

NEW DIRECTION

Living Gay In Central Florida



Zi offers latest on Drag Queens' shopping habits

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Police harrassment charges may spark community debate

BY JAY WESLEY
New Direction Managing Editor

A reported increased police presence in local taverns serving Gay citizens is expected to be a topic for debate in the first "police/Gay community" dialogue set April 5. The event, sponsored by Gay Community Services (GCS), begins at 8 p.m. at the Howard Johnson motel meeting room, I-4 and West Colonial Drive, Orlando.

Employees of at least two taverns have reported increased police surveillance and visits to their clubs. Alleged police harrassment was the subject of a two-minute newscast aired March 17 by WFTV, Orlando's Channel 9. The report centered on police actions near Southern Nights, 375 South Bumby Ave.

Jim Nuss, owner - manager of the Silver Hammer Saloon, 1300 North Mills Ave., told *New Direction* that uniformed officers entered his club several nights in a row during March using flashlights to look around the building and at patrons. The officers reportedly asked bartenders to open locked storage rooms during their visit.

Nuss also said that two uniformed women officers visited the tavern which advertises as "a man's club". After spending several moments in the building they left, telling a bartender "they had stopped by to say hello to Jim". According to witnesses, the female officers watched portions of an all-male erotic television cassette that was being shown in the club.

Several employees of Southern Nights told *New Direction* they have been the target of police harrassment, including traffic citations for minor equipment deficiencies such as a broken taillight lens or incorrect license tag placement. One female worker has been charged with three separate offenses including battery on a police officer, as a result of a traffic violation pull-over. Another worker faces drug possession charges after his car was searched.

Witnesses reported an increased police presence around the club in mid-March, reportedly involving as many as six police cruisers parked near the club at closing hour. Only eight cruisers are assigned to the entire east side Orlando district during normal shift operations, bar employees claim.

The news segment which included addition of the song "Southern Nights" when film of the building's busy entrance was shown, described the tavern as one of the area's hottest spots for homosexuals. Fisher said that his observation revealed no proof of police power abuse.

The "hidden camera" became visible when the arrest of an apparently intoxicated female patron took place after she left the club. The woman needed assistance to get out of her automobile.

The GCS media watch committee attempts to monitor local press and electronic presentation of news and public affairs about the homosexual lifestyle.

Local blood industry intensifies screening aimed at gay doners

BY JAY WESLEY
New Direction News Editor

Despite increasing concern in the blood products industry surrounding AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) and its possible transmission through transfusion or blood by-product usage, the Central Florida Blood Bank continues to accept blood donations from Gay men and Lesbians. Gay Community Services, Inc. (GCS) maintains an account for Gay doners' contributions to be used for Gay medical needs in central Florida. The account is identified as GSSCF-6277.

Alice Reynolds, technical director of the blood bank, told *New Direction* that all donors are being asked to answer questions concerning possible AIDS symptoms. These include a history of night sweats, unexplained fevers or weight loss, increased size in lymph nodes and Kaposi's sarcoma a form of skin cancer first appearing on the feet and legs.

"We ask the questions in the normal process of verbal screening," Reynolds said. "Currently we are also considering asking donors, if they have had any contact with the main groups which seem to be targets of AIDS."

"We'll be giving the potential donor an educational flyer telling about the history of AIDS and the groups that seem most affected. If the donor can identify with the groups mentioned, we'll urge that the doner consider carefully his or her donation."

The three high-risk groups identified in the AIDS crisis have been homosexual males, intravenous drug users, and Haitians. AIDS has also been found in women having close sexual contact with an AIDS

victim and in at least one child who received blood donation from an AIDS carrier.

The exact cause for AIDS is still unknown. The syndrome seems to drastically reduce the body's ability to repel disease attack from a variety of "opportunistic agents" including viruses, bacterias, protozoans, and other disease carriers. About 80 percent of people who had AIDS two years ago are dead.

A 32-year-old Orange County man was identified as an AIDS victim several months ago. He is currently undergoing experimental testing procedures in a suburban Washington, D.C. hospital as part of a federal government program of AIDS research.

The Gay Community Services account with Central Florida Blood Bank has been operative for several years. The account is available to GCS members, their lovers and families, and to the Gay community at large. Gay blood donors are encouraged to specify the account number when giving blood at the center. (GSSCF-6277)

Representatives from two Orlando commercial blood gathering centers indicated they were also using increased screening information in their blood-for-pay operations, however, both firms were reluctant to discuss details with *New Direction*. The firms are Orlando Plasma Corporation of 132 S. Magnolia Ave. and Intercostal Plasma Corporation, 946 Sout Orange Ave.

National Gay leaders have resisted some efforts by the blood-gathering industry for a out right ban of donations from Gay

men. Because much of this country's donated blood is actually paid for, many donors needing money, such as drug addicts, would falsely identify themselves when screened while at the same time Gay men, fearful of losing their jobs or suffering other persecutions, may feel pressured to donate blood in community or office drives as a way of proving to suspicious colleagues they are not Gay, national leaders say. Since Gay men cannot exercise full civil rights, survival tactics such as this are inevitable, Gay spokespersons claim.

So what's a Trock?

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AIDS panic unnecessary

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Les Ballets **Trockadero** de Monte Carlo

*If you liked "Tootsie"
You'll Love the "Tocks"*



*Bob Carr Performing Arts Centre
Tuesday, April 26, 1983 - 8 p.m.
Tickets: \$15.00 — \$12.50 — \$7.50*

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Call Now For Tickets (305) 628-0133

'Media Watch' says Channel 9 mislabeled harrassement story

BY JAY WESLEY
New Direction Managing Editor

Gay Community Services of Central Florida, Inc. (GCS), acting through its "media watch" committee has filed a complaint with the news department of Orlando's Channel 9 television station. The action came after film coverage of police activities at Southern Nights, a local club serving the Gay Community. The broadcast was aired on two evening newscasts March 17.

