

providing a forum for the boston area gay

gay community news

volume 1, number 2- july 5, 1973

G C N GETS FACELIFT

This will be the last issue of GCN that will have the appearance of a PTA bulletin. To give you a more concise professional paper, next week we will be switching to offset printing. The paper will be then printed on regular newsprint, with our manpower needs reduced.

GCN is expanding rapidly. If you haven't yet subscribed, please do so now. We are trying to give you the best paper possible, but your interest and support alone will determine how well we can do this.

If you have any news or event that you would like to see printed, opinions or criticisms, please let us know. Our purpose is to report on all events with as much (cont. p.2)

SPORTER'S EMPTIED

Sporter's, a pre-dominately male bar, was evacuated Sunday nite, July 1st. Police refuse to give an account or justification for the incident, and when questioned stated "that it wasn't that important". Customers present during the clear-out seemed to feel (cont.p2)

CATCH 44
PAGE 2

COFFEEHOUSE \$
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PAGE 6

"THE UPSTAIRS" TRAGEDY CONTINUES

With 31 dead, two others beyond recognition, and 10 people still on the critical list, the recent fire-bombing of "THE UPSTAIRS", a popular gay bar in New Orleans, has proven to be the worst incident of sexist genocide ever perpetrated against our gay brothers and sisters since the Salem witch burnings.

Gay individuals and organizations, as well as an extremely large group of sympathetic straight people, immediately set up a series of blood-banks and collection funds to assist in the task of taking care of hospital and funeral costs, as well as suppling the immense amount of blood needed for the survivors.

Problems arising from this tragedy include the refusal on the part of some of the gay people's families to pay funeral expenses, inability of the victims to pay hospital costs, and the adjustment of a number of families of supposedly "straight" people killed in the fire.

Assisting in the work is the Rev. Troy Perry, along with the seven district members of the nation-wide Metropolitan Community Church. MCC New Orleans reports that the people of that city have rallied to help ease the strain of providing blood and funds.(cont.p.2)

G.C.N. GETS FACELIFT (cont)
objectivity as possible. We want everyone to feel they have a say in what goes into this publication. See you next week on newsprint.

SPORTER'S EMPTIED (cont)
that a bomb threat was the reason for the evacuation. Bartenders at the popular night spot however state that it was evacuated because of rules involving the fire department's regulations concerning the number of people that can occupy a building at one time. This reasoning however seems to be questionable in that Sporter's was so crowded on many other nights when evacuations were not staged.

UPSTAIRS (cont)
Boston's Metro-Church is planning to sponsor a blood-bank within the next three weeks. We urge all members of the gay community to "give" as soon as possible. We'll hopefully have the necessary information by next week.

GCC's Penny Ferrault asks that all financial contributions be sent to their Boston office at 419 Boylston St., room 408.

MeetingHouse CoffeeHouse Financial Statement
May 17-June 25, 1973

INCOME	
Contribs.	\$ 300.00
GCC	523.00
Loan	1,000.00
C.H. Recpts.	2,995.95
<u>EXENSES</u>	<u>4,818.95</u>
Staples	1,362.32
Kitchen	1,086.16
Equip.	1,825.36
Salary	510.00
	<u>4,783.84</u>
Cash on hand	35.11
Assets	1,825.36
Loan	1,000.00
Net Worth	360.47

TA DA!

Three cheers for the "Catch 44" Program, and YES, there exists a VITAL need for more programs on television and radio related somehow to gay people.

J.E.H.

People-

Caught Catch-44 and hope to be seeing more of Gay Media Watch for many, many, many weeks to come.

All subjects seemed to be handled beautifully and gave the Movement a big boost- keep it up!

Please send all literature and info concerning Gay Women to me in the enclosed self addressed envelope. Thanks for so much.

J.C.

