

METRO TIMES

Volume I, Number 25

March 19, 1981

DGPC endorses candidates, picks controversial name

by Elliot Green

The Dallas Gay Political Caucus convened its regular monthly meeting March 8, but the Dallas Gay Alliance adjourned the meeting. The name change came about after a half hour debate peppered with eloquent and intelligent arguments for and against inclusion of the word "Lesbian" in the new name.

The name change came about as the result of the group's growing and continued involvement in activities outside the political realm and because of a feeling that the name was misleading and was preventing many members of the community from getting involved.

Candidates and representatives of candidates for the April 2 elections were present to plead for the endorsement of the group, among them former mayor Wes Wise and a spokesperson for grocer Jack Evans, leader in the race for mayor this election. It was noted that Evans is the first mayoral candidate to ever return a DGPC questionnaire.

In the Place 6 race between incumbent Elsie Faye Heggins and Mabel White, the Caucus was unable to make a choice between the two because of the strong pro-gay stance taken by both and ended up endorsing both.

In Place 9 (at large, and open to all voters), Mike Niebuhr was endorsed over incumbent Sid Stahl and Socialist Workers Party candidate Kathy Rettig, who spoke out on the need to take a stand on El Salvador for some explained reason.

Place 10, also an at large position, found Wes Wise endorsed. Those present were warned against one Place 10 candidate, Margaret Baillargeon, a local pro-Moral Majority candidate who was described as "another Anita Bryant."

Tasha Kohl crowned

The vivacious and versatile Tasha Kohl, presently Miss Gay Dallas, was chosen from a field of 22 to be the first official Miss Gay Southwest. Her victory entitles Tasha to enter the official Miss Gay America Pageant to be held in August in Houston.

Arlington regular Tiger Lil, Miss Gay Reno, came in as first runner-up, while Houston's Donna Day was chosen second runner-up.

Adding to the show were appearances by Tiffany Arieagus, former Miss Gay Universe; Jennifer Fox, Miss Great Lakes and Michigan Entertainer of the Year for the past five years; former Miss Gay America's Hot Chocolate, Jimmy Dee, and Lady Shawn; and Texas EOY Naomi Sims.

The two-day pageant drew large audiences from the local area as well as out-of-state, among them show directors Scotty Roberts of San Antonio Country and Tim Ramm of Sunset Boulevard and the parents of Coco, Miss Gay Houston, Amanda and Arthur Casarez.



Gay radio crime in Ohio?

Cincinnati, Ohio, is taking steps to establish itself as the bastion of the Moral Majority and leader of the trend toward a return to the Dark Ages.

Campuses there (statewide) cannot have organized gay groups, the city has no bath houses, and four of the six gay bars were temporarily closed for alleged liquor license violations in a single month, the vice squad having declared such violations a priority item. A plainclothes raid last spring on public parks netted 120 arrests in one area alone over a single weekend.

The latest assault on the gay community came when John Zeh, producer of a 90-minute weekly radio program for gays and lesbians, was arrested for "disseminating matter harmful to juveniles", a felony which could net a sentence of five years and a fine of \$2500. Named in the complaint was the radio station. The attorney for the defendant says that this is a first.

Zeh's crime consisted of reading portions of an article appearing in FirstHand, a gay magazine similar in content to Penthouse's Forum. Prosecutor for the county will be James Applegate, who, as an Air Force attorney, prosecuted Sergeant Leonard Matlovich.

As a result of the prosecution (persecution), Zeh has lost his job and his apartment. Penalties and further information requests should be sent to First Amendment Defense Fund, Box 19158, Cincinnati 45219.

Tavern Guild formed

Owners of Dallas' gay bars have banded together to form a Dallas Tavern Guild. Represented at the first meeting were 12 of the local bars. Village Station owner Charlie Hott and Eighth Day owner Ray Hardin were chosen as co-chairmen.

According to Hardin, the group's purpose includes presenting a united front on harassment, protecting both gay bars and their customers. The Guild plans to support candidates and to hold fundraisers from time to time to support its activities.

Hardin also denies an earlier published report in another publication which stated that barowners were unconcerned about the proposed law to raise the drinking age to nineteen and told the Metro Times that the bar owners in the Guild had discussed this law and were opposed to raising the drinking age.

Hardin agreed with our earlier editorial in which we pointed out that legislators would take advantage of voter apathy in this proposed law. ~~to protect passage~~ of others more explicitly opposed to the welfare of the gay/lesbian community.

National gay tennis set

The Gay Tennis Federation of San Francisco has announced the First Annual U.S. Openly Gay National Tennis Tournament. It will be held May 22-24 at the Golden Gate Park Tennis Courts in San Francisco. The first such event, the tournament is open to all gay men and lesbians.

Only the first 64 registering will be accepted, and a \$20 registration fee is required. However, all housing and transportation will be covered by the local group. Entry forms and additional information may be obtained from tournament director Jim Halloran at (415) 282-4452 or by writing 4018 22nd St., San Francisco, CA 94114.

The San Francisco tennis group, comprised of over 70 members and just a year old, won the first Gay Tennis World Series challenge match against Los Angeles last Labor Day.

