

Relationships:



A Talk with JoAnn Loulan, author of *Lesbian Sex* —by Jean Swallow
Becoming a Couple: Guide for Gay Men —by John Armstrong & Damion Stein



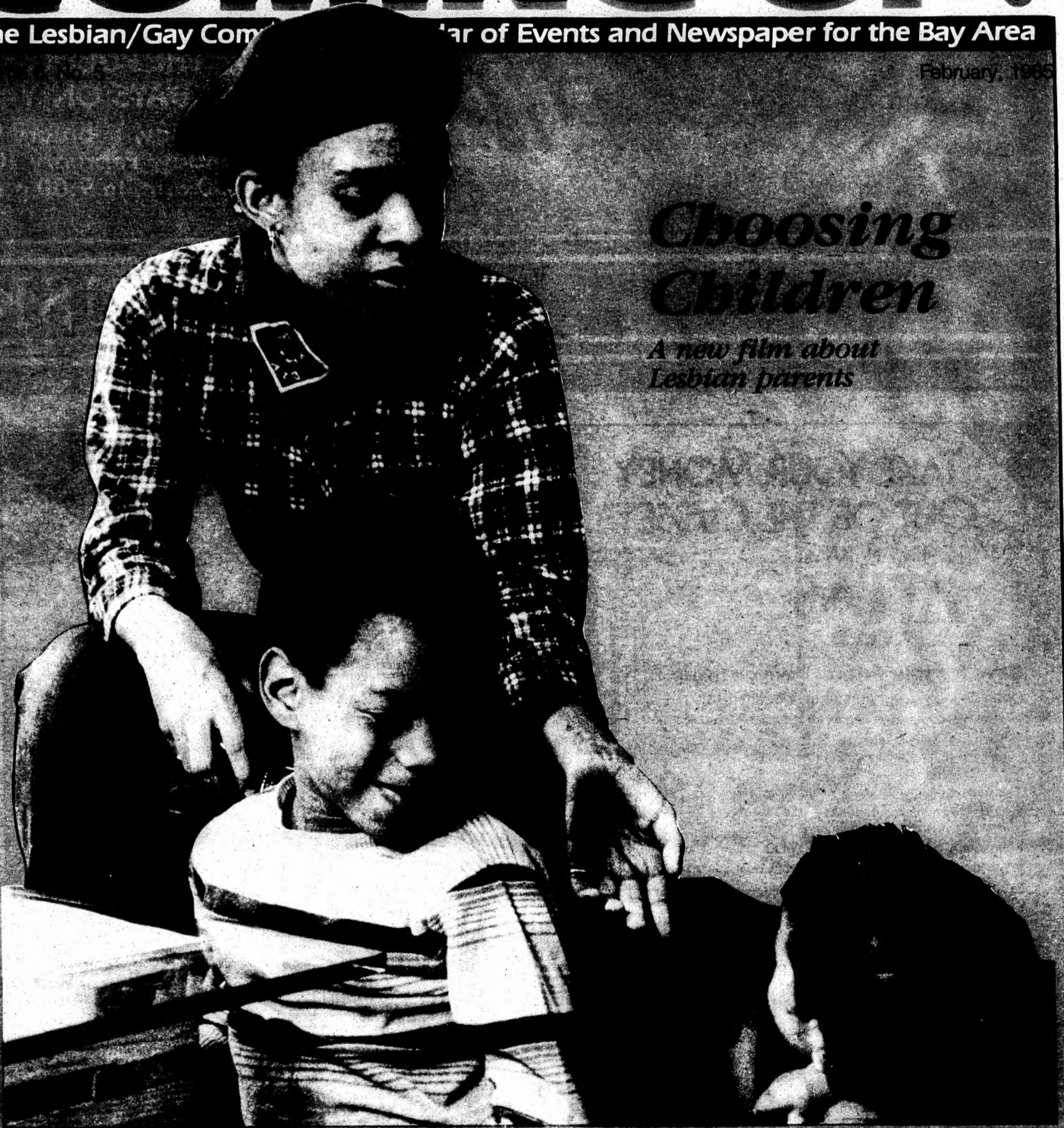
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February, 1985

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Typesetting: Coming Up! Graphics,
Typesetters: Maxine Morris and Kim Corsaro

Photowork: Jeff Brody Media Service
Printed at Howard Quinn, a union shop

Advertising

Display Advertising: Rate cards are available by calling 641-7903 or by writing Coming Up!

Classified Advertising: Rates are 25 cents per regular type word, 50 cents per bold type word. Refer to the order form in "Open Exchange" in the back of the paper. No classified advertising can be taken over the phone. Deadline is the 20th of the month preceding publication.

Personal Advertising: Refer to the order form in the "Personal" section in the back of the paper. No personal advertising can be taken over the phone. Deadline is the 20th of the month preceding publication.

Calendar Listings

Performers, clubs, individuals or groups who want to list events in the calendar should mail notices to us so that they reach us by the **20th of the month preceding publication**. We cannot take listings by phone.

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LETTERS

Why Get Involved?

A recent editorial in the *Advocate* puzzled over why more people don't get involved in the lesbian-gay movement. A recent exchange of ideas & criticism here at the Community Thrift Store reminded me of the answer.

One tough lesson I learned years ago as a beginning gay activist is that anyone who actually does something for the common good also catches a lot of flack for not doing it somehow better. Along with my own desire to do some good, I had to face up to the fact that I was still only another imperfect human being, just doing the best I could.

As manager of the Community Thrift Store here in San Francisco, I often tell people I need all the help I can get. But this means not just bodies, but especially people who can correct my mistakes, compensate my weaknesses, and carry on where I cannot.

Critics who want high standards are important: they keep us pointed in a forward direction, and show us how far we've got yet to go. But the story in the Bible about the widow's mite makes another point: DON'T BE A MORAL SIZE QUEEN. It's not the size of your gift, it's the commitment behind it that makes it important.

Every gay and lesbian person, whatever their concerns or type of involvement, should find ways to do their best—whatever they can. It may not seem very much, it may not seem very perfect, but it could be enough, it could make the difference.

If you can't think of anything more exciting, the Thrift Store is still seeking volunteers. Our volume has doubled in the last six months. We still need all the help we can get. Happiness is doing the best you can.

Donald L. Miesen, Manager
Community Thrift Store
San Francisco

Serious Flaws in AIDS Survey

Bravo! to Michael Helquist for pointing out the serious and damaging flaws in the AIDS Foundation survey (*Coming Up!*, January 1985). Not only does this biased survey discount thousands of community members who are not making \$30,000+ salaries, but it has grave implications for activists attempting to get needed services funded for those very members of the community who were discounted by the survey. While the AIDS Foundation insists that their survey was to research changing sexual patterns amongst gay males, they have a responsibility for distributing findings which do not clearly spell out survey limitations.

In 1981, the City conducted a survey of victims of violence which found that gay people are not assaulted any more than their heterosexual counterparts. The City recalled those findings for further analysis and later determined they did not have the proper data to find out the rate of violence against gay people. However, the damage had already been done. The initial results went to the State and the final results did not. This creates a huge impetus in getting the State to fund anti-gay violence services.

While the AIDS Foundation's Sam Puckett would "just as soon let the whole issue rest," the community will bear the brunt of this shoddy survey for years to come.

Diana Christensen
San Francisco

Cable Car Awards Controversy

Groups, event-producers, and individuals have asked me to submit their photographs from the year's *Coming Up!* issues to the Cable Car Awards photography competitions of "Photojournalism" and "Photo Art." While I've supported and continue to publicize the Cable Car Awards for over five years, I will not be participating in the photography awards this year. This is because of a continuous problem with the photography evaluation process. A photographer's body of work for the year is judged by a print placed in a lobby display for voting. In the past there has been attempted censorship of militant lesbian and gay images submitted. One year the photographs were attached to the wall with tape and fell down onto the floor. I submitted an image of two men in a bathtub with a wheelchair drawn up to it in 1984. This same photograph was evaluated by six professional photographers to be presented in the 1983 Frameline Photography Show at Valencia Rose, and a slide of the print was shown at Atlas Savings and Loan. The photograph was supposedly accepted, censored, and then "lost" by the non-photographer placed in charge of Cable Car Awards photography, a person who allegedly has no constructive criticism, and was extremely slow in informing me of the status of my "lost" photograph. No satisfaction has been forthcoming from other Cable Car Board members, either. Also, the policy of keeping photographs, which was always arbitrary, was suddenly applied in 1984. Photographs submitted are carefully produced "art prints" of substantial value, not to be given away to an "archive" that in past years consisted of a box in someone's garage.

I see no reason to be involved further with an organization that allows censorship of the militants and

physically challenged who are part of the lesbian/gay/bisexual community. Some people who photograph may be able to deal with this abuse, so for them I'd make this suggestion: a disclaimer that informs possible entrants that professionals need not apply, and that censorship will be imposed on submissions.

—Rink
San Francisco

Cable Car Awards Reply:

The 1985 Cable Car Awards and Show has selected five images for inclusion in the Outstanding Photo Journalism category. Entrees are the work of professional photographers in our community. Publications that have published their work include *Coming Up!*, The Bay Area Reporter, Sentinel USA, California Voice, The Advocate as well as many other publications.

As in past years, the public will again vote on the winning photograph in this category. As in past years, Rink will again criticize without making any constructive contribution. The Cable Car Awards has, for eleven years, been a volunteer effort. Any person, including Rink, who wishes to work to improve this community effort will be welcomed. Rather than being respected for community commitment, a person who continues to criticize an effort where they are consistently a loser could be more properly accused of "sour grapes."

—Board of Directors
Cable Car Awards

Help Out, with Shanti

Thank you for your coverage of Shanti Project in recent news stories and columns. Recently, we requested your help in communicating to your readership that we need additional volunteers for our emotional support peer counseling program and practical support program. Many of your readers responded and we are grateful for your assistance.

Although we are still in need of volunteers to provide support for persons with AIDS and their loved ones outside of normal working hours, we currently have a special need for practical support volunteers who can help out weekdays during the daytime. Practical support volunteers do the everyday, vitally important tasks for persons with AIDS such as cooking, cleaning, and shopping.

Please ask any of your readers who are interested in volunteering at Shanti Project to call us at 558-9644 Monday through Friday between 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. for more information.

Jim Rulon
Shanti Project

Positive Personals

The nice thing about the personals in *CU!* is that they generally are positive. Something happened in January, numerous ads following the "no fats, fems" formula. This strikes me as being totally contrary to the spirit, if not necessarily the editorial policy, of *CU!*. And another thing: a "Quality Man" (as one man described himself) doesn't need to put down others with terms like "frog-faced," "air head", et cetera. I imagine it is his right to advertise. I consider it my duty to tell him what I think of his attitude.

—Scott O'Hara
San Francisco

Coming Up! replies

The tone of the personals has almost always been, and continues to be, overwhelmingly positive. There are, of course, exceptions to that, and last month apparently fell into that category. But for the most part, advertisers have kept their ads very much in the spirit of the paper. It's a pretty simple thing to do: say what you like; people can generally figure out if they don't fit into those categories.

Some readers think that we must have to edit and alter the personals substantially to get them to read as they do. In fact, we hardly ever have to change an ad for derogatory content, and since we've been publishing the personals, have rejected very few. We're real pleased about that: we think it speaks well of the people that are placing the ads.

Make Needles Available

People who use needles do not share them because they want to, and generally cannot stop sharing them because they decide to. Syringes are illegal. Unlike illegal injectable drugs, the production and distribution of syringes is directly regulated by the government, and syringes are generally more difficult to obtain than the drugs that go into them. Of course, there are always syringes floating around, but there are hardly enough.

Furthermore, the disposable insulin syringes in general drug use are only made to be used once. When used repeatedly, they get dull very quickly. If people already have their own syringes, the only reason they would use someone else's is because it's sharper. According to the immediate hygiene of such situations, someone else's sharp point is much preferable to one's own dull point. The sharper the quicker, and the quicker the better for everything involved. Besides, when people are in enough pain to continually shoot some creepy bathtub chemical

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Volunteer Bulletin Board

This has been another great month with lots of great people making the paper possible. Thanks to everyone, a thousand times!

This month—Volunteer Coordination: J.D. Taylor. Proofreaders: Connie Sadler, JD Taylor, Anne Pollack, Howard Cohen, Lylace Blake, E.T., John Sucre, Julie Pechilis, Alex MacDonald and Roger Barnard. Paste-up: Connie Sadler, Linda Moakes, Lynda Hooper, Mary Collins, Pat Stoner, Alice Linn, Julie Pechilis, and Heather Roche. Office: Lylace Blake.

If you'd like to get involved in putting out the paper, more help is always needed, especially with proofreading and paste-up. Give us a call Mon-Fri, 10am-6pm at 641-7900.

Woman Loses His Job

Sexual Identity Dispute

News & Analysis by Hildie Kraus

Mark Smith's parents placed her in a mental institution when she was sixteen. She got out in her early twenties and moved onto the streets. For twenty years, Mark Smith was a bag lady, living on "crazy checks" (a government disability stipend), one of the people you see and wonder about: Why? Where? Why are they without a home, without the usual web of conventionality that binds and supports us? Where do they go to escape the world? She was married four times, raped several times, bore two daughters, and somehow managed to spend a few years in Afghanistan.

Mark Smith tells an anecdote about Afghanistan. There, she says, women are considered property—they can not own anything because they are owned, by their fathers or husbands. Smith had a difficult time getting a transfer of money from a bank due to this very notion. But they released it finally, she cackles with relish, because the head of the bank declared that she was an American, not a woman.

Back here in the U.S., however, Mark Smith feels she was considered a woman, not an American. By that she means she was discriminated against, sexually harassed, accorded less respect and economic opportunity than other Americans — those of the male persuasion. If you have noticed a discrepancy in the name and pronoun in this article, here's why: Mark Smith was a woman. She decided to become a man in order to get a job.

OK, it's not the usual reason to change your gender. No compelling sense of the right sexuality in the wrong body produced this radical decision. But Mark Smith is not your usual sort of person. "Reagan cut my [disability] checks. And I saw the film *Rosie the Riveter* — it inspired me. I realized, you're the one telling them you're a woman." A job is perhaps more important to Mark Smith than to many people, given her turbulent past. Money, self-respect, and security mean a lot when you've never had those things.

She saw a doctor about having a sex-change, started taking hormones, cross-dressing (although that doesn't mean a lot for women), and changed her name to Mark Smith. And landed a spot in the Navy's (civilian) aircraft electrician apprenticeship program. As he puts it, "I went from being a bag lady to making \$9.68 an hour."

So far, so good. Smith was an excellent student at the Alameda Naval Base. He dressed neatly in shirt and tie and lived in a Berkeley hotel. Sure, he got teased by his good 'ol classmates about being a faggot, because he



seemed a little effeminate. That stopped after he mentioned a girlfriend in San Francisco.

But his past was close behind, unwelcomely close in the redneck atmosphere of the Naval base. One day in January of 1983, someone called him by his former (feminine) name. This sensitive piece of information was on his personnel file, and became common knowledge. (Interestingly, I was unable to get information about this case from the Navy because of the Privacy Act, which forbids the release of any information which is considered personal, nor could any of Mark Smith's co-workers be reached for comment.)

Smith says he was harassed, threatened, and ostracized as a result of this. His mental state, shaky if institutionalization and being eligible for disability checks mean anything, suffered a setback. He asked civilian personnel to remove the information from his records. They refused. He became increasingly dis-

turbed, feared for his life, filed complaints left and right. His "over-reaction" is cited as a symptom of mental illness. What is over-reaction to prejudice and threats? Admittedly, fighting back abrasively is not a good method for defusing hostility, but appeasement does not seem just. Smith's reaction to injustice seemed to turn the authorities against him even more.

He was suspended without pay in January of 1984 and finally fired in September of the same year. The Navy called him a threat to the workforce. The reason given for his dismissal was medical evidence of a "psycho-emotional" condition. The two M.D.'s who first examined him (for the Navy) recommended he be moved to a different area, with more tolerant co-workers perhaps. The third doctor (evidently the first two opinions were not enough—the Navy wanted him out) advised that Smith should stop working temporarily. It is this opinion the Navy cited to fire Smith.

The "psycho-emotional" condition did not interfere with his work before he started getting flak for being... weird. You know, unclassifiable. Why wasn't the information kept secret, as Smith's doctor enjoined when Smith was hired?

The Merit System Protection Board is a recourse for federal employees who feel they have been wrongfully treated. Mark Smith took his case to it, and a hearing was held on January 10 and 11. The Navy called eight witnesses, Mark Smith two. According to Smith, there were several damaging admissions in the Navy's case by the Navy witnesses. The board will announce its decision on February 25. A transcript of the hearing was unavailable at press time.

In the meantime, Mark Smith waits in his hotel room, typing up the closing argument for the hearing, researching pertinent legal information, and hoping to find a lawyer who is interested and optimistic enough to take on the suit he wants to file. Androgyny may be the catchword of the 80s, but genuine ambiguity elicits hostility in the wrong quarters. Would the government really prefer to pay Mark Smith disability checks instead of using his skills and giving him a chance at a healthy life?



Women In Print Get Ready For May Conference

The Third National Women in Print Conference is now in the planning stage. The conference is scheduled to take place May 29-June 1 and is being organized by an open, volunteer task force sponsored by Bay Area Women In Print, a San Francisco organization of feminist women in the publishing or print trades. They welcome input, suggestions and involvement from all such women, and especially from women of color/Third World women and differently-abled women.

The conference is open to all feminist women now working in women-owned or co-owned, alternative or mainstream print and publishing trades. Women in Print encourages the participation of booksellers, librarians and archivists, women in marketing and distribution, typesetters and printers, as well as editors, publishers, self-publishers, reviewers, agents and graphic designers.

The goal of the conference is to promote and strengthen feminist publishing and feminist women in the print and publishing trades by providing opportunities for support and networking, skills and information sharing, and business and political strategizing.

More information is available by writing W.I.P., Box 3184, Oakland, CA 94609, or calling (415) 826-8720.

(continued from previous page)

directly into their bloodstream in order to get some relief, the risk of getting AIDS is hardly any more important to them than the risks they are willing to take in the first place.

I'm sure that all needlefreaks would be more than happy to have their own sharp clean syringes every time they shoot up. But things don't work like that in the real world, way down below the lofty heights of the professionals who outlaw syringes for everyone but themselves. The professionals say that people will hurt themselves with syringes, but we all know about the horrifying things that some professionals regularly do with syringes — and not to themselves, but to other people, not to forget animals. We are also familiar with the roaring silence of most professionals about this. Like the cops they are, the professionals also have a code of silence. Compared with these people, needlefreaks look like responsible citizens.

If Doctor Ginzburg's "safeshoot" campaign is going to get beyond the ludicrous position of informing suicidal people that suicide might kill them, Doctor Ginzburg is going to have to deregulate syringes and make them freely available to all who use them, while guaranteeing absolute anonymity. If he can do that, he would not only be sure to save a lot of needlefreaks from getting and transmitting AIDS, but he would also spare them a lot of other serious medical risks which have never concerned the professionals unless the damage was already done. If Doctor Ginzburg can't do that, or at least speak up and attempt to, I wish he would stop giving worthless advice whose hypocrisy is only surpassed by its cruelty.

Tim Speck
San Francisco

"Bibi Lee is Dead," for Whom?

"Bibi Lee is dead," exult the Women Against Imperialism (WAI) [*Coming Up!* letters, January 1985], but she didn't die in vain. WAI not? Because she served the Cause—posthumously, unwittingly, involuntarily, no matter—the cause of feminism. If Bibi Lee didn't exist, feminist opportunists would have had to invent her—and so it seems they did. WAI doesn't know and doesn't want to know who this person was. Her singularities, herself, are beside the point. It is enough that she was killed and she was equipped with a vagina. The feminist imperialists will attend to the rest. Since we never knew her and don't know what made her tick, we're not claiming her for our (or any) cause. But we question why WAI has conscripted Bibi Lee's corpse into its service much as the Nazis turned their victims' corpses into soap.

WAI hasn't turned Bibi's body into soap—just soap opera. "One man murdered her," WAI assures us,

not on the basis of any evidence, but because it is the only possible deduction from feminist axioms. Meanwhile, just over the Berkeley Hills, another young woman was killed—by another young woman, if we are to believe the press reports. (We don't take the journalists' word for it, but we can't help noticing that WAI does.) WAI is discreetly silent about this instance of female self-assertion. The victim, a cheerleader, is after all something of a traitor to the Cause. There will be no letters to the editor about this unhappy victim, since her death doesn't further WAI's ideological objectives. For feminists, women are expendable.

If Bibi's boyfriend, the accused, turns out to be the culprit, it will not be any great surprise: contra the "Friends of Bibi Lee" the truth is that homicide is overwhelmingly the crime of friends, relatives, lovers and other intimates, not street crazies. Nothing reported about this clean-cut vegetarian paradigm is at all reassuring as regards his innocence. It is true, however, that the legal system assumes his (and anyone's) innocence, and we others might do well to do likewise.

The very day before the first appearance of the WAI letter, in the *Daily Californian* (whatever happened to the potbellied hippie that a woman witness saw forcing Lee into his vehicle?), the California Attorney General issued his annual report, which stated that more than three-quarters of California homicide victims are male. We agree with WAI that violence, including homicidal violence, is mostly male-initiated, though we don't hear WAI complaining about the exceptions, such as Joann Little, who butchered the lawman who was forcing her to suck him off. What WAI prefers to overlook is that such violence is predominantly directed by men against other men. WAI is unspeakably stupid to characterize *Playboy* centerfolds and the like as "violent." All this does is—not make pornography seem more serious, as intended—but to make real bodily harm seem trivial. Criminal homicide is much like war. Engaging in this pastime, men have slaughtered millions of people in recent decades—some of them women and children, indeed, but overwhelmingly consisting of other grown men.

WAI better decide if it objects to manslaughter or merely womanslaughter, and whether the same rules (if any) should apply across the board. There is a saying among lawyers that every murder victim is killed twice: once by the murderer, and again by the defense attorney who tries to blame the victim for the crime. It looks like Bibi Lee, too, will be killed twice, but she will also be raped at least once—by the

LETTERS

feminist politico who have already turned her demise to their own advantage.

—The Last International
Berkeley

Women Against Imperialism Respond
To "The Last International":

"The Last International" letter not only ignores the real issue of violence against women, but attacks women, attacks feminism, attacks Bibi Lee, and attacks women who try to change women's oppression by coming to a political understanding of it.

While there are many highly offensive references to women in this letter, we couldn't let the attack on Joann Little go unanswered. It is completely misleading and racist. Joann Little is a Black woman who was sexually attacked by her white jailer while she was in prison. She fought back in self-defense. We support Joann Little as a Black person and as a woman who acted in self-defense.

We continue to mourn the loss of Bibi Lee and all women who are killed by male supremacist violence. As far as we are concerned such a pornographic and racist letter should not be printed on the pages of *Coming Up!* "The Last International" letter is a prime example of one of the many levels of attacks against women which we are determined to stop.

—Women Against Imperialism
San Francisco

A note from *Coming Up!*:
Publication of a letter in the "Letters of the Editor" section of *Coming Up!* in no way implies that *Coming Up!* agrees with the attitudes or opinions expressed by the letter-writer. Whenever we receive a controversial letter attacking a particular group, we contact the group for a response. As we have stated before, the Letters Section, exists as an Open Forum for the exchange of ideas. It is the part of the paper where the readers dialogue freely with each other, and with us. We allow the exchange to be as far-flung as it is because we believe in the importance of our readers speaking up and confronting each other about these issues.

LETTER INFO: Deadline for letters to appear in the March issue is February 20th. Please type and double-space letters if at all possible. We reserve the right to edit letters for length. All letters must provide a name, address and phone number for verification. We will not publish anonymous letters or letters submitted only with pseudonyms, but will withhold your name on request.

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Anatomy of a Defeat

Losing 4-to-1 in the Bible Belt

By Rick Osmon

“We fear your power,” confided a member of the Houston Chamber of Commerce to one of the gay leaders of Texas’ largest city. This fear was manipulated by fundamentalists and political interests into a humiliating defeat for the lesbian and gay community. On January 19, 1984, by a four-to-one margin, voters in Houston rejected two ordinances that granted equal status to people in the city’s civil service regardless of sexual orientation. The magnitude of the loss sent shock waves to gays nationwide, but an investigation of the many factors that influenced the final outcome reveals more about the complicated rivalries of Houston politics than about the strength of the gay rights movement.



Steve Shiflett

Like most of the South, Houston’s political system still operates under the Voting Rights Act of 1965. To carry out the principle of “one-man, one-vote,” the federal courts have mandated a city council composed of nine district members and four at-large members. This structure has permitted minorities a real voice in city politics and allowed the gay community to exercise its power more effectively in municipal elections.

In 1981, Kathy Whitmire was elected Houston’s first woman mayor by a slim margin. She received strong gay backing. Several city council members also sought and worked for the endorsement of the Gay Political Caucus (GPC), Houston’s major gay political group. GPC’s shrewd political choices paid off with every election.

But according to a former GPC president Steve Shiflett, who now lives in San Francisco, a rift occurred in 1983 when GPC endorsed Nikki Van Hightower, a strong gay community supporter but a newcomer to the city council race, over Anthony Hall, a long-time black ally and incumbent councilman. Hall’s supporters, including Shiflett, formed the Citizens for Human Equality (CHE). Hall was re-elected in November of 1983, and the gay community stood divided.

One of Hall’s campaign promises was to introduce legislation to prevent discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation for Houston government employees and to establish, without quotas, a policy of affirmative action.

In May 1984, Sue Lovell, president of GPC, met with district councilmember John Goodner to solicit his vote for the new policies before they were introduced. Goodner, who represents a conservative district in Houston, had been endorsed by GPC in the campaign. According to Lovell, “Goodner was very rude at the meeting and said he did not want homosexuals teaching in the schools. I told him the ordinances did not cover employees of the school district, but it made little difference to him. Lovell says she was especially surprised at Goodner’s behavior, since he had attended a

gay outreach pool party in his district during the campaign and had not previously expressed any anti-gay sentiments.

At the city council meeting on June 5, 1984, Hall went ahead and proposed the ordinances and received widespread media publicity. The ordinances were tabled for further consideration. The opposition said nothing at the council’s weekly public forum the following day. The same thing happened the next week, June 12, at both the council meeting and the public forum. But on June 19, a group led by Goodner purchased full-page ads in the *Houston Post* and the *Houston Chronicle* to stop action on the ordinances.

Lovell remembers that the mayor and council members were overwhelmed with such a deluge of hateful calls, “they went ahead and passed the ordinances rather than endure another day of high emotions.”

The opposition promptly charged that debate had been unfairly restricted. The following day, recalls Lovell, “the council chambers were packed with the Moral Majority singing ‘Onward Christian Soldiers’ and the Ku Klux Klan chanting ‘kill the queers.’” Eighty people spoke against the ordinances, but it was too late. Mayor Whitmire followed through on her promise to sign them into law.

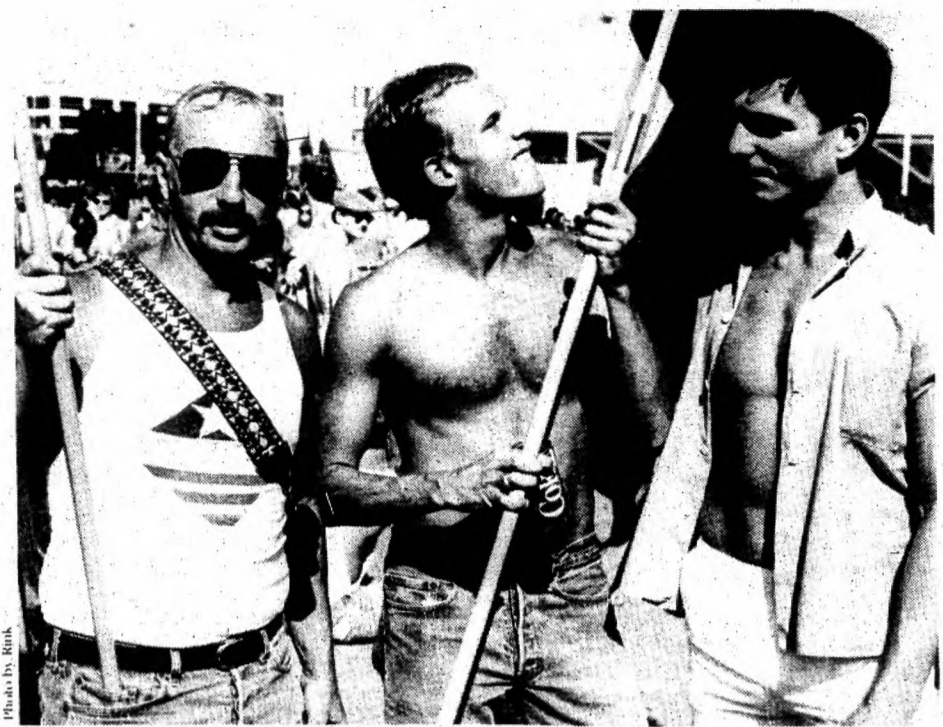
In placing the ads, Goodner had allied himself with Russ Mather, head of the Houston Republican party. Mather is the man responsible for passing a resolution at the state’s Republican party convention which decried homosexuality as an abomination.

No one anticipated the magnitude of the Republican sweep in the November election in Texas. In the general election, Mather threatened to withhold party money from any Republican who sought a GPC endorsement. After the election, Mather kept in place the campaign machinery responsible for the Republican victories, in anticipation of the scheduled January referendum on the gay rights ordinance.

Joining the referendum fray was Houston ex-mayor Louie Welch, now head of the Houston Chamber of Commerce. Lovell says Welch persuaded the executive board of the Chamber to oppose the rights ordinances, then met with the press to announce the decision without consulting the more moderate Chamber membership. They were afraid to publicly buck Welch and went along with the executive board’s position. Steve Shiflett asserts, “It was simply a raw power play by the good ol’ boys at the Chamber of Commerce to get a head start on the mayor’s race in November 1985. They also saw a chance to break the progressive members on the city council.” Referring to the racism inherent in Southern politics, Shiflett noted that the growing influence and popularity of Anthony Hall worried Welch and others even more than the progressive politics of Whitmire.

The chance to defeat and discredit the progressives at the polls made opposition to the ordinances an irresistible political opportunity. Councilmember Goodner and the conservatives on the city council, local party chair Mather and Houston’s revitalized Republicans, ex-mayor Welch and the business interests of the good ol’ boys, the Ku Klux Klan, the Moral Majority and other Fundamentalists, the hierarchy of the local Catholic church: all forged an alliance.

The size of the opposition and their virulent anti-gay messages took the gay community by surprise. Michael Wilson, president of the KS/AIDS Foundation of Houston, told *Coming Up!* about some of the opponents’ tactics. “They brought in Paul Cameron, a homophobic psychologist who was expelled by the American Psychological Association for his extremist positions.” According to Wilson, Cameron told Houston, “All gay people should be quarantined. We would rather money be spent to keep them in their homes than on research to find a cure for AIDS.” Cameron also distributed his publications: “AIDS, Blood Transfusions and Homosexuality” and “Homosexuality, Murder and Violence,”



Texas Gays at the National March in San Francisco, July, 1984

which has on its cover a little blond-haired girl cowering in the corner while a man stands over her wielding an ax.

Wilson described accusations from the group, the Committee for Public Awareness (CPA). They claimed that gay people spread infection by flushing toilets in public restrooms. Using the Foundation’s Safe Sex brochures, they alleged that a drawing of a teddy bear among sex toys was a blatant attempt to entrap children.

Wilson and the KS/AIDS Foundation distributed a press release denying that AIDS had anything to do with the referendum and compiled a list of medical experts who could counter the outrageous accusations. When the press failed to contact them, Wilson spoke with Tom Nelson, news editor at the more liberal *Houston Post*. “When I reached him, I only got out a few words before Nelson interrupted, saying the *Post* had no intention of correcting the misinformation being put out by the CPA. Cameron or anyone else until after the vote.” Lovell said there were actually some good stories in the straight press, but they were inevitably buried under some sensational, inappropriate headline.

Wilson thinks the TV stations gave more balanced coverage than the newspapers. However, the camera crews never shot footage of gay people anywhere except in a few bars or in the annual parade.

Lovell, Shiflett and Wilson all mentioned the CBS documentary, “Gay Power, Gay Politics,” as the most effective tool the opposition employed. The film was shown at churches throughout the city and at other gatherings, despite legal action by CBS to prevent screening of the program. (The network had been censured by the professional news council for the documentary’s complete lack of objectivity.) People viewing the film saw only that CBS had portrayed the city of San Francisco under siege by a militant and ambitious gay community, and even liberals in Houston grew concerned about their own city.

Observers outside Texas have questioned why gays in Houston permitted this battle over the referendum. Before the campaign got underway, Leonard Graff of the National Gay Rights Advocates suggested a legal challenge to circumvent the referendum. Graff won a similar case in Montgomery County, Maryland, last year. He discussed the idea with Tom Coleman, head of the Houston-based Texas Human Rights Foundation, but Coleman seemed confident of victory at the time.

Graff says numerous precedents for constitutionally limiting the scope of referendums have been established over the last 20 years, particularly as a result of attempts to put housing rights for Blacks up for public vote. Roberta Achtenberg, an attorney for San Francisco’s Lesbian Rights Project, thought the concept was mixed because “they thought they had the votes to win. In hindsight, it seems as though they never really stood a chance.”

Steve Shiflett said a legal challenge might not be possible under Texas law. With regard to the decision to pursue the referendum, he admits, “In Texas, we may never have public



Leonard Graff

opinion on our side. But,” he insists, “the time was still right. We don’t want to try to protect the status quo. And it’s our responsibility to question those who do.”

Lovell does not regret the choice to go forward, either. “It defined gay power in Houston,” rather than destroyed it. And, she notes, “The campaign sharpened our political skills and proved we can raise lots of money.”

Houston lesbians and gays are now left to pick up the pieces. The competing factions of the pro-Hall Citizens for Human Equality and the pro-Van Hightower Gay Political Caucus continued to divide the community at a time when they needed to be preparing for the referendum. Shiflett told *Coming Up!* that the debate never focused on explaining to the community the importance of taking a public path to non-discrimination. The GPC stopped short of endorsing a debate jointly sponsored by the CHE because of the presence of a controversial speaker.

Despite this infighting, Lovell maintains, “We tried to do a really concerted effort. There wasn’t anybody in the city who didn’t know about it.”

In fact, GPC and CHE joined with the pro-Hall Community Political Action Committee to form the umbrella organization Citizens for a United Houston to promote the ordinances. Both Shiflett and Lovell point out that Texans lack the tradition of making large political contributions, which explains why they were able to raise only \$100,000, compared to \$250,000 for the opposition. Considering the political bloodbath they had endured two months before, Lovell says she was not disappointed.

In order to rebuild the GPC, Shiflett says he has joined a committee of past presidents of the GPC. “We have to be better prepared next time. We were a day late and a dollar short.” He sees a need to enhance the viability of GPC

(continued on page 46)

Lesbian Sex

Talking To The Woman Who Wrote The Book On It.

BY JEAN SWALLOW

JoAnn Loulan, a lesbian therapist in private practice in the Bay Area, is the author of the recently published book *Lesbian Sex (Spinners Ink, 1984)*. The book is built on JoAnn's past eight years of therapeutic experience with lesbian sexuality, including information from intensive weekend sexuality workshops, where she spoke with several thousand lesbians on a subject we rarely speak freely about: what we do in bed.

I first interviewed JoAnn three years ago for a book I was editing (*Out From Under: Sober Dykes and Our Friends*) because I discovered she was one of the only people in the country with sex information for lesbians in recovery. Today, she is still one of a handful of lesbian sex therapists. Interviewing her this time at the request of *Coming up!*, I found she continued to express her compassionate views of lesbians and sex in the same outspoken, funny and wise way she had before. What follows is an edited transcript of our talk on January 3.

[*Coming Up!*]: So, how did you get into this line of work?

[Loulan]: Well, I'm sure it's to overcome my Catholic uptight Mid-Western upbringing about sex. I went to graduate school and decided that one of the things I wanted to do, in addition to regular old counseling, was sex counseling. So I went through all kinds of sexuality training in San Francisco, including UC Medical School and San Francisco Sex Information Switchboard. I thought there was somebody out there who had a lot more information about sex than I did, and I wanted to find out what it was. People were pretty uptight about it, and I thought it would be great to talk about it. I started doing sex counseling in 1977.

Have things changed since then in the way lesbians think about sex or the way they do sex?

I don't think there is probably any change in the way lesbians do sex. However, I think there is some change in the community. The s/m wars helped loosen people up around the topic of sex. It helped make more people freaked out about s/m. But it sort of got to be, well, s/m is disgusting, but the rest of sex can be okay.

Why do you think we do that?

I think lesbians vote about everything, and we vote about sex. We vote on separatism and flannel shirts and anything else. My gripe, JoAnn's sex gripe, is that we politicize sex.

It's not political?

I don't think so.

Being a lesbian is not political?

I don't think so. It can be political. But I think sex is for fun. Girls just want to have fun. And sex can be for fun. In a way, it's too sim-

ple to just say that sex is fun, because sex has traditionally been set up to be very negative and hard. It's very difficult for many women.

I don't know how sex got political, except by our culture that wants to oppress lesbians and gay men and women. But what I'm saying is that whenever sex was politicized, I think it happened to keep women in line. It was a way to keep us attached to men, and we still tolerate that in this country.

Okay, but here we are in 1984, and there are completely separated lesbian groups around the issues of sex. Why is it that we are doing that?

I think because we really believe inside ourselves that we are right. Whatever it is that we are doing. And we think we need to convince others that we are right.

And we are terrified. For women, the idea of violence connected to sex is really scary. By the time we are 18, 39% of women have been sexually molested against our will. A woman gets raped every six minutes. There is a lot of violence connected with sex and our bodies.

And we confuse s/m with violence, and it's scary, so we want to educate everybody that s/m is violence. I feel like the women who are very anti-s/m have very big hearts and just are very invested in letting the community know what they feel about s/m.

And then the other side that doesn't see s/m as violent, that sees s/m as a power exchange between two consenting adults, believes in their hearts that everyone ought to know that, and everyone ought to have access to it, and everyone ought to have an open heart. They believe in their hearts that it expands women's sexuality.

Okay, but isn't s/m, by definition, violent?

No. I think it's about a power exchange. First of all, my concern is that if we get into saying this is wrong or that is right, then we are into monitoring each other's lives, and I don't see how we can do that. We can't. No one is going to change their sexual practices unless they want to.

And in the second place, it depends on how you define violence. I don't want to argue that. If it's a violent act to a woman, then it is violent. For some incest survivors, kissing is violent. The big issue is consent: Are you willing to do it? And that is one of the things I encourage incest survivors to do, is to really sit with what works for them.

All I'm saying is that I don't think it's wrong for anyone to have an opinion about sex. What I find debilitating to our community is that sex is one more place that we vote. We don't just vote on s/m — we vote on oral sex; we vote on a lot of things. You know, a lot of women don't like oral sex and feel weird about it. But before the sixties oral sex was weird. This was unless you were in an avant-garde community, where it was required.

The point is, what do you like to do in bed? As long as you are not hurting somebody else, you are not perpetrating something against someone who is a child or a young person, it should be okay. If you are peers, sex can be very fun, and it doesn't have to be voted on.

My whole thing is that we approach sex from no shame and no blame. That is to say, no shame of ourselves and no blame of someone else. Try taking a balloon and putting in it all the negative images about sex, all the

things that you think are disgusting about sex, all the negative practices that you think of or know of or have tried and were disgusted by. Imagine all of that and put all that in the balloon, and let the balloon go up above you. Suspend all your judgments. Imagine suspending it while you are having sex, or thinking about having sex, or listening to someone talk about their sex lives, or telling someone about your own sex life. You can haul the balloon back down when you want it; believe me, it will never go away.

If it will never go away, then is it possible to change our sex lives if we want to?

Sure. You can change your sex life if you are willing. But it takes a lot of work. Don't do it if you don't really want to do it. But it's just like any other change that you ask yourself to do in your life. Sex is no different.

We so segregate sex; we act like it's so different. We act like sex is dropped from another planet. But the reality of changing our sex lives is just like changing other attitudes. It's just another part of us. One advantage of sex is that we can work at it from a behavioral viewpoint. We can practice it; we can get a hands-on application, physically, as well as working on changing our emotional and intellectual attachments. But if you want to change your sex life, you have to be willing and you have to practice.

Can you talk a little about your idea of how sex works for women, what you discuss in your book as the sexual response cycle?

Sure. The female sexual response cycle is a way to measure the physiological and emotional changes in a woman's body in response to sexual stimulus. It's a way to find out how



Photo by Marcelina Martin

sex works. Masters and Johnson came out with a sexual response cycle that includes excitement, plateau, orgasm and resolution. And then along came Helen Singer Kaplan, who believed that you had to have desire first, then excitement, followed by orgasm.

My theory is a little more complicated, because I believe that most women really start with willingness. There are some women who start with desire and some women who start with excitement, but most of us start with a willingness to have sex. We don't necessarily feel this tremendous urge in our body to have sex. So my response cycle says you simply have to have willingness.

We do it because we are willing. We don't have a desire expectation about anything else in the culture, except having sex and having babies. There is the expectation that we have some innate physical draw to do it. I do think that there are some women who have an innate desire to have sex, period. But I think that most women don't have that innate desire. I think we are being measured against a male model.

We live in a media generation that says that people want to have sex, that they are really into sex, that they have a lot of excitement, and the movies show all these people just hot to get into each other's pants. But in real life it doesn't necessarily happen that way.

This is especially true if two women have been in a couple for any length of time. After two years, most lesbian couples have very infrequent sex. Most of the lesbians I deal with have problems because they don't have a desire to have sex, but they find their relationships falling apart, or they find them very uninteresting, or one person in the couple wants to have sex and the other one doesn't. Or they feel pressure by the community out there that they ought to have sex, that sex is what separates them from being good friends. The implication is that lovers have to be having their fingers in each other's vaginas a certain amount of time per week.

I think that all that has to do with the male model. It has to do with the male idea that we have this tremendous desire within us, although many of us don't have that. But many of us do want to keep our relationships interesting and fun. We do have this idea that actually, once I get involved with sex, sex is fun, it feels good, my body feels good, and I do have some intimacy when I'm having sex. So there is some motivation there. But often it's more intellectual than physical. I don't think we have to deny ourselves or assume that we shouldn't have sex unless we have this tremendous physical desire. I just don't think it works that way for most women.

How does homophobia fit into all this?

I think that one of the main effects of homophobia on our sex lives is that down underneath it, we all have these feelings that being a lesbian is gross. In this way we have absorbed the oppression of the culture, and it affects our sex lives. Here's an example: you are going along, having oral sex, and then you flash back to your mother seeing two lesbians holding hands and saying, "Isn't that disgusting." Or going to a motel and wanting to take two rooms because people might think you are lesbians. That has to affect what it is you do in that bed.

out in 1980, people were outraged and upset. Partly they were upset with the book because it had a lot of s/m stuff in it. But I think that more than anything, people were just upset that there was a sex book out.

I remember when Pat first put questionnaires out for the book (which was at least ten years ago). People were livid that there were questionnaires. The tenor in the community was this is not cool; somebody is being a voyeur. And the rumor of *The Joy of Lesbian Sex* was that the author was straight. Again, the tenor of the community was, "One more time they are exploiting us." "They," whoever

fun, sex is fun, tons of fun. And it's okay to have sex however it is that you want to have sex. And if you want to learn more about having sex, then read the chapter on what we do in bed.

There are also specific homework exercises that you can do to help you deal with issues like orgasms, survivor issues, relaxation or communication. One of the things about my book is that it's a "how-to" book. This isn't just, let's read this and intellectualize about sex. This a book about, oh hey, this is a problem that I have, or this is something I've been wondering about, or this is something I have a hard time with. Oh, I could look at these exercises and try them, go back and try them, and see if they help, see if I feel better about my sex life. That's real different from the other books.

So do you think in general lesbians feel bad about their sex lives?

I don't know if lesbians in general feel bad about our sex lives as much as we don't have any kind of reference about our sex lives. We don't know about our sex lives.

Even after we've had sex we don't talk about it. I don't say it; you don't say it. Nobody says it. I think it's because we don't have a point of reference. We didn't grow up as adolescents saying it, or even being openly sexual, never mind openly lesbian, except a gifted few of us. And we don't have the practice at it, the general knowledge of it, or a place to talk about it.

But what I want people to know about sex, and about lesbian sex, is that it is okay, it is positive. It is a positive experience between women. And it's very important that we broaden our idea of what sex is: the concepts of having to do sex a certain way, or of how women are supposed to get involved in certain relationships. My idea about lesbian sex is that we start to make our own definition of what sex is.

One thing about being lesbians is that the culture has defined us by our genitals and what we do in bed. We are much more than that. Our genital contact is also much more than just having oral sex and putting fingers in vaginas. It covers a whole lot more than simply the physical act: it includes the emotional, the spiritual, the psychic, the intellectual. Our sex lives include all aspects of our lives.

But we don't have somebody out there saying that, or saying sex is okay. Sex is okay: try it this way, try it that way; it's all right. Have a good time with it. Lighten up. Have fun, explore, play.

In the main, we are not validated, and our sex is not validated. And that's basically what I've tried to do, to give a reference point and to say: Hey, it's okay, honey, go have a good time.

I think lesbians vote about everything, and we vote about sex. My gripe, JoAnn's sex gripe, is that we politicize sex.

Being a lesbian is not political?

I don't think so. It can be political. But I think sex is for fun. Girls just want to have fun.

If you are not out to your family, if you are not out at work, if you are not out to some of your friends, then there is a part of you that can't be out in your sex.

I'm not necessarily saying you have to come out to have good sex. But I am saying to stay aware of homophobia. It's just like saying stay aware of sexual abuse, incest and rape. Survivors have to be aware all the time of how that affects their on-going sex lives. It doesn't mean that incest survivors can never have sex; it just means that they have to pay attention to how that experience in their lives affects their sexual contact with other women.

Some things have changed in the last fifteen years. I think that we are more out, especially in the Bay Area (things have changed here, but in some places they haven't changed a bit). Here, people are more able to be out in certain places, and people are fighting for political rights. And this affects our sexuality. Even if we may not be able to be out personally, our whole subculture is able to be more visible, and it makes our sex more acceptable, too.

I don't think that sex has probably changed much since the beginning of when people were having sex. What has changed is our perception of it and our willingness to start talking about it. I suppose our culture is getting more accepting and generally looser about sex in general.

When Pat Califia's book *Sapphisty* came

"they" are. Both authors of these books were in the lesbian community. But there was this idea, how could a lesbian write this?

The basic problem is that we don't want any of us to be different. That's what we are so scared of. And that's homophobia. We are afraid there isn't any room for us to be different, because they'll get us. Whoever "they" are. So we all have to be united. And if somebody doesn't agree with us politically, then they are out of the club. Out, O-U-T, of the club. C-L-U-B, on the top of the head. It's like, get out if you don't agree with us, because it scares us if everyone doesn't agree. We are small in comparison to the rest of the population (supposedly, who knows), and we are all scared. So if anybody breaks rank, it makes the whole community vulnerable, is what we think.

My feeling is that as much diversity that we can accept in our community, the stronger we will be. And the more we are going to welcome one another to the community and support each other.

My book, for example, differs from the other two books mentioned in that it has a lot more philosophy in it, a lot more permission to do anything; it's just okay to do anything, honey, it's okay by me. My book comes more from a place in my heart where I say this is what I really feel, and if you feel different, great. You know what, we are just here to have

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THINKING OUT LOUD

BY TOM WADDELL, M.D.

Prior to the printing of the first 1985 issue of *Coming Up!* I was not "Thinking Out Loud." I was, in fact, doing a lot of quiet thinking while I spent Christmas,

New Year, and half of January in a small apartment in Clifton, New Jersey with my father. He is dying of cancer. When I left to be with him on December 23 I was feeling very resentful, and I had the sickening feeling that the trip was going to be very painful. I was not resentful about going East or of being with my father; on the contrary, he is one of my closest friends and I wanted to be with him at this time. I was resentful of 1984, which seemed to be so full of tragedy. Retrospectively I would declare it the worst year I can ever remember. There was such a bad karma throughout the entire year, and I found few others who could speak positively about it. Even the Republicans were not fully satisfied.

The AIDS crisis was far and away the most devastating of all. The disease kept getting closer and closer to everyone, and the weekly obituary column in *BAR* repeatedly astounded us. AIDS claimed several friends who I thought of as family, as well as a number of acquaintances. Everything about AIDS seemed depressing, and while I believe that adversity ultimately produces a stronger and better product, so I also believe that AIDS is a challenge to make us stronger and better on many levels. But there just didn't seem to be any news to encourage positive thinking.

I just can't help but dwell on the untimeliness of the 262 deaths that occurred in 1984. They were more than double those of 1983 and most of those stricken were in their 30s and 40s.

I got on the plane to Newark in a foul mood, because I knew that for five and a half hours flying time I was going to anticipate the topics of death and dying. I wondered if I would behave towards my father as I did towards my gay friends who faced an approaching death. I had always believed that my father was never comfortable being touched, but it seemed from my experience with my friends, that

touching is the most nourishing way to tell another person how much you care for them. He was also having severe skeletal pain, and I wondered just how much I could comfort him.

Well, my fears were not even remotely realized. My father, through all the painful motions, through all the fitful nights and bouts of nausea, not only tolerated being touched, he also acknowledged to me that he felt the love in it. Before I left, he said; "This couldn't have been much fun for you," then he paused and said, "but I loved our time together." I tried to tell him how nourishing it had been for me. Perhaps 1985 would be a better year after all.

Coming back on the plane, my euphoria over the connection with my father was beginning to yield to thinking of ways to influence the coming year to be a better one.

I felt hopeful about 1985, but certain statistics in my head were at war with my optimism. There is good scientific reason to accept the prophesied trend of the AIDS epidemic and begin to consider what we must do to take proper care of 7,000 people with AIDS by 1987. There should be a good bit of discomfort for all of us when we stop to think about the strain on present services and resources used for just a fraction of that number. There will be resistance in the non-gay community to make available more of what will be necessary to meet the demand.

I am optimistic that we will prove our mettle as a community. We will take care of ourselves, and with dignity, just as we have always done. Our caring for each other is one of the great examples we as gay people have to teach others. Even if we have to make it "trendy" to get everyone involved at some level of assistance for people with AIDS, so be it. We love trends, because we're so good at creating them, and so much the better when they serve us well.

I pray the statisticians and prophets are wrong, that like the Andromeda strain, this disease will mutate and suddenly disappear. But if they are right, and the numbers do ac-

celerate, then we need to think seriously about the logistics of support for all those people who will need to be touched and medicated and counseled and reassured. It will take massive fundraising and a multitude of volunteers, to be sure.

Fortunately, our community has been active. More so than any other gay community in the world. A number of praiseworthy institutions exist and they deserve support from every one of us without exception.

Finally, we must be sure to educate ourselves. We should all be knowledgeable about the history and the politics and science of AIDS to dispel the inaccuracies that exist among ourselves, but we will also confront many situations where it is possible to educate others and to do it sincerely with authoritative information. That is an eloquent way to cultivate understanding.

