

T · H · E
CENTER
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NEWS MAGAZINE FROM THE CENTER, A PROJECT OF GAY AND LESBIAN COMMUNITY SERVICES OF CENTRAL FLORIDA, INC.

Volume 3, Issue 11

November 1989

**PLANTING
THE
SEED**



**STORY ON
PAGE 3**

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November 1989

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What is GLCS, Anyway?

By DAVID BAIN
President, GLCS

ATTENTION CLASS! This is going to be a pop quiz. There will be only one question. Ready? "What is GLCS and what is its purpose?" Anyone... Anyone!!! I thought so... Now pay attention!

Gay and Lesbian Community Services of Central Florida, Inc. (formerly GCS) is a non-profit corporation chartered in the state of Florida since the year 1978.

Our objective, as stated in our corporate bylaws is "to provide supportive, educational, social and referral services to the Gay and Lesbian community and the organizations that serve that community..." These objectives are met by several ongoing projects that include:

THE CENTER. The Gay and Lesbian Community Center which is located at 750 W. Colonial Drive, Orlando and provides meeting and office space for various Gay and Lesbian organizations and clubs that serve our community. It also provides a central gathering and focal point of the Gay and Lesbian community. The Center stands as a constant reminder and symbol of the Gay and Lesbian Community that it serves.

PEER COUNSELING AND INFORMATION HOTLINE. (407)THE-GAYS has been in operation for over 10 years

and provides 24-hour business referrals plus individual peer counseling by community volunteers 7 nights per week from 8p.m. to 11 p.m. We receive over 20 calls per day or over 7,200 calls per year. These calls include request for directions to local bars, doctor and AIDS resource referrals, emergency housing and assistance requests, suicide intervention or just someone with a problem who needs an understanding person to talk with.

These projects are funded entirely by community contributions and fundraising events held throughout the year. We receive no government grants or corporate contributions. Many of our fund raising programs serve a dual purpose by providing a service to our community while raising much needed funds for the operation of GLCS. These programs include:

GAY SKATE. This monthly event provides a steady income while offering one of the few events where Gay and Lesbian minors are welcome.

GAY AND LESBIAN GUIDE TO CENTRAL FLORIDA. This booklet contains over 200 listings, is published twice each year and distributed free of charge at area bars or mailed throughout the country on request.

GAY PRIDE PICNIC. Surprised? Yes, this is yet another fund raising event that

provides a dual role in our organization.

GAY ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMS. These programs are our most visible and effective means of raising funds and provide a service to the community as well by offering exclusive Gay events that promote unity and fellowship as well as provide an alternate social outlet to Gays and Lesbians in our community. The sponsorship of plays like "La Cage Aux Folles" and "On Tina Tuna Walk" plus special events like GayEscape Cruise, Valentines Day Ball, Gay Choral Concerts, Weekend Getaways, and White Christmas Party are just a few examples of entertainment programs that just wouldn't be happening if it weren't for GLCS and countless numbers of dedicated volunteers.

Whether you ever step inside the doors of the Gay and Lesbian Community Center or find it necessary to use any of the services, support or other programs offered by GLCS, your lifestyle is being enriched, defended and protected by this organization.

Gay and Lesbian Community Services of Central Florida is the only listing you'll find when you look under GAY in your new telephone directory. I'm proud to be a part of this organization. You should be too!

CLASS DISMISSED!

Human Rights Ordinance Proposed for Orange County

By JIM FORD
Coalition for Human Rights

Would you like to see the day when it would be illegal for someone to fire you from your job, or deny you a loan, or refuse to rent you a house or apartment simply because of your sexual orientation? It is possible that such a day is only a little over a year away in Orange County, but it won't happen without your help. - Yes, YOU, the person reading this, needs

to get involved!

The groundwork has already been laid. An organization has been formed called the Coalition for Human Rights. Meetings between concerned individuals, elected officials and candidates for public office have begun to take place. Dozens of organizations concerned with human rights have been invited to help coordinate efforts that will ensure a more secure life for all of us.

YOU can help by passing the word to

people and organizations that would have an interest in having a human rights ordinance passed in Orange County, or in any local municipalities.

In addition, you need to attend the next meeting of the Coalition for Human Rights, Friday, Nov. 3, at 7:30 pm at the First Unitarian Church, 1815 East Robinson Street in Orlando.

Remember: the only reason for this campaign to fail is YOUR apathy.

See you Nov. 3rd!

Do you like our new look?
Be a part of it!
Join The Center Fold Staff today!
Call (407) THE-GAYS

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Gay Chorus Performs in Orlando

By SUSAN SPENCE
Editor

Given the proper nurturing a chorus could take root this season. Sowing begins at 8 p.m. on Nov. 18th with a concert by the Tampa Bay Gay Men's Chorus and the Gay Men's Chorus of South Florida at Valencia Community College's east campus Performing Arts Center. Both groups' chorus members will pay for

"All levels of singers are invited, it is not necessary to be able to read music."

their travel expenses and will perform for free in hopes of planting the seed of music in Orlando.

The man, or should we say gardener, making this concert a reality is the producer David Schuler, who is on the Board of Directors for GALA (Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses). David Schuler recently moved to Orlando from Omaha, Nebraska where he was president for two years of the River City Mixed Chorus, whereupon he was elected to the board of GALA. David explains that GALA has over 70 choruses across the United States and Canada, even a chorus in West Berlin.

Sponsoring the GALA concert is GLCS (Gay and Lesbian Community Services of Central Florida, Inc.), and David says, "Without them it would have been impossible to do. They opened their hearts

to me and were wonderful." The enthusiasm grows even more with the response of the two performing choruses. Upon requesting their participation the South Florida and Tampa Bay members responded, "We would love to come to Orlando, it would be great to have another chorus in Florida," says David.

The Nov. 18th concert will have each chorus perform approximately 35 minutes of works selected towards a "holiday" theme. "There will be something for everyone, including nonsecular songs," says David.

Songs that will be performed by Tampa's chorus, directed by Ken Williams, will include: "Stout Hearted Man," "Let There Be Peace On Earth," "Walk Hand In Hand," and "Give Me Your Tired, Your Poor."

South Florida's chorus, directed by Gary Keating, will also perform a set. There will be a section of the program where both choruses will unite in song.

At the concert, David will have questionnaires for all persons interested in joining a local chorus. "All levels of singers are invited, it is not necessary to be able to read music. If they have a desire, they are welcome," says David. All people who respond will be contacted by David during the month of December. David hopes that the newly sprouted chorus will be ready to perform its first concert in June during Gay Pride Week.

The seed money necessary for the new musical growth will be aided by a percentage of the proceeds from the \$10 ticket price of the November concert. All seats are reserved and tickets are on sale through the Gay and Lesbian Community Center and at the door, if available. In attendance at the concert will be the International President of GALA, Helen Speegle, from Denver.

Through the efforts of David Schuler, GALA and GLCS the furrow is plowed and the seed is planted, but only your support can make it grow.

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Celebration Draws Opening Crowd at New Center



Among those attending The Center's Grand Opening were this large contingent from Compu-Who?, the Orlando Gay and Lesbian Computer Bulletin Board System.

By LAURENCE SHELDON
 Center Fold Staff Writer

Pssst!

The news is out and it's all over town. The Center has moved to a new location at 750 West Colonial Drive.

Saturday, Oct. 14th marked the gala opening of the new facility for the newly-merged Center and Gay & Lesbian Community Services. Over a hundred people came to take a tour and enjoy the party.

"It's about time!" exclaimed GLCS Board Member Doug Swallow.

"We needed new space badly. And, let's face it, the old place was beginning

to fall apart." Swallow worked with Jeff Taylor in coordinating contractors for renovations and painting, which took a month-and-a-half.

