



Official Newsletter of the Gay Organization of Corpus Christi

AND SO . . . GO!

From the foggy mist of a suppressed segment of society came a cry for recognition, a cry for respect. The cry, though weak and fearful in its infant stages, grew louder and more insistent with each passing day, and gradually the pleading cry evolved into a concientious demand . . . a demand which gripped the hearts and lives of a few determined individuals who knew the time had come. The time for suppression was fading away even as a misty fog with the approach of sunrise. And a New Light of Hope dawned on this people . . . a vision of achievement glowed in their eyes, and a gentle voice rang in their ears, echoing . . . **RESPECT YOURSELF!**

And so it was that after years of pondering, a new organization came into focus. This was to be an organization geared to the needs of the Gay Community. An Organization Universal in purpose and outreach, unhampered by the barriers of race, religion, or sex. For after all, it was a cause reflected in the rights of every member of the Gay Community. And so . . . GO!

On June 1, 1975, GO! . . . the Gay Organization of Corpus Christi was established locally to serve our metropolitan area, adopting a Statement of Purpose encompassing a three-fold perspective:

UNITY . . . through personal involvement;

EDUCATION . . . of ourselves, and the community in which we live;

SERVICE . . . running the gamut from social activities to the provision of access to professional services.

GO!, and its four member executive board, realize that the struggle for respect and equality will

not be an easy one . . . but IT IS NOT IMPOSSIBLE! The organization stands committed to this central goal . . . raising the standard of living of the Gay Community. Each member is recognized as a unique and genuinely important individual, with the inherent right to fair and equal conditions in society. In a world where we're often afraid to speak out, there must be an establishment of our peers, eager to listen.

Should you hear the voice of suppression long-accepted at your elbow saying, "Why bother?" . . . listen, too, to the voice of reason at your shoulder quietly maintaining, "Because! . . . It is your birthright to stand tall and proud in the sunlight, and the willingness to remain forever in shadow is a travesty!"

We believe that every individual be they Male, Female, Negro, Chicano, Catholic or Jew has a right to be proud . . . to be free. We feel that to accept our present status as "substandard" citizens is an insult to the integrity of each and every homosexual.

No, we don't expect miracles. BUT WE DO EXPECT RESULTS! Results that reflect hard work in the areas of pride, awareness, culture, history, and above all . . . Rights! GO! believes that before one can truly master the respect of a close-minded society we must learn to respect ourselves.

GO! is a new organization . . . but its commitment to the Gay Community is as old as is the cause of every man and woman: Total respect, concern, and commitment to one's integrity, and the integrity of one's brothers and sisters.

GO! looks eagerly to the challenges of each passing day! We await the victory which can and MUST come. Won't you help? Get involved . . . and get GO!-ing!

ALMOST A FREE COUNTRY

Good News! Our rights as Gay citizens may become legislation sooner than you think . . . the campaign has begun for HR-5452.

The first federal legislation introduced in Washington was authored by Bella Abzug (D-Ny) and four co-sponsors last January as HR166. The bill was circulated by Abzug among her colleagues in the House of Representatives for additional support. Working closely with the Abzug office, the National Gay Task Force contacted potential sponsors directly and relayed information to and from gay organizations in several states. Important responsibilities were shouldered by gay men and women. As a result, HR5452 now has twenty-four sponsors from eight states . . . and the wording is particularly encouraging:

The bill would amend the 1964 and 1968 Civil Rights Acts to prohibit discrimination, based on a person's "affectional or sexual preference", in the areas of employment, housing, public accommodations and facilities, education, and federally funded programs.

See what I mean! And take a look at the long-standing institutions that have been adopting policy resolutions pressing for this very legal reform:

American Bar Association
American Psychiatric Association
American Federation of Teachers
National Education Association
National Organization of Women
American Civil Liberties Union
Young Women's Christian Association
The Lutheran Church
The Unitarian Church
The United Church of Christ
Federation of Priests Councils (represents approximately 1/2 the Roman Catholic priests in the country).

