott Pearson, Circuit Riders Productions, 9619 Old Redwood Hwy., Windsor; Francisco Hernandez, Sonoma State University Chicano Studies, 664-2369; Miguel Molina, SR YM-CA, 1111 College Ave.; or Fernin Garcia or Josue Lopez, Radio Station KBBF, 4010 Finley Ave., S.R.

Consenting Sex Gets AX

He called the situation "grave," noting that the food supply ended four weeks ago and money ran out three weeks into the strike. He said the growers are determined to break the union this time.

The local group formed two working committees, one devoted to fund-raising and the other to information gathering and dissemination. The group agreed on to 1) collect food, money and clothing; 2) organize a news team to report on the situation from the scene; and 3) organize a boycott of Chiquita bananas and Sun-Harvest products.

RENO, NV - Consenting sexual acts between adults of the same sex is currently a felony in Nevada and carries a penalty of one to six years. If Senate Bill 9 passes the legislature, it will carry an additional penalty of a fine up to \$5,000. The anti-gay provision is part of an 81-page "omnibus bill" designed to bring penalties for various types of crimes into line with one another.

Senate Bill 9, written by the Judicial Committee, has recently passed the Nevada State Senate unanimously by a vote of 20-0. It is now in the Assembly Judicial Committee.

— GCN

Help Save Gay Rights Bill

California Human Rights Advocates have issued a call for supporters of gay rights to send letters to their state representatives to save two tabled Gay rights bills, AB 1 and SB 18.

The bills, which would prohibit bias against gays in hiring, have been successfully attacked by the Committee on Moral Concerns, a

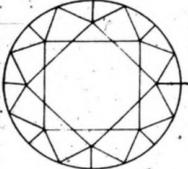
group of fundamentalists opposing gay rights legislation.

In addition to letter writing, CHRA suggests that those involved in both Gay and non-Gay organizations gather endorsements from those groups. For information and assistance contact CHRA, 1107 Ninth St., Suite 1019, Sacramento, CA 95814; (916) 448-6666.

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Charles McCabe Himself

Moscone, Milk

WHEN GEORGE MOSCONE was assassinated I lost a good personal friend. I also admired his conduct as a legislator and as a mayor. I did not know Harvey Milk and had nothing either for or against him.

At the time of the double killing, which was obviously a big national story, I had nothing whatever to say about it. Nor have I since. Some people thought this strange. I told them the true story was so ugly and so inflammatory that no good purpose would be served by telling it.

For a number of reasons I think the story should be told, or at least hinted at, now. For one thing, it has been essentially told by Mike Weiss, a freelance writer living here, in the *Los Angeles Times*. For another, the coming trial on April 23 of the accused killer, Dan White, is



Propagating Bigotry

Editor — Charles McCabe's April 2 column, "Moscone, Milk", is highly disturbing and is the most inflammatory piece of journalism that I have seen since leaving the deep South.

McCabe speaks of a "homosexual invasion" of our city as a "severe municipal problem". He conjures up the possibility of a heterosexual-homosexual war. He states that "homosexuals" rehabilitate old Victorian buildings and yet cause neighborhood decline by

bound to bring out in bitter detail the motivation of this hothead.

The double murder was intimately tied up with the homosexual invasion of this city during the past decade. I accept that there are between 70,000 and 100,000 adult homosexuals living here, and that is somewhere between 15 and 25 percent of the adult population. That's a lot.

IN THE PAST six years three district neighborhoods south of Market have gone from mainly straight to mainly gay. As the homosexuals have done over old Victorians they have not only raised rents but have brought their own cultural values and stores and bars into these neighborhoods which were once Irish and German with some blacks.

The straights who are still there are the dead-enders, the ones who refused to go to the suburbs when the neighborhoods started to decay. They are daily watching their neighborhood being bought out from under them by homosexual real estate operators, store keepers and politicians.