The new Center is a gray, two-story building with about 2,500 square feet of usable space, more than twice that of the old location. There are three meeting rooms upstairs and three downstairs. There's even a kitchen and a cozy den.

One unique feature of the new Center is a new bi-level reception counter and work area at which visitors will be greeted, offering a professional first impression. The counter will be staffed by a new office manager, Linda Cartwright, between 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. on weekdays.



Celebrants throng into the new Center reception area at gala grand opening.

In the rear of the property is a small house which will initially be used for storage, but will later be functioning as accessible meeting space for the handicapped and for confidential counseling services.

The President of GLCS, David Bain, said he is "very pleased" with the new building. Since the new facility is much larger, he noted, more volunteers will be needed and can be accommodated to help implement the many services and programs which are based there.

David also emphasized the need for

donations. Among the items on the The Center wish-list are: 30 to 50 stacking chairs, computers with communications and graphics, and a postscript laser printer. Naturally, financial donations are always gratefully accepted.

The new Center is easy to find. Look for it on Colonial Dr. between I-4 and Orange Blossom Trail (near the Orlando Arena, and on the same side). There is on-street parking as well as spaces behind the building. The telephone number is (407) THE-GAYS and is answered 24 hours a day.



A trio of pals relax in the new snack area in Orlando's new Gay and Lesbian Community Center.

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NO, WAIT!

Don't kill yourself just because you can't always get out to UCF or Valencia and might miss the latest issue of *The Orlando COLLEGIAN*. Hope, in the form of a subscription, is now available. Yes, that's right, you can now have every issue of *The COLLEGIAN* delivered to your door. The cost is minor, but the benefits to your mental health will be major. In the meantime, while you're waiting for your first issue to arrive maybe you could read some of the other newspapers around school... HEY! PUT THAT NOOSE AWAY! *We were just kidding!*

FOR A 10-ISSUE SUBSCRIPTION TO
THE ORLANDO COLLEGIAN — WITH ITS
PULSE-POUNDING, EYE-GLUING FEATURES;
THOUGHT-PROVOKING, MIND-NUMBINGLY
WELL-ARGUED EDITORIALS; AND COVERAGE OF
THE NEWS THE OTHER COLLEGIATE NEWSPAPERS
COVER UP — SEND A CHECK OR MONEY
ORDER FOR \$7.00 (NO CASH, PLEASE) TO

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Welcomes The Center
to The Block

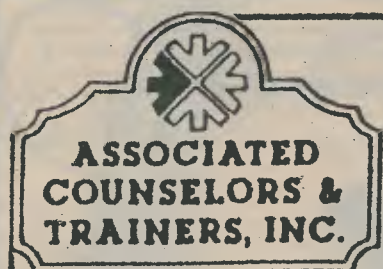
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One Observer

World AIDS Day Dec. 2, 1989

By **MICHAEL WANZIE**
One Observer

One Observer was wondering how Orlando intends to observe World AIDS Day on December 2. In contacting most area AIDS organizations, I discovered a common dilemma. It seems the day is fast approaching and everyone would like to do something, but each organization is so concerned with the demands of PWA care, meals and support programs that there are too few hours remaining to organize any major activities.

The purpose of World AIDS Day is not only to bring the AIDS epidemic into sharper focus, but to create and promote a world-wide, unified, compassionate response to this health crisis. The Bluelights Campaign invites the Orlando and the world to "show your concern and support for bringing about changes in attitudes towards those already infected with the AIDS virus, and the search for a cure. Join us in a symbol of humanity and love by placing a blue light in your window now."

*Join us in a symbol of
humanity and love by
placing a blue light
in your window now.*

GLCS is negotiating with a national manufacturer for blue lightbulbs. The Center will distribute the bulbs to Trans-Aid, Centaur, Tri-County AIDS Network, and AREA. The bulbs will be available to purchase for approximately \$2 apiece. Each support group will benefit from their own respective sales. Bulbs will also be available at The Center and the proceeds from Center sales will be divided amongst the above groups.

Please join us in the unified effort to observe World AIDS Day and continue to display the light thereafter.

"Until there is a cure... there is the light of hope."

Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist

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Nationally Certified Counselor

Lisa A. Smith, M.Ed., P.A.

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Winter Park, Florida 32789
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859-4055

INSIDER TIMES

PULL I.T. OUT!

November 1989

This is *I.T.*! INSIDER TIMES is a handy removable section of The Center Fold. You'll find that *I.T.*'s a very versatile little section. Within *I.T.*'s four pages you will have, at your fingertips, articles, blurbs, and listings of all Center and community events in one concise section. *I.T.* will also preview upcoming events. You can pull it out. And you can do *I.T.* in public. You can hang

I.T. on your refrigerator or corkboard. When opened up to *I.T.*'s centerfold, you can check the dates of meetings and events and immediately refer to the related phone numbers from the directory. If there's a special event at an area night spot, fundraiser, political rally, or social event, you'll discover it in *I.T.* We think *I.T.*'s a good idea, and we hope you like *I.T.*

"Shop 'till
You Drop!"

December 2nd & 3rd, 1989

NEW YORK
W • E • E • K • E • N • D

\$375

Thanksgiving Weekend
November 24th - 26th, 1989



Queen
Kumquat
Sashay

Nov.
11

Thanksgiving Dinner



November 23, 1989

WHITE
PARTY

December 29

Townsend's
Plantation



JOY M.C.C. ART AUCTION
December 2, 1989 • 7 p.m.



Pssst!
Disney Cast Party
8 p.m.
Friday
November 11th
Pass it on...



GAY CHORUS CONCERT

November 18



VOLUNTEER
TRAINING

2 P.M.
SUNDAY
NOV. 5TH

NOVEMBER

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY

			1 7:15am Joy MCC Prayer Breakfast★ 7:00pm Sign Language Class 7:30pm Joy MCC Program★ 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group 7:30pm Women's Discussion Group 8:55pm Tangerine Bowling League★	2 7:00pm Christian Awareness Cl 7:00pm We The People, Coalit for Lesbian/Gay Right 7:30pm Alan Kasper Bridge Clu 7:30pm Trans-AID Support Gro
5 2:00pm Volunteer Training Class 5:30pm GLCS Board Meeting 7:00pm Zion AAC Worship Service 7:15pm Joy MCC Worship Service★	6 6:30pm Tri-County AIDS Network 8:00pm Healing Circle	7 Election Day 7:30pm Ballroom Dance Class 7:30pm Coming Out Discussion Group 7:30pm Rap Group 9:00pm Orange Blossom Bowling Association★	8 7:15am Joy MCC Prayer Breakfast★ 7:00pm Sign Language Class 7:30pm Joy MCC Program★ 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group 7:30pm Women's Discussion Group 8:55pm Tangerine Bowling League★	9 7:00pm Christian Awareness Cl 7:30pm Alan Kasper Bridge Club 7:30pm Gay Parents Association 7:30pm Trans-AID Support Group
12 7:00pm Zion AAC Worship Service 7:15pm Joy MCC Worship Service★	13 Veterans Day 8:00pm Healing Circle 9:15pm GaySkate Roller Skating★	14 7:30pm Ballroom Dance Class 7:30pm Coming Out Discussion Group 7:30pm Rap Group 9:00pm Orange Blossom Bowling Association★	15 7:15am Joy MCC Prayer Breakfast★ 7:00pm Sign Language Class 7:30pm Joy MCC Program★ 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group 7:30pm Women's Discussion Group 8:55pm Tangerine Bowling League★	16 7:00pm Christian Awareness Cl 7:00pm We The People, Coalit for Lesbian/Gay Rights 7:30pm Alan Kasper Bridge Club 7:30pm Trans-AID Support Group
19 5:30pm GLCS Board Meeting 7:00pm Zion AAC Worship Service 7:15pm Joy MCC Worship Service★	20 8:00pm Healing Circle	21 7:30pm Ballroom Dance Class 7:30pm Coming Out Discussion Group 7:30pm Rap Group 9:00pm Orange Blossom Bowling Association★	22 7:15am Joy MCC Prayer Breakfast★ 7:00pm Sign Language Class 7:30pm Joy MCC Program★ 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group 7:30pm Women's Discussion Group 8:00pm Parents and Friends of Lesbi- ans and Gays★ 8:55pm Tangerine Bowling League★	23 Thanksgiving Day 2:00pm Thanksgiving Dinner
26 5:00pm Joy MCC Thanksgiving Pot Luck Dinner★ 7:00pm Zion AAC Worship Service 7:15pm Joy MCC Worship Service★	27 8:00pm Healing Circle	28 7:30pm Ballroom Dance Class 7:30pm Coming Out Discussion Group 7:30pm Rap Group 9:00pm Orange Blossom Bowling Association★	29 7:15am Joy MCC Prayer Breakfast★ 7:00pm Sign Language Class 7:30pm Joy MCC Program★ 7:30pm Men's Discussion Group 7:30pm Women's Discussion Group 8:55pm Tangerine Bowling League★	30 7:00pm Christian Awareness Cl 7:30pm Alan Kasper Bridge Club 7:30pm Trans-AID Support Group