ALMOST FREE (Continued)

Another encouraging revelation, is that twenty cities including Seattle, Minneapolis, Detroit, San Francisco, and Washington, D.C., were not content to wait for federal legislation . . . they passed their own gay civil rights laws! And several states are close to passage right now!

Big business is beginning to see the light. In a recent survey conducted by the National Gay Task Force, AT&T, IBM, Bank of America, American Airlines, Eastern Airlines, Citicorp, CBS, NBC, and ABC stated policies of nondiscrimination against gays in hiring and/or promotion.

WHAT HAPPENS NOW?

OK, here's the picture. HR5452 now goes to the Civil and Constitutional Rights Subcommittee of the House Judiciary Committee. And at the same time sponsors for a companion bill in the Senate are being sought.

CAN I HELP?

You bet you can help! Now is the time for your legislators to hear from you, the constituent. And always remember one thing . . . nobody up in that congressional office cares how well or how poorly you express yourself, and they don't care who you are either. They only understand one thing . . . NUMBERS! How many are for, and how many against That's the ballgame.

So, write to:

The Hon. Lloyd Bentsen
Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20510

and

The Hon. John G. Tower
Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20510

Ask them to give their support and their VOTE for HR5452. And write to:

The Honorable John Young
2419 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, D. C. 20515

Also ask for support and vote.

Then write one more letter, to:

The Hon. Don Edwards, Chairman
Civil & Constitutional Rights Subcommittee of the House Judiciary Committee

2240 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, D. C. 20510

TEXAS GAY CONFERENCE II

The first issue of the GO!-Between went to press too late to give adequate advance notice of the Texas Gay Conference II, to be held in San Antonio, June 20-22. However, we hope you did see the posters placed in most of our bars, and that you are able to attend.

At any rate, you'll want to keep an eye peeled for the July issue! The editors and contributors of the newsletter, as well as other individuals are GO!-ing to San Antonio, armed with tape recorders! The July issue will be devoted to the conference, and we'll try to get as much information to you via these pages as space will allow.

Chez Paris
"THE PLACE"

1718 S. Staples
Corpus Christi,
Texas

Mixed Drinks
•
Dancing
•
Show

Lee Elliff Telephone
Owner 884-0063

LETTERS . . . WE GET LETTERS!

Dear Friends:

I've heard of the organization and think it's a good thing for Corpus. I don't go out to the bars for fear of being found out and losing my job. But I would love to receive your newsletter by mail. Is this possible?

Name Withheld

Certainly! The GO!-Between is distributed on the first Friday of each month to the participating local gay bars, and is FREE. If you prefer to have it mailed to your home, we ask a \$1.50 subscription fee to defray the cost of postage.

We hope you'll come to GO! meetings, too!

Dogpatch law is a-comin' t' Coas!
Fer weddin's an' 'nullments at
th' bestest price what am . . . look
out fer me, ol' Marryin' Sam!

GET A JOB!

You say you feel listless? Left out of the mainstream? Are you just bored-bored-BORED!? Obviously, what you need is a JOB!

And have we got the job for you! Listen, GO! needs a lot of things . . . money, ideas, information, and warm bodies. But what we need more than anything is people who want to work; and what we have the most of is jobs to be done.

We need people who can type, drive a car, dig information out of books, carry equipment, make costumes, drive a nail, pound the pavement, make a phone call, make coffee, sort papers, operate a stapler, lick envelopes (Stop here for a deep breath), draw a picture, lead a cheering section, spin a rope, do the Lindy, letter a sign, lead a conga line, write a song, write a poem, write an article, write anything for that matter, catch a softball, carry firewood, and/or throw a frisbee! That ain't all, folks, but you get the idea.

So, come on! Unemployment is a real downer. Bring yourself and your talents to the next GO! meeting and if you don't want to wait that long call 991-0940 after five and on Saturdays (on Sundays you'll be too busy GO!-ing . . . and that's a promise).

THE ODD COUPLE

4604 Ayers 852-9236

Open 12 - 2 a.m. Daily

OUR PROUD GAY HERITAGE

Homosexuality is as old as time. So, it stands to reason that there is a certain amount of gay history waiting to be excavated. Each month, the GO!-Between will bring to light a portion of our gay culture. If you have access to information on significant people or events of interest to the Gay Community, please drop a line to the GO!-Between, or call 991-0940.