Said writer Weiss: "The San Francisco imagewriters — the politicians and the flacks — don't talk out loud about the seething frustrations and angers aroused by this confrontation. But, out in the neighborhoods, everybody knows San Francisco has a sexual integration crisis."

To prevent the takeover of Visitacion Valley the people there elected Dan White. He didn't have to use the word perversion in his campaign literature, which he did, to both get and give the message: Keep the homosexuals out.

bringing in "their" cultural values. He casts the same dark, dank veil of bigotry that manifested itself in Germany during World War II by warning the heterosexual community to "watch their neighborhood being bought out from under them by homosexual real estate operators, store keepers and politicians."

Charles McCabe condemns Dan White's bigotry. Yet he propagates his own. He scapegoats gay people for San Francisco's problems by invoking one stereotype after another.

At a time when lesbians and

White had all the old-fashioned prejudices and bigotries. He hated blacks and "queers" and made no secret of it. A friend of his told me that when he was a high school baseball player he made it a point to seek out every black boy who made the squad. Then he made a point of beating him up.

When his internal pressures built to an unbearable point — that is, when he learned that Moscone wasn't going to reappoint him as supervisor — this meant only one thing to White. He was double-crossed.

WHITE'S RULING obsessions took over. The man who double-crossed him had offended his manhood. Moreover the mayor was the most powerful friend the homosexuals had in this city. Moscone was assassinated. Down the hall was Harvey Milk, the guy who was leading a movement to destroy the city he had grown up in. Milk was assassinated.

As Weiss pointed out, "San Francisco will be on trial along with Dan White." White's attorney has already said that an important part of his defense will be on the political tensions of the Mission and especially of Visitacion Valley.

There is no longer any point in ignoring this unpleasant set of truths. The homosexual invasion, and I use the word again and advisedly, for that is how thousands of people see it, should no longer be kicked under the rug. It is a severe municipal problem; and we have not heard the end of it yet, by a long chalk. To a disturbing number of people around here, Dan White is a hero.

gay men are being attacked on the streets of our city, McCabe plants the suggestion that thousands of low-abiding, decent San Franciscans approve of a gay murder.

Charles McCabe says he did not know Harvey Milk and had nothing for or against him. I can say that Harvey and I discussed Charles McCabe often. Harvey knew what all of San Francisco now knows, that Charles McCabe is a dangerous man whose inflammatory column demeans thousands of San Franciscans and polarizes both the heterosexual

and the homosexual community.

The suggestion, however indirect, that murderers can be heroes can only inflame that small part of our community that thinks violence against gay people is justifiable.

Charles McCabe owes the gay community an apology, and he owes the overwhelming number of San Franciscans who have accepted gay people as an integral part of our community an apology.

HARRY BRITT
Supervisor, District 5
San Francisco

Supporting Our Institutions Fights Hetero-Fascism

by Melvin Muller

ITEM: Sex therapists Masters and Johnson report in an article front paged April 17 in the *San Francisco Chronicle* about sexual disfunction in heterosexual and homosexual men and women that homosexuality is curable: "Masters and Johnson treated 67 homosexual men and women who wanted to function as heterosexuals. About 35 per cent of the patients failed to achieve a longstanding reversal of their homosexuality. In an interview, Masters expressed dismay with the institute's high failure rate in reversing homosexual orientation, although results are far better than any previously reported."

"I'd be surprised if we didn't do better in the next ten years," he said. "We are just learning, doing this for the first time, and we got less than full cooperation from the clients," many of whom, he said, were suspicious and anxious."

— N.Y. TIMES/S.F. CHRONICLE
April 17, 1979

ITEM: In the most recent confrontation between Nazis and Santa Rosa residents, the worst thing the two sides could call one another was "Fag!!"

ITEM: A San Francisco Happy Talk TV news show promotes its coming report with, "Cure for homosexuality found."