The GCS complaints center on two issues: the use of a graphic leading the news segment and editorial comments used by the news reporter. The segment opened with a graphic design bearing the words "Gay Rights" and the insignia of the Orlando Police Department. Jan Fisher, a newperson with Channel 9, filed the story.

The GCS letter to Robert Jordan, WF-TV news director read, in part, "While the tavern does serve a large number of homosexual patrons, GCS does not believe the case was one of Gay Rights as suggested by the graphics used to key the segment...if complaints of a similar nature were lodged by patrons of a 'straight' bar, (we suspect) the station would not have lead the report with a 'heterosexual rights' caption."

"GCS deplores the menace of drunken drivers and irresponsible tavern operation in regards to serving intoxicated persons. We support efforts to remove intoxicated

motorists from the road whatever their sexual persuasion," the letter continued.

The Gay service group's letter also said it "deplores gratuitous statements by newspersons". The reference was to an verbal observation by reporter Fisher that "Many more laws were being broken than police could handle". GCS urged that "editorial comments such as this are best left to the time allotted for such comments and identified as such."

Fisher explained during the segment that a hidden camera was used to film police activities around the Bumby Street location after employees and patrons complained to Channel 9 about what they described as police harrassement.

The news segment which included addition of the song "Southern Nights" when film of the building's busy entrance was shown, described the tavern as one of the area's hottest spots for homosexuals. Fisher said that his observation revealed no proof of police power abuse.

The "hidden camera" became visible when the arrest of an apparently intoxicated female patron took place after she left the club. The woman needed assistance to get out of her automobile.

The GCS media watch committee attempts to monitor local press and electronic presentation of news and public affairs about the homosexual lifestyle.



GREEK STYLE- Silver Hammer Saloon owner Jim Nuss offers a grape to a local Nero-type during the tavern's first "toga tea party" on the night-spot's patio in March. A roast pig, fresh fruits and other delicacies were on hand for the feast. A donation of more than \$50 was made by the tavern's patrons to Gay Community Services (GCS) during the Roman rites of Spring party. (NDPIC/Wesley)

Silver Hammer eviction effort fails in Orange County court

A move to evict the Silver Hammer Saloon from its location at 1300 North Mills Street has been denied by an Orange County judge. The ruling came after a hearing March 11 in Orlando before Judge James C. Hauser. The saloon advertises as a Gay man's club.

Gerald A. McClintock, owner of the property, had served eviction notice on Jim Nuss, operator of the tavern business in

December, 1982. McClintock claimed that Nuss had failed to exercise a renewal option on his rental agreement. The renewal was to have taken place in February, 1982.

Nuss told the court that he thought the renewal valid after several conversations with his landlord. Nuss also claimed that he invested \$8,000 in the business property in anticipation of staying in the premises for the five years allowed in the renewa.

Judge Hauser ruled that because the landlord allowed improvements to be made to the property well after the renewal deadline, it appeared the lease was in effect.

McClintock reportedly sold off 10 percent of his real estate holding in the club building to Evelyn, Inc. late in 1982. That corporation, owned by Charles and James Veigle, also operates Southern Nights, a popular tavern with area homosexuals. McClintock denied knowing the Veigle's when questioned by *New Direction* in a telephone interview, however Charles Veigle accompanied McClintock to the court hearing. He did not testify.

In his decision, Judge Hauser criticized both parties on the way the lease matter was handled, claiming "both landlord and tenant failed to strictly conform to the notice requirements of the lease."

MCC Eastertide services planned

A service marking the resurrection of Jesus Easter Sunday, April 3 was the highlight of Holy Week celebrations by Joy Metropolitan Community Church. The recently-chartered church meets at the Community Centre, 2500 Curry Ford Road in southeast Orlando. The Easter service was set to begin at 7:15 p.m.

The Rev. Nancy Radclyffe serves as pastor to the congregation. Metropolitan Community Churches extend a warm welcome to persons of all races, creeds, and colors with a special ministry to Gay and Lesbian citizens.

Spotlight on

Gay Central Florida

'Trocks' will traipse in April ballet gala

BY JAY WESLEY

New Direction Managing Editor
It's tutu time in central Florida.

The wild, wacky, and wonderful *Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo*, the "Trocks", is coming to Orlando April 26. To quote one local entertainment critic. . . "if you liked Tootsie, you'll love the Trocks". In this company, the ballerinas have beards.

Appearing for one show only at Orlando's Bob Carr Auditorium, the Trocks bring their particular brand of ballet to this area under the sponsorship of the Southern Ballet Theatre. Curtain time is 8 p.m. Tickets are priced at \$15, \$12.50, and \$7.50 and are available from Southern Ballet Theatre (626-0133) and the Bob Carr Box office (849-2363) A large crowd is expected.

The two dozen plus members of the ballet, all men, will be dancing a program of both classical and modern ballet. Included in the program will be a Trock-flavored "Dying Swan" and a program item entitled "Go for Barocco."

Since their inception several years ago, the Trocks have danced their ways into the hearts of people around the world. Their off-beat humor and on-beat sense of rhythm has been acclaimed on five continents. Even hardcore ballet fans have allowed that the Trocks attack their subject with great devotion to form. They may be the only company in the world concerned about five o'clock shadows on the "female" leads.

