

NEW DIRECTION

Living Gay In Central Florida July 1983

"Family picnic" draws crowd
Photos on Page Two



1983 Gay Pride Week events reveal community growth

BY JAY WESLEY
New Direction Managing Editor

More than 800 Gay and Lesbian citizens joined forces June 26 to cap the first large-scale Gay Pride celebration in central Florida. The Gay Pride Sunday picnic at Orlando's Turkey

Lake Park was drenched in bright sunshine and good feelings during its five hour schedule.

The picnic was the final event to a mostly-successful Gay Pride Week under the stewardship of a coalition of Gay and Lesbian organizations lead by Gay Community Services (GCS).

The financial picture from the week-long event remains clouded however, due to a heavy loss incurred with an AIDS benefit theater party at Winter Park's Theatre-On-Park. The local players' production of "ANNIE" failed to draw wide interest. The Gay Pride Committee's \$25 a ticket price tag also apparently caused some person to forego the event. About \$1,380 was lost when GCS was forced to ante up cash for unfilled seats, as part of the contractual agreement with the dinner theatre's management.

The loss appears to have eaten up any profits from the sale of Gay Pride materials such as tee-shirts, hats, and pins, according to Jim Welch GCS president. "We had hoped to donate profits from "ANNIE" to AIDS research going on in Florida. However, I guess we really missed the boat in gauging the community's interest in AIDS research and their ability to support a project like the theater-party. Problems in getting tickets to volunteer sellers were also to blame."

Other events during the 1983 Gay Pride celebration included the Unity Brunch which brought about 90 persons together for song, prose, and poetry concerning Gay liberation. The event was held at Daisy's Backstage and included an uproarious one-act play centering on confused sexual identity entitled "Noon". A seminar at Orlando Regional Medical Center June 22 brought several Florida experts together to discuss AIDS and its impact on the Gay community. About 180 persons attended the seminar. Four local television stations covered the event.

The "family picnic" at the local recreation area featured keg beer, a chicken bar-b-que, and lots of relaxation. Frisbees and volleyballs filled the air throughout the afternoon. Gay and Lesbian couples walked hand-in-hand or lounged in the shade of the several pavilions taken over by the picnikers, shorts, swimsuits and a variety of beautiful bodies made the event an eye-pleasing experience. Two off-duty Orlando Police officers found they had little to do in monitoring the good-natured crowd. Reports from the Orlando Sentinel and Channel 6 television were on hand to make their observations.

A variety of food and other items were on sale at the picnic. Organizations participating included Joy Metropolitan Community Church, Dignity of Orlando, the National Organization of Women, the Florida Task Force and Gay Community Services. The groups received proceeds from picnic sales to augment their operational budgets.

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A Day at The Park

At least 10 persons were arrested in Orlando's east side Langford Park during late June, on a variety of charges ranging from "being and staying in the bushes" to "lewd and lascivious actions" as police plainclothes units took to the trails. The arrest reportedly came after complaints by local residents about heavy cruising taking place in the park. Several arrest victims claimed police seemingly went out of their way to make charges, especially trespassing raps. Homosexual persons using the park for a meeting place are apt to come under heavy scrutiny from park patrols and caution should be exercised. (NDPIC/Wesley)

Cities must prepare now for growing AIDS crisis

(Editor's note-As the AIDS case load grows, America's cities and their political administrations will be forced to supply increased goods and services to AIDS victims. The cost of treatment, facilities, and education may be borne by taxpayers in many cases. Here is a report recently offered to a meeting of the nation's mayors by the National Gay Task Force. It details several areas of concern that must be faced by responsible local government during the AIDS crisis.)

Cities are at the front lines in facing the human tragedy that AIDS presents. It is to their local governments that AIDS patients and the communities most affected by AIDS are turning for assistance in meeting the challenges that this epidemic poses on a personal and community level. What follows is an outline of some of the areas where local governments can, and ultimately must, respond.

Recognition of Emergency

Particularly in cities with significant numbers of AIDS patients, a formal and public declaration of a public health emergency is necessary--to increase public awareness and to demonstrate that the city government is prepared to marshal the resources necessary to deal with this problem.

Above all, the key issue is communication--between the government and those most affected by AIDS. Without that communication, no serious effort at developing an

adequate government response can be effective. Many cities have already established *interdepartmental task forces*--comprising public and private health officials, representatives of the gay community and other affected groups, and other city officials--for the

purpose of coordinating the public and private sector response to the AIDS issue. In some instances, appointment of a specific official to deal with this crisis may be appropriate.

One of the primary issues these task forces needs to address is that of coordinating and facilitating the delivery of city services to AIDS victims. Faced with depleted financial resources, yet too ill to actively pursue through the bureaucracy state and local benefits available to them such as Medicaid, special systems needs to be created (in cooperation with AIDS support groups) to cut through the red tape.

The task forces can also become forums for sharing information and ascertaining what more can and should be done at the local level. An example of this relates to the Social Security Administration's decision to alter the definition of eligibility for disability benefits so AIDS patients will be covered. There is some concern over how those definitions will be interpreted when implemented--as well as over such issues as retroactivity, and how strictly AIDS is defined. In the administration of all benefits, city officials

Gays, Lesbians renew family spirit with Turkey Lake Gay Pride party

It was great day for a picnic. The bright Florida sun warmed the bodies of over 800 Gay and Lesbian citizens at Orlando's Turkey Lake Park, June 26. Highlighting the day was the feeling of friendship and "family" among the partyers. Men and women, young and old, children and dogs, all seemed to understand the special nature of the event, the first local, large-scale celebration of national Gay Pride Sunday. Planners are already hard at work looking toward the 1984 festivities. (Photos by F. Stewart and Jay Wesley)



Gay Central Florida

GO Sports bikers to ride for AIDS

Jocks and jockettes of all sizes are encouraged to join the growing activities of GO (Gay Organized) Sports. The recreation organization is operating under auspices of Gay Community Services of Central Florida and the program is open to all men and women.

A bicycle ride-a-thon is set for July 10. Riders taking part in the 30 mile trip are asked to secure sponsors for money pledges for miles biked. The proceeds will be given to Florida-based AIDS research, according to Bob Davis, GO Sports organizer.

Bikers are asked to gather at the east end of Lake Eola Park about 11:30 a.m. The ride will conclude in the Mont Verde area at a private home. A bring-your-own-

supplies cookout and games of volleyball will begin at 3 p.m. A pick-up wagon will aid riders unable to conclude the ride.

Non-riders are also invited to attend the cookout. Persons wanting direction to the party should come to the park when the ride starts. Maps will be distributed.

GO Sports members and friends are planning their first beach party July 16 at Lori-Wilson Park in popular Cocoa Beach. The event will start about 12 noon. Volleyball and beach games are on schedule for the outing. Picnikers are encouraged to bring their own party supplies.

Additional information concerning GO Sports activities will be posted in local Gay clubs in the weeks ahead, Davis said.



NO SWEAT-New Direction ad manager Gregg Daurrelle recently completed a session at Longwood Leisuresize under the supervision of Vince Militello right, franchise owner. Helpful assistants make the trimming experience relaxing. (NDPIC/Wesley)

'No sweat' exercise system is lazy man's delight

BY JAY WESLEY

New Direction Managing Editor

It seemed so decadent.