RICHARD, THE LIONHEARTED

Richard I was born, one of three brothers, to Henry II and Eleanor of the Aquitaine . . . probably at Oxford.

We know of his relationship with Philip Augustus of France, who may have been the first to give Richard the surname, "Couer de Lion".

Richard's administration was one of the finest England had seen. Following his accession to the throne in 1189 he flung himself with characteristic ardor into the Crusade movement, joining forces with Philip. They fought side by side, upholding the claims of Tancred in Sicily.

He won great reknown for personal valor, particularly in his defeat of Saladin in 1192.

Few rulers have been as greatly loved and admired by his subjects as was Richard. When captured by Leopold, Archduke of Austria, and handed over to the emperor Henry VI in 1193, it was the people of England who rallied in his support, raising a heavy ransom for his return.

Serious quarrels with Philip led to warring over French possessions. He died in battle at the age of forty-two.

We read, as children, of Richard's courage and grace through Sir Walter Scott's "Ivanhoe"; we study his exceptional English rule in history books. Yet no mention is made of his homosexuality, which is authenticated in the Encyclopaedia Britannica, and was dramatized in the epic film, "The Lion in Winter", starring Katherine Hepburn and Peter O'Toole as Henry and Eleanor.

You know, Daisy Mac . . .

and Daisy may not!

MARY ANN WILLSON (Early American artist)

For those of you who have read "Patience and Sarah", by Isabel Miller, the story of Mary Ann Willson is an old friend . . . a warm place to visit each time it is re-read.

Mary Ann and her lover, Miss Brundidge (we do not know her first name)

CHEZ ORIGINALE!

Grande Opening
July 4th!

Free
Ham & Turkey Buffet

Free Beer

2207 Ayers

882-0063

farmed their own land on Red Mill Road, Greenville Town in the County of Greene, New York State, in the early part of the nineteenth century. Their love for each other is chronicled in "Picturesque Catskills", by a fond neighbor.

As Ms. Miller so beautifully expressed it, "we know our own response. We are

DO NOT PASS GO!

DO NOT COLLECT \$200

GO DIRECTLY TO THE Y.W.C.A.

2:00 p.m. Sundays

(It's more fun than monopoly!)

provoked to tender dreams by a hint. Any stone from their hill is a crystal ball."

Willson's art was bold in color, and a bit eccentric in design. She chose Biblical themes, and her "Prodigal Son Reclaimed", a simple, childlike composition, brings forth adjectives like . . . "naive" and "primitive". And yet, the garish colors create a heightened emotional mood, comparable to a German Expressionist canvas.

In her book, Miller concerns herself with a gentle, understanding account of how these two young women came to live in Greene County, having left their maiden homes in a determination to build a life together on simple instinctual direction. It is reasonable to speculate that never in their entire lives did either meet a single homosexual of either sex with whom to talk, laugh, or share a common circumstance. That they were accepted, aided and supported by their neighbors attests to the freedom and tolerance of American frontier life. With the turn of the last page, as these courageous, loving women spend the first night in the log house, the thirst for more of their story is great. Sadly, only this remains from the neighbor's account in "Picturesque Catskills" . . . that they lived most happily "with a romantic attachment for each other, which continued until the death of the farmer maid. The artist was inconsolable, and after a brief time removed to parts unknown".

Dere Li'l Abner:

Pappy 'n me knows eve'ythin'!
An' you is still oun. Come on home t' Dogpatch . . . 'n brang thet ol' Stupyfyin' Jones witch ya. Thet big race is a-comin' up. But this time 'round, Daisy Mac is efter ol' Saidie Hawkins, h'self! The coast is clear. I HAS SPO-KEN!

Mammy Yokum

CLASSIFIED

We thought a classified section might be of use to you . . . so here it is!

You might use it for selling things . . . like lawn mowers, old tennis socks, back issues of The Advocate, or whatever.

Or, you could use it to give things away . . . like kittens, old tennis socks, back issues of TV Guide, or whatever.

How about wishing your lover a happy birthday! Or Anniversary! Or Halloween?