CELEBRITYtease

While he's not exactly willing to kiss and make up, CARY GRANT is willing to drop his rumored lawsuit against comedian CHEVY CHASE's publicly calling the former heartthrob gay. Seems Chevy is sorry about the whole thing, and Cary is willing to let bygones be bygones - if Chevy watches it in the future.

Sources indicate that the movie based on JOAN CRAWFORD's life as seen by daughter CHRISTINA, "Mommie Dearest", may be glamourized and whitewashed. After all, Crawford was a Star, don't you know? What we'd like to know is, how do you glamourize childbeating?

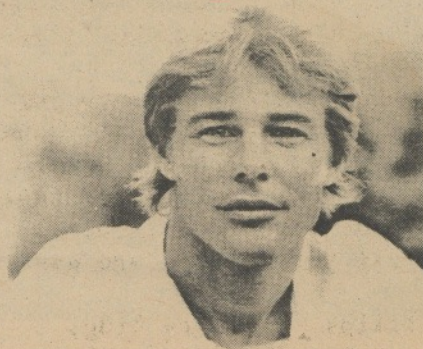
We thought that "I don't get no respect" was one of Rodney Dangerfield's lines, but it seems to be the complaint of the dreamy hunk JAN-MICHAEL VINCENT, who has announced that he is becoming a producer. The hot young thing says he's tired of being treated like a trained ape. Here's hoping he still gets into the act so we can see his smiling bod - that is, face on the screen in the future, too. Gee whiz!

PETER (Bosom Buddies) SCOLARI knows how to fight off any wrong ideas people might get about his role as a guy who lives with another guy and runs around in dresses. He's planning a June wedding with a female law student named Lisa, but "I'd love her if she were a plumber." A lot of people are wondering how long the one-joke show will last, and Peter has several offers lines up if and when the end comes.

The late, great MAE WEST left \$3,500 to the head of her fan club...none other than the noted female impressionist CRAIG RUSSELL.

BETTE MIDLER cleaning up her act? Perish the thought! However, we have a report that the Divine Miss M has started punishing herself by eating her detested celery instead of washing her mouth out with soap for saying naughty things. Is nothing sacred?

Actor JAMES WOODS (Onion Field and Holocaust) is giving consideration to a picture about two cops, one of whom is a somewhat closeted gay. Woods would be playing the gay cop.



JAN-MICHAEL VINCENT



JAMES WOODS



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INTERPRETOR FOR THE DEAF PROVIDED

Other people's mail: two letters

(Editor's Note: The following is a letter sent to District Attorney Henry Wade by the Social Justice Committee of the Dallas Gay Political Caucus:)

Dear Mr. Wade,

We wish to complain about the conduct of Assistant District Attorney Bob Phillips in County Court Number 8 on Friday, February 27 last, during the trial of two members of our community.

Phillips called Paul King and H. K. Sanders to testify that one of the defendants... is not a credible witness. King and Sanders are officers in the Vice Control Division of the Dallas Police Department who were not present when the alleged offence took place; further, they neither know (the defendant) personally, nor any of his friends, nor his reputation for veracity among persons who do know him. The sole criterion which these officers gave for their expressed opinion under oath that (the defendant) is not believable was that they had heard Assistant District Attorney Winfield Scott and one other D.A. express the same opinion. These D.A.'s likewise do not know the defendant or any of his friends.

Since Phillips is presumably aware that such evidence is worthless when the appropriate predicate cannot be laid, we question the motives which led him to introduce it. The episode reinforces our feeling that

- i) there is a conspiracy between certain D.A.s and police officers to discredit persons who are gay whenever possible;
- ii) Winfield Scott, Phillips, Officers King, Sanders, and L. Cadena (who was present in court) wished to intimidate and harass (the defendant) because

(Editor: The following letter is taken from a letter sent to the Board of Directors of the Dallas Gay Political Caucus. It has been edited for length, as the original was three pages long. We welcome future letters providing comment on issues and events within the metroplex gay/lesbian community.)

Board Members:

The actions and statements of certain of your members on Monday evening make me ashamed to be a male and gay...

The art of debating was brought to a new low on Monday with board members giving speeches riddled with guilt induction and one board member delivering her usual series of cheap shots with low grade humor. ...The "cutest" part, if you can call it that, was the survey by two men of women in bars (That's like asking John Gacy and the Marquis de Sade to take the local Boy Scout Troop on a camping trip.). If the survey was necessary, why weren't the woman (sic) of the Caucus asked to do it for surely women would have been more open with other women. Further, I fail to understand the need for the survey in the first place, after all it was the women of the Caucus who wanted the change not the women in the bars.

I think inclusion in the name was a small thing for the women to ask. Too bad it was treated in such a small way...

The women of the Caucus have no need to fight against 21.06 of the Penal Code, because it in no way affects them, yet they have and do....How can you ever expect women to join and/or work with this organization if you aren't cognizant of their needs and treat them as equals? I understand what tokenism is, but I believe you practice it.

...Lesbian is a word that has been around a lot longer than the word Gay. Gay has changed meaning three times in just the last 100 years. The women of the Caucus have paid their dues not only in the homosexual rights movement, but as women's rights advocates. Gay men have fought only on one front. Its (sic) time gay men stop treating women like second class citizens and start accepting them on their own terms

the latter had given evidence as a defense witness in three of the Village Station trials. These trials arose out of the raid by the above officers and three others on the Village Station on 25 October 1979. The trials were directly related to the forum shopping controversy in which you were involved.

