

The Bagatelle

Volume 5, Issue 1

January 27, 1983

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF TEXAS BAY AREA GAYS

Happy Birthday T-BAG!!!

What better time to inaugurate a new newsletter than the celebration of our fourth anniversary. So girls, here it is!! After months of promises and weeks of excuses (sounds like my sex life) here is your new newsletter. Listen, when I took on this project I had no idea what I was getting myself into - we haven't had a newsletter in six months. Do you realize what we've done in six months? In that short period of time we have cooked-out, cooked-in, picnicked, and partied! We've broiled our buns at Stewart's Beach, chilled our num-nums in the Guadalupe River (it makes them so hard!!!) and completely defrosted the Beaumont Halloween Bash!! Not to mention our own Halloween Bash! We minced our way through the Westheimer Arts Festival, FLAMED through the Texas Renaissance Festival, and at last count there are nine restaurants in the Bay Area that have reservations about taking our reservations! (For those of you who are interested, the Chinese term for fag is Tong-Csin-Lian - don't ask me to pronounce it but if you go to a certain Chinese restaurant you are certain to hear it.) We threw parties that the pros could take lessons from. Lot's of 'em!! Big ones, little ones, hot ones, and Piss Elegant ones. Now you see why there hasn't been a newsletter in six months. Christmas and Halloween both deserve their own issues just to do them justice. (sounds like a good idea to me, I barely have time for my cucumber facial at the Salon, my tanning session at the Gym, and my whole blood transfusion at the Clinic! And then there's Canasta at Erwin's...) Not all of our time was devoted totally to fun and frivolity, we became more active in the community - gay and straight. For the first time ever we were represented in the Houston Gay Pride Parade. We

participated in the Montrose Jam, we made the media with photographs in the Montrose Voice (officially) and TWT (unofficially). We helped register eligible voters in our area and we hustled...er, solicited...er, beat the bushes for votes for our candidates in the various elections. We even fostered two new groups in '82. One group, similar in aims to T-BAG, has been founded in Las Cruces, New Mexico by displaced T-BAGger Jessica Whore and is aptly named Lambda Las Cruces. The other group presently testing its wings calls itself TBAGY (Texas Bay Area Gay Youth - for those of you too dull to figure it out) and it is hoping to serve the needs of gays in our area of High school and College age. TBAGY is operating as an auxiliary to TBAG and is chaired by Steve with Ron as Vice-Chairperson (Person in charge of Vice?), Marie as Secretary, and Boyd as Treasureperson. David S. was appointed liaison between TBAG and TBAGY and has been given the Honorary title of Foghorn Leghorn.

As you can see we've not let grass grow under our wedgies, nor moss on our bandanas. We have reason to be PROUD...and tired. There's not time nor the space here to relate to you everything that we've done in the past six months nor do I intend to do so. That much hot, concentrated gossip would give even the most Jaded old Queen heartburn and besides it would weigh so much that you would throw out your swish just trying to pick it up!!! Isn't it true that the best orgasms are the ones that last? So girls, I'm gonna start (or at least try) getting this newsletter out on a monthly basis, covering the news of the month plus reaching back into the memories of 1982 and pulling out...(oops, never).. retrieving some of those great events that I've only teased you with here today and tell you what REALLY happened!!! I'll need your help... after all this is your newsletter. Let's work together to make it as great as TBAG! I solicit your suggestions.. cartoons, a classified section? I need your contributions and most of all ...DIRT!!! Nothing sells newspapers like dirt and

honey I'm giving these away! Of course your contributions will be edited to death and if there are any good ones I'll take credit for them anyway, how can I lose? Just send those cards and letters to David S. in care of Erwin, those with photos and underwear will be read first.

Oh, and if any of you besides Alex, Chuck, Norman, and Baltazar don't want me to use your names in print, please let me know before the next issue.

SEE YOU NEXT MONTH!

this newsletter is dedicated to those assholes who don't attend the business meetings. otherwise you'd know what's been going on!

The Bagatelle

Volume 5, Issue 2

February 28, 1983

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF TEXAS BAY AREA GAYS

FEVER TAKES TWO T-BAGGERS!!

THIRD MEMBER IN CRITICAL CONDITION.

See related story, Page 3.

SERIOUS BUSINESS NEWS

Elections were held during the February Business Meeting in which the officers for the current six-month term were elected. Doug T. remained as Chairman for his second term in that office. Doug W. was elected to the position of Vice-Chairman replacing Peter G. who declined to run this term. David S. who served as Parliamentarian last term was elected as Secretary (probably because he couldn't spell Parliamentarian) and Erwin was re-elected for his second term as Treasurer. The vacant Parliamentarian position was filled by Eric L. who was elected in absentia.

