

SOUTHERN VOICE

Living and Dying
 Legal Concerns for
 Lesbians & Gays
 Part I of a II-part series
 Page 13

Vol. 1, No. 20

Taking Pride in Our Culture

November 24, 1988

Spin Magazine Shocks Supermarket Browsers with Free Condom

Spin magazine, the rock-and-roll monthly, tested the publishing world's commitment to AIDS education by distributing a condom inside each newsstand copy of its November issue. So far, over 90 locations have declined to carry the issue, and four national chains have refused to accept copies.

Editor and publisher Bob Guccione, Jr. said in a letter to magazine distributors that "(Inclusion of the condom) is an immensely important and responsible statement: that safe sex can save lives."

In a November 16th telephone interview, Guccione acknowledged that this issue of the magazine was going to lose money for his company, but said he felt that getting the word out on safe sex was a moral issue not open to compromise. He also professed that he was amazed at the "extent of the hysteria."

"Some of the distributors did ask us to do that (remove the condoms)," he said. "But I flat-out refused. We made a statement, not a half statement."

Guccione noted that anyone whose magazine did not have the condom attached could request a free sample through the mail.

Among the retail chains refusing to carry the issue in Atlanta are A & P, Big Star Foods, Eckerds Drugs, Ingles, Kroger, Majik Drugs, Reed Drug, 7-11, Treasury Drugs, Walden Books, and Winn Dixie.

The AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power/Atlanta (ACT UP/Atl) was planning at press time to stage a "die-in" action outside of Walden Books at Lenox Square Mall, and to urge customers to boycott the chain.

The free offer is a joint effort between Spin and Carter-Wallace, the makers of Trojan condoms.

A card-stock insert titled "And play by

the rules" inside the issue lists ten explicit instructions on the proper usage of a condom. The condom is attached to this page.

Guccione acknowledged that he has been criticized for the fact that the usage instructions are specifically penile-vaginal, but denied that it was homophobic in any way.

"I've never agreed with the ghettoizing of AIDS—restricting references to AIDS to the gay or IV drug (populations)," he said. Quoting himself from an earlier radio interview, Guccione said, "We're just trying to teach people how to dress the penis, where you take it afterward is really up to you."

He added that the instructions were provided by Carter-Wallace, and said that no specific attempt to bias the copy towards heterosexuals or homosexuals had been made to his knowledge.

Although Guccione admitted that he loved publicity gimmicks, he denied that putting the condom in the issue was such a stunt.

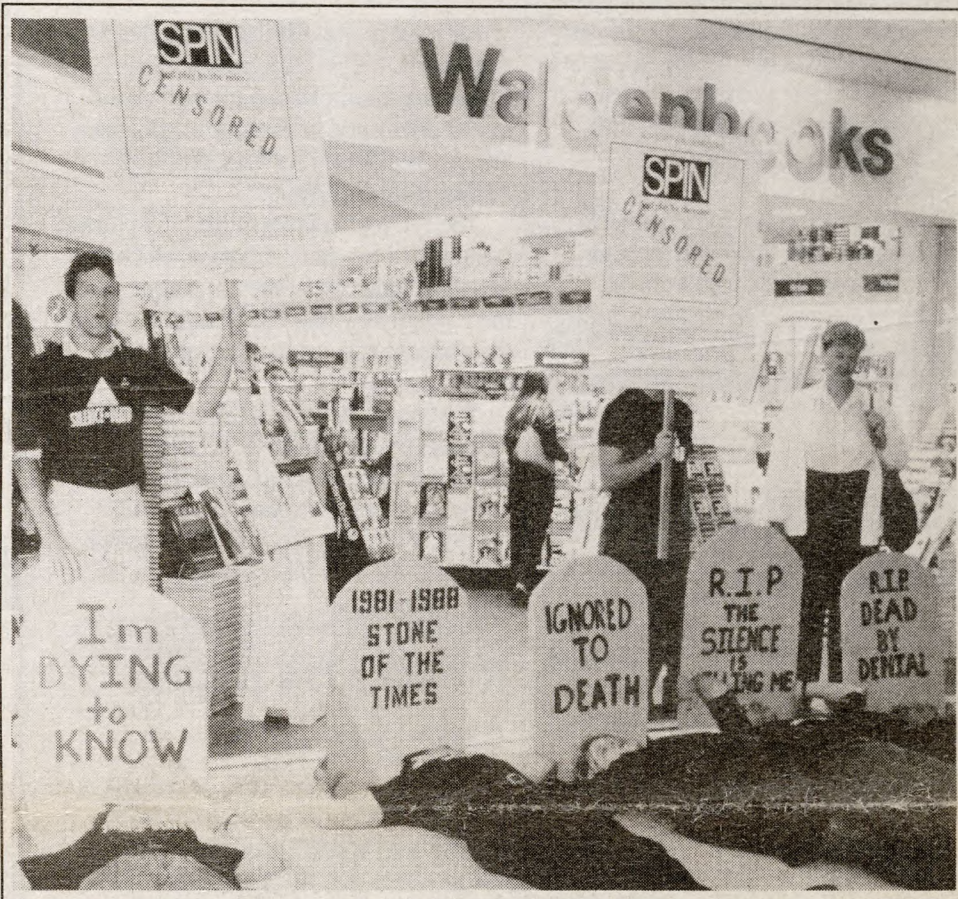
"We won't capture (our) audience by putting a condom in the magazine," he said.