The behavior of Mr. Phillips and these officers on 27 February as described above appears to us as petty-minded and vindictive, but it is also unprofessional for a public prosecutor to engage in conduct which can only reflect adversely on the operation of your office.

This is not the only complaint which we have against Phillips. On or about August 27 last at the trial of (another defendant) in County Criminal Court Number 2, Phillips described the witnesses as "a parade of perverts". The witnesses comprised men and women, some of them heterosexual. Again, at the sentencing of (this defendant) in the same court on September 15 last, Phillips argued for a harsh sentence on the grounds that (the defendant) is a homosexual.

We look forward to your response to this complaint.

Sincerely yours,

Campbell B. Read, Ph.D.

Peter Brooks, Attorney-at-Law

(Editor: Copies of the letter were sent to the Dallas Bar Association and both local daily newspapers. A similar letter, complaining about the misconduct of the officers involved, went to Dallas Police Chief Glenn King as well. In the highly unlikely event that a favorable response occurs, we will advise readers.)

I support the women on this issue and therefore am withdrawing from membership in the Caucus. I intend to work with the women in Denton who are running a battered women and children's center and to work with the women you battered the other night.

Jerry Diggin

METRO TIMES

Editor/Publisher: Roy G. Hall

Phone (214) 528-9944

The Metro Times is published every two weeks as a service to the gay communities of Dallas and Tarrant Counties. It is our intent to maintain a high level of accuracy and to cover as much news as possible. Reader submissions are encouraged and, if they are to be returned, should be sent with a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Appearance of the name of an individual or group in this paper should not be taken to indicate the sexual orientation of such individual, group, or group members.

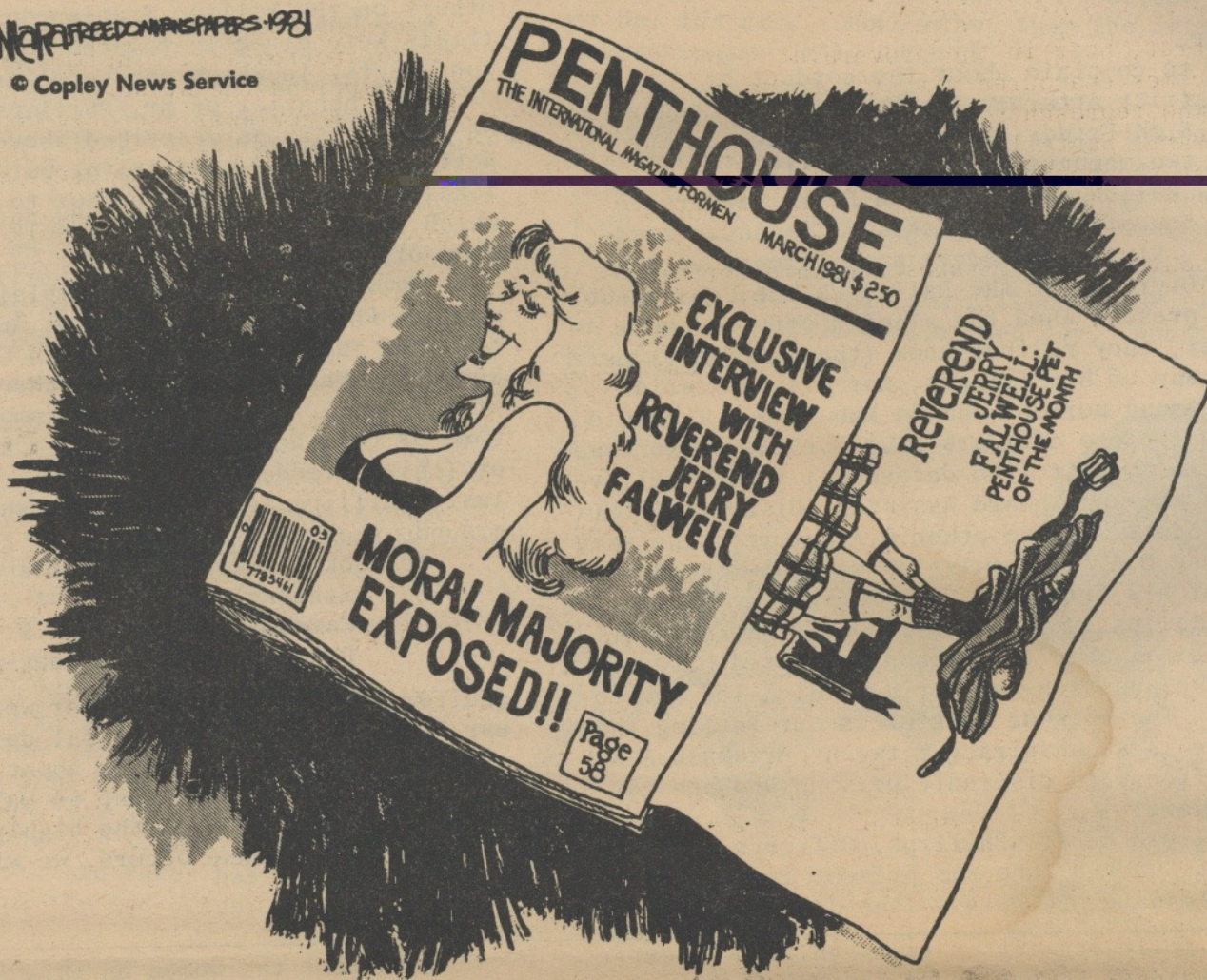
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We welcome reader letters. Unless otherwise indicated, letters shall be considered as being presented for publication at our discretion. We reserve the right to editor for length and objectionable content and to rebut views which disagree with our official view.