This crisis in some bitter way may actually produce a character of magnanimity in our community that we always believed existed, but which has eluded us. 1985 may hold some unpleasant realities for us, but it could also be the year in which the viability of our community is finally identified. We have the resources to do wonderful things, what we need now is unity of purpose. 1985 may be the year of our bonding as a real community.

Call for Entries To Lesbian/Gay Film Festival

Entries are now being accepted for the 9th San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival, June 24-30, 1985. Held each year during San Francisco's Lesbian/Gay Freedom Celebration, the Festival brings together the best in feature, documentary and short films and video works by and about lesbians and gay men. The Festival is sponsored and produced by Frameline, a non-profit media organization, to develop an audience for lesbian and gay cinema and to promote a demand for quality productions and wider exhibition of these productions both within and outside the lesbian/gay community.

The deadline for entries is April 15, 1985. Film formats accepted are 35mm, 16mm, and super-8. For information on film entries and applications, contact Frameline Film, P.O. Box 14792, San Francisco, CA 94114; or call (415) 861-5245. For information and applications for video entries, contact Frameline Video, 182-B Castro St., San Francisco, CA 94114.

VD Screenings For Gay Men in Berkeley

The Berkeley Gay Men's Health Collective invites all Bay Area gay men to start 1985 off with a routine VD screening. If you're a sexually active gay man and have not had a routine screening in the past 3-6 months, you may be due for one. Because you can have VD and not have any symptoms, regular screenings help to protect your own health and the community's.

The GMHC, operated by and especially for gay men, holds a men's drop-in VD clinic every Sunday evening from 7-9 pm. It offers a complete line of testing and treatment, which includes routine screening for gonorrhea and syphilis, plus treatment for these infections as well as for NGU, venereal warts, scabies and lice. Educational materials, counseling, and referrals for those with other conditions, including men with AIDS concerns, is also available. All services are completely confidential and are free, though donations are encouraged.

The GMHC is located within the Berkeley Free Clinic at 2339 Durant St, Berkeley. For additional information call 644-0425.

East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club Elects New Officers

New officers were elected for 1985 at the January meeting of the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club. Former political action chair Tom Brougham took over the helm as president, as Armand Boulay, club founder, stepped down after two terms as president of the 2 1/2-year-old political group. "It will be hard filling Armand's shoes," said Brougham, "but I feel I can give the club the leadership it will need during the next year. This will be a time for us to redefine our goals, continue coalition building, and develop our base of strength in Alameda County."

Club Vice-President Mary Ann Brownstein and Recording Secretary Eric Hsu were re-elected to the same posts. Leland Traiman was elected PAC Chair, Bob Kegeles Finance Chair, Lana Hameister Treasurer, Alan Collins Corresponding Secretary, and Peter Kasin Public Relations Officer.

In an emotion-packed speech, Boulay spoke of the short but incredibly busy, and successful, history of EBL/GDC. "We're the only political group in the county that defines itself in terms of its friends, rather than its enemies."

"Armand is one of the main reasons we have those friends," said Vice-President Brownstein. "We would not be where we are today had it not been for Armand." Brownstein then presented him with the "Swan of Achievement" for all he had done for the East Bay lesbian/gay community.

In other action, the club members voted to allocate funds raised for AIDS patients to a special fund set up to provide in-home health attendant care for those unable to qualify for Alameda County assistance. "The money was to have been used to provide TV's or phones for patients in the AIDS ward at the county hospital," said Jim Chambers of EBARO (East Bay AIDS Resources Organization). "But the opening date of the ward has been postponed for several months, and there is an urgent need right now for in-home attendant care for AIDS patients." Chambers explained that C.I.L. (Berkeley-based Center for Independent Living) has just received County approval for providing home health care for AIDS patients, but that it will take a while to set up their program. In the meantime, an urgent need exists to provide these services for those in need; EBARO requested that the club allocate its funds for this purpose.

Plans were announced for an Oakland Candidates Forum to be held in February as a joint venture of the EBL/GDC and the Oakland Block Organizing Committee, or OBOC. The latter is a recently formed organization of lesbians in Oakland which seeks to take a more active political role in that city's affairs. The forum will be the next regularly scheduled meeting of the EBL/GDC and will be held at the Claremont Middle School Sunday, February 24, at 7 pm. The school is on College Avenue, one block north of the Rockridge BART station. The meeting is free and wheelchair accessible. Call 843-2459 for further information.

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Becoming a Couple:

By John Armstrong & Damion Stein

Finding Someone

One of the saddest and most homophobic myths in the gay community is that gay men cannot sustain relationships. This is patently untrue. What is true is that more and more gay men are wanting to be half of a couple. This trend is at least partly attributable to AIDS. The party's over for now, and it's time to go home. Wouldn't it be nice if there were someone to go home to?

Unfortunately, many of the men who want to be coupled up are finding it difficult to achieve and experience a great deal of pain because they can't. For many of these men, the unfilled desire is perceived as reflection of some deep-seated character flaw or the mysterious nature of relationships.

In our work with men both in and out of relationships, we have developed three major tenets about relationships. 1) Many men have belief systems that keep them from relationship building and these belief systems can be changed. 2) Relationship building entails skills that can be learned. 3) Relationships are not mysterious. They have understandable patterns and stages.

In this series of articles, we will both describe what occurs and offer some methods of changing behaviors that hinder people in their quest for a satisfying relationship. Hopefully, understanding what is happening at various stages will assist you in dealing with events more satisfactorily. We add one cautionary note: what we suggest requires work. It may not be easy, but you can have what you want if you are willing to work for it.

Looksism

At this point you may be saying, "It isn't my beliefs and behavior that's keeping me from having a relationship: it's my looks." In Western society, and particularly in the gay male community, it is difficult to ignore the fact that looks count. However, they don't matter as much as you may have convinced yourself. You may have told yourself that you're not attractive enough, don't have a good body, are of the wrong race, are not hung enough, or are too old. You may assume that if only such and such were different, you'd be able to meet other men and develop relationships.

Most every man is chronically insecure about his looks, just as you may be. You must remember that, while the media peddles certain stereotypes of attractiveness, individual tastes vary considerably. No matter what you think of your appearance, there are men who will appreciate and be attracted to you. More importantly, lasting relationships develop out of what you have to offer from inside, not outside. Relationships based on looks tend to be short-lived and shallow.

And, surprising as this may be, good looks can be a liability. While good looking men do attract more general attention, this does not mean that their relationships are more successful or satisfying. Men who successfully meet other men do so more by revealing their personality and warmth than using their appearance as a bribe. Those who present themselves as beautiful objects are related to as an object, not as a person.

You have a choice. You can continue to use your appearance, whatever it may be, as an excuse not to meet men, or you can accept the way you look and develop the social skills necessary to meet men. Learn to trust that those who like you, like the way you look; or don't be concerned about it at all.

Shyness

In order to get involved with someone, you

John Armstrong, M.F.C.C. and Damion Stein, L.C.S.W. are associates of the San Francisco Psychotherapy Guild. They are both in private practice with offices in the Castro. These articles are derived from their experiences and observations of an aggregate eighteen years in the field of mental health.

A Guide For Gay Men

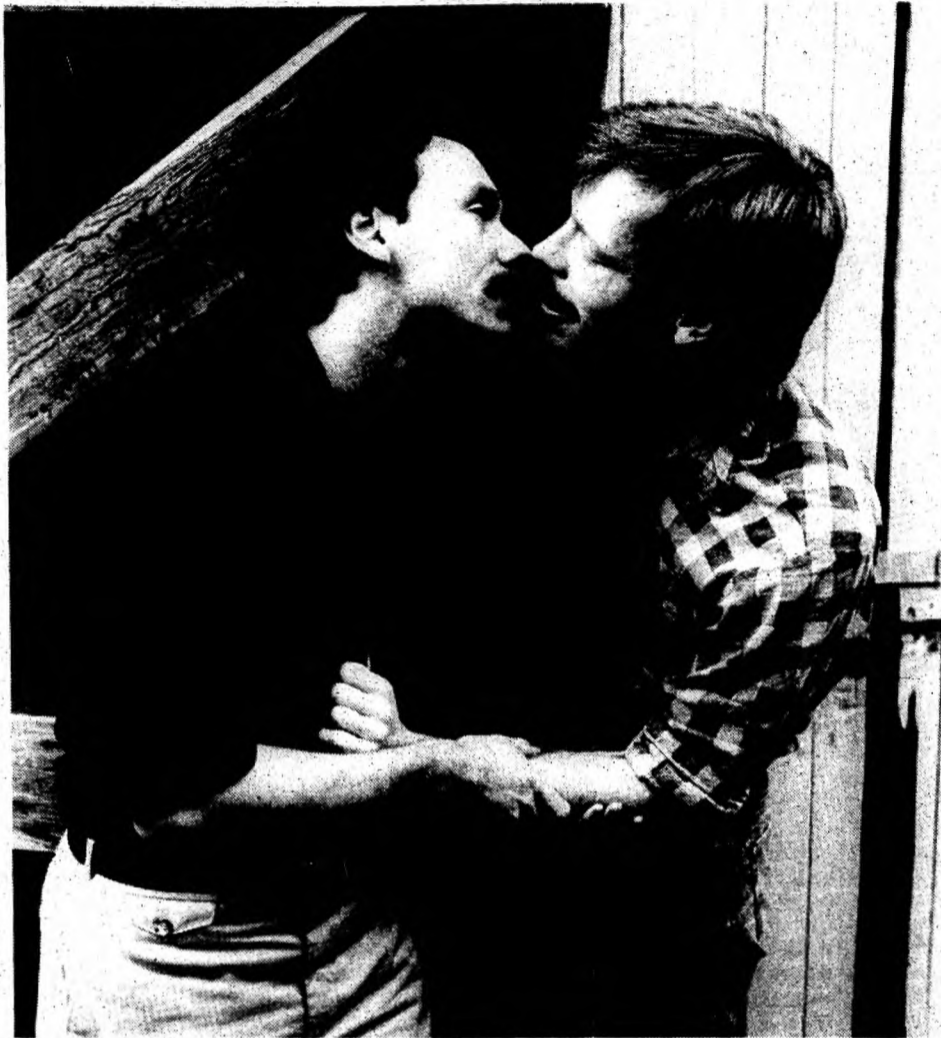


Photo by Rick

first have to meet him. Many men say, "I can't meet men because I'm shy." What most people would describe as a personality trait, shyness, is better conceptualized as a perfectly normal response that we all exhibit to being in a new situation. Haven't you noticed that you are shy in some circumstances and not in others? Observe how as you get familiar with a new situation and new people you get less shy around them. This is true for all of us. Of course, different people acclimate themselves at different rates. People get labeled as shy if they acclimate more slowly than others.

We all wonder if we'll be welcome in a new situation. You will feel shy until you learn the social rules and discover how to fit it. Shy is normal, but it is uncomfortable. Fortunately, you can speed up the process of getting comfortable in a new situation. Of course, the first step is getting there in the first place.

Fear of Getting Out There

Do you feel scared to go to the places where gay men gather? Do you make plans to go out and then make excuses and not go? Do you avoid other gay men's eyes in public places? Maybe you used to go out, but recently it just seems too unpleasant. Now's the moment for an honest self-evaluation. Conjure up a picture of going out. See the place you intend to go: What are your expectations? What's your fantasy of what's likely to happen to you?

Were your expectations and fantasy pleasant or unpleasant? Did you picture meeting a nice group of men, possibly one special man, having a good time? If so, you probably are looking forward to going.

Did you picture a negative experience? (Being ignored, bored, left out, for example.) If so, you are not looking forward to going, and like a trip to the dentist, you will probably put it off.

Your expectations and fantasies of what is going to happen to you in a given situation

determine how willing you are to do it. So if you want to motivate yourself to get out there and meet men, you can lure yourself into doing it by changing those negative fantasies and expectations to positive ones.

Bear in mind that you don't know what the event will be like. There's no guarantee that tonight will be like previous evenings. Examine your fantasy in detail. See all the awful things happening to you. Now, one by one, change each awful event into a pleasant one, each scowl and rejection into a smile and acceptance. Every time that gloomy old tape starts up, stop it and substitute the new fantasy.

Remember:

1) No matter what's happened to you in the past, you can't *know* what's going to happen tonight.

2) You can reprogram your expectations, and by reprogramming your expectations you encourage something more positive to happen to you.

3) You cannot control other people or external events. You do have a choice as to your contribution to your feelings during the evening. You can choose to be miserable, or you can observe others and learn how they go about enjoying themselves.

Nervousness

There's another kind of shyness that keeps us from meeting other men. This one occurs in the situation, rather than before. You probably call it nervousness. You feel ill at ease, tongue tied, out of place and miserable.

The more you worry about how nervous you are, the worse it gets. Paradoxically, if you just accept the feeling, and concentrate on the aspects of the situation, it dwindles.

Everyone in a meeting situation is nervous to some degree. Some men hide it fairly well, but they're still nervous. If you don't believe me, drop into a cruisy bar some night and check it out. Look around you. See all the

sweaty palms, tapping feet, wide, startled-looking eyes. That guy over there doesn't look nervous, except that he's holding himself as rigid as a statue. He certainly isn't relaxed. Or what about the over-loud, over-animated ones? Would they be trying so hard if they felt comfortable?

If you're nervous in a meeting situation, so what? That just makes you like everyone else. Don't worry about letting it show, either. As we can see from our previous imaginary bar tour, trying to hide it only makes you look affected and unnatural. Don't worry about it. Let it be O.K. that you are nervous. Take an "I'm nervous, so what?" attitude and any reasonable person will accept you.

Besides, you've come here to meet people, but all you're doing is thinking about yourself. You may not be able to stop being nervous, but you can get out of yourself. Stop paying attention to how you are feeling and look around. Eavesdrop on conversations. Pay attention to your surroundings and forget yourself for awhile. You may not be any less nervous but you'll have a better time.

The Nuts and Bolts of Meeting Men

Maybe you think there is a rule book that everyone has read (but you) that tells one how to meet others. Well, there is no *Secret Book of Rules*. The ability to meet people is the result of trial and error. Everyone develops his own style; however, there are some things to know and do that can help you meet other men.

Before we launch into a description of them, let's establish one point. You needn't confine yourself to the bars. You can meet other gay men anywhere that gay men gather. Go to places and activities you enjoy. You'll have a better time and meet men who already share a common interest with you.

Regardless of where you go, you will find that the process of meeting strangers is similar.

O.K. You've selected a locale where you are likely to meet the sort of man you want to meet. You've reprogrammed your expectations so that you're looking forward to your evening's outing. You are nervous, but you say to yourself: "So what?" Now what do you do? What happens? How is contact made?

The first steps are non-verbal and begin with eye contact. You look at him, he looks at you. If there is mutual interest, eye contact is repeated and each meeting of eyes lasts longer than the one before. Initially, the eye contact is furtive and gradually becomes overt and acknowledged by both of you. Everyone has their own style and the pattern of contact is sometimes related to the setting. Some eye contact is not intended to establish meeting. Sometimes people are just looking and checking people out. There is also negative eye contact which is hostile and challenging. If you're getting this kind of message, drop him. Go on to someone else.

The second set of cues are in the body language. Watch the tilt of the head. It will change and direct itself in your direction if there is interest. If the other person is seated, he may lean forward. If he is standing, his feet may move forward or change positions. Without being aware of it, you are doing the same things. Gradually the body angle will change to improve visual contact both ways — to see and be seen. Eventually, his head will nod. Watch for a smile and a brightening of the eyes. If he is wearing a jacket, he may remove it to signal availability. If he has a jacket, backpack or other possession, he may move it to the side away from you to symbolically clear a path between you. He may also turn away and then turn back in a process of checking and guarding himself. If he is with friends, watch them. If he is interested in meeting you, he may have said something to his companions, and they may look at you also.

The whole process of non-verbal cueing can be very elaborate and even seems objectionable to some people. But consider this: it is calculated to make the frightening moment of first contact as safe and non-threatening as possible. Its pace is determined by both of you

(continued on next page)

Couples....

(continued from previous page)

and will not proceed if either one is not comfortable continuing the process. Each of you takes the risk you are comfortable with while checking out if further risks are warranted. During the period of non-verbal cueing, either of you can stop without significant loss of face. Decisions to proceed are mutual.

Eventually, non-verbal cueing will go as far as it can. One of you will have to cross the room. There are two basic stances around who moves first. (A) "He has to come to me." This can be pure "Attitude," but it is usually a defense against fears around taking the risk. You may object to the "come hither" people, not wanting to play power games. You can easily take the power for yourself by recognizing that you are the more powerful by sheer fact that you can go after what you want and feel good about it. Or, you can walk away and chance never meeting. (B) "I can't make the first move." This is a myth. There is nothing stopping you but self-limiting mind chatter. Remember, all the non-verbal cueing has had a purpose: at this point you can be reasonably sure of your welcome.

Striking Up A Conversation

You are now in conversational range. Do you panic, thinking you have nothing to say? The mind can only focus on one thought at a time. As long as you are thinking you have nothing to say, you cannot be thinking about anything else. Fritz Perls, the developer of Gestalt Therapy, has a saying which you might find useful here: "Lose your mind and come to your senses." As you stand there tongue-tied and semi-panicked, all you are paying attention to is your own thoughts. For a moment, pay attention to your senses: What do you see, hear, smell, feel? The environment offers many things upon which to comment. Is it hot and stuffy? Is there too much noise? Is there an interesting piece of art work visible? Is there a boring piece of art work? These are topics for conversation. Talk about information your senses are providing. Say hello. Ask his name.

Too boring and mundane? The reality is that we are not all Oscar Wilde. You do not have to be witty and clever. Most conversations between strangers are initially dull. Accept this and give yourself and the guy you are meeting a five-minute grace period for the conversation to get rolling. If it doesn't, it may mean one of you has changed his mind about his level of interest, or the anxiety level may still be too high. Use your judgement, but don't give up too soon. You can try being direct. You both know why you've started talking, and it's fine to acknowledge that. People do appreciate a direct but polite approach. If you feel stuck, try asking questions. People enjoy talking about themselves, but ask questions you want answers to. If you're bored by your questions, he will be also.

Rejection

At some point during the initial conversation, both of you are going to make a decision as to whether or not further contact is desired. The option of rejection is still near at hand. Most rejections, however, have already been

Places to Meet Men, Other Than Bars

Social Clubs

Fraternal Order of Gays: Educational programs, game nights, other social events. Call 561-6227 for more information.

Castro Country Club: an alcohol-free, bar-like environment. Games, juice bar. 4058 18th Street near Castro.

Girth and Mirth Club: For chubbies and chasers 680-7612.

Special Interest Clubs

G 40+ Club: For men over 40. Meetings, outings. 552-1997

Black and White Men Together: Meetings, political action, raps. 431-0458.

Third World/Gay Men of Color Support Group at the Pacific Center. 548-8283.

Red Hearts: Social club for gay men on the left. Check listing in the calendar section of this paper, or call 821-0951.

Outdoor Activities

Great Outdoors: a paid membership club offering camping, outings, rafting trips, etc. 430 Steiner #4, SF CA 94117. 626-3131.

Frontrunners: Runs, brunches, training, support. 826-8067.

Political Organizations

Alice B. Toklas Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club: 861-4881

Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club, meets third Tuesday of every month at 7:30 pm in the Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St, SF.

Stonewall Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club: 626-1245

East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club: 843-2459

Association of Lesbian and Gay Asians: 861-6767

Bay Area Black Lesbians and Gays: 621-8078

Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights:

(408) 248-2923

There is a gay caucus supporting most every progressive political issue. A good way to meet other men while working for a cause you believe in.

If you have heard of an organization that is not listed here, or you have thought of an activity and wonder if there's a group doing it, check one of the following directories: the Gay Freedom Day Parade Program, the *Coming Up!* calendar listings, the Gay Book community resource guide, or call the Pacific Center Switchboard at 841-6224.

Pretty much any live performance of anything in San Francisco will have a large gay male audience. If there's a particular form of entertainment you favor, remember to look around, walk around at intermission; you have a ready-made opening line in the form of a comment on the event itself. Of course events like shows at the Valencia Rose, Theatre Rhinoceros and the Gay Chorus are especially heavily gay attended. So, there's another good reason to support gay cultural events!

Another good way to meet men is through personal ads. *Coming Up!*'s tend to be more personal than most. As with anything else, the more persistent you are the better you will do. Read the ads frequently, get a set of good photos of yourself, and respond to every one that sounds interesting. Remember, you can't tell much from an ad, so if in doubt, take a chance. Conversely, many men won't turn out to be what you imagined them to be, so always arrange to meet for a short get-together in a public place, like a coffee house, where you can talk, and make a polite exit if the chemistry isn't right.

Write an ad. Describe yourself. Emphasize what you have to offer (ask your friends for suggestions on what to say). Describe what you are seeking. Use positives rather than negatives. Say "wants lean man" instead of "no fats." Specify what sort of relationship you want, monogamous or open, live-in or drop-in.

handled during the non-verbal stage. Once you two are talking, it is vastly more likely that both you and he will want to continue the getting acquainted process, but one of you may change his mind, even now.

For the second time: looks aren't everything, even for a casual sexual encounter. Don't be surprised if as you talk to this guy he either loses interest, or becomes wildly more interested. Without realizing, you both are busily involved in interviewing each other. You're both trying to find out who the other guy is and if he is interesting you. If one of you has changed his mind he will have to find a polite way of backing out of the conversation.

Most men become anxious when this point is reached, whether they reject or are rejected. Although all of us have experienced both sides of the situation, most men feel ill-equipped to deal with it. All sorts of nightmarish thoughts occur. Few, if any, of them actually come to pass. Perspective gets lost around rejection, so let's get some perspective back. First, it is a fact of life. Unpleasant, but a genuine possibility. Second, it has happened before to both of you and you survived. Third, everyone has the right to accept or reject others. Taste is taste, and no one appeals to everyone.

Interestingly, most men feel less comfortable rejecting than being rejected. Most men really do not want to hurt someone else's feelings. Also, you don't know how the other guy might react; he could be very unpleasant or irrational. If you do wish to minimize the hurt,

or possible retaliatory behavior, there are two key elements in rejecting someone. 1) Be polite. You don't need to maim someone to communicate a lack of further interest. 2) Make the rejection a comment on yourself, not the other person. For example, "I've enjoyed talking to you, but I'm tired and need to go home now. Thanks for the conversation," or, "My life is rather hectic and crowded. I honestly do not have time or energy for new people." "I'm feeling the need to be alone now, so I'll say goodbye." Nothing has been said about him; the rejection is all you. You've given no cause for him to feel hurt. Disappointed, maybe, but not hurt.

Being rejected is a more complex experience. The rejected person is in a more passive position; the control is in the hands of the rejector. Your ability to handle rejection depends on your history and personality. Some people tolerate it better than others. There are ways of looking at being rejected that can help make it less painful.

You have experienced a lot of rejection in your life. Sometimes it happens that memories and past experiences can be triggered and flood you with painful feelings. If this happens to you, you need to remind yourself that the present experience is not related to the past. Practice separating present feelings from past ones. Also, remember: taste is taste. Although he may not feel inclined to further the contact, others will. If he likes tall blondes and you are a short brunette, it is not a defect on your part.

You cannot be everyone's cup of tea.

In most cases, you have no idea why he is rejecting you. Do you need to put your worth as a human being on the line? Does he know enough about who you are to make his rejection a significant comment on you? Is the rejection a statement on you or him? Maybe he has a lover and doesn't want to say so. Maybe he doesn't know a good thing when he meets one. In rejecting you he is giving information about himself, not you. Trust his judgement about himself. If he doesn't feel it will be right for him, it won't be right for you either. Besides, who are you to tell him what is right for him? In some ways he is doing you a favor. You are free now to investigate other possibilities.

Once it's clear you have been rejected, what do you do? You may feel wounded and your pride may be struck. You are still in the position to salvage the situation for yourself. The world hasn't ended. Let him know that you can accept and handle the rejection. The more securely and directly you communicate this the better the chance you'll perk his interest and prompt him to change his mind. People prefer to be involved with people who can take "no" for an answer. Let him know you have heard the rejection and are not going to collapse or lash back. You can handle disappointment and respect his right to make his own decisions. He'll get a new picture of you. You needn't exit immediately. You can still enjoy the conversation. When you're ready, excuse yourself in a polite way. Give him room to be who he is, even if you don't like his decision. Smile, as you leave: you'll be remembered. This may not be something you'll be able to do now. If not, make it a goal to work toward.

If you have experienced a rejection, you'll probably feel a little wounded; treat yourself to something that feels good, a hug from a friend, an ice cream cone, flowers, a telephone call to someone you know cares for you; whatever feels nurturant to you.

What To Do If He Says "Yes"

Hopefully, you experience more acceptance than rejection. This puts the pair of you in a position to negotiate where to go from here.

Even if you've met in a highly sexual situation (such as a "cruise bar"), you don't have to proceed directly from the bar to the bed. Was a time, and not very long ago, when a gay man who didn't want to have sex immediately upon meeting was seen as somewhat odd. The AIDS epidemic and the resulting swing to an emphasis on relationships has changed that. More and more gay men are wanting, or at least willing to get to know someone before they hop in the sack. If you want a relationship, rather than a one-night stand, we strongly advise you to put off bedding the men you meet until you get to know each other. Morning afters tend to be awkward, and we flee each other. The better the two of you know each other, the more you like each other, the easier the awkward feelings will be to handle.

The idea is to get acquainted before you have sex. You can go for coffee, a walk on the beach, or a long ride. Try just cuddling; you might discover it's what you really wanted all

(continued on page 46)

JOHN ARMSTRONG, M.F.C.C. DAMION STEIN, L.C.S.W.

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AIDS News

By Michael Helquist

Mobilization Against AIDS

With several weeks of high-profile AIDS advocacy to their credit, members of a new organization have vowed to sponsor massive rallies, pickets, vigils, and boycotts to secure an adequate government response to the AIDS epidemic. Named Mobilization Against AIDS, the new group has already called for Congressional investigations of the government's response to AIDS and has picketed the local office of the Department of Health and Human Services to protest the delay in releasing approved AIDS funds. Paul Boneberg, coordinator for Mobilization, commented in late January, "There is an extraordinary need to bring massive political pressure to bear on both the government and the medical establishment to create genuine national mobilization against AIDS."

Boneberg charged that although Secretary of Health and Human Services Margaret Heckler has called AIDS "the number one health problem in America," the federal government has followed a "too little, too late program which borders on criminal negligence." He cited as proof of his charges the lack of any national AIDS prevention program, the "grossly inadequate" patient services for people with AIDS across the nation, and the one-third of approved AIDS research projects that still lack funding.

Boneberg, one of the co-directors of last summer's successful National March for Lesbian/Gay Rights, noted that the federal government provided \$135 million in 1976 to fight the evasive Swine Flu epidemic. In comparison, the government over a period of four years has provided only \$175 million to combat AIDS.

Mobilization scheduled a "Founding Members Party" for January 30 to precede a public address by Dr. Neil Schram, President of the American Association for Human Rights.

Boneberg said those seeking membership in the new group should call Mobilization at (415) 552-4287.

San Francisco Tallies Ultra High-Risk Group

Twelve percent of the gay and bisexual men who have contracted AIDS in San Francisco have also reported a history of I.V. drug use, according to statistics released by the city's Department of Public Health. National studies by drug abuse treatment programs have led researchers to consider individuals with these two behavior characteristics — sexual activity with other men and needle use — to constitute a group at "ultra-high risk" for contracting AIDS.

The new sub-category of men with AIDS who report I.V. drug use clarifies the epidemiological information that had been obscured in the larger category of "gay/bisexual males." Until the release of the current report, San Francisco had classified drug-abusing gay men with AIDS only in the homosexual risk group category. The change in classifications reveals a significant jump in cases of AIDS among I.V. drug users, from a total of 5 (.6%) to 105 (12%), an increase of 2,100%.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) continues to employ the less-specific, hierarchical means of classifying AIDS statistics. Harold M. Ginzburg, M.D., MPH, the Associate Director of Clinical Medicine for the National Institute on Drug Abuse, reported several months ago that his study of the first 2,000 AIDS cases revealed that fully 25% of the individuals had a history of I.V. drug use. Since 9% of these individuals were also gay or bisexual men, the CDC reported that only 16% of AIDS cases were related to I.V. drug use. Ginzburg and other researchers have called for a more



Mobilization Against AIDS first demonstration protesting low levels of AIDS funding.

representative classification of national AIDS statistics. In addition, they have advocated that more research and prevention programs be directed to the I.V. drug users.

AIDS Screening Test Too Much of a Rush?

While under fire from many health activists for not authorizing already approved AIDS research funds, Secretary of Health and Human Services Margaret Heckler has applied relentless pressure for the rapid development of a blood screening test that would detect antibodies to the AIDS virus. The rush to produce the test kits has worried one American Red Cross administrator that the kits may be put on the market prematurely — before considerable problems are solved.

The primary difficulty stems from the appearance of "false positive" results from the test. Such results occur when the test "reads"

the presence of antibodies when, in fact, they are not present. A few researchers have suggested that as many as 4,000 donors in this country may be told incorrectly each year that they have the AIDS antibody.

Dr. Peter Page, director of the American Red Cross blood services for the northeastern region of the country, told *Nature* magazine (December 13, 1984) that he feared not enough time for resolving problems would be allowed. "We're being rushed so much by Margaret Heckler that we don't have time to resolve them," Page said. Page suggested that the safety of the blood supply has already been significantly improved by members of high risk groups voluntarily abstaining from donating blood.

The Red Cross administrator is not alone with his concerns. Other groups that have registered their own reservations about a premature release of the antibody test include the Conference of State and Territorial

(continued on page 17)

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THE STATE OF THE SCIENCE

By MICHAEL HELQUIST

Enough Avoidance: Consider Hepatitis

It's not news, of course: hepatitis B is a serious national health problem that has particular significance for gay and bisexual men. The following statistics reveal most of the story (provided by the American Hepatitis Association):

- Hepatitis B is a debilitating, depressing, damaging, and often deadly liver disorder.
- 5,000 to 7,000 deaths annually are attributed to hepatitis B and related diseases in the United States.
- 200,000 new cases of hepatitis B occur each year; only half are diagnosed.
- Of these, an estimated 5,200 will develop jaundice and liver damage; 10,000 will be hospitalized.
- Over a million Americans are *chronic carriers* of hepatitis B, and this figure is growing at least 3% annually. Carriers can transmit the disease to others.
- Many carriers have never shown symptoms of hepatitis and are unaware of their infectious condition, which can be detected from a blood test. Only an estimated 10-20% of hepatitis carriers are aware of their condition.
- Carriers of hepatitis B are 273 times more likely to develop liver cancer. Chronic hepatitis sometimes progresses to cirrhosis of the liver.
- Hepatitis B is spread by intimate contact which involves the exchange of blood and other body fluids.
- Health care workers, sexually active gay and bisexual men and intravenous drug users are the groups most commonly affected by the disease.
- Those with active hepatitis B virus are at risk to contract hepatitis D, a deadly form of the hepatitis virus (one in four die within two years).
- A safe, effective vaccine to protect against hepatitis B was introduced in July 1982. Fewer than 250,000 people have been inoculated against the disease.

The threat of hepatitis B has been intertwined with the ever-growing AIDS epidemic for several years. Hepatitis was a major problem before AIDS had touched many lives; but once the immune disorder gripped the nation's attention, hepatitis became the "lesser" problem. There's little advantage in comparing the severity of two epidemics. At present, however, hepatitis B claims the more alarming statistics.

Although hepatitis is the third most commonly reported infectious disease in the country, fewer than 250,000 Americans have received the vaccine. Why?

Troubling to many people at-risk is the fact that the vaccine was developed with the cooperation of many gay men infected with hepatitis who donated blood plasma to help manufacture the vaccine. Many feared that the vaccine might thwart hepatitis B only to cause AIDS. That fear persists despite repeated assurances from federal health officials that there was no risk and despite the fact that no recipient of the vaccine has developed AIDS as a result. Skeptics counter that it is too early to make such claims given the lengthy incubation period of the AIDS disorder. The combination of these fears, the expense (initially over \$200), and the lack of an effective education program have joined to keep the seriousness of hepatitis B out of the public mind.

The situation remained stymied until the release of two recent reports. The first was the announcement that a new DNA-synthesized vaccine had been developed. It did not draw upon the donated pool of plasma as did the first vaccine, and it was expected to be much less expensive. The new vaccine is now being tested, but it will probably not be available until 1986.

The second development stemmed from the isolation of the probable AIDS virus, HTLV-3/LAV. That discovery made it possible for the manufacturers of the hepatitis vaccine to test their product for the presence of the AIDS virus. That test also allowed researchers

to prove that the purification process already used had been adequate to kill the AIDS virus if it were present. In mid-December of last year the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) announced in its *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* that "This information [screening for AIDS] should remove a major impediment to vaccine use."

Are there still other obstacles? An effective education campaign is necessary. The gay community's experience with AIDS has revealed the necessity for self-education while pressuring the local and federal governments

Studies have revealed that poppers depress cellular functions associated with the body's immune system. Researchers warn against the use of poppers at this time.

to fulfill their obligations. My personal feeling is that another major impediment, at least for gay men in San Francisco, is a reluctance, a weariness to cope with yet another health crisis. The demands on the physical, emotional, and political resources of the lesbian/gay community have already been staggering. However, most of the personal concerns and political activism related to AIDS are easily adaptable to hepatitis B. The adoption of safe sex practices to prevent AIDS will also prevent hepatitis B; and surely such behavior changes have been more difficult for gay and bisexual men than would be the trek to a clinic for a blood test.

Also, the expense of the vaccine, still relatively expensive at \$70 to \$100, presents an obstacle, although it is slight in comparison to the cost and loss of income that hepatitis B can bring. A subsidized vaccine program is needed but not immediately likely (remember, however, the massive national swine flu inoculation program of several years ago). The cost of the vaccine is clearly within the means of many men and women. Others can't afford it, and this country's health care system has a responsibility to make the vaccine available to them, as well.

AIDS prevention measures did not really get off the ground in San Francisco until there was a community consensus that scientific evidence demonstrated a clear need for action. Hepatitis B is also that kind of epidemic.

Poppers II... Just When You Thought They Were Safe

Remember when poppers were suspected of being the cause of AIDS? Once cleared of that singular distinction, amyl and butyl nitrites might have settled comfortably into the category of stimulants — alcohol, recreational drugs, cigarettes — that many people use in moderation with awareness of the potential health risks of each substance. And yet poppers have failed to elude their early association with AIDS. For very good reasons: there continue to be sporadic studies that implicate nitrite inhalants with cell abnormalities and immunosuppression.

The Public Health Services, a federal agency, continues to distribute a booklet called "What Gay and Bisexual Men Should Know About AIDS." One segment of the text reads: "Nitrite inhalants or 'poppers,' used by homosexuals to enhance sexual excitement, were thought to affect the immune system.

This theory has been ruled out." What has been ruled out is that poppers cause AIDS; the effect of the inhalants on the body's cellular immune system appears to be anything but positive. At the very least, the Public Health Service should discontinue use of the above pamphlet, and local and national gay publications might reconsider the full-page poppers advertisements their issues feature.

AIDS researchers have approached the association of poppers and the immune disorder from two directions: epidemiology and laboratory research. Initial studies determined which characteristics of people with AIDS appeared to indicate a link with their disease. This epidemiological approach found that high numbers of multiple partners and receptive anal intercourse were significant correlations with the development of AIDS. A few studies also found that several research subjects had a history of frequent popper use. The difficulty with these studies lies with hypothetical



but reasonable questions: Would popper use alone — without a history of multiple sexual contacts — correlate with an AIDS diagnosis? Is popper use significant in itself or only because it was a component of high-risk sexual activities? The answers to these questions are forthcoming only if the government will fund further research.

Other scientists have studied the effect of the nitrites on cellular functions in laboratory settings. One study, conducted in 1983 by scientists at the University of Arkansas, found that in laboratory settings exposure of cells to amyl nitrite for up to 30 minutes did not destroy the cells but did result in "functional deficits"; in fact, "effect on all cellular functions was demonstrated in five minutes." Richard F. Jacobs, M.D., and his associates wrote in their *Journal of Toxicology* article that their studies "demonstrated significant inhibition of many aspects of cellular immunity."

Another study, conducted in Texas, was recently published in the journal *Pharmacotherapy* (September-October 1984). Researcher Guy R. Newell, M.D., and his colleagues used both purified nitrites and the commercial volatile varieties. They found that *both types depressed various leukocyte (cellular) functions associated with the body's defense system*. Armed with these findings, the researchers then had to confront the uncertain epidemiological studies.

"There are at least three possible mechanisms by which nitrites might influence the occurrence of KS and AIDS," they conclude. First, they suggest that the dilation of blood vessels (during anal intercourse) that results from popper use could facilitate the absorption of a transmissible agent, the probable AIDS virus, into the receptive partner's system. Second, the immunosuppressive properties of nitrites may initiate or contribute to impaired immunity in individuals; and third, after inhalation, nitrites could be converted to carcinogenic agents.

In an editorial introduction to the nitrite study, Dr. Kenneth Mayer of Brown University School of Medicine stated his belief that the work of Newell provides "an important underlying conceptual framework" for further studies. He noted that some studies already underway will determine the effects of nitrite exposure in animals infected with cytomegalovirus (CMV). He also suggested that animals infected with the likely AIDS virus will allow for specific analyses of relationships between the

development of AIDS and nitrites. Mayer's conclusion about the results of this research should be well considered by anyone contemplating further use of poppers: "They (Newell, et al.) have raised sufficient concern about the use of volatile nitrites to warrant unequivocal disapproval of the use of these drugs at this time."

Warts, Herpes, and New Discoveries

Venereal warts have been around for a long time, and it's not unusual to hear gay men discuss the ease or, more likely, the difficulty in keeping the persistent growths away. It's possible, however, that the rate of new cases of venereal warts in major American cities has decreased — along with a decrease in rectal gonorrhea — as a response to AIDS prevention measures. In addition, researchers at the University of California, San Francisco, believe that the presence of newly identified wart-like lesions in the mouths of many of their gay patients may be an early marker for the development of AIDS.

First, some background. Until recently, researchers believed that there was a single virus, called "human papillomavirus" or "HPV," that caused different types of warts, depending upon the different locations on the body where they appear. Further understanding of HPV was blocked due to the inability of the virus to replicate in tissue culture and to the difficulty of developing an animal model. With advances in molecular biology, it became possible to isolate and describe different HPVs that cause different warts and wart-like lesions in the skin and mucosa.

Dr. John Greenspan, UCSF oral biologist and pathologist, explained in a December lecture that it was only ten years ago that researchers at the Pasteur Institute in Paris discovered that there were many types of wart viruses. "There are now — at last count — 27 viruses," he commented, "and each virus reproduces in only one species; that is, a virus from one species cannot be transmitted to another." Individuals are susceptible to the wart viruses, according to Greenspan, when immunocompromised — especially the type of immune impairment associated with AIDS. Greenspan also noted that a few of the wart types, like the "Bowenoid papulosis," have been found to be pre-cancerous.

The new suspected link with the development of AIDS only gradually became apparent to UCSF researchers. Greenspan recounted, "In 1981 we realized that AIDS would affect San Francisco. Some of us began to see AIDS patients, and, at the same time, Dr. Deborah Greenspan saw gay men with unusual white lesions in their mouths." (The Greenspans are colleagues at UCSF as well as husband and wife.) At first the lesions were thought to be oral candidiasis (thrush); but unlike candidiasis, these could not be rubbed off and they failed to respond to the usually effective anti-fungal treatments. The researchers suspected something more.

Deborah Greenspan and her colleagues published the results of their suspicions in the British journal *The Lancet* (October 13, 1984). She wrote that many of the patients showed evidence of immunosuppression and that the lesions resembled flat skin warts. Upon further investigation, Greenspan came to believe that "this condition is a separate entity not previously described in the mouth." The new oral lesions were called "hairy leukoplakia," a name derived from its corrugated surface composed of numerous minute projections that resemble hairs.

Greenspan's study involved 37 gay men with hairy leukoplakia, none of whom had AIDS at the onset of observations. All claimed good health; each reported use of marijuana, cocaine, or nitrites. Thirty had a history of hepatitis B, 32 a history of syphilis or gonorrhea, and 25 had diffuse lymphadenopathy (swollen lymph glands). Candida was found in 26 of the men; and while treatment for that fungal infection was effective, the white lesions remained. Eight men developed pneumocystis pneumonia after an average of 9.5 months, ranging from 3 weeks to 31 months. One man has died and one has AIDS-related meningitis. The others remain alive and well.

Deborah Greenspan noted in her article, "Hairy leukoplakia appears to be a new entity found, as yet exclusively, in the mouths of

(continued on next page)

Science...

male homosexuals." While the Greenspans are certain that their findings are epidemiologically important, they said they remained unsure of whether it is an early warning sign of AIDS.

There were other surprises for the researchers. Excited at first by the apparent discovery of a new wart, John Greenspan recalled that with further microscopic inspection, "We found not a papillomavirus but a herpes-type virus." Actually, follow-up studies revealed two viruses, HPV and HSV-2 (herpes), in the same lesion.

John Greenspan further reported results from a new study which identified the mystery virus as Epstein-Barr (EBV), one of four in the human herpes virus group. Greenspan's discovery represents the first time medical researchers have reported seeing the virus in a human biopsy. Greenspan noted in a news release that "the mystery of Epstein-Barr has been, 'where does it live?' Because we had never seen it in tissue, we didn't know what kind of cells helped it thrive." He concluded that the discovery provides much-needed information for developing an effective treatment.

The appearance of such a new discovery may yet not be well known to physicians in private practice. John Greenspan advised his colleagues, "If you see a lesion that looks similar to this, send your patients to Deborah Greenspan." *Gay patients diagnosed with oral lesions that appear to be candida (thrush) should discuss with their physicians the new discovery of hairy leukoplakia, the presence of Epstein-Barr virus, and different therapies.*

Drug Use Update

In the minds of many researchers and physicians, AIDS continues to be a "gay disease," an inaccurate notion that hinders possible breakthroughs in understanding the epidemic disorder. As suggested in last month's column ("The Neglected Risk Group"), too few researchers have been willing to consider the misuse of I.V. drugs as a serious high-risk factor for contracting AIDS. Their failure to do so has undoubtedly led to gaps in AIDS prevention and education programs and, inevitably, more people contracting AIDS. A few of these occurred recently in a perhaps unexpected group: body builders who share needles to take steroids. It is very possible that the public stereotype of "drug abusers" left this group of needle-users exposed to the risk of AIDS without adequate warning. The new cases illustrate that AIDS prevention messages should focus directly on the means of transmission wherever it may occur rather than on preconceived notions of lifestyle.

The California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs, in a report issued last December 21, gave statistical force to the need of drug abusers to be targeted by AIDS-related education and prevention programs. The report noted that the rate of cocaine abuse in the state is "increasing dramatically." It further revealed that individuals who entered state treatment programs listed cocaine as the primary drug of abuse, an increase of 192% between 1978 and 1982. During the period of 1980 to 1983 autopsies involving cocaine-related deaths increased 580%, while cocaine-related admissions at hospital emergency rooms increased 234%. A recent three-year study of 11,623 drug-using clients of treatment centers on the East Coast revealed that more than half of all cocaine users reported that their principal means of administration was intravenous.

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Women's Wheelchair Basketball Plays First-Time Game

For the first time in Berkeley, three women's wheelchair basketball teams will compete on Saturday, February 16. The sport of women's wheelchair basketball dates back to 1970 in Illinois. By 1982, there were eleven women's teams in the National Wheelchair Basketball Association (NWBA). Currently, seventeen women's teams compete in the league (compared to the 200-plus men's teams).

Two seasons ago, a new women's team emerged from the San Francisco Bay Area. Five women now play regularly on the East Bay Pirates. Formerly, with only one women's wheelchair basketball team in the Bay Area, women had to take on the men's league in order to compete on a regular basis.

Everyone is invited to the event. Game time is 10 a.m., play continues until 3 p.m. The Recreational Sports facility at University of California's Berkeley campus serves as game site.

Access Project sponsors the Pirates, but the team is still in need of t-shirts. If you'd like to help out with a donation, are interested in joining a team, or would just like more information on future games, call 849-4663.

Reporters Wanted

If you have a background in news journalism, news features, or investigative reporting, and would be interested in writing for Coming Up!, we'd like to hear from you. Call the Coming Up! office Monday-Friday, between 10am-6pm, 641-7900. Ask for Kim.

ALGA's Fourth Annual Chinese New Year Dinner

The fourth annual Chinese New Year dinner sponsored by the Association of Lesbian and Gay Asians (ALGA) will be held on Saturday, February 23, 1985 to celebrate the Year of the Ox, 4683.

This year's dinner at the Yank Sing Restaurant in San Francisco's financial district will feature an elaborate dim sum buffet, making a departure from the banquets of previous years. The evening will begin with a no-host cocktail hour with complimentary hors d'oeuvres at 5 p.m., followed by the dim sum feast and a special program.

Call for Fiction & Poetry

Coming Up!'s Poetry/Fiction Editor, Bernard Branner, is still reviewing submissions. If you have any work you would like considered, mail it the Coming Up!, c/o Bernard Branner, 867 Valencia Street, San Francisco 94110.

The program will feature entertainment and a surprise guest speaker. "We expect this year's dinner to be the best ever," says Hoover Lee, coordinator of the event. "Among those in attendance will be gay and straight community leaders who have been supportive of ALGA over the years."

Cost of the event is \$25.00 and \$22.00 for ALGA members. For those who wish to attend the cocktail hour only, the cost is \$5.00. Dinner seating is limited, so reservations with full payment should be sent early. Make checks payable to ALGA and send by February 15th to ALGA, 55 Sutter Street, Box 97, San Francisco, CA 94104. For more information, call 861-4767 or 821-1495.

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Kidnapped by the Contras

First Person Account

Last month, poet Gwen Carmen spent three weeks in Nicaragua. While she was there, an American Maryknoll nun, Sister Nancy Donovan, was kidnapped by the U.S.-financed contras, counter-revolutionary forces waging a fierce war dedicated to the overthrow of the Nicaraguan government. Gwen met Donovan, who wrote the following harrowing story on her release from the kidnap.

My name is Sister Nancy Donovan from Waterbury, Connecticut, and I have been a Maryknoll Sister for 35 years. I have served as a missionary in Central America for 29 years. My most recent mission assignment is to the parish of San Juan de Limay, in the Diocese of Esteli, in Nicaragua, where I have been a pastoral worker for three years. I wish to relate to you the details of the events that occurred on Tuesday, January 8, 1985 in that same town.

At approximately 6 a.m. I left the town of Limay to go to Esteli in order to attend the Clergy meeting of the Diocese of Esteli which had been called by my bishop, Bishop Ruben Lopez Ardon. I had to search for a ride in a private vehicle, since the town's only bus had been burned by counter-revolutionary forces [Contras] on December 9th, and now there is no public transportation. I found a ride with a refugee family which had been displaced by a contra attack on a village on the outskirts of Limay on December 27th. This family was transporting their few belongings to Esteli. An 18-year-old boy also had asked to be taken in the same pick-up truck. All were civilians and unarmed.

About six kilometers outside of Limay, just before the turn-off onto the new road to Esteli, we spotted a tractor parked in the middle of the road. Five armed men in blue contra uniforms with FDN on them came from behind the tractor and stopped our truck. They made us leave the vehicle, and we joined about 25 civilians who were being held in a gully by the side of the road. After about ten minutes they told us we could continue on our way. I do not know what eventually happened to the other civilians who were being held by the side of the road.

We continued on down the new road to Esteli. I began to feel fearful for the safety of those being held on the road and others who would leave Limay and be stopped by the contras. I also feared for the safety of the passengers in our car, since I believed there were probably more forces on the road ahead. I felt the most important thing I could do to prevent danger to travelers was to try to return to Limay as quickly as possible to inform departing vehicles about the danger on the road.

After traveling another four kilometers, we came to a small village called El Pedernal. I asked the driver to leave me there, and he continued in the direction of Esteli. I went to four houses to search for a horse to ride back, but there was none. So I set out walking on a small back road, which I knew from my pastoral visits to the zone would lead me to Platanares and then to Limay.



Ten Nicaraguan construction workers were killed by the contras during the raids in which Sister Donovan was kidnapped.

Victoria Mercado Lesbian/Gay Brigade Continues Fundraising; Plans Trip for May

The Victoria Mercado Lesbian/Gay Brigade to Nicaragua, the first-ever lesbian/gay work brigade to travel to that country, continues their outreach and fundraising efforts. Support for the brigade has poured in from all over the country.

The brigade invites everyone to help make this historic project a success. For more information on taking part in the on-going planning, making a contribution, or joining the brigade, call 465-8149 or 346-8540.

Somos Hermanas: Embracing Our Sisters In Solidarity

The first West Coast Conference on Women in Central America is being planned for the weekend of International Women's Day. The conference will focus on the conditions of women in El Salvador and Nicaragua.

The conference will provide an invaluable opportunity for women activists from the peace and solidarity movement, the women's and lesbian movements, the labor movement and minority communities to educate ourselves, strengthen our ties, and help us prepare

to meet the threat of direct U.S. intervention in Central America. Workshops and panels will emphasize the links between peace-loving women worldwide. A call has been sent to women activists from Vancouver to San Diego to promote the broadest possible interaction with this issue.

The conference is sponsored by Somos Hermanas, the Alliance Against Women's Oppression and the San Francisco Women's Centers/Women's Building and will be held on March 9 and 10 in San Francisco. For more information or to get involved, call 566-2070.

Bay Area Construction Brigade to Nicaragua

A brigade has been formed from the Bay Area, which will leave for Nicaragua this month. Fifteen construction workers will spend six weeks working with the Nicaraguan people. They are asking concerned people to make donations of tools or money for tools. At the completion of the project these tools will be distributed to local craftworkers in Nicaragua. Donations or requests for more information can be mailed to Bay Area Construction Brigade to Nicaragua, 1939 Cedar St., Berkeley, CA 94709.

I walked about two kilometers and passed the houses of Pozo Colorado. Shortly after that I was stopped on the path by two armed men in FDN uniforms. They asked me where I was going, and I told them to Limay. They spoke on walkie-talkies for some moments and then told me I could go no further and must stay in their custody. They directed me to a stone wall where there were more armed, uniformed

men, about twenty in all. I estimate that this was about 7 or 7:30 a.m. — I had no watch.

I was held at the wall for approximately three hours. During that time, three or four peasants and a woman and child also were stopped on the path and held with me. At about 8 a.m. I heard some gunfire from the old road where we had initially been stopped. There was a long wait of over an hour. Then I heard very loud automatic machine-gun fire and heavy artillery coming from Loma Atravesada, which is further along the road to Esteli. I prayed for the lives of those who were involved.

A few minutes later, after talking on walkie-talkies, the contras lined us up between their own forces in single file and had us begin to walk. After a short distance the contras separated me from the rest of the civilians and sent me with three armed men to wait at the top of the hill ahead. The other civilians never appeared again. They were left behind, and I do not know what happened to them. The rest of the twenty armed men joined me and the three men guarding me, and we continued on the march for about one kilometer, where we joined up with about twenty armed, uniformed men of the FDN. We moved on for another one to two kilometers to Santa Ana.

I told the contras I would leave them and cut back to Limay, but they would not let me go.