Desperate news items? Unrelated? To be dismissed? Hardly. The wake of November 1978 and Proposition 6 had calmed momentarily only to be disturbed once more by the specter of clinics set up to "cure" the "disease" of

homosexuality.

One of Anita Bryant's planks in the platform of her campaign for Matriarch of Heterosexual Fascism was the instituting of clinics across the country to cure we poor, misguided homosexuals. A New York group called Aesthetic Realism gained moderate publicity with its suggestion, during the anti-6 campaign, that it had found a "cure" for homosexuality. The premise of their "cure" was that it was your same-sex parents fault.

What does all this mean? And, perhaps the more pertinent question, how can they get away with it? They get away with it because of the heterosexual segment of society is kept in the dark to great measure about what homosexual lives are like and they get away with it because a large segment of homosexuals are still unwilling or unable to articulate or demonstrate what our lives are like.

Oh, there is the occasional WORD IS OUT. But for every WORD IS OUT or GAY, U.S.A. there are five A DIFFERENT STORIES, which is vicious, stupid, false and exceedingly appealing to straight America because it suggests that what Gay men and Lesbians really want is a kid and a house in the suburbs, not to mention, good, straight-arrow, heterosexual.

One of the primary reasons for a lack of articulation, or rather a constant articulation, of the homosexual experience is that we fail to support our own institutions. Heterosexuals are awash with every

conceivable social, service and affinity group. How many Kiwanis, 20-30 Clubs, and Business and Professional Women's groups are there in Sonoma County alone?

The other evening, as I attempted to steady myself on eight wheels at a Gay Skate in Rohnert Park, I suggested to a friend that what we were participating in was a political event. Two to three hundred homosexuals and their friends meeting en masse in an arch suburban "family" enclave, Rohnert Park, to enjoy an activity. The similarity between a young Christian group (Parents Without Partners? Bingo night at the church?) seemed apparent. Yet, somehow, we tend to dismiss these events as merely a night out.

One of the most subversive and politically effective groups I can think of is the Gay Freedom Day Marching Band. Though its organizer says they do not question applicants sexuality in this fast-growing, membership open, co-sexual group; the group's impact on straight Northern California cannot be questioned. It has marched and won awards in such mobil institutions as the San Francisco Chinese New Year's and St. Patrick's Day Parades with great success and response.

If we are going to fight in any meaningful way the heterosexual fascists like the Bryants and Masters and Johnsons we must have our own organizations and institutions. And we have. The Sonoma County Lesbian and Gay Alliance has committees set up to deal with

some of the needs of our community. Primary of these is a committee to deal with the health services organizations of Sonoma County.

There are groups set up in the community to provide Lesbian support and Gay male support, support for Lesbians and Gay men in straight relationships, for the parents and friends of Gays and for under 21 Gay people.

There are Lesbians and Gay men on the staff of the Sonoma County Drug Abuse Council who offer counseling. There is a group that raises money for charity, The Court of Wine and Roses.

These are our groups, our service organizations; in short, our institutions. If we are to fight for our right to live as we choose we must dig the trenches deep by joining and supporting all the above mentioned groups, and more.

And, if the next time someone told a Queer joke on your bus and you turned and said, "I'm Gay"; if you are more "masculine" or "feminine" for your sex than heterosexuals feel you should be and you walked unintimidated; if you wrote a newspaper every time they mentioned an accused killer was Gay and asked why they didn't label other accused murders by their sexuality; you would be doing more to fight Heterosexual Fascism than they can ever hope to suppress or eliminate.

Remember, the law that put Japanese-American citizens in concentration camps in America during World War II still exists.

And so do the concentration camps.

Support Groups Form In Sonoma County

Support groups for Gay people and their friends are forming in Sonoma County. The NEWS is publishing this information along with an invitation to others in the county to notify us if you know of, or are interested in establishing support groups or workshops for Gay people.

LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP

This group is designed to provide support around issues of special concern to Lesbians. It is being offered by a county agency.

