March By Candlelight

People from all over the Redwood Empire and beyond participated in the International AIDS Memorial Candlelight March on Sunday, May 30 in Santa Rosa.

Gay Veterans Testify In Congress

By Chuck Schoen

Last month Veterans C.A.R.E., Redwood Empire, along with San Francisco's Gay and Lesbian American Legion Post 4448, New England Gay and Lesbian Veterans and San Diego Veterans Association was invited to attend the "Speaker's Eighth Annual Conference on the Concerns of Vietnam Veterans". This event was hosted by the Honorable Jim Wright, Speaker of the House and sponsored by the William Joiner Center for the Study of War and Social Consequences, University of Massachusetts at Boston.

The conference was started eight years ago by the Speaker of the House to meet the needs of Vietnam Veterans. Each year more issues have been added and more participants invited. This year was especially significant and important to the gay and lesbian community, because gay and lesbian veterans were invited to participate. Issues discussed included Agent Orange, many others. In addition there were topics like discrimination in the Postal Service, POW/MIA Servicemen, Small Business and other legal and pertinent issues.

Because of limited time, gay and lesbian veterans centered on one main issue, that of upgrading discharges of those veterans who served honorably yet received less-than-honorable discharges. Such upgrading would allow these veterans to access the VA health care system. We also included the spousal discrimination of gay and especially lesbian veterans already entitled to veteran benefits.

Monday, May 1 was devoted to work-shops. I was impressed by the number of gay veterans who attended the gay workshop. Their participation in the discussion and questions indicated their interest. We had the pleasure of a visit by Congressman Gerry Studds of Massachusetts, who also provided our meeting room. Aides of other congressional members attended and made comments.

Irealized I wanted to be part of a group of people who were like myself. So I started going through a process that I call "coming in".

By Jaye Miller

Believe it or not, the Catholic school system of Sonoma County has by far the most comprehensive and humane AIDS education program in our area. During the course of the past three years, the Catholic Diocese of Santa Rosa has been developing an age-appropriate instructional program which has the backing of parents and teachers.

Recently, I completed the last of three full-days of talking to students of Ursuline and Cardinal Newman students about AIDS prevention. I was encouraged to discuss the AIDS crisis in detail and to include explicit information on safe sex and the correct use of condoms. I shared with the students that I was gay; I also told them that some among them would probably have a gay or lesbian sexual identity as they grew up.

With the exception of one parent and one faculty member, I was welcomed and supported in my talks. The coordinator of AIDS education at the two schools has wonderful plans and enthusiasm for providing greater depth in the future, including the possibility of student peer counseling and student drama productions around AIDS.

Since I was given such broad support for dealing explicitly with safe sex, condoms and homosexuality, I feel no compromise in also stressing the value of abstinence and monogamy.

CONTINUED TO PAGE 9

The Anthropology of Homosexualities

By Julia Elliott

Mildred Dickemann is a Professor of Anthropology at Sonoma State University. She first came to SSU in 1968, where a year later she helped to found the Anthropology Department. Some of her earliest work was in the area of educational anthropology and ethnic studies. As she began to integrate her interests in biology, she pursued research in behavioral ecology and sociobiology. It was this work that brought her to her current interest in gender studies. This spring she has been teaching a course at SSU on "The Anthropology of Homosexualities". Julia Elliott, a student in the course, interviewed Dr. Dickemann at her home in Berkeley.

There's a new course at Sonoma State on the Anthropology of Homosexualities. What made you decide to do that now? MD: I ask myself that all the time. If you define yourself as a homosexual but not a lesbian, you tend not to think of yourself as part of a gay community. I defined myself as a homosexual ever since I learned the word. I was one of those people who believed that somehow I was born in the wrong body. So you could say I was a dyke. I didn't like the word lesbian because it makes it very clear that you're a female gay. Of course I couldn't be a feminist until I decided I was a woman. It took me a long time, and a lot of therapy, to accept that I was a lesbian. When I finally began to redefine myself I realized I wanted to be part of a group of people who were like myself. So I started going through a process that I call "coming in".