We then walked another kilometer on the path and began marching over rough terrain, through rivers and hills for about four kilometers until we arrived near a village called Los Encuentros. There, under a mango tree, we joined about twenty more armed, uniformed men, making the total about sixty. We were there about an hour or so. During that time some of the men were boasting about the success they had had in the ambushes on the road.

I then again attempted to leave. They prevented me from doing so until the arrival of four of their FDN leaders who joined them. These four men began to interrogate me about my work and identity. They searched my belongings and began to read my address book. After some time of discussion among themselves and on the walkie-talkie, they told me that I could go. I estimate that this was about 3:30 p.m.

I walked to the village of Santa Ana where a family gave me food and coffee, since I had not eaten all day. A farmer took me on his horse as far as La Grecia, which is about three to four kilometers from Limay. I walked the rest of the way to the town, and it was close to 6 p.m. when I arrived there. I estimate that I walked about 16-18 kilometers that day.

Regarding my time with the contras, I was never physically mistreated by any of them. I received the most abrupt treatment from the FDN leaders. I observed that the 60 men were well armed and equipped. One of the men wore an arm patch which said "Soldier of Fortune, Second Convention." Another had "U.S. Army" written on the front of his uniform. They showed me their new knapsacks and told me they had received new equipment recently. They told me that their supplies are dropped by planes which "fly very quietly at night." They hoped they would be receiving new supplies that night to replenish the ammunition they had used that day.

When I arrived in Limay, I was greeted by a North American woman who is a member of Witness for Peace, who has been present with me in Limay for a few weeks. I quickly found out that fourteen civilians had been killed by the FDN forces in different ambushes along the roads to Limay that same day. Nine were construction workers ambushed in Atravesada: two workers from the Ministry of Natural Resources, two young coffee pickers, and a tractor driver were killed along the road to Pueblo Nuevo. I saw four tractors which were destroyed. At least ten persons were kidnapped, but there may be more. I also found out that the original vehicle in which I had been traveling had been stopped again by the FDN forces after I left it to walk back to Limay. The 18-year-old youth, Freddy Castellon, had been kidnapped.

We spent the night and the next day washing the bodies of the dead, comforting families and praying with them, and burying the dead from Limay. The bodies of the eleven people who were from other places were transported the next day to Esteli. It was very difficult to communicate all that had happened because the telephone and telegraph lines were destroyed by the contras about one month ago.

Yesterday, January 10th, I traveled from Limay to Esteli in our jeep, accompanied by the Witness for Peace member and a small child who was ill. I went immediately to inform Bishop Lopez of all that had happened, and then I came to Managua late last night.

To conclude, I want to say that I feel grateful to God for my own safety, but that I am much more concerned for those who were killed on the same day in Limay, and for the thousands of innocent people who have been killed over the past four years as a result of the contra attacks. Just in Limay, almost forty civilians have been killed in the past month. The attacks have been made on civilian, not military, targets, and they are increasing.

As a Christian and as a U.S. citizen, I am deeply pained by the fact that my government has been responsible for arming and training these forces which have caused the deaths of so many. I continue to join my voice and my prayer to that of the U.S. Catholic Bishops, and of the churches and people across the U.S. who have protested the U.S. government's covert war against Nicaragua, and who are calling for a peaceful solution to the conflict. I express my deep gratitude for the messages of love and concern I have received. I will return to my pastoral work in Limay this week.

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Choosing Children: An Historic Film Looks at the Lives of Lesbians as Parents

Reviewed by Rose Appleman

Twenty years ago lesbianism was a felony, lesbian families unheard of. Then came the women's movement, which broke open myths of women's roles, prescribed relationships, and defined reproductive choice as a basic right. The first openly lesbian mothers were women who'd had children mostly in marriages, then come out in the movement; many of them lost custody and draining custody cases, only to get the children back when their ex-husbands couldn't cope with child-rearing. Only in the last seven years have sizable numbers of lesbians who are already out begun to make the decision to have families. *Choosing Children* is the first film to tell their story.

A 45-minute color documentary, *Choosing Children* is the first 16-mm movie for two independent Boston director/producers, Debra Chasnoff and Kim Klausner. Chasnoff and Klausner, both activists with a history in the women's movement, set out to make a film that would both encourage lesbians who want to have children and educate groups who deal with lesbian mothers — human service agencies, social science and law schools and civil liberties groups, as well as the progressive movement in general. The essential points they try to convey are simple: lesbian parenting is possible, and lesbian families are viable ones, with both common and special needs in a homophobic world.

Chasnoff and Klausner indisputably succeed, creating a movie which is completely straightforward, yet so non-threatening you could bring your grandmother to see it. *Choosing Children* opened in Boston December 8 to enthusiastic reviews from both the gay and mainstream press; at the New York Lesbian/Gay Film Festival, it received the award for best short film.

With warmth, humor and skill, Chasnoff and Klausner have woven together sit-down interviews and slice-of-life footage of six lesbian families. After contacting some 60 families around the country, they chose these six from Boston, New York, Seattle and the Bay Area to highlight the diversity in the creation and composition of lesbian families. The families, representing various ethnic and cultural backgrounds, include a Boston couple, Lee and Margarita, who had their daughter by Margarita's sleeping with an old boyfriend; Rochelle, a Brooklyn woman with two children, now single after breaking up with her lover; Julia and Cheryl, a couple with one biological daughter, guardianship of another, and adoption of a third; a lesbian and a gay man in Seattle, Jan and Jerry, sharing parenting of their child; Jan and Maide, who used artificial insemination and an anonymous sperm donor; and Linda, Diane, Roma, Jean and Tiana in San Francisco, who are co-parenting Annie.

In the course of explaining how these families got started, the film thoroughly demystifies the technique of artificial insemination, known for 50 years, and recently adopted by lesbians. Maide, who in addition to being a mother, helps others to conceive, goes through the process step by step, displaying her favorite sperm-collecting receptacles — artichoke-heart and baby food jars — and devices for keeping the sperm warm: old socks.

By drawing the viewer close to the families' and the women's joy in motherhood, *Choosing Children* consciously stresses the positive experiences of lesbian parenting. But in understated, anecdotal fashion, it also depicts the families' encounters with homophobia and heterosexism — from the consternation of the school administrator faced with both Julia and Cheryl appearing for Maria's evaluation, to the pressure on Lee at work to keep quiet about her lover giving birth to their daughter, to the harassment Rochelle and her lover endure from emergency room personnel treating Rochelle's severely premature daughter.

A few of the children speak up, too. Julia's



daughter Margo talks about the time her class had to make Father's Day cards. Rochelle's seven-year-old son, El Horin, tells the interviewers that when kids at school call gay people faggots, he doesn't always say anything, but in his mind, "I feel like giving them a knock upside their head!"

It is in explaining the legal issues facing lesbian mothers that *Choosing Children* most clearly exposes the depth of institutionalized heterosexism. It is easy to forget, watching these very solid families, that they exist outside the law: there is no legal foundation for their right to exist. Some 100 lesbians a year fight custody suits. State laws governing paternity definition, rights of known sperm donors and rights of the non-biological mother are non-uniform, unclear and untested. Some states, for example, have recognized known donors as legal fathers, giving them visitation rights, grounds for custody suits and a say in major decisions affecting the child's life. There are steps lesbian mothers can take to secure the legal status of their relationships, but these are far from fail-safe. And as Donna Hitchens, former attorney for the Lesbian Rights Project, points out in the film, there is still a constant lurking threat that the state itself will intervene and take away the children. The women who run the greatest risk of this are those directly involved with the state through welfare or other social programs — poor women, a disproportionate number of them minorities.

Here the film stops just short of pinpointing the legal right as a vital link in enabling all lesbians to parent — not just those with access to privilege. The families in *Choosing Children*, with the stark exception of Rochelle's, have adequate resources and support networks in the private sphere. Rochelle, a Black woman, faces not only homophobia but also racism and the constraints on any single mother trying to raise children alone on a limited income. Women in that situation profoundly need social support services — to the extent those are available — but cannot actively seek them as long as it puts their families in jeopardy.

Establishing legal security for lesbian mothers will entail long, laborious litigation of

test cases. But, especially given the rising right-wing influence on public policy, the legal work will be insufficient without the backing of mass political action. The women's movement, the lesbian/gay movement and the entire progressive community will have to put the right to parent on their agenda of basic democratic rights, to be secured for everyone, not just those who can afford it. *Choosing Children* is both a testimony to the possibility of lesbian parenting and an invaluable educational tool for the struggle to make that possibility a generally available option.

Choosing Children celebrates its West Coast premiere on Wednesday, February 13, 7 pm, at the York Theatre in San Francisco. The premiere will be a benefit for two Bay Area organizations with a long history of support for women's and lesbian rights — the Women's Building and the Lesbian Rights Project. Since 1979, the Women's Building

has served as a community cultural center, housing women's organizations and providing low-cost space for community activities and classes. The Lesbian Rights Project is a public interest law firm that furnishes no-fee legal services to lesbians and gay men who encounter discrimination based on sexual orientation. Both organizations are feeling the impact of Reaganomics and need our support. Tickets to the premiere are \$5-\$25 (sliding scale) and can be purchased at the Women's Building, Old Wives' Tales, or by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Lesbian Rights Project, 1370 Mission St., 4th floor, San Francisco, 94103. Childcare is available by reservation (call 641-7832), and the event will be sign language interpreted.

Rose Appleman covers the gay/lesbian movement for Frontline, a bi-weekly analytical newspaper with an anti-racist, anti-imperialist perspective. This article appeared in a much different form in Frontline, December 31, 1984.

Choosing Children is distributed by Women's Educational Media, Inc., P.O. Box 441266, Somerville, MA 02144.



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MOTHERLINES

BY CHERYL JONES

I'm adjusting to life as a single parent. Really feels different to be solo with Caitlan whenever we're together. And I'm looking at myself as a parent and the people around me differently, too.

We went away for the weekend with three other adults, and I was surprised to see my own reactions. As supportive as they all were, I found myself worrying that Caitlin would disturb them and also feeling protective of her — not wanting her to be judged for acting like a four-year-old. In the morning, I got out of bed twenty times to make sure she was amused so it would be quiet. And while I was doing it, I was thinking, "What am I doing — everyone here chose to go away for the weekend with a child. They can handle it." But I felt a sense of isolation I hadn't experienced since she was very small — just a real difference in perspective. It also brought up something I've thought of many times over the last four years — what does it take for a non-mother to support a mother? The change in my life and identity as a parent brings it up again.

The primary complication in communicating what I need is that it constantly changes. And so I sometimes feel wildly inconsistent, even though I know I change with Caitlin's stages. There is almost no similarity between our needs when she was an infant and our needs now that she is four.

Before she was born I had many clear notions of what I thought I'd want. I was thrilled that several people wanted consistent time with her — I just knew I'd need that time to "live my life." Then, when she was really here, I found that I didn't feel good about leaving her unless I had to; that for us, infancy was a time to be together, to establish our bond.

Several people resented what they saw as taking the power when I set limits about Caitlin's time away from me. But I could not get over the feeling that, in our relationship,

it would be irresponsible *not* to set those limits, and she was my priority. I still wondered if I was keeping too much control — I searched myself, but ultimately had to do what felt right. I believed I would let go when the time was right.

We have progressed along that road. I have let go in many ways, and yet, there is a fine line — Caitlin still needs me to hold on a bit, too. I no longer doubt that I'll be able to send her into the world more and more as we're ready. And I have a clear perspective on the process — where it might be when she's 8, 11, 14.

So, somehow the people who want to be involved with Caitlin and me need to know a little about how children grow up, and need to trust my sense of her *at the present moment*. But that doesn't mean I don't need the opinions and perceptions of people outside our relationship — I am sometimes too close to see the pitfalls I fall into.

I've also found that sometimes small but consistent support really makes a difference. One of our friends takes Caitlin to school one day a week and has taken that seriously as a commitment. Knowing that she is consistently there even in a way that might seem small to someone else helps me to *feel* supported.

For me not to feel isolated, I must know that what I need as a mother is part of what people do for my child — that they consider us as a unit. That Caitlin's time with other people needs to be convenient in the scheme of our life together. Of course, there are people involved with Caitlin who do not have an interest in supporting me as a mother, and these are the situations in which I end up feeling alienated and alone....

It all comes back to a sense that my life as a mother can only partly be explained to a non-mother, and I need trust that I will act responsibly in Caitlin's best interests first, but that I value and honor the relationships she has, as

GGBA Celebrates "The Second Decade"

On January 22, the Golden Gate Business Association celebrated the beginning of its second decade of service to the Bay Area gay business community. The event, held at the Ramada Renaissance Hotel, was GGBA's 11th Annual Board of Directors Installation and Awards Banquet. Ms. Sharon McNight graciously M.C.'d the evening. Ms. Valerie Terrigno, recently elected mayor of West Hollywood, California, reflected on the recent incorporation of her city and her election as the nation's first openly lesbian mayor. Ms. Terrigno then formally "swore in" GGBA's new officers and Board of Directors.

Ms. Laurie McBride, President, reviewed GGBA's plans for the second decade of service to the gay business community. Other installed officers and directors included: John D. Peterman, Vice-President; Mike Newton, Secretary; Matthew Reed, Treasurer; Suzanne Abbott; Robert Casetta; Michael C. Hall; Cecil Hander, D.C.; Jerry E. Robinson; Fred B. Rosenberg; and Fred Seals.

Following the awards ceremony honoring numerous individuals for their dedicated service to the community, the evening was



Photo by Benk
Jerry Berg and Laurie McBride, President of GGBA.

brought to a climax with a presentation by guest of honor and recently-elected President of the Board of Supervisors, John L. Molinari. Mr. Molinari, a long-time proponent and outwardly vocal legislator for gay rights, reaffirmed his determination for the successful passage of AB-1 and briefly reviewed events past and future relative to gay rights and this important bill.

well. As she gets older, it becomes easier to separate *her* friends from *our* friends — they were of necessity linked in infancy because anyone who would be close to her, I needed to trust.

This issue of what support is for me really took a quiet place for quite a while. I realize that I eliminated those people from my life who did not understand my experience and developed relationships with other mothers who automatically understood some of it. Now, as a single mother, developing new relationships and living a life apart from Caitlin more than ever, I again confront in myself the fear that I will be unable to communicate with people who have not had a child in their lives. A desire is rekindled to form a sense of community with women who do not have children but who respect and care for children.

I certainly choose people in my life who want this — I don't think I could do otherwise, and still my fear of meeting roadblocks comes up and I have to remember that a few years ago I would not have understood. I had no sense of children — what they wanted or needed, how they behaved.

Once again, learning to listen and learning to speak the truth, I carry an old frustration that I will find it too difficult. But I also believe I can learn to ask for the kinds of help I need as a mother without guilt. I know I can trust the love other women have for Caitlin and for me. I believe there is a growing respect in our community for the act of parenting. I want to see life as a mother as a wonderful difference — something I bring to the community, something positive to share.

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AIDS News...

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Epidemiologists, the Association of State and Territorial Public Health Laboratory Directors, the California Conference of Local Health Officials, and the California AIDS Task Force. These groups have stated that release of the tests should be delayed until the diagnostic and prognostic significance of positive or negative test results — especially in asymptomatic persons — can be determined.

Several researchers now suggest that an AIDS antibody test should be substituted by — or at least complemented with — a test that looks for the virus antigen itself directly in the blood.

Even with the current problems, the Public Health Service still predicts that the first tests will receive approval by the Food and Drug Administration by the end of March.

AIDS Foundation to Commission Lab Study: Will Condoms Block AIDS Agent?

Safe sex has become the watchword of gay men living in the age of AIDS. One of the mainstays of this new concern is an old preventive tool: the condom. With the probable AIDS virus only identified last spring, does anyone know if the condom can block this new infectious agent? No, but the word will be out within a few months.

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation will soon authorize laboratory tests to determine whether condoms prevent passage of the probable AIDS virus. Although previous tests with other bacteria and viruses strongly suggest that condoms will block the AIDS agent, staff members at the AIDS Foundation told *Coming Up!* that a specific study with the AIDS virus may convince more sexually active individuals to use condoms. The scientific study will complement a broad-based AIDS education and prevention campaign being developed to encourage the use of condoms to prevent the transmission of sexually transmitted diseases.

The laboratory tests will most likely be conducted under the auspices of Marcus Conant, MD, and the UC San Francisco AIDS Clinical Research Center. Conant previously conducted lab tests with condoms to determine



Photo by Rick

their effectiveness in blocking the herpes simplex virus (HSV-2). The proposed AIDS virus test will be modeled after the HSV-2 study.

Conant told *Coming Up!* that he believes a common sense approach to disease prevention supports the notion of using condoms. "When I've addressed audiences about the use of condoms, I mention that when a condom is inflated, it retains a balloon shape. That simply means that air is not escaping through the condom. Air molecules are a hell of a lot smaller than any virus known to man, so it's very reasonable to believe that condoms would block the AIDS virus," Conant explained.

Conant, a dermatologist, designed an experiment to specifically test condoms with the herpes virus. The test results were published in the Spring, 1984 issue of *Sexually Transmitted Diseases*, the journal of the American Venereal Disease Association. Conant tested two types of condoms: one made of latex; the other made of natural membranes.

The experiment was designed to duplicate in a laboratory setting the motions that occur during sexual intercourse. No easy task. According to Conant, "You can never really copy

a biological function." His method involved the use of an ordinary, but large, disposable syringe. An HSV-2 solution was placed in the condom; then the condom and the plunger were fitted inside the syringe barrel. The end of the syringe—where the needle would ordinarily be placed—was submerged in a tissue culture medium. The journal article reports, "A pumping motion was used, and the plunger of the syringe was pushed up and down forcefully 50 times; cultures were taken from both inside and outside the condom at specific time periods."

No evidence of the virus appeared on the outside of the condom, showing the HSV-2 could not be forced across the barrier under laboratory conditions. Another experiment left the tested condom immersed in the tissue culture solution at room temperature for eight hours to determine whether long-term exposure would allow small amounts of the virus to penetrate the condom. This experiment was performed because some sexual partners do not remove the condom after climax. Even after this eight-hour period, there was no evidence that HSV-2 had seeped through the condom membrane.

Based on those experiments, Conant concluded in his journal article, "With the ever-increasing rise in genital herpes infections, sexually active individuals should be counseled that condoms offer protection against a number of sexually transmitted diseases, including herpes simplex virus." He further suggested that AIDS presents just one more reason — and there could hardly be a more serious one — for gay and bisexual men to use condoms.

Few AIDS educators believe that the present lack of a scientific study has kept gay men from using condoms. Instead, many individuals consider using condoms a nuisance and a hindrance to spontaneous sexual activity. While the AIDS epidemic may counter the inconvenience of condoms for many, several sex educators aspire to alter the non-erotic image that condoms now project. In the months ahead, the education department at the AIDS Foundation, in conjunction with the Sexologists' Sexual Health Project and a professional marketing firm, will develop a campaign to encourage gay and bisexual men to enhance sexual enjoyment while also protecting themselves and their partners by using condoms.

Health Worker Gets Hepatitis B, But Not AIDS From Needlestick

A technician at San Francisco General Hospital (SFGH), subject to an accidental needlestick while working with an AIDS patient, failed to develop AIDS symptoms or evidence of exposure to the AIDS-associated retrovirus. However, the hospital worker did contract Hepatitis B and showed symptoms of fatigue and jaundice 15 weeks after exposure. Researchers from UC San Francisco suggested that the lack of AIDS symptoms is "reassuring and suggests that the risk of transmission of AIDS may not be great, even with accidental exposures that transmit Hepatitis B."

Doctors J. Louise Gerberding, Philip C. Hopewell, and Merle A. Sande of SFGH and Lawrence S. Kaminsky of UCSF discussed the incident in a recent letter to the editor of the *New England Journal of Medicine* (Jan. 3, 1985). The researchers explained that during a bronchoscopy to confirm the presence of pneumocystis pneumonia in a patient with already confirmed Hepatitis B, a hospital worker accidentally sustained a needlestick.

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AIDS News...

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The worker belonged to none of the risk groups for AIDS and had no previous exposure. Although the employee did develop Hepatitis B symptoms after 15 weeks, no AIDS symptoms developed. In addition, 15 months after the needlestick, a test for antibodies to AIDS-Associated Retrovirus (ARV) was negative, and the worker's ratio T-helper cells to suppressor cells was normal.

The authors advised that the case does not preclude the possibility of transmitting AIDS by needlestick, since the potency of the AIDS virus may have been diminished by that stage of the patient's condition. Indeed, the medical literature of late does include reports of apparent transmission of AIDS by this route. But, complicating the picture further, Dr. Martin Hirsch of the Harvard Medical School released in early January a report which indicated low, if any, health risks for workers treating people with AIDS. Dr. Hirsch studied 85 cases of workers exposed to the virus, 30 of them by needlesticks. After eight months, none showed any sign of the virus.

Dr. Gerberding and epidemiologist Andrew Moss, Ph.D., are currently studying the risk of AIDS to health workers with volunteer health care professionals from SFGH and UCSF. Bloods were drawn from the 127 volunteers last month, and the samples were tested for the presence of antibodies to the AIDS-associated Virus. Test results are expected to be available in the near future.

Bathroom Update

Attorneys for San Francisco bathhouse owners have filed a challenge to the city's original complaint against the businesses. In addition, the business owners have instructed their legal counsel to appeal the recent court-approved temporary injunction against sexual activities within their facilities. These most recent actions occurred in the midst of confusion over what constitutes compliance with the ruling from Superior Court Judge Roy Wonder.

On January 14, Thomas Steel, attorney for three of the bathhouse owners, filed "A Verified Answer to Complaint," a legal response to the city's original complaint last October against the businesses, which began the four-month legal battle over bathhouse closure. Steel wrote that the city's action is barred by the United States and California Constitutions because "it seeks to enforce an order which is an unconstitutionally overbroad

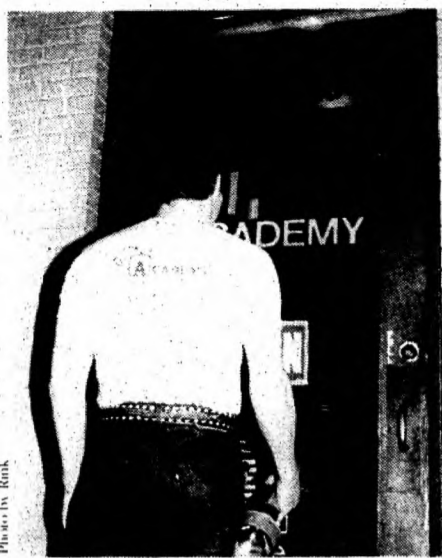
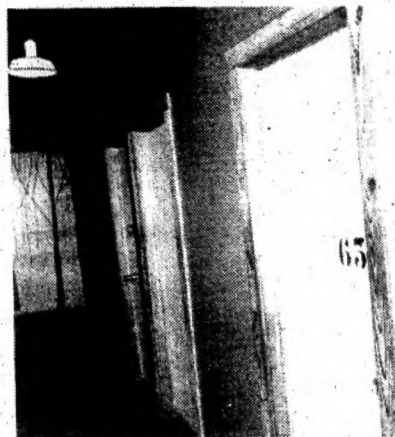


Photo by Rank



The Academy has remained open, but most sex businesses are still closed, pending further clarification of the court decision. The doors of the bathhouses still present problems to the court.

Photo by Rank

New AIDS Manual From Los Angeles

State funding for AIDS education has made possible an extensive and valuable self-care manual for people with AIDS. The AIDS Project Los Angeles (APLA) recently completed a year-long effort to publish "Living With AIDS — A Self-Care Manual." The City of Los Angeles, through the efforts of Councilwoman Peggy Stevenson, augmented the state funds. The purpose of the manual is to provide the kind of information that will "promote a sense of control over situations where there can be some control, and to assist in coping with situations in which there is little that can be done." The 95-page manual presents information on a wide range of topics including explanations of the major diseases, diagnoses and treatments, self-care techniques, and resource notes for using the social services system.

Much of the information in the Los Angeles manual is also available in several pamphlets and booklets published by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. Both organizations provide their education materials free of charge to people with AIDS. For others, the "Living with AIDS" manual costs \$5.00 with bulk rates available. For more information, contact Judy Spiegel, Health Educator for AIDS Project L.A. (213) 871-1284 (APLA, 937 N. Cole Avenue, Suite 3; Los Angeles, CA 90038) and/or Jackson Peyton, San Francisco AIDS Foundation Health Director, at (415) 864-4376.

AIDS Research at UCSF

A progress report on the expenditures of state funds for AIDS research has been released by the AIDS Clinical Research Center at the University of California, San Francisco. The summary notes considerable progress both in the development of clinical services to people with AIDS and in the establishment of a "specimen bank" which AIDS researchers rely upon to study blood and tissue samples of

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restriction of fundamental First Amendment rights, including the freedom of speech and freedom of association." Other defenses invoked the rights of privacy, of equal protection, and the right to due process.

On a second front, the bathhouse owners have also decided to appeal the recent temporary injunction granted by Superior Court Judge Wonder to the state Court of Appeals.

Both legal maneuvers come at a time of uncertain compliance with the restrictions of the injunction. Although Judge Wonder convened a special court session to clarify his original ruling, several ambiguities remain. Foremost among these are what constitutes "unsafe sex" for sex businesses and what degree of privacy is allowed for patrons in the facilities. Attorney Steel suggested that in the current period of ambiguity, business owners will interpret the ruling to the best of their abilities.

City Provides Hospice AIDS Team With Supplemental Funds

Hospice of San Francisco has successfully passed a review of its AIDS services and beat the competition to receive an additional \$244,000 in city funds for the remainder of the fiscal year. The supplemental funding will allow Hospice to double the number of people with AIDS it serves from 18 to 36 clients.

The supplemental funding will permit Hospice to hire additional nurses, social workers, and home attendants to meet the

needs of people with AIDS who are confined to their homes. Frequently, people with AIDS can avoid the expense of hospitalization through the coordinated efforts of Hospice, the Shanti Project, and the Social Services staff of the AIDS Foundation. Several national studies have shown that hospice services can be a very cost-effective means to provide quality care to people with debilitating illnesses. Helen Schietinger, coordinator of the Residential Housing Program for the Shanti Project, told *Coming Up!* that "without Hospice, Shanti could never have provided enough residential services for people. Their ongoing efforts are essential."

Jeanee Martin, director of the AIDS Home Care Program, explained that during recent weeks the waiting list for admission has included as many as 25 patients. "The new contract extension and expansion should make it possible to reduce that waiting list," she said. Even with the additional city funds, Hospice is still obligated to seek additional charitable support from the community. Several benefits and fundraisers are being scheduled to help fulfill the obligation. Titus says that "if all goes well with Hospice, we would see no reason not to fund the agency for another full year."

Hospice Attendant Training Set for February 23rd

A 16-hour course to train attendants for work with AIDS patients in their homes will be offered in San Francisco starting February 23rd. Larry Beresford, Public Relations Manager for Hospice, announced that the course is designed to acquaint home care and hospice attendants with the issues of caring for

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(continued from previous page)

those afflicted with the immune-disorder. Other efforts by the research center have been less successful due to institutional delays and to the complexities of research design.

The UCSF research center received a total of \$490,000 during the period of July 1, 1983 to October 31, 1984. The funding, approved by the state legislature and Governor George Deukmejian, was funneled through the University Task Force on AIDS, chaired by Dr. Merle Sande of San Francisco General Hospital. The brief progress report, prepared by research center director Marcus Conant, M.D. and center manager Dick Pabich, lists descriptions of efforts undertaken but lacks a financial statement of line-item costs for specific research, equipment acquisition, and education projects.

The most successful components of the center's efforts appear to be the ongoing work of the KS Clinic and the AIDS Clinic at UCSF, which provide a central source of patient care for people with AIDS. Services include monitoring patients' care through the often bewildering assortment of specialists involved in treatment programs and special services support. Both clinics also provide research assistance to several studies involving UCSF investigators.

Another successful component has been the AIDS Specimen Bank under the direction of Dr. John Greenspan. The report notes that the bank is "believed to be the largest collection of specimens on individuals who have been infected with the AIDS retrovirus." Sera and tissue have been provided to AIDS researchers from institutions worldwide. The effective collection and management of specimens represents a vital link to researchers looking at the complex effects of the AIDS disorder.

The research center's hopes for a computer-based network to facilitate the collection and use of data received from people with AIDS encountered several obstacles, according to the report. These included the design of the most useful computer system within the center's financial limitations, as well as the need to train more than 100 staff members to use the 20 IBM

personal computers purchased for the center. Increased concerns expressed in the gay community about confidentiality of data also required further design modifications. The progress report targets the establishment of a central computer file as a primary goal for 1985.

The most controversial segment of the AIDS Clinical Research Center has been its educational efforts. In May of 1984 the center sponsored a two-day symposium for national experts to develop an AIDS education and prevention package that could serve as a resource to health agencies nationwide. Locally, the symposium organizers found themselves charged with excluding local health providers, of mounting a campaign against gay bathhouses, of inadequately involving minorities, and of using the symposium to push an AIDS media education proposal before the Department of Public Health. The symposium sessions were broadened to include community observers who added their comments to the written conclusions of the meetings. And the health department chose instead to fund an education program already begun by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

The report notes that center manager Pabich will seek additional funding in 1985 to provide conferences on mental health aspects of AIDS, AIDS in the workplace, questions of confidentiality, and issues for science writers and journalists.

SF Civil Service Commission Rules on Rights of Employees With AIDS

The San Francisco Civil Service Commission has decided in favor of the employment rights of city employees diagnosed with AIDS. In addition, the commission ruled that city employees may be guilty of insubordination if they refuse to work with a co-worker who has AIDS. Disciplinary action could follow a finding of insubordination.

The ruling is expected to be very important to gay activists trying to thwart discrimination

against people with AIDS. The Civil Service Commission, in a letter dated January 3rd to the city's Board of Supervisors, noted that "current medical opinion indicates that persons with AIDS do not present risk factors in the normal course of their employment environment or work activities." The ruling went beyond a simple advisory with its warning to city employees: "If other co-workers refuse to work simply because of the presence of AIDS victim, they are subject to due process disciplinary procedures."

The ruling coincided with a growing controversy among the ranks of the city's deputy sheriffs. Two petitions have circulated among the deputies at the Hall of Justice: one to isolate from the workforce a deputy who is believed to have AIDS, and the second, a repudiation of the sentiments of the first petition. Similar concerns have been raised in the city's Police Department. The Civil Service ruling clarifies the controversy for city employees.

San Francisco is not alone with concerns among its public employees about exposure to AIDS. Sheriff Mike Hennessey addressed a special AIDS conference in Seattle on January 12th entitled: "AIDS: Its Impact on Public Service Personnel."

Housing Needed For People With AIDS

Many people with AIDS are finding themselves homeless as apartment rental rates and moving costs continue to rise. The Social Services Department of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation is facilitating listings of low-rent housing for people with AIDS and AIDS-related conditions. Referrals are needed for both shared (roommate) situations and individual apartments. The need for permanent housing is increasing as AIDS diagnoses continue to rise.

The average income of a person with AIDS or AIDS-related conditions, once they are unable to continue working, ranges from \$272 to \$504 per month. Due to these financial con-

straints, the AIDS Foundation is specifically seeking listings for housing that is available for \$250 per month or less.

Landlords and potential co-tenants should know that they are at *no* risk for casual contagion of AIDS should they make housing available to people with AIDS or AIDS-related conditions. Medical evidence has shown that AIDS is transmitted only through the direct exchange of bodily fluids, either sexually or through blood exchange.

Anyone who is interested or has questions about sharing their home, or who would consider providing low-cost apartment rentals in San Francisco, please call the Social Services Department of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation at 864-4376.

Greg Smith Memorial Fund Established for Interpreters For the Deaf

Greg Smith died on December 15, 1984, after a long battle with his illness. In his honor, a fund has been established through NorCRID, the Northern California Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf. Greg, a valued and active member of NorCRID, served in a variety of organizational capacities. In addition to interpreting professionally, a few of his involvements included the Rainbow Deaf Society and volunteering at events and activities such as Gay Games I.

The Greg Smith Memorial Fund is a tribute to his personal involvement and commitment to his profession. Monies from the Fund will provide financial assistance to sign language interpreters experiencing prolonged illness or medical emergency. Donations may be sent to: NorCRID, P.O. Box # 3105, Fremont, CA 94539-0310. Checks should be made payable to NorCRID, with an indication they are for the Fund.

Greg will be missed by his family, friends and acquaintances, but his sense of humor, his gentle and loving spirit will be remembered and live on.

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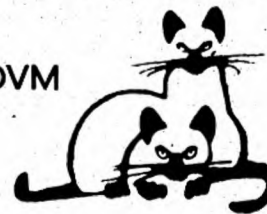
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ENCORE ENGAGEMENT!
Romanovsky & Phillips return to the Rose for three final shows celebrating their new recording, "I Thought You'd Be Taller." Great company, wonderful music & lyrics, and lots of laughs from Ron & Paul. Thurs thru Sat, Feb 14-16, at 8pm, \$5.

THEATRE AT THE ROSE!
Midnight drama! The Rainbow Ensemble of Santa Cruz presents two new one-act plays, "Out of Bounds" and "Happy Hour from Four to One." Fri & Sat, Feb 1 thru 9, all shows at midnight, \$5.
Ronda Slater in "A Name You Never Got" Held Over! Final performances of this moving story about a mother and her search for the daughter she gave up for adoption 18 years ago. Fri & Sat, Feb 1 & 2, at 7:30pm, \$6.
Mothersong in "Passing: Identities Hidden & Exposed" Powerful study, by the outstanding reader's theatre, of women forced to conceal their sexual identities — and what they did about it. Sat, Feb 23 at 8pm, \$5-\$8 sliding scale.

COMEDY SPECIALS!
Tom Ammiano & Doug Holsclaw in "Two Queens in Search of a Motif." February gets off to a side-splitting start with this outrageous two-man show featuring a succession of hilarious new sketches. TWO SHOWS: Fri, Feb 1 at 8 & 10pm, \$5.
"An Evening with Paul Krassner" spotlights the brilliant founder of the Yippie movement and former "Realist" editor in a close encounter with today's issues and the truth behind them. Funny, incisive stand-up satire. Sun, Feb 3 & 10 at 8:30pm, \$5.

MUSIC IN THE AIR!
Elliot Pilshaw in Concert. "Headed for national prominence" — the Advocate. Songs of the heart, with guests Chabela & Susu Pampaanin. Sat, Feb 2 at 8pm, \$5.
"Malvina." Acclaimed revue of songs by Malvina Reynolds highlights the legendary troubador's finest work! One perf. only: Sun, Feb 3 at 8pm, \$5.
David Bury & Jack Mahan in "Bosom Buddies." Two of the "Vocal Minority" all-stars in a sparkling musical cabaret! Fri & Sat, Feb 8 & 9 at 8pm, \$5.
Chrysanthemum Ragtime Band in Concert Musical gold and top showmanship! Sun, Feb 10 at 2pm, \$4.
The Vocal Minority in "Kidstuff." The acclaimed chorus in the hit revue of songs about children & childhood. Sun, Feb 24 at 7pm, \$7.

HALF & HALF DELIGHTS!
An Evening of Poetry & Jazz. The verse of Ron Padgett and Lyn Hejinian, plus the music of the Rova Saxophone Quartet add up to a distinctive evening. Sponsored by the Valencia Rose & the S.F.S.U. Poetry Center. Sun, Feb 17 at 7pm, \$4.
Betsy Rose with Fran and Charlie. Music & comedy go hand in hand as singer-songwriter Betsy teams up with the unstoppable Fran & Charlie a.k.a. the "Atomic Comics." Fri, Feb 22 at 8pm, \$5.

GAY AND LESBIAN HISTORY AT THE ROSE
"Conversations with Pat Bond" Oral history of growing up gay in the America of the 1930s and 40s. Tue, Feb 12 at 8pm, \$4.
"Marching to a Different Drummer" The absorbing story of gay Americans in World War II, beautifully told by Alan Berube. Tue, Feb 19 at 8pm, \$4.
"Taint Nobody's Bizness" Homosexuality in Harlem during the 1920s — an in-depth portrait by Eric Garber. Tues, Feb 26 at 8pm, \$4.

ASTROLOGICAL FORECAST

BY JACK FERTIG

Jupiter in Aquarius

On February 6 Jupiter makes its annual change of sign, this time from Capricorn to Aquarius. For the last year or so, Jupiter in Capricorn has brought opportunities through business, bureaucracies, and conservatism. This particular pendulum from Capricorn to Aquarius will make a wide swing to the left, although the other outer planets will continue pushing to the right.

Politically, this is a good year for progressives to formulate new economic and social theories to replace the New Deal policies that have dominated the Democratic Party for the past 50 years. Of course, that's just political common sense, but if they don't pull at least a base of action this year, they'll have a disastrously long time before the next equal opportunity.

The economy won't be quite as good this year, but organized labor, with a few trade-offs and a little dance to the right, will come out ahead. It will be a decent year for people who are working, but with hideous social service cutbacks to make a very cold winter.

But little of that actually has to do with Jupiter in Aquarius, the star of this month's column. Jupiter in Aquarius brings a surge of "freedom fighters," or if you're on the other side, "terrorist actions." There will be philosophical and technological innovations. All the sciences should do well this year, especially astrology, astronomy, electronics, and telecommunications.

The future will look rosier from this year, with or without any real basis for optimism. But this will bring a surge of interest in science fiction and all sorts of prognostication. A very fitting symbol for this transit will be the Voyager satellite flying by Uranus (the planetary ruler of Aquarius) in January of '86, near the end of Jupiter's passage through the sign. We will then have close-up views and new information about an odd world known only to modern minds and still unfamiliar.

People born in the years from 1938 to 1956 will at some point in this year feel Jupiter opposing their natal Pluto, stimulating a huge push for expanded commitment. It will be very easy to go overboard and exaggerate the importance of whatever process you commit yourself to. Sure, it's the latest, the greatest and it will have brought fuller meaning to your life, but you may be tempted unwittingly to come off like some cultie proselyte and scare away your friends. Keep it in perspective! Let others enjoy your enthusiasm without making them participate in it. Exactly when it happens and how long it lasts will vary according to which of those years you were born in.

Aries: Though your friends know you better, you have a rather conservative public image that allows a special measure of latitude. Having established a good reputation and rapport with authority figures you have an opportunity now to push forward with some wild new ideas. Innovation will further your goals, but there can easily be a tendency to go overboard.

Taurus: Arduous studies have been rewarding of late and now lead to new directions. Your usually slow and conservative approach to philosophy and academia is looking for a kick in the curriculum. Computers can be very helpful to your learning process, or better yet, its ideal subject.

Gemini: New ideas challenge your faith. You may adapt and broaden your previously held beliefs to

include those ideas, or you may have to make a total break with your old religion. Metaphysical searches will take you anywhere but where you expected to go. This month can also bring delicious opportunities for erotic experimentation. Any of these possibilities may be fun or frightening, depending entirely on your attitude. Trust in your strength to handle exactly what you can, and be careful to take on no more than that.

Cancer: Relationships are likely to get very strange now as a yearning for freedom challenges your strong desire for commitment, which is nonetheless as strong as ever. With such a conflict you may unconsciously, or otherwise, subvert your relationship with cranky demands for greater freedom or by being unreliable to your partner. The challenge is to be more open about your feelings and more direct. This won't be without risks, but you can come through it with greater and more open commitment.

Leo: Having gained some recognition for your hard work, you now want more and more to do things your way. You may indeed, just as you think, know some good ways to make the work more efficient and productive, or maybe not. It's helpful to talk over your proposed improvements before putting them into action. Otherwise you risk alienating your co-workers with your unusual demands and odd new approach.

Virgo: Playfulness turns to new directions, some of which may lead you to inventive approaches to games, hobbies, or creative endeavors. You can now anticipate your opponent's moves in any game, and this may lead to self-defeating cockiness. The urge to play may impede your work, so try all the harder to keep a balance.

Libra: It's time to make some changes around the home. Perhaps you have the itch to move. What looks like an ideal opportunity for just the situation you've been looking for may just be a false promise, so check it out very carefully. This is a good time to be more open with family or roommates. Anything you've been hiding will come out one way or another, so bring it out yourself to keep things in control.

Scorpio: Your recent openness in communications will take some unusual turns. This is an excellent opportunity to explore new modes or styles in expression, perhaps involving computers or politics. Your sudden expressiveness may be disconcerting, but your friends probably have wanted you to be more open, so what's the problem? Just be careful not to blurt out the secrets that you're usually so good at keeping.

Sagittarius: Your financial fortunes take unusual turns now. Your luck will continue to hold up, but not in ways you'd expect. You may be tempted to do something especially risky with your money, and chances are it will go even better than you expect, but consult your astrologer just to make sure.

Capricorn: Staid, conservative, old goat, you've been especially frisky lately, and now you'll amaze yourself and your friends with what is, for you, wild and weird behavior. This is a great time to experiment with new styles of dress and self-presentation. Everybody needs a change now and then, so give yourself the freedom you now desire. Any holding back to unnecessary restraints will lead to cranky rebellion which would sabotage your efforts at whatever you're doing.

Aquarius: Such a clever know-it-all, you've recently been finding out new things about yourself that you had not acknowledged. That information will grow in some disconcerting, but not entirely unpleasant ways. Having dug up stuff from your past, you can now use it to understand more about your future. Your dreams will become especially vivid and clear, providing many unexpected clues. Psychic studies and research will prove unusually rewarding.

Pisces: Are your friends suddenly getting weird on you or you on them? It's time to meet up with some strange people. Your usual batch of chums at work may not know what to make of your new allegiances. Used to holding in your feelings, you may find it hard not to alienate your old friends while making new ones. Your friends are very important to you, so try to be as open as you can with them.

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FOR FEBRUARY, '85

1 Fri



2 One-Acts from Rainbow Ensemble: "Out of Bounds" explores the triumphs, transitions & decisions facing two women athletes; "Happy Hour Four to One" uses a dash of humor & a dose of reality to examine the complications of the straight & gay sides of life. Midnight, \$5. Play runs thru 2/9 at Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St. SF. For info/res: 863-3863.

Ronda Slater in "A Name You Never Got,"—one-woman show recreates a mother's grueling search for the daughter she gave up for adoption 18 years ago. 7:30 pm, \$6. Valencia Rose Cafe, 766 Valencia St. SF. Info/res: 863-3863.

Snow Adventures Ski Trips for Women: 3-day cross-country skiing at Bear Valley Nordic & Stanislaus Nat. Forest. Beginners welcome. Large, comfortable house w/wood stove, gourmet meals, lessons included. \$80/person. Info: 753-1233.

VIDA Gallery Call for Entry: women artists for multimedia exhibit with focus on women in Latin America & the Caribbean. Opens in March, deadline 2/8. Send SASE for prospectus, or drop by gallery, Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St. SF. Info: 864-VIDA.

The History of the Book, an exhibit at Mills College Library Bender Room. Subjects on display include illustrated children's books, 16th century books, the history of the Bible, humor in women's printing, and Yeats & Ireland. Free. Exhibit runs thru 2/15. Info: 430-3302. 5000 MacArthur Blvd. Oakland.

Noe Valley Cinema: *Tom Jones:* Albert Finney stars in this farce of 19th century love & life. 8 pm, 1021 Sanchez St. SF. \$3.50.

"Mr. Gagne & His Shadow"—movement play traces the conflict between an old man and his alter ego. 8:30 pm, \$6. Tonight & tmw, 2/8 & 9, Nova Academy, 347 Dolores St. SF. Kinetic Connections production, directed by Kristina S. Peterson. Info/res: 457-3371.



See "Marlene," at the 2nd Anniversary Film Flash Tape Council, 161 King St. SF. \$10 includes free food & drink. Multi-media show starts at 6 pm, Marlene appears at 9.

Inuit Throat Singers & Drum Dancers at New Performance Gallery. Music & culture from the Inuit of Northern Canada. 8:30 pm, 3153 17th St. SF. Tonight & tmw. Info: 863-9834.

Jazz at Kimball's: George Cables Trio: George, Bud Shank & Shorty Rogers. 9:30, 11 & 12:30 pm, \$9. Tonight & tmw.



"An Evening with Ursula LeGuin" in Angelico Hall, Dominican College. One of the country's foremost science fiction writers, Ms LeGuin is known for introducing themes unusual in science fiction: anarchism, Taoism, environmentalism & feminism. LeGuin reads from her work and answers questions about her craft. 8 pm, \$8. For tickets: send check (made out to Dominican College) SASE to: An Evening with Ursula LeGuin, Division of Lifelong Learning, Dominican College, San Rafael, CA 94901. For info: 485-9385 or 457-4440 ext 273.

Inner Landscapes I & II, an exhibit by Jean Lafond at the Blue Cross Bldg, 1950 Franklin St. Oakland. Exhibit runs thru 2/22. Info: Susan Hesse 645-4301.

Works on paper by Hugo Larman at Valencia Rose Cafe, 766 Valencia St. SF. Reception 2/12, 7-9 pm. Exhibit runs thru month.

Hand-colored photographs by Lisa Gomes on exhibit at Expose, 4406-A, 18th St. SF. Artist's reception 6-8 pm, show runs thru 2/28. Info: 863-6006.

Psychic Massage Evening for Women: learn to harmonize two powerful female healing capabilities. 7:30-10 pm, \$6-12. Body Electric School of Massage, 6527-A Telegraph Ave. Oakland. Women only. Info: Ali Hammer 654-8765, Bonnie Podell 652-1838.

Committee to Preserve Our Sexual & Civil Liberties monthly mtg, 7:30 pm at Club Baths, 201-8th St. SF.

Piri Thomas, author of *Down These Mean Streets*, *Seven Long Times*, *Stories from El Barrio* and *Savior of Saviors* reads from his work. 7:30 pm, Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. SF. Info: 282-9246.

Romanovsky & Phillips w/Judy Fjell—fine night of music, laughs & fun at La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley. 8 pm, \$5. Info: 849-2568.

Monica Grant at Artemis—vocals, guitar. 8 pm, \$3.50. 1199 Valencia St. SF. Info: 821-0232.

"Give 'Em Hell, Harry!"—Kevin McCarthy in a one-man theatrical performance based on the life & times of President Harry S. Truman. 8 pm, \$10 & \$12.50. Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness, SF. Spons by City Arts & Lectures. Tix at BASS, Ticketron, STBS, City Box Office, etc. Info: 392-4400.

Harp Master Nicanor Zabaleta performs Beethoven, Bach, Hindemith & others at Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley. 8 pm, \$13.50. Info: 642-0212.

"Un Ballo in Maschera," Opera Nova of SF (a joint activity of USF and North Beach Grand Opera) present this production of Giuseppe Verdi's work at 8 pm, USF's Gill Theater, 2130 Fulton at Cole, SF. 8 pm, \$10-\$6, \$8-\$4 students & seniors. Info: 558-9143. Tix at door, BASS.

Geoff Hoyle & Keith Terry: a gallery of absurd characters, impersonations, and body music at Julia Morgan Theatre, 2640 College Ave, Berkeley. \$7 adv, \$8 door. Info: 548-7234. Show runs today & tmw, 2/7-10. All shows 8:15 pm except 2/10 Kids' show, 3 pm, \$4.

North Carolina Dance Theater: works of Helgi Tomasson, Lambros Lambrou, and others. 8 pm, \$15-\$6. Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley. Info: 642-0212.

2 Queens in Search of a Motif: Tom Ammiano & Doug Holsclaw at the Rose. Hilarious new sketches from two top comics. 8 & 10 pm, \$5. 766 Valencia St. SF.

Han Suyin, author of *Love is a Many Splendored Thing* & many other fine books, celebrates the publication of her latest work, *The Enchantress* with a reading/reception at A Woman's Place Bookstore, 4015 Broadway, Oakland. 7 pm, \$1 donation requested, everyone welcome. For free CC call by 1/30. Info: 654-3645.

Women's Game & Social Night at Mama Bear's. 7-11 pm—maybe later! \$2. Bring your favorite games. 6536 Telegraph Ave, Oakland. Info: 428-9684.

2 Sat

Lots of laughs with Linda Moakes at Baybrick, 1190 Folsom St. SF. 6 pm.

Gay Comedy Night at Valencia Rose with Linda Moakes, Laurie Bushman & Monica Palacios. 10 pm, \$5. 766 Valencia St. SF. Info: 863-3863.

Midnight at the Rose with Rainbow Ensemble. Two fine one-acts, "Out of Bounds" and "Happy Hour One to Four"—see 2/1 for details. Info/res: 863-3863.

"Building Relationships," workshop at Metropolitan Community Church. Led by Rev. Marilyn Marr. 4:30 pm, 2247 Concord Blvd, Concord.

Indians & Africans: Our Common Heritage. Slideshow presentation by Michelle Vignes ("Nature's Body", narrated by Dennis Banks), speaker Mark Banks of the Dennis Banks Defense Comm., poets Zenzille, Mary Tallmountain & Will Sand Young, talk by Paris Williams on "The African Presence in Ancient America". 7:30 pm, \$3-5 SL. New College, 777 Valencia St. SF. Info: 626-1694.

Ronda Slater in "A Name You Never Got"—see 2/1 for details, Valencia Rose Cafe.

Kodo, Demon Drummers & Dancers from Japan. Traditional folk songs on gongs, flutes, koto, & festival drums. 8 pm, \$12.50-6.50. Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley. Info: 642-0212.

Play Hearts & Canasta with FOG (Fraternal Order of Gays). Join us, even if you've never played—the games are easy to learn. Refreshments, snacks, prizes. 8 pm, 3215 Randolph Ave, Oakland. Info: 753-6786.

Geoff Hoyle & Keith Terry at Julia Morgan Theatre—see 2/1 for details.

Gay & Lesbian Legal Issues & Careers Conference: 9 am-5 pm, free. Golden Gate University, 536 Mission St. SF. Career panels, legal issues panels, roundtable discussions. Keynote address by attorney Mary Dunlap. Wine & cheese reception follows conference. Spons by Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom. Info: 863-5285.

Become a Rebirther Training at Body Electric School of Massage & Rebirthing. 9am-5:30 pm. 6527-A Telegraph, Oakland. Info: Joseph Kramer 653-1594. Today & tmw.

Heart saver: CPR Class at District Health Ctr #4, 1490 Mason St. SF. 9 am, \$2. Info/res: 558-3158.

Change is Scary Alone—day long workshop on how to get beyond limitations. Move from scarcity beliefs, pain, fear & guilt to prosperity, abundance beliefs and fun, risk-taking experiences. Info: Sandy Gooding 532-5185.

