



The PHOENIX

MIDWEST HOMOPHILE VOICE

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"Cock of Socrates"
by Walter Rogalski

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

DREW R. SHAFER

I have been disturbed by the seemingly great numbers of lesbians in town who feel that Phoenix is strictly a "mens organization", and does not exhibit empathy for the problems of the girls. In spite of the fact that our constitution states that no person shall be denied membership by reason of sex, race, national origin, religion, political belief or sexual orientation or preference, the lesbians still feel that we just don't care about their problems.

Let me set the record straight. We do care. We care a great deal. Our problem is that the women who are connected with Phoenix are straight and are members because their sons are gay, or just feel a need to aid the homosexual. We have been unsuccessful in attracting any representatives of the lesbian. Perhaps it is because we are so involved with the many problems which concern the male homosexual, and most of our members are thus far male, that we tend to overlook the many problems of the female. It is impossible for the male homosexual to speak about the problems of the female until the female is willing to come forward and speak up, for herself. We are willing to help in any way we can, but first we must bridge the tremendous gap created by the lack of understanding between males and females.

This problem seems to exist all over the world. The oldest homophile organization, Der Kreis of Switzerland, was founded by a lesbian, but now is exclusively male. The northern European organizations mix freely, but are predominately male. French and German groups are exclusively male. One and Mattachine were before 1955 mixed groups, but after formation of a DOB, the girls left the groups and again there was segregation. The same exists in all of the homophile organizations, today.

I have seen males and females mix freely in many towns and cities in the Midwest, but perhaps this is because there was only one or two bars in these cities. Of the several nightspots in K.C. most of

them are exclusively male; one is exclusively female, and one is predominately male, but some lesbians are there at all times. Surely the male homosexual can't really believe that he has all the problems in society today?

I would like to set up a meeting between male and female homosexuals for the purpose of discussing the problems of the lesbian in society today. The Phoenix Society will provide time and place if some responsible lesbians would be willing to step forward, and without reservations, provide insight into the problems of the lesbian. I can think of one problem which affects both the male and female homosexual, and that is the need for an escort service. How many times have male and female homosexuals had to refuse to attend a dinner, or dance, set up by their employers because they did not want to go alone? This seems to me to be a much needed co-operative venture. But, such a thing is impossible without first establishing trust between the sexes. Believe it or not, there have been many times that I would like to go dancing in a straight nightclub, but I certainly am not going to take a female who I can't trust. I think most of us feel the same way.

We are here to do everything in our power to aid the homosexual--both male and female--or if you prefer--both female and male.

** ** *

THE PHOENIX

Published monthly by
The PHOENIX SOCIETY
For Individual Freedom

EDITOR-----LANCE CARTER
ASSOCIATE EDITOR-----ERIC DAMON
ADVERTISING MANAGER-----PETER ROMAN
CURRENT EVENTS-----ESTEL GRAHAM
INDIV. EXPRESSIONS-----DEAN TRITON

Know Your Rights?

The Phoenix Society has been aware for sometime now, of problems encountered by homosexuals in Kansas City. One of these is the lack of knowledge about just what they should or should not do in the event they are ever arrested. Nobody expects to be arrested, but it can and does happen. The majority of homosexuals in the U.S., when confronted by a police officer, would be the first to admit guilt whether or not they were in fact guilty. Fear of reprisals from their families, police brutality, loss of jobs, etc. cause many homosexuals to feel that "the easiest way out is usually the best way. This is not true. With the exception of traffic fines, a person automatically has a police record whenever he pleads guilty. It is not a crime to be a homosexual. Indeed, it cannot be, because to label the homosexual a criminal would violate the basic freedoms of the Constitution. However, there are individual police officers in any police force, who would like to make the homosexual believe he is a criminal. The Kansas City Police force is one of the finest in the world in dealing with minority groups. Our police force has, in the past, made it a policy not to harass homosexuals unless the individual is committing a crime. However, it should be well to note that the general policy of the police department is not always followed by individual officers especially those with a deep prejudice toward homosexuals.

There have been cases of homosexuals being stopped for questioning (and the police do have the right to stop citizens in certain cases.) And suspecting they might be homosexual, wind up giving them a rough time (they do not have the right to do this). Homosexuals have, from time to time, been verbally abused by officers of the law.

Most people just do not know what their rights are in a given situation. We feel that one of our duties is to protect the rights of homosexuals collectively and individually. Therefore, in the near future, we plan on producing a pocket-size booklet detailing the rights of the individual in case of arrest.

We would be interested in knowing of any cases of harassment experienced by any homosexual citizen in our area.