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Book review: High on love - and a trapeze

BOOK REVIEW: The Catch Trap, by Marion Zimmer Bradley. 1979: Dell, \$3.50

The Catch Trap could easily have been named "The Story of A Relationship"; indeed, that is exactly what it is. It is the story of Tommy Zane, who is still underage when the book begins.

A circus brat, born in the proverbial trunk, young Zane becomes enamoured with the trapeze - and with the man who represents the art of the trapeze in his eyes, Mario Santelli, of the Flying Santellis.

Portions of the book in the early parts are so familiar as to be trite, even cliché. Mario turns out (what else?) to be gay, and after a veritable melodrama of soul-searching takes a chance for his own version of "chicken delight", to the mutual enjoyment of himself and Tommy.

Amid stolen moments of passion, spurred on at times and at others almost torn apart by Mario's frequent moodiness and Tommy's jealousy, love grows stronger and warmer.

Interwoven with the story of hidden, forbidden passion is the story of a proud family whose time-honored traditions seem slowly to slip away with the ravages of time and tragedy. Bradley paints a vivid picture of the aches and heartaches of circus life as Mario and Tommy, exposed by another artist whose jealousy is only emphasized by his own ineptness, fight to continue the way of life they have come to know and love.

Catch Trap is a human novel, able to deal not just with the love shared by the two men but also with their moments of doubt, times of being intrigued

by the opposite sex, and their conflict with Angelo, Mario's uncle, and his homophobia.

The experiences of Mario and Tommy as they attempt to create a life for themselves while concealing the truth of their love from even their closest friends are experiences with which gay readers will be able to relate readily. The two must fight each step of the way, and the struggle is never easy.

This reviewer can only hope that Bradley chooses to write more books on gay themes...hopefully, soon. It is a novel which, in its own unique way, points out forcefully the difference between being gay in a straight world and being straight.

Noted British educator to speak March 21, 22

Dr. Norman Pittenger, noted theologian and author and a delightful speaker, will be guest speaker at Agape Metropolitan Community Church in Fort Worth at 11 A.M. March 22 and at MCC-Dallas at 7:15 that evening.

Dr. Pittenger will also meet with Episcopal Integrity Saturday, March 21, at 7 P.M. at Bethany Presbyterian Church, 4523 Cedar Springs.

The author of nearly 80 books, Dr. Pittenger visits Dallas annually and is a favorite of Dallas audiences, both gay and straight alike.

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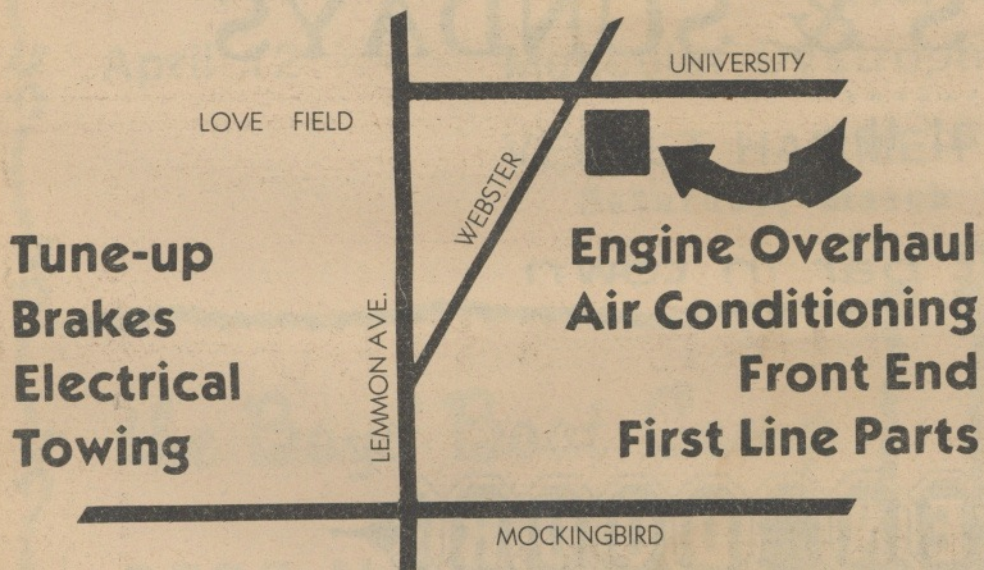
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Tasha Kohl, newly crowned Miss Gay Southwest, catches her breath with first runner-up Tiger Lil (Miss Gay Reno) and second runner-up Donna Day.



Vickie, Joe Elliott's secretary, entertains at the Girls' Drag Show March 1 at the Landing.