★ Denotes that this activity does not occur at the Gay and Lesbian Community Center

LOCATION
750 W. Colonial Dr.
Orlando

MAILING ADDRESS
P.O. Box 533446
Orlando, Florida 32853-3446

24-HOUR HOTLINE
(407) THE-GAYS
(407) 843-4297

HOURS OF OPERATION
Monday - Friday · 1 p.m.-9 p.m.
Weekends · As required

DAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY

is activity does not occur at the Gay and Lesbian Community Center

HOURS OF OPERATION
Monday - Friday · 1 p.m.-9 p.m.
Weekends · As required

1989

THE GROUPIES

Groups Ap

FRIDAY SATURDAY

3

7:30pm Coalition for Human Rights★
7:30pm Film Festival: "Heathers," a dark comedy destined to become a cult classic

4

3:37pm Queen Kumquat Sashay pre-parade preparedness meeting (bring supplies!)

10

7:30pm Film Festival: "Maurice"

11

12:00pm Queen Kumquat Sashay, meet at The Center by 12:30pm for the parade!
8:00pm Party for Disney employees

17

THE CENTER CLOSSES AT 5 P.M.

18

4:00pm Backyard BBQ
8:00pm Gay Men's Chorus at Valencia Performing Arts Center★

24

12:00pm New York City Weekend departs from Orlando International Airport

25

THE CENTER IS CLOSED TODAY

1

7:30pm Film Festival: "White Christmas"

2

World AIDS Day
"SHOP TILL YOU DROP" Departs for Boca Raton!★
7:00pm Joy MCC Auction, bidding begins at 8:00pm★

THE CENTER IS CLOSED TODAY

ALAN KASPER BRIDGE CLUB. A group of Bridge players gathers for a night of t New players always welcomed.

BACKYARD BBQ. A cookout which happens in doors when weather demands. Complimentary burgers and dogs(hot) etc. are offered.

CHRISTIAN AWARENESS. Discussions on the symbiosis of homosexuality and Christianity.

COMING OUT DISCUSSION GROUP. This group is open to anyone who is in the coming out process.

COURAGE TO CHANGE. A group for friends and family members of alcoholics or anyone who may benefit from a 12-step program.

GAMES NIGHT. All are welcomed for an evening of table-top board games from Trivial Pursuit to Clue and Uno and everything in between.

GLCS. Gay and Lesbian Community Services. Operates Gay Telephone Hotline for Gay peer counseling. Organizes monthly Gay Skate parties. Raises and distributes funds to other gay outreach organizations. Publishes Gay and Lesbian Guide to Central Florida and oper

Center.
GAY PARENTS COALITION. This group is for parents who are gay. They meet the second Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m.

HEALING CIRCLE. A loving gathering of men and women using Louise Hay's principles to promote self love and loving relationship, and a healthier body and spirit.

JOY MCC. Joy Metropolitan Community Church. A Christian church open to all denominations regardless of race, sex or sexual orientation.

LCN. Loving Committed Network. Publishes a monthly newsletter, the "LCN Express," and provides monthly functions for women.

MEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP. This group for men meets Wednesdays.

MOVIE NIGHT The at The Movies each week however refreshments a tabl

ORANGE BLOSSOM BOWLING A TION Meets Tuesday nights at W Bowling Lanes The leagues tak for a fun night of bowling.

are always welcome to socialize and what a great spectator sport bowling is.

PFLAG. Parents and Friend Gays meet the 1st Wed th at the Friend Ho St., Orlando.

PEOPLE OF COLOR SUPPORT GROUP. A discussion time for non-Cau esbi and gays — Blacks Hispanics As Indians, etc.

RAP GROUP. A mixed group nd young and old, discussing a topic cerning the gay and lesbi unity.

SIGN LANGUAGE CLASS.

This 12 week course is

Sorry, no new joiners u

lass forms in January

TRANS AID AND

GROUP. For P.W.A s (

care-givers

TRI COUNTY AIDS N O

ay of each month to discuss sp

eed in the AIDS community.

THE PEOPLE. A concerned group of citi

gathered together to fight for the rights of

citizens

WOMEN'S DISCUSSION

for lesbians and gay-men

Wednesdays.

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which believes Christ di

cluding lesbians an

3-2-1 CONTACT

Community Co

Alcoholics Anonymous

Orlando (407) 647-3333

Brevard County (407) 242-8063

AIDS Hotline (Nationwide) (800) 342-AIDS

Aid Orlando (407) 648-9161

(Anyone (Gay) In Distress)

AIDS Testing, Anonymous

Orlando (407) 244-2601

Volusia County (904) 257-1700

AREA - AIDS related services ... (407) 647-2765

Breaking the Silence MCC (407) 254-5884

(Brevard County)

CENTAUR - AIDS related services(407) 849-1452

Center for Drug-Free Living (407) 423-6611

Center, The, 24-hour phone line (407) 843-4297

Gay Parents Association (407) 898-9919

(Scott or Larry)

Gay Information Hotline (407) THE-GAYS

(24 hours)

Gay Peer Counseling (407) THE-GAYS

(8 p.m. - 11 p.m., 7 days)

G.L.C.S. - Gay and Lesbian (407) THE-GAYS

Community Services

Health Dept. (Orange County) .. (407) 244-2601

Hope and Help Center (407) 628-8542

(AIDS-related services)

Joy MCC (Orlando) (407) 894-1081

Lambda Legal Defense (212) 995-8585

LCN Express (407) 273-1825

Legal Aid Society (407) 841-8310

National Gay and Lesbian Law .. (904) 656-202

Association or (904) 488-5899

PFLAG Parents and F i

of Lesbians and Gays

Rape Crisis Center 648-3026

644-2027

Spouse Abuse 886-2856

The Center, 24-hour 843-4297

Trans-Aid - AIDS rela off 839-0945

In e () 351-6930

We Care, 24-hour suicid) 655-2027

Women's Hea (40 896-2022

Women's Resource Ce. 898-1599

We The P 7) 839-0595

N IN

THE CEN

Faces (407) 291-7571

Flamingo Lounge (407) 677-4299

Games Lounge (407) 260-8001

Hank's (407) 291-2399

Key Larg (407) 291-0686

425-7371

Southern Nights 7) 898-0424

For a complete listing o

and services consult

to Central Florida Q

pages Available at The

nightspots

INS R
ITM

IT-3

In The Neighborhood

KEY LARGO ART SHOW

Male and female artists are invited to show their work on Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 11 and 12, and the entire Gay and Lesbian community is invited to attend Key Largo's First Annual Artfest. Weather permitting, the exhibit areas will be outside on the palatial grounds of the popular nightspot, however, all facilities will be available. Saturday features a live band and Sunday brings you folk singer Sue Fink. Artists have been booked from across Florida and from as far away as Atlanta. Show hours: Saturday Nov. 11th, 11 a.m. till 6 p.m.; Sunday Nov. 12th, 10 a.m. till dusk. To exhibit work call Cheryl or Carmen at 291-0686.