Referral Service

Have you ever been a stranger in a city and not know where to go? Have you ever been arrested and did not have a lawyer, or bondsman you could trust? Have you ever felt the need to talk to a clergyman of your faith about your problems, but were afraid to because of what he might say if it were known you were a homosexual? Have you ever needed help in getting a job? Have you ever suspected that you might have VD, but were afraid to go to a doctor for fear of exposure? Have you ever needed someone to talk to your parents, because they had found out you were gay? Have you and your mate ever had marriage problems which could have been worked out if a marriage counselor had been available? Just where do you go if any of these problems do arise? We have been wondering ourselves.

In other cities where there is a homophile organization, the organization had set up what is called a "referral service" for the homophile population in that city. It had been very successful, and many people have been helped who otherwise would not have been. The Phoenix Society has at its disposal nu-

(continued on page 13)

National Legal Fund

The National Legal Defense Fund, is a non-profit corporation, established March 6, 1967 in California, whose purpose is to help the homosexual to defend his right to privacy regarding sexual matters, invasions of his Constitutional rights; such as freedom to attend gay bars, equal protection from harassments, etc., to name a few.

These rights are too often violated by police, legislators, and others in their determined attack of the homosexual; these violations must stop, and will, if we all pull together to help the NLDF continue their good work for the homosexuals benefit. Many organizations have contributed, and many more from all over the country are expected. You can send your donation to: The National Legal Defense Fund 330 Ellis St., San Francisco, California-94102.

The American Law Institute composed of noted lawyers and judges, have drawn up a Model Penal Code, holding private sensual acts to be non-criminal. The President's Crime Commission has recommended the same. However, even today, individuals are convicted for private sexual acts in their homes, despite the Constitution's 4th Amendment's provisions as to "unlawful searches and seizure." At least one court has reversed the conviction, stating that consensual sex conduct between two homosexuals in private, is not a crime.

The Defense Fund will participate in only cases that may establish legal precedents, and benefit the community as a whole.

The present board includes Rev. Clarence Colwell, two attorneys, and soon a Hollywood director, professors of law, attorneys, and members of the medical profession. ACLU has many members working for this worthy cause.

According to P. Lane, writer of this article, donations are tax deductible.

We wonder how society benefits by destroying lives, because of private expression of affection? Also, marking people with police records, thus making job finding difficult? What does it gain by making bitter enemies of the homosexual?

** ** *

Notice

The May Membership meeting will be held at Marc Jeffers house. It will be on Sunday, May 28th. Bring a picnic lunch and drinks will be furnished. The meeting will start about 7 P. M. but, you may start gathering from 3:00 on. There will be many issues and up-coming events to be discussed, including the proposed social center, so be there!

The Board of Directors meeting will be held on May 14th, 7:30 P.M. at 1838 E. 49th St.

The Publications Committee meets each Monday eve at 7:30 P. M. at 1838 E. 49th St.

Don't forget the Public Meeting on May 22. This could lead to a group of religious leaders working for our benefit. Is a K. C. Council on Religion and the Homosexual possible????

ACLU meeting on May 6th. 7:00 P.M.

THE PHOENIX work party on May 1
June issue work party will be on
Friday May 26th.

V. D. Pamphlet work party will
be on Monday, May 8th.

All other committee meetings and special events will be announced individually during the Month.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT-----DREW R. SHAFER
VICE PRESIDENT-----MARC JEFFERS
SECRETARY-----ERIC DAMON
TREASURER-----LANCE CARTER
DIRECTOR-----GENE TOD
DIRECTOR-----AARON DIETRICH
DIRECTOR-----PETER ROMAN

SOCIAL AFFAIRS

During our March membership meeting, I was appointed to be chairman of the Social Affairs Committee.

This committee has a great challenge and opportunity, in planning social events, which will play an important role in the society's total program by:

1. Helping attract new members to the society.
2. Raising funds for different projects.
3. Giving members the opportunity to gather socially, in addition to working together on projects, thus widening the program to better fulfill the member's needs.
4. Supplementing the bars in giving the homosexual community the opportunity to gather socially.

Already many good ideas have come to the attention and consideration of the committee. But, every member's ideas, comments, and suggestions are wanted and needed.

If you would like to participate in the planning and carrying out of enjoyable and profitable social functions, please contact me thru the Phoenix Society.

TIM CORBIN

NOTICE

We suggest that due to recent developments, the Union Station, Greyhound Bus Station, and Continental Bus Station, be visited only when one is planning to take a trip.

Classified

WHY NOT???

Do you have something you would like to sell? Why not take out a classified ad in THE PHOENIX.