Following the business of the Business Meeting, our guest speaker, Larry Bagneris, Chairman of the Houston Gay Political Caucus gave an excellent presentation on the role of the GPC in our community and its effect on the recent removal of wording in the Houston Police Department employment applications which discriminated against gays. (See "Miss Lillian" story below) Larry gave us insight into how that happened and how GPC influenced the Houston City Government to do so. Larry is an excellent and informative speaker and I'm sure we will welcome him back. Incidentally, Larry is now a dues paying member of T-BAG.

Speaking of dues, I've seen a copy of the proposed budget for T-BAG for the 1983 Fiscal Year and it is scary. If (and that is a big IF) all of our regular dues paying members continue to pay their dues we will just barely have enough funding (that's MONEY, girls!!) to accomplish all the things we are planning for this year. It's gonna be a big year and we need your support. Did you know that the

monthly dues are about the same as the price of a drink in a Montrose Bar? (Except of course the COPA on Wednesday nights!) Is that such a big price to pay. Honey, put off buying those nylons (or leather) and contribute!

NOT SO SERIOUS BUSINESS NEWS

The Birthday was a resounding success as we celebrated our Fourth Anniversary in the elegant surroundings of Hal & Doug's Dickinson home. It was impossible to count heads at the party since we all kept our panties up, but it is certain that over 70 people attended. There were tons of food of all descriptions efficiently coordinated by Jeff & Company (did'ja ever watch Randy clean up after a party?) and even a huge Birthday cake cut appropriately enough by Mother Erwin. Letters of congratulations poured in from many groups and organizations (the Montrose Clinic honored us by announcing that we had been patients 1,000,001 through 1,635,878 this year!!!) and there was even a phoned interview by Wilde & Stein which featured Erwin, live, on their Thursday evening broadcast on KPFT radio. Without David S.'s raucous disco racket an air of ambient friendship pervaded the atmosphere which made the evening that much more special.

The February Social Meetings were held at F.B.'s on the 10th, (he has a mirror hanging in his bathroom that will make you pee in your shoes) unfortunately Ross & Doug Jr. were unable to attend as they were starring in a major production entitled "The Bridal Suite" a touching tale...tale that I'm sure you will all want to see. It is available in living color on Videotape. Have your VISA or Master Card ready when the toll free operator answers. Doug & Brian hosted at Erwin's on the 17th and we partied (well, some of us did) at Donn's on the 24th.

OTHER STUFF

We shared the disappointment with "Miss Lillian" last week when she suffered a minor setback in her desire to enter the field of Law Enforcement. In all seriousness, She should be commended for her ambition because a socially aware police officer is an asset to the community, both gay and straight. But alas, it was not Miss

Lillian's swish that shot her down but unfortunately it was her eyesight that was not up to par. You see, it is true what we've been saying all these years that doing it too much will make you go blind. If further efforts to break into this field are thwarted, may we suggest that Miss Lillian consider going into business for herself and become a Private Eye or better yet, a Private Dick!

STRANGE FEVER HITS T-BAG!!!

A strange fever has infected the ranks of T-BAG in recent weeks. The fever, known locally as Rocky Mountain Root Rot (Denverosis Coloradii Confusitatus) manifests itself as a rectal-cerebral inversion in which the victim loses his ability to reason and succumbs to an urge to move North. Two T-Baggers, Jerry and Chris have already been taken by this dread disease and a third, Greg has a guarded prognosis and is only expected to last two more weeks. Jerry and Chris were former officers in T-BAG and had been around since water was invented.



Jerry, Chris, and Greg

Jerry served as Treasurer for 3 years and Chris recently stepped down as Secretary after serving for 3½ years. It still does not seem normal to go to Erwin's and not see them in attendance, however it is never normal at Erwin's anyway. Undaunted by this unfortunate turn of events, we have solicited the services of a Mystic in an attempt to return our dear departed friends from the cold, cold land where they now reside. We request that you send your donations to support this effort to the Lazarus Fund c/o Mother Erwin - Spiritualist, Fortune Teller, and Faith Healer, P.O. Box 861, Dickinson, Texas 77539. Dammit they were good friends.

T-BAGY held it's elections at the last meeting at David S.'s on February 19, 1983. Ron Y. was elected Chairman, Brian J. was elected Vice-Chairman, David N. was elected Secretary, and Steve

was elected as Treasurer, all to serve six-month terms. The group had its first speaker, Dr. Frank Berrier, Director of the Montrose Clinic. Dr. Berrier spoke on the subject of sexually transmitted diseases that are predominately gay related and concluded with a question and answer session. The presentation was beneficial to the group and the information given out was of the type desperately needed by young gays but rarely available to them in the straight world.