Groups will meet on Thursday, at 5:30 P.M. starting May 3 at Chanate Hall, 3333 Chanate Rd., Santa Rosa.

Sliding scale or MediCal.

For more information: Pat Lytle at: 996-3644 or Joan Odette at 864-2866.

GAY SUPPORT GROUP IN SONOMA

Starting Wednesday, May 2, a Lesbian and Gay Men's Support Group was established in Sonoma. The weekly meetings are loosely structured with rotating leadership.

The weekly meetings start at 7:30 PM and are held at 853 Broadway in Sonoma.

For additional information, contact Pat Lytle at 996-3644 or David Carter at 996-3420.

GAY MEN'S RAP GROUP

Gay men interested in forming and participating in a local rap group can contact Mike Ransom at 795-6292.

LESBIANS AND GAY MEN IN STRAIGHT RELATIONSHIPS

This group is designed to assist Lesbians and Gay men who are involved in straight relationships such as marriage, parenting, friendships, etc. For further information, call Steve Gomes at 546-2761.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS OF GAYS

This is a Sonoma County group for parents and friends of Gay people who seek mutual support, understanding and a way to back their Lesbian and Gay children. For information call: 526-6344.

Lesbian Bar

The following is a press release issued by Peg's Place, a women's bar in San Francisco that was the scene of attacks by three men, including two off-duty police at the end of March. The incident at Peg's Place came two months after another much-publicized incident of police harassment of two Lesbians at a women's bar in the Mission District.

A rally was held Friday, April 13, at the Havery Milk Plaza between Market and Castro Streets to protest the specific incident at Peg's Place and the violence in general against Gays [from police and from street violence] that has increased recently in San Francisco. According to Karen Schneider, one of the speakers at the rally, and a member of a newly-formed group, Community United Against Violence, the rally had a crowd of 200-300, and an almost equal number of men and women.

Another group, Lesbians Against Police Violence, held a demonstration outside the Hall of Justice in San Francisco on Monday, April 23, the opening day of the trial of Dan

White, who allegedly killed Harvey Milk and George Moscone November 27. Approximately sixty people marched and drew attention to the recent police violence towards Lesbians.

April 11, 1979
PEG'S PLACE "RELEASE"
WHAT HAPPENED
HOW AND WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP

On March 31, about 12:15 am, ten to fifteen men who appeared to be drunk disembarked from a motorized cable car at 11th and Geary carrying beer bottles and cans. Witness accounts confirm that they were drunk and rowdy and shouting "Let's go to Peg's, let's get the dykes."

Alene Levine, was the doorperson that evening and refused them entry because 1) on the grounds it was illegal to enter the bar with beer, and 2) it was her assessment that they were already too drunk to be admitted. At this point a large man (6' - 6'2", weighing between 200 and 225 lbs) yelled, "We are the police and we can do what we goddamn well want to." She pro-

Protests Police Attack

ceeded to put the window opener across the door entrance and told the bartender to call the police.

This large man (Suspect No.1) shouted, "We are the police" and hit her in the chest, knocking her backwards. At this point he and the seven men behind him started pushing their way into the bar. She used the window opener as a lever, pushing them back outside and locked the door. Two women knocked on the door between 30 seconds and 2 minutes after it was locked asking to come in. Out of fear for their safety, she opened the door. The two women and a Gay male friend entered. Also entering at that time were two men from the original group of eight men who had been refused admittance.

Linda (the owner) asked one of these men (Suspect No.2) for his I.D., which he produced. Almost simultaneously someone shouted, "The cops are here." Suspect 2 screamed "Give me back my license" and viciously attacked Linda, getting her in a head and throat hold. Alene turned to get Suspect 2 off Linda and saw his friend (Sus-

pect No. 3) going for Linda's head with a pool cue stick. Alene turned and was struck severely in the head with the cue. While struggling with Suspect 3, Alene saw the uniformed police on the sidewalk, ran out and said, "They are trying to kill the owner."