Sales of the magazine are extremely brisk at area stores that agreed to stock the issue, however. Oxford Books has reported that they have to wrap copies of this issue in shrink-wrap plastic to keep people from taking the condom.

Guccione is extremely proud of his magazine's coverage of AIDS and AIDS issues over the past year, noting that Spin is the only "mainstream magazine" to devote at least one column a month to the subject.

"This is pure journalism," he said. "AIDS is the Vietnam of our time—to not cover it is to ignore the plight of our fellow man."

—Chris Duncan



JO GIRAUDDO

ACT UP protesters zapped Walden Books November 19th for "censoring" the November issue of Spin magazine. The bookstore chain refused to carry the magazine because it contained a free condom and gave explicit safe sex advice. The action on Saturday lasted 30 seconds before Lenox Square security officers reached the scene. ACT UP then leafleted cars, sneaking back into the mall while officers cleaned the windshields. See related story this page.

Atlantans – Gay & Straight – Protest Departure of Journal/Constitution Editor

Atlanta- Atlanta residents - including a sizable contingent of gays and lesbians - joined to voice their outrage at the Atlanta Journal/Constitution, following the paper's acceptance of editor Bill Kovach's resignation.

Kovach announced his resignation on Friday, November 4, after a confrontation with publisher Jay Smith, citing a lack of "mutual trust" between himself and the paper's owners, Cox Enterprises. Neither Kovach nor Cox officials have offered details of the dispute, but insiders say Kovach's aggressive brand of journalism angered the city's leading corporate citizens who found their companies under the vigilant eye of the paper.

The Journal/Constitution recently published stories on discrimination against blacks by major banks; bribing of foreign officials by Coca-Cola employees, and illegal campaign contributions by Georgia Power personnel. Publisher Jay Smith denies those stories contributed to the conflict, saying the center of the dispute was control of Cox's Washington bureau.

But critics point to the ouster of editor Eugene Patterson almost twenty years ago

after he published attacks on a proposed rate increase by Georgia Power. The paper had won its last Pulitzer Prize under Patterson two decades ago. Since then, it has built a solid reputation of mediocrity.

That quickly changed as Kovach, widely regarded as one of the top editors in the nation, tried to rebuild the Journal/Constitution. He came to Atlanta from the New York Times in December, 1986 and quickly made his mark, earning the admiration of employees and new respect for the paper. Last year, after twenty years without a Pulitzer, the Atlanta papers received five nominations -- the most ever for any newspaper -- and cartoonist Doug Marlette won the award.

Many noticed that sensitive coverage of the gay and lesbian community and of issues such as the AIDS crisis increased substantially over the last two years.

Maury Weil, head of the Georgia AIDS Legislative Coalition, pointed out that without the informed, compassionate and courageous stand of the Constitution during the last legislative session, "We couldn't have accomplished what we did." If the

Cont'd Page 3



Deidre McCalla, just one of the talented musicians with Olivia Records who brought the house down at Olivia's 15th anniversary concert at Center Stage on Nov. 19. See page 11 for a complete review.

NEWS IN BRIEF

U.S. Navy Snoops In The Closet, 8 Fired for "Lesbian Activity"

Norfolk, VA—The U.S. Navy announced the dismissal of eight women, following an investigation into "lesbian activity" aboard the destroyer Yellowstone.

The original investigation—funded with taxpayers' money—involved more than 25 women whose names appeared on a Navy list of suspected homosexuals. The list was given to the ship's legal department.

Navy officials cited the federal Privacy Act for withholding information in the case. However, it is known that the investigation centered on 12 of the women on the list. Four of them were cleared and the other eight were discharged for sexual misconduct.

The last time the Navy carried out this sort of operation was 1980 when another eight women were discharged from the research ship Norton Sound in Long Beach, California.

— F.G.

Oklahoma Republicans Not OK on Gays

Oklahoma City—Oklahoma's Republican Party issued its state party platform last month. Here are some excerpts, as reported by *The Gayly Oklahoman*.

On AIDS: "AIDS is a blood-borne viral disease which threatens the lives of countless people. We oppose efforts at any level of government to approach this problem as a civil rights or handicapped rights issue rather than as a public health threat. We oppose any state-mandated sex education in the public schools, including AIDS education."

On Gay and Lesbian Rights: "We support those who speak out against homosexuality and oppose the establishment of homosexual or gay studies, the hiring of homosexual teachers, administrators or counselors, and the establishment of homosexual clubs, as an acceptable part of school programs, and we further oppose legislation providing for Gay Rights...Be it resolved that due to the epidemic severity of homosexual related diseases, no

homosexual should be allowed to work in any public restaurant or food handling service establishment where disease could be transmitted. Whereas homosexuals are a behavioral group and not a racial, ethnic or religious minority deserving of protection against any legislation, government policy or administrative directive which would promote homosexuality, or which would provide special recognition, privileges or protection to homosexuals."