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★ STARGAYZER ★

STARGAZER, a new astrology column in the METRO TIMES, is prepared by a professional astrologer and is written with gay readers in mind. It is presented here for your entertainment. The period covered here is two weeks - March 22 to 28, and March 29 to April 4:



ARIES (March 21 to April 19): The first week is a good week to face problems, especially ones of some time's standing. Opportunity is knocking at your door. Slow down in that second week until the very end to save your energy. Avoid pressure and new projects.



TAURUS (April 20 to May 20): Don't be so bull-headed. Support without criticism for your lover or business associates is called for. Avoid indiscretions, acting on impulse, and living in the past. The second week is a good time to get away alone and clear your head and to emphasize diplomacy and tact.



GEMINI (May 21 to June 20): Cooperate with new ventures of your lover. Anticipate and welcome social opportunities. That first week is a good time for keeping in touch with your financial paperwork, but the second week you should polish up a current project and possibly start a trip. Emphasis on social life.



CANCER (June 21 to July 22): Career is in the limelight, and caution is advised should you be changing jobs - that new one, unless well considered, could be a bummer. Your love life may be looking up if you're unattached, and you might meet someone interesting in unexpected surroundings. Keep your nose to the grindstone early in that second week.



LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22): This is a good time (first week) to consider your home - and if you are moving, be sure you are dealing with reputable people. Be ready for valuable constructive criticism from older people. The second week is recommended for lending a helping hand to those less fortunate. Avoid new challenges. An emphasis on educational experiences is indicated.



VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22): Start that first week off right with self-improvement, a good outlook for the future, and inviting over good friends for entertaining at home. Your second week should be a happy one, but keep someone special "included in" with that good cheer.



LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22): Cupid's arrows could be waiting in the wings. Your career could also look up with some work. Avoid impatience with slow-moving associates. In the second week, money matters appear good. Do the right thing in an emotional matter. A very caring person lends you their support.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21): Time to work and work hard, avoiding recklessness and over-ambition. Moderation and honesty are the key. With the cooperation of others, your career takes a good turn the second week, and you should have plenty of energy and enthusiasm. Focus that energy on clear objectives for best results.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21): Even if it looks like you have extra money coming in, be sure not to spend it until you have it. Watch finances, and organize yourself to do only what you can realistically complete. Rest a bit that second week, then take on domestic chores. A somewhat formal affair may have pleasant results.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19): Take close look at any problems with your lover or your partner. You may not be evaluating problems fairly. Be diplomatic. Keep a cool head. An old friend may show up. Second week is a good time for charitable concerns and activities.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18): Watch for a host of opportunities. Hard work pays off. Keep a level head when facing challenges and competition. Look for better ways. That second week, enjoy old friends rather than new, and have a good time with loved ones.



PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20): Expenses can be higher than expected. Be cautious that first week. Later, continue financial caution while showing your best side at work. Pay on your bills, and review your budget with great care and consideration.

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in each issue of
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Editorials: Semantics...

The scuffle over the semantics of a new name for the former Dallas Gay Political Caucus can only be referred to as a tragicomedy. Come on, people! The simple fact is that the irresistible force and the immovable object were at it again. There were good points in both directions. It sounds like a great debate, and we're glad a prior commitment kept us away.

If the omission of the word "Lesbian" alone in the new title will seriously impede chances of the group's getting and keeping women as active members, it seems a small price to pay.

On the other hand, those of us who have been around any length of time can remember when the name "gay" meant both men and women. For what appears to be an overwhelming majority of both women and men, it still means both.

The group now known as the Dallas Gay Alliance has done a lot of good over the years it has been in existence. Whether or not there needs to be a word separately denoting female homosexuals in the title when the word "gay" does not have denotations of gender implicit (like the words "chairman" or even "fellow"), there does need to be such a group. Why should talented leaders and needed followers cheat themselves and the community (both Lesbian and gay) by sulking in a corner over a wrong, whether it be real or imagined.

We know of at least two members of the group who are heterosexual. There may be more. Perhaps some day soon we will have to update the name to something like "Dallas Gay Lesbian Straight Bisexual Asexual White Black Chicano Indian Alliance" - unless the geographic sectors get smart and decide it should be "Dallas Oak Cliff Pleasant Grove Denton Euless"... well, you get the idea.

One vital point is that the men greatly outnumber the women in the group. The group has already proven itself of worth to straight candidates for office. Had women turned out in force to support it in the past, obtaining the minor concession requested might have been easier.

In brief, we urge all members of the community to get involved and stay involved in the Dallas Gay Alliance - not only because of the good it has done, but for the good it will do...with your help.

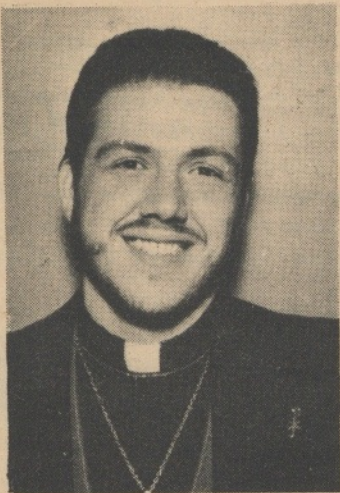
...a 15 cent bargain

Some of you may remember a few months ago when you voted for state legislators. (And some turkeys didn't; shame on you!) Whether you voted or not, it's time for you to cast an informal vote again. Get out your stamp and stationery and write your legislator to urge him/her to oppose the bill which would raise the drinking age.