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Boy's Club, 1950 Page (Stanyan), T, W, Th, F & Sat 9:00 AM
Women's Bldg., 18th & Valencia, M, T, W, Th, F & Sat
9:15 & 10:30 AM
International Center, 50 Oak St., M, T, W, Th & F 12:00 Noon, M & W 4:00 PM
Jamestown Comm. Center, 23rd by Dolores, Sat. 9 & 10:15 AM
Francis Scott Key Elem., 43rd Ave. & Kirkham, Sat. 10:30 AM

— S.F. AFTER WORK —
Paltenghi Youth Center, Belvedere & Waller, M, T, W & Th 6:00 PM
Giannini School, 39th Ave & Ortega, M & W 6:00 & 7:15 PM
St. John of God Church Hall, 5th Ave & Irving, T & Th 5:30 PM
Rhythm & Motion Studio, 1133 Mission, M, W, F, Sat & Sun
5:30 PM, Sun 8:45, 10:00 & 11:15 AM
St. Teresa's Church, Connecticut & 19th, M, T & Th 6:00 PM
Istvan Haz, 1052 Geary (near Polk), M, T, W & Th 6:00 PM
International Center, 50 Oak St., M & W 4:00 PM, M, T, W, Th & F 5:30 PM
Everett Jr. High, 17th & Church, M, T, W & Th 6:00 & 7:15 PM
Women's Bldg., 18th & Valencia, M, T, W & Th 6:00 PM
Harvey Milk Rec. Center, Scott & Duboce, M, W & F 6:00 PM
Glen Park Rec. Center, Bosworth & Elk, M & W 6:00 PM
Sat 10AM
Jewish Community Center, 3200 California at Presidio, T & Th 5:30 PM
Roosevelt School, Geary & Arguello, T & Th, 6 PM

LEVEL I AEROBICS
St John of God Church Hall, 4th Ave & Irving, T & Th 9:30 AM
Woman's Bldg. 18th & Valencia, M & W 6:00 PM

— OUTSIDE S.F. —
Sausalito Rec. Center, 420 Litho, T & Th 6:00 PM, Sat 11:15 AM
Hillside School, 1581 LeRoy Ave by Cedar (near U.C. Berkeley campus) M, T, W & Th 6 PM, Sat 10 AM

621-0643 * 621-0643 * 621-0643

BAYBRICK

ENTERTAINMENT HOTLINE
552-1121



Bring Your Better Half & BOOGIE!

VALENTINES DANCE PARTY

Thursday, February 14 8:30-10pm
TUFFY ELDRIDGE, CHRISTA HILLHOUSE & PAT WILDER
10pm SHARON RUSSELL BAND

D.J. Dance Mix between sets and after the show with TORCH

baybrick Inn 1190 Folsom (at 8th), San Francisco 431-8334



Mardi Gras

COSTUME PARTY and DANCE
with Viva Brazil



Sunday, Feb. 17th, 4-8pm

Free admission if in costume
or \$3.00 each
1st and 2nd Prizes for Best Costume

3158 Mission St

Oyster Monday
Feb. 18th, 4-7pm
raw on the half shell

.. your dive!



Orphan Andy's

HOMEMADE SOUP AND CHILI

AND FULL SHORT ORDER MENU
SERVED 24 HOURS DAILY

DOGGONE! THOSE HAMBURGERS ARE REAL GOOD!

399/ 17th STREET
AT MARKET & CASTRO
SAN FRANCISCO
864-9795



The Coming Up! Guide to Events for FEBRUARY, 1985

Metropolitan Community Church celebrates its 6th anniversary. 6:30 pm, 2247 Concord Blvd, Concord. All welcome. Info: 827-2960.



Chabela with Elliot Pilshaw—experience songs from the heart with music by lesbians and gay men, Latinos, Jews and friends. 8 pm, \$5. SIGN, WA, Valencia Rose Cafe, 766 Valencia St, SF. Info: 863-3863.

Cafe Violeta Grand Opening Celebration: dinner, program & dance at La Pena's new restaurant. 6 pm: Brazilian & Latin American music with the Claudia Gomez Trio; special tribute to the music of Violeta Parra by Rafael Manriquez; Eastern European music with Kitka, an a cappella women's chorus and songs of solidarity with Jose-Luis Orozco. 9:30 pm dance with Hedzoleh Soundz (West African "High-Life"). \$15-30 SL, for dance only, \$5. 3105 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley. Info/res: 849-2572.

Music from Marlboro—concert of 19th & 20th century music. Includes Beethoven, Shostakovich and Mendelssohn. Ida Levin (violin), Carmit Zori (violin), Philipp Naegele (viola), Katherine Murdock (viola), and Sara Sant'Ambrogio (cello). 8 pm, \$13.50. Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley.

Judy Friedman at Artemis Guitars, vocals, piano. 1199 Valencia St, SF. 8 pm, \$4. Info: 821-0232.

Irish Musicians Benefit for striking British miners. Help send food & money to their families while you have fun with music by some of the best Irish bands around. *Trip to the Cottage*, followed by Scottish folk singers Alan McLoud and Dick Holstock. Then round out a fine evening with *The Ballykill Ferret Ceili Band*. 8 pm, \$5. Plough & Stars Pub, 116 Clement St, SF. Info: 530-5668.

Cable Car Awards & Show at JapanCenter, SF. 7 pm, \$20-10. Tix at Headlines.

Richie Havens at AMES Benefit: Folk, pop & blues singer performs on behalf of childcare programs of AMES, the Association of Salvadorean Women. Program includes the film short, *For a Women in El Salvador Speaking*. MC's Adam Hochschild and Judy Brady. 8 pm, Berkeley Community Theatre. Info: AMES 552-5015.

Women's Open Mike at Mama Bear's. Musicians & writers welcome. 8 pm, \$2. 6536 Telegraph Ave, Oakland. Info: 428-9684.

3 Sun

Different Spokes Bicycle Club Southbay Decide & Ride. Meet Stanford Shopping Ctr, EL Camino Real entrance, 10 am. Decide destination.

China Basin Run with SF Frontrunners. 1-5 miles. Begins 10am, corner of Mission Rock & 3rd Sts. Info: 387-8453, 821-4623.

Celebrate the installation of Rev. Larry D Whitsell as pastor of Diablo Valley Metropolitan Community Church. Services led by Rev. David Pelletier & Rev. Marilyn Marr. 10 am, 2247 Concord Blvd, Concord. Info: 827-2960.

Georgia Sea Island Singers at Julia Morgan Theatre. Unique glimpse into Afro-American history thru the songs, dances & stories handed down over 200 years in the remote islands off the coast of Georgia. Benefit for BANANAS childcare referral service. 11 am & 1 pm, \$3 (teachers' workshop at 3 pm, \$5). 2640 College Ave., Berkeley.

Tradeswomen, Inc Board of Directors Mtg. 1-4 pm, 1846 9th Ave, Oakland. Info about Mtg or Tradeswomen: 989-1566.

"The Lesbian/Gay Movement in the 80s: Where do we go from here?" a talk by Randy Stallings at G Forty Plus. Also bring your anonymously wrapped gift for one of Romeo's Rampagous Raffles. 2 pm, First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin at Geary, SF. Info: 552-1997.

SF Chambers Players Concert. Program includes Rossini's *Overture to "La Gazza Ladra"*, Warlock's *Capriol Suite* and Mendelssohn's *Symphony No. 3,*

the "Scottish". Guest soloist Elizabeth Baker-Dowd performs Williams' *The Lark Ascending*. 4 pm, \$8. First Unitarian Ctr, Franklin & Geary Sts, SF. Info: 665-5558.

African Roots of Jazz Reunion Concert at Bajones. E.W. Wainwright, Jr on drums; George Cables, piano; Michael White, violin; Jules Broussard, sax; Rickey Kelly, vibraphone & marimba; Jeff Carney, bass; Carlos Baretta, percussion. Think that jazz should be more than a cerebral spectator sport? Come to Bajones tonight! 5-9 pm, \$6. 1062 Valencia St, SF.

Tools for Political Thinking, a workshop with Margo Adair. Develop your own analysis in an atmosphere of safety, respect and permission to disagree. Discuss potentials & limitations of feminism, Marxism & New Age politics. SL fee. Info: 861-6838.

Factwino: The Opera!—don't miss this sneak preview of the complete rise and fall (and resurrection?) of Factwino in one, 2 hr show at The Farm, Potrero & Army Sts, SF. Proceeds benefit the SF Mime Troupe's upcoming premiere of *Factwino: The Opera* at the Festival of Political Song in East Berlin. 7 pm, \$5.

It's a Pocket Opera! Offenbach/*The Bandits*. New Pippin translation, West Coast premiere. 7:30 pm. Theatre on the Square, 450 Post St bet Powell & Mason, SF. Ticket info: 433-9500.

Bay Area Wind Symphony performs at Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley. 8 pm, \$5. Info: 642-0212.

Joan Bibiloni & Ernie Mansfield: acoustic jazz & guitar with Spanish guitarist/singer/composer Joan Bibiloni & jazz flutist Ernie Mansfield. 8 pm, \$5. La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley. Info: 849-2568.



"Malvina: The Songs of Malvina Reynolds"—revue of the legendary singer's finest work, with Chris Cone, Nina Egert & Barbara Golden. 8 pm, \$5. Valencia Rose Cafe, 766 Valencia St, SF. Info: 863-3863.

An Evening with Paul Krassner at Valencia Rose. Standup satire, funny & incisive. 8:30 pm, \$5. 766 Valencia St, SF. Info: 863-3863.

Charlie King & Linda Allen, contemporary personal/political folksongs at Julia Morgan Theatre. 8:15 pm, \$7 (\$6 adv). 2640 College Ave, Berkeley. Info/res: 548-7234.

Benefit Concert for Gamelan Sekar Jaya's Balinese Tour. Guest performers Keith Terry, body musician & William Winant, percussionist. 8:30 pm, \$8. New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St, SF. Info: 863-9834.

4 Mon

Battered Lesbian Support Group forming at W.O.M.A.N. Inc. Open to all lesbians who have been, or are in, a battering relationship. Call 864-4777 for time and place. Free.

Community Women's Ctr's Battered Lesbian support group meets every other Mon this month (2/4 & 2/18). 6:36 Telegraph Ave, Oakland. 7-9 pm, \$3-5 SL, no woman turned away for lack of funds. Info: 652-0612.

Lesbians & Gays Against Intervention gen'l mtg at Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St, SF. 7:15 pm. Info: 647-0353.

Poetic License Performance Series guest poets Kim Addonizio, Dave Bedell, Marsha Campbell & John High. Open reading follows. 8-10 pm, \$2. 16th Note, 3160 16th St, SF.

Jazz with the Bobby Shew Quintet at Kimball's. Bob Sheppard, sax; Biff Hannon, piano; John Pattucci, bass; Sherman Ferguson, drums. 8:30, 10 & 11 pm, \$5. 300 Grove St at Franklin, SF.

Gay Comedy Open Mike: Tom Ammiano & Danny Williams bring on the rising new stars at Valencia Rose Cafe, 766 Valencia St, SF. 8:30 pm, \$3. Performer sign-up at 7:30. Info: 863-3863.

2ND ANNUAL Valentine's Dance

to benefit
THE PACIFIC CENTER
Saturday, February 9, 1985
8pm to Midnight

Veteran's Auditorium
200 Grand Avenue, Oakland

\$6-12 sliding scale donation.
Tickets at Pacific Center or at the door.

DJ'd by Shiner.
Special entertainment and raffle.
Comedians Karen Ripley and Danny Williams.

No host bar and hors d'oeuvres.
Wheelchair accessible. Childcare available.
For information: 841-6224

The Coming Up! Guide to Events for FEBRUARY, 1985

of all new works at New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St. SF. Also features musicians Greg Ballard & Doug Gookin, with performance artist Doug Skinner. 8:30 pm, \$7. Info: 863-9834.

Two Prima Donnas In Need of Attention: Set in a ladies dress shop, this musical play explores the daydreams, ambitions, & feelings of two contrasting types of women. Runs Thursdays & Fridays thru February. 8:30 pm, \$8. 1177 Club, 1177 California St. SF. Res/info: 776-2100.

8 Fri

Reception for Quentin Crisp hosted by Theatre Rhino & Golden Gate Business Association at the Japanese Pavilion, Cathedral Hill Hotel, SF. No host bar & hors d'oeuvres. 6-9 pm, \$6 at door. Info/res: GGBA 956-8677.

Remembering Rose Schneiderman: Women of all ages are invited to join Options for Women over Forty and Lee Novick as she recalls the woman who originated the "Bread & Roses" slogan and was one of the leaders of the Ladies Garment Workers Union. Rides home or to a safe bus stop arranged at mtg. 6:45-9 pm. 33 Gough St bet Market & Mission, SF. Info: OPTIONS 431-6405.

Bookparty/Celebration with Shelly Singer. Reading & discussion of her new mystery novel, *Free Draw*. 7:30 pm, \$3. Mama Bear's, 6536 Telegraph Ave, Oakland. Info: 428-9684.

Nicaragua & the Miskitus, slides & talk with Rebecca Gordon, just returned from 6 months in Nicaragua working with the World Council of Churches' Witness for Peace program. 7:30 pm, Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. SF.

The African Presence in Ancient America—discussion by Dr. Ivan Van Sertima, plus performance by U-Zulu Dance Theatre of South Africa & the Mockingbird Drum Group. 7:30 pm, \$5-7 SL. New College, 777 Valencia St. SF.

Women's Massage Evening at Body Electric Massage School: learn to give and receive a great back rub. Safe, relaxing atmosphere, women only. 7:30-10 pm, \$6-12 SL. 6527-A Telegraph Ave, Oakland. Info: Ali Hammer 654-8765 or Bonnie Podell 652-1838.

Singer/songwriter Gayle Marie at Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St. SF. 8 pm, \$5.

FSLG (Feminist Lesbian Social Group) monthly potluck meets at Joyce's house. 7:30 pm. For info/directions: (408) 293-5826.

"Un Ballo in Maschera" at USF's Gill Theatre—see 2/1

Memphis Slim, on his 2nd US tour in 24 years, & Oakland pianist Brownie McGhee—two blues masters at Wheeler Auditorium, UC Berkeley. 8 pm, \$10.50/\$9.50 students.

"Bosom Buddies", great evening of cabaret with David Bury & Jack Mahan of *Vocal Minority*. They'll win you over—good singing, lots of style. Pianist Jim Fallowell & special guest singers Joyce Barnes & Deb Clifford round out the evening. 8 pm, \$5. Valencia Rose Cafe, 766 Valencia St. SF. Info: 863-3863.

Noe Valley Cinema Series: Jean Renoir's *The Southerner*. A family struggles to make their farmland self-supporting against serious odds. 1021 Sanchez St. SF. 8 pm. Info: 282-2317.

New Albion Brass Quintet performs at 8 pm, First Congregational Church of Berkeley, Dana & Durant Sts. \$5/\$4 stdnts & srs.

Nutrition & Aging, a lecture by Robert J. Parker, PhD at tonight's Fraternal Order of Gays mtg. 8 pm. Info: 753-6786.

Geoff Hoyle & Keith Terry at Julia Morgan Theatre—see 2/1 for details.

Golden Gate Baroque Ensemble: chamber music program at 8 pm. First Congregational Church, Dana & Durant, Berkeley. \$5 adv/\$6 door. Res/info: 863-3037.

"Mimzabim", a Marx Brothers/Fellini-esque romp thru the windy halls of the mind of a catatonic. Performance piece by *Elan Vital*, written & directed by John O'Keefe. Club Foot, 2520 3rd St at 22nd, SF. Tonight & tmw, 2/15 & 16, 22 & 23. 8:30 pm, \$4. Info/res: 485-0603.

Virginia Matthews Dance Co at New Performance Gallery—see 2/7.

"New Perspectives on Homosexuality in Judaism," a presentation/discussion with members of the lesbian/gay community and representatives of the various movements (Reform, Conservative, Orthodox and Reconstructionist) within Judaism. Spons by Berkeley Hillel. 8:30 pm, free. WA. 2736 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. For those who wish to attend services before the program, Hillel's regular Traditional/Egalitarian (Conservative) shabbat services begin at 6:30 pm, followed by an Oneg (with food) at 7:30 pm. Info: Kathy Cytron 845-7793.

Two Prima Donnas in Need of Attention—see 2/7 for details.

"Mr. Gagne and His Shadow," a movement play tracing the conflict between an old man and his alter ego. 8:30 pm, \$6. The Nova Academy, 347 Dolores St. SF. Info/res: 457-3371. Tonight & tmw.

The Stickers at the Sound of Music, along with *Dega Ray* and *Hollow Man*. 11 pm, 162 Turk St. SF. Info: 885-9616.

Flesh Chimes—performance work by David Therrien uses electronics, high intensity light, sound and human bodies to examine the role of "man" in society by removing him from his traditional contexts and placing him in the role of instrument or machine. 9 pm, \$4. Co-Lab Theatre/Gallery, 1805 Divisadero, SF. Info: 346-4063.

Midnight at the Rose with Rainbow Ensemble's one-acts "Out of Bounds" and "Happy Hour Four to One." \$5. Res: 863-3863. For details see 2/1.

Classical Indian ragas with master flutist G.S. Sachdev. 8 pm. \$7 adv/\$8 door. Unitarian Ctr, 1187 Franklin at Geary, SF. Stdnt & sr discounts. Info: 648-1489.

Flawless ensemble playing with the *American String Quartet*. Program of Mozart, Shostakovich, and Beethoven. 8 pm, \$12/\$9 stdnt. Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley. Info: 642-0212.

9 Sat

Conference: Traditional Health Systems of the African Diaspora. Professionals in medical anthropology, the social sciences, folklore, arts, public health & history share knowledge of the African-derived healing systems of the New World. Discussion of the impact of traditional & newly-developed wholistic techniques on Black health. Keynote speaker: Dr. Alvenia Fulton, midwife, nutritionist & fasting expert. 8:30-4 pm, \$2 or 3 cans/boxes of non-animal food, to be donated to anti-hunger projects. 10 Evans Hall, UC Berkeley. Info: KPFA 848-6767.

The Heart Attack Project: basic cardiac life support provider course for people with current Heart-saver CPR skills. Topics: 2-person CPR, infant resuscitation, obstructed airway, single-person CPR review. 9 am-4 pm, \$10. French Hospital, 4131 Geary Blvd, SF. Info/res: 666-8896, 666-8964.

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LIVE MUSIC FEBRUARY 1985



VALENTINES DANCE PARTY
Thurs., February 14th
8:30-10pm TUFFY ELDRIDGE,
CHRISTA HILLHOUSE, and PAT WILDER
10pm SHARON RUSSELL BAND



Wed., February 27 9pm
ELEMENTS OF STYLE
and SLANTSTEP



Thurs., February 28 9pm
The VICKI RANDLE BAND
and the **WOODY SIMMONS BAND**

CABARET

Mondays
7-9pm **MARY WATKINS,**
SAPPHRON OBOIS
& **JOY JULKS**
9-11pm **ELMAN,**
GOULDER & EISENBERG
Tuesdays 7-9pm
LADY BIANCA
Wednesdays 7-9pm
AUDREY FINER
Thursdays 7-9pm
DEBBIE SAUNDERS

JAZZ

Sundays 5-8pm



Feb. 3 & 17:
LADY BIANCA w/ LADIES CHOICE
Feb. 10:
EDDIE MOORE w/ DENISE PERRIER
Feb. 24: **The LINDA TILLERY BAND**

COMEDY

FRIDAYS 6-8pm
Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22 **FEMPROV**
SATURDAYS 6-8pm
Feb. 2 **LINDA MOAKES**
& **LURIE BUSHMAN**
Feb. 9 **DANNY WILLIAMS**
Feb. 16 **DANNY WILLIAMS**
& **KAREN RIPLEY**
Feb. 23 **MONICA PALACIOS**
& **MARGA GOMEZ**

WEDNESDAYS-SUNDAYS
D.J. DANCE MIX at 9pm

t. a. productions

baybrick inn 1190 Folsom (at 8th), San Francisco



Striptease, a play by Slawomir Mrozek, one of Poland's leading playwrights. Two characters—on an intellectual, the other an activist—find themselves locked inside a room where a gigantic hand instructs them to remove their clothes until both act out an elaborate dance of rationalized submission. 9 pm, \$5. Tonight & tmw. Studio Eremos (Project Artaud), 499 Alabama at 17th St. SF.

Info: KPFA 848-6767.

The Heart Attack Project: basic cardiac life support provider course for people with current Heart-saver CPR skills. Topics: 2-person CPR, infant resuscitation, obstructed airway, single-person CPR review. 9 am-4 pm, \$10. French Hospital, 4131 Geary Blvd, SF. Info/res: 666-8896, 666-8964.



The delightful Reginald McDonald, nominee for Cabaret Gold Award as Best Male Vocalist, teams up with the *Joshua Rich Band* for a fine evening of cabaret at the 1177 Club, 1177 California St, SF, 8:30 pm, \$6. Info/res: 776-2101. Also see 2/23.

Humor & Comedy at Mama Bear's: laugh yourself silly with Karen Ripley, Marga Gomez & Monica Palacios. 8 pm, \$5. 6536 Telegraph Ave, Oakland. Info: 428-9684.

The Pete Escovedo Band and Tuck & Patti in a benefit performance for Cazadero Jazz Camp. 8:30 pm, \$8. Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell St, SF. Info: 885-0750.

FOG Slideshow: Trains & Trolleys—join Fraternal Order of Gays for an evening of train & trolley slides from all over the U.S. & Europe. Refreshments, snacks served. Info: 753-6786.



Mary Watkins & Friends at the Artemis Cafe. Mojo on flute, Shelly Mesiraw on oboe. Two shows: 7 & 9 pm, \$6-7 SL. 1199 Valencia St, SF. Info: 821-0232.

Women's Self-Defense Class—learn physical & psychological techniques in a safe, supportive atmosphere. 9:30 am-4:30 pm, \$35 (pre-enrollment discount avail.) The Dojo, 3718 MacArthur Blvd, Oakland. Info/brochure: 530-5043.

Multimedia Fine Art Exhibit at Academy of Art Gallery. Works by David Anthony, Susan Latham & Shelley Spagnola. Runs thru 2/22. 625 Sutter St, SF.

Good Clean Fun! Join a J/O club for health conscious gay men. We meet in a beautiful, well-lit space for a fun, safe, good time. If that sounds hard to believe, send us your name, address, & phone number, and we'll do our best to convince you that safe sex can still be great fun. Write Phallos, 584 Castro, Ste 170, SF CA 94114-2588.

Workshop: Travel Writing for Fun & Profit. Led by Perry Garfinkel at Dominican College, San Rafael. 9:30 am-4:30 pm, \$65. Everyone welcome, no previous writing experience necessary. Info/reg: 485-3238.

Coronation '85: Emperor Rich Carle & Empress Remy request your attendance at Xanadu: The Court of Kubla Khan. Kabuki Theater, 1881 Post St, SF. Doors open at 5 pm, ball starts at 6. Ticket prices: \$20, \$15, \$10. Ticket info/res: 771-6133.

Red Hearts Potluck Profile! Who: for all gay men on the left. Why: a chance to meet & relax with others. What: something to eat or drink should come along with you, if you can swing it. When: 7 pm tonight. Where: 60 Piedmont in the upper Haight, SF. Info/directions: 665-7344. Special tip: Roughly half of those who come each month are newcomers, so—why not? (see 2/23 listing for Eastbay potluck. See 'ya at both!)

A Celebration of Afro-American Culture at New College Theatre. Jazz group *Middle Passage*, readings by poet/biographer David Henderson,

author/playwright J. California Cooper. 7:30 pm, \$5-7 SL. 777 Valencia St, SF. Info: Paris Williams or Dan Cassidy 626-1694.

20th Century Consort, resident ensemble of the Smithsonian Institute's Hirshhorn Museum. Works by Jon Deak, William Doppman, Shulamit Ran & Igor Stravinsky. 8 pm, \$13. Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley. Info: 642-0212.

2nd Annual Valentine's Day Dance to benefit the Pacific Center. DJ Shiner. Cabaret dancers Andre and Ava; Comics Karen Ripley and Danny Williams. No host bar & hors d'oeuvres. WA. CC available. 8 pm-midnight, Veteran's Auditorium, 200 Grand Avenue, Oakland. \$6-12 SL. Come celebrate! You'll have a wonderful time! Info: 841-6224.

"Un Ballo in Maschera" at USF's Gill Theatre. See 2/1 listing for details.

Golden Gate Baroque Ensemble chamber music program: works by Bach, Handel, Telemann, & Rosenmueller. 17th & 18th century music played on period instruments. 8 pm, \$5 adv. \$6 door. Church of the Advent, 261 Fell St (nr Gough), SF. Info/res: 863-3037.

Geoff Hoyle & Keith Terry at Julia Morgan Theatre—see 2/1 for details.

"Mimzabim" at the Club Foot, SF—see 2/8 for details.

"Striptease" at Theatre Artaud. 2 characters are forced to act out an elaborate dance of rationalized submission. See 2/8 for details.

Gay Comedy Night at Valencia Rose with Comics Tom Ammiano, Suzy Berger, and Doug Holsclaw. 10 pm, \$5. 766 Valencia St, SF. 10 pm, \$5. Info: 863-3863.

Performance Art: X-O Plasty, an autobiographical, non-permanent body sculpture by Helen Hestenes. 9 pm, \$4. Co-Lab Theatre & Gallery, 1805 Divisadero St, SF. Info: 346-4063.

Rainbow Ensemble in two one-acts at Valencia Rose, "Out of Bounds," and "Happy Hour Four to One." Last chance to see these two—don't miss it! Midnight, \$5. 2/1 has details.

"Bosom Buddies" at the Valencia Rose. Vocalists David Bury & Jack Mahan of *Vocal Minority* team up with friends for a night of special music. 8 pm, \$5. 766 Valencia St, SF. Also see 2/8 listing.

Skies Ablaze—an evening of political songs, women's and Hebrew and Yiddish music to celebrate the release of Linda Hirschhorn's new album. Linda's joined by Laurie Lewis, Tay Holden,

Carolyn Brandy & friends from Freedom Song Network. 8:30 pm, \$5-8 SL. La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley. Info: 849-2568.

Eclectic blend of jazz & world music with Doug Goodkin, Bill Douglas, Kurt Wortman, Andy Connell; Body percussion & dance with the Virginia Matthews Dance Co; and *Orff* instrumentation & jazz quartet. 8:30 pm, \$7. New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St, SF. Info: 863-9834.



Good time Rag with *Chrysanthemum Ragtime Band* at the Rose. 2 pm, \$4. 766 Valencia St, SF. Info: 863-3863.

Welcome Home—"Visions of the Past, Memories of the Future," a day-long conference on feminist spirituality & revolution for all women of power. Facilitators: Ariadne, Cerridwen Fallingstar, Hallie Iglehart, Leslie Maher, Starhawk, Luisah Teish. For time, location & other info: 835-8608.

On the Gallery Wall at Modern Times: Lisa Kanemoto's heartfelt portraits of the SF gay & lesbian community. Artists' reception 3-5 pm, exhibit runs thru the month. 968 Valencia St, SF. Info: 282-9246.

Buddy Collette, virtuoso reed-man from L.A. and one of the leading West Coast jazz forces, performs at New College, along with poet/artist Shirley LeFlore. 3 pm, \$7, \$5 students. 777 Valencia St, SF. Info: Paris Williams 626-1694.

MON Weekly

Raps & Support

Lesbians Drop-In Rap Group—open discussion, friends, breakups, sexuality, jobs, etc. 7:30 pm, call for location: 864-0876. Free.

Gay Men's Healthy Living group. Upbeat. Get support for diet, exercise, stress release, switching to healthy sex, pursuing energizing interests. Led by Al La Pierre at Synergy Counselling Ctr. 8-10 pm, low fee. Info: 931-6373.

Third World Gay Men's Rap Group—drop-in, 6-8pm, Pacific Ctr, Berkeley. Info: 841-6224.

AA Group meets at the Parsonage, 555A Castro St, SF. 6-7 & 7-8 pm. Info: 861-9240.

Women Survivors of the Mental Health System: a leaderless support group for women. 7 pm, 2054 University Ave, rm 405, Berkeley. Info: 548-2980. WA.

A Meditation Circle for Gay Men: focus on visualization, stress management and group sharing. Info: George Roy Haller 864-3477.

Lesbian Drug & Alcohol Recovery Group at Iris Project. For women in their 1st 6 months of being substance-free. For info: 864-2364.

Rap Group for Gay Men at Pacific Center, Berkeley. 7:45 pm. Followed by coffee & social hour for Gay/Bi men. Men welcome to attend either or both activities. Info: 841-6224.

Bisexual Women's drop-in rap group—first & third Mondays each month at the Bi Center, 1757 Hayes St, SF. Info: 929-9299

Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous Group beginners mtg 7:15-7:45 pm, reg mtg 8-9:15 pm. All Saints Church, 1350 Waller, SF. WA. Info: 982-4473.

Therapy/Support Group for Gay men, led by Jim Bolan, Ph.D. 7:30 pm, Berkeley location. Sliding scale. Info: 524-8540. Also meets Weds.

Dominant/Submissive Lifestyle rap group meets at the Academy, 2166 Market St, SF. 8 pm, \$2. All welcome. Info: 626-3131 ext 17 (leave message).

Social • Political

Job Listings for Women Over Forty updated regularly, available at the OPTIONS Center, SF Women's Bldg, 10 am-5 pm Monday-Friday.

Men's Optimal Health Wkshps: Develop a personal health plan incorporating physical, emotional, mental & spiritual health. \$10/wkshp. Info: Greg Jessor 346-8630.

Latina Support Group (in Spanish) with Danielle Romig. 3-4pm. Open to all Latinas over (or real close to) forty. Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St, SF. Info: Options Ctr, 431-6405

SF Men's Network potluck & discussion group meets 2nd Mon of the month. All men seeking more

depth in their male friendships are welcome. Bring food to share. 6:30 pm, 1251 2nd Ave, (nr UC Med Ctr), SF.

PMS Support Group at Lyon-Martin Clinic. Led by Ronnie Baylor, MSW, MFCC. 7-9 pm, SL. WA. Info: 641-0220.

Senior Lunch Program at The Pride Center, 708 Fillmore, SF. 11:30 am-1 pm, Mon-Fri. Senior Center open 10 am-2 pm Mon-Fri. Complete info: 558-8127.

Body • Dance • Health

Jazz-Up Dance Aerobics every Mon & Wed at 5:30 & 6:30 and Fri at 5:30, at Thousand Oaks School, 840 Colusa Ave in Berk. 1st class \$1. Call Bo at 841-4622 (He's fun, you'll like him)

Classical Ballet for Adult Beginners: \$45/mo. School of Classical Ballet, 1805 Grove St, Berkeley. Info: 848-2590.

The East Bay Pirates women's wheelchair basketball team meets 6-8pm in UC Berk's Heart Gym. New players welcome, all skill levels, with or without experience. Info: Sarah 763-3744 or Michelle 465-6236. Also meets Wednesdays.

Women's Clinic at District Health Ctr 1 provides medical screening for cancer of the breast, thyroid & cervix, and STD's. Confidential, SL. 3850-17th St, SF. Info: 558-3905.

UC Infectious Disease and Tropical Medicine Clinic is open mornings from 8 am to noon, and Wed afternoons from 1 pm to 5 pm on the 5th floor. Ambulatory Care Clinic, 400 Parnassus Ave., SF. This clinic reflects the increased need for the care of gay patients with sexually transmitted intestinal parasitic diseases. Call 666-5787 for an appt.

Yoga for Gay Men: Classes for beg. & exper. students: alignment, breathing awareness, guided relaxation. 4-2 hr class/\$30. Info: Sequoia 841-6511.

STD screening, nurse consultation & referral, plus health information. Men's Clinic, 3850-17th St, SF. Mon-Fri. Free AIDS screening also available by appt. For clinic times & other info call 558-3905 M-F, 8 am-4:30 pm.

VD Checks at the City Clinic on a drop-in basis. 250 Fourth St (between Howard & Folsom). Mon-Fri, \$3/visit. Hours: 9:30 am-6 pm Mon & Thurs, 8 am-4 pm Wed & Fri.

Classes

Writers Workshop for Lesbians & Gay Men over 60 led by George Birmisa at the Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia, SF. 1 pm. Spons by O.C.G. & L Outreach to Elders (G.L.O.E.) More info: 431-6254.

Entertainment

Funk at The Stud, 1535 Folsom, SF. Info: 863-6623.

Family Photo Night at Alamo Square Saloon—get your picture taken and claim your place on the bar's family board! 600 Fillmore, SF. Info: 552-7100.

Movie at the Revolt! Comedy, Camp & Great Variety. 7:30 pm. 3924 Telegraph, Oakland.

Lehrhaus Judaica

The Challenge of Jewish Feminism: America and Israel

This Spring Forum begins Monday, Feb. 8, 7:30-9:30pm, for eight successive Mondays (except Feb. 18). The cost is \$30. Classes meet at Berkeley Hillel, 2736 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. Call 845-7793 for information about this and other classes on Judaic studies.

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The Coming Up! Guide to Events for FEBRUARY, 1985

Risk, Diplomacy & Pizza: FOG Game Night. Join Fraternal Order of Gays for a night of high strategy and satisfied appetites. 4:30 pm. Info: 753-6786.

Black Her/History Celebration to celebrate the creation of Robert Allen and Alice Walker's Wild Trees Press. Reception for Walker and Allen hosted by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority at Oakland Museum Restaurant. Also reading/booksigning by J. California Cooper, author of *A Piece of Mine*, and reading by Jo Anne Brasil, author of *Escape From Ellie's Barbecue*, forthcoming book from Wild Trees. 5-7 pm.

Barbara Gravelle reads her poetry at The Farm, 1499 Potrero Ave, SF. 5 pm. Refreshments available. Info: 826-4290.

"High Tea at the Palace", with Quentin Crisp, author of *The Naked Civil Servant*. Reception tea starts at 5:30 pm, followed by Mr. Crisp on stage at 7. MC for the evening is comic Tom Ammiano, entertainment with singer Debbie Saunders and others. \$10, Palace of Fine Arts, SF. Benefits Theatre Rhinoceros. Tickets for this humorous & stylish evening are available at Theatre Rhino, 2926 16th St, SF. Info: 861-5079.

Bookparty for Women In Search of Utopia. Editor Ruby Pohrlich and contributor Mischa Adams present at Mama Bear's, 6536 Telegraph Ave, Oakland. 7 pm, \$2. Women only. Info: 428-9684.

The Trocks are back! See Les Ballets Trockadero at Marin Ctr in San Rafael. 7 pm. See 2/10 & 2/15 listings for other Bay Area appearances. Ticket avail. at BASS.

Tools for Political Thinking, workshop with Margo Adair. Learn to develop your own analysis in an atmosphere of safety, respect, and permission to disagree. 7 pm, sliding scale. Info: 861-6838.

Handel/Xerxes, a Pocket Opera at Theatre on the Square, 450 Post St, SF. 7:30 pm, \$12 & \$15. Info: 433-9500.

Golden Bough—Celtic, East European, Scandinavian and American music, sung & played on violin, mandolin, bouzouki, guitar, whistle & accordion. 7:30 pm, \$4.50. Plowshares, Ft Mason Ctr, SF. Info: 441-8910.

Mary Tall Mountain & Grace Wade Grafton read their works at Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St, SF. 7:30 pm, \$3.

Spiritual Network & Potluck for gay & bisexual men interested in spiritual growth, metaphysics and other new age pursuits. Intros at 6:30 pm, followed by a short meditation. Potluck starts at 7:30, please bring something to eat or drink. Come to the Parsonage, 555-A Castro St, SF, for any or all of the evening. Donation requested, but not required. Spons by Friends of Toots. Info: 626-1197.

Love & Music with Chabela & Elliot Pilshaw at La Pena. Songs from the heart by lesbians & gay men, Latinos, Jews and friends. 8 pm, WA. SIGN. 3105 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley. Info: 849-2563.

An Evening with Paul Krassner at Valencia Rose. Final performance—see 2/3 listing for details.

Masks and Women's Writing, a panel with Dodie Bellamy, Carol P. Christ, Beverly Dahlen & Rachel Blau DuPlessis. 8 pm, New Langton Arts, 1246 Folsom St., SF. \$2.

Cabaret at Buckley's with vocalist Pamela Erickson. 9 pm, \$5. 131 Gough St, SF. Info: 552-8177.

"Extravaganza II", benefit for Bay Area Women's Philharmonic with Vicki Randle, Linda Tillery & Rhiannon. 8 pm, Great American Music Hall.

Geoff Hoyle & Keith Terry at Julia Morgan Theatre—see 2/1 listing for details.

SF Frontrunners Ocean Beach Run. 1-5 miles along the beach. Begins 10 am, beach parking lot off Great Highway, foot of Sloat Blvd, SF. Info: 387-8453, 821-4623.

Take the Golden Gate to China Camp Loop with Different Spokes, SF bicycle club. Meet 10 am, McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate Park, SF. Bring snacks, warm clothes & food money. Some short, steep hills, moderate pace, occasional stop. Approx 50 miles.

Sunday Brunch with Options for Women Over Forty. Good food, great fun! Women of all ages welcome. 11 am-1 pm, \$3-5 SL. Call and let us know if you'll be joining us. Info: 431-6405. Women's Bldg, 3543 18th St, SF, Third Floor.

Women on Wheels, women's bicycle club holds its first club mtg/social, 1 pm at 175 11th Ave (bet. California & Lake), SF. Refreshments provided. Club offers short & long distance recreational & touring rides. Info: Sharon 221-3345 after 8 pm. Women of all riding levels welcome. Come join!

11 Mon

Valentine's Discount: get 50% off the drycleaning of any red garment (except leather—any shade of red, anything with even a speck of red in it) at Meaders Cleaners this week. The entire amount you pay will be donated to the American Heart Assn. SF locations: 1875 Geary at Steiner, 1515 Northpoint,

2671 Ocean Avenue (Lakeside) & 1475 Sansome. Info: 433-2273.

"Works & Life of Gertrude Stein," a lecture by Phillip Whalen at New College, 762 Valencia St, SF. 1:30 pm, free.

Intermediate Amateur Radio Class: free 10-wk course covers material for FCC Technician & General Class written exam. Offered by SF Radio Club. 7 pm, 375-A Woodside Ave, SF. Info: Bill or Larry 821-2666.

Open Heart poetry reading at Modern Times. Read all the love poems you've been cherishing—or hiding. 7:30 pm, 968 Valencia St, SF. Info: 282-9246.

GGBA Valentine's Networking Party: Associate members of Golden Gate Business Association host a networking party for members & guests at Cafe Bedford, 761 Post St, SF. No host bar and hors d'oeuvres at 6 pm, Valentine's gourmet treat at 7:30. Adv. res. required, \$7 before 2/4, \$10 at door. Info/res: GGBA, 500 Sutter, Ste 703, SF 94102. 956-8677.

The Challenge of Jewish Feminism: America and Israel—course examines the question of separate Jewish women's institutions, the response of Jewish organizations to the women's movement, power & politics, Jewish women in the workforce, stereotypes of contemporary Jewish women, Israeli feminism, Jewish Law and more. Instructors include: Leah Novick of Berkeley-Richmond Jewish Comm. Ctr; Joan Steinding, MFCC; Nitzhia Shakked, LL.B., LL.M.; & Marcia Freedman, former Knesset member. Spons by Lehrhaus Judaica. 7:30-9:30 pm, Berkeley Hillel, 2736 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. Info: Kathy Cytron 845-6420. 8 wks, \$30.

Gay Comedy Open Mike at Valencia Rose. Emcees Tom Ammiano & Danny Williams. 8:30 pm, \$3. Performer sign-up at 7:30. 766 Valencia St, SF. Info: 863-3863.

Gay Men's Therapy group forming to deal with relationships, intimacy, sexuality in an era of AIDS, cross-cultural issues and more. Spons by SF Richmond Maxi Ctr. For info: Rik Isensee LCSW or Bart Aoki Ph.D. 668-5955 3:45-5 pm. 12-wk group.

CMA (Christian Ministry Area) Mtg. Get involved in the work of Diablo Valley Metropolitan Community Church. 7:30 pm, 2247 Concord Blvd, Concord. Info: 287-2960.

Battered Lesbian Support Group at W.O.M.A.N. Inc. Open to all lesbians who are presently in, or have been in a battering relationship. For time & place call 864-4777. Free.

12 Tue



"Conversations with Pat Bond" at Valencia Rose. Pat tells us, with lots of wit & abundant humanity, what it was like growing up gay in the 30s and 40s. 8 pm, \$4. 766 Valencia St, SF. Info: 863-3863.

Fiction Writers' Open Reading at Modern Times. Both experienced & first-time writers of novels, short stories, mysteries, etc welcome. Reading starts at 8 pm, register for 15-min slots at 7:30. 968 Valencia St, SF. Info: 282-9246.

Homebuilding & Remodeling Class: chance for the beginner as well as the already-skilled person to learn more about how to build or remodel a home, step-by-step. Topics: foundation/layouts, floor framing/subfloors, wall framing/post end beam, roof rafters/sheathing, plumbing, roofing/skylights, stairs/decks, trim/tile flooring and more. 7-10 pm.

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The Coming Up! Guide to Events for FEBRUARY, 1985

Jazz with Paquito D'Rivera Quintet at Kimball's, 300 Grove St. SF. Tonight thru 2/16, for showtimes call 861-5585. \$9.50.

Cabaret at Buckley's: 20s to 50s tunes with Matt Cassell & Paul Collins. 9pm, \$5. 131 Gough St. SF. Info: 552-8177.

Volunteers Needed for Meals on Wheels' AIDS Patient Meal Delivery Program. If you have a car & some time, call 474-4646.

Performances at Six: romantic Valentine's Day music. Flutist Deborah Nathan Charness & pianist Michael Charness play Schumann's *Romances*, Borne's *Carmen Fantasy*, plus works by Bach, Martinu & Messian. Vanity Fair Restaurant, lobby level of Embarcadero 3. SF. Doors open at 5 for wine & conversation, concert at 6. \$5 includes complimentary glass of wine. Free parking. Info: 626-6596.

Reception for Yellow Dogs Head, 12 illustrations by Charles G. Baldwin at Lisa: A Hairshop, 40th St & Broadway. Oakland. 6-8 pm. Exhibit runs thru 3/10.

One-to-One Deep Trance Work with Margo Adair. Catalyze change on health, phobias, habits, major life decisions, etc. by contacting the part of yourself that knows. 7 pm, SL. Info: 861-6838.

pus ex machina (Grisey); *Violin Concerto No. 2* (Prokofiev); *Vetrare di Chiesa* (Respighi). 8 pm. \$9-12. Discounts for srs, disabled & stdnts. First Congregational Church, Dana (bet Durant & Channing) St. Berkeley. WA. Info: 527-3436.

Soon 3 Benefit Concert. Composer Bob Davis presents selections of past Soon 3 productions with musicians John Raskin, Brad Saunders, Doug Skinner & Bob Davis. 8:30 pm, \$8. New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St, SF. Info: 863-9834.

"Mimzabim" at the Club Foot. 8:30 pm. See 2/8 listing for details.

Cathy Walkup celebrates her birthday with some fine vocals at Buckley's, 131 Gough St. SF. 9 pm. \$5. Info: 552-8177.

Afro-Caribbean Folklore Night at La Pena. Afro-Cuban music by Tambokuba. Afro-Venezuelan folk ensemble *Bahia Tambo*. 9 pm, \$6. 3105 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley. 9 pm, \$6. Info: 849-2568.

Snow Adventures—Ski Trips for Women: 3-day cross-country skiing at Bear Valley. Beginners welcome. \$115/person. Large, comfortable house with wood stove, gourmet meals & lessons. Info: Eileen 753-1233.

Reception: Campaign for Equality, the political action fund of the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Demo Club, honors Assemblyman Tom Bates. 6-8 pm,

15 Fri



The Tutu funny Trocks are back in SF! The zany all-male ballet troupe introduce two brand-new ballets ("To the Fairest," or "Coming of Age on Mount Ida" and "Three Dances of Ruth St. Denis.") and perform old favorites during their 3-day run at SF Opera House. 8 pm Fri & Sat, 7 pm Sun. Tix \$12.50 to \$25, avail. at Opera House Box Office (864-3330), BASS (893-BASS). See 2/10 for Marin performance, 2/13 for Berkeley performance.

Twilight Tales: Lesbian Paperbacks—slideshow by Roberta Yusba documents the birth of the lesbian pulp novel in the 1950s and early 1960s. 7:30 pm, \$3-5. Community Women's Ctr. 6536 Telegraph Ave. Oakland. Women only. Info: 652-0612.

Two Prima Donnas in Need of Attention—see 2/7 listing for details.

Who's at Artemis tonight? Hunter Davis & Julie Horn! Vocals, guitar, piano. 8 pm, \$5. 1199 Valencia St. SF. Info: 821-0232.

Casablanca, the 1942 classic—love, intrigue & adventure in war-torn North Africa. Also *Happy Anniversary*, Academy-award winning short on love & life. 8 pm, \$3.50, \$1 srs, kids. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. SF. Info: 929-0382.

The Old Country at Plowshares—klezmer duo from Portland. Joel Rubin on clarinet, Lisa Rose on piano. 8 pm, \$4. Ft Mason Ctr. SF. Info: 441-8910.

Valentines' Single Dance at Mama Bear's. Women only. Couples welcome, but must be accompanied by a single! 8 pm, \$3. 6536 Telegraph Ave. Oakland. Info: 428-9684.

Joe Sedelmaier, director of over 50 Clio-winning TV commercials, discusses & screens his work. 8 pm, Palace of Fine Arts. SF. \$7 adv/\$8 door. Tix at BASS, Record Factory. Info: 626-7916.

U-Zulu Dance Theatre of South Africa. Pathos, comedy, tragedy, mime, song & dance. 8 pm, \$7 adv/\$8.50 door. Julia Morgan Theatre, 2640 College Ave, Berkeley. Info/res: 548-7234.

The Chieftains—traditional & contemporary songs of the Emerald Isle, using fiddles, tin whistles & Celtic harps. 8 pm, \$12 & \$11. Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley.

Romanovsky & Phillips at the Rose—see 1/14 listing for details.

Berkeley Symphony Orchestra program: *Tem-*

\$10-25 SL. 2811 Benvenue (nr Ashby & College), Berkeley. WA. Info: 548-0329.

Women's Drop-In Space: join other women for conversation, sharing. 7-9 pm, 1615 Polk St. (above Greek clothing store), SF. Info: 474-4848

Does the Media tell the Truth? Panel discussion on social responsibility of U.S. media. Panelists: Ormai Yeshitela of *Burning Spear*, Bill Wong of *Oakland Tribune*, Walter Turner of Africa Resource Ctr & Soviet Union expert William Mandel. 7:30 pm, \$3.50. Dwinelle Hall, UC Berkeley. Spons by Burning Spear Solidarity Comm. Info: 569-9620, 533-1743.

Women's Massage Evening: Tonight's focus—menstrual tension. Understand your menstrual cycle. Learn simple acupressure techniques to release pain, bloating & discomfort. 7:30-10 pm, \$6-12 SL. 6527-A Telegraph Ave, Oakland. Info: Ali Hammer 654-8765 or Bonnie Podell 652-1838.

Impressions of Modern Moscow, a talk with Carlos Alcalá, recently returned from a month in Moscow. Tourist-type slides with untourist-type commentary. Bring questions. 7:30 pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St. SF. Info: 282-9246.

16 Sat

Women's Wheelchair Basketball Meet at UC Berkeley. Game time 10 am. Recreational Sports Facility, UC Berkeley. Info: 849-4663.

Celebrate Aphrodite's Day in the country. 1 pm ritual. Semi-vegetarian lunch, red wine from local Mendocino winery. Ritual conducted by local priestess Farida. \$10. Info: (707) 462-6238.

Cross-country Ski-Trip for Beginners: 3 full days of skiing in Soda Springs (nr Truckee); 3 days of instruction, 3 nights accommodation in luxurious Chalet with roaring fireplace, all homecooked meals. \$205/person. Info: Mariah Wilderness Expeditions 527-5544.

Meet Jane Rule! Have her sign your copy of her new novel, *Inland Passage*, her new collection of essays *A Hot-Eyed Moderate* or your dog-eared copy of one of her lesbian classics. 2-4 pm, Old Wives Tales Bookstore, 1009 Valencia St. SF. Info: 821-4675.

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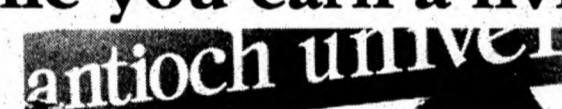

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Antioch: For Working Adults

The Coming Up! Guide to Events for FEBRUARY, 1985

England's renowned quartet in an all-Russian program. 8 pm, \$16 & \$12.

"Jack & Gabby" by Alison Blake. Tragic & comic versions of an explosive, deadly mtg between man and woman. Tonight's script-reading/critique with Playwright's Ctr. 7:30 pm, \$2. Peoples' Theatre, Ft Mason Bldg B, SF. Info: 775-8375, 932-6391.

Hot Night Out for the Girls—come to Baybrick's Burlesque for Women. 1 1/2 hr show starts at 9 pm. 1190 Folsom St. SF. \$5.

20 Wed

Berkeley Ballet performs for Kidstuff, Julia Morgan Theatre's performance art series for kids ages 3-8. A charming, informal & captivating intro to the hows & whys of ballet. 11 am & Noon, \$2.50. 2640 College Ave, Berkeley. Info: 548-7234.

Novelist Anne Lamont, author of *Hard Laughter* and *Rosie*, reads from her works in the Bender Room, Mills College library. 4 pm, free. Info: 430-2219. 5000 MacArthur Blvd, Oakland.

Chanting & Silence—meditation for Women at Community Women's Ctr. Varied set and free chants, a quiet space in your day to look within. 5:45-6:30 pm, \$1-3 SL. Women only. Led by Pat Choate. 6536 Telegraph Ave, Oakland. Info: 652-0612.

Heartsaver CPR Class at Mt Zion Hospital, 1600 Divisadero St. SF. 6 pm, free. Info: 567-6600 ext. 2218.

Media Alliance Writing Practicum: 5-session course led by experienced editor/writing instructor Perry Garfinkel for writers who want feedback. 2/20-3/20, 6:30 pm, \$75. Ft Mason Bldg D, SF. Info: 441-2558.

Legal Issues for Artists: seminar spons by Bay Area Lawyers for the Arts. Tonight's topic: How to use Small Claims Court. 7 pm, \$7. Ft Mason Bldg B, rm 300, SF. Info: 775-7200.

The Black & The Green, documentary film chronicles the journey of five African-Americans to Northern Ireland. 7:30 pm, \$3-5 SL. Benefit for Africa Resource Ctr. La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Ave, Oakland. Info: 849-2568.

Ash Wednesday Service at Diablo Valley Metropolitan Community Church, 2247 Concord Blvd, Concord. 8 pm. Info: 827-2960.

Michelle Cliff, author of *Claiming an Identity They Taught Me to Despise*, reads from her work at Small Press Traffic Bookstore. 3841-B 24th St, SF. 8 pm, \$3. Info: 285-8394.

Les Ballets Trockadero, the wacky all-male ballet troupe, bring their hilarious antics to San Jose! 8 pm, San Jose Ctr for the Performing Arts. Tix at BASS. For info on other Bay Area performances see 2/10, 2/13 & 2/15 listings.

Joseph Taro & Company at Buckley's. Music/comedy/variety/fun—9 pm, \$5. 131 Gough St. SF. Info: 552-8177.

Grace Harwood reads fiction/poetry for women at Mama Bears, 6536 Telegraph Ave, Oakland. 7:30 pm, \$3. Women only. Info: 428-9684.

21 Thu

"Us Girls Can Boogie Too" a Women's Dance at the Trocadero. All-night Carnival Party with Josephine Moraga & her Samba Dancers, Beni Duarte & his Pandeiro, live percussion, capoeira, multi-cultural dance music. Costumes welcome. 9 pm-4 am, \$7. 4th & Bryant, SF.