Maybe you need a ride to Houston, or you're going to San Antonio and need someone to share expenses. Use the classified!

The best thing about the GO!-Between's Classified section, is that right now you can use it FREE! Just drop a line to the newsletter, P.O. Box 675, Corpus Christi 78401!

Word-Search Puzzle . . .

. . . for a gay ol' time!

NCJGSLTD RAGQUEENO
 TOAQHOMOSEXUALRDE
 JDNMUUVWIHTETHDFOL
 LERDPEWERODTFDKHL
 AWRTIRECHPEMARYXF
 MDYRWSHNVAKLORSKR
 BPTBUTCHLCWFISAQE
 DXRJHDLRRNGALHIE
 ACEEYOPEIAFWQLLOD
 WEWMUTDJNMDSWLYSO
 OMODMNRSTSUIQEMNAM
 HPPTEEARGRBNKYXPH
 SAYVSKFICTMMAFIPV
 GXAIIFDCBJRGOTXHS
 ALGSUHIKBSUPERIOR
 RZNLRS HKETEDTIHOP
 DZFYCGUEDGMLS RHVN

Butch
 Camp
 Cruise
 Dragqueen
 Dragshow
 Dyke
 Fairy
 Femme
 Fluff
 Freedom
 Gay
 Gaypower
 Homosexual

Here's a puzzle to keep your gay vocabulary up to date. You'll find twenty-five words hidden within this puzzle, but be warned! These words are horizontal, vertical, backwards, diagonally . . . see how many you can find. Answers in our next issue.

Lambda
 Lavender
 Lesbian
 Lover
 Mary
 Nellie
 Nondiscrimination
 Queen
 Sappho
 Superior
 Trick
 Truman Capote

MONTICELLO LIQUOR STORE

On the way to Padre!

Liquors * Wines * Beer * Cocktails * Ice

Complete line of Party & Bar Accessories

9909 South Padre Island Drive

937-0043

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

On Sunday, June 22nd, there will not be a GO! meeting, in consideration of those members who wish to attend the Texas Gay Conference II in San Antonio.

Our weekly meetings will resume on the following Sunday June 29th at 2:00 p.m., in the Living Room of the Y.W.C.A. at 401 North Caranchua. See you there!



**HARBOR
INN**

. . . the after-hours place!

For Your Convenience

Open 1:30 a.m. - 5:00 a.m.

Saturday & Sunday Mornings

At the Mayflower Motel
1601 No. Shoreline Blvd.

ADVERTISING POLICY

The GO!-Between is pleased to support gay enterprise, and will include in its pages advertisements for any gay-owned, operated, or sympathetic business UPON REQUEST.

At the present this service is free of any charge. Just call 991-0940 after five or on Saturdays, or write to the GO!-Between, P.O. Box 675, Corpus Christi, Texas. 78403

THE GO!-BETWEEN

Official Publication of

The Gay Organization of Corpus Christi (and Area)

L. FRANCES, Editor

MIKE, Associate Editor

OFFICERS

Barbara, President

Mike, Vice-President

Margot, Secretary

Debbie, Treasurer

The newsletter is published monthly, and is distributed on the first Friday of each month to various participating locations. Each issue is FREE of charge. For home delivery, \$1.50 for twelve issues to defray postage, and will be mailed in an unmarked envelope if desired. Four weeks notice required for change of address. Advertising is available free of charge to any gay-owned, operated, sympathetic business upon request. Address all correspondence to P.O. Box 675, Corpus Christi Texas. 78403



Vol. 1, No.2

Official Newsletter of the Gay Organization of Corpus Christi

LOVING, LIVING, & LEARNING

There's an old spiritual tune entitled, "There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit in This Place", which I call to mind as I reflect on the overall feeling enveloping the second Annual Texas Gay Conference, held June 19 - 22nd, in San Antonio.

The Conference adopted the theme, "Gays - Loving, Living, Learning - Together"; a theme which brought to focus the acute need for ALL gay people to come together and learn, share, and give of each other. The Conference continually revolved 'round the word 'communication'.