Remember the Trans-Aid benefit "Broadway In Orlando" this Sunday, November 5th. Bring toiletries! (see BUY EXTRA...)

MR. AND MISS GAY ORLANDO

The Parliament House will host the 21st Annual Mr. and Miss Gay Orlando Pageant. Over \$1,000 in cash and prizes will be awarded Monday evening, Nov. 6, beginning at 9 p.m. in The Footlight Theatre. Mandatory rehearsal 2 p.m. same day. Call David Scott at 425-4527.

BENEFIT FOR RAPE RESPONSE

"Puttin On The Glitz" — a holiday shopping and auction extravaganza will take place in a million dollar home in the Alauqua development near Lake Mary. A boutique featuring everything from designer clothing to porcelain dolls, jewelry, stocking stuffers, and award-winning artwork. Lunch will be available and hourly silent auctions will be staged. The celebrity gala auction will be held Friday, Nov. 3. Call for an invitation.

Home Boutique Hours: Friday, Nov. 3, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday, Nov. 4, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sunday, Nov. 5, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

All proceeds benefit Rape Response. Volunteers for the event are still needed. Call 898-4228 for information and directions.

GUEST VOCALIST AT FLAMINGO LOUNGE

Singer Lannie Garrett from Denver, Colorado will appear at the Flamingo Lounge beginning Friday evening, Nov. 3. The final performance will be on the afternoon of Sunday, Nov. 5, when a lavish seafood brunch will be catered at the Flamingo at 2 p.m. The \$25 ticket price includes brunch, the show and open bar throughout the event. Only 60 tickets are available and must be reserved in advance. Call Dan for reservations or more information at 677-4299.

THE WILDEST WILD WEDNESDAY EVER

Southern Nights wishes to remind you that Thanksgiving Eve (that's Wednesday, Nov. 22 this year) is traditionally the best-attended and wildest of all Wild Wednesday's. Those 25¢ drinks will prevail throughout the partyingest night of the season at Southern. Don't forget Pink Doo-Doo on Friday, Nov. 10th.

AREA ANNOUNCES TRAINING CLASSES — NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

These classes will prepare you to work in the office, answer the information hotline, client contact, visitation and many other functions at the Winter Park-based AIDS support services group. Due to the volume of information that will be shared, it is imperative that each class is started on time. Additional classes to train you as Buddies, Care-Partners, Speakers and Facilitators will follow. Also needed are people to assist with AREA's newsletter and events. The four classes are: Monday, Oct. 16, 6:30

p.m. to 10 p.m.: Human Immunodeficiency Virus - AIDS Infection, Treatment, Counseling and Prevention.; Tuesday, Oct. 17, 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.: Impact, Differences, and Coping Skills Psycho-Social Effects, Life Styles, Issues of Loss.; Wednesday, Oct. 18, 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.: Support Group Dynamics, Support Group Defined, Introduction to A.R.E.A.; Thursday, Oct. 19, 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m.: Volunteer Placement, Areas of Need, Defining Your Niche, Placement.

To register for classes or to become a volunteer, contact A.R.E.A. at 2199 Oglesby Ave., Winter Park, FL 32789 or call (407)647-2765.

BUY EXTRA TOILET PAPER THIS WEEK

Among the many programs implemented by Trans-Aid are an on-going food drive and in-home meal delivery for P.W.A.'s (people with AIDS) who are home-bound or experience financial duress as a result of H.I.V. infection. Donations of non-perishables (canned soups, stews, pastas, are especially good) can be dropped by Trans-Aid or The Center. A special request has been issued for paper products and toiletries. Alfredo explains that while many P.W.A.'s receive aid in the form of food

stamps, the stamps cannot be used to purchase such necessary items as razors, shaving cream, toilet paper, disposable towels, bar soap, laundry detergent, toothpaste, etc. Please consider dropping these items by The Center during your next visit or at Key Largo on Nov. 5th.

ART AUCTION TO BENEFIT JOY MCC

The First Unitarian Church at 1815 E. Robinson will be the site of the Annual Joy M.C.C. Art Auction. Items to be bid on include original oils and limited edition prints. They may be previewed at 7 p.m., and the bidding begins at 8 p.m. Refreshments will be served throughout the evening. Admission donation is \$4.

COMBINED GROUPS YARD SALE

The next yard sale is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 4, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The site will be 1014 E. Amelia St. Items earmarked for The Center's benefit can be dropped by The Center during regular operating hours. As always, volunteers are needed to staff the sale. Leave a message with Linda at The Center if you can help. Call (407) 843-4297 (press 0, then #)

GLCS Events

VOLUNTEER TRAINING

All those interested in becoming Center volunteers should attend volunteer training class on Sunday, Nov. 5 at 2 p.m. All current volunteers are asked to attend as a special seminar on suicide intervention will be conducted. The class will last approximately 3 hours and complimentary refreshments will be served.

BALLROOM DANCING

A 7-week course in "touch dancing" will be offered at The Center in preparation for those special holiday affairs, including our own White Party on December 29th. The 90-minute classes will meet every Tuesday and The Center, beginning Nov. 7 at 7:30 p.m. The course will include Waltz, Foxtrot, Rumba, Cha-Cha, Swing and Lindy. The cost is just \$10 per person payable at the first class. You do not need a partner to attend. Space is limited. Please call The Center and reserve your place.

THANKSGIVING DINNER AT THE CENTER

Thursday, Nov. 23 is Turkey Day. The Center will provide the turkey, ham and dessert. You bring a side dish. The entire community is welcome. Let us know you're coming, so we know how many to prepare for. CALL 843-4297. The Center will open at 1:30 p.m., dinner will be served at 2 p.m. If you receive a turkey or ham as a holiday bonus and would like to donate it to those in need, The Center will once again serve as a distribution point for this purpose. Let us know in advance of your intention to donate, please, so that we may gauge our needs and not overextend our assistance offers. See you Thanksgiving Day at 2 p.m.! The Center will be open for drop-in visits and refreshments through the early evening, but no regular meetings will take place on T. Day. The Center will be closed on Friday, November 24.

NEW YORK CITY GETAWAY

At press time, only 6 spaces remain for the fabulous NYC Thanksgiving Weekend. See display ad on IT's front page. For reservations, call Linda or Michael IMMEDIATELY! 843-4297, touch zero (0) then the pound sign (#).

GAY PRESENCE IN ORLANDO PARADE

Recently, the first G.L.C.S. dis-organizational meeting of the Gay and Lesbian contingent bound for the "Queen Kumquat Sashay" was held at The Center. The now famous "Sashay," a parade sponsored by Orlando Sentinel's Bob Morris, is the pre-party kickoff to "Light Up Orlando" and will take place at approximately 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 11. The G.L.C.S. unit will be a safe sex brigade and everyone is encouraged to participate. The next semi-organizational meeting is slated for Saturday, Nov. 4 at precisely 3:37 p.m. at The Center. This will be a project day dedicated to making the applicable signs and props. Please come and HELP! Bring poster board and stuff. Classic-handled Clorox Bleach bottles are also needed. You need not have attended either meeting to participate in the actual parade. Simply show up at The Center on Saturday, Nov. 11 at 12 noon for orientation and carpooling. A portion of the Brigade will toss thousands of condoms to the crowd along the parade route, sort of like Mardi Gras treats. Following the Brigade will be the M.B.I. — "Mopping — of Ignorance" will clean up behind the Brigade clad in designer labeled Clorox costumes. Participants are asked to bring raincoats, ponchos, umbrellas, galoshes, boots, etc., to point out our theme — "Don't leave home without your rubbers." A Lawson Lamar act-alike will be on hand as the national poster person for our campaign to "Raise the intelligence level requirement for the State Attorney's Office beyond the presently acceptable pre-pubescent level."