Cabaret Gold Nominee Jam at Buckley's—come hear the best of SF's cabaret scene! 131 Gough St. SF. 9 pm. Info: 552-8177.

Swingshift—lively mix of jazz, topical songs, stories, & slides from their recent tour of Nicaragua. 8 pm, \$4. La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley. Info: 849-2568.

22 Fri

Women in the New Nicaragua, a video portrait of Nicaraguan women today. 8 pm, donation. Community Women's Ctr, 6536 Telegraph Ave, Oakland. Info: 652-0612.

Susan Stamberg, the first woman in the U.S. to host a national nightly news program ("All Things Considered" on National Public Radio), speaks as part of City Arts & Lectures' "On Art & Politics" series. 8 pm, Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness, SF. Tix: \$10 & \$11. Info: 392-4400. Tix at BASS.

The Greatest—Sara Vaughan at Great American Music Hall! 8:30 & 11 pm, \$15. Don't miss one of jazz's finest. Be there! 859 O'Farrell St. SF. Info: 885-0750.

Two Prima Donnas in Need of Attention—see 2/7 listing for details.

"Mimzabim" by Elan Vital at the Club Foot—see 2/8 for details.

Joan Lazarus & Dancers at Footwork Studio, 3221 22nd St at Mission, SF. 8:30 pm, tonight & tmw. For res/info: 824-5044.



Betsy Rose with Fran & Charlie: an eve of powerful music & nuclear comedy when singer/songwriter Betsy Rose teams up with "the Atomic Comics" at the Rose. 8 pm, \$5. 766 Valencia St, SF. Info: 863-3863.

Woza Albert, screening of film composed of excerpts from the hit play about the life of two Black South Africans, interspersed with visits by the authors/performers to the places & people who inspired the work. 8 pm, \$3. Modern Times Bookstore, 968 Valencia St, SF. Info: 282-9246.

Self-Healing Through Flower Essences, a workshop for Women led by Lorraine Segal at Body Electric School of Massage. 4-session course. Info: 658-9859. Women only.

Music with passion & depth—Gwen Avery at the piano at Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St, SF. 8 pm, \$5. Info: 821-0232.

Labor's Role in the Anti-Intervention Movement: a panel discussion with Roland Sheppard, Ignacio De La Fuente, and Al Lannon. Spons by Socialist Action. 8 pm, 3435 Army & Valencia, SF. Info: 821-0458.

Mitsuye and Nellie, award-winning film portrait of two Asian-American poets growing up in America on the eve of World War II & beyond. Award-winning film directed by Allie Light & Irving Saraf. Also short—*The Dragon Wore Tennis Shoes*, captures the annual Chinese New Year's parade. 8 pm, \$3. Noe Valley Cinema, 1021 Sanchez St, SF. Info: 282-2317.

Bookparty for The Highest Apple: celebrate the publication of Judy Grahn's newest work. Reception follows reading. 7:30 pm, \$3. Mama Bear's, 6536 Telegraph Ave, Oakland. Women only. Info: 428-9684.

Practical Promotion for Women Wholistic Health Practitioners: explore resources, markets, easy & powerful methods for maximum exposure & self-development. A workshop for women only at Body Electric School of Massage. Led by Karen Leber. 7:30-10 pm. Info: Ali Hammer 654-8765, Bonnie Podell 652-1838.

Alexander Hamilton Veteran's Organization, celebrates Washington's Birthday in the Green Room of the Veteran's Bldg, Van Ness & McAllister. SF. 7 pm, \$5. All welcome. Funds raised support Alexander Hamilton's work with veterans. The organization, recently approved for membership in the American Legion, is composed of a large number of gay veterans. Info: 431-1413.

Dealing with Stress, a FOG (Fraternal Order of Gays) lecture led by Peel J. Leifer, MSW. Learn a few easy, short exercises to help avert crises and stress situations. You'll leave relaxed & feeling positive. 8 pm. Info: 753-6786.

Celebrate Mardi Gras with *Hot Links* and a surprise guest band at The Farm, 1499 Potrero Ave, SF. New Orleans rhythm 'n blues, plus authentic, delicious New Orleans cuisine. 9 pm, \$5.

Cabaret with Chrissy Hicks & Doug Darrin at Buckley's. 131 Gough St, SF. 9 pm, \$5. Info: 552-8177.

Late Night in the Loft at NPG: dancer/choreographer Cynthia Meyers incorporates movement, spoken narrative & props in original solo & group works, with dancers Dierdre Carrigan, Beth Klarreich & Maxine Moerman. 11 pm, \$4. New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St, SF. Info: 863-9834.

23 Sat

Musician Nancy Vogl at Mama Bears, 8 pm, \$4-6 SL. 6536 Telegraph Ave, Oakland. Women only. For res: 428-9684.



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The Coming Up! Guide to Events for FEBRUARY, 1985

Hilliard Ensemble sings medieval, renaissance and baroque works. 8 pm, \$12, \$9 stdnts. Hertz Hall, UC Berkeley. Info: 642-9988.

Women Sexual Assault Survivors 10-wk support group spons. by SF Women Against Rape. Share feelings in a safe setting with other women survivors. Info: 647-RAPE.

"The Hand that Cradles the Rock," a program of dance, poetry, & music to celebrate Black History Month. Traces the historical roots & contemporary expressions of Black culture. Performances with poet Mona Lisa Saloy, choreographer Debra Floyd from CitiCentre Dance Co., gospel singers *The Wheeler Family*, and the versatile, talented *Something Special*. 8 pm, \$5 adv/\$6 door. Oakland Technical High School, 42nd & Broadway, Oakland. Spons by Roadwork West. Info: 654-9407.

Need a laugh? Come to Gay Comedy Night at the Valencia Rose. Mario Mondelli, Suzy Berger, & Danny Williams will lift your spirits! 10 pm, \$5. Info: 863-3863.

Caribbean All-Stars—dance at La Pena. Calypso, reggae, ska, cumina & shango drumming and many more concoctions to get you up & jumping tonight! 9:30 pm, \$3. 3105 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley. Info: 849-2568.

Late Night in the Loft at New Performance Gallery with dancer/choreographer Cynthia Meyers—see 2/22 for details.

Legion of Honor, Lincoln Park (34th Ave & Clement) SF. Info: Tanya 923-0265.

Forum: "Permanent Revolution in South Africa," a public forum commemorating the 20th anniversary of Malcolm X's assassination. Discussion of the international solidarity and the revolt against apartheid. Spons by Freedom Socialist Party. 4 pm forum, 6:30 pm dinner (\$4.50). All welcome. \$2 at door. Valencia Hall, 523-A Valencia St, SF. Info: 550-1020, 864-1278.

"Humor Me—the Development of Women's Comic Vision," a 5-wk intensive taught by Joan Mankin. Covers history of women comics/comediennes, physical and stand-up comedy exercises, solo & group material work leading up to a public performance in March. Spons by Lilit. 2/26-3/27, Tues & Weds, 6-9 pm, \$155. Info: 861-4221.

25 Mon

Battered Lesbian Support Group spons by WOMAN, Inc. For lesbians who have been or are presently in a battering relationship. Call 864-4777 for time & place. Free.

Gay Comedy Open Mike at Valencia Rose. Co-emcees Tom Ammiano & Danny Williams. 8:30 pm, \$3. Performer sign-up at 7:30. 766 Valencia St, SF. Info: 863-3863.

Lesbian Sex: JoAnn Loulan discusses her new book, includes info on sex & motherhood, aging, sobriety, disability, homophobia, sexual abuse and more. And all done with a dose of humor. 7:30 pm, \$3-5 SL. Community Women's Ctr, 6536 Telegraph

24 Sun



The Vocal Minority in "Kidstuff"—hit revue of great songs about kids and childhood by a top-rate group. 7 pm, \$7. Valencia Rose Cafe, 766 Valencia St, SF. Info: 863-3863.

Reclaiming Ritual Reading in honor of the returning light, with Cerridwen Fallingstar, Roy King, Susan Leigh Star, & Rick Dragonstongue. 7:30 pm, \$3. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St, SF.

Lo Jai, 5 musicians bring life to the traditional music of France's Limousin region. 7:30 pm, \$6. Plowshares, Ft Mason Ctr, SF. Info: 441-8910.

Concert: singer Betsy Rose & Atomic Comics Fran & Charlie. 8 pm, \$6-8 SL. 3105 Shattuck Ave, SF. Info: 849-2568.

Donizetti/Mary Stuart—a Pocket Opera at Theatre on the Square. 7:30 pm, \$12 & \$15. Info: 398-2220.

Jazz Singer/pianist Mose Allison at Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell St, SF. Info: 885-0750.

Pamela Erickson—style, wit & great cabaret at Buckley's, 131 Gough St, SF. Info: 552-8177.

Motherpluckers Country Jam Session at Mama Bears. 3-6 pm, \$2. 6536 Telegraph Ave, Oakland. Info: 428-9684.

Napa to Sonoma Ride with Different Spokes, SF Bicycle Club. Mostly flat, rolling hills to Sonoma, return via historic sites. Sonoma deli available, allow 1 1/2 hr drive to Napa from SF. Meet at Redwood Plaza parking lot, corner of Redwood & Solano Ave, Napa. For time & other info: Derek Liecny 339-2345.

Dance concert with artists: Ed Mock, Joy Berta Dance, Rosa Montoya's Bailes Flamencos, Lucas Hoving Dance Group, SF Jazz Dance Co., Body & Soul Dance Co., Classical North Indian Music & Dance, Isadora Duncan Legacy Dancers, Artists United for Peace, and more. Benefits Pathways to Peace and Artists United for Peace. 2 pm, \$10, (\$25 for first front rows). Little Theatre, Palace of the

Ave, Oakland.

26 Tue

Visiting Nurse Assoc. of SF (VNA) Training Sessions for its new leisure volunteer program start today. Volunteers needed to work with the elderly & recovering home care patients. Info: Jacquelyn Kelley 861-8705.

Estate Planning Wkshop at Community Women's Ctr. 6536 Telegraph Ave, Oakland. What would happen to your children & your possessions if something happened to you? Facilitated by attorney Sue Alexander. Women only. 7-9:30 pm, \$3-5 SL. Info: Kathy 540-6552.

Southbay SOL (Slightly Older Lesbians) meets for wine & cheese tasting. 7-9 pm, Billy DeFrank Community Ctr, 86 S. Keyes St, San Jose. Info: (408) 293-4525 bet 6 & 9 pm.

"Tain't Nobody's Bizness," Eric Garber's slideshow on gay life in Harlem during the 1920s. 8 pm, \$4. 766 Valencia St, SF. Info: 863-3863.

Hot Night Out for Girls—Baybrick's Burlesque for Women—1 1/2 hr show starts at 9 pm. 1190 Folsom St, SF.

27 Wed

Screenwriting: a 6-wk lab course led by writer-producer Ray Kissin. Wednesdays, 2/27-4/10, 6:30 pm, \$85. Ft Mason Bldg D, SF. Info: Media Alliance 441-2558.

AIDS Forum in Pleasanton, 4333 Black Ave., Pleasanton. 7-9 pm. Info: 462-3535.

Frameline Needs Volunteers for March film festival benefit, & for June festival (Frameline are the folks that bring us the SF Lesbian & Gay Film Festival every year). Work in exchange for film viewing. 7

pm, call 861-5245 for place & other info.
Women—So you're interested in producing a concert... —extensive training program teaches women all about production. Led by Diane Sabin. 7 pm, Valencia Rose Cafe, 766 Valencia St, SF. WA. RCC & RSGN—48-hr reservation. Info/pre-reg: Diane 534-4000.

"Copyright & Literary Agents for Writers," a legal issues seminar for artists, spones by Bay Area Lawyers for the Arts. 7 pm, \$7. Ft Mason Bldg B, rm 300, SF. Info: 775-7200.

Mobilization Against AIDS mtg: 7:30 pm, 766 Valencia St, SF. All welcome. Info: 552-4287.
Mid-Week Gathering at Diablo Valley Metropolitan Church. Tonight's topic: Sharing Your Faith. 2247 Concord Blvd, Concord. Info: 827-2960.

AIDS Benefit at Sha'ar Zahav: recital by SF Opera violinist Randy Weiss and San Jose Symphony violinist Patricia Whaley. 8 pm, 220 Danvers at Caselli, SF. \$5 donation, benefits Sha'ar Zahav's Phooey on AIDS fund. Info: 861-6932.

Writer Michael Brownstein reads from his prose at New College Gallery, 762 Valencia St, SF. 8 pm, \$2. Info: Dan Cassidy 626-1694.

"Sharp Curves, Sudden Detours," an evening of contemporary dance with Consuelo Faust & Dancers & special guest Priscilla Regalado. 8:30 pm, 2/27-3/2, 3/6-9. \$7 Wed-Thurs, \$8 Fri-Sat. New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St, SF. Info/res: 863-9834.

Intro to the Tax System, with Lois Leynes, author of *Women and Taxes*. Question & answer period. 7:30 pm, \$2. Mama Bears, 6536 Telegraph Ave, Oakland. Info: 428-9684.

28 Thu

Heartsaver CPR Class at Southeast Health Ctr., 2401 Keith St, SF. 5:30 pm, \$2. Info/res: 822-2850.

African Heritage Dinner Program at Cafe Violeta. Eve of food, poetry, music & art celebrates the links between the fight for freedom in South Africa and the survival of Black culture in the Americas. 6-9 pm, \$5-\$15 SL. La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley. Info: 849-2568.

Performances at Six: Music for guitar and flute. Bettine Clemen Ware, flute; Richard Patterson, guitar. Works by Bach, Coreia, Bolling, Mozart & Handel. 6 pm, \$5 includes concert & glass of wine. Lobby level, Vanity Fair Restaurant, 3 Embarcadero Ctr, SF. Info: SF Performances 626-6596.

Good Clean Fun! with a group of gay men in a J/O club that meets in a beautiful, well-lit space. If that sounds hard to believe, send us your name, address, & phone number—we'll do our best to convince you that safe sex can still be great fun. Write: Phallos, 584 Castro, Ste 170, SF 94114-2588.

Marketing Magazine Articles, 3-session workshop with editor/consultant Perry Garfinkle. 6:30 pm, \$50. Ft Mason Bldg D, SF. Info: Media Alliance 441-2558.

The Upper Room, author Mary Monroe celebrates the publication of her novel at A Woman's Place Bookstore, 4015 Broadway Ave, Oakland. Info: 654-3645.

Womyn of Color Writing Group reads from their works in progress. Poetry, prose, fiction. 7:30 pm, all welcome. Womyn of color especially encouraged to attend. Old Wives Tales Bookstore, 1009 Valencia St, SF. Free. WA. Inquire about SIGN, CC. Info: 821-4675.

Two Prima Donnas in Need of Attention—see 2/7 for details.

Paquito D'Rivera Quintet at Kimball's, 300 Grove St, SF. Thurs-Sat, \$9.50. For showtimes/info: 861-5585.

Joseph Taro & Molly Breen—high-energy cabaret at Buckley's, 131 Gough St, SF. 9 pm, \$5. Info: 552-8177.

ON STAGE



Dames at Sea. Popular musical based on the campy nostalgia of 30s Hollywood musicals. Marquee Theatre production. 15 3rd St, Santa Rosa. Runs Wed-Sat, 1/11-2/23. Info/res: 545-1906.

Mourning Metro by C.D. Arnold. A play about internal war, the struggle that each of us faces when our fears form a dark cloud over our lives. Theatre Rhinoceros production. Previews 2/3, 6-8. Runs 2/9-3/24, Wed-Sun, 8:30 pm, matinees 3/3, 17 & 24 at 3 pm. Tix: \$7 previews/matinees, \$8 & \$9 Wed-Thurs, \$9 & \$10 Fri-Sat. 2926 16th St #9, SF. Info: 861-5079.

42nd Street by David Merrick. Classic Broadway musical about a young chorine given a once-in-a-lifetime chance to replace the injured leading lady. Previews 2/19, gala premiere 2/24 at 4 pm, runs thru 4/14. Tues-Thurs, 8 pm; Fri-Sat, 8:30; Wed & Sat matinees at 2:30; Sun matinees at 3. Golden Gate Theatre, Golden Gate & Taylor at Market, SF. Info/res: 775-8800.

Statements After an Arrest Under the Immorality Act by Athol Fugard. Chronicle of the love affair between a "coloured" slum-school principal and a white librarian who are forced to face the injustice of a system that makes such love illegal. One Act Theatre Co. production. 430 Mason St, SF. Runs Thurs-Sat, 8 pm, Sun at 7:30, thru 2/16. Sun matinees at 3 pm. For ticket info/res: 421-6162.

Beach Blanket Babylon's Makin' Whoopee! by Steve Silver. Revised version of the decade-old musical. Opens 2/6, \$14 Wed-Thurs, 8 pm; Sun at 7:30; \$16 Fri-Sat, 8 & 10:30 pm; \$12 Sun at 3 pm. Tix at BASS, Ticketron, STBS. Club Fugazi, 678 Green St, SF. Info: 421-4222.

Home by Samm-Art Williams. Good humored, three character play about 13 years of a young Black man's sometimes pleasant, often incredibly painful life. Nominated for a Tony Award. Black Repertory Group production. Runs Thurs-Sat, 8:30 pm, 12/27-2/2. 1719 Alcatraz Ave, Berkeley. Info/res: 652-2120, 652-4017.

Homeland by Selaelo Maredi. A biting yet humorous comparison of black/white race relations in Johannesburg, South Africa and a Connecticut suburb. Julian Theatre production. 953 DeHaro St, SF. Runs Thurs-Sun thru 2/23, 8 pm. \$6 Thurs & Sun, \$8 Fri & Sat. Info/res: 647-8098.

Love Kamp and **Shaking Hands With Moths** by Michael Andreen. Love Kamp is a robust casserole of erotic suspense and WWII combat humor. Shak-

ing Hands With Moths employs conventions of courtroom drama to show that the self-valetions of the new gentry may, in fact, be baroque legal fictions. Archon Theatre production. 2/14-2/24, Thurs-Sun at 8, \$5 at door. Co-Lab Theatre, 1805 Divisadero (at Bush), SF. Info: 398-2528 or 431-9559.

Dracula: The Story You Thought You Knew by Richard Sharp from the novel by Bram Stoker. Classic battle between good and evil. Scenery & special effects from Ashland's Oregon Shakespeare Festival. Runs thru 2/24. First Congregational Church, Post & Mason Sts, SF. For ticket & time info: 771-6900.

Love to All, Lorraine, written & performed by Elizabeth Van Dyke, and **Ain't I a Woman**, created & performed by Charmaine Crowell. The first is a one-act play based on the life of the late Black playwright, Lorraine Hansberry. The second is a moving musical dramatization of the famous 19th century emancipation & women's rights advocate, Sojourner Truth. Part of Oakland Ensemble Theatre's SOLOS series of one-woman productions by & about Black women. Runs Fri-Sun, 2/22-3/10, 8 pm. Sun matinee at 3. Opening night performance & reception—\$15, all other shows, \$8. Discounts available. Laney College, 900 Fallon St (at 9th) Oakland. Info: 839-5510.

Berlin, Jerusalem and the Moon. A Traveling Jewish Theatre production. Delves into the theme of inheritance—all the voices of the past that move through, guide, and bind us. Opens 2/1, runs Wed-Sun at 8:30 pm, thru 3/17, 8:30 pm. Sun matinees at 2:30. No performance 4/5-7. Intersection, 756 Union St bet Powell & Mason, SF. Ticket info/res: 982-2356.

Biloxi Blues by Neil Simon. Carries the story of Eugene Morris Jerome, teenaged hero of "Brighton Beach Memoirs" a few years down the line to the time when the U.S. is involved in WWII & Eugene is involved in surviving army training in the Deep South. Emanuel Azenberg production in association with CTG/Ahmanson Theatre. Previews 2/6 at 8 & 2/7, 2:30 pm. Runs Fri-Sat, 8:30 pm; Tues-Thurs, 8 pm; thru 3/9. Matinees Wed & Sat, 2:30 pm, Sun at 3. Tix \$10-\$30. Info: 673-4400.



Tricameron by Len Shirts. A two-act battle of split personality and moral confrontation in which an innocent is caught between two age-old enemies. Runs 1/18-2/9 at 8:30, tix \$7. Gumption Theatre, 1563 Page near Masonic, SF. Info/res: 653-4733.

—Compiled by Julie Pechilis

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Harboring Flight

CHAPTER TWO: Leonard

*There's a crow flying
Dark and ragged
Tree to tree
He's black as the highway that's leading to me...*

—Joni Mitchell

BY STEVEN FASSEZKE

Bus wheels on worn-out blacktop.

After so long of it a guy can believe he is the road, stretched prone, over-traveled. In the town of Paradise ahead, they await my arrival in the parking lot of the IGA Market where the bus will do its loop and return to civilization.

Only five other passengers this afternoon. A wonder the route isn't phased out entirely. Across the aisle, an obese woman in a chrysanthemum-print housedress rustles in her seat. She climbed on at Sault Ste. Marie — "the Soo" — same place I boarded, and now glances over as if we have at least that much in common. She smiles, furtive, returns her gaze to the thick smear of leaves whirring past the windows. She's nearly as big as Rachel was last time I was back here to visit. All that weight. We begin to slow, to come to a halt in the sleepy settlement of Brimley where no one waits to board and no one gets off.

A lurch onto Lake Shore Drive, the rural road which skirts the shoreline of Whitefish Bay, means we are thankfully moving forward again. Part of the torture of this pilgrimage, after all, is being forced to stop in each of these dull, familiar settlements along the way. Sunlight is so bright that I slip on a pair of shades, mind sent creeping, along with the movement of the bus, toward the ending of last night's show, toward escape from under blazing klieg lights...

...the sound of applause rising up and bursting in the theatre, and us prancing offstage. Following Desiree, I lead the other backup singers into the main dressing room. Towels. Faces mopped dry. Terrycloth, pressed into the moustache and into the eye sockets where beads of moisture tickle. Laughter and terrycloth and congratulations rubbed over the nape of neck just below the neatly barbered hairline. Clayton's fingers.

The bus thrums, while in the theatre, in mind...

...the crowd gathers momentum until it surges more unified. Demands to return ripple in the glass of water slowly raised to the lips. Love, out there arranged in rows. Love arranging itself backstage, too. Always rearranging. A friend of the group moves in to administer neat lines of white powder. Clayton rests half his butt on an arm of the chair. Done arguing temporarily, he is attentive, near. Desiree is first, her eyes dazzling and proud. Bending over the face of the mirror, she cleans it in one swoop, then relays the rolled-up Hamilton around the room. Think. Wasn't this the exact moment of the phone call and Dad's estranged voice intoning, "serious, serious..."

"Get serious all of you," orders Rodney the stage manager in his strict-salacious manner. "Do the encore. They're not giving up out there. Desiree darling, are you ready?"

"I'm ready for you to relax, sweetheart," she reproaches him with a radiant smile. "And please, close the door behind you. We wouldn't want the stagehands getting jealous now, would we?" The make-up man rushes in to check her eyeliner.

The encore. The phone message. On stage once more, I think about it, positioned behind Desiree, who leans toward her adoring listeners, clamps both hands between locked thighs and proceeds to draw them slowly upward before releasing them and whiplashing her raven mane back. She stands tall, arms outstretched as if to embrace the entire balcony. "Since you all seem to be so... hot... for us tonight," she seethes into the microphone, busily adjusting its height to suit her, "we're gonna do a brand new song for you. It's the title cut off our soon-to-be-released album and it's called: 'Move It Till You Lose It!' Are you ready for that?!" Cat-calls. Thunder. She whirls, her voice calculated and lowered, just audible to us, letting know with her entire being — her glowering green mulatto eyes and svelte figure in black spandex with lightning-bolt belt: "Let's do it right. Leonard. Cecil. Patty. Ready! One... two. One, two, three, four..." Her voice rising in vamp like a loon braving the impossibility of air, as we follow it up in rehearsed harmony, staying with her, soaring with her, myself, Cecil, Patty. Clayton watching from the wings. Lights, altering to ochre as outlined during the build-up to the

Steven Fassezke has lived in San Francisco for the past four years. He is 28 years old, and is currently enrolled in the graduate program in Creative Writing at San Francisco State University. Other published works of his can be found in *Fabulous Realities* and *Alchemy* magazine. This is an excerpt from his novel-in-progress, *Harboring Flight*.

chorus of this song gone over and over in the studio. Wedged between Patty and Cecil, between bass and soprano. The phone call. The encore. The chorus, the cue.

"My goodness, are you deaf, young man?" The voice is highly annoyed.

"Pardon?" The chrysanthemum-print woman looms over me. Her eyes implore.

"Why never mind," she grumbles and moves to reclaim her seat. "It's too late now. I had asked if you happened to see those three furry bear cubs by the side

NORMALVILLE

of the road. I believe the mother was on your side. There was a thimbleberry patch. The cubs had their snouts in it of course. You didn't see her?"

"The mother? No," I glare from behind the sunglasses. "Didn't see." Too much brusqueness in my reply, perhaps, causes her to cross her arms and turn to the window with a little "hurumph."

I must have thought it would be easy to ignore the reason for this trip into the nowhere north woods and the isolated town that sucks a lip of Lake Superior. Such a cold place, even now, not yet Labor Day, temperature in the 80's. But here I go being bitter again. I told Rachel to get away from here years ago — that it would drain the life out of her. She didn't listen. Unless one would call flinging herself into nursing school in the Soo listening. She's relanded in Paradise like a boomerang, complete with LPN degree, to manage a cheese factory. Destroying herself, is what it is. Maybe this time she can be coaxed out.

"What about the mother?" I regain the suspicious attention of the chrysanthemum-print woman. "Did I see her? Not for over two years," I report coolly. "The mother bore my sister Connie, me, and my bother Randy as insulation against the rigors of isolation, but her cubs have all dispersed into the berry patch. That's what I see out the window."

Puzzled, wary, the woman does not reply but instead becomes self-conscious. Again comes the "hurumph" of indignation. She turns away.

"Come home," urged Dad long-distance over the phone last night. "Serious. I believe she's in trouble... her lungs... filling up... pneumonia..."

No. It's amusing really, how they've resorted to sensationalism in order to get me to visit these days. But why should anyone let the past and an increasingly distant family upset their encore?

Outside the bus now are glimpses of Whitefish Bay through the thin birch trees flicking by like a shuffling deck of cards. Trailer houses with cheap particle board additions and stovepipes blackened. Filaments of smoke rising out of them on this day so sultry yet so cold.

In ten years living away, was it

really possible to have forgotten the magnitude of rural America and the upper midwest? Coached in the ways of cities, from Osaka to Copenhagen, I now look out on collapsed barns: houses folded into themselves, having been deserted during the Great Depression and never resumed. Wasn't it only yesterday the glaciers removed themselves? — leaving behind cement makers, Great Lakes shipping, fishing, wood pulp processing, Indian basket crafts, nightcrawler bait. A hand-painted sign advertises, Wild Snapdragons 75¢ a bunch.

Should I get more snapdragons to place on her hospi-

tal nightstand? Shall I yell to the driver to STOP so I can buy some from the boy who sits on a stool with an array of Campbell's soup cans sprouting flowers in front of him? Grape-colored flowers, dark as the juice I accidentally spilled over the tablecloth last time I came to visit. So early in the day I hadn't yet collected any poise, still rubbing away sleep as I propped myself up at the table. Mom had been up for hours, had fixed an omelette especially for me, and I went and bumped off the glass of Welch's, ruining good linen. Though she was none too pleased, it didn't show. Skillful at repressing emotion when it suits her, which is most of the time, what most distresses her, of course, is to be recognized. And upon being recognized, she will then do everything in her power not to seem distressed. Constant struggles of interior motive, no doubt. But that morning, when the juice tipped over, what I recognized was a hint of her life as it was becoming — solitary, happy with linen which remained clean far longer than ever before, yet sad too, in some great, unfathomable way. No, I'd rather not stop for flowers.

"Serious, serious," urged Dad.

But how easy it's been to forget the conservatism steeped in standing water. Pink-cheeked naivete and pastel pant-suits sprout on women's bodies. At the little airport, there were, on middle-aged men, the nation's last bastions of the white belt/white shoe sect. Sweet and gagging, to be so near to what I'd tried for years to extricate myself from. I've tried to forget how they all look so healthy in a papier-mache kind of pasty way. All white skins — except for the Indians, who keep mostly to themselves and are too poor to wield any political

clout. And there are no Blacks here; no Jews, no Asians, no Hispanics, no gay people. Clayton would be an anomaly had he come along like I'd asked him — before we argued about living on the road again, that is. He would be an object of curiosity with his deep brown skin and nappy hair. Perhaps it's just as well he's going on to our place in San Francisco. He needs to realize a home base. A rented suite or a cabana will do for me, as long as I can stay in the band and have Clayton there. But who knows how long it'll last? Desiree talks of "reforming" the group, whatever that means. Subtle hints say certain of us are disposable. I'd better cut out of Paradise quick as possible.

I wonder if Larry's still in Paradise. Last I heard from Rachel is that he's married to Denise Macateer, whom everyone in school used to call "Saltine."

Larry's mother, Mrs. VandeZort, has undoubtedly experienced less anxiety in her life as I no longer figure in her Methodist world. There was that summer night she stole up to the tent we were camped out in and heard through canvas what amounted to declarations of boy pleasure for "rubbing it there, and there too." Shocked and confused, Mrs. VandeZort informed Mom of a series of perverse acts taking place on her motel grounds involving her son and instigated by me. The cookies she had meant to give us lay outside the tent where they were discovered in the morning, soggy with dew.

Two days later, after much consternation, Mr. and Mrs. VandeZort explained to Larry about sex; using all the proper diagrams and terminology we had somehow lacked inside the tent, which meant, indirectly, that they had also supplied me with the same education, for Larry reported it all that very evening. It was wonderful, but also a bit disturbing, for it meant we were terribly mistaken in our feelings and actions with one another, not to mention we had deeply offended God and Jesus. Since Larry was an altar boy, this hit home with him, but somehow I had the nerve (or persistence) to ask if we could do it again. Larry eyed me. "Okay," he'd agreed with reluctance, "but only once," and it was never to be the same.

Across the aisle stirs the woman in the chrysanthemum-print housedress. She has been dozing, and now switches her rump to a more comfortable position. She blinks once or twice as if I were now a complete stranger to whom she had never spoken. Suddenly realizing her error, or shaking off the neutrality of sleep, it is with renewed hurt she arms herself as I turn to stare out at the shadowy forest which bleeds green.

"Leonard! How are you son?"

I shake hands with him gruffly, the usual way, but Dad's voice is of both elation and despair. His large hand is sweaty. This is where I left him standing ten years ago when I first went off to college in Chicago, and where I leave him every other time I go off on the

road. In the gravel parking lot of the IGA Market. A red-winged blackbird hops across a pine switch run over repeatedly by cars. I avoid Dad's eyes, knowing they're red-rimmed from lack of sleep. He must've been sitting up with her all night. One of his arms he drapes over my shoulders, like he hasn't done since the first time I left.

"How is she?" I ask. "Better?"
"She died," he says with forced firmness. "Sorry I couldn't make it over the the airport to pick you up, but..."
"Died? But you said — Take me to see her."

"So many arrangements, Leonard. We can't right now. I'm taking a week off from work. My new assistant, Clyde, will run the drug store. Aunt Pat and your Uncle Dick and Grandma are going to be staying at the house a few days."

My lungs grab for air.
"It happened very shortly after I put the call through to you," he struggles and squints in lugging my bags over his blue Cadillac — myself with two; him with a black suede garment sack that Clayton once sewed together. They fit easily in the trunk.

"Oh yeah?" I exclaim like some fake actor, feigning interest in the harmless part of what he's said. No more of the other news. "I, uh, hey, haven't seen Aunt Pat and Uncle Dick, or Grandma for that matter, in years."
"They're doing fine."

"What about Connie and Randy," I ask a little too quickly. "Are they here?"

"Connie's been up for the past two weeks. Dan rode Indian Trailways up just yesterday to join her. They're driving a brand spanking new Camero these days."
"Dan?"

occupy. Cousin Shively (is it true she's actually fourteen now?) lies in slumber on the hide-a-bed in the den. Grandma sleeps upstairs with the fan blowing across her. We all turned in early. Rough sleep.

I am back in the house in which I was raised. Frightening at first. From the bathroom now, I go out through the spacious kitchen to the screen door that has always been left unlocked. It still is, I find, going out, sitting on the cool slab of concrete. Fireflies speckle the darkness, defining their own galaxy over the wide lawn. Something can be heard in the kitchen now — slippers on linoleum.

"Heard the toilet flush," says my father from behind the screen. "Got jet lag?"

"Lag's only from east to west and vice versa, Dad. Time zones. You know that. I was Deep South when you called." Silence and crickets, and though I can't see him I know he's right there, breathing.

"Mind if I sit with you," he asks tentatively.
"Must be the warmest night here this year, huh?" He takes this answer as the invitation it may or may not be, and, stepping out, sits on the stoop with me in droopy sword-and-shield pajamas that I wouldn't be caught dead in. Oh.

Silence. And crickets. Heat lightning creases the western edge of sky, just over the top of the woods bordering the lawn. Perhaps a warm front moving in. Or a cold front. Who knows? We count the seconds for thunder, both of us, though we say nothing. It's an old game he taught me and Randy and Connie when we were small. But there's no thunder this time — only flashes of crinkled nerve endings, ganglia.

"How about a nightcap?" Dad's voice startles me. Not

earlier, in order to end his vigil, "Yes," I measure out to him softly, "I'll stay longer."

Aunt Pat has made flapjacks this morning. The phone keeps ringing. Condolences from the Walkers, the Croprowskis, the Kleinheits, the VandeZorts.

Dad answers it again.
"Who is it," I ask, somehow convinced it's Clayton calling to say how he's made it safely home and has forgotten what he's said about skipping the European tour, right now sitting at his work table beside the overlock machine and the bolts of fabric, phone receiver tucked between a bare brown shoulder and ear, for he always works best without a shirt on, nothing clinging to him, as he scissors out a new pattern.

"It's Wendell Washer," my father puts in after the briefest of conversations.

"Is he retired now?" I try to mask any disappointment. "Washer was pretty frail the last time I saw him."
"I know," Aunt Pat apparently feels qualified to intervene, "please don't think I'm insulting your friend and the town doctor, Bern, but that time I saw Washer I mistook him for a fruit."

"Impossible," says Uncle Dick flatly. "He's married to a beautiful wife."

Aunt Pat continues. "He had on those little round owl glasses, an elongated forehead, absolutely criminal incisors, and a small, unmanly thin wastrel waist — isn't that what they call them — wastrel waists? Or is that only on women?"

"That's *wasp*, Mother," corrects Shively who is presently slouched on a bar stool pulled up to the kitchen counter.

"Yes. Anyway, he looked like what I said before. And he talked kind of highbrow too — you know, effeminate. Where on earth did he come from? It wasn't Britain in any case. Was it, Bern? Was it Britain?"

"No," replies Dad.
"He's a newcomer in any case, isn't he?"
"Ten years," says Dad.

She squirts soap into the sink. "Thought so," she says. "You know, I can always spot them." She sets down the soap bottle in order to grace us with an impromptu ballerina twirl, stopping only after two revolutions. Something occurs to her. "That time I saw that Washer fellow?" she adds, "I tell you there was an oddness in his complexion, as if he were somehow afraid to look... my womanhood in the eye."

"You mean his *expression*, not his complexion," offers Connie's husband Dan.

"Good grief, he's a doctor, Pat. He looks at women every day," says my father. "Why do you want to slander him?"

"Rumors travel on roller skates in these parts," Uncle Dick reminds his wife.

And all my father does is gaze at his sister-in-law as if he's not cognizant this morning of anything beyond the proud roosters on the wallpaper pasted up by Mom years ago.

Uncle Dick strides over to touch his wife's elbow.
"Dear, what's the problem? Can't you see you're upsetting us all?"

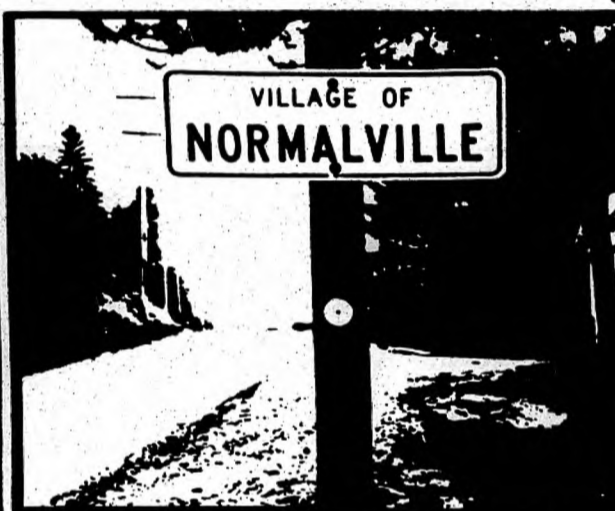
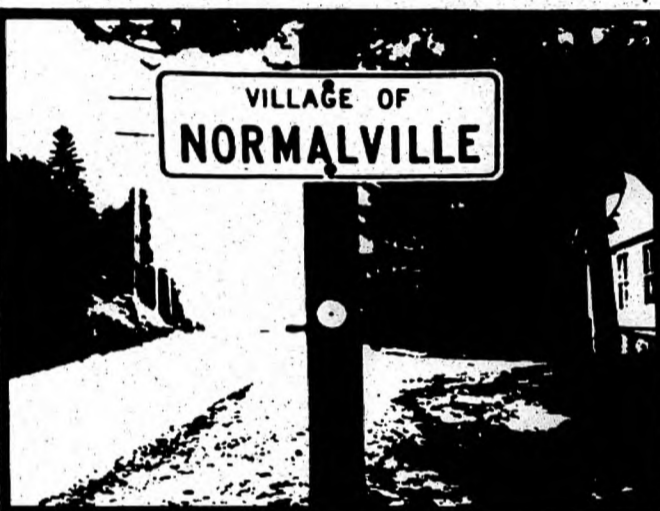
"I don't know, I don't know. I could just die from laughing..." but her laugh instantly becomes a wrenching sob as Aunt Pat swipes at her forehead where the little bit of suds have skied down her mountain of hair.

"The phone," says Shively. "Want me to get it?"
"Hush up," snaps Uncle Dick, righting the stool.
"I'm so sorry, Bern." Aunt Pat's apology comes aimed at the squares of simulated brick at her feet.

"Never mind," he manages.

Third ring. I answer it this time, hoping again it will be Clayton and sanity, or even Desiree summoning me back early, saying how we'll have to hit the road. But it's Rachel on the line, which is still a breath of freshness, a type of rescue. "Hi," I defy the descendent mood of the room. "How'd you already know I was in town?" How strange, I decide, to listen to her from so short a distance when usually our conversations must be bounced from satellites, and of course now the whole family is silent and fidgety. Connie hunts in a jar for an ideal pickle. Uncle Dick strokes Fluffy, the gray tomcat, and makes silly comments on the cat's mundane habits while I become more and more attuned to what Rachel is saying. We arrange to meet today after the funeral. She'll be at work until past dark, she explains. "So what time is that?" I ask.

"I just told you. Past dark," she says, then asks once more if I'm okay.
"Yes," I lie to her.



"Her husband. Don't you remember?"
"Oh that's right. What about Randy?"
"I don't know. We sent a second telegram out in the middle of the night — once we knew for certain... that... well, that your mother had passed. Connie woke up Douglas who runs the wire service out of his home. Randy's still in Panama. Some administrative snafu won't allow him to come home right away. Did you two see each other when you were down that way?"

"No, Dad. Didn't have a chance."
"You've had a chance to sing though, I take it. You're going off to where next?"

"Europe. It means I can't be staying more than a few days. They're thinking of cutting me from the act, you see."

"You're always in such a rush."
"Dad, I'm so sorry," I begin. "I had no idea —"
My father squints at the sky. "Look here," he interrupts, "you sure picked a fine day to arrive. A little too hot, but otherwise..."

Nothing to hide behind now but inanity. No clouds in the sky. "Listen," I venture, "Why don't we go grab a cup of coffee up the street? Paradise Cafe okay with you?"

"No, no. Connie's got a lunch planned, and there's stuff to drink at the house."

We get in his car and he starts it up, looks blankly over his padded sport jacket shoulder as he shifts into reverse. Radio crackles with easy listening music from a station in the Canadian Soo. "Leave your window up," says Dad with pride. "Got air. We didn't have this baby the last time you were home, did we?"

"It's nice," I manage, not fooled by his exuberance. Besides, I don't want to have to tell him, he'll only need air conditioning for about one week out of the entire year — this one. And then only if he insists on wearing the sport jacket. When I was twelve, it snowed one night at the end of June. It might as well snow now, for the inside of the car is so cool, perhaps in the way death must feel, numbing, filtered, pure. Better to put down all the windows at once, letting the hot air surge in and help us avoid, for now, this stillness accompanying pain.

"Leave your window up," repeats Dad with urgency.

Three o'clock in the morning, the clock shows. Whew. I creep down the hall to the bathroom, passing the guest room that Dick and Pat

at all the authoritative one recalled so clearly. This one is almost childlike, hesitant.

"No. Thanks."
"Leonard. I have to tell you...."
"What?"

He sighs. "Tell you something about her. You know she was my impetus to succeed. I don't imagine I would've made it through pharmacy school if it weren't for her. I don't think we would've gone into business or bought this house." He pauses. "Success didn't matter until your mother came along."

"It's too late at night to be thinking about it. You should go in and get some rest," I tell him. "Doesn't look like you've had any."

"Um hmmm." His voice is far away like the lightning.

Far in the distance, in the past, Mom is leading Connie who is about to start second grade, and me, about to start kindergarten, and Randy, still a toddler, with our clusters of bags filled with new school clothes, into the park lining the Soo locks. Dad is not there, and I am afraid to peer down into the long concrete trench where the massive freighter hunkers lower and lower as water is drained from beneath it. Fear, making Randy clutch Mom's skirt, while for Connie and me it is a test of will to press our bodies against the cyclone fence, trying to get as close to the edge as we dare. Mom is waving, hand above her head, not in an excited or even cheerful way, but simply waving at the boat, as if drying her hand in the breeze, or languidly letting her bracelets adjust toward her elbow.

"What are you thinking?" says Dad.
"That I'm going to bed," I say gently.
"Leonard." He turns with sudden urgency. "I loved her so much."

"I know." I rise abruptly, not wanting to think of her any more, or listen, or cry. "You'd better get some rest," I say.

"Leonard?"
"Yes."
"Will you try, if possible, to spend more than just a couple of days here?"

"Will you get some rest?"
Muted over many miles, thunder finally rumbles.
"Um hmmm," he says.

Half an hour later, I roll off the bunk and pad across the kitchen to find him still out under the yellow porch light. Leaning into the screen door, just as he had done



A Name You Never Got

Reviewed by Adele Prandini

A *Name You Never Got*, recently performed at the Valencia Rose, is a story spanning a period of over eighteen years. Storyteller Ronda Slater wrote and performs the autobiographical piece, which is based on her search for a daughter she gave up for adoption as an infant.

Slater begins her story slowly, with background information regarding her childhood views of sexuality. Coupled with this is a good deal of material regarding her desire to be Catholic (she is Jewish).

The real drama begins with her pregnancy. Slater skillfully brings us into her isolation, her confusion. She shows us that eighteen years ago the choices were few. Single motherhood was out of the question for many; abortion was impossible for most. Women were forced to give birth and then given no choice but to let go of the life they had given.

This is sensitive material, but Slater handles it with wit and imagination. She isn't the least bit heavyhanded in her approach, yet we feel very deeply the pain she has experienced.

Slater's satire is sharp, her timing impeccable. I must also add that she is a genius at one-liners.

Slater recounts how an unusual amount of luck, along with supportive friends and



Photo by Rikki Ercoli

parents, helped her find her daughter. Some of the most striking images in the show are the slides of the two of them finally together, so very much alike, though separated by eighteen years of living.

A Name You Never Got is a love story; a story full of warmth and humor. Slater illuminates a small share of human complexity; she shows us a largeness of heart some of us are lucky enough to experience.

A Name You Never Got has been held over for two shows. February 1 and 2 at the Valencia Rose. Call 863-3863 for reservations.

X Posed

Reviewd by Daniel Curzon

I really didn't want to see this show, despite two calls asking me to take a look at it. For one thing, the advertising stressed drag queens and aging. Oh, my God, not another pathetic, screaming man in a dress! I mean, who needs *that*? For another thing, it was being put on at Fort Mason. Fort Mason! Without a car? Do you expect audiences to trek to Siberia?

But I went, and, lo and behold, *X-Posed* turns out to be a little gem of a show, well worth anybody's time.

It's a backstage musical about three different types of gay men: leather, drag, and, for want of a better term, mid-gay. The sketchy book is a free-flowing combination of the characters' dreams and fights and performances. There are plenty of swipes at gay male preoccupation with body parts and sex acts, but the producers are savvy enough to include plenty of skin themselves. Even the piano player is naked from the waist up! So what we get from time to time is pious porn. But fun.

The show's great strength is the music. Martin and Biello have a masterful touch with both melodies and lyrics. Their songs are first-rate. And the cast is first-rate too, with good acting and singing. Song after song came tumbling out, holding me riveted.

There were only about twelve people in the theater the night I was there, so the applause was hesitant, but it should have been thunderous. Here were these three guys up on stage singing and dancing and emoting and sweating their hearts out for twelve people! They deserve much, much more!

Joe DiStanislao, as Juda, has tons of talent.

Placed in the demanding position of having to flaunt his body at a sex club, he comes through. Believe me, if you're asked to flaunt your body, you'd better have something to flaunt. DiStanislao is fully convincing as a sexy young man. Thank God he can act and sing, too! Indeed, I'll give him the ultimate compliment for a performer in a gay show — he would be great even if he didn't have to take his clothes off!

Tory Alexander, as Sid, has a less sympathetic role as the club owner, but he's a fine singer and performer.

As Mo, the drag queen, Jay Holland is much too young for the role. All the *Angst* and jokes about aging make no sense with someone who doesn't look thirty yet. But we overlook this flaw, since Holland has such stage presence and can belt a song. The song "Clones in Love" is one of Mo's best numbers, as he teases mid-gay types about their similarity in appearance. Clones will laugh at the parody, I think, but the creators could ask themselves why a drag queen should be singing this song. Is there anyone more predictable in appearance than a drag queen? (Boy George excepted.) The song — fun, now — might be even funnier if the dolls' heads that Mo dances with were castanettes; we'd see their brains rattling.

What the show could use immediately is better lighting. A spotlight and blackouts would do wonders for the individual numbers. We shouldn't see the performers drop out of one number and clunk their way into the next. In the same vein, the musical transitions between songs and sometimes between choruses within a song are too long. Fill up those gaps, boys, and shorten the overture by at least half, and you've got it!

As it is, you've got a great little show here, full of emotion and raunch, satire and song. I think most audiences will eat it up.



Photo by Allen Nambira

Top Girls

Reviewed by Gene Price

Top Girls, the latest thought-provoking drama by British playwright Caryl Churchill (*Cloud Nine*), opened the new performance space of the Eureka Theatre Company at 16th and Harrison. It's a class production, beautifully acted, handsomely directed by Susan Marsden.

It's funny, it's bitter, it's moving. But more than that, it makes you think. *Top Girls* is about women who have made it to the top and about one in particular who is in the process of making it. The final questions are inherent in the subject matter. Were the sacrifices worth it? Was there a loss of femininity, of compassion, of emotional fulfillment? Or was the achievement of success sufficient reward? Can a series of one-night stands substitute for love?

The play moves backward and forward in time (a Churchill trademark) and begins with an all-female dinner party hosted by Marlene. But the guests are from another time. There to celebrate Marlene's promotion to a top position at the Top Girls Employment Agency are Isabella Bird, a celebrated Victorian explorer; Lady Nijo, a 13th-century Japanese courtesan who became a Buddhist nun; Dull Gret, a 16th-century character from a Brueghel painting; Pope Joan who, disguised as a man, reigned as John VIII from 854-865 (until she delivered her baby during a public procession); and Patient Griselda, the obedient wife featured in both *The Canterbury Tales* and *The Decameron*. It's a marvelous fantasy device that lets them express their opinions as they couldn't have in

their own times. They chat, they argue, they express their anger as they tell their stories in overlapping dialogue. And behind each story there is a man — an emperor, a father, a husband, a son, a lover. Their successes were achieved in spite of their relationships.

The play moves forward to contemporary London. Marlene is taking charge at the agency. Her relationship with her co-workers undergoes subtle changes. A scene change takes us to her sister's suburban backyard, where we meet her dull, unattractive niece Angie. The girl idolizes Marlene (suspecting truthfully that she is really her mother), and in the following scene she runs away from home to live with her aunt. Marlene sizes her up critically, without compassion, and remarks in a telling curtain line, "She won't make it."

Churchill moves us now to sister Joyce's lower-middle-class kitchen — *one year earlier*. A Thatcher supporter, Marlene and working-class Joyce engage in some fine verbal warfare. The subject is politics, but the skirmish is deadly personal. The lines of battle are drawn. Marlene has made it to the top, and family ties, all affection, are severed.

Guests at the dinner party and various employees and applicants at the employment agency were played by Susan Brashear, Nancy Palmer Jones, Sharon Omi, Sigrid Wurschmidt, and Abigail Van Alyn. This was ensemble acting at its best.

Lorri Holt as Marlene, Nancy Palmer Jones as sister Joyce, and Sigrid Wurschmidt as niece Angie must be singled out for special commendation. They made you care.

Costumes were by Roberta Yuen, lighting by Kurt Landisman, and the sets (transitions were not always smooth) were by Ferdinand Penker. Susan Marsden, director, gets top honors.

Translations

Reviewed by Gene Price

A.C.T.'s current production of Brian Friel's *Translations* has all the elements of compelling drama — except a climax. Utilizing more characters than is dramatically required, it builds to what will become a tragic clash between villagers and a company of British soldiers, and then stops. But what happened *after* the curtain came down? *Translations* may read better than it plays, but as it plays it's almost an acting exercise in dialect.

Set in the first half of the 19th century, the drama focuses on the conflict between the British contingent of surveyors who are billeted in County Donegal and the villagers who are in opposition to the conversion of their Gaelic place names into English.

The action takes place in a marvelously decrepit barn where the schoolmaster lives and conducts his Gaelic "hedge school." (British rule had outlawed church-run schools, so the Irish set up covert schoolrooms hidden by hedgerows.) Bruce Williams, as Manus, symbolizes the Irish predicament; and Geoffrey Elliott, as Owen, is the intermediary employed



by the British to oversee the translations. They are both sons of Hugh, the schoolmaster, admirably played by Dakin Matthews, who seems to bring to the role more than is actually there. Jane Jones as Maire and Mark Murphy

(continued on next page)

War Horses

Reviewed by Gene Price

Adele Edling Shank's new play at The Magic Theatre is a treatment of a personal feud that assumed such social and political proportions that 31 people lay dead as a result of the Astor Place Riot in May of 1849.

The script, in this over-long, world-premiere production, has some problems. There are many scenes, most of them brief, some of them too repetitive, some of them failing to move the plot forward. But the concept is a fascinating one, and with some editing and sharpening of focus, it will play to better advantage.