Several prominent, up-front gay leaders appeared as guest speakers at the three-day conference. Among those guest speakers was Gene Leggett, a suspended United Methodist Minister, actor, and tube swallower -- that's right, I said tube swallower! Gene's stirring welcome to the conference and words of community living (women and men getting their heads together for our gay cause) were indeed inspirational.

Carolyn Innes, one of the co-founders of the Gay Nurses Alliance and a prominent figure in the women's movement in Philadelphia, spoke on the "how-to" angle of getting it together. Through Carolyn, we envisioned the positive steps we can take together as gay sisters and brothers.

Morris Knight, formerly with the Los Angeles Gay Community Center, spoke on Gay Heritage, as well as conducting a seminar on the positive aspects of utilizing the media. It was uplifting to hear Morris speak with pride of our great heritage, and in the inner knowing that gay people have had a place in history . . . whether or not society dares to admit it!

The Conference was perhaps one of the most beautiful experiences any gay person could have. Rap sessions, sharing, recreation . . . it was at times exhausting. But it was also stimulating, exciting, and enlightening.

With the coming together of gays . . . men and women from throughout the state . . . it is safe to say that our cause will not go un-noticed.

Gays - Together! Is it a dream? NO, a reality, which all of us can experience. Here. Together.

"TOGETHER, WE CAN!"

— Mike

. . . AND INTO THE STREETS!

Saturday, June 28th in Austin was rainy and hot -- anything but parade weather. But there we were, from all over Texas, smiling, happy, and ready for whatever might come our way. This particular Saturday was the day of our parade, officially beginning Gay Pride Week in Austin. There were 100 of us (give or take a few) of every description, marching up Congress Avenue chanting "OUT OF THE CLOSETS AND INTO THE STREETS" and "2-4-6-8 GAY IS JUST AS GOOD AS STRAIGHT!" . . . and "EQUAL RIGHTS NOW!" and on the capital steps, with tourists all around us, "LESBIANS, FAGGOTS, AND DYKES -- OH MY!"

Sisters & Brothers, the Gay Spirit moved this day in Austin! We didn't stop 'til we reached the capital for a rally. Some sang, others spoke. The non-gays just stood around watching, listening, and taking pictures. No one could deny that gays EXIST and are PROUD! What's more, we have something to

say, and Folks, it needs saying!

Gay Pride Week in Austin is a good example of what's happening in every major city in America. Our gay brothers and sisters are coming out of their closets of suppression, and oppression, and making a lasting IMPRESSION! -- PRIDE!

Along with showing our faces and being proud, we're voicing our discontent with laws and attitudes that discriminate against us, and picture us as a bunch of perverted sexual idiots!

We ALL came out of our closets a little more that Saturday. Though the rain poured on us and our feet ached from the march, it was once again, great . . . "COMING OUT"!

—Barbara

WATCH YOUR LANGUAGE!

The language we use everyday is the means -- the only means -- available to us for communicating not just our thoughts, but our feelings, our position on any issue, and our beliefs. Words, and the way we use them can be a daily exercise in pride . . . they flex the mental muscles for a stronger stand in a complex world.

Take the word "straight", for instance. Now there's a loaded word if there ever was one! If we call heterosexuals 'straight', then what terms describe the opposite? Bent? Crooked? Deviate? Vascillating? All very unpleasant alternatives. And if you were heterosexual, how would you feel about being called 'straight'? It also conjures up words like . . . jerky, stupid, dull, square, and red-neck! But there IS another choice. A new word which is neither insulting to them, nor limiting to us. The term is NON-GAY. Try it on

(Continued --)

Language (Continued)

for size. Now there's a word that means exactly what it says, without passing judgement. It was coined by Morris Kight, national gay activist, and passed on to us at the Texas Gay Conference II.

Morris loves words, and knows how to use them effectively. He came up with another one to describe a group of women and men working together. There had never been a descriptive term for this situation until Kight came up with . . . CO-SEXUAL. So, in a very precise, natural way, we can now say that GO! is a co-sexual organization . . . like most of our gay bars in Corpus. And it sounds much better than 'mixed' . . . which sounds more like a mud pie!