The Trocks depend on subtle humor to get into their audiences' hearts, not the broad, slapstick humor expected from an all-male troupe. Trock performers are trained dancers with a hint of mint.

Trock ballerinas are as clever with stage names as with their point shoes. Look for Helen Highwater, Tamara Boumdiyeva, and similar characters to pop up on the program.

The group's Spring tour is being called highly successful. Recently, the dancers played to 4,000 ballet fans in Minneapolis, Minn. Other tour stops have been equally successful.

A Trock dancer shows his stuff among fruits



Gay Community Services (GCS) has announced "Le Buffet de Ballet", a special reception for the cast and crew of Trockadero at Daisy's Basement following the performance. The bistro is located on Gertrude's Walk between West Pine Street and West Central just east of I-4. The event, priced at \$2.50 per person will feature a cold buffet and cash bar. It is open to all.

Jim Welch, GCS president, urged the central Florida Gay and Lesbian community to make the Trock appearance a high point of the Spring social season. "Here's a chance to come out for a great night of fun, culture, and conviviality," he said. "From tuxedos to leather, feathers and lace. . . this is a chance for the unique character of our community to enjoy itself while helping to support the Southern Ballet. The Trock's performance will be talked about for a long time after they have packed up their tights. And the reception at Daisy's should be a great event, meeting the dancers and crew. A real honor."

Parliament House royalty sought in two-night revue

The 1983 version of the Mr. and Miss Parliament House Pageant is slated at the popular resort April 17 - 18. The show will take place in the Playhouse Theater, according to David Scott, pageant director.

Mr. Parliament House contestants will be judged on presentation, black formal wear, talent, swim suit, and their appearing as a favorite celebrity.

Miss Parliament House will be selected after competing in evening gown, presentation, talent, and an appearance as their favorite celebrity.

Contestants must attend a mandatory rehearsal Sunday, April 17, beginning at 2 p.m. Scott said. Entry fees must be paid at that time.

The pageant will begin at 9 p.m. each night. Tickets are \$5 for both nights of the show or \$3 for one night. Tickets will be on sale at the resort office or at the door the night of the performances.

Hosting the shows will be Windy Grape and Lori Del Mar as mistresses of ceremonies.

Persons wanting more information on the annual event may contact Scott at the Parliament House, 410 North Orange Blossom Trm, Orlando. The telephone number is (305) 425-7571.

AIDS panic must not overrule caring

THE GROWING CONCERN SURROUNDING THE AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) crisis among Gay men is well warranted... but panic is not.

Despite the still unknown cause of the affliction and evidence that its mortality rate is far higher than first suspected, Gay men using a responsible approach to their sex lives can direct their concern about AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases (STD) into positive channels.

The most important step to reducing mortality is the taking-on of responsibility toward our sexual partners.

The implications of most guidelines combating AIDS and STD are generally frustrating either-or mandates. "Don't swallow come", "Don't rim strangers." This approach seems to overwhelm the sexually active male with a heavy responsibility all at one time. However, with small, well-thought-out steps, a more rational, more positive approach can replace negative, passive-victim, and defeatist attitudes.

Attitudes that emphasize the humanism in Gay encounters should be promoted. A growing pursuit of wellness in all areas of physical and mental health should be urged. The same can be said for the spiritual side of Gay human nature. Cleanliness and good hygiene needs to be eroticized and returned to favor.

Like most behavior, personal sexual practices are an acquired taste. Taste can be modified. Perhaps you can still serve your basic needs while changing the frequency of the occurrence of "high risk" sexual acts.

Remember, when it comes to personal behavior changes, some of the old cliches still hold true. Quality is better than quantity. Sex is healthy, but only if you and your partner are healthy. Changes in sexuality come about with fine tuning to increased intimacy, sharing and satisfaction.

Editor's Notebook



Police/Gay dialogue may stem growth problems

BY JAY WESLEY
New Direction Managing Editor

The April 5th meeting with **Orlando Police Department** officers and deputies from the **Orange County Sheriff's Department** marks a significant step forward for our Gay community. It will offer an eyeball-to-eyeball chance for greater understanding from both sides of the platform.

The meeting is set for a conference room at the **Howard Johnson Motel at I-4 and Colonial Drive (Rte. 50)**. Starting time is **8 p.m.**

It is especially important that Gay men and Lesbians show interest in this meeting. It should provide a lever for increased dialogue between Gays and social and service agencies of government. It is more than just a high school government class project.

While Gays seemed to enjoy reasonable repore with local law enforcement, a change may be brewing. An increasingly visible, and more vocal, Gay community is sure to grow given Orlando's favored status among southern cities. With more bars, clubs, and activities, contact with police will also grow.

And the number of people coming out of the closet and living a "Gay life" in the full light of Florida's sun is also growing fast. This means that law enforcement agencies are going to have increasing contact in crimes reported by Gays, committed by Gays, and witnessed by Gays. Because of the particular and sometimes peculiar "tribal" customs of Gay society, it's important that police have increased understanding to aid them in their investigations.

Local police officials say they're eager for the meeting. After all, they have nothing to lose. However, those Gay men and women who won't, and don't, attend the meeting may be the real losers.

Forum

Drinking age change childish



Forum writer John Harelkin, 19, holds dual citizenship in the United States and Canada. Before coming to Orlando, he was a resident of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. In May he will return to Canada to prepare for his admission to Sarasota's Ringling School of Art and Design to study graphic designing for a career in advertising. He enjoys art, distance running, and nightclubbing. Here, Harelkin looks at a proposal to raise the drinking age to 21.