Catch 44

People did see our program Catch 44 and they did respond. Far out. But now we need more letters & cards of support if we're ever going to get regular coverage on T.V. Letters of support are solid propaganda we can show to stations and prove that the gay community wants, needs, demands to be represented.

write: c/o Gay Media Watch
Charles St. Meetinghouse
70 Charles St.
Boston, Ma. 02114

If we had not paid out so much for equipment, we would have shown a profit in our operations for the period of \$37.47. We will have to do something about this, because this does not make the coffeehouse a going concern. Almost all of the \$360 net worth came from GCC-\$523 and contributions-\$1300.

REACT!!!

Women, Where Are You?

For several weeks now, the female contingent at the Friday night dances at the Charles Street Meetinghouse has not been very impressive. In all honesty, there have been almost no representatives except for the few (5) regulars.

Gay Pride Week was a different story. Because the week emphasized unity, there was an unusually large number of women, and from the jubilation that permeated the room it seemed like all the folks were having a good time. What is difficult to understand is why we can't get together with our gay brothers the other 51 weeks in the year.

We are all oppressed in our gayness, and yet we continue to lead our separate lives. If we feel the existence of a sexist attitude among our gay brothers and do nothing to resolve the issue, how can we expect to grow as a constructive force in changing society? By eliminating the fact that gay men are real and not dealing with them, we have retained our narrow-minded heterosexual conditioning.

Reactions * * * * Reactions * * * * Reactions

Dear GCN:

What is being done to set up an on-going rap session for men such as DOB has for gay women? I'm certain that there is a lot of interest in such a thing. Tuesday seems like a good night; Charles Street Meetinghouse a good place. (I don't think rollerskating at the Bal-A-Rou is a substitute for this!) All that is really necessary is an announcement of time

Remember New Orleans!

The senseless killings of gay and straight people at "The Upstairs" bar in New Orleans recently represents perhaps the greatest act of genocide perpetuated against us since the witch burnings in Salem. We must not let this incident get shuffled to the back of the newspaper. Everyone should be writing to their local paper, as well as Senators, Congresspeople and the police department demanding immediate justice, and insisting that this situation be dealt with.

Letting this slip by would not only be in ignorance of the people killed and injured, but would also convince other erratics who may be planning the same thing that it's easy to get away with. We must unite and defend ourselves against the senseless hostility of those who feel our existence a threat.

and place in GCN, and the people who arrive could get it together by themselves (hopefully).

A. E.

Ed. note: One has just been organized for men only, to be held Tues. nights at the Meetinghouse. See notice elsewhere, and the Calendar.

Reactions * * * * Reactions * * * * Reactions

(Ed. note: The following is a letter to "Randy" Gibson, pastor of the Charles Street Meetinghouse.)

Dear Rev. Gibson:

During Gay Pride Week I was introduced to your coffee house and gallery. For so long I had wanted to see somebody with your foresight come forward and initiate such an endeavor.

To have a place to congregate, without frequenting the bars, has surely been needed in the gay community. Now that we have one, I hope the members of the community realize its worth and support it.

While I do not live in the city proper, rest assured that I'll become a familiar face around there. Here's wishing it and you the success you deserve, for devising it and making it a reality. May the Good Lord watch over both.

Sincerely,
G. J. C.

Dear Editor:

Page seven of your current issue (June 27) is entitled "React." I prefer to react to your item on page six, "Have you heard the word of the Lord today?"

The bane of the gay movement centers on the bigotries and lack of understanding for what the other individual feels. This religious meeting was attended by me, and as a Catholic I resent your singling out the leader of that Church for his failure to attend.

This Church was represented by a layman and a clergyman, both of whom are very active in the gay community. Both men were a credit

to the movement, and expressed the feelings of Catholic women and men who are gay and proud. Certainly no individual who is unaware of our ultimate goals and present needs could or should speak for us.

Am I asking too much when I request that your stories report who, what, where and when events took place? If I want biased news there are two papers in the city now dishing out the shit they think we should have.