It has been seen as a threat when a gay man stood up and said, "NO! I do not have to stomp and strut, or hunt or fish, fight, or dominate some woman, or dirty my hands on a car engine . . . I'd rather get into art, or poetry. I appreciate the beautiful, I love to cook, and I'M STILL A MAN!" He broke the rules. And he was looked on as a deserter. Then a gay woman stood up and said "HOLD IT! I will not be limited to a secondary existence. To hell with a kitchen. I am strong, and I will not see my body shrivel with my mind while I submit in weakness to male domination. I will work with my hands, I will build with my back, I will struggle in the sun and sweat, I will depend only on myself . . . AND I'M STILL A WOMAN!" She broke the rules. And she was looked on as a trespasser on male territory. And the gay man and the gay woman were hated, because they broke the rules.

And now as we step out of the closet and into the real world, it is imperative that our language reflect our stand in life. Just as we have refused to play non-gay, male-dominated games, we must now reject non-gay, male oriented language. There's been a "man's world"; our is a "gay world".

So watch out for things like God . . . Him. Morris Kight suggests an alternative, Shim. Extreme? Well, the non-gay language is extreme. How about "man-power" (people-power) or chairman (chairperson, or just chair) or mankind (human-kind)

NOTICE!:

The Gay Organization of
Corpus Christi meets every Sunday,
2:00 p.m., at the Y.W.C.A.
PLEASE COME!

and the list goes on forever. Remember that sexism is a non-gay form of discrimination. When you hear someone refer to a man's job, or a woman's place . . . they're totally ignoring all gay people. Don't let them get away with it!

You see, as gay people, we've already broken the bonds. We've learned that biology is not destiny. So, we're in a better position to see men and women (OK, you caught me . . . women and men!) for what they really are . . . people. Just people. Neither superior to the other by biological accident. So, let's take the lead. Be it hereby resolved that the old non-gay language just doesn't apply to us . . . ANY MORE!

— L. Frances



HARBOR INN

. . . the after-hours place!

For Your Convenience

Open 1:30 a.m. - 5:00 a.m.

Saturday & Sunday Mornings

At the Mayflower Motel
1601 No. Shoreline Blvd.

MONTICELLO LIQUOR STORE

On the way to Padre!

Liquors * Wines * Beer * Cocktails * Ice

Complete line of Party & Bar Accessories

9909 South Padre Island Drive

937-0043

THE ODD COUPLE

4604 Ayers 852-9236

Open 12 - 2 a.m. Daily

GAY NURSES ALLIANCE

In Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in October of 1973, Carolyn Innes, R.N., and David Waldron, R.N., got together and decided it was time something be done about the discrimination against both gay nurses and gay patients. They called their committee of two, the Gay Nurses Alliance, and entered an exhibit at the American Nurses Association Convention in San Francisco. That was in June of 1974.

The remarks ranged from "What the Hell is this outfit?!" to "Thank God you're here!" It was assumed by one and all that GNA represented thousands of nurses who had formed an alliance . . . and Carolyn and David didn't bother to dispute the assumption. The results of that first endeavor to enlighten the ANA was overwhelming. They drew more crowds than anyone and are now a nationwide organization.

GNA doesn't limit itself to just nurses. The organization is concerned with any gay person in the medical field . . . x-ray, lab, physical therapy, etc. For those of you who would like some info, write: Gay Nurses Alliance
P.O. Box 5687
Philadelphia, Pa. 19129

—Barbara

MORRIS KIGHT

Certainly, the Texas Gay Conference II in San Antonio was successful and stimulating. The outstanding speakers and other activities will be long remembered by those attending. Of special interest was the discussion of the gay movement and its impact on the world by Morris Kight, national gay activist from Los Angeles.

Tracing the roots of the Gay Movement back to pre-Christianity, and on through the expansion of our country with the westward movement, Mr. Kight reminds us that the idea of "Go West, young man", encouraged discrimination by sex and age, calling only for youth and males -- forgetting about women and older persons. In this movement, the resources of the land were ravaged and abused to excess . . . especially the people. And it was this idea which led to several revolutions which attempted to reverse and correct what so many people felt was inherently wrong. Starting with the American Revolution, attempts were made at social change . . . the abolition of slavery, the women's suffrage movement, the labor movement of the '30s, and the self-determination movement for ethnic and situational minorities of the '60s.