BY JOHN HARELKIN
Special to New Direction

A person who is 19 years old, according to the 26th ammendment of the constitution, has been an adult for one full year. With all the rights of majority and all the responsibilities, this person may vote, enter into contract, and in a time of national need, may be asked to put his life on the line for the safety of this nation.

If Fran Carlton, a state representative in Orlando, gets her way, this same adult will not be able to choose between having a bottle of wine or a glass of milk with a meal. This state representative has proposed legislation to change the legal age of consumption in Florida from 19 to 21.

Much of her arugment for the change is concern with the accidental death rate, in connection with alcohol, of this particular group of adults. That is all very noble, but rather beside the point. If it were discovered that heart attacks in men between the ages of 40 and 65 were due primarily to too much excitement during sexual intercourse would legislation be proposed to make sex off limits for this group?

A person who is an adult must be considered an adult all the time. An adult is responsible for all of his or her actions. An adult who abuses the privileges should pay. An entire block of society must not be restricted in the hope of bringing certain individuals, belonging to that group, back into line. Fran Carlton is hoping to stop the abuse of alcohol, by certain members of the age group 19 to 20, in that very manner.

A state in this union should not have the authority to restrict any group of adults simply by their age. Just as no state has the right to restrict any person because of race, creed, or sex. Once we reach our 18th birthday, we are legally adults. The 26th ammendment is a rather silly group of words if they are only valid when convenient.

This whole debate makes me very tired. If I am an adult than I must be thought of as an adult in all situations. I must be held responsible for all of my actions, and like any other adult I must be able to go about my life free from any restrictions placed on my shoulders simply by virtue of my age. If I am a child, then I am a child all of the time. If I break a law I should be dealt with as a child, and if there is a war send somebody else, I'm just a little boy.

In terms of group responsibility-taking, remember that fashion, peer pressure, and group confirmation have a great effect on individual behavior. Group action, especially in the form of influencing sexual and social custom, can aid the individual Gay man. It can effect changes in sexual practices, as in the formation of small exclusive circles of sexual buddies like those forming in the large metropolitan communities of New York and San Francisco.

As a group, many Gay men can only be reached via the general media. The influence of the homosexual erotic film and video cassette industry should be used, perhaps having porn films show hygenic sexual practices or having the porn stars decline sexual invitations for certain health-threatening sexual practices.

IN LIGHT OF THE AIDS IMPACT ON THE GAY COMMUNITY, now more than ever we should not waste valuable energies on guilt, panic, "sin" and fear. Ignorance, arrogance, and hypocrisy about sex should be repudiated. We must be more genuinely affirmative about our sexuality. "There is nothing sinful", says Dr. Larry Mass, a recognized expert in Gay-related medical problems, "or immoral about celebrating your enjoyment of swimming in the ocean. If, on the other hand, your favorite beaches have posted undertow or oil spill warnings, it is prudent to avoid swimming in those areas as long as the signs are up."

Like heterosexual men and women who are active with many sexual partners, many Gay men are currently having to face certain health risks that are increasing associated with our sexual or lifestyle preferences. In the interest of public health and especially the health and well-being of those very dear to us, it is important to know what those risks are and, equally important, how they can be minimized.

We should not let fear destroy our strength. There will be no hidden cameras, no secret microphones. If the local press and television stations attend, they will not be filming without express permission.

★ ★ ★

Gay Community Services received a negative answer from the **Orange County Health Department** after a request for a Gay night at the venereal disease clinic. The VD screening had been set tentatively for April 20.

The health guardians say it would be a bad precedent to offer any special group their own clinic hours. After all, they claim, that would allow other groups to request special clinic operations. They claim the current clinic hours should be sufficient to allow anyone to receive screening and treatment. You can find out what those hours are by calling 420-3599.

The health officials also said most of the people that would take advantage of a low-cost clinic would be free on VD anyhow. They say the Gay community seems to have a good record of getting help quickly and privately when disease raises its ugly head. They said that money spent on the special clinic might be better spent on VD education. GCS already has a VD pamphlet ready to print.

They did however, offer assistance if GCS wanted to develop its own testing program, using its own volunteer medical workers, on its own turf.

I recently talked with a young Gay man who just recovered from gonnorhea of the throat and rectum. "A nice guy", not a person one would connect with social disease, he told me that all his sexual contacts have been with local men, not visitors to the area. He feels the need for VD screening is definately here. GCS needs to give further study to the plan.

★ ★ ★

This is the last time for this item. This column has been carrying an address for a company offering Gays a variety of construction-related jobs in the Orlando area. I have checked with the official making the offer and still find response surprisingly low. I know that several luxury apartment complexes are ready to come out of the ground and that the need for all types of laborers, builder helpers, and similar lesser-skilled jobs is going to be great in the next weeks. The company is also interested in skilled men and women all the way up to project supervision. Pay for most of the positions is above local standard.

Interested persons should write **GCS Workforce c/o 489 Spanish Trace Drive, Altamonte Springs, Fla. 32701**. Good luck to all you willing workers.

★ ★ ★

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We'd like to have your ad, Mr. Gay businessman or businesswoman. Our rates are fair and our market prime. More information is available: Contact us through the GCS hotline THE-GAYS (843-4297).

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Gays' church founder claims MCC message is simple

Since its founding in 1968, The Rev. Elder Troy Perry has provided much of the spark and drive of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. What began in the front room of Perry's house is now represented in nine countries with some 200 congregations and over 27,000 members. A native of Florida, Rev. Perry was in Orlando in mid-March to take part in chartering ceremonies of Joy MCC, including a banquet at Winter Park's Langford Hotel and special worship services.

New Direction Managing Editor Jay Wesley interviewed Rev. Perry as he relaxed in a private home between activities of the chartering. Rev. Perry offers unusual insight into Gayness and Godliness.