Two uniformed officers got Linda released from the head and throat hold that Suspect 2 had on her. Uniformed officers also removed the pool cue from Suspect 3. Suspects 2 and 3 were removed from Peg's, and, we thought, arrested at that time. A uniformed officer came into Peg's and began to question both Linda and Alene as to what had happened. During this questioning, Suspect 1 reappeared in the bar and ordered a beer. Alene pointed Suspect 1 out to the officer as one of the assailants and stated that she wanted him arrested too. The officer went over to Suspect 1, whispered something to him at which point Suspect 1 became verbally abusive to the uniformed officer.

The officer proceeded to turn his

back on Suspect 1 and walked out the door. Suspect 1 followed the officer, but before exiting threatened everyone in the bar, hit Alene full force in the sternum and specifically singled her out saying he was going to "get" her. As Suspect No. 1 left, he slammed the door on Linda's arm.

Subsequent to this attack we have learned from the San Francisco Examiner newspaper report that:

Suspect No. 1 is Daniel Mar, an officer in the narcotics division.

Suspect No. 2 is Michael Kelly, an officer with the vice squad.

Suspect No. 3 is a civilian named Kevin Guerine.

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO FIND OUT WHY

1. These men were not arrested immediately.
2. Daniel Mar was not even brought to the station for questioning.
3. No sobriety tests were performed immediately on the suspects.
4. We were not offered medical assistance at the scene.
5. The uniformed police refused

to take the names and phone numbers of witnesses.

6. No witness statements were taken at Peg's Place.

7. Mar and Kelly are still on the police force.

8. WHY THE D.A. HAS NOT PRESSED THESE CHARGES AGAINST THESE THREE MEN.

We are appalled at the inference by Lt. Philpott in an Examiner newspaper article, that Linda and Alene sustained only minor injuries. Linda has been hospitalized for 10 days and Alene had severe enough head injuries to warrant a skull fracture x-ray series.

Please phone, send mailgrams and petitions to both the Mayor and the D.A. demanding charges to be pressed immediately against these three men.

Your financial support would also be appreciated. Donations may be sent to:

The Erlinda Symaco and Alene Levine Legal Fund
Account #0045334844
Wells Fargo Bank, 725 Irving, San Francisco.

Four Years Later

Reflections On Vietnam War

by Karen Ryce
All information for this article came from a radio script adapted from Women of Vietnam, by Arlene Eisen Bergman.

April 30 marked the fourth anniversary of the complete liberation of Viet Nam. Until 1976, there had been continuous military occupation by France and, later, by the United States. Although the Vietnamese people rebelled against the French and declared their independence in 1945, the French still attempted to control the south of Viet Nam by arbitrarily establishing it as a separate country and reinstating the old emperor, Bao Dai.

After nine years of war, the French were finally defeated by the Vietnamese, and they agreed to the recognition of Viet Nam as one independent country. Representatives from the two Viet Nams, France, the U.S.S.R., the People's Republic of China, Cambodia, Laos, Britain and the United States met in Geneva, Switzerland, in June of 1954 and drew up the Geneva Accords. The Accords arranged for

the withdrawal and disarming of troops on both sides, and for free elections of a new government for all of Viet Nam to take place in 1956. Every country represented signed the Accords except the United States who refused but pledged to "refrain from the use of force to disrupt the Agreements."

Within six months, the United States, who'd financed much of the French war effort prior to 1954, violated its pledge by sending direct military aid to the French-controlled regime in the South; by February 1955, the U.S. General O'Daniel became the head trainer of the South Viet Nam Army. In 1956, Ngo Dinh Diem, who was the self-proclaimed head of state of South Viet Nam, and was supported militarily and financially by the United States, set up concentration camps rather than hold the free elections as provided for in the Geneva Accords.