Lying there thinking about Hagen-Daas rum raisin while I completed the equivalent of 1,000 situps without even breaking into a sweat. Perhaps ala mode, on a piece of pecan pie.

Tucked around my stomach were three-inch rubber paddles attached by electrical cords to a machine that reminded me of a 1960's stereo amplifier. . .lots of little knobs and lights. The machine made no noise. It wasn't even plugged in. . .the low power electrical charge caressing my sagging abdomen came from rechargeable batteries hidden inside the machine. Very safe, the technician said.

Leisuresize, with several locations in Orlando, including Longwood, provided the chance to experience first-hand the latest weapon in the battle of the bulge. It was pleasurable and seemed to produce results. According to the staff's measurements, I lost a total of one and one-quarter inches off the stomach areas in just 45 minutes. My pants did feel looser.

After a horrible shock. . .weighing in. . .you're lead to a comfortable room to await your assistant. Within a few minutes after she arrived you're wired up and ready for a recharge. She adjusts the controls until you can feel a definite stimulation under the skin and yet no tremor is visible on the skin's surface.

The computer-programmed series of stimulation goes through several different modes including one called "scramble", I expected fighter pilots to come running through the room.

Trim waisted-Vince Militello, operator of the Longwood location, says his customers range in age from 17 to 70 with women using the system, 6 to 4 over men.

A sliding fee schedule based on frequency of use puts most visits in the \$15 to \$20 range. A \$1,000 unlimited use for a year plan is available to those who are both fat and wealthy.

Militello, 28, says additional machines are on the way that will add muscle bulk and perform a "face lift" using the stimulation process. A medical questionnaire must be completed before using the machines. No pacemakers or IUD's allowed. Blood pressure should also be in normal ranges.

The 28-year-old businessman said that even weightlifters and other conditioned athletes are candidates for "leisuresize". "It allows stimulation of very specific muscle groups, allowing better definition in certain areas," he claimed.

Additional information concerning the system is available by contacting Leisuresize outlets in the Orlando area. Additional program savings are available by telling the operators you learned of the program through *New Direction*.

Annual Gay/Lesbian conclave at Roderick's

The Eighth Annual Conference of Lesbians and Gay Men will be held in Miami at Roderick's, October 7-8-9, 1983.

The Conference in the past has presented such guests as Ginny Vida, Malcomb Boyd, Adam Debaugh, Barbara Grier, Rita Mae Brown, and Dennis Altman. Workshops have been given on such topics as community organizing, alternative fertilization, lobbying, and many, many others.

In addition to speakers and workshops, the Conference hosts the

Annual Membership Meeting of the Florida Task Force, at which new members of the Board of Directors are elected, and awards are given to the Woman and Man of the Year.

Plan to attend the Eighth Annual Conference in October at Roderick's in Miami.

For further information, contact the FTF office in Tallahassee, P.O. Box 10367, 32302 or call 904-224-7736.



THE LATEST T-Ricki, left, gets an earful, from Ms. Fiorucci, during the June 30 "turnabout" event at Southern Nights in Orlando. The bar staff took to the stage and the female impersonators poured drinks during the mix-up. More than \$300 was raised for Florida-based AIDS research. (NDPIC/Burns)

Lakeland MCC needs study will chart church role

LAKELAND — The Florida District of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches has authorized a feasibility study as a preliminary to forming a Lakeland-Winter Haven area congregation.

Worship Coordinator Mary Merriman recently met with a group of individuals who are seeking to establish a local MCC to explain the workings of the denomination and its potential as a positive

influence for the gay and lesbian community in Polk County. Because of the enthusiastic response, MCC organizers are confident that they will obtain study group status soon. Twelve signatures are needed to obtain that goal. Local supporters are hoping to reach mission status within six months, and become a fully chartered church within the year.

For information on MCC activities in the Lakeland area, write to: P.O. Box 3201, Lakeland, FL 33802.

Jewish Gays plan Miami conference in August

The 8th International Conference of Gay and Lesbian Jews will be held in Miami, Florida, August 4th through 7th, 1983.

The work "Miami" when transliterated into Hebrew, becomes "Mi-Ami" and means "Who Are My People?" This fortunate coincidence provides a theme for the Conference which asks, "Who Are My People?"—as Jews, as Gays and Lesbians, and as responsible adults.

This year's contereas will be afforded the opportunity to participate in new, creative workshops, led by authorities from both South Florida and the World.

For registration information, contact: The 8th International Conference Committee, 19094 West Dixie Highway, North Miami Beach, Florida 33180.

Toutant named 'Nastiest' bartender

Parliament House bartender Gregg Toutant recently won top central Florida honors as the area's "nastiest" bartender. Toutant, representing members of the local Gay community spearheaded efforts to raise over \$4,000 for the local chapter of the Leukemia Society. The annual turnabout night at the Orlando club, coupled with several large private gifts, resulted in Toutant's total far surpassing the efforts of other area taverns and clubs. Toutant also sits on the fund-raising committee of the leukemia group. Toutant, pictured right during his turnabout performance, has worked as a volunteer for the contest since its inception several years ago. (Photo by Jay Wesley)



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Gay leaders need muscle-building

CENTRAL FLORIDA'S RECENT EFFORTS IN CELEBRATING GAY PRIDE WEEK suffered from the same stifling disease that many volunteer efforts manifest... a lack of citizen muscle. This problem, unless cured in the months ahead, could result in a stunted, lackluster Gay and Lesbian community at a time when a strapping, brawny, vigorous effort is needed.

Too much work was done by two few people and resulted in too many Gay Pride projects going half-completed. The turnout at the Gay Pride picnic was impressive and perhaps indicative of the true numbers in our community who are willing to, in some degree, come out. But other Gay Pride projects were unsuccessful because of failed leadership and disorganization.

Despite the pronouncements concerning a strengthening Gay community, GCS has failed to launch a viable membership campaign. Despite the growing impact of its monthly publication, *NEW DIRECTION*, no real effort is being made to collect advertising revenues past due. Despite operation of a 24 hour crisis and information telephone service, the line could be severed any day because of GCS's inability to keep a positive cash flow.

If, when the final tally is taken, the week's activities resulted in a financial deficit, much of the blame can be laid at the feet of Gay Community Services Inc. (GCS) and its lack of sound financial policy. This group has shown real weakness in money matters, both in the area of income development and cost control.

WE ASK FOR A REDEDICATION OF GAY COMMUNITY SERVICES and its officers to putting muscle and membership on the skeletal organization. One of the things GCS could do to aid this plan is to move its monthly meeting from a local entertainment complex, the Parliament House, to a meeting space where all segments of the Gay and Lesbian community could feel comfortable and "politically correct".

While the bars and taverns have long played an important part in Gay life, many persons would see the political and social efforts toward "community" coming from a "non-bar direction".

Gay Community Services must also make a serious outreach to the Lesbian community. There is great power with the women in this area and the large number of women participating in the recent Gay Pride activities prove they are interested in building a better way of life here in central Florida.

New Direction also encourages the immediate formation of the 1984 Gay Pride steering committee. It should be composed of the several organizations serving Gay citizens in this area including religious and non-secular groups. Their early start in planning will help to prevent shortfalls in the program in 1984, the fifteenth anniversary of the Stonewall "rebellion."