Anti-discrimination Bill Passes in Virginia

Alexandria, VA—The city council of Alexandria, Virginia has passed a law forbidding discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in housing, employment and city health-care services, reported *Philadelphia Gay News*.

The 5-2 vote in favor of the bill's passage came after a two-hour debate in which the two dissenting councilmembers argued that there wasn't any evidence to support claims that lesbians and gay men actually suffer discrimination.

T. Michael Jackson, sponsor of the bill, called its passage "a symbolic step forward." Melvin Bergheim, a former councilmember and sponsor of a similar measure two years ago, added, "Consider the turtle. He only makes progress if he sticks his neck out."

Russia May Repeal Anti-Gay Laws

Houston, TX—The government of the Soviet Union appears ready to repeal all anti-gay laws, according to *Philadelphia Gay News* and *Information of Denmark*. The surprise announcement came on the television program "Good Evening, Moscow," which brought up the taboo subject of homosexuality for the first time on June 22. Many Russians, as well as western Europeans receiving Russian television on cable, were reportedly shocked to see Soviet lesbians and gays on the broadcast.



FAMOUS FACES

Mature Martina Measures Up

Martina Navratilova may be gaining in maturity but she hasn't lost the ace's touch. The 32-year-old tennis superstar just took home another \$300,000 after beating one of the finalists of the French Open, Soviet teenager Natalia Zvereva in the New England Women's Tennis Championship. Martina fell behind, losing the first set, but with her characteristic courage and determination rallied back to win the championship.

Wrist Dropped by Bond . . . James Bond

Agent 007, otherwise known as Timothy Dalton, had a little trouble getting away without a scratch while defying death in his latest film. Dalton, after dangling from a conveyor over a grinding machine for his latest adventure, "License Revoked," made a flip to safety but got his watch caught on a hook and cut his superagent wrist. 007 was able to complete the scene with a little first aid from his friends.

The Secret to Shirley Temple's Locks: Vinegar

Shirley Temple Black revealed the secret to the shiny curls of her days as young star. She told the *San Francisco Examiner*, "I had to put my whole head in the washbasin while mother poured four cups of vinegar over my head." Black, who's trying to get a job on the Bush administration, says she still has a little trouble with vinaigrette.

Rev. Al Green Sings to a Billboard

The Rev. Al Green, the soul singer who has been a minister for 11 years, sang "Let's Stay Together" to a couple he married while they sat up on a billboard 50 feet off the ground. Green was hoisted up on a cherry picker to perform the ceremony for the daring lovebirds who were participating in a contest sponsored by a Mobile, Alabama radio station. Green wore a black suit with a pink carnation, the bride donned a satin dress, and the groom sported purple hair for the joyous occasion.

— F.G.

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Hong Kong Rethinks Homosexual Laws

Hong Kong—The people of Hong Kong have been asked their opinion about the island's law making homosexuality a criminal offense punishable by a maximum term of life in prison.

Hong Kong government's Security Branch is studying the 2,500 responses received so far asking whether people want the law dropped, retained or changed to reduce penalties.

Government officials admit the law is not enforced unless police accidentally "walk into a homosexual act."

Legislative Councilor Hui Yin-Fat

explained his opposition to any changes in the law saying he'd like to see homosexuals come forward for treatment so they can become heterosexual. "I think they're missing a lot of pleasure," said the wise legislator. The law is based on pre-1967 British legal practice, before the private acts between consenting adults were decriminalized in Britain.

The Security Branch findings will go to Hong Kong's Executive Council later this month.

Regardless of the findings, lesbians on the island need not worry. As with many such pieces of legislation, Hong Kong's law against homosexuality does not cover lesbians.

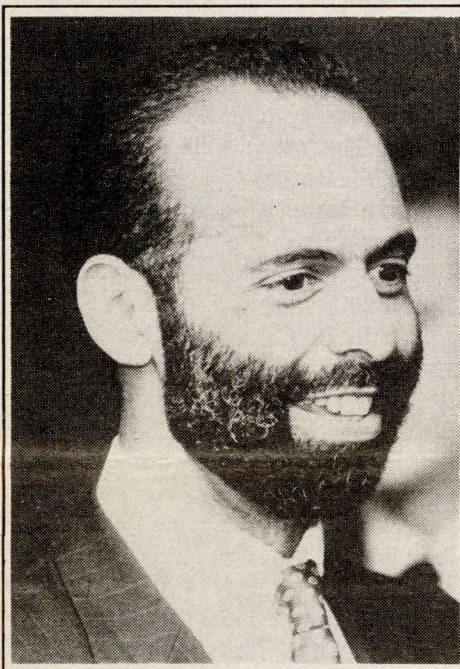
1st GAPAC Dinner Exhibits Renewed Interest in Local Politics

"Old Traditions; New Ambitions" was the theme of the Greater Atlanta Political Awareness Coalition's (GAPAC) first annual fundraising dinner and show held November 12th. The estimated crowd of 400 people included an array of pro-gay/lesbian politicians and community leaders.