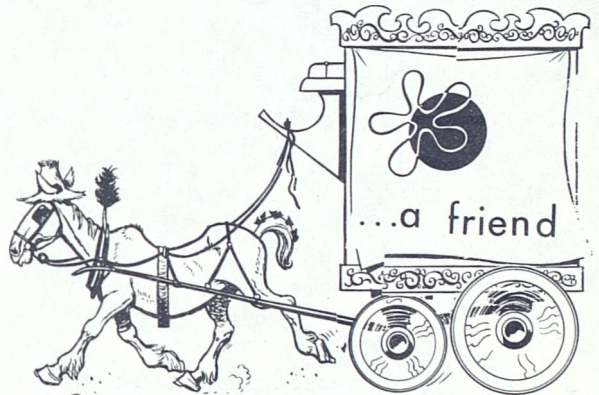
For only 40¢ per line of 35 letters and spaces, your ad will be noticed and read by over 1000 subscribers and readers.

FREE CATALOG!

Write today for the most complete catalogue of books, movies and other items of interest to male homosexuals. Free. Trojan Book Service, Box 2121-P, Philadelphia, Pa.

** ** *

Complete motor and body work guaranteed and at reasonable rates 8:30 A. M. to 7:00 P. M. Mon. Thru Sat. Phone CH 1 6066 KUSTOM KAR SHOP



3740 Broadway
Jefferson 1-9881

NOW

PANDY BROWN

AT THE PIANO



the GAS Light LOUNGE

Members Speak At Church

One of a series of four Wednesday eve meetings was held April 12, 1967 in the Community Christian Church-the subject of discussion being "Opportunity for Christian Growth and Fellowship." There were various groups meeting at the same time, but in different classrooms.

Our particular group was between members of Phoenix and about 40 members of the church; the subject being on "Homosexuality and the Church", with our Chaplain, Vann Anderson as head spokesman. The other speakers were Estel Graham, Lance Carter and Gene Tod. Vann gave a brief summary of homosexuality, and the rest of the meeting time was devoted to an informal question and answer period.

Gene Tod and Lance Carter have been married to each other for nearly six years now. Estel Graham is the mother of a homosexual boy.

This particular group of people obviously knew little about homosexuality, which is the case with many heterosexuals.

This audience comprised younger and older ones alike, and were quite eager to learn about homosexuality, and how they could help as individuals and as a whole in the church.

One of the questions asked was how a hustler operates. One of the members answered quite well and satisfactorily, having been one himself years ago.

Another question raised was the army's reaction toward a known homosexual. Gene Tod had just been honorably discharged from Ft. Leonard Wood, because of his homosexuality. Gene is naturally a good speaker, and he related interestingly his experiences while in the army, to the effect that the fellows accepted him for being a man, and not because he is a homosexual, and his officers all treated him well also. He made friends there and is still corresponding with some.

Another question was concerning a gay marriage; how the housework was divided up, if there is any infidelity as there is in some heterosexual marriages, and how they felt

about not having any children. Lance, having been married for six years was quite capable of answering satisfactorily to the group, and he did a good job.

Estel Graham was asked how she felt and reacted, upon discovering her son to be a homosexual. Her answer was one of shock and heartache but with many discussions with her son, plus a visit to a psychiatrist, and talking with many homosexuals, all ages, she realized this was a natural situation to her son, the same as the feelings of one heterosexual for another is natural, so there is nothing to do, but accept this homosexuality and help the homosexual to be accepted, and claim his rightful place in the world.

Miss Graham was asked how the church could help the homosexual? Her answer was first to accept the homosexual as another human being, and then realize that he is just the same as heterosexuals, except for his sexual preference, which should be his private business anyway, just as the heterosexual's sex life is his own business.

One woman Miss Graham talked to, expressed the fact that her son seemed to have some homosexual potentials, and this meeting had helped her understand the situation better.

This group of around 40 comprised a small part of the public, but a very important part, as they were most eager to learn and to find out how they could help the invert. There are many, many more like these people, just waiting to have the same chance.

Lance and Gene also were asked if they attend any church, and how homosexuals feel about the church. To the first question, they each said they used to go to church, but not anymore. Lance was given a rough time by a Christian Church minister here, and made to feel unwelcome in no uncertain terms, because of his homosexuality, and because of it, hasn't been back since. Gene belonged to the hard-shelled Baptist church, and was afraid of being found out, and what would happen, so he dropped out also. Their answer to the second question was to the effect that many homo-

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Around Town Out Of Town

ERIC DAMON

Many thanks to the St. Louis bars for their hospitality shown us while there for the convention. Especially, we wish to thank Martin's Bar for their enthusiastic support and for the excellent buffet supper.