The National Liberation Front was formed as the political organization of the southern part of Viet Nam, whose chief aim was to overthrow the Diem regime and liberate Viet Nam from U.S. con-

rol. Its newly-organized army, the People's Liberation Army Forces, came close to finally kicking the U.S. out in 1964, but the U.S. responded and by 1966, over 1/2 million American men were in Viet Nam.

Like the control of the French, the U.S. control of the southern part of Viet Nam as vicious and horribly exploitative. Over 400,000 Vietnamese women were forced into becoming prostitutes by the American-dependent economy that was riddled with inflation and extremely high unemployment. Many thousands of these women underwent cosmetic surgery to make their eyes rounder and breasts bigger to suit the American tastes of the GI's.

During its occupation of South Viet Nam, the United States sprayed over one-half of all territory with a defoliant called Agent Orange. Agent Orange contains Dioxin—a chemical that deforms unborn babies of pregnant women who ingest it even in tiny amounts. One statistic that's come out of the capital of Hanoi's Institute for Protection of Mothers and Children is that ex-

pectant mothers exposed to Agent Orange have six times more chromosomal breaks than survivors of Hiroshima. Babies are born with flippers instead of arms and legs, without tear ducts; with kidney defects and brain damage.

The United States Army is well-known for the massacre of Son My Village, or My Lai on March 16, 1968. On that day, 500 Vietnamese civilians were killed within a few hours by U.S. troops. Prior to that massacre, hundreds of Vietnamese women were raped by American GI's. The United States military command made rape socially acceptable by consistently covering up reported rapes and making it clear to GI's that they had no real need to fear punishment. Some of the rapes, especially of captive women, were incredibly brutal, with sticks with sharpened ends, broken coke bottles and electric bulbs thrust into women's vaginas.

Viet Nam is now governed by the Provisional Revolutionary Government, and has built a firmer economic base and politicized its population.

The Selective Service Has Plans For You

by Annie O'Donoghue
The nine bills to revise the draft or some form of compulsory national service which are in Congress right now, offer the legislators quite a variety from which to choose our poison.

Among the proposals for draft legislation is one suggesting that the registration age be lowered from 18 to 16. Other plans include registering women, amending the Privacy Act to permit the Selective Service (SS) access to voter registration records nationwide, using high school counseling and attendance lists, having high school counselors serve as draft registrars and increasing the legal penalties for not registering.

Bills submitted to Congress have also recommended major changes in draft classifications, usually by planning to eliminate all deferments indirectly.

One means of eliminating all deferments (including conscientious objector deferments) is to expand conscription to include both military and civilian involuntary ser-

vice. People would be given the choice of either military or civilian work and COs would merely choose civilian work, as could people who wanted other deferments from the military. The work would still be military or government controlled, but the classification system would be unnecessary.



After registering for the draft, when it is decided that one will be eligible for induction a physical will be given. Persons who pass the physical would be ordered for induction, after which they would be

allowed to request a deferment. The request would be made at the Armed Forces Entrance and Examination Station (AFEES) on the date of induction.

The hearing with the draft board would be held then and there.

If the deferment were approved, the person could leave. If not, then either an appeal must be filed or the person would enter the military.

An appeal would postpone (not cancel) the induction date for 10 or 15 days. There would be no way to claim conscientious objector status on the record before being ordered for induction and all claims would be processed at the AFEES.

Both men and women will be drafted if some of these bills are

any guide, especially if the civilian job/military choice were part of the draft.

Congress must pass one of the bills by May 15 in order to have it be eligible for funding in next year's budget.

Call the local chapter of the Resistance Mobilization Committee at 865-2677 and ask what you can do to help.

Particularly talk to friends and acquaintances of high school age, who are the most vulnerable to the draft.

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Tom Robinson: Gay Rock Power

Gay Holocaust Victims Sought

By Melvin Muller
Until Bob Dylan came along, rock and roll audiences were often content to listen to the likes of Pat Boone doing cover versions of Little Richard songs or to wallow in songs about the pain of adolescence.