In his keynote address, Fulton County Commission Chair Michael Lomax expanded upon Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s historic "I Have A Dream" speech to "challenge the gay/lesbian community to never allow anyone to exercise unjust power over you."

He also drew from the "Old Traditions, New Ambitions" theme, and spoke convincingly of the gay/lesbian community's future empowerment within King's "beloved community." He repeatedly addressed the concerns of gays and lesbians within the context of the broader scope of oppressed peoples.

GAPAC Chair Marie J. Murray said of



Fulton County Commission Chair Michael Lomax

the dinner, "I'm just thrilled that Atlanta's gay/lesbian community, which is called upon to support so many organizations, would respond so wonderfully to GAPAC. I can see that this is the beginning of a long and wonderful tradition."

Murray said that the dinner and show grossed more than \$20,000.

GAPAC also inaugurated its annual Impact Award at the dinner. Murray, who called this the proudest moment of her tenure, said that the award is intended to recognize that organization which has "in the past year excelled in activities that have directly, positively impacted the gay/lesbian community." Nominated for the award were the Southeastern Arts, Media and Education Project, Inc. (SAME), *Southern Voice*, the Metropolitan Atlanta Council of Gay and Lesbian Organizations (MACGLO), the Georgia AIDS Legislative Coalition, and Legislate Equality for Gays And Lesbians (LEGAL).

Unable to decide upon one recipient, GAPAC's executive committee jointly gave the Impact Award to the Georgia AIDS Legislative Coalition and *Southern Voice*. Accepting the award for the Legislative Coalition was chair Maury Wiel, and for *Southern Voice*, managing editor Christina Cash.

The Legislative Coalition was recognized

for "successfully lobbying for the final, vastly improved version of the 1988 AIDS Omnibus Bill," and *Southern Voice* for its "presentation of news, activities, columns and editorials specific to the gay and lesbian community—noted for its ... impeccable layout and presentation."

Entertainment for the evening was provided by local comic and actor Doug Lothes and singer/songwriter Suede.

M.C. Cathy Woolard moved the evening along well, sprinkling humorous personal commentary between guest introductions. Murray chuckled later that Woolard's comments did not necessarily reflect those of GAPAC, which is a non-partisan organization.

Lomax, who is an un-announced candidate for the 1989 Atlanta mayoral race, concentrated on the future of progressive politics in Atlanta and the United States, and stressed repeatedly that gays and lesbians must concentrate on building coalitions with other civil and human rights groups.

Lomax captivated the banquet crowd with his vision for the future of Atlanta. "If we disregard the inconsequential differences—like color, like gender, like religion, like sexual orientation—we can be a community. We must recognize that more binds us than divides us.

"So let us throw away our petty, superficial concerns, and focus on our common humanity. Atlanta is a diverse city, where different people must learn to live together in civility and mutual respect and understanding," he continued.

Speaking from his experience as a civil rights leader, Lomax electrified the audience when he spoke of their individual and community power. "You have the capacity to take control away from those who would direct your lives and inhibit you, and exercise your own personal control over your own destinies.

"That's what empowerment is all about," he said. "There's nothing more important than that tradition, and no greater goal than that ambition."

Politicos present included: State representatives Jim Martin and Nan Orrock; Fulton County Commission Chair Michael Lomax and Cheryl Lomax; Atlanta City Council members Bill Campbell and Mary Davis; Maynard Jackson for Mayor campaign aide Peter White III; Michael Lomax for Mayor campaign aide Gary Cox; Betty Grant, chair of the Georgia chapter of the National Organization for Women; Georgia AIDS Legislative Coalition state lobbyist Gil Robison; openly gay/lesbian Georgia delegates to the Democratic National Convention '88 Dick Rhodes and Melinda Daniels; John Hausler, president of the Atlanta Business and Professional Guild; Human Rights Campaign Fund-board members Drs. Jackie Johnson and Stosh Ostrow; MACGLO executive secretary Jeffrey Laymon; Sabrina Sojourner, co-chair of the African-American Lesbian Gay Alliance; LEGAL board member Linda Meredith; Frank Gouda of the Georgia Physicians for Human Rights; Rebecca Ranson, president of SAME; Georgia ACLU executive director Gene Guerrero; Ray Kluka, associate editor of *Etcetera*; and Kenny Milligan of Black and White Men Together.

—Chris Duncan

Kovach Resignation

Cont'd From Page 1

paper had not taken such a positive stand, said Weil, the Assembly would have produced much more negative legislation.

According to Kovach, the improvement in coverage of gay and lesbian community was deliberate. He said gays and lesbians make up "one of the larger identifiable parts of Atlanta," and, he noted, "the gay community has an enormous impact on the city." At least a dozen

of freedom of expression.