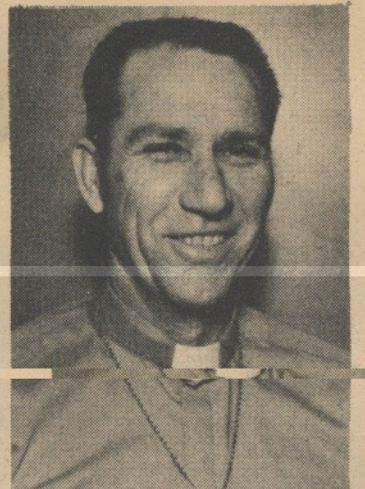
We mentioned this in an earlier editorial, but we feel we should repeat: Give those legislators an inch, and they'll take a mile. More and more bills will be passed, each hitting closer to home. This is a definite conservative trend which should be nipped in the bud...not so much for the youngsters, who could wait another year without suffering, but for the rest of the community who may be the next victims.

If you get a questionnaire from your legislator (and a lot of you did the other day), do send it back with appropriate comments. If you didn't get one, find out who represents you and write to tell them exactly what you think.

Apathy is the strongest enemy of this community and, unfortunately, it's one of the strongest. Let's get our heads out of the sand - or whatever - and give a damn. It's the only way.



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 Tarrant County Mining Company? Despite the story in
 TWT after our original publication of the rumor,
 which began "Contrary to published rumours", Bette
 has actually made the move...and you heard it here
 first!

Now, hot on the tail of the actual event, we are
 pleased to advise you of the results of the Miss Gay
 Tarrant County Pageant - Tragedy Ann, formerly of
 Austin, took the crown Tuesday night, March 17. We
 just wish we could've had pix, but you'll wait until
 next issue, won't you? Good.

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Hosts sought for Gay Press convention

Joseph DiSabato, acting chairperson of the new Gay Press Association formed in New York in January, has formally announced to members of the group that the next convention will be held May 1, 2 and 3 at Dallas' Melrose Hotel. More than 100 members of the gay press, including possibly individuals from other English-speaking countries, are expected to attend.

Because many gay publications operate on budgets not conducive to hotel expenses, local hosts willing to provide housing for visiting editors and publishers are being sought, particularly in the general area of the hotel, which is located at Oak Lawn and Cedar Springs. Interested persons may contact the Metro Times at (214) 528-9944 to volunteer housing.

Individuals having other services related to the convention which they wish to offer may contact this publication or Mr. Richard Rogers of TWT at (214) 521-0622.

It is expected that the overwhelming majority of the conventioners will be males. Because of the presence of other conventions in town the same week-end and the need to make reservations early, persons volunteering to offer accommodations are asked to do so promptly.

The Dallas Gay Alliance has expressed an interest in sponsoring a cocktail reception for the group, and interest has been expressed in arranging for welcoming conventioners with a barbecue, Texas style. A few competent drivers to provide ground transportation are also needed and should contact this publication.

New features added

The Stargazers astrology column and the second Celebritease column debuting in this issue of the Metro Times are just a preview of bigger and better things ahead. Publisher Roy Hall isn't ready to spring all his bundle of surprises on Metroplex gay and lesbian readers yet, but included are such good and long-awaited features as the two just mentioned, as well as directories and calendars.

Also promised are more photos than before and - with reader cooperation - a regular letters forum. Personality profiles will be just a part of the extra space fillers to be found in the new format, which, it is hoped, will make the publication the unchallenged leader in readership in the Dallas, Arlington and Ft. Worth area. A key point of the format change is the surprising news that, as features and columns increase, display ad rates will be lowered.

Readers having suggestions for improving the paper, which will celebrate its first anniversary with the new format bowing in April 30 (on the eve of the Gay Press Association Convention in Dallas), are urged to send their comments to the paper at once.

The New

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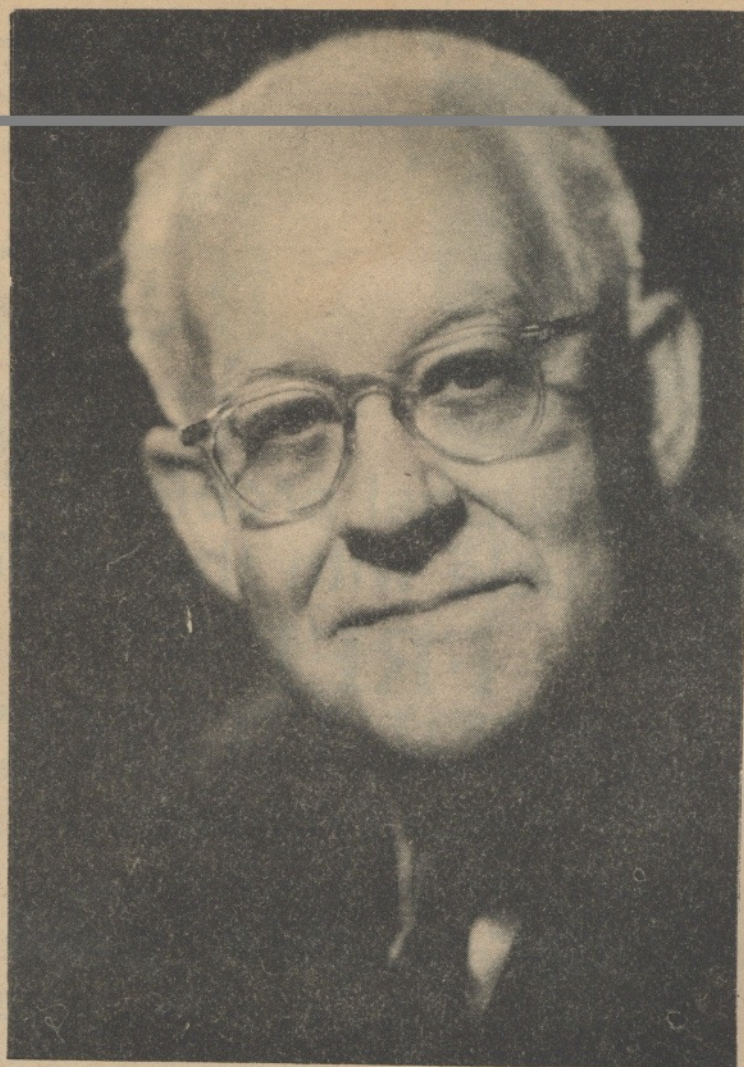
Jim Norwood