IF PRIDE IN SELF COMES FROM PERSONAL GROWTH and growth is a result of careful nurturing, then the newly-sprouted seedling of central Florida's Gay Pride must receive the most attentive of care. It is the role of GCS and similar groups to provide the best possible growing climate, an environment of rededication to cause and the application of sound business and membership practices in the months ahead.

Editor's Notebook

Shedding tears, dispelling fears, arresting queers

BY JAY WESLEY
New Direction Managing Editor

Many reflections concerning last month's Gay Pride Week celebration still linger. Especially strong are the feelings of excitement and satisfaction when I crested the small hill at **Turkey Lake Park** and saw all the great and beautiful people enjoying the fun around the picnic pavilion. My heart was as light as the frisbees which floated on the summer air above the crowd.

Another great memory is the tears of exhilaration and "coming home" that I shed during the June 19 **Unity Brunch**. Singing "We Shall Overcome" with that band of men and women seemed almost like an initiation into a select band of people who have turned that song into a reality in many ways. "We are not afraid" the lyrics said... and we were not.



As editor of *New Direction*, I have been privileged to work with many local media persons, especially in the breaking new story about AIDS and its impact on central Florida. By-and-large, I have been impressed with the even-handed coverage the AIDS crisis is getting locally.

At least two local television stations have gone out of their way to produce intelligent, concise reports on AIDS and helped to dispell much of the panic and unjustified fear of people, Gay or straight, concerning transmission of the disease. Several local radio stations have also shown their community commitment by doing in-depth reporting on the AIDS crisis.

I believe that the Gay community, in part through the efforts of *New Direction*, is building strong bridges to the media and ultimately to the listening, reading, and viewing public. The work should continue.



Police action in **Langford Park** against homosexuals using the area for a meeting place seems to stem from irate local residents complaining about the heavy cruise scene. However, I am also checking out reports that action came as a result of a directive from Mayor Bill Frederick, perhaps in response to "heat" he received after an **Orlando Sentinel** article about his apparent refusal to declare Gay and Lesbian Citizens Day.

While carrying reports of the arrests, the *Sentinel* also reported that the heavily-overworked city prosecutor is failing to begin court action against first time offenders in misdemeanors like (park) trespassing, solicitation or assignation for sex, and prostitution. The city's legal department apparently feels that such offenses by first-timers are best handled by pre-trial diversion techniques or just dropping the charges altogether to save time or money.

Writer claims Gays wrong in seeking park sex acts

BY SCOTT DRAKE
Special to *New Direction*

Several men of various ages were arrested in Orlando park for assorted reasons, the most common being "lewd and lascivious behavior". The press report I read was very clear on the circumstances of the case and I have no arguments to the effect of what happened. What I'm concerned about is, Why?

A couple of friends read about the arrests and immediately I head muttering of "discrimination" and "not fair". Garbage. No one has the right to do that stuff (public sex) in a public park. Two men were reportedly having sex in the bushes. Two others reportedly propositioned officers. If heterosexual couples were caught propositioning or having sex then they would have been treated the same way. It's still illegal whichever way it goes.

If we want to be treated as equals in a heterosexual society, then lets at least be somewhat rational in our approach. Items like this only cause detriment to our progress in acceptance. The state of Florida does not "in a legal sense" allow any sexual acts except those of a man and a woman in the "missionary position". In all legality, any one of us could be arrested for someone we bring home for the night from the bar or sleeping with our lovers. It's against the law. And the law has been pretty fair about not attacking us at home.

So why out in the open? It's a bit ridiculous taunting the police like that. Use a little common sense.

On the other hand, with the coverage of herpes and now AIDS, why would you want to expose yourself to even more risk than necessary? A person obviously cannot get to know someone in a quick meeting at the park. At least in a club or bar or other meeting situation you can have a chance to "check him out".

Discretion is the better part of valor. Lets keep our heads high through these times.

The government will provide the public and the medical community with up-to-date information on AIDS, the deadly immune system disease, through a toll-free hot line and two new publications.

The hot line will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EDT daily. The number is 800-342-AIDS. Callers from Alaska and Hawaii may phone collect to a separate number, (202)-245-6867. Public Health Service employees will answer the calls and make referrals if necessary.

Health and Human Services Secretary Margaret Heckler said a leaflet called *Facts on AIDS* is now available to the public, and will be updated as new information becomes available.

It may be obtained, free of charge, by writing to the Public Health Service, Office of Public Affairs, Room 721-H, 200 Independence Ave. S.W., Washington, D.C. 20201.

A separate publication, called *AIDS Information Bulletin* will be sent on the first and third Mondays every month to health professionals, researchers, state and local officials and other groups interested in developments connected with the disease. It will contain information on government projects on the cause and treatment of AIDS.

Acquired immune deficiency syndrome has affected more than 1,600 Americans and killed more than 600. Its principal victims are homosexual and bisexual men with multiple sex partners, intravenous drug abusers, recent Haitian emigrants and hemophiliacs.

It leaves the body vulnerable to a variety of infections.

The government plans to spend \$14 million on AIDS projects this year.



Perhaps you'll notice the large two-page advertising spread for **south Florida resort businesses** that has appeared in recent issues. People in Key West feel that the Orlando market is where the action is, and they want it to see their message. We're very proud to have the ads and hope it is just the start of bigger and better things.

One other thing our friends in south Florida told us...they can't believe *New Direction* is the output of an all-volunteer staff. It is...and you can be part of the staff too. Call us at 843-4297 for more information.



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Newsline and information by calling (305) THE GAYS

Cuisine Queen



KELLY'S

★★★

BY CURT BOCKES

New Direction Staff Writer

Everytime one turns around, it seems a new restaurant catering to the "American craze" has opened. The craze includes fried finger-snacks, innovative burgers, and salad variations. Quick and simple dishes, yet appealing to American taste and life-style. Sometimes all it takes for success with such a venture is prime location and a drink gimmick to draw a lush clientele; plus reasonable food, of course.

Kelly's, in Fashion Square, was a new experience. Rarely do I dine in mall restaurants. Watching through the windows, the shoppers scurrying by somehow reminded me of Christmas time. Northern nostalgia, I guess. But in June? And the scenery: I thought I was at the wharf. Malls are just too public for my quiet nature.

People watching may be needed to keep one's mind occupied while waiting to munch. I noticed a few customers having plenty of time to pass. Some even passed through the door, leaving before a server approached them. But that was at a very busy time and I'm sure not indicative of regular service. Mine was prompt. I was lucky to get very efficient waitresses. To be safe, go with time to spare and to relax.

Munchie lovers will feast. Cheese and beer soup, Firehouse chili, fried mushrooms, a fried vegetable platter, chicken and steak fingers. Burgers, salads, nachos, and potato skins. Kelly's has them all.

Cheese lover that I am, Kelly's cheese and beer soup was a necessity. Thick cheddar with pimentos and slightly crunchy green onions and beer you don't actually

taste make an almost complete meal. Be adventurous. How often do you get to try cheese soup?