Please give this matter your deep thought. If GCN is to become the spokesman for the gay community, it must be factual without bias or bigotry. Otherwise it will not survive.

Jack Ligruck

(A response by Erich Schloman, the author of the article noted)

As a "fellow" member of the Catholic Church, as well as an active member of the gay community, I can assure Mr. Ligruck of my sincere intentions' concerning my coverage of the religious workshop. Whereas no one individual was singled out to be victimized by any "biased" reporting on my part, I did want to stress the lack of support on the part of certain religious sects and their affiliates.

* * * * *

EVENT

Bob and Harry Freeman-Jones and Rev. William Alberts, the minister who married them, will be the guests on the WCVB-TV (channel 5) show, "New Heaven, New Earth." It will be aired on Sunday, July 15th at 10am. Be sure to tune in and see how the church and gays interrelate.

EVENTSEVENTS***EVENTS***

WEEKLY MEN'S RAP NOW
BEING HELD

Weekly gay men's rap group sessions are now being held Monday nights at 7:30 beginning July 9. The sessions will be free formed and those attending will break into smaller more intimate groups discussing a wide range of topics.

The purpose of the sessions are to encourage gay men to work out our individual and special problems. Periodically we will hold a mixed group for men and women. Women wishing to become involved in a rap group may contact the Daughters of Bilitis who hold their groups also on Monday nights at 7:30.

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NATIONAL GAY MOBILIZING
COMMITTEE

A new coalition, the National Gay Mobilizing Committee for a march on Washington is made up of Gay People dedicated to the mobilization of masses of people for large demonstrations. The demands of which include calling for the repeal of all sodomy and solicitation laws and full civil rights for gays.

NGMC is seeking nation-wide endorsements from all gay groups and publications for a national convention to be held in October on the Urban campus of the University of Illinois to plan and mobilize for a march on Washington next spring. For information, contact or write:

National Gay Mobilizing
Committee for a March
on Washington
204 Illini Union
Urbana, Ill 61801
ph: (217) 333-9492

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BASTILLE DAY

Metropolitan Community Church will sponsor a picnic at Crane's beach on Saturday, July 14. Everyone is welcome, bring your own food. Transportation available at Old West Church at 10:00 A. M., Saturday morning. If you are able to volunteer transportation, call: 266-7481

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*** EVENTS*** EVENTS ***

EFFEMINIST DISCUSSIONS

Discussions on topics of interest to men concerned about sexism. will be held Thursday nights from July 5 to August 9, at Project Place, 32 Rutland st. (South End) at 7:30 P. M. Discussions are informal and all men are invited.

The six topics are: (July 5) Trusting : Relating to men as friends and lovers. (July 12): Our relationships with women. (July 19): Finding ourselves therapy vs. Consciousness Raising Groups. (July 26): Dealing with Sexism. (August 2) Men and our bodies. (August 9): Living without couple relationships and without loneliness.

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PRESBY GAY NEWS

For those of us who have let our subscriptions to TRENDS (published by the Christian Ed. staff of the United Presbyterian Church) lapse, the July/August issue features "The Church and the Homosexual."

Departing greatly from the official Presbyterian view that "the practice of homosexuality is a "sin" editors Dennis Shoenaker and Florence Bryant have studied the question for themselves. Bryant concludes with a proposition that the church ordain gay ministers, and bless "permanent and faithful" gay unions.

In a separate article, Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon (Lesbian Woman) state because lesbians have withdrawn from the battle of the sexes they are "the only women capable of loving men."

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PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT

JULY 1-20, Eileen Friedenreich will be having an exhibit of photographs at Panopticon, 107 Bay State Road, Boston. For further information call 207-3929.

THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF GAY PRIDE WEEK EXPENSES.