The adversaries are English actor William Macready (Will Huddleston) and American actor Edwin Forrest (David Parr). The polished Macready was England's "Eminent Tragedian." The rough-and-ready acting style of Forrest made him the hero of the American working class. They meet, strike up a tentative friendship, and meet again in passing, as each performs in the other's country.

When an English critic (a friend of Macready's) pans Forrest, the feud erupts. Interspersed with this tenuous thread of plot are two subplots. Both men marry, and their marital relationships are dealt with somewhat summarily. The explosive political drama, buried under the surface until the end of the play, involves William B. Astor, representing the elite of New York City, and Ned Buntline, a muckraking columnist who instigates the Irish immigrant elements of Tammany Hall to violence.

In its present form, *War Horses* is more expository tableaux than drama. The political implications of the feud are too important to be left to the end of the play, and the marital relationships could be further explored.

A basic problem of the production, however, is the casting of the two male leads. Without the flair, the charisma, the ability to command a stage with Shakespearean authority, the two "actor" actors are unconvincing. Cutting a number of their "on-stage" vignettes would solve some of this problem.

But there is *one* such scene that must rank as a high point of the evening. It is backstage during a Macready performance in Scotland. Forrest, in the audience, has audibly hissed his rival. The incident distracts Ophelia, who immediately forgets all of her lines. Maureen McVerry, as Ophelia, is a marvel of comedic talent as we watch her fall totally apart. She is advised by the stage manager to "just recite all the flowers and herbs she knows."

Three other cast members play an additional 15 roles. Beth Sweeney opens and closes the drama with an impressive portrayal of a Bowery Boy. In perhaps the most moving, best written segment of the play, her final monologue is indeed touching. As an articulate Irish kid, she makes us understand how a gathering can become a mob and how a mob can easily turn to violence. She reports that as the crowd began to throw rocks at the police, "It didn't have to do with *thinking*. It had to do with *feeling*. Then *not* with feeling. Just *doing*." It was a moment of fine acting and memorable theater.

Ms. Sweeney also served as Cordelia and as an English prostitute (in a scene that had little point except to tell us we are in London). Her major role, however, was that of Mrs. Forrest,



Photo by Allen Namura

devoted wife (until late in the play when the increasingly neurotic Forrest accuses her of infidelity, which according to the sniveling maid, may well be true. We are totally unprepared for this switch in characterization.)

Maureen McVerry's major role was as Mrs. Macready, although she also did double duty as The Fool, Mrs. MacTaggart, and Mrs. Underwood.

Morgan Upton was served better by the script, with a variety of seven meaty roles that included Forrest's manager, a distracted stage manager, a producer, Charles Dickens, the elitist Astor, and Buntline, who sets the final tragedy in motion.

War Horses was directed by Theodore Shank. Sets by Barbara Mesney and lighting by Joe Dignan were impressive for their evocation of the period and their smooth workability. Rondi Hillstrom Davis did the handsome costuming. Sound and music by Ted Chavalas and Christina J. Moore, respectively.

The play continues through February 24. Box office: 441-8822.

Livin' on Salvation Street



Photo by Mark I. Chester

Reviewed by Z. Budapest

A new play opened at Theatre Rhinoceros, written by Terry Cammon Garner and directed by Gail Golden. It is housed in the downstairs section of the theater — "Studio Rhino" — where the flushing water runs right through the pipes over the audiences' heads on the way to its murky destination. Not a good way to stay within the play's reality.

Livin' on Salvation Street takes a look at three generations of women. Jane McFaden plays the crusty and funny Granny Blue, who used to be a singing star in her younger years. Her character reminds us of the proverbial "little ol' lady from Pasadena," a stereotype, and very hard to shake off. To Ms. McFaden's credit, her Granny doesn't sell out to laughs, but maintains her dignity. Ann Block shines in her role as Betty Lou, who acts as a buffer be-

tween Granny and granddaughter Wilma. She's a complete natural, and projects a zaniness that's comforting. Jean Mullis, as Wilma, at odds with everybody, has her best moments when she reacts to the only gay character in the play, Clyde, played by the very able Brian Thorstenson. Brian almost steals the show, particularly in his interactions with Ann Block.

The playwright obviously loved her characters, struggling with poverty and helplessness in Kentucky, where she herself comes from. The three women characters reveal their love of music, their feelings about Elvis Presley, and their TV addiction, but we don't see the depths of their lives. We view snapshots instead of portraits, producing a kind of soap opera effect.

If you like a charming ensemble of talented actors, this will be a satisfying evening of theatre for you.

Jeeves Takes Charge

Reviewed by Gene Price

The imperious, always correct, always understated Jeeves has taken charge of the stage at the Marines Memorial. This paragon of valet virtue has also taken over the complete management of Bertie Wooster's life... if not his wardrobe. And therein lies the merriment. Or, to put it bluntly, the belly laughs.

Edward Duke, who conceived and adapted the P.G. Wodehouse stories, plays bumbling, ineffectual, idly rich, 24-year-old man-about-town Bertie Wooster. He also plays Bertie's nemesis, the gentlemen's gentleman, Jeeves. Plus at least ten other hilarious characters including his own fiancée, Lady Florence Craye ("she is steeped to the gills in serious purpose"); a crotchety uncle; beastly Boy Scout Edwin ("If he wanted to do a *real* act of kindness, he'd commit suicide"); an irrepressible 12-year-old schoolgirl; a haughty headmistress; a gaggle of aunts headed by Agatha and Dahlia



("all aunts are alike... sooner or later, out pops the cloven hoof"); and his newt-loving school chum, Gussie Fink-Nottle. I loved them all.

Duke has done a masterful job of creating a score of uniquely different people. He is superb in all of them. The two- and three-way conversations — all conducted by Duke with a quick turn of the head, a shift of vocal pitch — are pure *tour de force* theatrics.

As Jeeves, Duke is reserved, stiff-backed, gliding in "like a zephyr." As Bertie he slouches in despair, skips and bounds in uncontrolled exuberance, even occasionally drawing himself up to a semblance of outraged dignity. He is ingratiatingly pleased with himself and with his own wit. In describing a fellow club member, he remarks that the old gentleman looks as though "he had been stuffed in a great hurry by an incompetent taxidermist." Delighted with this image, he gulps in a great intake of air and brays a single inhuman guffaw over the audience. (If there is a moose in heat within ten miles of the Marines Memorial, it's likely to be waiting at the stage door by

morning.)

Duke's plot is sheer whimsy. In scene one, as told by Bertie, Jeeves is employed, and within minutes has made himself irreplaceable. The valet's philosophy is simple: "Employers are like horses; they require management." In scene two (a French farce in itself) Jeeves sabotages Bertie's engagement, then consoles his employer with the statement that "she was quite unsuitable." His philosophy on this subject is also quite simple: "When a wife comes in the front door, the valet usually goes out the back." No fool, Jeeves!

Meantime, Bertie has got himself involved with giving an informal talk at a girls' school and makes an unholy mess of that affair, too. Jeeves to the rescue.

In scene three, Bertie relaxes in his bedroom, content with his life, but still waging the war of the wardrobe with Jeeves. (Yes, he *will* wear the polka dot robe whether Jeeves likes it or not!) Then comes the phone summons from an aunt to appear at her "function" and speak on the life and times of a debonair boulevardier. Blackmailed by threat of banishment from her epicurean table, he agrees to attend; to tell jokes, to sing "Sonny Boy," to tap dance.

In the last scene, a hilarious recounting of how he got Gussie Fink-Nottle drunk at a prize-giving ceremony, Bertie finally does just that. He sings, and with great aplomb performs what is probably the most outrageous tap dance in theatrical history. And *you* thought Ruby Keeler counted the steps out loud!

The simple but extremely handsome art deco sets were by Carl Toms, and the very debonair costumes were by Una-Mary Parker. (The set and costume change between the first and second scenes took exactly 20 seconds.) The imaginative lighting was by Peter Hanson. The entire romp was directed by Gillian Lynne who deserves much credit for making time stand still.

See *Jeeves Takes Charge*. Then see it again. Once is not enough.

At the Marines Memorial through Feb. 10. For times and prices, call 771-6900.

Translations...

(continued from previous page)

as the British Lieutenant Yolland are the young lovers caught up in an affair doomed to tragedy. Jill Fine as the mute Sarah is appealing, and Sydney Walker as the ancient Jimmy Jack turns in a fine performance as the Latin-Greek scholar, although toward the end his self-indulgent Irishness became a little precious. In basically a walk-on role, Ray Reinhardt as the British captain gave his usual seasoned, commanding performance.

This is a play of character studies. We are treated to vignette performances, such as the moving love scene between Maire and Lieutenant Yolland. Neither understands the other's language, but they repeat the words until sound takes on meaning. Little happens, however, until the Lieutenant disappears.

There are hints of foul play, and we are led to suspect that his body will never be discovered. The Captain arrives, threatening reprisal against every house if his Lieutenant is not found by morning. The villagers wait. The play ends.

Directed by Lawrence Hecht at a pace that was less than brisk, the drama lost its immediacy, its tenseness. At times I lost bits of dialogue, too, and I didn't know whether it was because they were lapsing into Gaelic or whether they were mumbling their English.

Ralph Funicello gets credit for a truly ramshackle, rain-leaking barn and for some sparse furniture with the true patina of age. Michael Casey's costumes were handsomely appropriate, soiled, ragged, and obviously slept in for months. Lighting was by Joseph Appelt.

Translations continues through March 13. A.C.T. Box Office: 673-6440.

CABARET GO-ROUND

BY GENE PRICE



Top Divas dine on duck and fizzy! It could have been a scene from Act I of Caryl Churchill's *Top Girls* now playing at the Eureka. Actually, it was a quiet little luncheon hosted by Sharon McNight last week for four of her diva contemporaries — a who's who of prima donnas on the cabaret scene.

Left to right, reading like a page from Chez Jacques history, are Pamela Brooks, Dana Balin, Sharon McNight, Weslia Whitfield, and Ruth Hastings. Four of them nominees for the upcoming Caberet Gold awards!

Vittles were catered by Chef David Coyle of The Mansion Hotel and featured Pink Pepper soup, Roast double breast of Duckling with Bee Pollen and Plum Sauce, Fresh Pineapple and Snow Pea Salad, Imperiale Rice Stick Salad, Raspberry and Bavarian Cream Gâteaux. They washed this down with a bottle of Sauvignon Blanc and then proceeded on to the Piper Sonoma, Grand Prix, and Verve Clicquot champagnes. Cognac and coffee followed by conversation in the drawing room.

I asked Ms. McNight what they talked about. "Between bottles of champagne," she said, "we talked about men, Ex-husbands, Ex-lovers. And, oh yes, ex-clubs."

Wouldn't you have liked to be a cricket on the hearth during that little luncheon? Well, on second thought...

Between now and March 4, you'll be seeing a lot of smiling, handshaking, and quiet politicking from some 34 local entertainers who are nominated for the Seventh Annual Cabaret Gold Awards. All well and good, but the final ballots are already being counted by the Council on Entertainment's CPA. All, that is, except for the Entertainer of the Year nominees. This coveted award is voted on the night of the ceremonies when over 900 cabaret aficionados will cast their ballots for one of three local divas.

Nominees for this top award are Lynda Bergren, Val Diamond and Weslia Whitfield. Each will entertain that evening, prior to the voting, and frankly I wouldn't hazard a guess!

The forthcoming Gold Awards gala honoring the cabaret, jazz and comedy performers will be held Monday, March 4, 7:30 pm, at the Gift Center Pavilion. Master/mistress of ceremonies will be Charles Pierce, and many of the nominees will perform throughout the evening. A traditionally sold-out event, tickets will be available at all BASS outlets from February 7.

Other nominees for outstanding performance in 1984 are: Female Cabaret Vocalist: Lynda Bergren, Val Diamond, Weslia Whitfield. Male Cabaret Vocalist: Tom Anderson; Reginald McDonald, Jae Ross.

Jazz Vocalist: Faye Carol, Bobby McFerrin, Bobbe Norris. Jazz Musician: Jules Broussard, Larry Dunlap, Turk Murphy.

Musical Group: Bobby & I, Faye Carol Trio, Melody Ann & The Rhythm Rascals, The Vocal Minority.

Accompanist: Bob Bauer, Bob Bendorff, Jim Followell.

Concert Performance: Sharon McNight; Nicholas, Glover & Wray; Samantha Samuels and Pam Brooks.

Female Comedy Solo: Marga Gomez, Darlene Popovic, Paula Poundstone. Male Comedy Solo: Tom Ammiano, Will Durst, Michael Pritchard. Comedy Group: Femprov, Murphy/St. Paul, National Theatre of the Deranged.

Cabaret: Buckley's Bar & Grill, Mame's Palazzo, Plush Room. Comedy Club: Cobb's Pub, The Other Cafe, The Punch Line. Jazz Club: Bajone's, Kimball's, Pier 23.

Recipients of the "Local Boy Makes Good" award and the John L. Wasserman award for contribution to local entertainment are yet to be announced.

Cabaret-Theatre Presentation: Jane Dornacker in "The Family Jewels," Ruth Hastings & Co. in "Jacques Brell is Alive and Well and Living in Paris," and "Side by Side by Sondheim."

This is cabaret's annual show, folks. Don't miss it.



That hot, hot song and dance extravaganza from Sweden, "After Dark" has been extended again — this time indefinitely! And with good reason. (See photo.) The men as men are hunky and the men as women are breathtakingly beautiful. If you haven't caught the weekend uncensored version yet, do. Handsome Christer Lindarw (center) does some star turns — including a strip — that sizzles with sexuality. San Francisco dancer Matthew Martin has also joined the chorus of male beauties.

Birthday boy Aldo Bell tossed himself a party at Buckley's last week and packed the house with friends and fellow entertainers who stopped by for a "kiss-kiss" or a turn at the mike. Jae Ross opened the festivities with "Drift Away" and "Opening Rose" and later presented Aldo with a chocolate cake (all birthday cakes should be chocolate!) that read simply:

"Hope you go bald."

Pianist Bob Bauer presided at the piano for a first set by Aldo that included "Open Arms," "Dark Lady," and "New York State of Mind." Aldo's vocal arrangement of "Moon River" was so self-consciously jazzy that at times it was touch-and-go whether or not he would find his way back to the melody line. A more relaxed approach would have been more pleasing on this number.

Relative newcomer Amy Dondy then took the mike and loaded the lyrics of "Kitchen Man" with all their proper innuendo.

Composer/pianist Bob Bendorff accompanied Aldo on the second set with a rousing "Hard Hearted Hannah." As camped up and sung by Aldo, it's always one of his big audience pleasers, and it was again. (A lot of younger performers this past year seem to be relying on camp numbers. And too many of them confuse camp with good old-fashioned talent.)



Aldo's intro to "Being Alive" was lovely, and then as sometimes happens with this singer, he made it too "big." His husky middle range is extremely pleasing, but when he forces out those big sounds, something happens to the quality. It becomes hoarse and breathy, diction suffers, lyrics get muddled. But when he doesn't push, he's fine. He sang the lovely ballad "One More Look at You," from *A Star is Born* with simplicity and emotional purity.

One of the Fanny's regulars, Chrissy Hicks, who has a naturally big voice, sang "Key Largo" and Streisand's "Woman in the Moon." Then Ron Murphy, a singer new to me, took the stage and turned his fine bass to the lyrics of Cole Porter's "Miss Otis Regrets." A pleasant surprise. He was even more impressive with a fine jazz treatment of "It's Not Easy Being Green."

Aldo closed the evening with another good ballad, "I Will Always Love You," that was tenderly and effectively delivered.

Not to be outdone, chef Terry Buckley whipped up a rather grand buffet that again featured those superb meatballs. Next time there's a birthday party at Buckley's, wangle yourself an invitation.

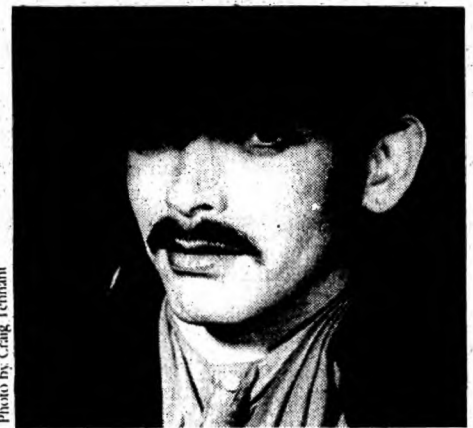
Jae Ross consistently delivers a fully packed concert and leaves his fans wanting more. Simply put, he's got what it takes.

Arriving at Buckley's a few minutes late, I found the showroom filled, so I sat at the bar and watched him in the mirror. Ross and pianist Bob Bauer were already into that fine jazz classic, "Night in Tunisia." He followed with an especially moving rendition of McNight's showbiz lament "Bright Lights," then breezed through a lilting and carefree "Sailing." Singer Adele Zane, at a ringside table, lent some harmony to a particularly nice arrangement of "Still Love You."

Ross is an assured performer. He is confident of his ability and his technique. He builds his shows around his strengths, and he doesn't make mistakes vocally or in choice of material. It takes time to learn these things.

From Sondheim's *Evening Primrose*, he sang "Take Me to the World." The set also included Billy Joel's "The Stranger" that was interwoven with touches of Bach, Joan Armatrading's "Save Me," and a Ross standard, "Drift Away."

Both Bauer and Ross excelled in an emotionally haunting reading of "People That You Never Get to Meet," and I also liked Jon Hen-



dricks "I'll Bet You Thought."

At evening's end, Ross did his Peter Pan medley: the lovely lullaby "Tender Shepherd," the wistful "Never, Never Land," and exultant "I'm Flying," then a wildly campy (with hanky) "Captain Hook." The latter is funny because it's well honed and controlled.

Called back for the inevitable encore, he gave them what they wanted, the inevitable "Go to Hell." It's fun and it's raunchy but is this the image he wants to leave after setting himself up as a purveyor of fine ballads?

At his recent Plush Room concert, Joshua Rich proved once again that he's one of the most uniquely talented composer/pianists on the pop/rock scene. It's extremely difficult to categorize his work. It's sort of a Chef's Special of jazz, rag, stride rock (stride piano with a rock beat) and a seasoning of gospel. By this young (he's 22) musician's own definition, his compositions are "boogie-flavored rock with some ragtime."

But whatever it is, it reflects solid musicality, intellect and passion, and power. Rich is a joy to watch. He plays the keyboard and his face reflects genuine delight at the sounds that emerge. Seemingly one with the music and the piano (especially on improvisational numbers), he reels his audience out, teases it along, takes it even further out, then brings it home, safe and emotionally satiated. If a comparison makes this clearer, Keith Jarrett comes to mind.



Rich was backed on several numbers by bass guitar (Joy Bank) and drums (Jeffrey Voorhees) and on vocals by Robbie Peters, Danny Straus, and sister Julie Rich. I think it's safe to say, from the comments I overheard, that most of his fans came to hear him play *unaccompanied*. His recently released record "Discovery" is a gem of beautifully controlled *solo* playing, and a selection from the album, a lovely, haunting waltz called "Paris," was the big hit of the evening. Even if you've never been to Paris, this song will make you homesick for a midnight stroll through fallen chestnut leaves along the Seine. It's a magic evocation of mood and time and place.

Rich opened the program with an instrumental "Demon," then was joined by the band in "Man in the Glass," a jazz rag with a rock beat. The band was little less than deafening, so most of the lyrics were lost to my ear. This was followed by a witty rock samba, "Back to L.A." He was joined on vocals on a folk rock "Life is Sweet" by sister Julie, who also composed the lyrics, but the constant repetition of the lyric line was more hypnotic than satisfying. "Foxhole," a heavy ballad with lyrics by brother Adam Rich, was all the more effective for its subdued, quiet second section.

Prefaced as "Syncopation Blues in D Flat," Rich's big improv number revealed again his

(continued on page 41)

Conversing with Quentin Crisp

By Sean Reynolds

Quentin Crisp was born December 25, 1908, and to his dismay found himself to be "the son of middle class, middlebrow, middling parents" in Sutton, England, a suburb of London.

Between the ages of fourteen and eighteen, Crisp was reluctantly sent to a school which he describes as "a cross between a monastery and a prison," where he learned "nothing except how to bear injustice." Crisp says of his educational background that his ignorance of everything but this, and his ambiguous appearance, made a career impossible except in the arts.

Crisp worked as an engineers tracer, his first job, found for him by his mother. "This was one of many kinds of work at which I could never hope to be proficient; accuracy is alien to my nature." Crisp's next job, also found for him by his mother, was working in the art department at a printing company. He was not successful. For some reason, this company did not care for employees with plucked eyebrows or pointed fingernails. "For a week or two my eyebrows, which usually marched across my forehead in single file, were allowed to form fours, and the style of my fingernails changed from Gothic to Norman."

Crisp is the author of *The Naked Civil Servant* (1968), *CHOG* (1970), *How to Become a Virgin* (1982), a sequel to *The Naked Civil Servant*, and a soon-to-be-published book on manners. Another book about Quentin Crisp is also available, *The Wit and Wisdom of Quentin Crisp* (1984), compiled and edited by Guy Kettelhack.

Quentin Crisp is a self-made man who has parlayed wit, wisdom and passion into a successful career. He uses his uniqueness to his best advantage. Crisp flaunts everything.

Crisp is also one of the most over-interviewed people in this country. Therefore,

when I spoke with him, it was difficult to come up with anything interesting. I asked friends what they might ask, and here is the result:

[Coming Up!:] What does only your hairdresser know about you?

[Crisp:] My God! I wouldn't think of going to a hairdresser for fear that the scissors might leap up and cut off all my hair. I do my own hair, that way I have some idea of the outcome.

If you were in a hospital who would you want in bed next to you?

My God, I wouldn't think of going to a hairdresser for fear that the scissors might leap up and cut off all my hair. I do my own.

Orson Welles.

Why him, of all people?

I think that Orson Welles is the most alive, creative person in America today. We could have wonderful conversations while recuperating from whatever it was we had to recuperate from.

Who was the first person you ever loved?

[without hesitation] Myself.

Was there no one else worthy?

Well, it's not a matter of worthy. You see, so many people give and give love and then you have those people who are receiving it becoming millionaires in that department. I always wanted to be rich in the area of love and felt that I could give myself all that was needed. I have always loved myself very much, bet-

ter than anyone else could.

Do you prefer pantyhose over regular stockings?

[Laughter] I suppose if I wore that sort of garb, I would prefer pantyhose, they seem so much more convenient. I did wear pantyhose once when I was playing Lady Brachnal on the stage. They were all right.

What is a typical day like for you?

I don't have to go out, I usually sit around in a dirty dressing gown writing, thinking about life. In the mornings I have breakfast, usually lumpy tea and green toast.

What is lumpy tea and green toast?

You see, I don't have a refrigerator so the milk for the tea gets quite old and the bread for the toast goes bad, especially in warm weather.



Anchor Oyster Bar

579 Castro Street, San Francisco
Monday-Friday, 11:30 am-10 pm.
Saturday 12-10:30 pm; Sunday 3-8 pm

Reviewed by Gary Noss

When Terry Grimm and his wife Rose Ann opened this white tiled, clean-as-a-whistle, seafood restaurant eight years ago, I thought there was a striking similarity with Swan Oyster Bar on Polk. Only this week did I find out that Rose Ann was connected with Swan, and the original intent was to duplicate the style of service and food.

Now, there *are* some differences. The Anchor Oyster Bar has added hot entrees to their fresh oysters, mussels, and clams. The entrees are usually posted on the blackboard, which hangs between the dining room and the kitchen. Terry and Rose Ann refuse to serve anything but fresh fish. The only frozen item is prawns. On one of my recent visits the hot dinner specials included Broiled Filet of Salmon served with lemon dill butter, for \$8.95. Along with this comes a hunk of great sourdough bread and sweet butter. All dente vegetables complete the plate.

Another special this evening was Pan-fried Tarabuki, a firm-fleshed fish from New Zealand, prepared with red pepper butter, at \$8.25. This is flown in fresh (not frozen). I had enjoyed this fish while in New Zealand in October and never expected to see it so fresh and delicious here in San Francisco. The Grimms know their fish and how to handle it.

The real delight here for me are their selections of oysters and clams on the half shell. Their sources vary on oysters, but my experience is that they are always plump, sweet smelling and delicious. Six oysters on the half shell are only \$4.95 and include bread and butter. Six clams are only \$3.95.

One of my favorite selections is the Anchor Special, which comes on a large platter and includes 12 oysters, 8 clams and prawns, for only \$16. The half order is only \$8.50. For a light supper or a great lunch, you can't go wrong on this selection.

The great San Francisco invention — Louie

or Louis, depending on whom you listen to — is available with shrimp for \$7.50, crab, prawns, or a combination for \$8.50. The dressing is the proper pink and seasoned so the seafood stands out rather than being smothered by the sauce. Lemons, horseradish, Tabasco and red seafood sauce are available to season to your taste.

Seating at The Anchor is either at the counter (an old-fashioned marble one) on high stools or at a few tables. The service is fast, so even if all the tables are full, the wait is usually not long and is definitely worth it.

Boston-style clam chowder is available by bowl (\$2.95) or by the cup (\$1.95). On these chilly days it's a wonderful way to warm up for what follows.

The cooking and menu planning are handled by Rose Ann and Ward Smith. Daytime cooks include Clint and Eric.

From April through September, Terry Grimm will serve food from The Anchor aboard his 45-foot ketch while you sail the Bay. You can get more information on the Norskis Dame by calling 431-3990.

After eight years, the Grimms know their Castro neighbors and customers and offer good seafood in a bright, clean environment. You will find them friendly and eager to have you enjoy Anchor Oyster Bar. Now, please don't everyone rush in at once and spoil another of my formerly secret places.

Cendrillon

1132 Valencia Street, San Francisco
Monday-Saturday, 5:30-10:30 pm.
Reservations: 826-7977

Reviewed by Leland Moss

San Francisco has been blessed with an extraordinary array of fine restaurants. Time was when it seemed that this town had more outlets for superb gourmet cuisine than any other. After a recent visit to L.A., I must admit that the taste we cherished as our own has been adopted by our less elegant sister city. Restaurants like Camellions, La Broschetta, Les Anges, and Trumps boast menus as interesting as any to be found here or in the wine country; indeed, one can almost pretend to be

in Northern California when sampling the astonishing nouvelle cuisine produced by Camellions' 23-year-old prodigy chef.

Still, for high quality, imagination, and reasonable prices it's hard to beat the best we have to offer. Such a restaurant is Cendrillon, located in a rather depressing stretch of Valencia Street; next door slouches a greasy spoon and across the street hides a gorgeous caged-in example of deco architecture (easily ignored by day but stunningly lit at night).

I first visited Cendrillon shortly after it opened several months ago. An acquaintance who values good food almost as much as I do joined me for that first tasting, and we were knocked out by everything but the dessert.

A cauliflower and carrot soup amazed us with its exquisite texture and taste, creamy essences of the two vegetables sharing one bowl — literally, since the orange and white colors respected each other's border, allowing the diner to mix or not. An entree of fresh fish deliciously undercooked was covered with three distinctly different sauces, again allowing you to decide whether to blend the flavors. The only disappointment that night was the "pear Cendrillon," a poor variation on peach Melba that looked gorgeous but tasted bland.

More recently I returned to Cendrillon with two companions in order to sample more of their menu. We began with a bouillabaisse that rivalled the best of Marseilles. Shallow bowls filled with mussels, clams, and other fish in a delicious tomato broth were perfected by the addition of a fabulous garlicky, spicy rouille. Our server had not been lying when she boasted that the bouillabaisse was "real."

An order of frogs' legs produced plenty of finely cooked drumsticks surrounding a tomato sauce that looked suspiciously like the rouille, but proved to be quite different, offering the delicate taste of tomato essence. And a salad of Belgian endive and radicchio, lightly covered with a mild mustard vinaigrette, was accompanied by rounds of goat cheese warmed on toast. All three appetizers exquisitely performed their function of arousing the appetite without filling the stomach.

Cendrillon offers a plenitude of specials each

Why don't you own a refrigerator?

My entire flat is the size of a refrigerator, so there's really no room for one.

Is it true that you never clean your flat?

Absolutely! Why bother with dusting the rungs on a chair, when I could be doing my nails? There are so many more worthwhile projects in life other than cleaning up.

Do you think of San Francisco as being the Gay Mecca?

Well, I like San Francisco a lot. San Francisco and Sydney, Australia, are two of the gayest cities in the world. I worry about San Francisco though. There isn't as much happiness as it seems here.

Perhaps people are living under the fear of the earthquake.

That could be. I think that when the earthquake comes, San Franciscans should embrace it and become part of the whole experience. The earth is wonderful and maybe the earthquake will center many of the gay people out there.

Is there anything you've always wanted to be asked but haven't been?

Absolutely nothing! I've been asked everything from questions about God to whether or not the rising cost of henna has changed my life. I think I've covered it all.

On January 8, Quentin Crisp and MC Armistead Maupin will be at a benefit for Theater Rhinoceros at the Cathedral Hill Hotel, Japanese Pavilion Room. Reservations: 956-8677. Another Rhino benefit takes place on Sunday, February 10: "High Noon at the Palace," a reception and show with Crisp, comic Tom Ammiano, MC, and singer Debbie Saunders performing at Palace of Fine Arts in SF. Reception begins at 5:30 pm, the show at 7. Reservations: 861-5079. Saturday, February 9 is "Quentin Crisp Day," and Crisp will walk the Castro District, stopping in at all your favorite hot spots, just to chat. And Friday, February 15, "An Evening with Quentin Crisp" is the featured event at Olney Hall, College of Marin in Kentfield. Reservations: 472-3500 or BASS.

DINING OUT

evening (among which were the aforementioned salad and soup). We sampled two of the entrees: duck and sweetbreads. The duck was delicious, lean and tender, served with a chestnut puree that possessed just enough sweetness to balance the meat. The sweetbreads were also sensuously tender, served in a cream sauce with tasty, pungent morels. Our other entree appears on the regular menu: a breast of chicken stuffed with veal pate and pistachios, it was just as interesting and fulfilling as the others.

Each plate came with a serving of potatoes gratinee and green beans. The choice of side vegetables was oddly wrong and out of keeping with the care evident in most of the preparation. The potatoes were delicious, but far too heavy to accompany such rich and subtle foods. Ricé, or better, no starch at all would have been preferable.

Dessert does not seem to be Cendrillon's strong point — not that they're bad, but the choices are unimaginative and limited. The pastry that formed the apple tart was adequately prepared, but the filling was bland and without distinction. By far the best selection was the chocolate charlotte, a mousse that is wrapped in ladyfingers, sliced, and served in a pool of creme anglaise decorated with dabs of raspberry puree. The presentation is so precious that you hate to disturb the picture; of course, at the end there's nothing left.

The wine list is simple yet adequate, and very reasonably priced. Indeed, the astonishing thing about Cendrillon is its ability to provide quality food at such moderate prices. The three of us ate this very full meal (with a fine bottle of California fume blanc) for \$85; a less extravagant dinner for two could be enjoyed for far less. A comparable meal at similar establishments in L.A. (or elsewhere in San Francisco) would probably run anywhere from \$10 to \$30 more per person. Still, it would behoove the management to encourage the waitfolk to announce prices as they recite specials; they are generally two or three dollars more than the standard items on the menu.

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THE SANE ZONE

By LINDA MOAKES

Happy Chinese New Year, ya big ox, ya. February is the fave Sane Zone holiday month. This short month disappears quickly as we celebrate at least nine major events. No motif lasts for long. Yes, you should keep those party pumps polished and ready to go. As a public service, The Sane Zone offers the following convenient list o' major events (suitable for plastic coating).

FEBRUARY HOLIDAZE	HONORING	INTERESTING FACTS
2	Gay Comedy Night at Valencia Rose	Monica Palacios Laurie Bushman
	Candlemas	Brigid, Goddess of Fire & Inspiration
	Groundhog Day	Nothing
3-9	International Forgiveness Week....so Get Over It	MC: Linda Moakes Show starts at 10PM
12	Lincoln's Birthday	His logs and dreams
14	Valentine's Day	"i heart u"
18	President's Day	Day off work
19	Mardi Gras, new moon in Pisces	Fat Tuesday
20	Chinese New Year	The Ox
	Ash Wednesday	Dirt on 3rd eye
22	Fran & Charlie	Nuclear comedy
28	Cool kids arrive	6th Anniv. in CA
Info: 552-8162 or 976-8080		
He caused trouble...Bravo		
There are none		
There are none		
Also Shrove Tuesday...(Does anyone have a spare shrove?)		
Chinese year #4683		
Anything interesting is now forbidden (see 3-9)		
Read on....		
None of your business		
4,11,18,25 GAY COMEDY OPEN MIKE AT VALENCIA ROSE, 766 Valencia, 8:30pm		
2,9,16,23 GAY COMEDY NIGHT (Showcase) AT VALENCIA ROSE, 10pm		

February is also a great month to write some letters or make some calls supporting the Valencia Rose. As you may know, The Rose is being sold. All the lesbian/gay comedians have been able to perform regularly at The Rose thanks to the vision of owners Hank Wilson and Ron Lanza, who were willing to try out Tom Ammiano's crazy dream. Gay Comedy is Tom's baby and Tom is Gay Comedy's Mom. Because of the energy and determination of these people and the former able and supportive management by Donald Montwill, the Rose and its gaggle of gay comedians have created history. The consistent quality of entertainment at The Rose has earned a national reputation for the club. All the audiences and performers have been and continue to be part of an amazing cultural phenomenon. While the club changes owners, get your little feeties (yes, feeties) down there! The Rose continues to make history.

Right after Lent and the Year O' the Ox start, you can catch this month's Sane Zone contestants at the oh-so-cool Rose. Fran Peavy and Charlie Varon met when they were arrested for demonstrating at Diablo Canyon. They laughed in jail and decided to continue laughing on line together. Fran and Charlie tour extensively around the world doing their nuclear comedy, have just finished a book, *Heart Politics*, conduct workshops, network and provide support for the peace movement. Fran's doctoral work is in innovative theory and technological forecasting (no kidding), and Charlie is from New York. Charlie is the author of *The Prison Poetry of Patty Hearst* and *The Wines of the Great Plains*. These characters are inspiring, and I think they're very silly. The Sane Zone is honored to present "Fran & Charlie: The Atomic Comics."

[Coming Up:] Millions of readers have asked, "Is there a future in nuclear comedy?"

[Charlie:] Nuclear comedy is a growth industry.

[Fran:] We're concerned that they don't have nuclear comedy in the Soviet Union, and that gives the U.S. a defensive edge. Russia is falling behind in the nuclear comedy race.

[Charlie:] There is a nuclear comedy gap.

[Fran:] We've been trying to talk to Shultz and express our demands that nuclear comedy be required at all arms negotiations. We're willing to go over there and give away some of our nuclear comedy secrets so that they could get their industry going.

[Charlie:] We're even willing to trade first strike jokes.

I just got a little nervous... I mean... do you think that you're a prime target?

[Charlie:] We have no special immunity. I believe that the lack of nuclear comedy at peace talks is why there has been such an impasse. They need nuclear comedy. Reagan knows it. He started doing it in that air check on the radio where he said, "I just signed legislation outlawing Russia forever. The bombing begins in five minutes."

[Fran:] That's how you can tell that nuclear comedy is a growth industry. It gets support at the highest levels of government.

So when are you going to Russia?

[Fran:] We'll get there soon.

[Charlie:] We did a big tour of Great Britain last year and went to the European Nuclear Disarmament Conference in 1983. When we were in Britain, we entertained the women at Greenham Common, which was amazing.

[Fran:] We're like Bob Hope. We go to the troops.

[Charlie:] Comedy is one of the tools for helping people through: for helping us think and feel our way toward global sanity.

OK... so let's approach our fears and get some ideas going. One of our readers, also a Charlie, wanted to know if you thought that dropping the bomb was really the ultimate form of eviction.

[Fran:] We didn't need the bomb when we had urban redevelopment. Both weapons would save the building and destroy the people. We don't need nuclear weapons. We could just export urban redevelopment.

[Charlie:] We could have a verifiable genitrication freeze. What I'm really worried about is the nuclear electromagnetic pulse. You see, we've been writing our book, *Heart*

Politics, for two years, and all that work is on a computer. No surge control will protect us. Nuclear war could ruin your complexion and our book. I hope it doesn't happen tonight because we only have one hour of work left.

Do you know what your book is about yet?

[Charlie:] It's stories about social change and politics. There are anecdotes, funny stories, interesting stuff. We've included chapters on war, our comedy stuff, the I-Hotel and Genocide. It's serious, informative and hope-filled.

[Fran:] We can't beat nuclear war until we laugh at it and hold it lightly enough to talk about it without being frozen in terror.

What bugs you about nuclear war?

[Fran:] That it won't be much fun. To help that, we've been working on a photographers' guide. You won't need a flash. We both live in Bernal Heights, which will be an excellent location because we're close to two major targets. From this hill you could get shots of both the Silicon Valley and the Oakland Weapons Depot mushroom clouds.

[Charlie:] You'll have to get a piece of aluminum with a little hole in it.

[Fran:] I know your readers will be interested in this. Last year the United States sold over \$32 million worth of bull semen to Russia. We visited the bull semen factory where they

powerlessness, and that's unfortunate. ONE of the lessons of nuclear comedy is that we have to find our power even without the certainty that we are going to make it. We have to move with will and determination while we don't have comfort and security. We have to learn to move lightly, keep going and keep asking questions.

[Fran:] One way in which we're powerful is that we're able to give audiences real information about what's happening around the world on this issue. After shows we often do consultations with local peace leaders to help them with strategies. That's the field of my academic work.

[Charlie:] One of the luxuries of travel is being able to see the peace movement. One of the great stories of the '80s is not being told. The Peace Movement is happening all over. The centers are everywhere: in Storm Lake, Iowa and Sheridan, Wyoming. It gives me hope. I think this change will be stronger because it is decentralized, and that's inspiring.

[Charlie pauses, then drops a cup]

[Fran:] One of Charlie's great mysteries is his deep relationship with gravity. On and off stage, gravity attracts everything about him except the food stored in his beard.

Well, I guess it's your turn... What is it about Fran that you especially treasure?



do the extractions. We know the whole story. This means that our missiles are aimed at Russian-American cows... our own milk, butter, cheese and yogurt. When you eat that yogurt, you know that cow's close relative is a target. How do they get bull semen, you ask? They ask these bulls to mount steers. ALL bull semen comes from gay cows.

No wonder they want to nuke them! I get it! It's blatant homophobia!

[Charlie:] There are many mysteries around nuclear issues. Why are all the peace talks held in Geneva, Switzerland? Is it because all the negotiators have Swiss bank accounts?

[Fran:] Maybe they like the chocolates...

Maybe they want to be on time...

[Charlie:] Is it because the Swiss have one of the most thorough systems of civil defense? Why was "The Day After" shot in the midwest when grain sales to the Soviet Union is such a volatile issue? Why are there so many children at peace rallies? Why are so many being breast fed?

[Fran:] Why are there so many retired admirals and generals in the peace movement and no retired peace activists in the military?

Do the answers to these mysteries frighten you? It seems like it would be difficult to maintain your perspective.

[Charlie:] Most of the time I feel balanced and hopeful, and I can laugh. Other times the things that go on in the world get me down, and it's hard to do comedy. My job as a comedian is to help people laugh at the pain of the world in order to get a perspective on it. It is a hard job.

[Fran:] We talk seriously in all our shows because we are not trying to trivialize anything. We also do workshops. One of the hardest for me to do is a workshop with kids. That throws me off for at least a day. The things they say are devastating.

[Charlie:] We equate uncertainty with

[Charlie:] I can't think of anything I don't like about her, just now. A large part of being a comedian is learning to forgive.

...

After the publication of *Heart Politics*, it is rumored that Fran and Charlie will write a nuclear gourmet cookbook with the tentative title *Duck and Cover Flambes*. The day after we finished the interview and they finished their book, Fran Peavy left for India, where she is working on the Ganges River Project, and Charlie left secretly on the Charlie Varon Vacation Project. They will be back in town at the end of February. Don't miss this opportunity to see "Fran and Charlie: The Atomic Comics," on Friday, February 22, 8 pm at Valencia Rose; Saturday, February 23, 8 pm at Kuumbwa Jazz Center in Santa Cruz; or Sunday, February 24, 8 pm at La Pena in Berkeley. Take this test by Charlie to see if you qualify: "When two missiles reach an intersection at the same time, the weapon with the right of way is:

- the missile traveling from east to west
- the missile traveling from west to east
- the missile with the better human rights record."

According to Fran, "I sometimes feel as if I am a hostage on a planet of fundamentally crazy people, and I suspect I may be one of them."

OLW... One Last Word... So far, all of you who have been writing to The Sane Zone, and those submitting guesses to last month's quiz, haven't mailed them in yet. Consequently, you get another chance. What do Monica Palacios and Linda Moakes have in common? (Free Egg Sucking Kits to the first 10 guesses.) Clue #1: Both Monica and Linda are (a) snappy dressers; (b) very, very cool and incredibly funny, OK? (c) willing to do childish things, (d) willing to be your guest for dinner at Alta Plaza; or (e) other. Keep that card or letter coming. See you next month at the signpost up ahead... next stop, The Sane Zone.

UNEASY LISTENING

BY BARRY BYFORD

After a hiatus I have returned with my pronouncements for best and worst of 1984:

The Very Best To You:

If you missed these you missed the boat.

1. The Smiths: How Soon is Now?—12"
2. Greenfield and Burnell: Fire and Water—LP
3. Fad Gadget: Collapsing New People—12"
4. Depeche Mode: Construction Time Again—LP
5. This Mortal Coil: It'll End In Tears—LP
6. Dead Can Dance: Garden of Arcane Delights—EP
7. Simple Minds: Sparkle in the Rain—LP (Also best come-back).
8. Psychedelic Furs: Mirror Moves—LP



9. Cyndi Lauper: She's So Unusual—LP
10. XMal Deutschland: Tocsin—LP

Rock's Biggest Bombs:

1. Orchestral Maneuvers in the Dark: Locomotion—12" (the album stunk too, this song just stands out, shall we say?).
 2. Culture Club: Karma Chameleon—12"
 3. Thomas Dolby: Hyper-active—12"
 4. Siouxsie and the Banshees: Hyaena—LP
 5. SPK: Machine Age Voodoo—LP
 6. Eurythmics: 1984—LP (How appropriate, n'est-ce pas?)
 7. Frankie Goes to Hollywood: Welcome to the Pleasure Dome—LP (gag me with a dildo)
 8. A Flock of Seagulls: The Story of a Young Heart—LP
 9. Malcolm McLaren: Madame Butterfly—10"
 10. Echo and the Bunnymen: Ocean Rain—LP
- Best song from a lousy album: "Shake Dog Shake" from "The Top" LP by The Cure.

Biggest Disappointment: Cocteau Twins LP "Treasure."

Best Re-make: DEVO rendition of "Are You Experienced?"

Most Offensive Music Bar None: MADONNA. (FOR THE VERY LAST TIME, I HOPE).

Cabaret...

(continued from page 38)

masterful dexterity in interweaving intricate themes as he built layer on layer of rich sound.

A superb melding of Brubeck's "I Take Five" with the pop tune "My Favorite Things" was an audience favorite, as was his syn-copated rag "Trying Vegetables" with its delightful nod to nursery rhymes. The band joined in again for "It Won't Work if You Don't Let It," and a gospel number, "From Inside," closed the evening.

My only suggestion to this fine young performer: Play more. Talk less. Leave the band at home.

If you want to prepare yourself for Joshua Rich's next concert, pick up his album "Discovery."

...

Cindy and Carmelita Herron returned to Mama's for yet another sold-out night. Most of the numbers were from their previous show. (continued on page 46)

Romanovsky & Phillips

Reviewed by Mario Mondelli

While listening to Romanovsky & Phillips' debut album, "I Thought You'd Be Taller!" I found myself lifting the needle to replay a song that I'd just heard. The first listening provided overall effect; the second allowed me to savor the individual components.

Most every song on this record has that quality: a peak moment or a certain effect that makes it special — Paul's 40s'-esque vocal arrangement on his solo "Womb Envy" or the madrigal quality of "Living in the Nuclear Age (Renaissance Song)." This song in particular typifies the manner in which Romanovsky & Phillips often craft their music from seemingly disparate ends — anti-nuclear lyrics combined with a lilting medieval melody — into a combination that is both unique and artistically engaging.

Ron Romanovsky & Paul Phillips have been performing in the Bay Area for over two years, and old fans will delight in hearing some familiar tunes. "The Prince Charming Tango," an homage to thwarted expectations and an audience favorite, is even more of a treat with added percussion and studio effects. If you've missed R&P in concert (shame on you!), the real pleasure then lies in discovering the deft imagery of numbers like the classic "Outfield Blues," which evokes every crummy P.E. class endured by those of us who preferred mental exercise.

Touring the nation hasn't hurt R&P's vocal blend, either. Their singing voices are in better shape than ever, and they blend in the kind of harmony that in its best moments recalls the Everly Brothers, whose two voices are genetically linked. Yet Ron and Paul's voices are united by an altogether different type of bond, and this harmony of the heart lets us in to share that love.

As musicians, they score yet another victory. Ron's accomplished guitar work accompanies



Photo by Irene Young

every song, and the arrangements of the highly original melodies are skillfully suited to the material.

Ron serves as primary lyricist, too. On his "story" songs, his narrative can become linear and stilted, as in "Paint by Numbers (Song for Frances)," a heavily cliched tribute to Frances Farmer, or "She Has a Thing (For Men Who Love Men)," a lesbian coming-of-age song that might have been better left to the various women's music artists that Ron and Paul cite their respect for on the LP's inner sleeve.

But if the flaws of "I Thought You'd Be Taller!" are obvious, it is only because the highlights are so superb. If the off-the-cuff wit of "Prince Charming" and "Outfield" amuses, the terse humor of "Cat and Mouse" (about the frustration of establishing that initial contact) satisfies on a deeper level. It shows a mature, cutting edge that balances out the album's child-like idealism with an adult sophistication and intelligence.

All of the elements that make this album work come together with their greatest impact on "I Can Have Attitude." Here is the album's highpoint, as Ron's witty, wistful lyrics hit their mark with poetic simplicity, as the duo's lush harmony lines soar and dazzle. In this song, more than any other, the details of the narrative are left to the listener, making it a shared experience between audience and artists.

With "I Thought You'd Be Taller!" Romanovsky & Phillips strengthen their position in the small but growing gay men's music community. The ten songs on this album touch, amuse, entertain and heal, and in doing so, provide the gay music spectrum with a shade it's been missing.

Romanovsky & Phillips will be appearing at The Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia, Feb 14-16 at 8pm. "I Thought You'd Be Taller!" is available in S.F. at Old Wives Tales, Modern Times, or from Fresh Fruit Records, 2269 Market St. #301, SF 94114 (\$8.95 postpaid).

Writing a screenplay has been an interesting experience for me. Compared with most of my other writing, this script has a lot of

Hollywood baloney in it, combined with authentic hypnosis. And guess what? The agent in NYC who sold *Yentl* to Barbara Streisand is crazy about the screenplay and has sent it to Jane Fonda. I've had enough disappointments over the years to have learned not to get my hopes up too high, but it does seem that my life might be about to turn around. I've tried poverty and Serious Art, and now I'm more than willing to risk the pitfalls of junk entertainment and wealth.

Odd Books

Terence Davies, whose film trilogy played here last year, has a novel called *Hallelujah Now* out from the British publisher Brilliance Books. The story is basically the same as the trilogy's — the boyhood, manhood, and old-age death of a repressed Catholic gay man, who somehow fuses s/m and religion. But the novel is surprisingly rich in style, a blend of poetic prose and ironic allusions that kept me captivated. I think it's a splendid book, but not for those who want light entertainment.

Another novel that many people may find hard to take, and hard to find, since it's published by a small press, is *My First Year Out* by John Ketzer. But I found it a very interesting story of a young man — again with a Catholic background — who comes to terms with his sexuality while in graduate school. It's set in Detroit in the '60s with no glamorous characters, a rather strange main character, who, unlike most heroes in gay novels, misses most things instead of being blessed with an overly delicate sense of nuance. The book's great strength is not style but lack of sentimentality about the way people behave. (Jayell Enterprises, P.O. Box 2616, Dearborn, MI 48123, \$7.95).

What is Truth?

It somehow always amazes me that critics can have such disparate reactions to the same theatrical production. A case in point is the current *Changes* bill at the One Act. The critic for

THINGS THAT NEED TO BE SAID

BY DANIEL CURZON



the *Chronicle* found the second play, about an interracial love affair in South Africa, tiresome and the male actor not up to the part. The reviewer for the *Examiner* found the play exciting and the actor a gift to the Bay Area. I mention this to all you blossoming writers out there, because it just goes to show that even professional critics do not see things the same way, and an opinion is not inherently right or wrong, but only important because of where it appears. The same review published in a widely read publication would be unimportant if published in a little-read publication. It's not the opinion itself; it's the number of people who read it that matters.

Dropping Names

Americans love celebrities. So I thought I might, from time to time, tell some anecdotes about well-known people I've had dealings with. Take Christopher Isherwood and Don Bachardy, for instance. We met under marvelous — for me — circumstances: I happened to be in the audience when Isherwood praised my first novel — an author's dream come true! I went down to Los Angeles and visited the two of them about a dozen times.

Bachardy even drew me several times.

The three of us went to movies. I remember Chris in the back seat of their car, cowering under a blanket because he thought Don drove too fast — he did!

We went out to dinner, had lovely conversations. I heard tasty stories about Gore Vidal, Truman Capote, John Gielgud, and others. How I yearned for those get-togethers, so much more fascinating than Fresno, where I was living then.

But our friendship came to an end, probably because of a clash of cultural values more than anything. Chris said I should help support Tennessee Williams' memoirs, which had just come out. At the same time, a friend of mine with a KQED talk show asked me to ask Chris if he could ask Tennessee to appear on the show and discuss his memoirs. When I wrote Chris to this effect, I got my letter back with his note written between my lines: "I never ask favors of my friends. That's how I keep my friends." Well, to say I was plucked is an understatement. Here I thought I was doing two friends a favor, and I was being accused of using one of them!

The second blow to the friendship occurred when *In Touch* asked me to write a piece on how I'd met Isherwood and Bachardy. I thought this would be an opportunity to plug them, in a kind of innocuous *House Beautiful* sort of article. It dawned on me that perhaps I should show it to Chris and Don first, lest I reveal anything they didn't want me to. Their response was: "Oh, we make a distinction between our friends and *journalists*." Veddy, veddy, British, no? Naturally I didn't send the article to the magazine. I felt slapped in the face when I'd only meant to promote their careers. The friendship cooled and died. An interview with the two of them by a mere journalist appeared in *In Touch* within the year.

COMING UP! / FEBRUARY, 1985 / Page 41

BAR TALK

By RANDY JOHNSON

If Kim Corsaro married Larry Kim, she'd be Kim Kim; If Mark Friese married Senator Marks, he'd be Mark Marks; if Perry Watson married H.L. Perry, he'd be Perry Perry. If... well, we could play that all day—see what happens when you're laid up for two months? First, your mind goes! My broken knee has until the end of March to heal, then it's out job-hunting—but I'd like to thank **Lou Greene, Wayne Friday, Royal Liner, Ginger, Ding-Bat Don, Sissy, Bobbi Pace, Monte Reddick, M&M, Leon Ron Ross, The Kokpit, the Inter-Club and Febe's** for helping me see this stupid accident through. Thank you! All of you — that includes **Tessie, Earl Alexander, Fox-Hole Tillie, The Tavern Guild, Huggy Penniman**, et. al. ... You know who you are! For all the good thoughts, I just want you to know it means a helluva lot.