Novelist Pat Conroy, a leading organizer of the protest, spoke to the crowd saying Cox Enterprises has chosen to make Lewis Grizzard the soul of the papers. Grizzard, said the writer, "represents everything I loathe about the South." He described the columnist as a "bully who wants to pick on blacks, women, and gays." "Lewis," he said addressing Grizzard, "when you write about gays, it sickens me."

Conroy said Cox is choosing Grizzard's South over his. Atlanta's loss of Kovach, he added, will make another city richer.



Effigies of (l-r) Cox Enterprises heir Anne Cox Chambers, *Journal-Constitution* publisher Jay Smith, and Cox president David Easterly, were carried by protestors, led by Atlanta novelist Pat Conroy, during the Nov. 12 rally for Kovach.

gays and lesbians put their names on a full-page ad to protest the departure, and a large group participated in the demonstration on Saturday, November 12, that took to the *Journal-Constitution* offices downtown a mock New Orleans style funeral symbolizing the death

Although Kovach and Smith say the resignation is final, Kovach said the protest will have an effect. When readers make their voices heard publishers must listen, he said, because in the end "newspapers belong to their readers."

—F.G.

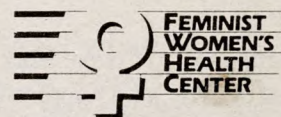
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Kovach Is Gone – Bring in the Clowns

Southern Voice is saddened and angered by the resignation of Bill Kovach, editor since December, 1986 of *The Atlanta Journal/Constitution*. Kovach, a progressive journalist, nurtured Cox Enterprises-owned twin papers into Pulitzer-prize publications in less than two years. He gave Atlanta honest and hard-hitting journalism not seen by Atlanta readers in more than twenty years. And he showed respect for the city—for all of the people of Atlanta—not just the white ones, the male ones, the rich ones, or the heterosexual ones.

To get the full impact of why the loss of Bill Kovach is so disheartening and so critical, consider this: Lewis Grizzard is jumping for joy over Kovach's departure. And he's holding hands with Dick Williams, who's jumping just as high. You know Dick don't you? He's the confused little man who wrote in last Saturday's edition of the AJC that homosexuals are synonymous with pedophiles. He's the man who thinks *Hardwick v Bowers* was a wise decision. AND he's the man who for the past two years has curbed his homophobic rantings.

Grizzard and his good ole buddies are a blight on Atlanta—they stand for everything wrong with humankind, and with Southern humankind in particular.

Kovach, on the other hand, stands for the New South. He sees Atlanta for what it is—an international and diverse city which has historically symbolized the more progressive, the more open mind of the South. He sees what's right with it and what's wrong with it. It was probably his view of what's wrong with it that got him the boot. He was not afraid to rattle the cages of powerful figures to get to the truth and he wasn't afraid to print it.

Cox Enterprises, it seems, does not want that kind of publication. At least not at the expense of losing advertising dollars or having their friends "upset" because Kovach had the audacity to get too close to the truth. No, Cox does not want to rock anybody's boat, to lose anyone's money, or to publish a paper that makes powerful people uncomfortable.

Cox wants to give you an *Atlanta USA Today*. They want to give you pretty pictures, colorful graphics and very short articles about absolutely nothing. They think that's what you need, what you deserve—and what you want. They feel like Grizzard does—that you are tired of reading articles about dying African babies.

Cox/Grizzard wants to "protect" you from these horrors. And Cox's caretaking is going to cost the people of Atlanta the most honest and conscientious mainstream paper they've ever had. They don't really want you to know anything. And that's why Bill Kovach is no longer the editor of AJC. Not because he had disagreements over the way the D.C. bureau should be run.

We lost an ally when we lost Bill Kovach. Be prepared for more of Grizzard, more of Williams and more of the same old, tired old journalism that Cox has delivered in the past.

It's a pity, it's a great loss, it's a damn crying shame.



JO GIRAUDO

Former *Journal/Constitution* Editor Bill Kovach.

Could there possibly be a connection between Kovach's presence in the past two years and Williams' silence? Hmmm.

Williams and Grizzard (what a combo), as Pat Conroy reminded us in his speech, represent the South—the Atlanta—that those of us with any consciousness would like to forget. The Old South of bigotry, of woman-hating, of violence and of decay.

Impact of *Voice* is Sum of the Parts

Southern Voice winning the GAPAC first annual Impact Award means more than just a round of back slapping here at the office. Firstly, sharing the award with the Georgia Aids Legislative Coalition places us in good company. It's been a pleasure following their efforts and successes.

For the multitudes of volunteer writers, photographers, distributors, production people and non-descript saviors, know that you are the cohesive element—the grease in the machine—for this organization.

Without SAME there would be no *Southern Voice*. We'd like to recognize the board of SAME for their farsightedness, and Rebecca Ranson and Gary Kaupman for their daily commentary, advice and wisdom.

Finally, for the readers, without whom there'd be no purpose behind this paper. You are our reason for being, our ends to our means and our collective conscious in matters of editorial decisions. Thank you.

What next? This award confirms the basic principles that founded *Southern Voice*. You can expect us to expand on a winning theme, bringing you more of the information that effects your life.