OLD NEWS

THE PARADE!!! Who doesn't remember the Gay Pride Parade last year? For the first time ever T-BAG sponsored a float in the Houston Gay Pride Week Parade. The float consisted of a sailboat (naturally) with a blue and white sail emblazoned with TEXAS BAY AREA GAYS in big, blue, satin letters. The boat was towed on a trailer covered with a blue drape and with blue and white streamers down each side. On each side of the sailboat's white hull "T-BAG" was repeated in bold, black letters. Blue ribbons danced from the tip of the mast. Other groups had fancier floats but none was GRANDER!! Doug T. and David S. shared the honors of riding in the float and in keeping with the color scheme of the float they each wore dark blue swim trunks, white, hooded, pullover jerseys, and dark blue bandana headbands. Mother Erwin drove the tow car accompanied by Brian J., Paul C. and Steve B. As for the ride down Westheimer it was a hoot! Pardon me while I slip into first person... the ride was fantastic, better than drugs!! I've never been so proud in my entire life, proud of the float, proud of T-BAG, and damn proud to be GAY! I felt guilty - so many T-BAGger's had put so much work into the float and the Parade and here I was riding on their glory. I remember some of their names... Doug T. made the sail, Jeff K. provided the tow car, Ron Y. donated the sailboat, Paul C., Doug T., and Steve B. cut and pasted the letters on the sail. So many others helped, provided, and I'm ashamed that I can't remember them all.

I only hope that each of you felt the pride that I felt that day.

Not all of the Parade was pomp, pageantry, and sentimentality; take for instance the moment when Randy D. discovered what the orange bandana that he was wearing in his left rear pocket meant. To Randy, wearing an orange bandana meant that he had exceptional taste in clothes. (It matched his shirt) However, it meant something entirely different to the 416 lb. Drag Queen who lusted after him. Can you imagine trying to decline gracefully to someone who is wearing among other things two Dobermans, a 14 inch Vibrator on a key-ring, and a M.A.S.H. tee-shirt in which the MASH does not refer to the TV series but is intended as an instruction instead? Poor Randy.

Or how about the episode in which Steve B. locked the tow car's keys in the tow car's trunk 20 minutes before the parade was to start? Luckily the tow car was equipped with an electric trunk release and David S. figured out a way to open it without the ignition being on. (David used to hot-wire his Momma's Oldsmobile to do his cruising in) There ain't no way that that queen was gonna miss out on that ride. To make sure that the same thing didn't happen again, the keys were given to Erwin (the only one who remained calm through it all) and Steve was locked in the tow-car's trunk.

T-BAG made the Montrose Voice because of the parade. For those of you who didn't see it, there was a photo of Doug and David and the float on page 10 of the July 9, 1982 issue. If you would like to see it, there is a copy in the T-BAG archive and I think David still has 8 or 9 hundred copies left and he would be happy to show you one of them.

It is already 1983! What are we gonna have in the Parade THIS YEAR???

Well, I've just about typed my pretty little fingers out this month, so I'll leave you in anticipation.... next month's OLDY GOODY will be Halloween! Bye now.

TEXAS BAY AREA GAYS
1983 Fiscal Year Budget

EXPENDITURES

Organizational Dues

Gay Switchboard	\$ 50.00	
IGLA	75.00	
NGTF	30.00	
GRNL	50.00	
TGTF	50.00	
LGRA	50.00	
HGPC	25.00	
<u>TOTAL ORGANIZATIONAL DUES</u>	<u>\$330.00</u>	<u>\$ 330.00</u>

Internal Expenses

Civic Center Rental	\$ 260.00	
Speaker Honorarium	110.00	
Printing	150.00	
Birthday Expenses	50.00	
Gay Pride Week Parade Float	300.00	
Gay Pride Week Youth Day	100.00	
<u>Telephone, P.O. Box Rental</u>	<u>112.80</u>	
<u>TOTAL INTERNAL EXPENSES</u>	<u>\$1082.80</u>	<u>\$1082.80</u>

<u>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</u>	<u>\$1412.80</u>
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INCOME

1982 Fiscal Budget Carry Over	\$ 300.00	
<u>Dues \$30.00 X 35 Members</u>	<u>1050.00</u>	
<u>TOTAL INCOME</u>	<u>\$1350.00</u>	<u>\$1350.00</u>

<u>TOTAL PROJECTED INCOME</u>	<u>\$1350.00</u>
<u>TOTAL EXPENSES</u>	<u>(1412.80)</u>
PROJECTED BALANCE	(\$62.80)