Health-minded folks can choose either the spinach salad or fruit plate. I opted for the seafood salad--the naval presence was just too strong to resist. The salad is presented in a unique manner. Rising from one side of the plate is a crispy thin, flaky dough crust, suggesting an open clam shell. Basically lacking in quality as well as quantity, it's aesthetical value may be greater than taste appeasing. The baby shrimp and crabmeat were not fresh and they lacked enthusiasm. Cucumbers were missing too.

The potato skins were a treat. Kelly's skins out-mmmmed the pizza skins and and bacon skins. Kelly's Skins consist of chicken mix, provolone cheese and mushrooms. They're divine as an appetizer.

It's chic for real men to eat quiche now, so I ventured forth with Kelly's favorite. As the menu states, it's "a delightful combination of chicken, broccoli, Swiss cheese, and fresh eggs." I agree.

Other available dinners include Polynesian Chicken, Kelly's Chopper (ground beef), steak and chicken finger dinners, either as a combo or individual dinner. All meals are modestly priced, most will leave you satisfied.

Dessert couldn't be resisted. Mud pie, a disgusting but deceptive name. A chocolate cookie crust filled with coffee ice cream and topped with chocolate fudge. It's a murky way to foil anyone's diet.

Kelly's has both positive and negative aspects. Curtly, I wouldn't go out of my way to dine there. But honestly, when in the mall, I could be persuaded to venture in again.

Women's AIDS Network forming

About 25 women joined together at the Fifth Lesbian and Gay Health Conference held in Denver in June to form the Women's AIDS Network. The women who joined are involved in providing care to persons with AIDS. In the group's founding statement, the Women's AIDS Network stated, "As women, lesbian and heterosexual, we have much to share, much to offer, much to teach, much to learn."

The group also faces the personal issue of diseases of their male friends as well as the social issue of being isolated in the lesbian community for working to fight AIDS. The statement also said "as women working within predominantly male groups dealing with AIDS, we once again face invisibility and sexism."

The group plans to be involved in

education, support and political action, including education about AIDS to the lesbian and feminist communities. Laurie Hauer, RN, a worker in San Francisco General Hospital's AIDS Clinic, convened the group's first meeting. Hauser pointed out that women have been working at all levels of the AIDS crisis since its beginning and deserve to be included as equal participants in policy, fund-raising and any ongoing work of organizations working on AIDS. Says Hauer, "I see this as a very important way of unifying the men's and women's communities, one of the positive aspects of this crisis."

The Women's AIDS Network can be contacted by writing in care of the Cascade AIDS Project, 2702 N.E. Clackamas, Portland, OR 97232.

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To Your HEALTH

BY DANIEL CANALY
New Direction Staff Writer

When speaking with one of the physicians I'll be using as a consultant, I asked if there was an especially frequent question or inquiry made by his patients which might make for an interesting column. I was told it's not the questions asked, but rather those not asked, that are far more common.

My consultant maintains that regardless of the circumstances, whether speaking with a patient during office hours or friends socially, most people are not only uninformed, but even irresponsible and reckless, when it comes to the simplest of health matters. Not complicated, involved health concerns, but the basics; nutrition, exercise, and rest.

He suggested this might be a good time to reiterate that good overall health is always important, but is even more so with threats such as A.I.D.S. present. Although the cause if A.I.D.S. remains undetermined at this time, a healthy person is always less susceptible to disease than someone in poor health.

The so-called "fast" lifestyle of fast foods, fad diets, late nights, alcohol, and especially, recreational drugs, prevent the body from functioning at it's best, leaving it wide open to invasion by disease and illness. Proper eating, exercise, and rest routines must be planned, then maintained, to promote good health and prevent sickness.

Minimal consumption of alcohol and other drugs is both important and wise. The absolute necessity of regular and thorough physical examinations by a qualified physician can never be over emphasized. Such examinations are not only important in the prevention of disease, but early detection of an existing disorder.

Most everyone has the potential to function as their peak level of health if they utilize a small amount of common sense and discipline. Take the time to examine your lifestyle and priorities. The time to begin caring for your health is before, not after, problems arise.

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Metropolitan Community Church conclave slated for Toronto

Over 1000 members and friends of the oldest and largest Christian organization ministering to Lesbians and Gay Men are attending the 11th Biennial General Conference of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, July 11-17, 1983. The U.F.M.C.C. has made headlines recently by its application of join the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. (NCCCUSA).

The Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UF-MCC), a world-wide Christian Church founded in 1968 by Reverend Troy D. Perry, will open its General Conference XI at the University of Toronto.

Pastor Nancy Radclyffe of Orlando's Joy MCC is attending.

Though the U.F.M.C.C. is an international Fellowship with congregations in 11 countries, this is the first time its General Conference will be held outside the United States. It will bring together Christians from not only the United States

and Canada, but also from Great Britain, Denmark, Australia, New Zealand, Mexico and other countries, many of whom are noted activists for Lesbian/Gay rights in their home country.

The Conference will feature two major outside speakers, Dr. Virginia R. Mollenkott evangelical Christian feminist, and George Hislop, one of the founders of the Gay/Lesbian movement in Canada and recipient of U.F.M.C.C.'s Human Rights Award for 1983.

The controversial Universal Fellowship's application to join the National Council of Churches will be the subject of a special media briefing on Friday, July 15 by the co-Directors of the U.F.M.C.C.'s Department of Ecumenical Relations. The Conference theme is "Many Gifts One Spirit," drawn from I Corinthians 12:4-6, "There is a variety of gifts but always the same spirit. . ." The schedule of the Conference will give ample opportunity for the U.F.M.C.C. to share its many gifts in the one spirit.



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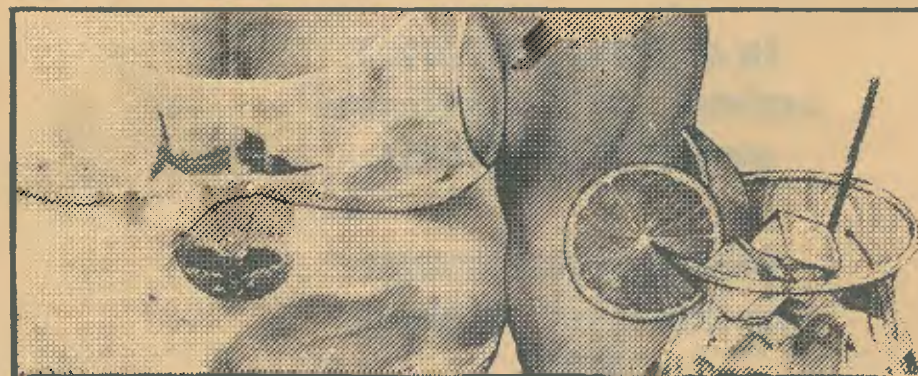
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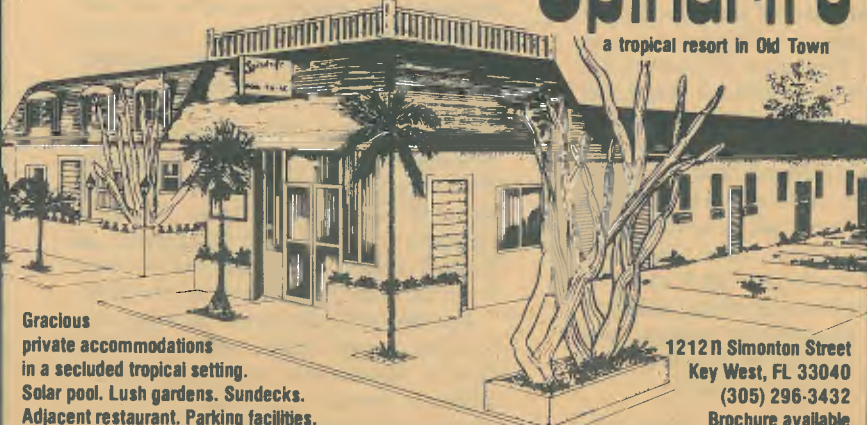
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Sexual practices, ethics linked in AIDS prevention

BY PHIL NASH

Special to New Direction

Formally and informally, sex was a major item of discussion at a number of workshops during "Health Pioneering in the 80's" in Denver recently.