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Confidentiality of PWAs a Must

To the Editor:

Your publication of the names of persons who attended the Tuesdays at the Shrine dinner for persons with AIDS on November 1 (or any other date) demonstrates a callousness and insensitivity to AIDS patients and a journalistic irresponsibility which makes me wish deeply that your paper did not exist.

You have ruined a very worthwhile and uniquely beneficial event for many people.

If publishing the names of persons in such sensitive situations without so much as consultation, much less permission, is your idea of "Taking Pride in Our Culture," I submit that "Our Culture" doesn't need your Pride.

Sincerely,
George W. Armbrister, Jr.

Editor's Note: We apologize for our oversight and insensitivity in this matter. If the publication of anyone's name attending the Shrine dinner has caused any harm to anyone, we want to know about it. Our intention was certainly not to "ruin" the Shrine dinner; it was to let people know what a wonderful event it is. Unfortunately, in our zeal to inform people of the dinner, we lost sight of the importance of confidentiality for PWAs, PWARCs and HIV-positive persons. In the future we will be more aware of this.

Pull the Plug on "Power 99"

To the Editor:

On election day morning, while listening to "Power 99" (WAPW) radio's "Steve McCoy Morning Show," I heard several slurs leveled against gay and lesbian persons. These were lumped in with regular sexist, ageist, etc. dialogues. "So what else is new?" you might ask. My response is NOTHING! and I am sick and tired of it.

This case may be somewhat unique however. I have written and spoken both to the station manager, William Phippen and to Mr. McCoy. Mr. Phippen has assured me that he will not tolerate such behavior by his employees. He even read me a memo directed to the "McCoy morning crew" stating that further slurs would result in possible suspension and disciplinary action not excluding termination. So why does this crap continue if the boss says he is so hard on such behavior? It obviously has not hit them where it matters the most... the RATINGS and the BANK ACCOUNT.

This morning Steve and the gang referred to Olympic Gold Medalist Greg Louganis as a fruit. My blood pressure rose because I felt helpless to do anything. I gave myself a frequent line, "I am only one person, what difference can I make?" I found myself thinking, as I often do, that too many gay and lesbian Atlantans are too content, complacent or fearful to stand up, together and say "NO MORE!"

How about it folks? A boycott, you pick the level of involvement that touches you. The important message we need to send is that their behavior will cost them.

So here it is. Boycott "Power 99!" I know other radio stations are abusive. Why don't we start here and see what happens. Please decide to do something. Then, write it on a card and send it to me and/or the radio station manager. If it is sent to me I will see that it makes it to the station. Following are some suggestions for action at a variety of levels of personal involvement:

1. Decide to not listen to Power 99 radio totally or at least to the "Steve McCoy Morning Show."
2. Remove Power 99 from your "preset" stations on your radio.
3. Do not buy products or use services advertised during the "Steve McCoy Morning Show."
4. Boycott all services/products advertised on WAPW.
5. Write a letter to station manager Bill Phippen (see address below) to explain how offensive and irresponsible this behavior is. Carbon copy it to Steve McCoy and me.
6. Call Mr. Phippen and keep calling until you talk with him. Tell him that you are displeased with Mr. McCoy's slurs and what action you will take as a result.
7. Call the offices of the sponsors and send the message that WAPW overtly and covertly endorses ageism, racism, homophobia and sexism. Tell them you are offended and that you are boycotting their product because they advertise on WAPW.
8. Tell others to give up Power 99 as a statement of PRIDE in themselves. One does not have to be gay to be insulted by this poor broadcast behavior. Decide to do something!

Sincerely,
David J. MacDonald, M.S.W., C.A.C.

Mr. Bill Phippen, Station Manager
Power 99 Radio
3405 Piedmont Rd.
Suite 500
Atlanta, GA 30305

"Promiscuity" Still Popular

To the Editor:

"Congress shall make no law.... abridging the freedom of speech.... or of the right of people to peaceably assemble..." This, the first amendment of the Bill of Rights, is the hallmark of democracy and it will find no stronger supporter than myself. This amendment has been interpreted to give Americans the "right to privacy" which one Supreme Court justice further defined as the right to be left alone, i.e. freedom from governmental intrusion in certain areas of our private lives. The Supreme Court decision in *Bowers v. Hardwick*, upholding Georgia's sodomy statute as constitutional, makes it all too clear that we gays and lesbians are not allowed to enjoy OUR "right to privacy" and express the love we feel for our lovers, even in the privacy of our own bedroom. Our battle to secure this right should never abate and we should fight for all that is justly ours, as Americans, not just as gays or lesbians. It is true that we have made some inroads to securing our rights, but we have a long way yet to go. Every day it becomes more apparent to me that our biggest, and strongest enemy is not the Republicans, or the Democrats, or even the heterosexual society as a whole, it is OURSELVES!

We as members of the gay and lesbian community, and as members of the American community, face the biggest threat of our time... AIDS. It is a crisis that we must all face and fight. The main obstacle hindering our fight against AIDS is not the lack of governmental funding for AZT, or for education on AIDS prevention, or the cost of health care, though it cannot be denied that these are all issues that must be addressed and remedied; our main obstacle is our own self-righteousness, arrogance and apathy.