Tony Lasagne

Since I've not been up and about, what I'm writing about is from the phone, or here-say — bare with me... Heard the **David Awards** went O.K. — congratulations to the winners... I know that the race for **Emperor and Empress** is going strong (I could've been a contender). Good luck **Tommy Turner (James?), Kenny Wright, Sissy, and Collette**. Do vote... To tell the truth, No! I have not done the **Jock Strap** contests at the End-Up (**Diamond John** has) and I miss them. They are on the 1st Sunday of the month, and with my Doctor's blessing, I will continue doing them when I am able. But emceeing a contest, *dance* contest, on crutches, is a joke. With a broken knee, if I fall, or put weight on my right leg, the operation would be useless; I refuse to be laid up anymore, and with two months to go, I will not screw it up, or attempt to. Don't ever break your knee 'cause it's no fun.

I understand that at the **Cable Car Awards** will be **Tab Hunter**, and **Divine** amongst other big time celebrities, also some surprises — watch for **Wayne Friday** to introduce one of those. At the **Rawhide**, they're having a **Rawhide Hoe-Down**, and what's really good about it is, it's for **Hospice of S.F.**, a benefit for A.I.D.S. From 6 pm until midnight, at 280 7th St. (near Folsom) is where you'll find **Linda Lane** and the **Western Electric Band**, the **Bay City Ramblers**, the **Barbary Coast Cloggers**, the **Foggy Mountain Dancers**, amongst others, and it's all for six bucks — Go! ...Feb. 3rd.

The day before, **Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights (C.R.I.R.)** at the S.F. Eagle (12th at Harrison) is having a party at one pm... There will be entertainment, and maybe an auction. All are welcome, even your Aunt Hilda! Right **Jeff Harlowe**? Call 885-6240 for all the tea. For Feb. 2nd, tell Duke hello for me... Howdy — **John Dowdy**. My pal from the **Kokpit** will now join us as part of the **Royal Imperial Family** — Welcome... The **San Francisco Coronation Ball** is well underway. Coronation 1985. Xanadu — The Court of Kublai Khan. Sat., Feb. 9th at the Japan Center "Kabuki" Theatre — Do go. Thank you, **Rich**, thanx **Remy**. You left a

tough, class act to follow...

Skidazzle '85 could mean nothing 'cept the coits. The cost is \$95 bucks, and if skiing is your thing (or a far out beauty contest), it is 1st come, 1st reserved. Contact your favorite coit, or **Chuck Demmon** for all the information. You will be in South Lake Tahoe on March 1, 2, and 3rd... Do you want to get involved? **The Community Thrift Store** at 625 Valencia (861-4910) is still seeking volunteers. The volume at the store has doubled in the last six months. As **Don Meisen**, the manager says — happiness is doing the best you can, everything you donate to the store goes to the charity of your choice — take part...

From **Les G. Pappas**, the Community Business Outreach Coordinator from the S.F. AIDS Foundation. In the near future, he will be putting into action a unique AIDS prevention program with mainly the bars. Attn! Bar owners/managers — call Les at 864-4376 for all the info... You are playing safe? If not, you can be by calling ego-trip (the Connector, Inc.) or go the **Circle J Cinema** on Jones, and tell **Hall Call** I sent you. Both places have been in business for a long time — which says it all — check 'em out... Hey, **Inter-Club**; just letting you know that **Henry Novak** is doing his job — well! Makes me look forward to every other day...

When one is laid up, one of the plus items about it is **Tony Lasagne's** calls. My friend from the **Polk Gulch** really knows his bed-time story(s). Let me tell ya', and good luck to the **Manager Jesse** on his up 'n coming function with **Armando** (is he still here?). Sorry I couldn't emcee it for you — another time? — I hope! ...Did you see **Marcus**, and **Ken Wright** amongst other notables on the **Cerebral Palsy Telethon**? Me too! ...**Royal Liner** is appearing at the **Pendulum** two A.M.s a week, besides working the planks of the **Kokpit**. Dew drop inn to see him... **Jim Cvitanich** and **Mark** have given a green light for "**Men Behind Bars II**" (Two-Too-To). **Mark** and **Marv (M&M)** are doing the sounds — again (good), and it too will be taped (as #1 was). This will take place Feb. 17th and 18th, a Sunday and Monday at 16th and Mission Streets (the Victoria Theatre). And take it from "**Leslie Bore**" — this iz the biggie — an event — do not, I repeat — do not miss it, and it's for a good cause.

The new (Gnu-Knew) **Beach Blanket Babylon** with **Val Diamond** as Alexis Carrington, and her (Val's) favorite audience is us — the locals. All new and completely different, you will see this very San Francisco show, continuing a fine tradition... There is still time to see **After Dark** as well... Thank you **Empress #2 Bella (Gene)** for the note of nice words, and you can see her (him) at **Jose's Imperial Family Show** at Atlas on Market — Now... **Peter Storch** will be the treasurer of the **C.S.L.** after all; well, he figures if **Michael Passante** (Piss Aunt?) from San Diego can run a pool league, and put out quite a nice paper top — why not — it's a girl's prerogative to change her mind! ...Saab sister?

Here's wishing good luck to **The New Bell's Leo**, who has had a streak of bad luck lately... So you want to do landscaping do 'ya?



Jim Cvitanich reviews Men Behind Bars I, and gets ready for the next big show this month.



Some of the Royal Court candidates: Collette, Tommy Turner, Sissy Spaceout and Ken Wright



Fat Fairy

Carson & Johnson Landscaping serves the greater Bay Area, call (415) 931-6954 for all the info... Have you tried the **Ramis Caffe** at 1361 Church St. (btwn Clipper & 26th) yet? Dinners daily from 5:30 pm - Sunday brunch at 10 am — they're closed on Tuesdays... Gawk (**Gay Artists Writers Collective**) is a loosely knit support/rap group that really gives support. The group consists of singers, musicians, writers and artists and meets once a week. If you're interested, call **Jon Sugar** at 664-2682.

I'm laying here writing my column, I get a phone call from **Bob Pace** who lets me know that the **Fat Fairy** was found shot to death — what a cold chill — to hear that about someone who would do anything for anyone. Something like this is pointless. Then your mind goes and flashes of all your fond memories of the Fat (thin) Fairy — and your day turns into a bummer. May he rest in peace; and the many memories that we have of him are good. He did cheer us up, didn't he? And I thank him for that, and I was proud to have known him.

From Di, our honorary chairman of the **S.F. Foundation** (the mayor) who says — keep music alive in '85 — support our band — which also includes the **Twirling Corps**, the **S.F. Flag Corps**, the **S.F. Tap Troupe** and the **AIDS-De-Camp**. Do yourself proud — support them — after all, they make us proud of them. There are five membership categories. Reach them at 540 Castro St. S.F. 94114. OK? — OK!

Some dates you might want to jot down for **Ken Wright's** campaign: Feb. 1st — with **Sable** at Logan's, downtown; Feb. 5th — Casa Loma Hotel (Alamo Square Saloon) with **Deena Jones** and Feb. 7th with **Tony, Desiree (Hi, David)** and you, at the Village. Also, at the **Village**, a complimentary drink, the day of voting, with a voting stub... **Andy Andrus**, after the Castro area doing without for the last five years, brings us "**Attainable Treasures**", a fine jewelry store, featuring all of the finest jewelry at 50% below any retail price anywhere. Starting with the month of February, they will be having a "Rock of the Month Club" — where on the first of each and every month those who have come in and filled out their entry form will be eligible to receive the birthstone for that particular month. No one need be present to win nor is any purchase necessary to enter. Drawing will be held on the 1st of every month.

You have heard of **Computer Services Answering Service**, haven't you? (Now you have.) Call 928-3008 for a fair rate offered — if you dare... Did I ever thank **Trixi and Mr. Bowman**, our **Grand Duke and Duchess**, for my royal position of **Knight of St. Alexander**? (Now I have.) ...Hey **Miss Black & Blue** — I still have a picture of you from the Parade, anytime you want it... There's still time to catch **Mikio** meeting **Joseph Taro**, with **Nancy MacLean** you know, Wed., Feb. 6th, at 9 and 10 pm at **Buckley's Bistro and Bar**, 131 Gough St. (552-8177) is where that is happening... R-U reading this, **Jerry Seman**?

For the **AIDS Food Drive** (do support it) in April, **Nova Lei** has something up her sleeve with **Pat Montclair**, and **Diamond John** among others — ask her about it, at **Church St. Station**... Hey — **Marque Murdock (Lily)** — How's Peter Pan and Tinker Bell? Hope you're fine, too! ...**Francesca** can now be seen at Logan's (the Ole Railway Express). Right, **Francine**? ...**Titiana** tells me she'll be decked out in silver on Friday and blue at the Coronation. Here's hoping he found those damned silver heels, size 13EEEEEE. That's Friday, **Coronation Eve**, at the wonderful Casa Loma — A.S.S. Remember!

On the chessboard of life, you're just another queen... Here's a cute (aw) puzzle — read it as you see it.

MR. DUCKS
MR. NOT DUCKS
MR 2 DUCKS
C - DM WINGS?

LIB, MR. DUCKS - (For Larry Ellis)

So, here I am, laid up from Dec. 8th until the end of March, collecting \$55 weekly from disability — can you believe that? Without your help — well, it means a lot. While I'm laid up, I know that there are a lot of people worse off (**Empress Cristal**, for example). I'll recover, and be around for awhile, some of our brothers won't. Call 'em before it is too late.

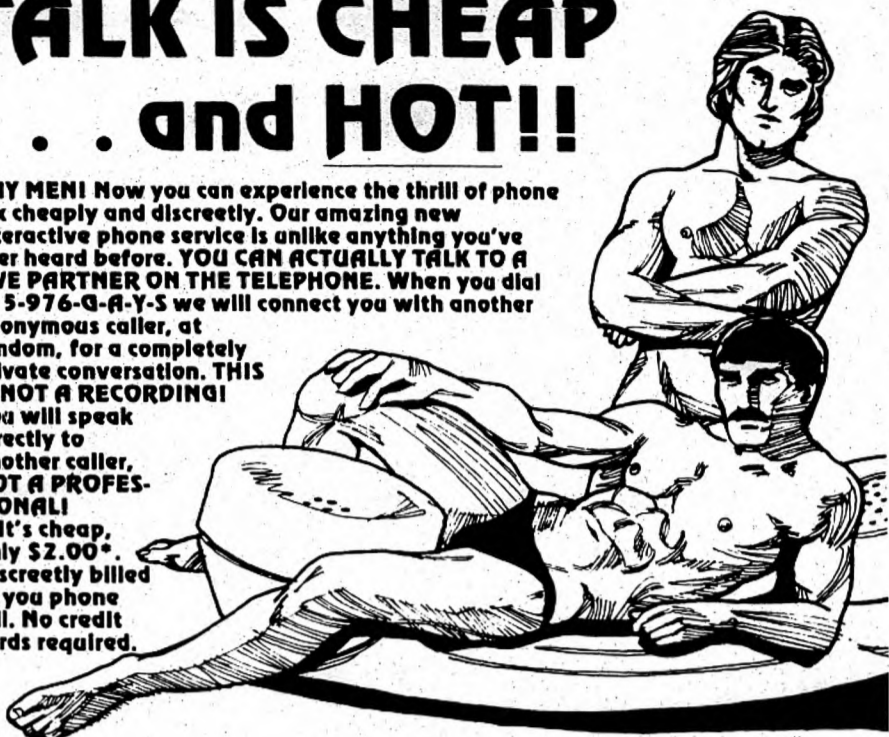
Thank you to the **David Awards** for your cordial mention, and to "**Men Behind Bars**" for the great thoughts; I think from now on I'll have to watch my step — and, to **Monte Reddick** from Bay Area Typesetting, I leave my porno collection (what's left of it).

— Randy Johnson

P.S. Thank you to my B.C. brother **Tootsie** for the best feel-good note I could get. Don't forget the **B.C. Awards** at the end of this month...

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BOOKS IN REVIEW

Yours in Struggle: Three Feminist Perspectives On Anti-Semitism and Racism

By Elly Bulkin, Minnie Bruce Pratt
and Barbara Smith
Long Haul Press, NY; 1984; \$7.95 pb.

Reviewed by Paula Ross

A fundamental imbalance exists in *Yours in Struggle: Three Feminist Perspectives on Anti-Semitism and Racism* by Elly Bulkin, Minnie Bruce Pratt and Barbara Smith. In a note to readers, the three women state: "Initially *Yours in Struggle* was to have been one essay, which Elly Bulkin started in the summer of 1982." The end result is three very different pieces by three very different women, but the book remains much more Bulkin's than anyone else's.

Still, *Yours in Struggle* is courageous. All three of its writers stand squarely in an arena fraught with old and new terrors. No matter what criticisms I level at it, I recognize that by appearing here, together, each of these women risks losing valued, life-giving support from her own people.

As a Christian-raised, middle-class, Southern white woman, Pratt grew up secure in the knowledge that her view of the world was universal, the standard against which everything else was measured.

... I realize how *habitually* I think of my culture, my ethics, my morality, as the culmination of history, as the extension of what has gone on before....

Pratt's essay, "Identity: Skin Blood Heart," centers around the evolution of dramatic changes in her life. "How do we *want* to be different from what we have been?" she asks. And her answer, which she warns us is highly personal, is, "... it is how I love that has brought me to change. I have learned what it

is to lose a position of safety, to be despised for *who I am*. It was my joy at loving another woman, the risks I took by doing so, the changes this brought me to, and the losses, that broke through the bubble of skin and class privilege around me."

Because Pratt's tone is so very "personal," genteel — mannerly, even (she is, after all, a Southern girl) — there is a temptation to dismiss her struggles. But that would be a mistake. I trust her evolution and where it has led her. She acknowledges, without apology, the legacy of her Southern white identity, examines how it has shaped her.

I had not admitted that the safety of much of my childhood was because Laura Cates, Black and a servant, was responsible for me; that I had the walks with my father because the woods were "ours" by systematic economic exploitation, instigated, at that time, by his White Citizens' Council... Raised to believe that I could be where I wanted and have what I wanted, as a grown woman... I had no understanding of the limits that I lived within, nor of how much my memory and my experience of a safe place to be was based on places secured by omission, exclusion or violence....

Pratt does not, in claiming her legacy, then ask to be taken care of; she moves to change, to create a new legacy. And she offers to other women like her an understanding of how terrifying that kind of change can be.

No wonder, then, that if we have been raised up this way, when we begin to struggle with the reality of our anti-Semitism and racism, we may simply want to leave our culture behind, disassociate ourselves from it. In order to feel positively about ourselves, we may end up wanting not to be ourselves, may start pretending to be someone else. Especially this may happen when we start learning about the strong traditions of resistance and affirmation sustained for cen-

metallic-scaled, multi-tongued, super-olfactory-sensitive Velmi. Once again, we must put up with publishers' concerns for not offending the readership and, of course, the desire to sell books. Oh my weary stars!

Quite early on we learn about the sexual preference of our protagonists; Korga is forced into sex with a female, though he'd rather be cruising for same-sex quickies; and Dyeth informs us of the "Runs," bathhouse-type establishments exotically illuminated, where mostly male-sexed creatures and humans lurk behind erotic statues in hopes of satisfying their libidos. These Runs, depending on the planet and "geosector" one is from, are variously decorated and proliferate all over urban areas. Sex has never been better or easier to get out there beyond the galactic rim! And by stepping into a pool of a bluish substance upon entering a Run, one seems instantaneously degermed and debugged (wouldn't "Old Earth" love that solution to V.D.!).

I don't want to attempt too much of a plot summary of this book, because as science fiction goes, it can become quite thick and complicated. Delany is a veteran in the field (past works include *Nova*, *Triton*, and the epic *Dhalgren*), and he should satisfy amply any thirst for extraterrestrial detail: planets of strange textures and maroon-colored skies, gigantic fabricated moons, quirky creatures who speak dozens of languages, space vehicles capable of carrying 2,500 passengers, telepathic means of communication, bizarre social customs. He is fascinated by computers and data control/storage, which leads him to create the WEB, a massive, multi-planeted, omniscient information system. Just about everybody has some connection with the WEB, though it's never explicitly clear just what it does. Then there's the SYGN and the FAMILY, opposing space empires of sorts with their own personalities, philosophies, religious organizations — an analogy perhaps to "Old Earth" East and West. Not to forget *Cultural Fugue*, which seems to be some pre-holocaust state of a planet; I don't know if it has something to do with organs or not....

Played out against this grandiose space opera, and *really* the plum of the story, is the



Barbara Smith

Photo by Susan Wilson

turies by the very folks *our* folks were trying to kill.

To combat these feelings of despair, guilt and powerlessness that many white Anglo women experience when confronting their heritage of privilege, Pratt says: "As I've worked at stripping away layer after layer of my false identity... another way I've tried to regain my self-respect, to keep from feeling completely naked and ashamed of who it is I am, is to look at what I have carried with me from my culture that could help me in the process." She found "a tradition of white Christian-raised women in the South who had worked actively for social justice since at least 1849...." She found, from the 1840s to 1860s, the Grimke sisters of South Carolina, who fought for abolition and women's rights. From the 1920s to 1940s,

there was Jessie Daniel Ames of Texas, active in the anti-lynching campaign. She found Lillian Smith of Georgia. She found honor among her own people.

"Between a Rock and a Hard Place: Relationships Between Black and Jewish Women," the piece by Barbara Smith, was the essay I found least successful of the three. And I must immediately qualify that statement by acknowledging a bias — we're always hardest on our own. Smith is most like me: Black, lesbian, in her late 30's, midwestern-born, a writer. So my expectations for her were high. Throughout "Between a Rock," I kept saying, "Yes, but I know all that. What *else*?" When Smith tells me:

I am anti-Semitic. I am not writing this from
(continued on next page)

Have You Ever Found Your "Perfect Erotic Object?"

Stars in My Pocket Like Grains of Sand

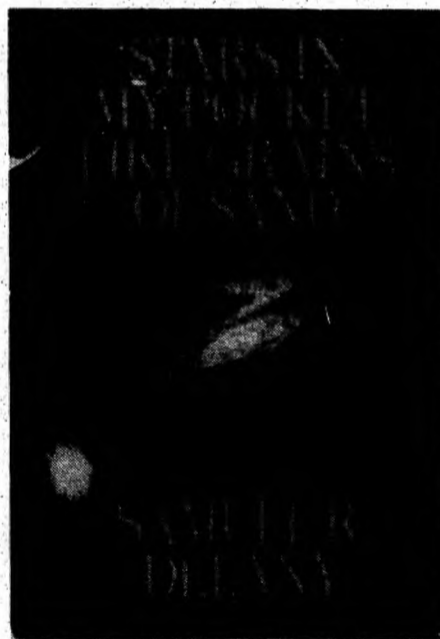
by Samuel R. Delany
Bantam Books, 1984. \$16.95 hd.

Reviewed by Craig Machado

I'm not a terribly consistent reader of science fiction. Dipping periodically into the genre I've come up with a few memorable authors: Phillip K. Dick, Frank Herbert (*Dune*, et. al.), Ursula LeGuin (*The Left Hand of Darkness*, *The Dispossessed*), Elizabeth Lynn (local talent of fantasy and science fiction), Ray Bradbury (*Fahrenheit 451*), Walter Miller, Jr. (*A Canticle for Leibowitz*), and Harlan Ellison, who has written some dynamite stories melding sci-fi, fantasy, and surrealism.

Until recently, science fiction has remained a male-dominated area, an outgrowth of our scientific technological world. Tale after tale exposes the classical "good guys versus bad guys" dichotomy; character development takes a back seat to gizmos, gadgetry, death rays and squirmy aliens; plots are threadbare and formulaic; dialog is often stilted, melodramatic. Yet there has been change, exemplified in someone like Ursula LeGuin, who adds strong women protagonists, gentle men, sexual equality, androgyny, and a kind of zen, non-hierarchical way of viewing human relationships and alternate societies.

What impressed me about Samuel Delany's *Stars in My Pocket Like Grains of Sand* is the candid, believable tale of love between two many-earth-worlds-removed humans — are you ready? — two *men*, which unfolds as the centerpiece of the novel. You can bet your last ounce of star dust, though, that the book isn't billed that way. The jacket flap blandly asserts "the unlikely bond" between Rat Korga, sole survivor of the planet Rhyonon, which falls into the hands of some galactic hanky-panky, and Marq Dyeth, an industrial diplomat homeported on the planet Velm, populated with



love affair between Rat Korga and Marq Dyeth. Rat (acronym for Radical Anxiety Termination — what happens to non-conformists and deviates, apparently), a social undesirable (because of his sexuality?), has been relegated into a caste system serving an evil elite. Rat miraculously survives the obliteration of his planet, and through an amazing process which I could not explain for the life of me (it's one of the better scenes in the book), is reconstituted from his broken, dying body and whisked down to Velm where his "perfect erotic object" — out to about seven decimal places," Marq Dyeth, waits:

... in one version or another, I've been hearing references to this Rat Korga over half a galaxy now. Sex is no longer the mystified subject it once was. What you are saying, in a word is: Rat and myself are both sexually attracted to men. Also: Rat and myself both fulfill a number of tricks and turns of physical build, bodily carriage, and behavioral deployment that would make

making love with each other not only fun... but well rewarding. Now, that's the simplest part of the truth —

And so the two star-befuddled lovers, a perfect match out of billions of affectional possibilities, meet and consummate their light-years-deferred lust for each other. I grant you it's a bit corny, and Delany is oh so discreet about divulging what the two do sexually — the old arm on the shoulder and next thing you know they wake up. Of course a pairing of such stellar magnitude is destined to have its plans thwarted, evil from on high having other plans for the much-talked-about and sought-after Korga... Ah, well.

Another interesting twist in the novel is the author's grammatical gender shifting. "Women" is used in place of Old Earth "men" when referring to both sexes, e.g., "woman-sized," and the pronouns "she" and "her" replace "him" and "her." There is some confusion about knowing when "she" refers to a male or female, but after all, Old Earth has for so long assumed women with a male referent. Women in the novel seem quite capable, independent, assertive and sometimes downright vicious in their battles for power and control. Marq himself comes from a long line of important female Dyeths roaming the galaxies on mighty pursuits.

The evolution of social consciousness surrounding sexuality and roles has definitely taken root in Delany's imagination; people and other-worldly creatures just aren't uptight (at least most of them) about how the loving gets done, and their sexuality is lived rather matter-of-factly, not labeled and categorized. Old Earth has a long way to go! Delany plans a companion book to this one, *The Splendor and Misery of Bodies, of Cities*, and I'm curious to see what he does with it.

Whatever the flaws in this book — and there are some pretty bumpy spots of convoluted writing crying out for editing and polishing — I really have to give it to Mr. Delany for offering the largely straight sci-fi world a gay (an "Old Earth" label, alas!) love story. Try *Stars in My Pocket Like Grains of Sand*, even if science fiction leaves you less than warm.

(continued from previous page)

a position of moral exemption. My hands are not clean, because like other non-Jews in this society I have swallowed anti-Semitism simply by living here, whether I wanted to or not.

I want to know what that means to her as a *Black woman*. What she gives me is a brief history of the difference between Black and Jewish experiences in this country. And she reiterates that no one raised in this country can avoid learning anti-Semitism. Even after reading the section "A Love-Hate Relationship," in which she examines some of the dynamics between Jews and Blacks, I'm still left wondering what is peculiar to that relationship, what is it about Black people as Black people and Jewish people as Jewish people that can create such a volatile mix when we encounter each other.

It's quite possible that Smith herself anticipated much of my dissatisfaction with "Between a Rock."

Because of the inherent complexities of this subject, one of the things I found most overwhelming was the sense that I had to be writing for two distinct audiences at the same time. I was very aware that what I want to say to other Black women is properly part of an "in-house" discussion and it undoubtedly would be a lot more comfortable for us if somehow the act of writing did not require it to go public. With Jewish women, on the other hand, although we may have a shared bond of feminism, what I say comes from a position outside the group. It is impossible for me to forget that in speaking to Jewish women I am speaking to white women, a role complicated by a racist tradition of Black people repeatedly having to teach white people about the meaning of oppression.

Smith resolved this dilemma by speaking to each group, Black women and Jewish women, in different sections, realizing of course that each would be read by both. Interestingly enough, she does not address white Christian-raised women, nor does she explain how Jewish women of color fit into her construct. These omissions, like Pratt's almost exclusive focus on racism (her references to anti-Semitism feel more obligatory than an integrated part of her process of change), are important to note. Racism and anti-Semitism are too often pitted against each other in what I call "The Oppression Derby," a deadly race in which winning is a dubious achievement at best. It is a constant struggle to be vigilant, to be aware of all the intersections and intertwinings of the thickets we must all plow through in these struggles. We're not always successful.

While Smith excludes white Christian-raised women from her audiences, it was her observations about Christianity that I felt went much deeper into how our experiences as Black people affect our relationships with Jews. For those Jewish women who believe that being Christian, or raised as such, makes one by definition anti-Semitic, she insists that they look at the historical role Christianity occupies in the lives of Black Americans. This religion, imposed on us by white colonialists and slave-owners, has been "reshaped... into an entirely unique expression of Black spirituality and faith... Being Christian hardly translates into 'privilege' for Black people...."

To Black women, she says:

In the case of racist Jewish people, we have something to throw back at them — anti-Semitism. Righteous as such comebacks may seem, it does not serve us, as feminists and political people, to ignore or excuse what is reactionary in ourselves.

"Hard Ground: Jewish Identity, Racism, and Anti-Semitism," by Elly Bulkin, is the final essay in *Yours in Struggle*. It occupies over half the book and contains some of the most thoughtful, intelligent feminist analysis of these issues that I've yet read. This is in part due to Bulkin's own style and approach. It is also attributable to the fact that she has read widely and drawn on the excellent work of other women, Irena Klepfisz, Melanie Kaye/Kantrowitz and Bernice Johnson Reagon in particular, in developing her politics of being a Jewish lesbian feminist who refuses to be trapped into selecting a single front on which to fight what is a many-fronted battle.

At times, I find Bulkin's style tedious and

cumbersome. But I deeply appreciate her careful, precise use of language. Confronting racism and anti-Semitism, one's own and that of others, wrenches the guts. It is so easy to let loose with all the fury and pain our own histories have so amply provided. It is so easy not to hear each other. Bulkin takes the time to carefully express exactly what she means, as in this discussion of anti-Semitism and women of color:

... I am very much aware of the difficulty and potential risk of criticizing non-Jewish women of color for specific acts of anti-Semitism. But I assume that *all* non-Jews, even those without institutional power, have internalized the norm of anti-Semitism in this culture and are thereby capable of being anti-Semitic, whether through hostility or ignorance.

She gives us room to move here. There is less chance of becoming stuck, immobilized, ready only to defend instead of to listen and think and ultimately to change. Consider the very different implications of blanket statements like

"All non-Jews are anti-Semitic, period."

Given the parallels between Black and Jewish experiences, it's not surprising that Smith's and Bulkin's works mesh in a way that Pratt's does not. Black women suffer from being tokenized in the women's movement, despite the fact that we have worked for women's issues for at least as long as white women have. Still, our contributions and presence remain little short of invisible. On the other hand, Jewish women suffer from somewhat the opposite problem, according to Bulkin.

Jewish women in the U.S. have been central in the women's movement since its inception, though often not as identifiable Jews. The fact of centrality is difficult even to acknowledge because the standard anti-Jewish response is to see more than token Jewish visibility as a bid for "Jewish control"....

Bulkin's "Hard Ground" ranges over a wide territory. In addition to her examination of feminism's history in the struggles over racism

and anti-Semitism, she devotes much-needed attention not only to the thorny question of how a just resolution can be found for the Middle East; but she also takes a hard look at the ways Palestinian and Arab women are treated and viewed by U.S. feminists. (Pratt too, though only briefly, considers the issue of anti-Arab racism.) And like Pratt, who looked for and found models she could emulate from her own culture, Bulkin has searched for and found examples for her own use — Jews fighting anti-Arab oppression, Arabs challenging anti-Semitism. This knowledge, she says,

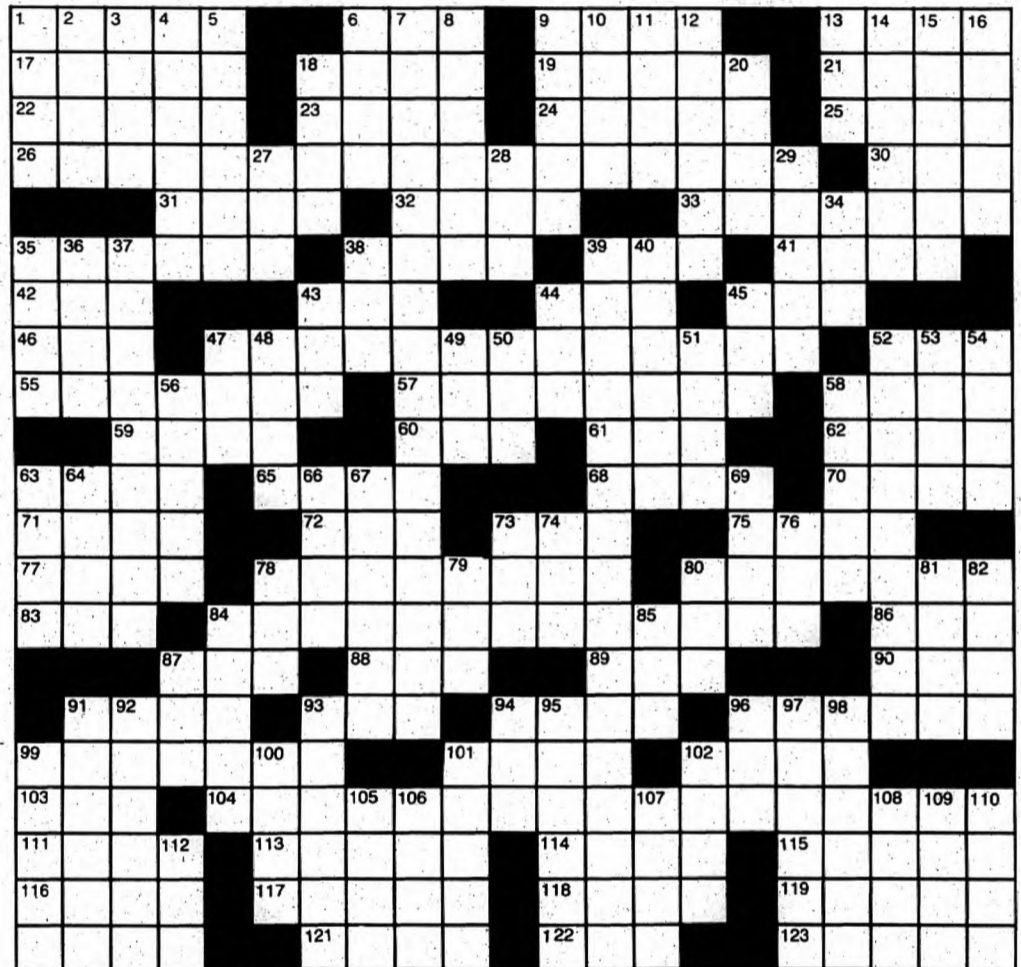
... undercuts any tendency to view Israeli Arabs, Israeli Jews, or Palestinians as a monolithic group unwilling to work with people whose identities and/or politics differ from our own. It illustrates well the risks people on all sides — Jew and non-Jew, Arab and non-Arab, Zionist, anti-Zionist, non-Zionist — take in the course of their work for peace and co-existence.

This book will make a lot of people angry. It (See "Struggle," next page)

Mecca

Across

1. Women's room feature
6. Harem room
9. Both: prefix
13. Streetcar in 63 across
17. Kayak, for one
18. Does a hen's job
19. Camille Saint-_____
21. Depend (on)
22. "_____ is still..."
23. East Sicilian peak
24. European tourist attraction
25. Surrounded by
26. Movie that sounds like a newspaper
30. Past
31. Type of crime
32. Region in W. Germany
33. Churning, as the sea
35. "All _____ who're going..."
38. Esq.'s
39. Harlette Hedwig
41. Diamond gal and others
42. Tax man, e.g.
43. At _____ rate
44. Function
45. Adjective for MacDonald
46. Listen in, to Nixon
47. Certain police/gay confrontations
52. Lend an _____
55. Engrave
57. Fishwrap, in SF
58. Glandular secretion
59. Abominable one
60. Cummings and namesakes
61. Interst.
62. Edie Massey's cry
63. London's Tenderloin
65. Autocrat
68. Asian blossoms
70. "_____ time in the old..."
71. At the acme
72. Dagnet: abbr.
73. Martial artist Bruce, et. al.
75. Sediment
77. Not ajar
78. Has a certain quaint charm
80. Wimbledon figure
83. Always, in poetry
84. Engaged in a *real* trivial pursuit, at times
86. Pennsylvania or 5th
87. West
88. Container, for short
89. Recent: prefix
90. Lick, Fido style
91. Nitwit
93. Plural noun ending
94. Forever in one's _____
96. One of a 60's foursome
99. Beverly Hills addr.
101. Wine: prefix
102. Shop window word
103. Commonplace: abbr.
104. Dancer's bus fare
111. One
113. Have _____ up one's sleeve
114. Curved molding

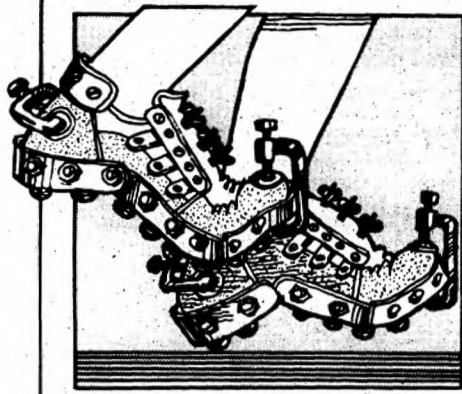


115. Male _____
 116. _____ place for
 117. Realm of Anna's King
 118. Angry
 119. I matter
 120. Playthings
 121. Sci. course
 122. Suffix for Aramis or Annette
 123. Of the skin
- Down**
1. Jazz singing
 2. *Esquire* columnist
 3. Upbeat, in mus.
 4. Be defeated by
 5. Landlord
 6. Vow
 7. Recent gay bar phenomenon
 8. As sneaky _____
 9. _____ my instructions
 10. "_____, don't ask."
 11. I follower, in the City
 12. Ghandi
 13. Singalong syllable
 14. Post again
 15. Does a wheel job
 16. "I ♥ _____": bumpersticker
 20. "Star Wars" pilot

27. Cinnabar
28. _____ deferenes
29. Emulates Dan White
34. Pot holder?
35. Play part
36. G.I.'s protein
37. 4 to 7, for example
38. Pismire
39. Event at 104 across
40. Shed of sorts
43. Not fore
44. German city
45. "_____ the ramparts we..."
47. Pose (for)
48. Adjectival suffix
49. Bunyan's tool
50. _____ Palmas
51. Track event
52. Pool or pinball game
53. Something: Sp.
54. Parade _____
56. Choose again
58. End-all preceder
63. Mail order abbr.
64. Top _____ mornin'
66. Pitts
67. "What _____ to pay"
69. Danube tributary
73. Bus. abbr.

74. 98, in a way
76. Cockney card game
78. Annoy
79. DC legislator
80. 70's rockers
81. DC office
82. Slangy affirmatives
84. Henry _____ Lodge
85. Place for scenery
87. Stooge
91. Wildman's milieu
92. Quirk
93. Of a literary device
94. Letter
95. "La Vie _____"
96. Evian
97. Sport of King
98. Patronize Lloyd's
99. Wake noisily
100. Cowboy contest
101. Greek theater
102. City in Utah
105. Religion, for short
106. Tooth or belly follower
107. Rent
108. Campus Greek's abode
109. _____ Noche
110. Final _____
112. Brit's byes

The solution to this month's puzzle will appear in the next edition of *Coming Up!*



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Cabaret...

(continued from page 41)

but a few additions and surprises popped up. Carmelita brought down the house again with "When A Man Loves A Woman," although I personally preferred her more straightforward treatment of "For All We Know."

The sisters were a hit on the "Sisters" number from White Christmas, and they did an especially terrific job on Harold Arlen's "Two Ladies in the Shade of the Banana Tree," from *House of Flowers*. (Now there's a show that needs receiving!)

Cindy earns three stars each for "Teach Me Tonight," and "Borderline," but she gets all four stars for a superb reading of "All of Me." When Cindy floats those high notes up and away — that's showbiz! Wayne Spaulding's sax solo on the same tune was awe-inspiring.

Backup singer Kirby Coleman lent his fine solo voice to Stevie Wonder's "All in Love is Fair," and the trio rocked home with "Keep on Runnin'."

Matthew Inge made an auspicious local debut at the Plush Room on a recent Monday. He came on strong with a forceful showbiz personality — which is not surprising since he has been featured in Broadway performances of *A Chorus Line* and *Fiddler on the Roof*. His accompanist was pianist John Walko, seen and heard hereto in the long-running *Side by Side by Sondheim*.

Inge opened with an upbeat "Ninth Avenue" from *Irene*. His presentation was indeed professional: a strong, sure voice, a dancer's confident stance, gestures that had meaning. He then swung into "San Francisco Bound" with special lyrics to the tune of "Alabama Bound."

The lovely "Not a Day Goes By" from Sondheim's ill-fated *Merrily We Roll Along* was

followed by Alec Wilder's "The Bigger the Figure," a tongue-twisting travesty on *The Barber of Seville's* Figaro aria. He then plunged into a reading of Lenny Bruce's "To Come" that was underscored on the piano by Walko. Noel Coward's "If Love Were All" was simply sung as was another nice ballad, "After the Rain."

A sleazy vamp "Uptown, Downtown" that was cut from *Follies* preceded a 1901 Jewish dialect number called "T'was Her First," that was followed by Charles Ives' "Two Little Flowers." Tom Lehrer's "Poisoning Pigeons in the Park" evolved into a camp solo ballet. Jerry Herman's touching "I Don't Want to Know" from *Dear World* completed the very eclectic set. For an encore Inge sang "I've Been Here," a number written for Piaf but not performed until it was picked up and recorded by Streisand.

Toward the end of the set Inge's voice seemed somewhat strained, his pitch less sure, but on the whole it was an impressive evening.

Lights by Brian Morse were most imaginative for a solo performer's act.

As you no doubt know, the Plush Room will be closed for remodeling until April.

Caught Robert Erickson's act last week and was impressed with how he seems to improve with each performance. I don't think I've ever heard him sing a "tired" song, and that in itself is some kind of record. On this particular evening, he sang "I'm All Smiles," "It Goes Like It Goes," the still fresh "Once More Before I Go," "Fly Away," "I'd Rather Leave While I'm in Love," and "Don't Wish Too Hard." Six good songs. How many singers do you know that sing even two of them in one evening?

Erickson gives much credit to his musical director Jim Followell. And deservedly so. Followell is a fine talent with good taste — a rarer combination than you might think.

Couples...

(continued from page 10)

along. Make a date for the following day for dinner and a movie. There are lots of enjoyable options besides sex. Besides, pleasurable anticipation will only make it better.

If you do want to have sex right away, or at whatever point you do want to have sex, remember that it's perfectly OK and within your rights to set sexual limits. Some people think that if they do not agree to anything their partner suggests they will immediately alienate him. These people especially need to keep in mind that, by and large, people respect you for knowing what you want and being willing to ask for it. It is vitally important for you to speak up about your wants and needs from the very beginning. If you do something you don't want to do, you are going to resent your partner and probably won't want to see him again. It is also a matter of life and death. AIDS is an invariably fatal disease, which means that suddenly what you do in bed can kill you.

You need to read over the safe sex guidelines, decide for yourself what you are

willing to do in bed, and make your limits known to potential partners. Once again, other health-conscious men will be relieved to know that you are trying to live "safe" and are therefore a safer partner. Men who haven't much thought about it are by and large tolerant of other men's health concerns. Those few men who give attitude around safe sex are dispensable from your sex life; who needs someone who would put you down for trying to stay healthy?

Concluding Remarks

It all sounds so easy. But of course you know it's not. Whatever is the hardest part for you will probably take practice. Don't put yourself down for needing to do something a few times before you're good at it. That's what learning is like for all of us.

And look for more suggestions next month. In that issue, we'll be covering: handling the morning after; deciding whether or not to get together again; why the other guy may not want to see you; and how to handle that first phone call.

Now, get out there and meet somebody to practice on.

Houston...

(continued from page 5)

by forging a broader coalition than the "clique of Montrose politicians and Democratic loyalists" which runs the organization.

Lovell claims that GPC is about one third Republican but agrees with Shiflett that more grassroots work and expanded contacts will be necessary just to protect what gays have already achieved in Houston. "The priority now is to re-elect Whitmire and the council members who supported us." Whitmire, Hall and Eleanor Tinsley, council president and a staunch ally of the gay community, are sure to be primary targets in this fall's municipal elections. The emergence of the Community Political Action Committee for the general election and the bridging of differences between the CHE and GPC during the referendum are concrete steps towards establishing a more viable political structure for the Houston community.

For the rest of the country, Wilson offers this admonition, "The homophobes will continue to use AIDS as an issue. This makes it twice as hard to educate but all the more important." Shiflett's exhortation that "we must not protect the status quo" is thoughtfully echoed by the comments of Roberta Achtenberg. "The

'we're nice, respectable people' thing doesn't work because we really shake them to their roots. Trying to amass political power isn't the only answer. Taking measures to put lesbians and gays in a positive light, such as speakers' bureaus, talking to adolescents, and litigation, will help. One contribution, one law, one appointment won't end the struggle. I think we're in for the long haul. So Houston is a very important lesson. The challenges will always be there."

Struggle...

(continued from previous page)

will spark furious discussions (it already has, in fact). My copy is filled with question marks, indignant comments and other "talking back" marginalia. There is much in it that I violently disagree with. Bulkin, Pratt and Smith will continue to draw fire for what they have said, as has everyone who tries to honestly face these kinds of hard, hard issues. But in the midst of the fury, we must all remember to ask the question: If we don't talk to each other, if we don't make genuine changes among and between ourselves, who will *always* benefit? *Yours in Struggle* knows the answer. I'm sure you do, too.

Publisher, 42 Hawkins Lane, SF, CA 94124.

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■ Publications

Dragonchild—by Leah Pesa Kushner, one lesbian's journey of survival through a childhood of battering and sexual abuse. Plain talking, articulate, absorb-

ing poetry and prose by a fat, working class Jewish lesbian. Order from: Kili Productions, PO Box 7757, Berkeley, CA 94707-0757, \$8 includes shipping.

■ Mail Order

Gay Stationary \$4, inhalers \$6, cock rings \$6. Books, films, magazines. Price list. \$1.50 & SASE. Sanders, Box 121, 484 Lake Park Ave, Oakland 94610.

■ Message

Carry a Whistle
Get Help/Give Help Fast

■ Organizations

CALPHA (California Lesbian Professional Healthcare Providers Assoc) will be meeting Sunday, Feb 3 at 6pm. The first hour will be a potluck, the second hour will feature a slideshow from the Gay & Lesbian History Project. Call for location 653-6346. For more information write CALPHA, 584 Castro Suite 102, San Francisco 94114.

Man/Boy Love News, art and opinion. *Bulletin* only \$1. NAMBLA-C, 537 Jones St, #8418, San Francisco 94102.

■ Classes

Feminist Astrology Class starts Feb 27th. Beginning to intermediate. 8 weeks \$10 per class. For more information call Marcia 584-8486.

French Italian Lessons. Experienced graduate European teacher. Jeanphilippe. 752-3007.

■ Workshops

So, You're Interested in Producing a Concert... Wednesday, Feb 27, 7pm, Valencia Rose Cafe, 766 Valencia St, SF. An extensive training program for women to learn about production. Led by Diane Sabin—seven years experience producing the stages for many major events including: SF Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day; Narratives: Stories in the Tradition of Black Women; the Bay Area Women's Philharmonic; the Campaign, Michigan and West Coast Women's Music Festivals; ERA Rally, initial meeting to present workshop outline and set future meeting times and fees. For further information and pre-registration, call Diane at 534-4000.

■ Entertainment

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■ Personals

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Black Men's Bulletin Board Newsletter of Erotica—send in your hottest stories, conversations, poems. Favorite fantasies published. Bulletin board listings accepted. Send S.A.S.E. for free copy. Reply CU! Box DC/C502

Star-Crossed Lovers. I need to hear from people who have ever enjoyed a very satisfying lover relationship, lasting at least 8 years, to test astrological tradition about what makes a good match. Is it true? Only you can help me find out. Please send (for both of you): Year, month, date of birth/birthtime (am/pm) from birth certificate/birthplace/was birth induced (Caesarean, etc)?/city and way in which you met (date & time, if you remember)/anything else you'd like to include about your lover or your relationship—greatest strengths, things you might change. If you'd both gladly do it all over again, I'd love to hear from you: Star-Crossed Lovers, Box 4130, Berkeley, Ca 94704.

Meet Men: All Life-styles. Entire USA. SASE and \$5.00 Check or MO for application deducted from \$75 annual membership. Unlimited contacts. Hundreds listed. KNIGHTS, PO Box 1397, El Cerrito, Ca 94530-1397.

Valentines Day's Video Give your love a valentine of yourselves in an erotic videotape. You keep the only copy of the tape. 777-3105.

Musicians and Songwriters desired to get together with this singer-songwriter for playing, performing, and collaborating. Reply CU! Box FB/C503.

Photo Request for 1986 Calendar of Lesbian Erotica. Submit up to six 8x10 black & white photos. Label backs with name, address & phone #. Include copies of model release forms & S.A.S.E. for return. Deadline May 1, 1985. LunaMatrix, 584 Castro St, Ste 394, SF, CA 94114-2588.

Trade porno pix. Send phone. POB 3094, Oakland, CA 94609.

Lesbian Introductions personalized, not computerized. Machine and/or me Midgett 864-0876.

Country Retreat—would you like to "farm", experience country life or just get out of the city every now and then? So would!! Farms often become available for lease. Call me and let's explore the possibilities. 861-0768. Bruce.

Gay Line Recorded Personals: Listen FREE: 546-7744. Reply FREE: 546-9126. Record your FREE AD: 546-6217. 24 HR INFORMATION: 546-7747.

Public cruising. Send one. Get all. Box 15351-SS, LA, CA 90015-0351.

■ Models, Escorts and Massage

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Hot OAKLAND model/escort, 28, 5'5, 140. Man-to-man action. \$60 in. Fr A/P. Gr/A, j/o. Marc 444-3204.

Male Nude Models Needed for long term photo essay. Non commercial, no compensation, but should be interesting commitment. All ages, races, types. 775-9801.

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PERSONAL

WOMEN

like to meet you. Reply CU! Box FB5.

Mature Reliable Woman

I am a well travelled, educated, foreign-born woman. I seek companionship possibly leading to lasting relationship with a woman sharing my values and tastes. I value kindness, affection, open-mindedness. I like movies, exhibitions, listening to music or a good talk, eating out. Reply CU! Box FB7

Adventure

I love nature, backpacking, my work and my independence. I am 36, sorta tall, in shape and attractive. Making a difference politically is important to me. Romance, quiet times and rocking out are equally fun. Am looking for a woman w/similar interests of adventure and sensitive living. Take the risk and write me. Reply CU! Box FB8

I Need Discipline, I Want Control

Novice s/m dyke seeks one more experienced for hot, playful, uncomplicated sexual encounter/s. A sep or ally who has the firm hand I need and is aware of her own desires to open, to surrender. Reply CU! Box FB13

Wander Lust Woman

I'm a hosteler. I'd like to find the dykes in Holland, chase some windmills, explore Stonehenge, Great Britain, Ireland...Wanna go? Aiming for April or October. Let's plan together and be open to spontaneous impulses. I'm 27, androgynous, non-smoking (prefer same) and adventurous. Let's get this show on the road! Reply CU! Box FB9

Mensch!

Is there a responsible, mature, warm and attractive Jewish professional woman who is feminine and has style and who sees a relationship as a special case of friendship? If so, this 40 year old, very attractive, feminine, sensual and warm, upwardly-mobile professional Jewish woman would like to meet you for dating, etc. I have many interests—outdoors, dining, movies, music, art and especially a joie de vivre. Reply CU! Box FB10

Does She Exist?

GWF, 30-40, nice looking, avg ht & wt. Good job, stable, independent, good listener & talker, sense of humor, intelligence & common sense. Into home scene as well as long walks, love of outdoors & animals. Likes most music & food. Relates well to all. 501 type. Sports-minded, flexible, tolerant. Friends or more. Reply Boxholder, Box 212, 584 Castro, SF 94114.

Still Waiting

for a special woman who has just discovered herself or these ads, who before now has not considered ads as a possible means to meeting someone as particular as she. I'm a sensitive, attractive professional woman into quiet evenings. Seeking a similarly serious, attractive, feminine, discreet, professional woman over 36 who enjoys sharing and closeness. Let's discover each other. Reply CU! Box FB12

I'm looking for a special relationship, possible marriage. One-on-one a must, if right. I would like to meet someone open, honest, quiet, not-so-quiet, possessive. I'm also considering possible live in. For companionship etc. I have a four bedroom

State of the Art Artist

28, attractive woman who delights in fine wine, creative cuisine and a sharp sense of humor. I'm a giving, caring person looking for a romantic and long-lasting relationship. Reply CU! Box FB17

Cute and Charming

Jewish lesbian, 25, seeks the love of my life (for now). I enjoy silliness, good conversations, performing arts, inspiring political thought/action, relaxing, dancing. Health conscious, don't smoke, drink, or drug. I have wonderful friends but no lover right now. Have limited time for cruisin' and carousin'—thought an ad might work! In my important relationships I value honesty, compassion, humor, long-term commitment to personal/political change. Reply CU! Box FB1

Be My Funny Valentine

Looking for other lesbians between the ages of 30-45. Do you have a good sense of humor, like long heart-to-heart conversations, are sensitive and passionate? Are you tired of looking for the "perfect relationship" and not finding it? I'm a 32 yr old lesbian, looking for romance but friendships are a must. Looking for kindred souls to share common bonds with. Looking for creative women with depth. Reply CU! Box FB2

Would like to meet women who know what they want. I am 33, attractive, sensitive, intelligent, well educated and enjoy a broad spectrum of interests. I am tired of dating women who play "this is me but it isn't really me and you should know what I want by what I didn't say." If you are interested in theater, ballet, symphony, gambling, and travel I would be interested in hearing from you. The object of which is to enjoy each others company and see where it goes. Reply CU! Box FB4

Lure

Baby you're all come-on. Blond and haughty, breaking hearts is strictly reflex. Your talents are your downfall and your virtues unknown. The outline of your butt under your jacket causes a minor furor on the dance floor. Sexy dancing is the number one cause of bad marriage and you've had a million proposals. You know how to make a grand entrance, but all eyes are riveted when you leave a room. Beautiful bitch—I want to break you. You'll atone for all past treacheries. I'll get under your skin. Promise. Reply CU! Box FB3

Humorous, Independent

Adventurous, reasonably attractive lesbian professional with good sense of humor seeks same for committed, passionate relationship. I like exploring new restaurants, the outdoors on sunny days, movies and progressive politics. I work long hours and like to relax when I'm off. I'm looking for a woman who is independent and responsible who will still enjoy being showered with attention. Reply CU! Box FB6

Serial monogamy

has lost that snap, crackle, pop. "I've got a kid, I'm 33" and ready to settle down. I'm cute, short, chubby, kinky, funny, femmy, sober and single; enjoy life vertically and horizontally. If you're witty, intelligent, butch, sober, and unafraid of kids (one), clutter (lots), and commitment (gasp!) I'd

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house in Campbell. I'm feminine, 21 yrs, 5'2, 105 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes. I prefer tomboyish girl-women, age doesn't matter. If interested, phone number a must. Reply CU! Box FB14

Hot Cuddlebunny Needed Soon

Don't be shy, be Daring and Gay, 'cause I'd like a honey this Valentine's Day!!! I'm 29, nice Jewish girl, petite, androgynous (on the cute side); down to earth, love swimming, hiking, skiing, traveling, and hanging out at home too. My teddy bear and I are into slow, passionate sex and chocolate truffles. You are emotionally supportive and have time to spend doing

these things with me! Non-smoker, no heavy substance use, East Bay a plus. Sound like you? Let's find out. Reply CU! Box FB15

Experienced Bottom Seeks Top

for hot private encounters. I am 34, 5'4", 150 lbs, blue-eyed, butch/androgynous, very short-haired. Allergic to tobacco smoke. Looking for lesbian top, butch and/or androgynous, for medium to heavy s/m. Someone who can separate s/m from other interaction. I'm into intense fantasies, bondage, whipping, clamps, hot talk and more. Maybe hot wax, golden showers. Reply CU! Box FB16

MEN

I've Been Such A Good Boy...