Several individuals and organizations took the opportunity of the conference to distribute booklets and leaflets outlining risk reduction guidelines for gay male sexual activities. At least two workshops made sexual behavior and ethical conduct the focus of their discussions. Both generated intense arguments over the differing theories of AIDS epidemiology which most considered fundamental information needed to give any kind of advice about safe sexual activity.

The most prevalent guidelines issued to date are traceable to the Centers for Disease Control which says that gay men can reduce their chances for infection by reducing the number of different sex partners they have. That advice is based on the CDC's yet unproven hypothesis that AIDS is caused by a new virus that could be transmitted in a single sexual contact with a person who is infected and probably doesn't know it. The infecting agent is believed to be passed on in certain body fluids, including semen, blood, feces and urine. There is little belief that it could be transmitted in saliva or in sweat, although some possibly homophobic policies have been adopted out of fear of transmission of AIDS through such casual contact.

Another theory about AIDS transmission is the "multi-factorial" eroding away of the immune system over time, a possible, but not well-established theory which some gay men with AIDS discussed at the conference. That theory states that repeated exposure to high doses of viruses and other infectious agents over a long period of time may cause "immune overload", or tax the immune system beyond its capability to ward off infections. One agent present in the semen of many gay men is cytomegalovirus (CMV) which has frequently been seen in AIDS patients, and is a significant factor in the multi-factorial theory of how AIDS develops.

Regardless of the differences in the theories, guidelines for sexual behavior are similar among people who believe either one—it is not sex that makes people sick; it is diseases. With that in mind, several sets of recommendations have been published which down-play the importance of

reducing the number of partners a person has, emphasizing the kinds of sex that gay men have and how they can change their sexual habits to safeguard their health.

Since body fluids (excluding saliva and sweat, which are not thought to be significant transmitters of the suspected agents) are the likely carriers of disease, persons who do not take precautions against exchanging semen, urine, blood or feces during sex are at high risk if they have many different partners. Usually, persons who seek many different partners find partners who also have many other partners, so the risk is greatly increased. Dr. James Curran who monitors AIDS research at the CDC in Atlanta predicts that gay men with many different partners will continue to be the most significantly affected group in the AIDS epidemic.

But there are many ways gay men can continue to be sexually active with a number of other partners if they take certain precautions, according to two pamphlets distributed at the health conference.

One is entitled "Guidelines for AIDS Risk Reduction" which is published by Bay Area Physicians For Human Rights, and the other is "How to Have Sex in an Epidemic", by Richard Berkowitz and Michael Callen and published by News From the Front Publications in New York.

The BAPHR publication takes no stand on what causes AIDS, while the NFTF booklet advances the belief that AIDS is related to immune suppression caused by repeated infection with CMV.

Some highlights of the pamphlets emphasize similar ways to cut down on sexual risks:

- choose partners who are in good health and avoid those who will not openly discuss any matters about their health or do not respect your concern for yours;
- use condoms during anal-receptive intercourse to protect yourself from the possible infections from your partner's semen entering your bloodstream through tiny tears in the rectal lining;
- avoid fisting because of the great danger of tearing and consequent blood infection in both partners;
- do not ingest feces or urine or allow them to touch open wounds, and to be sure, always wash after rectal intercourse to avoid mistakenly con-

taminating yourself or your partner;

- use plenty of lubrication in rectal intercourse to avoid friction and tearing;
- do not use other people's sex toys that may be contaminated with their blood, feces, or urine, or that of their partners.

While differences of opinion surfaced in discussions of changing gay male behavior, many men in the groups said they felt relieved that many of their previous sexual demands were eliminated by their reactions to AIDS. One man discussed his participation in a private club for men who enjoy mutual masturbation, a practice that involves virtually no risk for AIDS or any other sexually transmitted disease.

While some men demonstrated grief over sex practices they felt forced to give up and others felt they had been allowed to explore

new avenues of sexual creativity, and still others argued that no guidelines could be formulated at this time since no absolute information is known, there was an area in which virtually all participants agreed: a gay man's sexuality, however he chooses to define it, is his own responsibility. The only truly ethical role for health care providers is to give gay men information they need to make decisions for themselves and provide supportive environments in which men who wish to change behaviors can do so without losing a positive sense about being gay or self-esteem about the way they live and love.

To receive the pamphlets detailing sexual practices guidelines, write to: BAPHR, P.O. Box 14546, San Francisco, CA 94114, or News From the Front Publications, c/o P.O. Box 106, 70 Greenwich Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10011. A \$3.00 donation is requested for the latter booklet.

FOTO/FAX!

Compiled by Timothy Burns

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Bylli Van Gaasbeck

Bylli Van Gaasbeck, ALIAS: None, OCCUPATION: Door-man/Host, HEIGHT: 6'1", WEIGHT: 170 lbs., CHEST: 44, HAIR COLOR: D. Brown, EYE COLOR: Brown, BIRTH-DATE: Feb. 13, 1952, BIRTHPLACE: Staten Island, N.Y., RAISED: N.Y., California, Canada, BROTHERS: 3, SISTERS: 0 Bylli is oldest, ZODIAC SIGN: Aquarius, FAVORITE FOODS: Mexican, Chinese, FAVORITE BEVERAGES: Double 151 and Coke, FAVORITE NIGHT SPOT: Southern Nights, FAVORITE T.V. SHOWS: MTV, FAVORITE MOVIES: E.T., Victor/Victoria, On Golden Pond, FAVORITE ACTOR: Spencer Tracy, FAVORITE ACTRESS: Katherine Hepburn, FAVORITE MUSIC: Female Vocalists, FAVORITE MUSICIAN: Shirley Bassey, FAVORITE COLORS: Black & Red together, TURN-ONS: My Lover Ryan, TURN-OFFS: People Who Are Too Drugged Out, PET PEEVES: Cheats, Liars, Thieves (Usually If You're One, You're All!), PEOPLE YOU'RE TIRED OF HEARING ABOUT: James Watt, The Prince and Di, FAVORITE PHRASE: "Rest", LEAST FAVORITE PHRASE: Hi! How Are You?, FAVORITE VACATION PLACE: Key West, YOUR LIFES AMBITION: To Operate the Best Gay Bar Ever.