While it is true that there has been born a new awareness in our community, and many of us realize that monogamy is not a dirty word, and we have adopted safer lifestyles, notwithstanding this enlightenment, promiscuity is still ubiquitous. Go to any bar, any "tree trail" and in abundance you will find the very activity that we know promotes the spread of AIDS!

I recently read an article in *Et Cetera* magazine that the Lambda organization is fighting to keep the bath houses open! Are they doing us a favor? I agree, wholeheartedly, that the government should not force the bath houses (book stores, etc/) to close based on tenuous health care rationales. The question I put to my "community" is, why is this an issue at all? These enterprises should have closed down long ago, not because of governmental action, but because WE stopped patronizing these businesses, because WE stopped allowing them to exploit our sexuality for their profit.

In early 1983 members of the gay community, as well as members of the health care community, approached the owners of several of the bath houses such as the Club Baths, the Sutro Baths, and others. As Randy Shilts points out in his book *And The Band Played On*, the owners of these establishments were informed of the risks involved in the activities that went on at the baths, yet their only concern was for their potential loss of profits! Jack Campbell, owner of the Club Bath chain, responded by insisting that this was not a problem for the gays as most of Florida's cases were Haitians. A Washington, D.C. bath house's response was to cancel an AIDS fundraiser because a local organization issued a brochure advising gay men to "eliminate or decrease sexual activity in places where multiple sexual contact is frequent, such as the baths, the bookstores, the bushes, and the backrooms of bars." An advertisement at the Liberty Baths in San Francisco asked "If AIDS is indeed sexually transmitted, why have there been so few cases?" Clearly these entrepreneurs were concerned, not with the interests of the "community" they served, but only with the threat to their bank roles! It may be argued that at the time, since very little was known, their position was defensible. Even if such a callous attitude could have been defended THEN, as surely it could not, such an argument can no longer be sustained. It is no longer mere conjecture that the risk of being exposed to, and contracting, AIDS is drastically increased with an increase in the number of multiple sexual contacts. What is their defense now? More importantly, what is OUR excuse?! Is Lambda defending our right to live our lives the way we see fit, or to kill ourselves the way we see fit?

I may be criticized for being too inclusive by blaming my "community" for the continued operation of these businesses, since there are many, such as myself, who have never stepped foot inside a bath house. Surely, we tell ourselves, WE are not to blame, after all WE don't support these place. To this I say that by our silent tolerance, we are in effect condoning this activity. What we must realize is that by refusing to govern ourselves, and allowing this evil to flourish in our community, our strength as a group is weakened, and we give power to those who oppress us.

We have cried for the government to allocate more funds for education on AIDS and AIDS prevention, yet we ourselves ignore what we KNOW to be the facts! The parks are still busy, the "health clubs" still full on a Saturday night. How can we expect John Q. Citizen to sympathize with us in the face of this crisis when we ourselves promote that which is destroying us? As the old saying goes, "God helps those who help themselves!"

It is time for the gay community to accept responsibility for its own actions and to stop blaming everybody else for their inaction. If we want to be accepted for who we are, and have our lifestyles legitimized, maybe we should begin by living legitimate lifestyles!

Josh Kendrick

Viewpoints is part of a continuing effort to provide a forum for our community. We invite your ideas, comments and feelings and your responses to ideas expressed in this space.

The opinions expressed here are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of **Southern Voice**. Submissions should be typed, double-spaced and no longer than four pages. Mail to:

Southern Voice/Viewpoints
PO Box 54719
Atlanta, GA 30308

Sister/Sister Brings You Betty ... and More

It is not surprising that Cathy Woolard's choices of acts being presented on Atlanta stages lean toward the progressive, alternative and interestingly different.

Indicative of her own lifestyle, the dynamic young founder of Sister/Sister Productions searches for entertainers and musicians who represent and appeal to an emerging population of lesbians and gays.

Over the past year Cathy has cleverly combined her two professional roles—human



rights activist and cultural pioneer—to the benefit of each. "Embracing culture allows us to feel pride in who we are," she predicts.

A significant portion of her success in coordinating the Atlanta Committee for the March on Washington last fall is attributable

to the choice of local entertainment events as a vehicle for raising money and awareness within the community.

Consequently, her entrepreneurial efforts through Sister/Sister migrate toward presenting artists who carry messages that align with her particular sensitive set of sensibilities. Although she does not limit her decisions by her own proclivity toward openness in the gay and lesbian community, most of her presentations reflect that commitment.

Comparing her endeavor to life itself, Cathy describes what she does "like a crap shoot. You bet all your money, knowing that if it rains you could lose it all."

So far, it hasn't rained too hard on Sister/Sister. Every production has been successful, both financially and in terms of community response. There have been several women's music presenters over the years who have failed to draw a sustaining audience here; but Cathy is optimistic.

"I try to pair entertainment and audience," Cathy says, revealing her strategy for insuring and expanding a concert following. "For instance, last season's show with Suede on the same bill of fare as Romanovsky & Phillips allowed me to attract two sizeable markets with one event."