We would also like to encourage the establishment of a homophile group in St. Louis, which we understand is being discussed at this time.

** ** *

Our Social Affairs Chairman, Tim Corbin, was recently down South, where he seems to have spent a very enjoyable few days. He writes: "While traveling recently in the deep South, I had the good fortune to find a veritable oasis in the beautiful and quaint, but unlikely town of SAVANNAH, GA. There exists here what is probably the only dancing bar between New York and Miami. This is the Unicorn Club, Inc. at 3 Jefferson St. The club is quite large with a U-shaped bar, a generous dancing area, and a number of tables surrounding the room. The atmosphere is relaxed and very friendly. As a visitor, I was made to feel welcome and very much at home, and I had the opportunity to meet many of the patrons. Congenial Bill Lane, formerly of Kansas City, is the owner and operator of the club. The opening night was on the occasion of St. Patrick's Day and already, the club appears to be an outstanding success. Although the Unicorn is operated as a private club, Mr. Lane informs me that out-of-towners down for a visit will be most welcome. Also, according to Mr. Lane, the police in Savannah take a very intelligent attitude toward homosexuality and have thus far been very co-operative and helpful in their contact with the homosexual community. Travelers should definitely make it a point to visit the Unicorn Club (phone 234-9745) and experience true Southern hospitality while in Savannah."

** ** *

At the Night-Spots

Now beginning his second year at The Colony - the irrepressible Mr. Skip Arnold. Joe Vera provides the entertainment at the piano.

The Gaslight Lounge now headlining the very delightful Miss Sandy Brown tickling the ivories for your enjoyment.

The Rail Runners still giving out with those really great sounds at the Rail Room. It is ever the policy of the Phoenix Society to promote harmonious relations between the male and female gay societies. So why not go down to the Rail Room, enjoy the music and dancing, and get to know and understand the girls better?

** ** *



"The boys don't care how comfortable it is, Jesse. They think it's bad for our image!"

PUBLIC MEETING

St Pauls School Of Theology

Monday May 22, 1967

Center For Renewal

7:30 P. M.

1512 Van Brunt Blvd.

On Monday Evening, May 22, 1967 at 7:30 P. M., there is to be an open meeting between representatives of the homophile community and of the major religions in the Greater Kansas City area. The meeting will be devoted to acquainting the religious community with the problems of the homosexual and to the establishing of a dialogue between the homophile community and the religious community in order to face the issues squarely and eliminate these problems. We urge the attendance of all persons interested in the problems of the homosexual citizen in society, today.

"And
Cain
said:
'Am I my
brother's keeper?'"



Our Statement

"It is the opinion of The Phoenix Society that it is high time that the church accept its responsibility for the deplorable misinformed attitude of society toward the homosexual in America, today. The laws which apply to sexual matters between consenting adults in private are based upon religious attitudes of more than a century ago. Society bases its thinking upon what the church teaches. It is time the church taught compassion and understanding rather than condemnation of the homosexual. In order to do this, the religious leader and layman alike must make an effort to gain knowledge of homosexuality and then use this knowledge constructively. The Phoenix Society is continually engaged in dialogue with religious leaders in the Greater Kansas City area in order to assure that, in the future, the homosexual citizen will be able to function as a whole person in society without guilt, without secrecy and without shame." Page 8

ACLU Holds Meeting

The annual dinner meeting of the Greater Kansas City Civil Liberties Union will be held on May 6th. The speaker will be Judge Dorothy Kenyon, a former New York municipal court judge, and a member of the Board of Directors of ACLU. Judge Kenyon has been very active in the field of civil liberties in several areas, including juries, abortion laws, voting rights, legal services to the poor. The Patrick Murphy Malin Award will be presented to K.C. Star cartoonist Bill Sanders. The award is given annually to a person who has made a real contribution to the protection, or advancement of civil liberties.

Several members of Phoenix Society are members of the ACLU and will be in attendance at this meeting. It is planned in future public meetings of Phoenix, to have several speakers from the GKC ACLU.

What Is The ACLU ?

The American Civil Liberties Union is a nationwide organization, devoted to protecting the individual liberties of citizens. It is composed of professional people from all walks of life, including many lawyers, and laymen, who feel that the rights of people need to be protected. The ACLU believes that the right of any person or group to search for truth and express an opinion, is more than an individual right; it is the heart of democracy's survival and growth. The ACLU opposes all prior censorship of what people may see, read or hear, opposes laws and legislative committees that punish "advocacy", and "teaching" of revolutionary philosophy, rather than overt acts of violence. The ACLU protects the right of individuals to associate, and assemble, defends the right of religious belief, any or none at all, no matter what community pressures attack that belief.