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Resolution Commentary
By Georgia Prescott

The value of the 1999 Lesbian/Gay Pride resolution is evident in our ongoing process of education and advocacy. In its passage, we set the framework for future discussion and action. The resolution serves as a reminder of the importance of understanding and acknowledging the experiences of the LGBTQ+ community. It encourages us to stand in solidarity with one another and work towards a more just and inclusive society.

The resolution also highlights the need for continued education and awareness-raising efforts. It reminds us that the struggle for equality and acceptance is ongoing, and that there is still much work to be done to ensure that everyone is treated with respect and dignity.

In passing this resolution, we reaffirm our commitment to the values of inclusion, diversity, and social justice. We recognize the ongoing challenges faced by the LGBTQ+ community, and we commit to working together to create a more welcoming and equitable community for all.

We urge all members of our community to support the resolution and to continue to engage in the work of advocacy and education. Together, we can create a safer, more inclusive, and more just society for all.

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Cruising the River

By Patrick Tierl

WOMEN'S WEEKEND: Even though it was a month ago, people are still talking about the recent Women's Weekend. Local businesses boasted of being booked out. It was estimated that close to 4,000 tourists visited Guerneville for the weekend. We were all glad to welcome new faces and show them how some of Russian River hospitality.

I was amazed watching the names of some of the locals. There was Joanne from the local Grice not seeing new friends. Torte and Bert headed for the San Lorenzo falls to duck the crowds. Cherie and Joanne had a successful team in the big downtown area. We all knew how much they were trying to give people.

ATTEND ENTRY: In the name John Macken-Conklin.

Buddy Connection.

If Eric, the former waiter at Scott's can now be found at Jenner II on the San Lorenzo, then don't mean the one in the skyline. Go to show you time.

Women's Weekend reminds us all of the contributions most of the year unnoticed in town, out showing off our local stands. Cheree and Joan lead a successful team in various roles. Cheree said, "Getting swept up in the fun of Women's Weekend were two of the River's favorite dogs Scott and Cali."

Changes.... The River welcomes our newest bar....

Weekend were two of the River's favorite drag queens. Scott and Cali. They also had fun.

AIDS News

By Doug McCallum

Last month, the Buddy Connection presented a new look, a fresh start.

EVIDENTLY: One of the most graceful, authentic and gay men is looking for a new manager for the 1989-90 season. Tom Stanley, the current manager is moving on to manage the new Rusty Nail, the new Nail in town.

The new manager must be an enthusiastic individual with an ability to be both manager and host. A background in volunteer coordination of the schedule with the Guerneville Volunteer Fire Department can be considered. The position requires much responsibility and being able to work with others.

Community Volleyball, a recreation program run through River Community Services for lesbians and gay men is looking for a new manager for the 1989-90 season. Tom Stanley, the current manager is moving on to manage the new Rusty Nail, the new Nail in town.

The new manager must be an enthusiastic individual with an ability to both manage and host. An enthusiasm for volunteering and being able to work with others will be considered. The position requires much responsibility and being able to work with others.

Community Volleyball currently meets on Mondays from 7 PM to 9 PM at the River Community Center. The season is one night a week throughout the summer. The group is open to anyone interested in playing volleyball for fun, just to test one's skills, or to stay in shape.

Our advertisers keep us We The People Going! Do you keep our advertisers going? Tell them you saw and heard how much you appreciate them.

G/L Volleyball Needs Manager

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Anthropology

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The annual early May bath in the Guerneville area was a great success, with wonderful weather and events of happy women. Baskets at Firsts and The Woods, weekend events are possible in this photo collection by Jason Toagno and Cheryl Franklin / Photogenics.

So all this happened over the past three or four years. Do you feel like you're done at work now?