Now, while most AM radio music is either quasi-psychedelic Motown (disco) or redundant echos of the 60's (Jefferson Starship-Steve Miller-Fleetwood-Mac), people are taking up rock and roll as a vehicle to express their anger and their discontent and their resistance to the status quo.

Tom Robinson is an English rock and roll star who is Gay. An orphan who was raised or kept in institutions til he was 23, Robinson formed his band in the early 70's and has two albums released in the U.S.: last year's POWER IN THE DARKNESS and the newly released TRB TWO. His four piece band recently played several dates in the Bay Area including Berkeley where I saw him April 24.

The power and drive of his music is countered by his easy grinning manner on stage, but the immediacy of his words and the force of his delivery make his audiences, Gay or straight, stand and cheer and sing along.

Thumping the base line on a guitar with a Ford logo sticker reading "Fraud," he opened with "All Right, All Night" from his new album and then alternated between material and songs from his first album like "Winter of 70" a song about the Secret Service and suicides that ends with the lines 'a few blokes fought/and a few blokes died/in the winter of 79.'

Quite a few of his songs have a decidedly political point of view, or at least a view of Gay people as a political force; but not all.

"Martin," about he and a childhood mate's indefatigable loyalty to one another and a joyous love song, "Sweet Black Angel" ("I'm in love with a sweet black angel/and he's coming after me") are two of these. On his first album he also does a song about car-love called "Grey Cortina."

Starting with what might be a Gay anthem, "Glad to Be Gay," dedicated to Harvey Milk, he moved into a set of songs that brought the audience to its feet, screaming and cheering, crowding the aisles and raising their fists.

"Glad to be Gay" enumerates crimes against Gays in England, including the shutting down of the national GAY NEWS while the National Enquire-like straight national press spreads lies about the sick and perverse homosexuals. The song challenges Gay people, despite it all, to "sing if you're glad to be Gay."

Glad To Be Gay

"Power in the Darkness," urges everyone to "stand up and fight for your rights," and "Up Against the Wall," "Don't Take No For An Answer," and "Right On Sisters," (the last dedicated to the women of the Linda Tillery Band who had opened for Robinson) are songs with self-explanatory titles.

While the political content of the lyrics may seem unlikely to find easy adaption in rock and roll



songs, Robinson spits out the lyrics with such sincerity and likeability the listener can't help but be charmed and caught up in the energy.

While trying to delineate the difference between Power Pop, New Wave and Punk music here seems unfeasible, the force and power of Robinson's music leads me to label it Punk, a genre of music that often finds anger with society's inequities at its base.

Beyond Labels

But this man goes beyond labels and is certainly not out to restrict his listening audience. His tour bulletin, a compendium of information and comments about Stone-wall, nuclear power, racism, fascism, all done with humor, also lists his tour schedule which includes, along with cities like Los Angeles, New York and Boston, such unlikely concert dates as Stockton, California, Salt Lake City, Shawnee, Wyoming and Tulsa, Oklahoma. This man is joyously subversive. Don't take no for an answer.

A Sacramento gay researcher is searching for the remaining survivors of the Nazi holocaust against gay people.

The Nazi government of Germany incarcerated and murdered thousands of gay people. Captured Nazi documents were micro-filmed by the U.S. General Services Administration. They tell of the existence of the death penalty for gay people, and record several mass executions — in isolated cases.

Jok Church, a free-lance writer and former radio news director, is collecting the verbal histories of camp survivors. Church says, "vercount of these. They add the dimension of humanity to the documentation process."

Church would like to contact survivors. The histories can be collected anonymously. A resume from Church with letters of reference is available on request.

Gay people who survived the camps can contact Church by writing him at 4908 13th Avenue, Sacramento, California 95820; or by calling (916) 457-3412.