THE WHITE PARTY

An elegant holiday gathering amid the Southern charm and Victorian splendor of Townsends Plantation, Apopka, Florida will take place Friday evening, Dec. 29, 1989. \$17 per person includes dancing, unlimited beer and wine from 8:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m., floor show, and hors d'oeuvres. Dress is strictly white formal, costume or period. Reservations are a must and are limited to 200 persons on a first paid basis. Call G.L.C.S. at 843-4297, mailbox 52 (press 52, then #) for more information or to make your reservation, send payment to P.O. Box 533446, Orlando, FL 32853-3446.

CHORUS GAYLA PARTY

By now you know about the G.L.C.S.-sponsored Gay Men's Chorus concert on Nov. 18, but did you know about the party? Yes, the PARTY. The Flamingo in Winter Park, in cooperation with The Center, invites you to join chorus members at the lounge located at 7124 Aloma Ave., one mile east of 436. At The Center's request, the folks at the Flamingo Lounge will graciously provide hot and cold finger foods and the usual congenial atmosphere. As usual, no cover charge will apply. Those of you who attended the Flamingo party following "La Cage Aux Folles" know what a festive time to expect. Don't miss it!

O.B.B.A. TOURN-ABOUT

The Orange Blossom Bowling Association is holding its infamous Tourn-About Show at Parliament House's Footlight Theatre on Monday, Dec. 4 at 9 p.m. This event is a fundraiser for the Sunshine Invitational Bowling Tournament. All tips and door admission will go to O.B.B.A. Come out for an evening of fun, a "stellar cast of luminaries", and turn-about like you've never seen before (and may hope never to see again!)

SHOP TILL YOU DROP

A weekend in Boca Raton, Dec. 2 and 3. Deluxe motorcoach transportation will be provided to all you shop-happy homosexual men and women. Macy's, Bloomin's, Lord & Taylor, Sak's, and Needleless Mark-up will all be on the itinerary. Included in the package Saturday night is transportation to a Gay supper club (dinner at your own expense) and accommodations at the Boca Sheraton. Only a few seats are left. Cost is \$69.69. Call Curtis Hunter Travel today at 647-5664.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

The Center will sponsor a Career Day on Sunday, Jan. 6. Information and mini-workshops will be available throughout the day in a number of career and job opportunities. On-site interviews will be available as well as guidance in admissions procedures and writing a resume. If your business or school would like to be represented, please call The Center to make arrangements before Nov. 20. Space will be granted on a first come, first served basis.

GAY MEN'S CHORUS

Saturday evening, Nov. 18, 1989 at 8 p.m. the Tampa Bay Gay Men's Chorus and the Gay Men's Chorus of South Florida will perform at the Valencia Community College Performing Arts Center in a very special concert. Proceeds will go toward starting a Central Florida Gay Lesbian Chorus and to benefit Gay and Lesbian Community Services (GLCS). Reserved seating tickets are only \$10 in advance. For more information, call the GLCS 24-hour information line at 843-4297. To reserve your seat, mail payment to GLCS at P.O. Box 533446, Orlando, FL 32853-3446.

DISNEY CAST PARTY

G.L.C.S. is sponsoring a party for Disney cast members Saturday, Nov. 11 from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. All "family" Mouseketeers, hourly and salaried, are invited to join in the premiere of this social event. Don't wait to read about it in the "Eyes and Ears." If you know a cast member who should hear about this event, pass the word along or have them call The Center. The success of this evening could lead to ongoing programs for Lesbians and Gays at Walt Disney World!



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Editorial

War Against Women

By KEITH PROUD
Editor

The headline read "The global war against women." At issue was the status of the rights of women in the world today. Here in the United States, we tend to think of women's rights as money and freedom issues, equal pay for equal work, access to all jobs, etc. In much of the rest of the world the issue is more basic. It is the right to life.

Violence against women, including assault, rape, mutilation, and murder, is perhaps one of the least recognized human rights issues in the world.

In Thailand, in Ecuador, in Nicaragua and a host of other countries, wife beating is still accepted as one of the hazards of a relationship. In one country, female babies die of neglect — because male babies are preferred; in one country, girls' genitals are mutilated to ensure virginity until marriage; in one country, brides are murdered by their husbands when the wedding dowry is not sufficient or as much as promised.

None of this is random violence. In each case, the single risk factor has been the women's sex. If even measured by only its human costs, violence against women deserves international focus and attention. But it has seldom been raised at that level. Millions of dollars are spent each year in many of the world nations to protect the rights of the unborn, yet they ignore the basic rights of the women who carry those babies.

Examining the statistics in these cases can be downright chilling. In the Indian subcontinent, the ever-escalating dowry has become a financial hardship for many parents of marriageable daughters. Once a gesture of the parents' love, the dowry has become a means for many husbands to acquire wealth. If the promised dowry does not materialize, the young bride is subjected to ridicule and abuse. In its most severe form the abuse often results in suicide or murder.

However, dowry deaths are notoriously undercounted because police are reluctant to get involved, and the husband and his relatives often succeed in making it look like an accident or suicide. A frequent scam is to ignite the women with kerosene, and claim it was a cooking accident. In the urban Indian communities of Maharashtra and greater Bombay, 19% of all deaths among women 15 to 44 years of age are due to "accidental burns." In other Third World nations, with no dowry, the same statistic is less than one percent.

Men who join the pro-feminist movement often become isolated from other men who share the same hopes and values. The rest of the world seems to become very perplexed when we declare a deeply felt commitment for sexual equal-

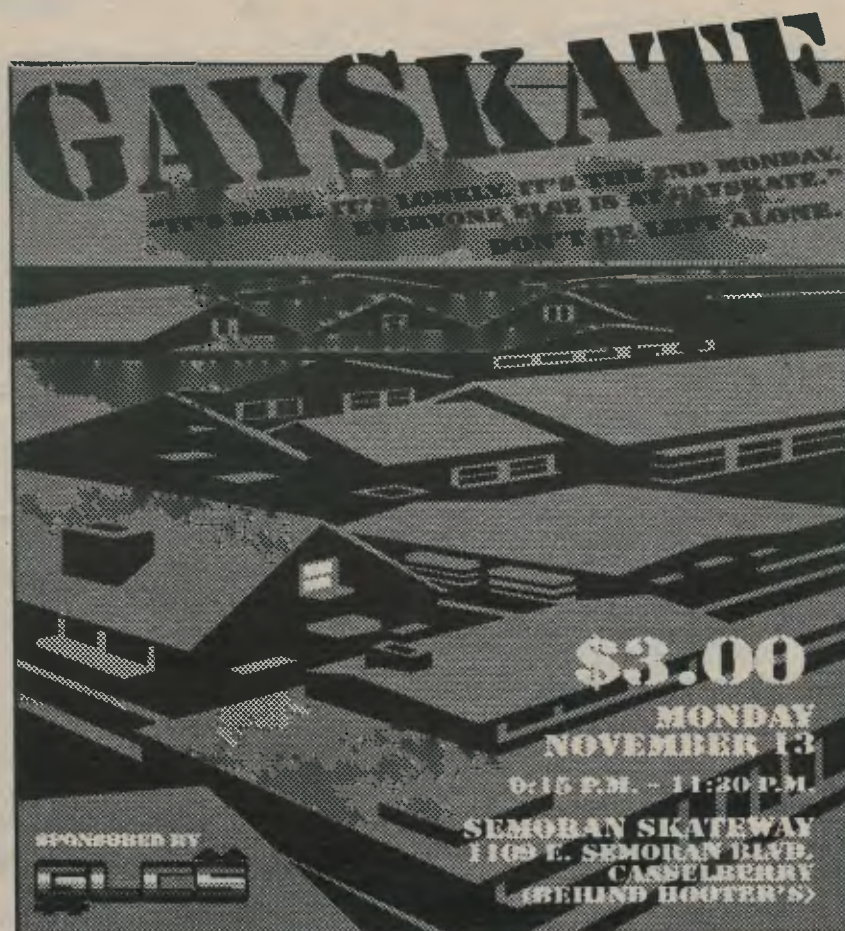
ity. The world is much quicker to understand why the ocean should be an OK place for whales than why society should be an OK place for women. It is sometimes difficult for these men to declare their reasons, because for many the reasons are extremely personal. For some, it