MB: My becoming obviously out at work was a very slow process. I think I was practically the last woman at Sonoma to wear pants when they became acceptable for women because I was scared. Then gradually I just began dressing more and more "transcendental." So by the late '70s I was totally obvious.

JE: What do you think anthropology has to offer to the study of homosexuality that's different from the other social sciences?

MB: I don't think anthropology has any well-developed theory about gender per se, but it has a method that is immensely useful — it's cross-cultural and comparative. Some people are beginning to see that certain forms of society generate certain forms of gender definition and thereby create certain forms of homosexuality. What we really need is to look at what the correlations are — with more sophisticated questions about family structure, sex roles, socialization of the young, political structure and so on. You have to start looking at homosexuality as one way to understand heterosexual sex roles, whether we like it or not.

JE: What is your theory about that?

MB: One is looking at a shift from a situation in which parents or the close family are making the primary decision about children's sexual nature, later in a situation in which it is more rewarding for parents to let children make their own choices. Once you make that shift, you create a new danger: that some of these children won't perform the sexual roles that you would like them to perform. So homosexuality gets stigmatized, but at the same time it is also becoming an acceptable role. This sounds like a contradiction, but it isn't. You don't want your child to be homosexual, but there are certain times and places when it is an acceptable role for some children.

JE: You said in a class social construction [of homosexuality] to be gay? A point of view is very broadly accepted among social scientists, but it seems to me that one must question many of these points of view. It is popularly taken for granted among intellectuals and gays. Why is this the big difference?

MB: I think it is, especially of people who are in some way politically active, that they feel they are being oppressed. It's a satisfying position for people who feel on the defense. If you feel beset, it is much easier to rally yourself as being natural rather than contrived, because if you're conscious, people can say: well, stop. Morality scholarship forces you from those great reactions. If you do it as a cultural or with any kind of historical time depth, you can't avoid the fact that differences (in homosexuality) have occurred and you have to explain them. Homosexuals and cross-cultural social scientists are forced to recognize social construction, though I don't think we have a very good explanation of how the construction occurred.

JE: Often people seem to assume that one can only be looking at causes of homosexuality — that the explanation has to be either essentialist or sociocultural, but not both. It seems to me we have developed in different ways for different reasons. There can't be any one explanation for all.

MB: Essential — An early 20th century anthropologist said, the same result can be produced by many different causes. That's much forgotten.

JE: I can imagine some people may find these notions conservative. In matching the course you feel that students are satisfied for any of the ideas you're bringing up?

MB: Absolutely. They're sympathetic, and I designed it that way. I wanted them to have a feeling of confidence about what I assumed would be their own stereotypical definitions of sexuality — we could become conscious, not only of the ways that we define homosexuality today, but of our natural tendency to look at things in a post-change which. If you expose people to enough historical time depth, or enough cross-cultural diversity, you are doing them universalism, essentialism. I guess that's the main goal of the course. It's very hard to maintain any fundamental way of looking at reality, especially in the area of gender — it's not something that one can universalize anymore and just let it be.

JE: What are some of these assumptions?

MB: That gender is defined in terms of specific social attributes. We need to think that the Greeks had made homosexuality, but then what we do and study, it is not too

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Larry Dickinson

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I, The Shaping
By Jim Melancon