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Kevin Bunner, ALIAS: Vera, Cruz Alexis, Mr. Gay Orlando, OCCUPATION: Waiter, HEIGHT: 5'7", WEIGHT: 138 lbs., CHEST: 34 1/2", HAIR COLOR: Brown, EYE COLOR: Hazel to Brown, BIRTHDATE: 10/29/54, BIRTHPLACE: Ft. Meade, MD., RAISED: Along the East Coast, BROTHERS: 2, SISTERS: 1, Kevin is the middle, ZODIAC SIGN: Scorpio, FAVORITE FOODS: Pork Chops, Baked Potatoes, Broccoli, FAVORITE BEVERAGES: Strawberry Margarita's, J.D. Coke (Tall), FAVORITE NIGHT SPOT: Any Dance Floor, FAVORITE T.V. SHOWS: Loveboat, Dynasty, FAVORITE MOVIES: Ben Hur, E.T., FAVORITE ACTOR: Danny Kay, FAVORITE ACTRESS: Betty Davis, FAVORITE MUSIC: I have no favorite I enjoy it all from country to classical music, FAVORITE COLORS: Purple, TURN-ONS: Good looking versatility and down to earth open-minded people!, TURN-OFFS: Older men, pushy, rude drag queens, PET PEEVES: Attitudes because everyone has it!, FAVORITE PHRASE: I love you because you're you, LEAST FAVORITE PHRASE: Hey thanks, what was your name again, FAVORITE VACATION PLACE: Key West, YOUR LIFES AMBITION: To become happier with myself so I can make other people happier too!

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 - R Restaurant
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- Downside Club (L) 415 Main St. - 252-5485
- The Landmark (L-E-R-H) 615 Main St. - 252-3776
- Yum Yum Tree (L-E) 701 Ridgewood Ave. - 253-5811
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What's a Peter Pan?

Rip Taylor's Hook has great comic twist

BY DANNY VAZQUEZ
New Direction Staff Writer

I met Rip Taylor in his dressing room at the Bob Carr Performing Arts Centre. He had just completed the afternoon performance of "Peter Pan" in which he portrays the villainous Captain Hook.

ND: Could you tell me a little about the \$1.98 show, in which you portrayed a wacky but funny host?

Rip: I loved the \$1.98 show and the public liked it. We were No. 5 in the country.

ND: What became of the show?

Rip: Chuck Barris took it off the air because somebody insulted him, personally in the network. He took 18 hours of television off the air. He's now retired with 32 million dollars in cash. He did it all on his own. We weren't cancelled. We were No. 5 in the country. I'm making a face, because I miss it. I was on every week and I was a household word.

ND: Did the winner receive just \$1.98?

Rip: No! Each person got \$500.00. We never told the people at home though. Everyone in the world would want to be on it. We got every freak in America. Oh you saw the show! One girl was a *contortionist*, had a heart attack, and died in her own arms.

ND: I remember a pair of twins who seemed to grace the show semiregularly.

Rip: Yes. . . . They were close to Chuck.

ND: Chuck Barris also had a lot of "freaks" on the Gong Show. What was the best talent that came out of his show?

Rip: I think the greatest thing that came out was Jaye P. Morgan. She had no career for the longest time and he had a *resurgence* with her. She was *outrageous*! She would open up her blouse and flash and we have to cut the tape. *STOP!* She's flashing away. I'd say, "Wait a minute please. Its not pretty." You've seen one, you've seen both.

At this time, Rip showed us his costumes for Peter Pan, some of which were so heavy, I was amazed that he could move around on stage with it on. Rip was amazed that he could too. . . .

ND: Have you heard anything about Michael Jackson doing the screen version of Peter Pan.

Rip: (With a sly grin) I imagine he would!

ND: Did they ever ask Mary Martin to return to her role as the original Peter Pan?

Rip: No. . . . They wanted to do something else. She's so elderly! You'd need *grappling* hooks to pick her up.



Rip Taylor, right, gets a hold of New Direction interviewer Danny Vazquez during a backstage visit to "Peter Pan."

ND: How did Peter Pan come about? How long have you been touring with it and how did you get selected for the role?

Rip: They came to me. I was doing my nightclub act at the St. Regis in New York, and at the time I was going to do one of the leads in "La Cage Aux Folles" on Broadway. And they gave it to Gene Barry. I was devastated. So I decided to do Peter Pan for 5 weeks. I've been doing it now for six months! !

ND: Are you ready to move on to other projects I presume?

Rip: Thank you! So we close this in 5 weeks and then I go back to my nightclub act. I open in Las Vegas at the Riviera with Joan Rivers and the Village People. And so every freak in America will come again and see us.

Musical Youth, Summer to join musical forces

BY DANNY VAZQUEZ
New Direction Staff Writer

We have received news that reggae conscious **Musical Youth** will be collaborating with **Donna Summer** on her new LP. They have written a song that will appear on her next album. If the tough guys in **Michael Jackson's** video of "Beat It" look original, its because they are. Jackson used authentic urban street gang members among the cast for the clip, which turns into a "West Side Story" dance number.

Stevie Wonder and 14 guests had a great night on the town recently at the "La Cage Aux Folles" dinner club in West Hollywood. Stevie enjoyed himself so much he stayed on for the cocktail show. Master of Ceremonies **Gypsy** described

each of the female Impersonator's acts and costumes for him. During the break between shows **Wonder** commandeered the piano bar and sang four of his hit songs.

Stanley Clark who occasionally teams up with **George Duke** is taking on some new musical responsibilities. He's acting as producer for **Natalie Cole's** next album, which is being recorded on the Epic label.

Rita Coolidge has been chosen by producer **Albert Broccoli** to sing "All Time High" the theme from the latest James Bond movie "Octopussy". Music is by Bond veteran **John Barry** and lyrics by **Tim Rice**. **A & M Records** has released "All Time High" as a single. Top tunes from yesteryear have been revived again, and again, and now once again, **Brooke Shields**, who's been taking vocal lessons

for the last year or so from coach **Andy Anselmo**, plans to cut a video disc of songs from the 1940's.

Donna Summer look out! **Irene Cara** has once again placed another notch on the crown of **Donna Summer** as Queen of the Disco/Dance clubs with her current #1 single "Flashdance/What a Feeling". (5 consecutive weeks at #1) **Flashdance** has the same punch and feeling as her last hit "Fame". With the disappointing reviews of her debut album "Anyone Can See", this should bring **Irene** back to the top, and nominations are already predicted for "Song of the Year". Available on **Casablanca Records** and **Tapes** and produced by "who else" but **Donna Summer's** ex-producer **Giorgio Mroder**.

Speaking of **Donna Summer**, not to be outdone, she takes another step in her already legendary career with her modern

pop/dance production, "She Works Hard for the Money", by **Michael Omartian** of **Christopher Cross** fame. This first single release which is also the album title track is an excellent production both musically and vocally. The new album, on **Polygram Records**, is scheduled to ship in July. **Donna** is truly working "Hard for her Money" this time around. Good Luck!

Dolly Parton's Burlap and Satin is without a doubt her most satisfying album in some time. It's well titled too, because she glides silkily between pop and the kind of country her superstar career had originated. There are six **Parton** originals and **Producer Gregg Perry's** arrangements are beautiful but soulful and the single, "Potential New Boyfriend" should prove to rank as one of **Parton's** best. Available on **RCA Records** and **Tapes**.