The world is much quicker to understand why the ocean should be an OK place for whales than why society should be an OK place for women.

is the deep love for a mother, lover, or cherished friend that has brought them an intimate view of life under male supremacy. Some men have forged a connection between their own experience of sexual violence or sexual abuse and that which women experience. And some men can look into their own socialization into masculinity and realize that much of it was learning to not to identify with anything feminine. We weren't supposed to be a sissy, weren't supposed to be anything at all like a girl. This fear and dread of becoming contaminated by anything feminine, of being confused with someone female, becomes the touchstone of our masculinity. We had to constantly stay on guard so as to always appear to be manly enough.

Many men in the gay community struggle with the same dis-rationalizations today, of not wanting to appear feminine. It is time to recognize that our freedoms are linked to the freedom and equality of women everywhere. Can I conscientiously protest and campaign for a human rights amendment which will provide me with job and housing security and not be concerned with those who haven't even sometimes the right to live? Can I protest a commercial perceived as anti-gay, and not also protest humor which is sexist and degrades women?

No, I cannot. I'm an idealist who believes all people have a right to determine their own future without unreasonable constraint and a realist who accepts that there must be compromise if everyone is to be considered and a stubborn old fool who refuses to accept that the world cannot be a better place for us all.



News from Joy MCC

Church Chat

Joy MCC to Purchase Church Property

By BRAD LOUIS
Center Fold Contributor

In a nearly unanimous decision, Joy MCC Members voted Oct. 23 to purchase the 250-seat sanctuary and associated property currently owned by Calvary Missionary Baptist Church.

"We have arrived at a very auspicious moment in the life of this congregation," said Pastor Jimmy Brock of the decision, "and I hope that we are ready for the risks involved."

Brock, known for his folksy style, was ebullient following the vote, taken at the fall congregational meeting.

"Just thinking that we will be in our own place by Christmas gives me chill bumps on my chill bumps," he beamed.

The Board of Directors of Joy MCC had been negotiating with Calvary Baptist for some time. Members of Joy MCC toured the property, located near the corner of Ferncreek and Page, a week before the vote to evaluate it.

Included in the sale are a three-bedroom house and a social hall that will seat 100.

Arrangements for financing are now being made. A down payment will use funds from the partial sale of current church property on Page street.

Crowds have been overflowing from Joy MCC services now being held in

space rented from First Unitarian Church. Joy had a record attendance of 160 at services following the vote.

The Church will hold its annual Art Auction at the Unitarian Church on Dec. 2. The paintings will be original oils and limited edition prints. A preview will be at 7 p.m. with the auction starting at 8 p.m. Refreshments will be served throughout the evening. There will be a \$4 admission fee.

An Octoberfest dinner will be held on the 29th at the Robinson Street address. A donation of \$5 will be appreciated.

Pastor Brock and two lay delegates will be attending District Conference in Gainesville Nov. 10 through 12. Larry Rodriguez from Los Angeles is the liaison elder for the Southeast District and will be conducting the workshop.

A Thanksgiving Pot Luck dinner will take place at 5 p.m. at the Robinson Street address Nov. 26.

Joy MCC is an interdenominational fellowship with services each Sunday evening at 7:15 p.m. at the First Unitarian Church located at 1815 East Robinson. For further details, please call the office located at 1611 Page Street, 894-1081.

Stand Up and Be Counted

By JEFF CAMPBELL
Center Fold Contributor

Recent decisions in the courts, and legislative actions have effectively attacked the civil rights of the gay community. A very real and dangerous pursuit is underway to deny us our Constitutional Rights and Freedoms. The Supreme Court has already warned us that our homes are not inviolate; that our interactions with one another are not private but are subject to approval of local politicians. How long will it be before the publications which binds us together and support us are forced to cease publication or be denied mailing privileges?

In an effort to deny this apportioning of rights, a religious facade has been constructed to defend the denial of democratic rights to those of us who march to our own drummer. Self appointed saints, anointed with the oils of lies, intolerance and deceit are today's puritanical crusaders who stir the fears born of ignorance and prejudice and turn them into hate.

The closet is no longer a safe refuge. If we remain in the closet, or if we return to the closet, then we also return to the clandestine bars and restaurants that were once our only refuge; and back to the raiding of those places by the established powers who "supervise" our activities. To continue to conceal our presence in society is to also conceal all of our talents, abilities, creativity, and to deny ourselves the rights, privileges, and responsibilities of a free society. We owe no apologies to any one for who we are.

If we live in the shadow of our fears today, we will live in the darkness of legislated constraint and quarantine tomorrow. Brought about by demagogues sitting on our courts, legislatures, and sermons from the pulpits of bigots. These false prophets are nourished by lies and half truths. Our silence feeds their influence and we are put at risk from the violence they preach.

We must be visible, this is how we will be heard and recognized; but we should not be vulgar or obscene. Some of the gay community strike out with extreme language and outrageous actions. This effort only gives ammunition to those who preach hate, and justifies their calls to violence by using our words against us. We do ourselves no favor by returning hate for hate.

Our community should reinforce itself from within, supporting our own people in business and not dealing with any business which is homophobic. There should be a responsibility within the gay business community to respect its gay clientele - not to treat us as a captive patronage. If it is overpriced or service is indifferent, we should spend our time

and money elsewhere. The social and business communities of gay society should compliment each other.

Regrettably there are gay people who stand in the darkness of their closets. They are often passive supporters of the ones who threaten our freedom, fearful to disagree or challenge these advocates of hate lest it cause suspicion to be cast upon them and threaten their quiet, secret lives. These closet dwellers can be a greater threat to our survival because their silence adds support to the bigot's message.

The gay community has a challenge to pursue our rights in a free, democratic society. Currently, the advocates of hate have gained momentum and politicians are being lobbied to legislate against us. The responsibility to assure our rights in America rests with us. If we fail, we may

*If we live in the
shadow of our fears
today, we will live in
the darkness of
legislated constraint
and quarantine
tomorrow.*

be excluded from the protection of the Constitution of the United States and lose our freedom.

Looking at life in the United States as a threatened minority gives cause for fear. It is not just a label as a "conservative" or a "liberal." It is future restrictions of our rights, on freedom of movement, of employment, of residence. We could face the invasion of our homes by official agencies and the threat of confiscation of our property.

But this situation did not occur overnight. There were methodical attacks on our civil rights, reinterpretations of existing laws. The union of the dogmatic fundamentalist and the conservative politician has given birth to the first step of tyranny. Recent court appointments and judicial decisions have a chilling effect for they illustrate how the judicial arm of the United States is being bent against us. In a future tomorrow, our pleas for justice will be a silent voice before deaf judges.