JERRY NOAKES: A PROFILE
constant in his dedication to the paper, working as managing publication of We the People a year ago. He has remained for milk, yogurt, and cheese, and earthworms for gardening to grow vegetables, they moved to upstate New York. But Jerry earns his living as a massage therapist at his Body and to thank him for his hard work. It seemed appropriate to profile this energetic, idealistic and dedicated man to let our readers know who he is and why we love him. Ray can experience: his wildest dreams and more, but some sacrifices are necessary. | JERRY NOAKES: A PROFILE
I started thinking, all right, what's our community here? Is the AIDS Network the community? After he finished massage school in '85 Jerry returned to Sonoma County because he had friends here. He didn't know any gay people here, and he hadn't had much of an opportunity then 1984 Doug left Tennessee to attend massage school for a few years. Jerry had been working as Homestead in rural areas. Through his contact with RFD, Jerry had heard of that's when I decided to start The Social-Life Club, for people who like to do things. I've had people ask me, what's there to program, or go to the bars? Hoe's one answer. We the People and the Social-Life Club. He wants to schedule and women on issues of separatism between gay men and unequately equipped to deal with women veterans, whose numbers are growing. WHAT DID WE GAIN? The Voice is the greatest mystery of the universe, yet it comes to very ordinary people in very ordinary ways. Some­...
The Theatre is pleased to welcome Michael Tabib as its artistic director. Michael Tabib is an actor and director with a long history of working in the theatre. He has directed several productions at Sonoma State University, including "The Perfect Man," "A Raisin in the Sun," and "The Great American Dream." His directing style is characterized by a strong emphasis on character development and emotional truth. Under his leadership, the Theatre aims to present a diverse range of works, reflecting the broad spectrum of voices and perspectives present in our community.

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Michael Tabib

June 1989

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Photographer Shows Work

A photographer renowned for her work in the gay and lesbian community will be exhibiting her photographs at the Sonoma County Art Association in June. The photographer, who requested anonymity, said that her work is a reflection of her own experiences and the experiences of others within the gay and lesbian community. She hopes that her photographs will provide a window into the lives of individuals who often feel invisible or misunderstood.

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Social Life среди redwoods

The Social Life among the Redwoods is aführerschauung of gay and lesbian life in northern California. It is a place where people can come together to share their experiences, support one another, and celebrate their identities. The center offers a range of programs and events, including workshops, discussions, and social gatherings. The goal of the Social Life among the Redwoods is to promote a safe and inclusive environment for all members of the gay and lesbian community.

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Redwood Empire Star Guide

The Redwood Empire Star Guide is a publication that highlights the gay and lesbian community in the Redwood Empire region of northern California. It features articles on local events and organizations, as well as personal stories and profiles. The guide is a resource for those looking to connect with others in the LGBTQ+ community and to explore the diverse and vibrant life of the Redwood region.

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The Wishing Well

To end the silence I spoke to my father and shared my despair about the situation. We talked, and I discovered that I was not alone in my fear. My father was concerned about me, and he wanted to help. We decided to work together to find the answers that I was looking for.

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Ad

CANCER, June 21 to July 22


domestic violence, alcoholism, and drug addiction. I asked him about the possibility of having a monogamous relationship. He replied, "I think it's possible, but it's not easy. A monogamous relationship requires a lot of work and dedication."

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CANCER, June 21 to July 22

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SATURDAY JUNE 3
AIDS, ARC and US -The Journey Back to the Heart- all day workshop offering love, support and information on holistic healing and the power of the heart to heal people living with AIDS, friends, family, lovers and AIDS caregivers. 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., El Dorado Tropic, Santa Rosa. Sponsored by Santa Rosa Church of Religious Science. 10 Registration. 545-4543.

SUNDAY JUNE 4
The Women's Goddesse Ritual, all women welcome. 7 p.m. For more info come by Yalode, Main St., Guerneville, or call 869-3445.

MONDAY JUNE 5
Paul Marohl of Marohl Press reads from his work. 7 p.m., Sweet Life Cafe, S. R. 575-8879.

TUESDAY JUNE 6
Lesbian/Gay Pride Resolution will be presented at the first day of the 1989 Sonoma County Board of Supervisor vote. We need to be in prilident attendance to be heard. 2 p.m., 527-3953. In the County Auditorium, Santa Rosa. Date may change so call 527-0488 or 532-0602 or 766-0697 to confirm.

Buddy Connection/Channeler Sex Workshop, 7-10 p.m., Face to Face, 16832 River Road, Grille. For more info call 579-AIDS.