Although Mr. Kight questions the success of some of these movements, he is careful to point out that in all these movements, especially the more recent ones concerning minorities and labor, gay people were there, actively taking part, but NOT as gay people. Exposure as a homosexual meant being driven from the group.

All the other movements had to pave the way for the Gay Revolution in 1969, when the various pieces became orchestrated into a movement . . . from a nucleus of fifty gay organizations across the country to a total of over 1250 today!

With a sense of community and strength in 1975, being "Gay" is no longer a put-down, but a matter of intense pride. We are changing, evolving, developing and expanding, and coming into our own. We are expressing our moral duty by pledging that no where in the whole world will a young Lesbian or a young gay man come into the world and

come there alone . . . that we will be there to reach out a hand and say, "Brother . . . Sister . . . Welcome into the Family!" Because we are an enormous family which has emerged across the land, and our gayness is a beautiful thing which now has a common bond and outlet for expression!

—Roy

BITS AND PIECES

Bits of carpet . . . Pieces of art . . . A unique furniture shop catering to the most discriminating taste . . . a casual collection of antique to modern furniture sure to bring the perfect look to any home . . . comfortable, casual, collective in style . . .

it's all at Bits and Pieces!

1817 Ayers

888-7322

HOURS: Tuesday - Saturday

9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

MESSAGE TO MY BROTHERS

Gay women . . . who needs 'em?! WE ALL DO!! No agenda or schedule could hold back what evolved at the Texas Gay Conference in San Antonio . . . awareness of our gay Sisters.

They are alive and well, sharpening their wits and becoming a source of strength for all gay people. Can't you see why? Women especially know all too well the source of our oppression . . . the Macho Male Mentality. Living in South Texas, of all places, this mentality gets so laughable at times, it often becomes a source of strength to me, personally.

It takes real (pardon the expression) BALLS for a gay woman to stand up and refuse to succumb to this myth called 'male supremacy'. Why, just the thought of a woman giving up the security of a non-gay marriage where she can be "taken care of" by a "big strong man" is almost unbelievable to our great Macho male.

Our gay Sisters have really gone far; I, as a gay Brother, am proud to see it!

—Henry

Chez Paris

"THE PLACE"

1718 S. Staples
Corpus Christi,
Texas

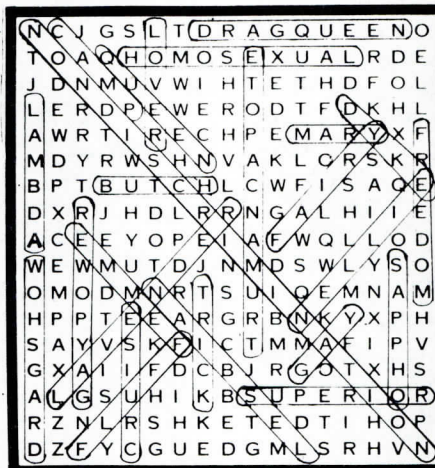
Mixed Drinks

Dancing

Show

Lee Elliff
Owner

Telephone
884-0063

WORD SEARCH SOLUTION**THE GO!-BETWEEN**

Official Publication of

The Gay Organization of Corpus Christi (and Area)

L. FRANCES, Editor

MIKE, Associate Editor

OFFICERS

Barbara, President

Mike, Vice-President

Margot, Secretary

Debbie, Treasurer

The newsletter is published monthly, and is distributed on the first Friday of each month to various participating locations. Each issue is FREE of charge. For home delivery, \$1.50 for twelve issues to defray postage, and will be mailed in an unmarked envelope if desired. Four weeks are required for change of address. Advertising is available free of charge to any gay-owned, operated, or sympathetic business upon request. Address all correspondence to P.O. Box 675, Corpus Christi Texas. 78403

TEXAS . . . OUR TEXAS?

The gay people of Texas took another slap in the face recently, through the defeat of legislation attempting to repeal a section of the Texas penal code (21.06) which prohibits homosexual conduct between consenting adults in the privacy of their own home.