Yaz, Lipp Inc. among groups showing new musical strength

Yaz - "State Farm"

One of Britain's more electric bands, **Yaz** gives us another example of their celebrated high energy, electric funk music.

Sara Dash - "Low Down Dirty Rythm"

Former **Labelle** member belts out her soulful voice to make you "feel that low down dirty rythm". Nice background vocals and orchestration add to this up tempoed spiritual.

Lipps Inc. - "Four"

Contains more of their driving dance sound and again produced by lead **Steve Greenburg**.

Dolly Parton - "Potential New Boyfriend"

Black and Dance fans will enjoy this different but consistent tune from the Queen of country pop.

Diana Ross - "Pieces of Ice"

Producer Gary Katz (**Steely Dan**) gives the "Boss" a distinctive and somewhat custom well-built creation.

Midnight Star - "Freakazoid"

This sick, electronic synthesized sound is a dynamic and authoritative sound.

The B-52s - "Whammy"

Same pulsating, high impact music that will plaster you against the backwall.

Karen Kamon - "Manhunt"

From the **Flashdance Original Soundtrack**, **Phil Ramone** takes production honors and considered best cut in my opinion.

June Pointer - "Ready For Some Action"

Produced by **Norman Whitfield** on the comeback

Michael Sembello - "Maniac"

Another production from **Flashdance**

Sister Sledge - "Betcha Say that to all the Girls"

The brassy funk title track featuring **Al Jarreau's** clever rap!

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.



NIGHTCLUBBING

with Zi

Phew, talk about hot. . . Zi has had to put on fresh linens everyday. A girl cannot be too safe. July is just too much. . . too much sun, too much heat and too much partying. Let's have a quick look at what Zi's ears have heard.

★★ ★★ ★★ ★★

Darryl Lanza surprised just about everyone by bringing home the title of **Mr. Florida** (Gay, that is) for his sponsor **The Parliament House**. Rumors are flying that a rather close association with a certain Tampa nightclubber didn't hurt Darryl's chances in snatching the crown. He the first major winner for the P-House in recent years. Lanza has referred all interview requests (?) to stage mentor **David Scott**. And to think, we knew him when he was just a runner-up.

★★ ★★ ★★ ★★

Criss Cross recently enjoyed a dressing room chat with charter actor **Rip Taylor** during his Orlando production of "Peter Pan". Seems like Criss knew Taylor on the West Coast. Despite all efforts, Cross was unable to get the secret of flying out of Taylor, despite several attempts to get high. Cross denied rumors that until his chat with "Captain Hook", he'd always thought Peter Pan was a surgical instrument.

* * *

They're everywhere, they're everywhere. . . While resort security forces are remaining tight-lipped around the Parliament House, Zi has discovered a very juicy leak. Seems like a local television personality was recently discovered handcuffed "au natural" to a bedstead at the popular resort. My source said the starchild was found in a spread-eagle position. How patriotic. Film at 11.

★★ ★★ ★★ ★★

The rumor mill continues to churn out speculation of a major change at attitude and operations at **Daisy's Backstage** in downtown Orlando. Look for a management shakeup if the proposed takeover blooms.

★★ ★★ ★★ ★★

It's the clear mountain water. That's one explanation for the disappearance of local tavern owner **Wally Wood** of Loading Dock and Odds and Ends fame. Since the sale of Coors beer started in this region, Wood seemed to have a growing interest in Colorado, among other things at the bar. Longtime friend and business partner Jimmy remains in charge while Wally follows his star. Some local wags are betting on **the return of the Wali**.



TALENT EXPLOSION-Heavy Duty, looking like an explosion in a department store merchandizing department, adds gusto to the recent performance of "The Gay Whiz" at Orlando's Southern Nights. The show was produced by Geraldine Jones and Company as part of recent Gay Pride celebrations. Ms. Duty played the wicked witch and showed unusual talent with a bull whip. The talented performer said that her magical costume was the work of "a bunch of fairies who stayed up all night. . . it's not easy to sew when you're hallucinating." (POTSHOT by Zi)

Community spotlight

Dentist eagerly fills life with variety

BY DANIEL CANALY
New Direction Staff Writer

When *New Direction* decided to begin profiling active members of our community, we didn't have to search long for our first subject. Successful, diversified, and personable, Dr. Kenneth Pyle possesses the necessary attributes.

Not the stereotypical professional/business person, there are many sides to Ken Pyle. Along with his successful and expanding cosmetic dental practice, he owns and flies a Bonanza A-36 aircraft and is currently remodeling his home, doing the construction and carpentry himself.

"I become bored rather quickly, causing me to maintain an unusually high activity level. I don't like to feel stagnated or as if I'm in a rut, so I pursue things that present a challenge. I have to feel as if I'm achieving something at all times."

Challenge is the perfect word to describe Pyle's life. Born in Texas and reared in Ohio, he worked his way through Kent State University as, among other things, a U.S. mail carrier, trouble-shooter on a Hawk Missile site, and a bus driver. He graduated with honors in 1967 with a B.A. in Chemistry, Biology and Physics.

While at Kent, Pyle took part in a research program to develop a bionic hand. He applied for, and received, three U.S. patents for his developments, which he later sold to major corporations. The royalties from these sales went into a trust fund for the Native American Foundation. As of 1980, the assets of that trust totalled well over a million dollars.

Ken claims he gave the money to the foundation to promote his own future as well as the recipients. "I still had a great many things I wanted to accomplish at that time, and thought if I kept the money I wouldn't try as hard. I'd have a crutch, so to speak."

Entering Ohio State University in the fall of 1967, Pyle also joined the U.S. Navy Reserves, serving 4 years as Ensign. In his

third year at OSU, he organized a program to provide dentistry to 300 children at the county orphanage. Using equipment and students from the dental school, the program received national television coverage as well as state wide attention.

Upon graduation, Pyle entered active service in the Navy as a Lieutenant, serving in Orlando. Honorably discharged in 1974, he decided to stay in the Orlando area, settling in Winter Park. He began practicing family dentistry in Goldenrod.

Moving his practice to Orlando in 1977, Pyle's practice still provides family dentistry, but the emphasis is now on cosmetic procedures.

"It was really a process of elimination. I tried a great many things - I even joined the Navy, before deciding to become a dentist. I found it to offer the most rewards, professionally, financially, and creatively," Pyle said.

Pyle explains that his profession, more specifically cosmetic dentistry, goes much further than just treating teeth. "At times the amount of difference a cosmetic procedure can make in a person's self-image can amaze even me. I truly believe that the way we perceive ourselves directly influences the way in which others perceive us. Through my profession, I'm able to help people feel better about themselves."

Within the last couple of years, Pyle's career has received a great deal of media attention. Along with his weekly column in the *Orlando Sentinel*, he regularly appears on radio and television, including PM Magazine.

Having given so much of his time to his career in the past, Pyle says his priorities are changing. "Albeit, I'll never become lax about my work, I would like to begin to enjoy the "fruits of my labor," so to speak. Activities such as flying, that I really enjoy, have had to take a back seat in the past. I'd like to change that now. When I finish my house, I want to be able to use it and enjoy it. I definitely plan to set aside more time for entertaining and leisure."