Date	Explanation	Income	Withdrawals	Balance
6-4-73	balance of Gay Pride Fund			165.00
6-6	fliers for parade		26.78	138.22
6-8	Rit dye for banners		2.04	136.18
6-8	material for Banners		11.70	124.48
6-13	"loan" from <u>Coming Out</u>	200.00	--	324.48
6-13	balloons for Parade		41.20	283.28
6-13	string for balloons		4.64	278.64
6-15	helium for balloons		91.68	186.96
6-15	bullhorn for parade		20.00	166.96
6-16	marching band for parade		50.00	116.96
6-16	donations from balloons	2.75	--	119.71
6-20	deposit for N.Y. bus		25.00	94.71
6-24	money collected for bus	516.00	--	610.71
6-24	fee paid for bus		338.50	272.21
6-24	overtime fee for bus		48.00	224.21
6-24	donations toward bus overtime	32.00	--	256.21

I, personally, am accountable for all of the above. An additional donation is expected of approximately \$500.00 from the GCC from the two special dances held during Gay Pride week.

Depending on what the cast of Coming Out votes concerning the status of their \$200 "loan", next year's Gay Pride Committee should have about \$750 to work with. This should enable the '74 Committee to plan an even bigger and better GPM than we had this year.

I think I should comment on a few questions that were brought up in last week's issue:

1. Charlie Shiveley's letter concerning "Sylvia Sydney." The idea of "crowning" Sylvia as "Queen of the Parade" was originally my idea. I brought up my proposal at a Gay Pride Planning meeting. Mr. Shiveley was present at that meeting and joined into the discussion. We asked the female members of the committee whether they would have any hostile feelings if a drag queen was queen of the parade. They decided they didn't. We then voted to make Sylvia Sydney our queen and immediately sent her out an invitation.

2. There were some complaints by members of the gay community about not having a second bus going to New York for the Christopher Street Parade. As of Friday, June 22, there were only 31 people signed up for bus tickets. Since that was the final date I could order a second bus, and considering I had no way of knowing whether we would even sell enough tickets to fill up one bus, I decided a second bus was not warranted.

SKIP ROSENTHAL

QUICK GAY PEOPLE

- American Civil Liberties Union 227-9459
- Boston Gay Youth... 530-6197
- Daughters of Bilitis... 262-1592
- Charles St. Meetinghouse.. 742-0450
- Dignity Boston: c/o 1105 Boylston Boston, Ma. 02215
- Fag Rag..... 530-8026
- Gay Community Center... 491-5009 or 200-0705
- Gay Media Watch... 800-5729, 277-0607
- Gay Phone.. 354-1555, 354-1556
- Gay Speakers Bureau... 547-1451
- Gay-Way Radio(WBUR-FM) call Elaine Nobel a 353-2790
- Good Gay Poets..... 530-8026
- Homophile Health Serv. 200-5477
- Lavendar Hour(WBCN FM) Little John or Andy Kopkind 261-526
- Lesbian Liberation... 354-8007
- MCC..... 200-7491
- Project Place..... 267-8150
- Red River Dyke Collective : c/o 43 Willow st. Somerville, Ma 02143
- Fr. Paul Shanley..... 267-0704

PEOPLE NEEDED

Poetry & Poetry Reading- if you are interested or know anyone who is, call Charles Shively.. 530-8026

CLEAN UP SQUAD-for Fri. nite dances at CSMH: people who can stay late (after 1 A. M.) contact Rick Hamilton, 491-5009.

Coffeehouse (waiters, cooks, etc) see Steffi or call 742-0450

RE MINDER!!!!

MCC of Boston is planning a blood-bank for victims of the "Upstairs" tragedy within the next three weeks. Keep in touch for further info. in the GCN or call MCC at 200-7491. Also, all financial aid for fire victims should be sent to MCC's Boston office at 419 Boylston St, room 400.

DO IT NOW!