Listen to your different drummer! It is time to come forth from the silent closet. If the battle is lost and our freedoms are denied, the closet will be no protection and there will be no place to hide. Step from your closet and join in the fight for your rights and freedoms. There is no comfort in your silence.

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By KEN BERG
 News Editor

Central Florida residents were among the tens of thousands who flocked to the Nation's capital for the exhibition of the Names Project Memorial Quilt last month.

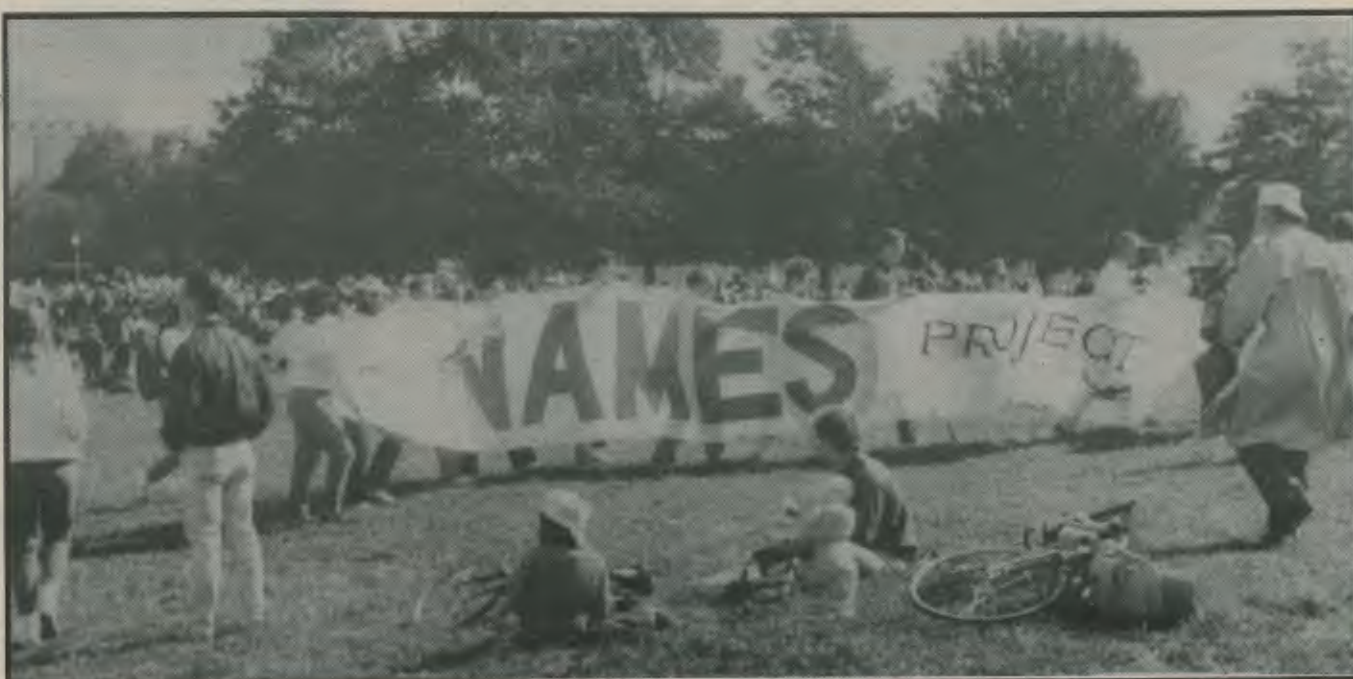
October 6, 7 and 8 marked what may be the last complete unfoldings of the Quilt, a sprawling, yet intensely personal tribute to those who have been lost to AIDS.

Inspired by the classic American tradition of quilting, founders of the Names Project have attempted to create what they call a "positive, creative symbol of remembrance and hope." Displays of the Quilt are also intended to enhance public and governmental awareness of the severity of the AIDS crisis.

The Quilt consists of almost 12,000 hand-made panels, each lovingly prepared by those touched by loss due to AIDS. Few who have seen its unfolding will doubt its power.

Central Floridians making the Names Project pilgrimage were greeted by cool, damp nights and brisk, partly cloudy days — in stark contrast of sultry "dog days" in Orlando.

The display was on the Ellipse, a 14



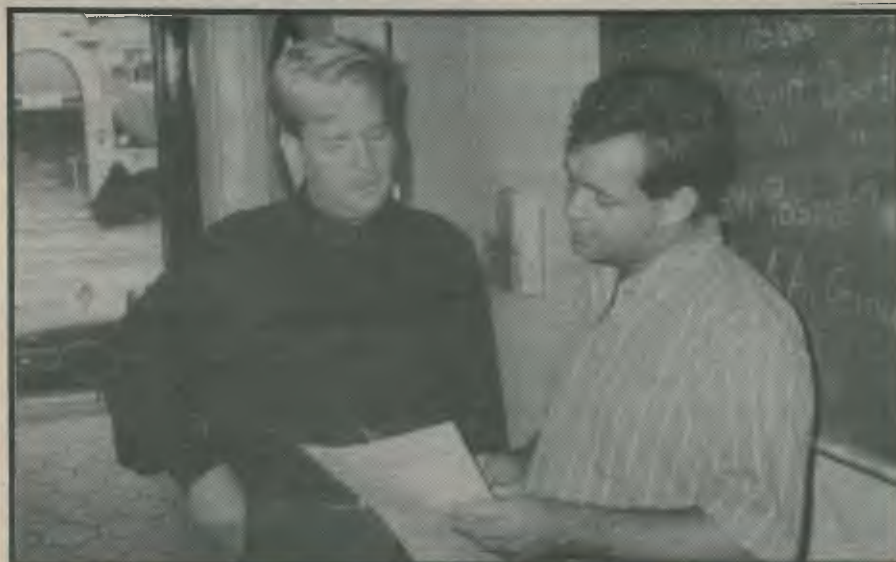
Names Project Banner unfurls as Quilt volunteers prepare to lend support to the March for Housing held on Saturday of Display Weekend.

in respectful, and often tearful, silence.

Names of AIDS victims memorialized in the Quilt were spoken aloud throughout the day by a battalion of readers from across the country. Voices of the readers are often choked with emotion.

Some readers shouted the names, angrily, as a form of protest against governmental indifference.

The ongoing litany of amplified names, echoing across the display, becomes an



Meeting of the minds — D.C. Center Coordinator Bren Giger and Orlando counterpart Michael Wanzie compare notes managing gay service organizations.



Keeping the Love Alive, Orlando resident Randy Holmberg at panel honoring his lover Rich Lucero.

acre expanse between the White House and the Washington Monument. The Ellipse presentation has become an annual tradition following the national debut at the 1987 March for Gay and Lesbian Rights.

Each day of the display began with a ceremonial unfolding of the Quilt, as onlookers encircled the giant patchwork

integral part of its emotional texture, increasing its impact.

Celebrity readers such as Dionne Warwick and Harvey Fierstein helped attract media attention by participating in the readings.

Among readers on the first day of the display was Center Coordinator Michael Wanzie.

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Standing proud, Nancy Drennan and Michele Gothro made pilgrimage by car to remember Orlando loved ones lost to AIDS.



Names echo across the Ellipse in poignant opening ceremonies.



Center Coordinator Michael Wanzie participates in reading of names at Quilt Display.



Wanzie later joined GLCS board member Chris Alexander, long-time Center supporter Scott Lang, along with Center Fold News Editor Ken Berg, in an expedition to the new DC area Gay Center.

Housed in a charming, three story brownstone on 17th Street near Rhode Island Avenue, the DC Center offers a similar range of programs to its Orlando counterpart.