Dr. Ken Pyle is reaching for new heights in his varied career and life pursuits

One of the things Pyle plans to do more of is travel. Having traveled the U.S. quite extensively, he also visits Europe annually, and regularly flies his plane to the Bahamas and other areas of the Caribbean.

As for his other interests, Pyle confesses to a fascination with 'gadgets', especially those with lots of knobs and dials. Some of his 'gadgets', specifically his home video and stereo equipment, will be placed in a special media room he is constructing in his home.

"I'm a movie addict, but unfortunately, time doesn't permit me to attend many at a theatre. So I've decided to acquire my own film library, and show them at home, for

myself and friends. This way I'll be able to socialize, which is another activity I don't have much time for, and enjoy my favorite movies."

When I asked if there was anything he wished to change or add to his life in the near future, Pyle seemed thoughtful for a moment. "I'm enjoying my life at the present and if anything, I wish to enjoy it more. There are certainly things I still wish to accomplish, but I feel very good about the life I've made for myself. Sometimes I'm Dr. Pyle the dentist, sometimes Ken Pyle the pilot, and sometimes I'm just plain Ken."

Burger beautiful . . . the search continues

BY F. STEWART
New Direction Staff Writer

The local newspaper has its own gourmet diner and local television stations put on a review of the better restaurants, however if you are like I am, you cannot afford the champagne taste on a beer budget.

My job has me out on the road several days a week and I have become somewhat of an expert on "fast foods". By fast foods, I am talking about those that give you fast service *and* make you give a hasty retreat to the nearest bathroom.

In making my selection in my search to find a better burger, I first had to narrow the field down from bacon burgers, mushroom burgers, burgers with double tomato (at no extra charge), and other such delicacies to the simple all American hamburger.

In making my selection, I have eaten at nearly 1,000 (would you believe 100? 50?) eateries that serve such. The following are my own tastes.

Wendy's Old Fashioned Hamburger: The burger has flavor, however, the juiciness of the burger stems from the fact that there seems to be a much higher fat content in their meat than in others. This tends to cause one to become flatulant (gassy).

Steak 'N' Shake: These places receive a high rating as far as taste and texture. The price is reasonable and I have found good consistency between stores.

Burger King: Other than offensive advertising by putting down competitors' product, the only other major fault is the buns and sauce overpower the taste of the meat in the "Whopper". The flavor, however, is good and they don't scrimp.

McDonald's: The "Quarter Pounder with Cheese" seems to be the best buy. The meat seems to be slightly on the fatty side and you need to really watch yourself if you get one that has just come off the grill as it will tend to drip. The taste is good for a fast food enterprise, however the service sometimes lacks what it should even to the point of discourtesy a couple of times.

I believe I've found the *absolute best* hamburgers in Orlando. Both use top quality meat and take care in preparing the burger and seem to care about their customers as well, a rarity these days.

The two places are not part of any chain and are independently owned. Both can be found on Orange Blossom Trail, about a mile or so apart.

The first is the Tam Tam Restaurant, 4008 S. Orange Blossom Tr. (at 40th Street). They are open 24 hours a day except for Sunday night.

The second is Ken & Linda's Country Kitchen, 4678 South Orange Blossom Tr. (next to Landmark Bank at Holden Ave.). They are open 24 hours a day except for Sunday-closed at 2:00 pm and Monday-closes at 10:00 pm. They are open during the day on Monday.

One last note, it is better to go to either of these places, if you are a night owl, before the bar crowd hits shortly after 2:00 a.m. You will get better service.



Dear Fred . . .

Dear Fred is a new column in which you, the reader, may write for advice. It is written by an experienced columnist who has written a similar column for a newspaper for three years. We hope that you will use this column.

Dear Fred:

I have a problem in that I am dating two men and cannot decide which one to choose as my steady. One of the men takes me to many places and buys me all kinds of nice clothes and gifts. I go out with him only when he calls and I have nothing better to do. The other man I see almost constantly. He doesn't have much money, however I feel really comfortable when I am with him and we really seem to hit it off together. He has a great sense of humor and is fun to be with. What should I do?

Torn Between Two Lovers

Dear Torn:

It seems to me that you need to examine your motives for going with each man. From the statements that you have made in your letter, you seem to really like one of the men over and above the other one. The statement that you only go out with the one man "when he calls and I have nothing better to do", tends to make me think that you are only going along for the ride for what's in it for you, gift and moneywise. You have a choice to make and if it were me, I'd choose the one I really seemed to care for and enjoy. The best of luck to you.

Dear Fred:

I have been attending the same church here in Winter Park for almost three years. Recently, one of the church members came up to me and told me that they had heard that I was a faggot and asked if it was true. I admitted it and it seems like it spread through the church like it had been announced over the loud speaker system. Now, the members look at me with dirty looks and have suggested that I leave or change my ways and stop sinning.

I like myself as I am and don't feel as if I am sinning. Should I continue to go to church or stop all together?

Almost A Celibate

Dear Almost:

Do not give up going to church! There are two very good churches in the area and I suggest you try attending one of them. The first is Joy M.C.C., 2500 Curry Ford Road, in Orlando. It is located about one block east of Bumby Ave. in the New Age Center. Their services start promptly at 7:15 pm on Sunday evenings so I suggest that you get there about five to ten minutes until seven. They have a fellowship following the services and are a genuinely friendly group who welcomes with open arms. They also have several rap groups that meet throughout the week. If you want more information, you can call 894-1081. Their mailing address is P.O. Box 3004, Orlando, FL 32802.

The other church is Dignity of Orlando. Their Liturgy and fellowship is Saturdays at 7:00 pm. You will need to call for the location. Their number is 843-4297. They also have a Tuesday night rap session. Dignity's mailing address is: P.O. Box 931, Orlando, FL 32802.

As to the people who treat you with scorn at the church you have been attending, they should remember two things: Love Thy Neighbor as Thyself and Do Unto Others as You Would Have Them Do Unto You.

May God Bless

Dear Fred:

I am happy with myself except that I was short changed in the sex organ department if you know what I mean. I am very short there. I have tried many of the pumps and other things that are advertised with little luck. What should I do? How can I make it longer?

Only 5 in Orlando

Dear Only 5:

Contrary to popular belief, not everyone is built like Joe Gage nor like Johnny Wadd. I strongly discourage the use of the so called penis enlargers that use any device such as a pump or other stretchers as they CAN CAUSE PERMANENT DAMAGE to you or anyone else who may use them by breaking the blood vessels and the natural tissues in the penal shaft.

There are many ways to derive pleasure and experimenting will let you know which gives you the most sensation. Be glad that you have what you have and are not impotent or otherwise not able to enjoy what you do enjoy.

If "5" is referring to your size, be grateful as there are many men out there who would envy you. You are not really small. Live life and enjoy it.

Confidential in Taft: Since you sent your phone number and we have talked, I once again advise you to move out immediately!

Letters to Fred may be sent directly to him at the following address: Dear Fred, P.O. Box 8762, Orlando, Fl. 32806 or may be sent to Dear Fred c/o New Direction, P.O. Box 4355, Winter Park, Fl. 32793. Names and addresses WILL NOT be published in this column unless permission is given in the letter. Those needing immediate answers should include a S.A.S.E. and/or phone number. (Some letters may be edited due to space availability.)

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