The ACLU believes fair procedures for everybody must be constantly defended, in order to protect the individual against whimsical exercise of judicial and administrative power. Due process includes not only the well-known concepts of trial by jury, right to counsel, and the right not to be forced to testify against oneself. It includes the right to confront and cross examine witnesses, to be accorded a speedy trial to gain release from prison by bail, the specific prohibition against "crimes and unusual punishment", and against invasion of personal privacy. The ACLU seeks to end police abuse of citizens, opposes legislation that seeks to block freedom of travel, defends aliens from deportation, opposes electronic eavesdropping, and obtains legal counsel for Negroes in the South.

The ACLU is much more than just an "idea" group. It is an "action" group putting into practice what they believe. The many lawyers working with ACLU daily go to court to fight injustices against the individual. From the smallest courts to the Supreme Court, the ACLU fights for rights which many times we take for granted until they are denied us. The ACLU has handled such cases as these: A school teacher named Scopes who explained Darwin's ideas to his students, a nine-year old Jehovah's Witness was taken from his parents, because his religious belief required that he not salute the flag, The James Joyce classic, "Ulysses," had to battle Customs Bureau censorship to be admitted to this country, A senate committee sought to seize private telegrams sent by Hearst newspapers, A whole family of Seventh-day Adventists was committed to an asylum for their "crazy" pacifist ideas, American Indians in Arizona and New Mexico were not permitted to vote, an alleged Communist was forbidden to speak publicly because anti-communists who

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"Individual Expression"

Dean Triton, Ed.

ALONE - LOOKING - SEARCHING

One alone
In a crowded bar yet all alone
Eyes wandering
Looking
Searching
Trying to find something--
 someone not there
"Would you like to dance?"
All right--nice, but it's not him
Looking
Searching
Trying to find the one
The one to spend a life with--
 or a year--or a week
The one to give love to--or if
 not love happiness
The one to be true to--or if
 not true truthful
Looking
Searching
Trying to find the someone some-
 where who wants only me
Someone I could love
Life can't be one chase with
 nothing to cling to
Looking
Searching
Trying to find....
That one looks nice--maybe--if only
 for an hour or a night
"Hi There"

Tere

THE LOVERS PRAYER

Heavenly Father, Lord above
Please protect the boy I love
Keep him safe and keep him sound
No matter where he may be found
Make him know and make him see
That I love him and he loves me
Keep us now and keep us forever
Always near and always together.

G.S.

LIFE

Each night before I close my eyes,
I lie and wonder if I was wise
To have let another day go by
 unrecognized.

The time that passed seems some-
 where lost
As if a cloud had somehow crossed
And covered all the daylight hours
With some hidden, dark and imagin-
 ary frost.

And here it is the night again
When everything is still and bland;
A time to think and ponder aloud,
Just what this thing called life is
 all about.

A process that we all go through
One way or another, gay or blue,
At certain times a winless race
At other times so full of grace.

Lee Starr

If you have a poem,
ink sketch, short
story, joke, or
amusing comment,
post to:

THE EXPRESSION EDITOR
THE PHOENIX
POST OFFICE BOX 1191
KANSAS CITY, MO., 64141

Dean Triton, Editor

CURRENT EVENTS

ESTEL GRAHAM

Los Angeles-

Each case of arrest on New Year's eve, 1967, is being tried separately by a judge. One of these cases, Mr. Rosier, was tried recently for kissing in the "Black Cat", and was badly beaten during the raid, and has quite a number of witnesses to the incident.

Mr. Rosier isn't going to let the city of L.A. and the L.A. Police Dept. get off that easy, as he is suing the above for \$125,000. As far as can be ascertained, this is the first time in history that this type of action has taken place in the homophile movement.

The Long Beach chapter of NLSU says Rosier has a pretty good chance of winning. Let us all say a little prayer that he can win. If so, it will be a good beginning toward the end of harassments, beatings, etc., to the homosexual. What a victory that will be!

New York Times, Jan. 7, 1967-

The N.Y. City Personnel Director announced that one of the questions not asked anymore is: "Are you a homosexual?"

In the past, an investigator would automatically reject an applicant namely on the grounds that by his appearance, actions, or attitude, he appeared to be a homosexual, the city spokesman said.

Today, if he gives the impression he can do the job and has all the other qualifications, we say he should be hired. The results are that "we have employed some excellent workers." This is a good beginning toward abolishing old theories of hiring known homosexuals. Lets hope this policy is adopted everywhere soon.