BY JAY WESLEY

New Direction Managing Editor

NEW DIRECTION— *What is the message of Metropolitan Community Churches to Gay men and women?*

REV. PERRY— "Our message is simple. . . God loves everybody. Our job is making sure that people believe that. I'm proud to say many other religions have picked up on that message. There are many Gay caucuses in all kinds of churches that are now expressing MCC's original message. More and more Gay people are believing the message."

"This year we are celebrating our 15th anniversary. We started in October, 1968, just 12 people meeting in the front room of my house in Los Angeles."

"Now, we have 200 churches in nine countries. That itself is a real miracle."

"I've been told for many years that Gays hate church. . . that church is the main oppressor of Gay people, so why would anyone want to involve themselves with forming a church for Gay people?"

"What has taken place is what I have been saying right along. . . Gays are raised just like heterosexuals and just like their straight brothers and sisters, their parents wanted them to attend church or synagogue. . . to go to Sunday school."

"Then when we discovered our sexuality, we also discovered that the church had no room for us. We were thrown out, excommunicated. But the hunger of wanting to be a member of the church. . . to be part of the family of God. . . was still there. Luckily, we did not allow those people to strip us of our spirituality."

"Some of the church groups were saying that you cannot be spiritual and sexual. We don't believe that. Now, we are seeing thousands of people who are saying 'yes', we can have both."

NEW DIRECTION— *Does MCC have room for all Gays including those on the radical sexual fringe?*

REV. PERRY— It seems to vary from church to church. . . some of our churches are much more conservative. . . as long as you wear a three piece suit (to service) you can wear a dress or leather later."

"If you go into our Castro Street (San Francisco) church, you'll see 10 percent of the audience in leather. The pianist wears chaps and no one seems to think anything about it. However, if you go into our church in Houston, you won't see any of that."

"We try very hard not to be judgmental of sexual practices. I agree with Dr. Kinsey, who said that the 'only unnatural sex act was one you can't perform'. We don't bother much about what people do in their bedrooms. That's their business."

"I do see a conservative push among Gay people who are saying 'I don't have to be a freak (to live a Gay lifestyle) We don't have to suffer from oppression sickness.'"

"In the past, some of our brothers and sisters would say to society. . . you want to see a queer, I'll show you a queer! Now more and more Gays are saying I really don't need that kind of action. I can be myself. Yes, I can do things in the extreme if and when I want to. . . but I don't have to make it a lifestyle. I can still have a job. I can own a home like my parents before me. . . but, because of my Gay perspective. . . I can do those other things too."

NEW DIRECTIONS— *What about the large role women play in MCC?*

REV. PERRY— "From its very conception, MCC has always welcomed women. We have been very active in the fight for women's rights. We have no quota system. . . We have the second largest number of women in the ministry of any faith, second only to the Salvation Army."

"Our chief administrative board is made up of four women and three men. We know that women can do anything men can do."

NEW DIRECTION— *Does it concern you that certain religious fundamentalists such as Jerry Falwell seem to be developing close ties with the Reagan administration's stance on defense, abortion, school prayer, and Gay rights?*

REV. PERRY— "I've been to the White House too. . . on two occasions (during the Carter administration). I've found that politicians give you lots of lip service, but they don't always follow through. Reagan is trying to keep his evangelical supporters happy by promising them sops. . . like the time he told them he would help dismantle the Equal Rights Amendment. It looks like that legislation is back stronger than ever."

" . . . even though Jerry Falwell thinks he may have the administration's ear. . . he doesn't have the ear of the American public."



Rev. Perry and new electronic gospel

"I want middle America to see what we look like. . . we look just like them."

"Jerry Falwell told us that we (Gays) would not be able to get 50 co-sponsors for the national Gay rights legislation (H.B. 427). We now have 71 and are going for 90. During the last national election, the Moral Majority lost all the candidates it backed. Some 81 percent of the candidates supported by the Gay political action groups won. No one who was a co-sponsor to the Gay Rights bill lost."

"I would say that even though Jerry Falwell thinks he may have the administration's ear. . . he doesn't have the ear of the American public."

"I believe Americans are more interested in knowing they are going to eat next week instead of whether their children are saying school prayers. When Ronald Reagan was elected, it was just what I hoped would happen. . . that the president would be so busy with the economy, he wouldn't have time for (working against) us."

NEW DIRECTION— *Tell us about MCC's efforts outside of the United States.*

REV. PERRY— "What we have tried to do is not to export America, but to export the teachings of MCC. We do not send missionaries out with a bible in one hand and the American flag in the other."

"We have churches in Great Britain, Nigeria, Canada, and South Africa. Our churches in Nigeria are 98 percent heterosexual. There, we work with the Ibo tribe, people who are oppressed in their own country, because of tribal status. In other cultures, we are involved in many other issues. We are not just a one issue group. . . just not against the suppression of homosexuality but against oppression anywhere."

NEW DIRECTION— *What do you think about groups offering religious diversion methods to convert Gays into the straight life?*

REV. PERRY— "Those groups seem to be dealing in guilt trips. They promise to make you happier than you are now. . . and they just don't deliver. Most people become more frustrated sexually. What's really tragic is the poor fellows who get married during their diversion program. . . the problems with the wives is not a pretty story."

"People often ask me if there is one true christian life to lead. I tell them Jesus never said that there was. We should be balanced. . . work hard, play hard, and worship hard. Don't become so heavenly bound that you are no earthly good. Some people get so wrapped up in the sweet by and by that they cannot handle the here and now."