Worship Coordinator
2336 Hemphill at Page
Fort Worth, Texas 76110
(817) 926-7000



Agape Metropolitan Community Church of Fort Worth

"Expect the overflow" Luke 6:38



UTA group receives okay

Stephen Hall, president of the new Gay/Lesbian Association - University of Texas at Arlington (GLAUTA) has announced the receipt of a letter from the university's president, acknowledging the group as a valid campus organization.

Hall indicated that the group's attendance has been averaging between 20 and 30. The next meeting will be April 7, all meetings being the first Tuesday. Additional information is available by writing to Box 19823, UTA Station, Arlington 76019.

Some degree of involvement by non-students may be allowed, and interested persons should contact the group for details.

Reassessment of goals of the organization will take place at the April 7 meeting.

Magazine seeks material

The Dallas Gay Alliance has announced plans for publication of Presence, a literary magazine, with a projected publication date of June 1, 1981. Work from gay or lesbian individuals anywhere is invited and should be received by April 13, 1981. The publication is open to prose, poetry, songs, pen & ink drawings, and photography and will be designed as an artistic creation suitable for coffee table display.

Submissions cannot be returned unless a stamped, self-addressed envelope is provided, and all other works offered for consideration will be considered as property of the Dallas Gay Alliance, along with all works actually published. At present, a cover price has not been set, and no payment is planned.

Offerings may be sent to P.O. Box 35011, Dallas 75235, to the attention of the Literary Magazine.

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METRO

MISCELLANEY

Hello, miscellaney lovers! How do you like our new additions to the paper? Horoscope, tinseltown, and lots more to come. Watch out for that first issue of Volume II, which premieres April 30! We're going to show you what HOT means. Our thanks to the two guys who wrote (independently), one saying we kept getting better and the other as a faithful reader since he moved here just after we got started. You're what keeps us going. We love ya!

A serious note: We got a letter from Associated Independent Ministries offering "Ken's Friends", a directory of prison inmates looking for pen pals, on a donation basis. Their address is Box 3023, Port Charlotte, FL 33952. However, before you actually do start writing to prisoners, let us point out two very important things: (1) Don't start anything you won't carry through. Rejection is just the one thing that prisoner doesn't need from you. If you start writing, keep writing. (2) Please note that prisoners have a gift of conning people. That picture may not be the person you are writing to, for example, and you should know that straights often pose as attractive, lonely gays in the hope of getting money. Never send money to a prisoner, and don't start a mail order romance. You can get hurt. Believe me.

Back to the city, Dallas' Hidden Door is getting a remodelling to extend the bar. It seems that rush business is packing the place. Of course, Polock wouldn't want you to think for a minute that he's complaining. He says business was fantastic for their monthly birthday party, to which we weren't invited...

Fantasy in Black, the ACLU benefit at Alcatraz, was fantastic. While not an awful lot of people got into the spirit of costumes, those who did made a good job of it. We did notice that the song which kept playing most of the night seemed to consist mainly of the words "Is there more to life than dancing?" The partygoers seemed to say, "No."

And, wouldn't you know, the Fitness Exchange first anniversary party was the next night at Alcatraz (did you know they've opened their prison yard - what would be a patio anywhere else - for business now?).

One final warning: Our beloved editor, Roy G. Hall, will be speaking Sunday morning, March 29, at United Community Church, 4402 Roseland. Pastor Shawn Farrell was invited to speak at Agape MCC in Fort Worth that Sunday morning, so anybody who misses the boat to Dallas to hear ye editor can enjoy Shawn in Fort Worth.

Editor has also been urged to accept a speaking engagement at Faith Community Church in Oak Cliff. Now, don't get shook - it took us 10 minutes from Oak Lawn to get there, since it's just off I-35S (Thornton Freeway). Pastor Parker and your editor used to be student ministers together at MCC.

Our spies advise us that there are two gay bars in Longview, Texas now. We're anticipating the idea of checking them out for those of you who want to take in the country air for a change... Sure you do! Watch for the complete scoop.