Tallahassee, Florida-

According to the March 26, 1967 "Tallahassee Democrat", Lt. Burl Peacock, head of the Vice Squad of the Tallahassee Police Dept., painted quite a fearsome picture of homosexuals for parents and children alike, in a detailed speech to the Exchange Club.

It is a pity that members of the police, especially, don't hold

their tongue, until they find out if their ideas are true about homosexuals, before broadcasting it to the world.

Peacock says homosexuals aren't born that way, but children are lured into that way of life by an adult, thus making them homosexuals. If Peacock can say this, he has discovered something that no competent researcher or research organization has yet learned, and any psychiatrist can assure us that Peacock's statement is completely false.

Peacock failed to mention to his audience, that persons who molest children are known as "pederasts", and that most of them are not homosexuals. A child has much more to fear from a friend or member of the family, than from the average homosexual. This has been proven by statistics.

Manhattan, Kansas-K. State Collegion, March 8, 1967.

Eugene Wiesner, Student Health Psychiatrist, spoke to the "United Christian Campus Fellowship" faculty forum, on homosexuality.

He said, "The homosexual who is regarded as a deviate instead of a man in love with another man, usually becomes a loner, and is fearful of any relationship."

Wiesner pointed out "that the homosexual has two roles-the conscious role that says his love object should be a woman and the unconscious role in which he associates being good with femininity." In solving this conflict we try to make the patient see himself as he is and help him to decide which role he will choose.

Wiesner comments further. "A relationship must be set up whereby the patient identifies with the doctor, although the treatment takes a long time."

Pointing out that sex is not always involved in homosexuality, Wiesner said a person may "develop a close relationship with one of the same sex, and break it off because of fear of sexual involvement."

In reviewing the above statements, Wiesner obviously needs correct facts before attempting to help the homosexual.

College Students Organize

The Student Homophile League of Columbia University, New York, has finally been granted approval to function as a student organization, after a six month campaign for recognition.

The final barrier that was holding them up was the request for submission of 5 names, all of which are heterosexual members. Some prominent campus leaders are among those listed.

Dr. Harold E. Lowe, chairman of the committee and an assistant to the Vice President of the University, assured SHL chairman, Stephen Donaldson, that "no amount of pressure from alumni or others", would induce the committee to change its mind.

A sharp reaction is expected from some of the University Community, such as one Columbia professor who appeared on the recent CBS documentary as an anti-homosexual. Also another professor who is well known for his virulent anti-homosexuality, is Gilbert Highet, professor of Greek and Latin—a world famous authority.

Phoenix is confident that SHL can handle any negative reaction to their newly found organization. We also want to congratulate you, SHL, for a job well done, that could only have been accomplished through your sincere, untiring efforts. We, of Phoenix are standing by ready to help in any way we can.

We feel this action will set a precedent for other Universities to also form student homophile organizations.

This should again prove to the homosexual non-believers, that there are many responsible homosexuals, who "dig" in and achieve worthwhile goals.

This new organization is another way of bringing the community and school closer to understanding, accepting and working with the homosexual.

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COLONY CLUB



Appearing Nightly

Skip Arnold



with

JOE VERA, PIANIST



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The PHOENIX SOCIETY For Individual Freedom

The Phoenix Society is a non-profit non-sectarian organization, for promoting the understanding and interest of the public in all social variants; especially homosexuals, so that all persons may share equally in the guarantees of Democracy under the Constitution of the United States of America, regardless of sex or sexual orientation.

Our Position

We are still being asked about our stand on the question of whether homosexuals should serve in the Armed Forces of the United States. We feel that the homosexual citizen has the right, and the duty to serve his Country but should not have to lie about it. There are thousands of homosexuals serving right now and many more are joining each and every day. The very large majority of these persons will serve their country well and will be discharged honorably; some will give their life for their country.

There is absolutely no basis for the U.S. Government's stand, that the presence of the homosexual in the service would impair discipline, good order morale and the security of the Armed Forces. We do not advocate that the federal government change its policy regarding behavior of service men or soften any punishments. All we ask is that the sex question be removed from the draft examinations for the following reasons: It is unworkable, It is an insult to all men inducted into military service, It serves no purpose whatever for the Armed Forces or for our Country, It provides an easy and widely used "out" for evaders of military service, It constitutes a damaging and perpetual threat to homosexual men and women, and it damages morale of the Armed Forces, by showing that our government is as interested in a man's sex life as it is in the defense of our country.