Salespeople for Fag Rag: lots of 25 or more more!! 20¢ per paper, sell at 50¢. (Stores at 30¢ whole.) call: Charlie Snively at 530-8026

NOTICES

SEX! Now that we have your attention, we are in dire need of all office supplies for GCN also we need staff members to collect info, report, type, layout, print, etc, call IAN at 742-0450.

FREE Astrology classes will be offered for gay men. Call Harry Phillips at 661-8362.

Can you donate a vacuum cleaner for the Charles Street Coffeenouse? If so, call 742-0450.

DIG THIS The CSMH Coffeehouse is open 7 days from noon to midnight.

LAVENDAR HOUR is in need of recorded or unrecorded material, music, poetry, brief dramatizations or info on where to find such material (Boston or elsewhere) contact: Andy Kopkind, John Scagliotti, WBCN 261-526 (leave mess.)

GAY WAY RADIO needs trainees on a volunteer basis to run all aspects of show work including research, moderators, all technical aspects, production material, ideas, etc call Elaine at: 353--2790.

GAY CRASH SERVICE FORMING

People interested in assisting in the formation of a crash service for gay people who need a place to stay for a few days please write to :Crash Serv. c/o Charles Street Meetinghouse 70 Charles St. Boston or call 742-0450 and leave a message for John Williams. If you can crash people, give us the details of the space you have and for what days and what period of time you could have people stay.

BARGAIN BASEMENT

1970 FIAT 350, SPYDER Conv. AM/FM radio, new starter and clutch. Only 20,000 n.i. slight body damage. \$900. (cheap) Call 207-7100

GOT A PROBLEM/? 207-9150

PROJECT PLACE has a 24 hour hotline and provides counseling and other services. There is a special phone for gays Thurs, nites from 5P. M. to midnight. People with gay related problems are urged to call at this time. Project place is also in need of volun.

THURS 5
7:30pm*Effemist Discussion Group
Project Place, 33 Rutland St.
9:00pm Gay Way Radio
WBUR (90.9 FM)
Nite:*Place Gay Crisis Line
267-9150

THURS 1 2
7:30pm*Effem. Dis. Group
Place, 33 Rutland
8:00pm Fag Rag Mtg. CSMH
8:00pm* Womens Lobby Org
Mtg. call 489-2414
9:00pm Gay Way Radio
Nite:Place Gay Crisis
Line 267-9150

FRI 6
7:30pm Gay Community News
~~Staff Mtg. CSMH~~
9:00pm GCC Gay Dance CSMH
Donation \$1.50

FRI 1 3
7:30pm Gay Community
News Mtg. CSMH
9:00pm GCC Gay Dance
Donation \$1.50

SAT 7
8:00pm Good Gay Poets
Coffeehouse CSMH
reading by Ed Cates

SAT 1 4
10:00amMCC*Bastille Day
Picnick Crane's Beach
9:30am DOB Picknick
leaves from office
8:00pm Good Gay Poets
CSMH by John Williams

SUN 8
1:00pm DOB softball, Mag. Beach Cam.
5:30pm Interfaith Mass, Beacon/Mass
6:00pm MCC Meeting Old West
7:00pm MCC Service Old West
7:00pm Media Watch Mtg. CSMH

SUN 1 5
10:00am*A New Heaven &
A New Earth-TV-Ch 5
ALL SUN JULY 8
ENTRIES TODAY ALSO

MON 9
7:30pm*Gay Men's Rap CSMH

MON 6
7:30pm*Gay Men's Rap
CSMH

TUES 1 0
7:30pm DOB open rap session &
mtg., 419 Boyl, Room 323
8:00pm Gay Rollerskating
Ballarou in Medford

TUES 5
7:30pm DOB open rap &
mtg. 419 Boyl R.323
8:00pm Gay Rollerskating
Ballarou in Medford

WEDS 1 1
*****NOTE*****
* INDICATES THAT MORE INFO. ON
THIS EVENT IS IN THIS EDITION
CSMH= CHARLES ST. MEETINGHOUSE

WEDS 1 8