"I go to bars if I want to go to bars. I don't find any problem with that. Jesus was often pictured as eating and drinking with the less-desirable in biblical times. I believe that he liked to party. Despite being a member of the clergy, I want my complete identity."

NEW DIRECTION— *"God, Gays and the Gospel" is the name of a television project you have undertaken. What is it all about?*

REV. PERRY— "The show has been two years in the making. We have shot 20 hours of tape and films and are editing down to 58 minutes. We'll be purchasing airtime in many major television markets later this year to show the film. . . that way, no one can edit it."

"I'm tired of the Jerry Falwells of the world and other television evangelists who refer to Gays as labels. I want middle America to see what we look like. We look just like them."

"We'll be purchasing time in cities like New York, Houston, Dallas, San Francisco, and Miami first. Cities like Orlando and Tampa will be on the second list of cities served by the presentation. We'll be launching a fund drive to help pay for the airtime when the film is ready to release later this year. It's a very exciting project."



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GCS skating party plans include shortened hours

Gay skaters will have to roll faster during the monthly skating party set April 25. The regular three-hour session has been reduced to two for this date only, according to Gay Community Services (GCS), sponsors of the event. The skating takes place at Semoran Skateway, Highway 436 in Casselberry.

The fun will begin at 9 p.m. and continue to 11 p.m. Reduced prices will be in effect, according to GCS spokespersons. Gay skaters have been paying \$3.50 for a regular session while GCS members receive a discount.

Information about the skating party is available by calling the GCS hotline at 843-4297 (THE-GAYS).

'Rap group' must find new meeting spot for weekly sessions

Gay Community Services' Tuesday night "rap group" is looking for a new meeting place. Word has been received that the building currently used by the Gay and Lesbian fellowship group is scheduled for demolition to make way for additional parking at Winter Park Memorial

Hospital. The rap group has been meeting in space provided free of charge by the Northeast Orange County Mental Health Center, 280 Edinburgh St., Winter Park.



Keeps 'em rolling

PRO AT WORK - Tubby Boots, self-described as "two tons of fun," shares his particular brand of humor with Parliament House with magician Bill Sims. A popular South Florida figure, Boot's machine-gun comic delivery and wild stage antics kept the appreciative crowd asking for more. (NDPIC/Wesley)

The rap group usually draws 20 to 30 persons each week. The formation of small groups allows discussion of a variety of issues related to the Gay lifestyle. The group is under the direction of a certified psychologist who serves as resource person for the two-hour weekly meeting. There is no charge to attend the meeting.

"We're looking for a meeting facility at little or no cost," claimed Jim Welch, GCS president. "It is vital that the rap group sessions continue on a regular basis. If it becomes necessary to pay for a meeting space, we'll do it. The group is very important to GCS."

Men and women attending the sessions have the chance to make cash donations to GCS. Recently, a check for \$120 was presented by a rap group representative to Gay Community Services, Inc.

Persons knowing of meeting space available to the rap group should contact the GCS "Hotline" at THE-GAYS (843-4297) The discussion group is expected to be looking for a new home within 60-90 days.

Skating Party

Semoran
Skateway

April 25

9-11
p.m.



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Research funding support urged

GCS seeks AIDS political help

The Orlando City Council and the Orange County Board of Commissioners will be asked this month to pass resolutions favoring increased federal spending to discover the cause and cure of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) a growing health problem among Gay men. The resolutions are being drafted for the elected bodies by Gay Community Services of Central Florida (GCS).

According to GCS president Jim Welch, the resolutions are similar to those recently adopted in San Francisco by both city and county elected officials. They ask for increased spending in AIDS research programs aimed at finding the cause, transmission, and cure of the disease.

The resolutions also call for copies of the legislation adopted locally to be forwarded to President Reagan, Margaret Heckler, Secretary of Health and Human Services, to the directors of the National Institute of Health, the Center for Disease Control and other allied agencies.

In the resolutions, AIDS is described as "effecting a broad base of the population"... and therefore poses a grave threat to the health of the general population."

"Without immediate, massive, and intensive research efforts, this epidemic is likely to claim increasing and absolutely unacceptable numbers of victims..." the statement continues.

The GCS proposal also asked that copies of the adopted resolutions be provided to the central Florida congressional delegation to assist efforts to obtain AIDS FUNDING.

"It is time that our local elected officials go on record as recognizing to the growing need to stem AIDS through massive research funding. Despite the advanced state of medical science, this increasingly deadly killer remains at large," Welch said. "Drawing out local elected officials' attention to the matter may aid the total effort to suppress the spread of AIDS in the United States."

FOTOFAX!

Compiled by Timothy Burns

Collect the whole set!



John Harelkin

John Harelkin. ALIAS: none; OCCUPATION: Waiter; HEIGHT: 5'8"; WEIGHT: 130 lbs.; CHEST: yes; hair color: Sandy; EYE COLOR: Grey; BIRTHDATE: Sept. 22, 1963; BIRTHPLACE: Hillsdale, Michigan; RAISED: Saskatoon Saskatchewan; BROTHERS: none; SISTERS: four; John is Youngest; ZODIAC SIGN: Virgo; FAVORITE FOODS: Alaskan King Crab and Ice Cream; FAVORITE BEVERAGES: Orange Juice and tab; FAVORITE NIGHT SPOT: P.H.; FAVORITE T.V. SHOWS: None; FAVORITE MOVIES: The French Lieutenant's Woman, Star Wars, Polyester; FAVORITE ACTOR: Mark Hamill; FAVORITE ACTRESS: Goldie Hawn; FAVORITE MUSIC: Some pop. Some Jazz, Much Folk; FAVORITE MUSICIAN: The Quinlan Sisters; FAVORITE COLORS: Green and Pink; TURN-ONS: Pleasant people with nice smiles; TURN-OFFS: attitude; PET PEEVES: I'm tired of hearing about those poor frozen Canadians!; PEOPLE YOU'RE TIRED OF HEARING ABOUT: Jack Sturdy and Fran Carlton; FAVORITE PHRASE: "That's irrelevant!"; LEAST FAVORITE PHRASE: Fuekin Ayl; FAVORITE VACATION PLACE: Banff Alberta Canada; YOUR LIFES AMBITION: To be the best at whatever I choose to do.