Committees

The following committees are now functioning within the framework of the Phoenix Society:

- Publications Committee
- Public Relations Committee
- Library Committee
- Social Affairs Committee
- Program Committee
- Religious Concerns Committee
- Membership Committee

Gay Social Center

The Phoenix Society is currently working on a proposed Social Center to be located somewhere in the Greater Kansas City Area. The Center would include, office space, a dance floor, meeting rooms, library, and recreation rooms.

A committee has been formed to investigate several locations. The findings of this committee will be reported at the next membership meeting.

It is hoped that a large enough space can be acquired to provide all of the varied social events which homosexuals in Kansas City will be interested in.

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(continued from page 3)

merous professional people who are willing to be available to help homosexuals when they are called upon. The main problem is the actual setting up of the service. The main problem is that a telephone number must be available 24 hours a day, so that help may be received when it is needed. This takes money. So, we are asking you, if you feel there is a need for such a service, please support us by attending the social dances, etc. to raise money for our various projects. We are here for your health as well as ours.

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CBS Program

On March 7th, 1967, the long awaited C.B.S. program, The Homosexuals was aired, and this reporter wonders if we gained anything by it. It appeared to be very one sided. The program opened with a homosexual proclaiming "It was the first moment in my life where I was open, where I didn't have to hide" when referring to "coming out" in gay life. Then very quickly, we had to wade through sick homosexuals describing why they wished they weren't homosexual. We were then treated with remarks from Dr. Charles Socarides who made statements such as "homosexuality is in fact a mental illness". No attempt was made to present the "other side" of the coin. There are many professional psychiatrists who insist that homosexuality is not an illness, but regard it as a normal condition.

We were treated with interviews with clergymen who expressed basically the same viewpoint as the law, that is "it is alright to be homosexual, but do not practice sex". The film of the arrest of a 19 year old homosexual caught in a public restroom, was again on the negative side. There were a few shots (very few) of leaders of the organizations, expressing themselves and Gore Vidal did a very good job of sizing up the situation in the U.S. today. He said - "We have a sexual ethic which is the joke of the world. We are laughed at in every country for our attitudes toward sex. The United States is living out some mad, protestant, 19th Century dream of human behavior. The ideal of marriage is obsolete in our society." Mike Wallace, the moderator, said: "Even in this era of bold sexual mores, it remains a subject that people find disturbing, embarrassing, and the reluctance to discuss it. The silence that surrounds it promotes myths and uncertainties and misunderstandings." C.B.S. did a good job of pointing out that fact, but did not work too hard to make it less disturbing, less embarrassing.

The act of getting the subject out in the open on a national level, no matter how it was presented, may have some value. We will have to wait and see.



COMPLIMENTS OF
A FRIEND

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sexuals would like to attend church and take part, but are too afraid what would happen if found out.

Another suggestion that was made at this point, involved preachers acquainting their congregation about homosexuality, and the truth about homosexuals. The congregation would come to accept the invert, and would be accepted as a human being, who desperately needs the help of the church.

This is part of a continuing program of public education to acquaint the public with the truth about homosexuality in general, and homosexuals in particular.

RELIGIOUS CONCERNS

MARC JEFFERS

Encouraged by our open meeting on Religion and the Homosexual held at the Westport Methodist Church last winter, and by the open meeting held in connection with the Midwest Homophile Conference in St. Louis last month, Phoenix Society is now planning another such event here in Kansas City during the month of May.

We are going to go all out on this meeting. We intend it to be a real confrontation of the religious community, with reference to its morality or immorality. This is not to say that no one else is invited. On the contrary, we want it to be also a Town Hall type meeting for anyone who is interested in hearing, and participating in, if he wishes, a discussion on the moral aspect of homosexuality. Anyone wishing to ask a question is welcome, or just come and listen. If you think you already know what religion says about homosexuality, you might be surprised. The program will be an organized one, but plenty of opportunity will be afforded for a real give and take by the audience.

We, of Phoenix, are becoming more and more convinced that the best avenue of approach to those who show hostility and contempt toward homosexuals, will be an honest and frank dialog with the Religious Establishment. This is so, because when attempting to reason with such a hostile person, the last refuge of his bigotry, when all else fails is the old tried and true (to him at least), bromide that "everyone knows that homosexuality is immoral and condemned in the Bible". Believing that this approach to be a very necessary one, we want this meeting to be one of the highlights of this years educational program.

There are many topics which will no doubt be brought up for discussion: "Is homosexuality basically immoral? Should homosexuals try to repress their homosexual feelings? Is a homosexual marriage to be encouraged, or is it even possible? What does the Bible really say about homosexuality and what does this mean today?"

This meeting will be held on Monday evening, May 22, at 7:30 P.M. in the Center For Renewal building on the campus of the St. Paul School of Theology, 1525 Denver St. This is a short distance east of the intersection of Truman Road and Van Brunt Blvd.