Church Okays Gays - No Sex

CANADA — The Bishops of the Anglican Church of Canada will now permit the ordination of homosexuals, providing they abstain from gay sex. Reverend Edward Scott, primate of the church, says that public declaration of a priest's sexual orientation would hamper his ministry, and that therefore this will be a matter of privacy between the priest and his bishop. A spokesperson for the Canadian Baptists has condemned the move as "dressing the devil in a cassock."

— GCN

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cont. of MARCH article

lesbian and gay peoples.

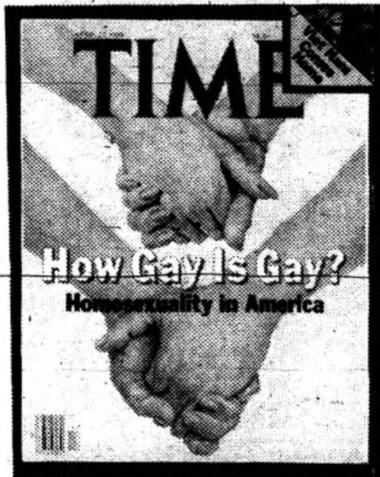
And there is resistance. The lesbian community in San Jose feels the march is detracting from local issues and is making a strong push to keep energies on a local level. These same sentiments are being expressed in other communities. But march organizers view "local issues versus march" as a "non-issue." In fact they see an advantage in the long run. As the march, says its organizers, and the oppression of lesbian and gays gain attention in the national media, there will be more focus of local media on lesbian and gay issues in their communities. At the same time the march facilitates a "mass identity" that will be supportive to those in more isolated areas.

Jacqua Miller, an SCLGA member who attended the Santa Rosa meeting, noting the minimal coverage given the E.R.A., expressed concern that the same could happen again. But Goldberger seemed confident that "if we build it up for six months the media won't be able to ignore it."

If there is an attempt by the media to block coverage of the march, and Lesbian and gay issues in general it is not immediately apparent.

In fact, for the time being, evidence seems to be pointing on the other direction. Time Magazine's April 23rd issue, cover story is on "Homosexuality in America" and sports a Rockwell-styled cover painting of two stereotypical long-fingernailed female hands holding

each other and two stereotypical male hands doing the same with the question spread across it "How Gay Is Gay?" And with an inside six-page spread that, at one point, gets hung up on gay men and fashion, it does touch upon some issues that some march organizers are reticent to deal with.



Those issues deal with racism and sexism within the gay community. March organizers generally feel that specific demands dealing with the Third World and the E.R.A. should not be included among the five demands that already exist. Says Goldberger, "We want to make it clear when we march on Washington that we're not there to march for the E.R.A. or Third World rights but that we're there to march for lesbian and gay rights."

The Lesbian Feminist Liberation caucus of the national conference for the march, held last March in Philadelphia agreed. LFL pointed out, in a position paper, that even if

the E.R.A. passed, lesbians would still not be protected because lesbian and gays have specific laws against them.

But Carol Mae Nicolette, a march committee member sees a different side. In a statement read at the N.C.A.C., Nicolette points out that "There is distrust felt by members of the gay community for very valid reasons that they have experienced racism, sexism and physicalism within the gay community."

Even Time points out that "Black homosexuals charge with some justice, that the gay rights movement is dominated by whites who are no less racist than straight society."

In a position paper presented by the Third World Caucus at the N.C.A.C., which was finally adapted by the general body after considerable discussion, the point was made that being lesbian and gay is being Third World and that not supporting the struggles of other oppressed groups endorses and underwrites racism, sexism and the order that enforces oppression of us all.

It goes without saying that if

march organizers don't start discussing these issues, you may see a long line of white males marching in front of the capitol building.

The N.C.A.C. Third World Caucus, in their position paper, sum it up when they say that the March Committee must begin the re-education process of the entire lesbian and gay community.

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