KIM OROFINO

Kim Orofino. ALIAS: none; OCCUPATION: Bartender; HEIGHT: 5'8"; WEIGHT: 145 lbs.; HAIR COLOR: Light Brown; EYE COLOR: Green; BIRTHDATE: 2/8/57; BIRTHPLACE: Brooklyn, N.Y.; RAISED: Long Island, N.Y.; BROTHERS: 1; SISTERS: none. ZODIAC SIGN: Aquarius; FAVORITE FOODS: Italian, Chinese; FAVORITE BEVERAGES: Beer; FAVORITE NIGHT SPOT: "Mineshaft," "The Saint"; FAVORITE T.V. SHOWS: Not too many; FAVORITE MOVIES: "The Ruling Class" - "LaCage Au Folle" FAVORITE ACTOR/ Richard Chamberlain; FAVORITE ACTRESS: Meryl Streep; FAVORITE MUSIC: Show Music; FAVORITE MUSICIAN: Barbara Streisand; FAVORITE COLORS: Red & Black; TURN-ONS: Live Theatre- Dance; TURN-OFFS: Pushy People; PET PEEVES: False gossip & people who believe it; PEOPLE YOU'RE TIRED OF HEARING ABOUT: none; FAVORITE PHRASE: "Cool Your Jets" - Jump- up & bite my ass; LEAST FAVORITE PHRASE: "Hey, girl!"; FAVORITE VACATION PLACE: Fire Island; YOUR LIFES AMBITION: To dance, sing, act, on stage or on film. ANY LAST COMMENTS TO FRIENDS OR FOE: True friends never die.

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NIGHT CLUBBING

with Zi

April showers seem to be bringing out the watersports fans. You should see them splashing around the hydro spa at the City Bath Club, Zi's favorite watering hole. One fellow even asked me to play a new game. . . he called it "bobbing for the sausage."

★ ★ ★

Word is out that a certain former Miss Parliament House whose name will remain a secret was recently housed in a Daytona Beach area jail after an attempt to steal a rocking chair. Lukesha, who would have thought that you were ready for retirement so soon? This may be one of the few queens in history to go to jail for trying to steal a throne. Zi wonders how she got it under her gown?

★ ★ ★

"Mandate" readers, be sure to check the latest issue for great fiction by Orlando author **Jamie Barton**. Entitled "Power Play", the sizzling story centers in a very healthy health spa. . . all those pumping muscles and everything. Barton, (not his real name) has had a short story published in New Direction in December, 1982, but this is his first slick mag effort to get national exposure.

It may be the first time Zi has ever read all those words, the pictures are so neat.

★ ★ ★

The Parliament House will be turning the tables April 4 with its annual "turn-about party" for charity. You'll see the waiters and bartenders on stage in high drag while the female impersonators will be working behind the bars. What a switch, **Windy Grape** pushing drinks instead of hoping someone would buy her one.

Proceeds from the party go to the Leukemia Society's annual "Nastiest Bartender" drive. Each dollar represents a vote. Last year the P-House led all other taverns in Orlando with contributions and was second only to a Cocoa strip joint in Central Florida. Why not join the fun?

Join our growing team!

Writers, photographers, artists, poets, advertising salespersons, graphic designers and other interested people are needed for the New Direction staff - write us at P.O. Box 4355, Winter Park, Fl 32793 or call 843-GAYS. Share our labor of love.



Jackie Marquis' recent shopping spree has the whole town talking. She sure showed them that she has "clout". The boys at 100 South Hughey Ave., have taken a real interest in Ms. Marquis' wardrobe.

★ ★ ★

Tired of paying high prices for draft beer in local clubs? **Silver Hammer owner Jim Nuss** may have a solution. He'll be offering a free keg of beer each Sunday beginning at 2 p.m. Zi is sure to make an appearance because the price is right and the bartenders are real cute. Too bad the little one is spoken for. . . nice for Zi to know that someone enjoys getting the short end of things once in a while.

★ ★ ★

New appeal is being pumped into venerable **Odds and Ends**, one of the area's oldest Gay watering spots. Renovations and the addition of popular drag artists including **Monica Burke** should breath life back into the old girl. . . the bar, stupid. The club is located on Edgewater Drive, just north of John Young Parkway, but you'll have to keep a sharp eye out. Wally and Jim really know how to keep a secret.

★ ★ ★

There seems to be little truth to the rumor that Jim Veigle and brother Charles, owners of **Southern Nights**, 375 Bumby St., were the subject of much recent police attention because of their failure to buy tickets to the Policeman's Ball. A cute doorman at the club, however, told Zi cop's balls are of special interest to him. . . especially if they last all night.

★ ★ ★

The arrival of the **Trockadero ballet April 26** has kept Zi busy doing splits in preparation to properly receive the all-male dance troupe. That clever GCS bunch is having an open reception for the cast and crew at Daisy's Basement after the Bob Carr program. Zi can't wait to rub arabesques with those beefy ballerinas. I just love a guy in a tutu.