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The absence of any mention of the Midwest Homophile Conference will probably be quite noticeable in this issue of THE PHOENIX, however, in order to write a comprehensive article dealing with all that the organizations discussed and worked on will require a copy of the minutes of that meeting. The meeting was a successful venture for the amount of time that was allowed. Look for a complete rundown in the June issue of THE PHOENIX

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disagreed with him would riot. These and many other types of cases have been handled successfully by the ACLU.

This organization has in the past, and is now handling many types of cases involving violation of the rights of homosexuals. ACLU lawyers are handling the Bruce Scott Case involving the right of a person who was picked up for loitering, to work for the Federal Government. Other cases include, the right of foreign homophile publications to enter the country, whether or not they have "nudes" in them, the right of homosexuals to assemble in gay bars, the right of homosexuals to protest en masse against discrimination, police brutality against the homosexual citizen, entrapment by police, and is currently attempting to prevent the deportation of an alien homosexual from Canada, who the Immigration and Naturalization, says has a psychopathic personality, automatically, because he is homosexual. These are just some of the reasons we say "SUPPORT THE A.C.L.U."

Homophile Organizations

1. ASSOCIATION FOR RESPONSIBLE CITIZENSHIP--P.O. Box 895, Sacramento, Calif. 95814
2. CITIZENS NEWS--P.O. Box 792, San Francisco, Calif. 94101
3. COUNCIL ON RELIGION AND THE HOMOSEXUAL, 330 Ellis St. San Francisco Calif. 94102
4. DAUGHTERS OF BILITIS, INC. 3470 Mission St. San Francisco, Calif. 94110
5. D.O.B.(L.A. CHAPTER) - P.O. Box 727, Manhattan Beach, Calif.
6. D.O.B. N.Y. CHAPTER) - P.O. Box 3629, New York, N.Y. 10017
7. HOMOSEXUAL LAW REFORM SOCIETY, 34 South 17th St. Philadelphia, Pa. 19103
8. HOMOSEXUAL VOTERS ADVISORY COUNCIL P.O. Box 5131, Denver, Colo. 80217
9. INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL ETHICS, The Shelbourne, Suite 930, 600 Asylum, Hartford, Conn. 06105
10. MATTACHINE SOCIETY, INC. 693 Mission St. Suite 311, San Francisco Calif. 94105
11. MATTACHINE MIDWEST--4753 N. Broadway, Chicago, Ill. 60640
12. MATTACHINE SOC. OF FLORIDA, INC. P.O. Box 301, Miami, Florida 33101
13. MATTACHINE SOC. INC. OF NEW YORK 1133 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10010
14. MATTACHINE SOC. OF WASHINGTON P.O. Box 1032, Wash., D.C. 20013
15. NATIONAL LEAGUE FOR SOCIAL UNDERSTANDING INC.--9201 West Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif. 90069
16. ONE, INC. 2256 Venice Blvd. Los Angeles, Calif. 90006
17. ONE, OF CHICAGO, 100 N. LaSalle Room 1015, Chicago 2, Ill.
18. PHOENIX SOCIETY FOR INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM P.O. Box 1191, Kansas City, Mo. 64141
19. PRIDE--P. O. Box 46545, Los Angeles, Calif. 90046
20. PURSUIT AND SYMPOSIUM 2141 Baxter St. Los Angeles, Calif. 90039
21. SAME--P.O. Box 775--Rock Island Ill., 61202
22. SOCIETY FOR INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS 83 Sixth St. San Francisco, Calif. 94103
23. SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA COUNCIL ON RELIGION AND THE HOMOPHILE-- 3330W. Adams Blvd. Los Angeles, Calif. 90018

Organizations cont.

24. STUDENT HOMOPHILE LEAGUE-- 202 Earl Hall, Columbia University-- New York, N.Y. 10027
25. TANGENTS--3473 1/2 Cahuenga Blvd. West Hollywood, Calif. 90028
26. TAVERN GUILD OF SAN FRANCISCO Inc. 83 Sixth St. San Francisco, Calif. 94103
27. TAVERN GUILD OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA-- 11012 Ventura Blvd. Studio City, Calif. 91604
28. VANGUARD 17 Turk St. San Francisco, Calif.
29. WASHINGTON AREA COUNCIL ON RELIGION AND THE HOMOSEXUAL--R.O. Box 5618--Washington, D.C. 20016

CANADIAN

30. ASSOCIATION FOR SOCIAL KNOWLEDGE P.O. Box 4277, Vancouver 9, B.C. Canada

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