Nasred Wranov, author of Chinese Through My Window, will read from her book which is based on her life as a photographer, has an exhibit of her spirituality and photography at ClaireLight, 1110 Petaluma Hill Rd., Santa Rosa. For more info call 523-3953.

Russian River Metropolitan Community Church is a church for all people regardless of sexual orientation. Service every Sunday at 11 a.m. 14520 Armstrong Woods Hl, Grille. For more info call 863-3304. Weekly Groups Now Forming: Couples (Support Group for women who are HIV positive or have AIDS/ARC) and a Support Group for women who are HIV positive or have AIDS/ARC. Both groups facilitated by Marjorie Thirkettle, MCC (ML021923). For info call 569-3303.

SECOND CONFERENCE FOR HOMOPHOBIC EDUCATORS, "Strategies for Homophobic Education". Participants will showcase their work, network with others, and examine resources in print. Age 13-21. Sacramento State University, CA 95864. For more info call 916-278-7302.

SECOND WEST COAST CONFERENCE AND CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS. Participants will showcase their work, network with others, and examine resources in print. 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., 1717 Valley Drive Room, S. R., Santa Rosa. For info call 823-5845.

Lesbian and Gay Support Groups, weekly ongoing sessions. Presented by Ministry of Light, 1000 S. Francisco Dr., Salinas, California. For info call 869-0550 or 569-3304.

AA Stein Group (Lesbian) Saturaday, 8 p.m.; 167 High Rd., Sebastopol. For more info call 523-0602.

AIDS/ARC, meets every Thursday. 6:00 p.m., Public Health Rotunda, 3313 Chanate Rd., Santa Rosa. For more info call 869-3304. WEDNESDAY JUNE 7 Sonoma County Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club, meets 1st Wednesday of the month, 7:30 p.m. For info call 527-0489.

TUESDAY JUNE 14 BANGLE, Bay Area Network of Gay and Lesbian Educators, meets 2nd Wednesday of the month, 7:30 p.m., Face to Face, Grille. For info call Jole Miller at 433-9158.

LYnette Shappard, through slides and rituals, will share a journey of spiritual awakening and growth - the Anasazi ruins, red rocks and endless skies of the Four Corners region of the Southwest. 7 p.m., ClaireLight. Admission by donation, all proceeds to benefit Face to Face. 575-8879.

Saf e Sex Workshop, fashioned after the Buddy Connection workshop of the SF AIDS Foundation, Sponsored by the Napa Valley AIDS Project. 7 p.m. For more info call 258-8421 or 523-3953.

THURSDAY JUNE 15 Janice Spotswods channels the Council. 7:30 p.m., Grille. Donation requested.

FRIDAY JUNE 16 "Deep Dish" - Gay Men's Potluck meets 3rd Friday of the month. For info call 544-4109.

SATURDAY JUNE 17 Gay Men's Quarterly Potluck. 119 W. 7th, Santa Rosa. 7:30 p.m. For info call 544-2500.

Sunday Selection Party, Ritual and Camp-out. On women's land in Casitas. By reservation only. $5 donation. For info come by Yalode, Main St., Guerneville, or call 869-3445.

BUDDY CONNEILLON/SAFIR SAX WORKSHOP. 7-10 p.m., SRJC, Faculty Senate Room. For info call 829-5439.

SUNDAY JUNE 18 Third Annual Lesbian/Gay Pride Picnic. Noon-7:30 p.m. Spring Lake Park. For more info call 523-6524.

LGRN Men's Potluck meets 3rd Sunday of the month at 6:30 p.m. For info come by Mail at 579-AIDS.

TUESDAY JUNE 19 Buddy Connection/Channeler Sex Workshop, 7-10 p.m., Face to Face, 16832 River Road, Grille. For more info call 579-AIDS.

Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club. 9 p.m. For info call 527-0489.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 21 Buddy Connection/Channeler Sex Workshop, 7-10 p.m., Face to Face, 16832 River Road, Grille. For more info call 579-AIDS.