DC Center Coordinator Bren Giger offered a warm welcome and tour of the facility for the travelers, swapping center management ideas and stories with the ever-effusive Wanzie.

Second to the AIDS crisis, Giger said, drug and alcohol abuse is the most serious challenge faced by the gay community nationwide. He also described a unique personals system that the Orlando Center may soon emulate.

By Saturday, the Quilt became a beehive of activity, welcoming a broad range of people from all walks of life, including traditional families with children.

On Saturday evening, over 17,000 people participated in a candlelight march that began at the quilt site and ended with a stirring picturesque gathering around the reflecting pool between the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial.

Following the march, DC Subways were jammed as a festive mood took hold for many participants, gathering for coffee or packing into nightspots in DuPont Circle and throughout the city.

A Moment In History The Gay Symbol

Lambda, the eleventh lower-case letter of the Greek alphabet, is the forerunner of our letter "L." Originally, the letter was a picture symbol for the scales often seen being carried by the figure of Justice. With the passage of time, the lambda bore less of a visual resemblance to a scales, and its meaning became more abstract in that it came to represent the concept or qualities of balance.

The Greeks believed that balance was a reconciliation between two opposites, and as such was not a stable state but one needing continuous adjustment. Finally, due to the influence of Greek philosophy, the lambda emerged as it appears in modern day form; the small hook was added to the base of the letter to indicate (1) that some form of action was necessary to bring about a state of equilibrium, and (2) that constant action was necessary to maintain that state once it had been achieved.

The ancient Spartans adopted the lambda as a symbol of their unity. Worn as a logo on their shields, it signified the special balance which they felt must exist between an individual and the State. They believed that the demands of a free society should never interfere with each person's right to be totally free and independent. They also thought that each individual must be bound to society only by individual choice and desire. But each Spartan recognized that only in a common bond could they hope to preserve their existence as a free and equal people.

As Rome rose to power and conquered the then-known world, the Romans borrowed many things of value from the Greek culture. Among these was the lambda. The overall shape of the Lambda suggested a flame to the Romans, and consequently it was used as the symbol for "lampas" - their Latin word for torch. In our day, scientists seeking a symbol for the wavelength of light drew on the historical past, and the lambda, because of its connection with the past, was chosen.

In the sixties, when the quest for gay liberation began to emerge as an organized movement after the famous Stonewall riots, the lambda was selected as a gay symbol because it represented the letter "L" which was chosen to stand for "Liberation." Later, the historical significance of the lambda was discovered. Previously symbolizing justice, balance and the reconciliation of opposites; unity and the relationship of man/woman and their society; freedom, equality and independence of the individual; and light. As acceptance of the lambda became more widespread, use of the symbol spread rapidly across the United States. The lambda's most recent historical association - with light - began to take on an added meaning, one of a social nature.

As a symbol of freedom for gay people, the lambda has come to represent the "light of knowledge shed into the darkness of ignorance" and promises hope of a new future, with dignity for gay men and lesbians everywhere. In 1974, the International Gay Congress meeting in Glasgow, Scotland, adopted the lambda as a unique international symbol for gay rights, for sexual liberation and for justice and enlightenment, as well as a needed balance in acceptance of differences by and within all humanity.



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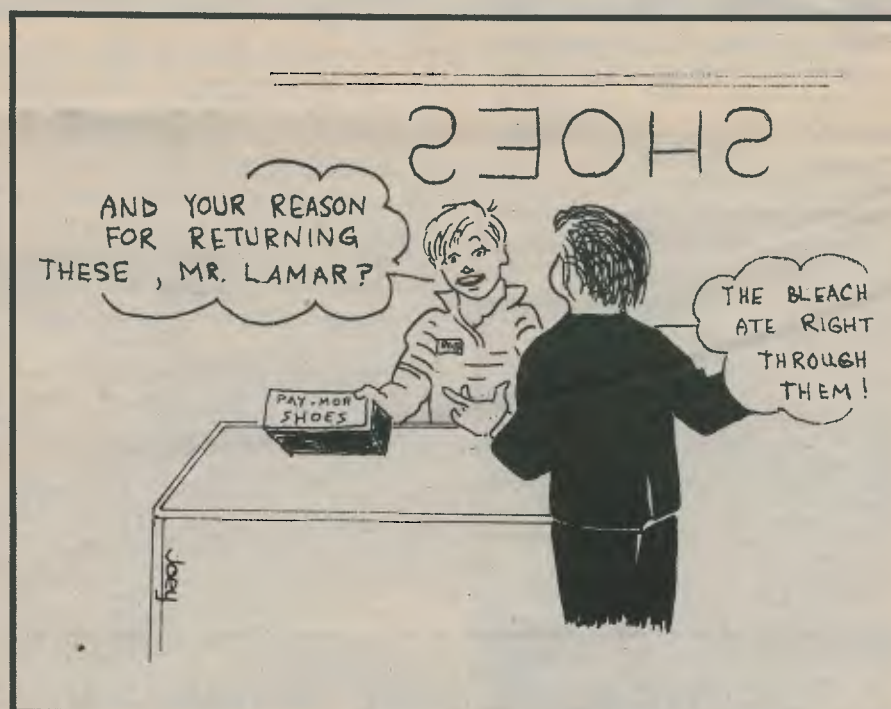
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GLCS Board Report

Minute by Minute

The move into our new building has been completed. 95% of all renovation work has been finished with only a small amount of painting and carpentry work scheduled for the near future. Electrical problems we experienced have been repaired. We are still looking for a suitable organization/professional to occupy vacant offices located at rear of the building. Several items have been stolen from the building during operating hours. A new policy on the responsibility of equipment loaned to GLCS has been established. Our alarm system is now fully functional. Board approved the 2 year lease (with buy out clause) of a telephone system for The Center.

A new and more in-depth script for the 24-HOUR HOTLINE has been implemented.

A cruise evaluation meeting has been planned this month to discuss changes and procedures for our next cruise scheduled for April. The contract for our next GayEscape cruise has been received and is under negotiation.

The GLCS board currently has 5 openings. A search strategy has been discussed. A job description and implementation plan are in the works to attract minorities and women to the board. Pride Week, Fund raising and Promotion Committees have been formed.

Our merchant application for MasterCard and Visa has been denied. Over \$8,000 in cruise charges made on these credit cards has yet to be collected. This

is causing a temporary cash shortage while we react to this problem. A letter is being sent to cruise passengers who paid by these two credit cards to ask for cash payments of their balance.

The need to publish financial reports twice a year has been discussed to prevent any unwarranted rumors of our financial condition.

A billboard campaign is under discussion pending outside financial support.

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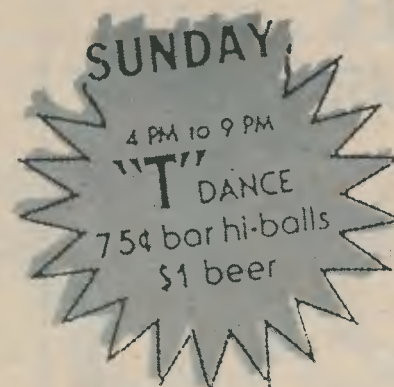
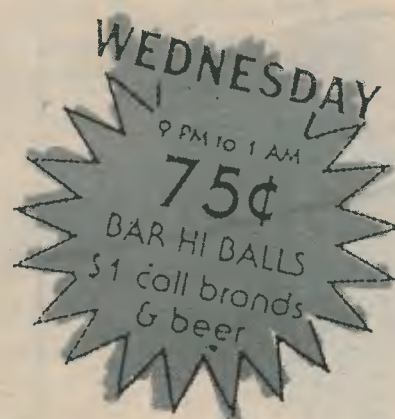
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