The courageous fight for the repeal of section 21.06 was brought to the floor of the Texas House of Representatives at 2 a.m. on May 29, 1975. The sponsor of H.B. 759 was Rep. Craig Washington of Houston -- a noted champion of gay rights. Support from the Texas Gay Task Force, as well as testimony from Professionals who endorsed deletion of 21.06 were futile.

Representative Joe Spurlock of Fort Worth filed an amendment striking the clause of H.B. 759 repealing section 21.06 . . . and then came the fireworks.

Corpus Christi's own Joe Salem made a wild statement regarding gay people . . . "frankly, I just don't like it (homosexuality) worth a damn!" (Let's remember Joe at the polls, folks!)

Everytime the word 'homosexual' was mentioned, the entire House broke out in laughter and cat calls. One can only wonder at the mental maturity of our duly elected officials. The adolescent attitude of our Legislature proved comparable to a visit to the Brownsville Zoo!

Mr. Washington's own integrity came under fire from Salem and others. Washington replied fervently, "You can verbally abuse me if you want . . . but I put this amendment (to repeal 21.06) up here because I believe it is right for these gay people, and I have as much right to my opinion as you do to yours". He added, "I know you're going to defeat this because it's politically wise . . . but that doesn't make it right!"

Although Mr. Spurlock's amendment passed 117 to 14, it does not mean that the fight for gay rights is over. This was the first time in Texas history that the issue of the criminalization of the private homosexual acts of consenting adults was actually debated on the

House floor.

The Texas Gay Conference II adopted a resolution commending Rep. Washington for his efforts, and named him "Texas Legislator of the Year". Mr. Spurlock received "Tacky Legislator of the Year".

We may have been defeated once; but through efforts of TGTF and other Texas Gay Organizations, the fights will go on! Write to your representatives . . . talk to your friends . . . VOTE!

And someday in the not-too distant future, gay people will be "Total Citizens".

—Mike

THE JOLLY JACK

Beer Bust and Disco-Boys

Sunday and Wednesday

(Call for exact times)

411 Peoples 882-0254


MEDIA IS EVERYONE'S JOB

In the next few weeks an unprecedented awareness of the Gay position within the Corpus Christi community will have evolved . . . an awareness of where Gays in Corpus Christi stand . . . of their contributions . . . of the suppression they bear . . . of the political potential they possess. For some non-gays, an awareness that homosexuality even exists in their city will be a revelation.

ON SUNDAY, JULY 13th, a series of nine articles will begin in the Caller-Times, dealing with gay-life in Corpus Christi. They have been written by Kerry North . . . feature writer for the paper . . . with utmost integrity, and in close co-operation with the Gay Organization of Corpus Christi. It's a tremendous step forward for local gay people. And both the Texas Gay Task Force and the National Gay Task Force will be watching closely to see how the articles are received.

Now, there is no doubt that Non-Gay homophobiacs will literally flood the Editors office with letters. **DON'T LET THAT RESPONSE BE ONE-SIDED!** Let's make sure that the Editor gets letters from gay people, too, in support of this series. If you're worried about exposure, don't use your own name . . . use an imaginary identity, but list your own address and phone number. If you receive a call checking it out, either identify yourself as that person, or simply confirm that the person does live there, but is out of town. This process has been used successfully in other cities.

Media is everybody's business. And there are other ways you can take an active part. When you see, hear, or read something on television, radio, or in the newspaper that presents gay people in an unfavorable light, pick up that telephone and let them know that you object (they won't ask for your name). And just as important, if you come across something good, call and give that media some praise, some encouragement. Remember, when you do see or hear something good about us on mass media, IT'S NO ACCIDENT! Somebody is thinking hard . . . somebody has gone to some trouble . . . and that somebody needs to know we care.

So, let's do our part! Watch for the up-coming articles in the Caller-Times . . . and get those letters in the mail!

—Barry

THE MALE BOX

Introducing

AFTER HOURS

Friday & Saturday Night

Near Beer

From 2:00 a.m. 'Til . . .

Sandwiches - Dancing

2207 Ayers 882-0063