★ ★ ★

WHAT'S HOT/WHAT'S NOT: Hot - Richard Chamberlin. Not - AIDS jokes! Hot - Watching Dynasty at the P-House. Not - TV ads for panties designed for people with bladder problems. Hot - Matt Dillon. Not - Raising the drinking law to 21. Hot - Bennett Road's new 21st Century Cinema. Not - Sun poisoning. Hot - Ray Ban Aviator sunglasses. Not - Time-share solicitations at dinnertime.

G.C.S. Meeting
April 17th
4:30 p.m. P-House

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REFERENCE CODE

- 1 Books (Adult)
- 2 Books (Literature & News)
- 3 Bath Club
- 4 Entertainers (Cabaret or Shows)
- 5 Guest House
- 6 Hotel/Motel
- 7 Lounge (Bar)/Disco
- 8 Organization
- 9 Leather/Adult Hems
- 10 Restaurant
- 11 Boutique
- 12 Video/Film
- ☆ Synagogue
- ☎ Hot Line
- † Religious Organization
- ⬇ Health Service
- ★ General Reference Listings

DAYTONA BEACH (Area Code 904)

- Backroom Disco (7) 701 Ridgewood Ave. 253-2873
- Beachside Club (7) 415 Main St. 252-5465
- The Landmark (7) 615 Main St. 252-3776
- The Zodiac Club 1654 S Ridgewood - 767-4624
- ★ Gay Rap Session (Bi-Monthly) 441-6807
- ⬇ VD Clinic 258-7000

GAINESVILLE (Area Code 904)

- The Ambush (7) 4130 N.W. 6th St. 376-3772
- Goerings Bookstore (2) 1310 W. University Ave. 378-0363
- The Melody Club (4-7) 4130 N.W. 6th St. 376-3772
- The Spectrum (4-7) 210 S.W. 2nd Ave. 373-0149
- ★ Group for Gay Awareness 373-GAYS
- ★ Gay Switchboard 373-GAYS
- ★ Men's Support Group P.O. Box 13784 32604
- ★ UFLAGS 392-1634
- ⬇ VD Clinic 378-5321

LAKELAND (Area Code 813)

- Green Parrot (7) 1028 E. Main St. 682-9101
- Last Moving Picture Show (7) 116 S. Kentucky Av(10) 682-9285
- ⬇ VD Clinic 686-5583

COCOA BEACH (Area Code 305)

- The Evening Edition (7) 6575 N. Atlantic Ave. 783-9136
- ★ GRAC Box 421, Sharpes 32959 - 254-GAYS

MELBOURNE (Area Code 305)

- Saturday (7) 9760 W. New Haven Ave. 724-1510
- ★ GRAC Box 421, Sharpes 32959 - 254-GAYS
- ⬇ VD Clinic 727-1480

ORLANDO (Area Code 305)

- Blue Parrot (11) (See Parliament House): Ext 13 - 425-7571
- Circle J's (7) 4910 Edgewater Dr. 298-9753
- City Bath Club (3) 1877 S. Orange Blossom Tr. 420-9890
- The General Store (11, 2, 12) Parliament House Ex 141 425-7571
- The Loading Dock (7) 3400 S. Orange Blossom Tr. 420-9778
- Midnight News (1, 9) (Parliament House) Ex 139 - 425-7571
- Parliament House (6, 7, 4, 10) 410 N. Orange Blossom Tr. 425-7571
- Palace Club (4) 3400 S. Orange Blossom Tr. 420-9015
- Park Avenue (7) 4315 N. Orange Blossom Tr. 295-3751
- Silver Hammer (7) 898-4915
- Southern Changes (4, 7, 10) 375 Bumby St. 894-9276
- ★ Advocate Program 430-3481
- ★ Gay AA 857-1837
- ★ Gay Community Service THE-GAYS
- ☎ Peer Counseling Hotline THE-GAYS
- † Joy MCC 1815 E. Robinson/Box 3004 - 32802 - 894-1081
- ⬇ VD Clinic 420-3600
- ★ Voter Registration 849-2121
- New Direction Newsline THE-GAYS

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- Club 401 North (7) 401 16 St. N. 894-9318
- Engine Room (7) 1020 S. 4th St. 894-8184
- Grand Central (7) 2235 Central Ave. 823-6220
- The Lighted Tree 109 Eighth Ave. 360-0373

TAMPA (Area Code 813)

- Carousel (7) 1806 East Platt St. 254-3398
- Castaways (7) 4043 W. Kennedy Blvd. 876-9510
- Club Tampa (3) 215 N. 11th St. 223-5181
- El Goya (7, 4) 1430 E. 7th Ave. 247-2711
- Fireman's Pub (7) Northgate Mall - 932-4091
- KIKIKI Saloon (7) 909 Tampa St. 223-9898
- Marge's 4427 Club (7) 4427 W. Kennedy Blvd. 879-7438
- Ohio (7) 102 Polk St. 229-9065
- Old Plantation (7) 1725 W. Kennedy Blvd. 251-5382
- Rene's Lounge (7, 4) 2605 W. Kennedy Blvd. 872-9631
- Spurs (7) 2201 N.E. 15th St. 247-9706
- ★ Al Anon P.O. Box 8972 - 33674 - 935-6171
- ★ Bay Area Rights Council P.O. Box 947 - 33601
- ★ DACCO (Drug Abuse) 870-2905
- † Dignity P.O. Box 3306 - 33601
- ★ Everywoman's Center 974-2687
- † MCC 2904 Concordia Ave. 839-5939
- ★ NOW 609 DeLeon 251-4089
- ★ Pre-Trial Intervention 272-5400
- ★ U. of South Florida Gay Coalition 974-4297
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