...desiring friendships but staying home instead of going looking. I'm 35, Jewish, handsome, lovable, intelligent; creative in sound recording, computer music, photography, performance art; happy alone but curious about prospects of mutuality. Despite sullen attitude, clone-mentality, ignorance, welcome open-mindedness, exuberance of spirit, abundant humor, compassion, loyalty. Cuddlers, new wavers, art students welcome! All answered. Reply Boxholder, SF 591044, Golden Gate Station, SF 94159-1044.

Sensuous Man Available

Black Hispanic, 36, handsome, sensuous seeks other men for sensuous loving fun and/or just hanging out. I like movies, fiction, dancing, pottery, folk art, music and athletic pursuits. Always open to new interests. Self-aware and working on myself. I recognize that relationships are great but require work and friendships are satisfying too. If you are into exchanging photos please do, if not, that's fine too. Reply CU! Box FB21

New To Gay Life

GWM, late 40s, 5'11", 155 lbs, 32" waist, full head of (real) blond hair & beard. Professionally successful. New to gay life after long marriage. Loves theater, books, movies, restaurants, travel, bicycling, walking, swimming, conversation. Affectionate, sincere, witty. Seeks companionship of boyish, trim, young, intelligent GM with hope of developing a caring and loving relationship. Send photo and description of yourself with phone number. Reply CU! Box FB22

Personals May Seem Unusual

But I'm writing one and you're reading it, so already our minds are meeting. I'm a 27 yr old GWM 5'8", 170 lbs with clean cut good looks and am looking for a 26 to 33 yr old witty GWM who enjoys travel, movies, theater and everything in music from Vivaldi to Bonnie Hayes. You might be green-eyed, hairy and moustached—but let's see. Letter w/photo. Reply CU! Box FB34

Three Men Under Thirty

looking for three men. We are a swimmer, a preschool teacher, and a wanderer. The swimmer is tall and mild-mannered. The teacher is hairy and open. The wanderer is slim and adventurous. The swimmer is musical and clean-shaven. The teacher is well-endowed and sometimes cranky. The wanderer is pseudo-intellectual and bearded. The swimmer wants a muscular, attractive, open-minded, straight-appearing man with a gay sensibility. The teacher wants a mature, spontaneous body worker. The wanderer wants a reading, thinking rule-breaker with a wrestler's body. Photos, especially for the swimmer. Write to the man (men) of your dreams or to any of us. Reply CU! Box FB42

Spiritual Bodybuilder

(Male, 34) wishes to experience ecstasy with same. Together we can take one step further towards ourselves. To love and allow myself to be loved is the greatest challenge I know in life, and also the greatest joy. If the love in you is greater than the fear, why not dance with me? Photo essential. Reply CU! Box FB25

Low Key and Nice

Me: affectionate gentleman in public, cuddling animal in bedroom, light leather ok, Greek active, versatile otherwise, AIDS conscious in all. Good body and mind, conservative values, prefer monogamous. 5'10", 165 lbs, 49 GWM, reasonable looks. You are mostly bottom but imaginative, must have good values, stable, employed, honest with self and others. No drugs, fems, little alcohol. Prefer 35 to 50 yr old masculine nonsmoker. Good looks, body and mediator are plus but people match counts most. Lover desired, friendly sex acceptable. Photo appreciated, returned. Reply CU! Box FB33

Partner

GWM, young 40, 6' 175 lbs, bearded, seeks partner to share life together. Enjoy

movies, western dancing, travel, camp-outs, friends, quiet times, music; sexually versatile and a romantic at heart. Seek friend with similar interests who knows what he wants and is willing to put time and effort into a relationship based on mutual respect, honesty and a true caring for each other. Desire friend for a good healthy relationship in and out of the bed. Write including phone number and photo if possible. Perhaps this will be the one for both of us. Thanks. Reply CU! Box FB20

Home of Love

Tired of living alone? Share old home, East Oakland. Some inconveniences. You: monogamous, Christian believer. Gay, no drugs, preferably light or nonsmoker, no excessive alcohol. Prefer B.M., a man, 30 or over, must have income, pay for food & minimal board (home-cooked food). Weight: 150-180 lbs. Me: 6', 150 lbs, over 50 & actively young—like jazz, blues, soul, gospel jazz. Ex-design engineer. I'm W. male. One other person in home. Right place for right man. Reply CU! Box FB31

Spiritual, Playful

GWM, 32, I'm emotionally mature, serious, though fun loving, health care professional. Interests include meditation, music, massage, outdoors, aerobics, movies, cuddling, beaches, Eastern philosophy. I'm 5'8", dark-haired, goodlooking, gentle though assertive, mainly bottom. Prefer taller, masculine, spiritual, grounded man, self-confident, with good communication skills, non-drug user, 25-44. I know how to give and receive love. Let's connect and see what happens. Reply CU! Box FB26

24 and Normal

Are you outgoing, have your act together, know what you want from life and unafraid to take risks? Are you someone who's comfortable with himself and able to express thoughts and feelings? I'm interested in sincere, trustworthy, serious yet silly, romantic and sensitive people with high morals and values. If you aspire to these qualities, are appearance-conscious, nonsmoker, 24 to 32, Reply CU! Box FB90

SF/Northbay Area

Attractive, sensitive and intelligent 20 yr old seeks 18-23 yr old male to explore life and grow with. I am new to gay lifestyle and seek caucasian male who is possibly in same situation. I am especially attracted to blonds, baby faces, and guys who are straight looking and acting like myself. Must have sensitivity, attractiveness and share some of my characteristics. I'm very honest, down to earth, shy, masculine, complicated, conservative (no one nighters, drugs), friendly, quiet, mature and come from an upper middle class background. Black hair, brown eyes, caucasian, 140 lbs, 5'10". Into music, politics, meeting people, running, and occasional partying. Please reply w/photo. Reply CU! Box FB45

Black Gays

Well-educated and career-oriented GBM. Attractive, bearded, 36, 6'3", 220 lbs with a solid/husky build and a wide range of interests. Especially interested in meeting other congenial and attractive Black males for friendship and action. Not interested in one-nighters. Regularly in San Francisco and the East Bay, but also want to meet individuals who are willing to reciprocate my visits. Photo please. Nonsmokers preferred. Reply Boxholder, POB 388, Fairfield, CA 94533.

Sensual Top Wanted

Slim, smooth, sensual Latin bottom seeks passionate top. Monogamous type of partner wanted for once-a-week sexual encounters. Photo, if possible, and phone. Reply Boxholder, POB 421575, SF CA 94142.

Yuppie Seeking Quality

A 24 year old, goodlooking, compassionate, responsible professional is looking for a long-lasting friendship if not more. Statistics: 5'8", 140 lbs, br/br, hairy. I'm introspective yet an extrovert and I love a good laugh. I like men that are bright, stable, sincere, between 20-30 and gr/p. Ideally a romantic yuppie who's looking to settle down. I have a lot to give and am

very willing to share. Tell me about yourself. Photo appreciated. Reply CU! Box FB55

Chance of a Lifetime

Romantic, sensual, sincere male, 38, 5'10", brown hair, blue eyes, 165 lbs. Enjoys movies, people, walks in the country, music, quiet dinners, gardening, dancing, massage, cuddling and hot sex. Interested in sharing my life in a one-to-one relationship built on equality, caring, honesty and understanding. I'm a Capricorn, sometimes shy, tired of being alone, looking for someone interested in building a future together. If you are of like mind and similar interests, we should meet. Our future is worth the effort. Reply CU! Box FB56

Help Me Solve the Mind/Body Problem

I'm a slim, attractive philosophy graduate student, English, 32, have travelled a lot, play the piano (classical, but appreciate also jazz, ethnic), run, swim, play tennis and squash. I'm looking for creative intellectual friends of any nationality or race—people who are absorbed in their work, not in accumulating and spending money. Reply CU! Box FB58

Hispanic, masculine male, 40, 5'10", 150 lbs, seeks 30-50, masculine male of strong body and mind for sports, camping, camaraderie and more. Reply CU! Box FB48

Lingerie Clad Submissive Bottom

GWM, 56, 5'8", 135 lbs, with slim shaven body clad in lingerie enjoys cuddling, kissing, caressing leading to safe anal play and sex from top on a regular relationship. I also enjoy surrendering my body for piercings, moderate B&D, S&M, etc. Never been fisted but want to be. Grass and poppers okay. Available days and evenings. Reply Boxholder, POB 6285, SF 94101.

Try It, You'll Like It

Oklahoma professional seeks handsome, lean, personable gentleman ready to settle and leave bars and drugs behind. I'm GWM, mid 40s, 5'8", 160 lbs, dark hair and eyes, short groomed beard with some grey. Considered goodlooking, well established, secure, generous but lonely: you are loving, caring, witty, honest with versatile sexual interest willing to relocate. I like the country, cooking, jogging, fancy cars, entertaining, black tie affairs, jeans, boots, laughter, good grooming, hard work, hard play, weekend trips, time together. My place is beautiful, write me but include a telephone contact too. Reply CU! Box FB27

Limited Due to Surgery

on dick 2 years ago. Looks ok but erections and sensations are less. I am 32, GWM, 5'7", 155 lbs, healthy, affectionate, nice looking, dark blond, blue eyes, u.c., easygoing, dry wit (the type that draws a smile or chuckle without stinging malice), originally from East Coast, employed in SF 7 years. I like to hold and be held. Like kissing and caressing head and neck. I would like you to have a similar situation with your dick. Be 30 to 35, 5'8" or less, nice looking, affectionate, intelligent. I want a close relationship physically and emotionally. Tell me your sexual preferences. I enjoy Mozart, Vivaldi, Bach, Beethoven, walks, current movies, PBS nature shows, books. Send photo (it will be returned). Reply CU! Box FB71

Kid Needs Love

and companionship from one very special man who is attracted to short cute Italian boys. I'm 26, 5'6", masculine and ready to develop a friendship and perhaps more with a man who is 25-40, and who considers himself to be the Redford type. I am very attracted to masculine men with blond hair and blue eyes. Though versatile, I make an excellent bottom. Let's meet and see what happens. Photo appreciated. Reply CU! Box FB52

Sensitive and Sensual Latino

36 yr old, hot and healthy, who has outstanding looks including dark brown hair/eyes/moustache and 5'10", 150 lbs, gym toned and tight body. A professional who has lots of intellectual curiosity, numerous interests, and great disposition. I like safe sex, am open tending to the bottom (love big ones), and want to combine sex with intimacy. I am looking for a similar "quality" man. Sincerity, ability to communicate, and fun loving are essentials: If you are also searching for an independent type, interested in making a relationship work, and you can get into masculine hot love making, your picture, phone and detailed letter gets response. Reply CU! Box FB47.

Monogamous Relationship Wanted

Healthy, attractive GBM, 31 (I look 26), seeks a gay male of any race, age 21-35. I enjoy running, music, travel, learning, quiet evenings at home, and emotional and physical intimacy. I also enjoy dancing, computers, and attending movies. I have an exceptional build and I desire someone who enjoys keeping in shape too. Please send phone number and photo. Reply CU! Box FB59

Seeking Someone Special

WM, 34, 5'10", 155 lbs, bearded and hairy seeks WM 30-45 interested in a lasting, loving relationship. Dislike bar attitudes and shallow, self-centered men. Honesty, warmth, compassion and integrity are some of our attributes. In this era of AIDS, safe sex is a must. We've waited too long for each other. Your photo and letter gets mine. Reply Boxholder, POB 11466, SF CA 94101.

Quality Is Not Dead

Many men possess it, through honesty and integrity, humor and playfulness, caring for and struggling with a world broader than themselves. If this sounds familiar, read on. I am an attractive, East Bay GWM, 29, 5'9", 135 lbs, who enjoys the quality of my life, friendships, work and dreams. One such dream is meeting another man of attractive qualities, 25-36, who seeks rich friendship and honest intimacy. If you strive toward a quality of living and relating, and enjoy the wonders of nature, art, good conversation, along with simple playfulness, then you are not alone, and might enjoy meeting me. Here's the ad, so take the risk. Reply CU! Box FB61

Hike or Bike or

maybe you'd like to go to the movies or go eat or just be lazy with me. A nice looking, sensual GWM, 36, is seeking a similar man for close friendship and romance. I'm a shy man, usually lighthearted, sometimes moody and often fun to be with. I'd like to meet an honest, self-respecting man who knows the value of humor, the importance of affection and who wants to stay healthy. Please send a letter with a photo and I'll send mine in return. Even if you've never answered an ad before make this one your first. I may be the man you've been thinking about and you may be the one I wrote this ad for. Reply CU! Box FB62

Ready to Connect

Healthy, handsome, successful Ph.D., GWM seeks relationship with same or similar. I am young-appearing 40+ with blond hair, blue eyes, moustache. Was married and am equally comfortable in gay/straight life. Desire committed, caring, sharing, trusting, affectionate relationship with someone who seeks to share his inner beauty with mine. I celebrate my androgyny, appreciate my vulnerability, and am not interested in attitude or image. I seek affectionate lovemaking, integrity, humor, and openness. Interests include exercise, travel, love of outdoors, entertaining, and the intimacy offered by deep friendship. Sex is important, but spiritual consciousness is more important. Prefer nondrinker/smoker. All replies with photo get same and are returned. Reply CU! Box FB63

Hot Sex Plus Intimacy

Attractive, masculine, GWM, 37, 5'10", 155 lbs, blond hair/hazel eyes wants to take you by force but nurture you as well for life sentence. I have a one-owner heart

for free to that special man who can match my lust for life. I am into chaps, country music, outdoor sex, romantic full moon nights, cuddling by a roaring fire, rhythm and blues, horseback riding, sweat, muscles, massage and meditation. I am sexually versatile, spiritually active with a positive attitude and want a lover who can be a buddy. Rub me the right way. Letter with photo. Reply CU! Box FB64

Are You Ready?

Hi, I'm 5'11", 160 lbs, black hair, brown eyes, bodybuilder. Dancer and swimmer's build, ripple-toned body. An Aquarian: I'm into tennis, hiking and camping. Love to dance, love quiet evenings at home, scrabble, chess, enjoying the company of my lover. I'm looking for a lover—someone who is open-minded, able to communicate and relate to me on a 1 to 1 basis. Not into games. I'm looking for a man who is ready to settle down and form a relationship. I'm 29, looking for someone between 27-38, good build, somewhat decent looks. Race is unimportant, it's the inside that counts for me. I'm a very romantic person. Love sex and enjoying life. I'm a Black male who truly has a lot to give and wants someone who is for real. Don't want fems, kinky sex, heavy drug users or phonies. Please reply with photo and phone—will answer all. Only reply if you're tired of the games of the gay scene and have no racist feelings. Reply CU! Box FB65.

Muscle Boys Have More Fun

Handsome young man with dark smooth defined muscular build who enjoys hot fun times, pumping iron, good humor, serious tender moments, mutual caring, seeks others with non-clone good looks and nice physiques as buddies/companions or possibly lover. Beginning bodybuilders welcomed. Aren't you tired of ugly bodies, faces and zero personalities yet? I am! Reply with photo—will return/reciprocate. Reply CU! Box FB68

Healthy & Successful

Clean cut, GWM, 36, green eyes, blond, 5'8", 135 lbs, smooth skin, swimmer's build, well equipped. Wants loving relationship with mature adult in 30s. Self-employed professional. Likes: art, travel, gym, good food and wine, movies, hikes, bikes, birds and home. Dislikes: drugs, bars, discos, cigarettes, leather drag and fat. Reply CU! Box FB70

Down to Earth

with magic and mysteries deep inside. GWM, 26, 165 lbs, 5'10", curly brown hair, blue eyes, self-employed, Scorpio. If you're a goodlooking bottom guy, 20-35, stable, easygoing, and want to take time to share yourself and build a relationship, let's connect. I'm clean-shaven and hot for men with beards or moustaches. Enjoy gentle, safe sex without battles and breast-beating—cuddling and kissing are my style. Am looking for a guy who's sensitive, warm-hearted, sensual, a nonsmoker who

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doesn't depend on alcohol or drugs to enjoy life's pleasures, a good-humor man. Smarts are a real plus. I enjoy a quiet life: love the theatre, walks hand-in-hand, shared bubble baths, and curling up to watch TV with a jar of peanuts and a warm friend. If you've read this far, then it's time for you to write. Photo welcome, but not necessary. Reply Boxholder, 1550 California, #6222, SF CA 94109. I'll write you back, promise!

Are you tired of spending hours endlessly debating whether going out is really worth it, associating with so called "friends" just to ease the loneliness, driving 30+ minutes to your destination, cover charges that permit you to be exposed to attitude, insult, abuse, boredom, etc. I'm a financially secure GWM, 24, 6'1", 155 lbs. br/gn, moustache, 39" c, 30" w, very handsome & nicely endowed. I enjoy weight training, tennis, dancing, long drives, shopping, good food, fine cognac, and of course clique; intelligent conversation, spur of the moment outings, cuddling, necking, holding hands, safe sex, and the sharing of my life with other quality people. If you are that special SF/North Bay friend/lover who's a thin GWM, 19-30 that has these and/or similar characteristics then reply with photo to CU! Box FB66

Life is Tough

and then you die...but in the meantime a 26 yr old GWM with rugged good looks, 5'10", 165 lbs, is looking for a relationship of intelligence, humor, passion, and honest friendship with a GWM to 35. I appreciate all the finer things in life, could dating you be one of them? If so, please write with returnable photograph. Reply CU! Box FB69

Anyone Cares

Goodlooking professional Oriental, 27, looking for a special friend over 5'10" and stocky. Am a yuppie, work down at Silicon Valley but living in the City. Enjoy dining out, theatre and quiet evenings at home. I stand 5'10", weigh 160 lbs. If you are a good man and sincere, please write to Boxholder, Box 90482, San Jose, CA 95109.

Hot Blond Italian

professional, 34 yr old GWM with trim muscular build (5'9"-155 lbs), big green eyes, and balding blond hair. Enjoys skiing, backpacking and sunning. I am a good communicator. Looking for cuddling as well as safe sleazy sex. Are you a similar age man who is active, fit, friendly, intelligent, sociable, sexy and with a hairy chest? (why not ask for it all)? If interested, write, send photo and let's date. Reply CU! Box FB72

No Strings

Handsme, athletic GWM, 45, 6'1", 170 lbs. Would like to meet an interesting, masculine guy, any race, 35-50 who would enjoy having an affair—a little fun, a little romance, with a slightly sleazy, well hung man of the world. Photo appreciated. Reply CU! Box FB78

Topman

Latin top, 5'9", 155 lbs, 30s, nonsmoker/ drinker/bars, health conscious, fit, intelligent, big thick dick. Wants: BIG MAN, solid, stocky, independent GWM, tight rear end receiver with experienced big rideable pony butt. Adults only. Photo. Reply CU! Box FB79

Up For A Challenge?

Green-eyed blond Jewish 31 yr old gay boy, cute European appearance, 5'8", 129 lbs, tight dancer-frame, clean shaven: seeking pretty butch/androgynous male as complement. I am considered nurturing, sensitive, overly introspective, at times bright: Sexually experimental, aggressively versatile, romantic. Even playful. James Dean still my top (and bottom). Enjoy aerobics, Norma Shearer films, conversing in German, playing football with handicapped students. Emma Goldman yet earns deep respect. Wish to explore (gradual) commitment(?). Appreciate a pretty, tight, sensitive, clean-shaven male—fairly close in age—with whom to share different kinds of strengths, backgrounds, and play flesh for fantasy. Exchange note/photo? Reply CU! Box FB73

Relatively New to the Bay Area

GWM, 34, 5'8", 150 lbs., brn/brn, grad student. Seeking a rugged, masculine male for boyfriend and possible relationship. I'm an affectionate bottom; need open, honest communicator (28-38); need a secure male who will want me as much as I want him; I have varied interests and am religious; (Latinos and Italians preferred). Interested? Write: photo if possible. Reply CU! Box FB74

Ex-Nebraskan

I'm seeking a 1-1 relationship with an 18+ boyish man. I'm extremely busy during the week, but weekends are great for sharing. I'm 29, 6', beard and moustache. This ad is NOT for quick sex. I need someone to

grow accustomed to. Don't count yourself out if you're shy or inexperienced. Let's go slow. Please give me a chance. Alameda location. Reply CU! Box FB75

Xenophobe Need Not Apply

Foreign born (Mediterranean-European), seeking emotional fulfillment in U.S. I am urban 34 yr old, 6' 170 lbs. My creative interests carry me from work to play. I enjoy all arts especially opera, dance as well as quiet evenings with friends, good food, bridge & challenging conversations. I would like to experience romance with stable but intellectually flexible Yank, 30-45 yrs old. Interested? Picture appreciated. Reply CU! Box FB77

Wanna Cuddle?

I'm a quiet kind of guy who enjoys people, a good movie, walks on the beach, rides in the country, my career, Trivial Pursuit and Dynasty, but also St. Elsewhere and Masterpiece Theatre, and Teddy Bears. I'm intrigued by new things to do and see. I'm looking for someone to share these with, but just as importantly, someone to cuddle with on cold rainy nights, share a cup of coffee with on Sunday mornings, or just be with! Are you out there? If it's important, I'm thirty-five. Reply CU! Box FB80

Hairy and/or Under-Endowed?

Handsome GBM, 37, tall, husky (but solidly built) and not particularly well endowed. Wants to meet hirsute and/or under-endowed guys (5" or less erect) for good times and action. Having sensitive nipples and being a nonsmoker are pluses. Sorry, but no reply without photo. Reply CU! Box FB81

Personality More Important Than Looks

I am hoping to develop a serious friendship (or more) with a special person. I will consider anyone under 50 years of age, as long as they are in good health. Race is not important. A positive attitude and interesting personality would be essential in forming a good relationship. I am GWM, 23 years old, 5'10", 187 lbs, Swedish descent, glasses, and no beard or much body hair, but am masculine. I have attractive, boyish face, and am a bit chubby, but am working on getting back to the 150 lbs I weighed in 1982. I am sexually versatile but not into b/d, s/m, etc. I enjoy travel, camping, hiking, movies, backpacking, billiards, video, pinball, card games, fishing, reading, bicycling, and good conversation. Would be appreciative of having quiet times at home with good companionship. Please write if you are a sincere individual. Thanks Reply CU! Box FB82

1964 Convertible

Looking for hot blue collar men, biker types, and tough young studs in their Mustangs. This 20 year old, 6'1", blond/hazel, hung, lanky, student likes dominant guys with strong hands. I'm gr/p and very fr/a, like Levis, cars, and music by Black Sabbath, Blance Mange, and Vangelis. Sure, being hung and/or uncut is great, but so is knowing how to take charge. Reply Boxholder, POB 60145, Palo Alto, CA 94306-0145. Your photo gets mine.

Hot, Sexy Daddy

GWM, early 40s, 6'1", 185 lbs, dark hair, handsome, well built, hairy, bearded Greek seeks man 28 to 40 for sexy, loving, good times. I am financially secure, fun-loving, and enjoy movies, music, skiing, candle-lit dinners at home and an occasional crazy night out. You are fun loving and goodlooking with mutual interests and employed. Please reply with letter, photo and phone. Reply CU! Box FB84

Muscles—Wrestling

WM, 5'6", 145 lbs, has hot bb films—video mag. Seeks muscular small guys, big bodybuilder, Blacks, Orientals into flexing. Dig pecs, biceps, mirrors, oil, massage. Also enjoy wrestling for fun, exercise and sweaty body contact. Reply Boxholder, POB 6655, SF CA 94101.

Let's Make Music

Let's get together for piano duets and other activities—primo or secondo. This raw-sophisticated 38 yr old, 5'6", bearded man wants a monogamous relationship based on warmth, humor, and intensity. Let's start at the keyboard. If not there, a passion for music would be a good start. Photo appreciated. Reply CU! Box FB87

Still Looking

For a lover that is, I'm a young looking 53 who loves camping out, movies, dining out, fishing, gardening, cuddling that special guy, etc. Don't do drugs or smoke. Looking to meet GWM under 40 with similar likes & dislikes, for country living and shared happiness together. Reply Boxholder, POB 1762, Rohnert Park, CA 94928. Will answer all.

Monogomous Black, 34

Goodlooking, sensitive, intelligent, tall and trim nonsmoker, mostly passive, seeks

relationship-minded, attractive professional guy, 30s. I enjoy the symphony, tennis, metaphysics, dining, movies and theatre, etc...No bars, drugs, or casual sex. Please reply with photo (will be returned immediately). Reply Boxholder, POB 604, SF CA 94101. Thanks.

Extra Small Healing Hands Sought

to carefully reintroduce my extra nice butt to the joys of internal massage after a five month rest due to minor injury. Youthful white 41, 5'8", 150 lbs. Attractive face, short beard, well proportioned body, hairy chest, hot, kinky, versatile top & bottom. Broad range of tastes, unconventional, mystical inclination, tantric sex. Weekly sessions would be nice. Any race. Reply Boxholder, POB 421548, SF CA 94142.

Romantic, But Slightly Cynical

I'm also very affectionate, communicative, reliable and have a sparkle in my eyes (33 yrs old, 5'10½", 160 lbs, dark brown hair, green eyes, beard). My interests include left politics, languages, cooking (natural foods), foreign films, jazz. You should be a nonsmoker, political, somewhat irreverent, distinguish between friends and acquaintances and have a strong need for affection (you should feel comfortable sleeping together without sex—and with, of course). Please reply with photo (which I'll return). Reply Boxholder, Box 5247(A), Berkeley, CA 94705.

Tall and Slender

Twenty-four year old wants you. GWM, 5'6", muscularly built, black hair, brown eyes, 135 lbs, interested in Billy Idol, dancing, movies, weights, politics, romance, teddy bears, and a tall slender man. If you're tall (6'+), slender (skinny), have a boyish cute face and no facial or body hair, I would like to hear from you. Prefer someone my age, mature, responsible, and serious about a boyfriend. (Photo helpful). Reply CU! Box FB54

Wanted: Adventurous Stud

Considerate, cute, boyish GWM, 5'8", 132 lbs, 30, healthy, imaginative, intelligent, sexually versatile, hard-working professional, slender, horny stud with passions for: cinema (Hitchcock, Hepburn), theater, music (Streisand, Sondheim), reading, banana covered waffles, dancing, gyming, bicycling, traveling, safe sex, romance, jockstraps, handcuffs. Seeking similar, adventurous stud, nonsmoker, light drinker, light druggie, healthy, trim, affectionate, captivating, clever, interested in quality partnership. Photo appreciated. Reply CU! Box FB29

Friendship and Romance

Strikingly handsome man, very artistic, well built, well hung, 5'8½", 135 lbs, greek active, french passive and 30. Would enjoy meeting tall men to 35 for friendship or other exciting possibilities. Love movies, TV, reading, travel, art and safe sex. All it takes is your photo and candid letter to Boxholder, POB 421815, SF CA 94101. Who knows, you might make a new friend!

Kinky

GWM, thirties, cute, intelligent, boyish, pushy bottom with a cynical edge, seeks a few good men—possibly one—for safe, steady sex. Increasingly drawn to the idea of committed relationship, but ambivalent. Enjoy playing out leather fantasies: concerned, finally exhausted, by most leather realities. Always seem to need a good spanking. Age, race, unimportant, but I hope you're inventive, playful, healthy, humorous, greek active, and give a damn about something. Oh, and size, I must admit, is a turn-on...AIDS-aware/concern essential. Lite drugs ok, hard ones probably aren't. Photo/letter. Reply Boxholder, Box 590876, SF CA 94159.

Tight Buns Drive Me Nuts

Goodlooking health conscious GWM, 5'11", blond, 30s, swimmers' build, moustache, well hung, wants hot aggressive bottom about same height, trim, hairy, WM 25-40. Goodlooking men with dark hairy body ideal. Interested in possible 3-way action. Respond with photo/phone. Reply Boxholder, POB 274, SF CA 94101.

Pride Cometh Before the Fall

Proud of your tush? Dig flaunting your hard bubble butt? Do you exult when men strain & crane to see your strutting high haunches? Pride has its recompense, boy, sweet revenge for both of us—cut you down a notch, smiling all the while. Drape your haughty buttocks over my knee—I rub and smooth it while we laugh at your predicament. Now slap, happy, and slap some more, your prime-cut butt the center of attention and sensation. See, boy, strapping is safe and fun and gets at your ass and your swagger; takes some guts and humor to go places with it. I'm 31, 5'8", 140 lbs, ass of death, big dick always hard, hot and aggressive. Safe sex, informed consent, hot fun. Be explicit when you write. Reply CU! Box FB36

Gung Hay Fat Choy/Year of the Ox Cabbage Patch Kid For Adoption. Me.

American born Chinese from Oakland, born Year of the Tiger, 34 (Premie), 5'7", 135 lbs., black hair, brown eyes, goodlooking, stable, sense of humor, and nonsmoker. My interests: music, musical shows, dancing, movies, TV, business, bowling, and restaurants. You: single GWM, under 40, honest, sincere, and happy being gay. Both: healthy, enjoy each other's company, and having good times together as friends first. Future: relationship. Picture appreciated (returned). No drugs/one night stands. Reply CU! Box FB95

Anybody Interested?

White, 51, 70" (tall), 135 lbs, moderately hairy, more than moderately intelligent, arousable, & hung. Smoke, drink, do poppers on occasion (ahhh!) Voracious reader (currently "Holy Blood, Holy Grail"). Enjoy cooking, writing letters, keeping journal, looking at beautiful men. Nuts for crostics, Scrabble, Royalty. Generally solve NYT Sunday Xword in 1/3 "allowed" time. Particular, but not requisite turn-ons: short, hairy, nice-looking, younger (30-45), hung & interested enough in a man like me to contact me & see if we click. Reply CU! Box FB102

Guppie? Guppy?

GWM, 34 years old, fair hair/moustache, 5'9", 145 lbs. Discriminating (not snobbish); intellectual (not didactic). Interests include: bridge, couple dancing, current affairs, summer weekends out of town. I am not necessarily looking for a mirror image, but I would prefer someone with verve and insight. Detailed letter appreciated. Reply CU! Box FB103

Honest Nature—Arts Lover

Attractive GWM, 38, 5'9", 170 lbs, nonsmoking, bearded, blue-eyed, stable, professional in the arts: Crazy about nature, hiking, camping, biking. Enjoy concerts, opera, theatre, films, museums, literature, travel, dining, beautiful surroundings, and making love. I'm looking for a sincere man, 35-50, with similar interests, a sense of humor, and a lifestyle of health consciousness, honesty and personal growth. I intend a nurturing relationship based on mutual awareness and support. I have no expectations and play no games. I'm already creating a fantastic life—let's both create miracles! Send photo and phone. Reply CU! Box FB104

Young and Sincere

Young, mature WM 5'10", 140 lbs, brn hair, grn eyes, is seeking others with similar qualities. I am honest, sincere, caring, shy, masculine, and friendly. I enjoy dinners out, good conversation, movies, music, periodicals, shopping, and good company/friends. Only sincere need reply. Send phone#/description of self and photo, if possible. Reply CU! Box FB106

Bearded Animal Wanted

Goodlooking, well built, GWM, 32, 5'10", 160 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, moustache, f/a, g/p. Honest, warm, sincere, with wide variety of interests—working out, classic cars, travel, hot safe sex. Seeking a hot bearded buddy who is also warm, honest and sincere for some quality time. Reply with photo. Reply CU! Box FB7

Body Building Teddy Bear

GWM, 32, brn/brn, 160 lbs, 6'0", Hairy-in-all-the-right-places seeks warm, caring, masculine kindred bear for honest love and friendship. Relationship with right buddy possible, need-a-lot-of-hot-cuddling, & I dare say one of the best-in-Bay Area! Well hung & goodlooking and can be versatile top & sometimes bottom. Safe-sex conscious! Pluses are dark-eyed and haired buddies with good build for lots-of-loving, laughing & sharing the good times in the midst of the storm! Enjoy photography, hiking, travel, movie buff, some leather, the ocean & all that's masculine! Include phone no. & photo if possible. So-what-you-waitn'-for! Reply CU! Box FB38

Trunks Packed

Built & bearded GWM likes to stuff it into trunks, jocks, levis, boots, hoods, etc. and growl & rattle & chew & tug with other uninhibited animals. There just aren't any limits to the safe aggressive games I enjoy: c/b, tits, w/s, etc. Bears, swine and others write Boxholder, POB 19237, Oakland CA 94619.

North Bay Daytime

WM 6 ft, 33, very goodlooking, X-hung, seeks daytime encounters with masculine easygoing WM—possibly on weekly basis. Reply Boxholder, POB 13031, San Rafael, CA 94913.

Hung & Handsome Nice, But Not Required

Being a number 10 is nice, but more important to me is a man, any race, who is warm, tender, caring, and who wants to have a close relationship, sexually and emotionally, with another man. I am GWM, 45, 5'9", 165 lbs, trim, and very health conscious, somewhat shy, not promiscuous, determined to find that special

guy who might enjoy music (classical is my favorite), the arts, good conversation, cooking & dining out, and cuddling. If you are this special man, I would like to hear from you. Reply CU! Box FB41

Black and White

Affectionate GWM, 48, hopes to share his life with a GBM age 30-40 in a lasting growth oriented monogamous relationship. You are stable, sincere, easygoing, affectionate, health conscious and trim. I am 5'11", 150 lbs, athletic, sexually versatile and adventurous. Some of my interests are: nature, hiking, city walks, exercising, art and classical music. I enjoy intimacy, homelife, simple lifestyle, quiet times together. Please write Boxholder, POB 4459, SF, CA 94101-4459. No smoker or heavy drinker.

Russian River

Winter has been cold & lonely. I wish for nice afternoons in bed with a nice guy. I don't believe in relationships but would be glad to be proven wrong. If you live near Guerneville and would like old-fashioned passion now & then, Reply CU! Box FB93. I look young but I'm not, I'm an aging country boy, very strong but very soft appearing.

Strong Daddy wanted

Independent Italian "boy" 31, wants the daddy he never had. Enjoy hiking, wrestling, singing, touch dancing and gym. Daddy is 30-45, muscular and kind. He wants to hold this 5'6", 145 lb son in his arms. He likes his boy to rest his head on Daddy's chest. Safe sex and rigorous honesty a must. Daddy does not smoke, drink or do drugs. Bodybuilders preferred, looks unimportant. "Adoption" a possibility. Reply CU! Box FB91

Procurando Brasileiros

Americano, 28 anos, gostaria conhecer Brasileiros ou Portugueses nesta regio com quem praticar portgueses ou ingles, ou talvez alguma coisa mais intima. Se interessado, favor escrever com detalhes de voce, e, se tiver, com foto, e endereco. Boxholder, POB 40193, Berkeley CA 94704. Prometo responder a toda carta contendo endereco do remiteinte.

Hey Johnny Angel!

I'm 24, 5'9", 130 lbs, bl/bl, red beard, furry body. I don't smoke, drink, take drugs or wear a halo: I'm also sexually versatile and secretly from a different planet. I love: Hitchcock, Shakespeare, the High Sierra, the redwoods, Big Sur, paradoxes, flowers, fog, moustaches, Latins, cheesecake. Szechuan, singing, surprises, fireplaces, hammocks and children. You should be adventurous, open, honest, warm, playful, cute and looking for Prince Adequate. You need not be gorgeous, Latin or a redwood to qualify. Reply CU! Box FB96

Seeking Latino Romantic

Pleasant, soft spoken Anglo would like to meet Latino man of similar age and disposition. The object would be dating and doing some things together. Hopefully leading to friendship and romance. I am 5'10", 190 lbs, 38 yrs, short brown hair & beard with a lot of grey; hazel eyes. I enjoy walks, movies, theatre, science fiction, and sitting in the coffee house with friends discussing everything from the price of tomatoes to the mysteries of religion. I am employed; a very light social drinker & very light smoker. I don't use any other drugs. I should like to exchange-photos & letters. Reply CU! Box FB97

Yum Yum

I'm a handsome professional masseur who seems to be able to guide people right through the unmarked door to Paradise. I'm modestly famous, smart as a whip and lots of fun. I'm seeking friendship with someone who likes to trade massages. Let's exchange photos first (xerox ok). Reply Boxholder, POB 14547, SF CA 94114.

Aggressive, Take-Charge Daddy

wanted by affectionate, sensual, loyal, responsible "little boy" who is a hungry 6'3", 215 lb, brown/blue, clean shaven, hairy chested, bottom. I am 39 years young and I am VERY MUCH into being kissed, fondled, cuddled and possessed by guy of any size or race who is aggressive, assertive, and 30-55 yrs. We are not into drugs, alcohol, smoke, pain, s/m. We are celebrants of Life, are growth oriented, and can work/play at developing a close-knit "family" of two with integrity and mutual respect. Daddy, I want to belong to and with you. Let me hear from you. Reply CU! Box FB99

Latin or Light Black

Masculine, straight appearing 40 year old, 6'2", 190 lb male, dark blond with blue eyes seeks a boyfriend. You must enjoy being bottom, have big hot butt, love short trips, dining out and need a self made man in your life. Send note and phone #. Reply CU! Box FB100

Mutual Pleasure

WM, 41, 6'2", 205 lbs, masculine, clean shaven, salt & pepper hair. Seeks similar

masculine men for one on one or threesome 40-50. Into porn films, j/o, head—your place or mine—all responses will be answered. Reply CU! Box FB101

Ash Blond and Uncut

With friendly blue eyes. I am an attractive, intelligent professional man, 42, 5'9", and a lean, hard 140 lbs. My interests include classical music, art, antiques, movies, weight training, safe sex and whatever new interests you might have. I am looking for another attractive, well built, uncut man of any race (but, sigh, you Latins are a special delight) to share the pleasures of mind and body in a mature emotional commitment, whether as friend or lover. I appreciate quality, and so do you, and we both have a sense of humor that never quits. Photo, if possible, and phone, please. Reply CU! Box FB107

Work Evenings?

My career keeps me busy most evenings, so what I'm searching for is a man of similar hours, characteristics and tastes. I'm 32, 6'1", 160 lbs, trim, managerial/professional type who enjoys every minute of his leisure time. My interests include theater, opera, symphony, good films, restaurants and dining at home (I'm an accomplished cook). Good conversation and the electricity of a dynamic but secure personality are a must. If you've found that working evenings has kept you from engaging, attractive, stimulating persons, answer this ad. We can start from there. A photo is appreciated. Reply CU! Box FB108

Seeking in SF?

Romantic, high spirited and vulnerable recent arrival has stimulating career, good friends, but lacks that special someone to sing Jerry Herman lyrics to, cuddle with, play for and smile knowingly at. I'm 28 years old, 5'9", 140 lbs, goodlooking curly haired Yuppie (I confess!) with an outgoing personality, self-effacing wit and sensitive side. Love musical theatre, yellow roses, clever ads and most things Italian, from food to furniture. As for things physical, let's say "keenly interested" and "versatile" and save the rest for in person. Anyone up for some adventurous letter writing? Photo and phone# appreciated. Reply CU! Box FB109

Nothing Special

I'm not quite sure what special is, but I consider myself to be a normal gay man who is lonely and wants to share his time and love with a person who wants the same things from life. I know the importance of chemistry, but even so, noting the number of us out there, wonder why it is so difficult to establish a permanent relationship based on respect, honesty, giving and just happy to be with each other. I am searching for someone between 35 and 50. I am a 5'10", 153 lb top white man with brown hair, eyes and moustache, possess general good looks, in my late 40s, fit, in good health, professional and have no drug problems. My likes: woodworking, TV, dogs, walking along shoreline, movies, small dinner parties and playing cards. Dreams: a good dinner with my lover, hugging him in front of the fire and drinking wine. Also, holding him close on a cold stormy night before drifting off to sleep. Too far out? I hope not. I live in a small hamlet outside the City, for it is important for me to retreat to the quiet and sanity of home. Want to join me? Please send photo with note. I promise confidentiality and return of picture. Reply CU! Box FB111

Lots Between

Earthy, attractive, non-glossy, hairy, bearded man, 34, desires meetings, explorations, cuddles with nonfat, attractive bearded men who are thinking, warm, sensual and empathetic. I can offer sincerity, sensuality, warmth, conversation, humor, AIDS-consciousness and lots more! Enjoy visual arts, writings, films, country, rock, Bach, hiking, absurdities. Dislike clone-style elitism and flakes. There's lots between one night stand and a lover, doncha think? Would enjoy replies with phone digits. Reply CU! Box FB112

Only For the Man Who Has Everything, But Me—A Proven Brown Gem

Radiantly healthy, golden brown-skinned, velvety sensual, masculine teddy bear bottom, 5'6", 130 lbs, 33 yrs old, dark brown hair and eyes, gr/p, fr/a, nonsmoker, real cuddler, has lots of love, warmth and affection to indulge on one special man who sincerely needs and wants it. I am a stable, well-educated professional with a great variety of indoor/outdoor interests who likes to go places and do things as well as just enjoy a quiet home life. Am only interested in a papa bear topman, gr/a, fr/p (preferably 40 yr old with moustache and never been straight married) who owns his own home, is financially independent/secure and is prepared to provide and share the comforts of his home as well as his interests with this live teddy bear. Possibly I could serve as your Man Friday or business partner and teach you Spanish. Ideal

ly, you consider yourself to be an exciting man who enjoys outdoor activities (e.g. jogging, snow skiing, swimming, sun) as well as the fine arts (e.g. theater, symphony, opera) and travel—a true bon vivant who lives each day to the fullest. I lost my papa bear recently and have a great desire to express and focus all my love on one deserving man who can show a true need for my love. Let me make you the happiest man around and fulfill your every night and day. Make my bells ring and I promise yours will too. Please write: Boxholder, POB 40652, SF CA 94140.

Do you love

romantic wining and dining, sailing, skiing, dancing, giving and receiving massages, passionate sex and having fun with someone very special? I am 25, 5'8", 130 lbs,

brown, blue, very cute, E. Bay grad student. New to area and looking for young man 20-30, smooth, slim and ready for love. Must be goodlooking, intelligent, funny and health conscious. I am looking for the real thing, no one-nighters, flakes, clones, smokers, druggies, etc. Blond, no moustache a plus. Returnable photo & phone helps. Reply CU! Box FB120

Weekend Friend

Not a lover. To enjoy movies, outdoors and music. I'm a white man, 38, trim, masculine, adventurous, good sense of humor and pleasant. You're a white man, mid thirties-mid forties and share similar personal qualities. Must be in good mental health. No alcohol, smokers, drugs, chubbies, or wimps. Will answer only if recent photo, full name and address are in-

cluded. Reply CU! Box FB114

Warmth, Encouragement, Affection
WM 44, 5'9", 150 lbs, masc., average endowment, dark beard, hairy, established, into work, home, dancing, cooking, video, film, communication, safe versatile sex, leather, travel, design, exotic food, quality spirit companionship, massage, seeks stable, secure, satisfiable, nonsmoking, uncomplicated, happy friend, partner, lover with something to offer for mutual support, contact, growth, dream fulfill-

ment. Write: Boxholder, 584 Castro St, Suite 259, SF CA 94114-2588.

Fantasy Into Reality

That's been my travel through life. I'm the man I've always wanted to be and my life makes me as happy as I've dreamed I would be. I'm 31, 5'11", 168 lbs. Dark hair. Mod hairy. Strong body. Beard/moustache & balding. Seeking strong men with wisdom and vibrance to date. Photos returned. Reply Boxholder, Box 1442, SF CA 94101.

BISEXUAL

Lesbian-Identified Bisexual Woman Seeks Gay-Identified Bisexual Man
as friend/lover. I'm 27, auburn hair, green eyes, rubenesque, pretty. Active in Bi/Gay politics, AIDS aware, open, honest, communicative, outgoing. Enjoy movies, dancing, moderate partying, long talks. Seek relationship that is intense but not draining, non-exclusive, fully sensual/sexual, mutually supportive. Reply CU! Box FB121

Goodlooking Bi male, 42 (look 30), 5'10", 175 lbs, blue eyes, brown hair, sexually versatile, sensitive Scorpio into computers, business, mysticism, looking for long-term friend or lover under 30, versatile, living in Berkeley or Oakland, with an interest in computers. I'm a nonsmoker, light alcohol, no drugs and easygoing. Please respond with descriptive letter, photo (returned), phone number. Reply CU! Box FB123

Comrade

Are you looking for an athletic leftist outdoorsman who knows the difference between exploitation and mutuality? This tall, hirsute, bearded bisexual seeks others interested in analytical exploration of inner space as well as physical expression in the great outdoors. Hiking, biking, camping, gymnastics, hot springs, massage, veggie food and psychedelics are interests I'd like to share, but political compatibility and healthy lifestyle come first. My sexuality comes from eager intellectual stimulation which only then gets expressed as class conscious lust. Reply Boxholder, POB 590522, SF CA 94159.

Montara-Half Moon Bay

Share my home near the beach as a friend, roommate, or...I seek a working man, 30-50, who is independent, likes the outdoors and enjoys life. Straight as well as gay welcome. Reply CU! Box FB49.

Bisexual Male Seeks Bisexual Female

...for relationship of heterosexual fidelity yet homosexual freedom (to perhaps someday link with another Bi couple). Our bond would serve as foundation for common goals as well as support individual interests/activities. Me: 23, 6', 160 lbs, Caucasian, brown curly hair, blue eyes, sexual, adventurous, romantic. You: 18 through 30s, Latin/Caucasian, can communicate openly, honestly, and considerately; active libido and sense of humor are a must! My likes: camping, hiking, gardening, bicycling, swimming, social dancing, music, sciences, nature & nudism, cuddling and making love under a summer sunset. Write with likes, desires, phone/address to: Reply Boxholder, POB 254450, Sacramento, CA 95865-4450. Will travel.

Versatile Computer Lover

SOCIAL GROUPS

Truth In Advertising

No wild claims, just this simple fact: Red Hearts potlucks are a nice way for gay men on the left to meet and relax. See our calendar announcements under Saturday, 2/9/85 and Saturday, 2/23/85, for details. New faces always welcome!

Safe and Sane

In times when the price of cheap thrills has gotten entirely too steep, isn't it good to know a group of guys have gotten together to take the risk out of hot sex? For more information send your address and phone number to CU! Box FB133

Rocks

This individual is looking for adventurous others who 1) rock climb or 2) hike the back country in the High Sierra. I have limited experience doing either. Would like to meet some buddies with whom I can hike, climb, explore and enjoy the company doing same. Non Sequitur: Libra, 29 yrs, healthy. Reply CU! Box FB86

Wanted: Family of Friends

Young gay male & lesbian friends seeking

discreet gay men & lesbians for platonic relationships. Friends needed to go camping, hiking, canoeing, skiing (water, snow), horseback riding, weekend river trips, picnics, barbecues, country rides & investigating life's pleasures and joys. Closets welcome. Everyone answered. This is your chance to live. Reply CU! Box FB132

Spiritual Potluck

So you're reading the personals hoping to meet a few good men? Ever wish you could meet 20-30 other spiritual/New Age men in friendly, casual atmosphere? Would you like to share yourself and your favorite dish with such a group? To find out more about our monthly gathering see our Feb. 10th calendar listing.

Inti-mate Friendship Network

Ladies, couples, meet other sensualists for massage exchanges, co-counseling, pleasure/growth. Realize your needs, interests, fantasies, primal-erotic passions; Togas, Tunics, Romans. Reply Boxholder, POB 881562, SF CA 94188.

REPLYING TO A PERSONAL AD: If the ad has a P.O. Box, send it to that address. If the ad has a CU! Reply box, send your reply to Coming Up! Personals, 867 Valencia St, SF 94110. In the lower left hand corner of the envelope place the box number you are answering. Boxes remain open for two months, i.e. this month's ads may be answered through the month of March.

CU! REPLY BOX MAIL PICK-UP: You may pick up your mail every Tuesday & Thursday from 2-6pm; and the 2nd & 4th Saturdays in February (the 9th and 23rd), 11 am-3pm. **Mail will not be given out at any other hours.** Feel free to call us during these hours to find out if you have mail to pick up, and please limit your calls to these hours!

MAIL WILL BE FORWARDED WEEKLY. BOXES REMAIN ACTIVE FOR TWO MONTHS.

HEADLINE: _____

TEXT: _____

Reply Coming Up! Box

Total # of Words: _____
 Enclose \$7 up to 70 words \$7.00
 Enclose 10 cents per word over 70 words:
_____ words x 10 cents equals
 Enclose \$2 for Reply Box
 Enclose \$7 for Reply Box and Mail Forwarding
TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Name _____
Mail Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone (weekdays) _____ (eves) _____

You may stop by the office at the below address to fill out a coupon. **We cannot take personals by phone, nor can we accept anonymous ads. All information will be kept confidential.**

Mail Coupon To:
Coming Up! Personals
867 Valencia Street
SF, CA 94110

Next Deadline: February 20

The GGBA Foundation

on behalf of

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BAPHR Foundation
S.F. AIDS Foundation
Bay Area Women's Philharmonic
Billy De Frank Lesbian & Gay
Community Center
Central City Hospitality House

Community United
Against Violence
Human Rights Foundation
Marin AIDS Support Network
S.F. Band Foundation
S.F. Night Ministry

Theatre Rhinoceros
Tools for Change/Shanti Project
West Coast Lesbian Collections
W.O.M.A.N. Inc.
Lesbian & Gay Freedom
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California Academy of Sciences
Capricorn Coffee
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Carter Carter - Hairdresser to the Stars
Casa De Cristal
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