MARCU MELLENGER will talk about stretchex, massage, and her thesis project on FMS and using heat massage to help relieve symptoms. Wear comfortable clothing. 7 p.m., ClaireLight. No admission charge. 575-8879.

FRIDAY JUNE 23 Rainbow Dance, sponsored by Sonoma County Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club. 2-5 p.m., Cotus Vets. 5-10 sliding scale.

SATURDAY JUNE 24 Fair fighting and communication skills for gay men, lesbian and their friends, meets first Tuesday of the month. 7:30 p.m., Face to Face, Grille. For more info call 869-3304.

Lesbian and Gay SRvivors Anonymous, meets every Wednesday at 6 p.m., Christ Methodist Church, 1717 Valley Drive, 5. R., Santa Rosa. For info call 823-5845.

Lesbian Co-Dependency Anonymous, meets every Monday at 7 p.m., Santa Rosa Senior Center, 704 Bennett Valley Road. For info call 823-5845.

LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP for PW/AIDC, sponsored by Carl Owens, M.A., meets every Monday, 7-9 p.m., Face to Face office. Call 897-1887 to enroll. Positive for Positive, support group for HIV/AIDS, meets every Wednesday at noon. For info call 865-1834 or 869-2355.

Rainbow's End, gay and lesbian youth sponsored by the Ministry of Light, meets the 1st and 2nd Thursday of each month for social events and discussion. Ages 15-21. Ministry of Light offices, 1000 S. Francisco Dr., Salinas, California. For info call 869-3304.

SANTA ROSA AIDS Awareness Group. An open informational/support group committed to demystifying the isolation of people with HIV, ARC, and AIDS. Sponsored by Face to Face. Thursdays, 7-9 p.m. In the library conference room at Community Hospital, Santa Rosa. Sponsored by Camille, family and friends welcome. For info call 578-0655.

Support group for lesbian women with eating disorders, facilitated by Camille Owens, M.A., meets every Tuesday. 7-9 p.m. Free. For info call 523-3953.

Weekly Groups Now Forming: Couples Group where one or both partners are HIV positive or have AIDS/ARC, and a Support Group for women who are HIV positive or have AIDS/ARC. Both groups facilitated by Marjorie Thirkettle, MCC (ML021923). For info call 569-3303.

OTHER PROGRAMS
Cheryl Tredyly, internationally known sports psychologist, will conduct an hour of her work and provide a Q&A forum at ClaireLight, 1110 Petaluma Hill Rd., Santa Rosa, through June.

Dip Me in Honey- Original lesbian musical comedy, directed by Lucy St. James and produced by ensemble roles scheduled for July 15 and 26, 5-9 p.m. at Church of St. Peter, 2572 River Rd., Windsor. Bring song and prepared to perform. For info call ClaireLight at 869-0550 or 569-3304. Sponsobred by Russian River MCC.

Lesbian Business Owner's Association meets once a month. For dates and further info call 526-HOPF.

Napa Valley AIDS Project offers an ongoing Support Training for volunteers. For info call 869-3304.

Russian River Metropolitan Community Church is a church for all people regardless of sexual orientation. Service every Sunday at 11 a.m. 14520 Armstrong Woods Rd., Grille. For info call 523-0602 or 579-AIDS.

SECOND CONFERENCE FOR HOMOPHOBIC EDUCATORS, "Strategies for Homophobic Education". Participants will showcase their work, network with others, and examine resources in print. Age 13-21. UCSD, Los Angeles. For more info call 523-0602.

SECOND WEST COAST CONFERENCE AND CELEBRATION OF QW/M. As the People, P.O. Box 457, Grants, CA 95444. For info call 536-3558.

Items for the Calendar of Events should be submitted in writing by the 15th of the month.

Last items will be included as space permits.

Please note that because of our press time, events scheduled after the fourth of the month should be submitted two months in advance. We welcome comments from all of the People.