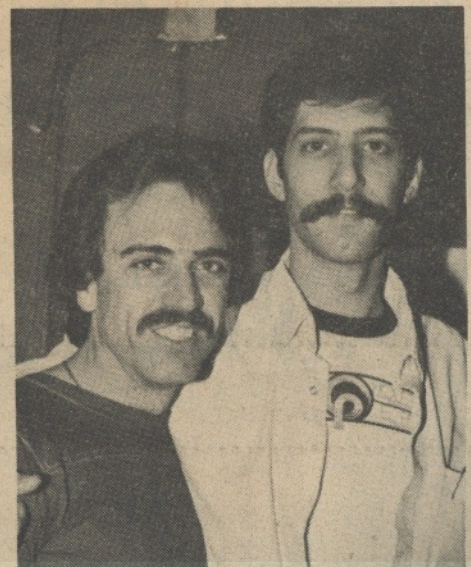
Showtime on Cabaret '81 (at Sassy's, which is, contrary to any rumors you may have heard, still very much a woman's bar, one where guys are welcome but not the order of the day) has moved down to 8 each Sunday and Thursday evening in March. That gives you time to take in a show with some nice choreography and



still have time to dance a bit before turning in if, like us, you have to work for a living. The sexy DJ tells us he's heard a lot of nice comments, and a lot of people are even coming back for second viewings. Don't miss this one.

Our Fort Worth spies have picked up stories of yet another new bar, this one especially for the gals, in that city. And speaking of new bars, we just heard that Woodworks is equipped for those really exotic drinks you may not have been able to get elsewhere, and the crowds are loving it.

Last issue we remarked that we had heard Bette Sheba was leaving the Other Place for the Tarrant Co. Mining Company. Some other publication (in what has to be the closest they've ever come to admitting in print that we exist, after only ten months) replied (as did Bette herself) that it was up in the air. We note that both bars have the poor dear advertised as starring on the same nights this week. How can she do it? Holy schizophrenia, Batman!



Observez-vous: Howard Metz assisted Frat House manager Steve Mabry in recreating the "Good Old Days" of the Old Plantation with appropriate music. Steve has been throwing party after party lately - in addition to the OP party, he just threw the St. Patrick's Day party and the going-away party for Kenny Dale Pugh.

The Girls' Drag Show March 1 at the Landing gave a chance for Joe Elliott's secretary, Vickie, to get into the act, which was "jazzed up" quite a bit by veterel producer R.J.

The Girls' Drag Show also featured the talents of (are you ready?) Eugene the Great. Now, we feel the urge to elaborate. This wasn't something just anybody would appreciate. But it was positively Eugene's best performance ever. Together with his (?) lovely assistant, Rita (who asked that her name not be mentioned), Eugene baffled the audience with amazing feats. Yes, it was truly amazing that the audience sat through it all. Eugene's repertoire of feats of legerdemaine (if we misspelled it, tough) was incredible. This was the first time we had ever seen most of them performed. Few magicians ever break the eggs they use in their tricks, for example, and it was a definite first for pulling a flat fish (plastic, I think) out of a hat. Running swords through a case containing an inflatable love doll is something one would never have seen the incomparable (until now) Houdini attempt, to be sure. Amazing! We feel an act such as this should be sent on a round-the-world tour...say, for the next thirty or forty years. (To those of you who find comments such as this in questionable taste, we assure you that the act was deliberately put together in atrocious form as a prank and was not intended to be serious. The comments we have made are highest praise for an act which insulted the intelligence of each and every viewer - and made them enjoy it! Bravo, Eugene and Name-Withheld-by-Request!)

Speaking of drag, some of our readers have given us notice (second handed, of course; nobody wants to walk up and tell us these things) that they are tired of drag, drag, drag. Look for our editorial later on this subject. We admit to having put four out of five 1981 covers out with pictures of drag stars. We are attempting to get more of a variety, but it isn't easy. Please let us know of any photogenic events - or even just newsworthy.

We have been asked to warn our readers that the one and only Terry Dallas will be in the Downtowner show March 20...well, something like that!



One of the guests at the Boot Camp's benefit show for muscular dystrophy held March 15 was the infamous and macabre 7'3½" wonder, the Dragon Lady. Alas! it was the dragon's last flame before she departs for the shores of sunny Cal, where a growing company has made her an offer she couldn't refuse. She promises to be back for Christmas, however, so if you see Santa out wandering around with a dazed look in his eyes, you'll know he ran into the one and only dragoon. Does that make Shawn the last remaining pop-bead pearl princess?

Joe Elliott advised us that the Landing is having an anniversary party March 25, and we'll certainly be doing our darndest to be there.

In Arlington, ad those of you who don't read any other publications may want to know (after all, people with good taste have the right to information), Poets has closed. It was a very nice bar, but it didn't go over. What can we say?

We had no idea there was so much news. Keep in touch...between this column and our projected calendar (another coming feature you've been wanting), we'll tell you what's happening in the Metroplex. Kissy, kissy!

Coming Soon...

Sunday, March 22, 7:15 P.M.

DR. NORMAN PITTENGER

Professor of Divinity, Kings College,
Cambridge University, England

Author of
GAY LIFESTYLES
*A Christian Interpretation
of Homosexuality*

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March 19, 1981



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