"You really can't categorize the acts I present through Sister/Sister," Cathy contends. "I try to reach out to every taste and need."

Cathy's outreach efforts have been evidenced by her extreme concern for special audiences, including assuring wheelchair accessibility and hiring sign language interpreters to accommodate the hearing impaired.

As president of the Georgia Lesbian and Gay Rights Chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union, Cathy addresses the concerns of many special constituencies. "I let them tell

me what their needs are," she affirms. "I can't decide for them; it would be like having hearing women define issues for deaf women."

Cathy goes to the source for her information, including the kind of acts for Sister/Sister. "I met this super group at the Women's Music Festival in Michigan last August," she recalls. "From the first moment on stage they were electrifying. I wrote them immediately when I returned. I knew they were right for Atlanta."

Next week, Atlanta audiences will be able to share Cathy's discovery when the female trio Betty performs at the Avondale Town Cinema on December 2. It will be the group's first show south of their native Washington, D.C.

They're what you get when you combine Betty Ford, Bette Davis, Betty Boop and Betty Rubble, some of their favorite people. And, they're anything but just plain Betty.

Like Cathy, Betty can't be categorized, although they have been coined "rockappella"—a cappella that rocks out. Their sense of humor and charm have entertained the capitol scene for the past two years, drawing sold-out crowds described as electric as the group's music.

The trio's theatricality was noted in *Variety's* night club reviews as a "cabaret style

patter, comedy improv, show and tell, and film...the Andrews Sisters meet the Marx Bros." Betty's self-proclaimed description is "heavy mental: a mix of blues, rock, jazz, urban funk, and revamped TV theme songs influenced by the Barry Sisters, Bette Midler and Barbara Streisand."

Betty consists of offbeat twins, Amy and Bitzy Ziff (daughters of character actor Herb Ziff) and bassist Alyson Palmer (a self-styled six-foot-plus "glamazon"). The trio recently moved to New York, and they performed in "Encyclopedia," a 26-part children's television show currently on HBO at 7:30 p.m. Mondays. Next spring, they are booked for Moscow and Leningrad.

"This first stop in Atlanta may be their last one for a while," Cathy expects. "Their special kind of talents are beginning to be recognized and sought out by recording labels and agents. I think our community desires and deserves to experience their unique blend of political and social satire. It helps us enjoy who we are."

Betty will perform in two shows, 8 and 11 p.m., on Friday, December 2, at Avondale Town Cinema. Tickets are \$10 in advance from Charis Books or The Boy Next Door, and \$12 at the door.

— John Blizzard



Ginny Vida, Editor of *Our Right to Love: A Lesbian Resource Book*, is inviting lesbian photographers to submit photos of lesbians for possible inclusion in the revised edition of *Our Right to Love*, to be published by E.P. Dutton.

"I'm looking for photographs that portray lesbians as women who are making positive contributions to society, enjoying life and interacting in a positive way with others," Ms. Vida said.

Photographers will receive \$35 for each photo published in the revised edition, payable upon publication. Photos must be black-and-white, professional quality, and all persons pictured must sign a photo release which the editor will provide. Photographers will be credited in the book.

Photos may be submitted to: Ginny Vida, Editor, *Our Right to Love*, 45 Plaza St., #1-G, Brooklyn, NY 11217 (718) 789-0391.

Pictured: The Atlanta Lesbian Feminist Alliance (ALFA) softball team, circa 1972.

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Out of All Time

The following are excerpts from *Out of All Time: A Gay and Lesbian History*, a collection of 50 vignettes of both well-known and lesser-known gay and lesbian historical figures. *Out of All Time* will be released December 1st by Alyson Publications, Inc., Boston, MA, \$6.95 paperback.

Lawrence of Arabia

Thomas Edward Lawrence was born in England in 1888 and grew up during the height of the British Empire. While a student at Oxford, he immersed himself first in the Medieval period and then in the ancient world. It was through his study of the classics that he first came into contact with Middle Eastern culture.

In 1911, while on an archeological expedition, Lawrence met a fourteen year-old boy named Salim Achmed (nicknamed "Dahoum") at Carchemish. Dahoum was sensitive and handsome, and Lawrence fell deeply in love with him. When Lawrence returned to England with Dahoum, their relationship was hardly noticed. Because Dahoum was an Arab, the English assumed he was Lawrence's servant.

World War II began in 1914 and Lawrence was sent to lead the Arabs against the Turks. He was captured in November 1917 and beaten by a Turkish governor for refusing his sexual demands. Lawrence later wrote that after the twentieth blow "a delicious warmth, probably sexual" had surged through his body and made him relax. This beating left a lasting psychological scar on Lawrence. He wondered how it might affect his relationship with Dahoum, but he never found out. During his absence, his lover had died of typhus.

Lawrence's memoirs, entitled *The Seven Pillars of Wisdom*, are dedicated to "S.A.," which aroused a good deal of speculation. It is now generally thought that "S.A." stood for Salim Achmed.

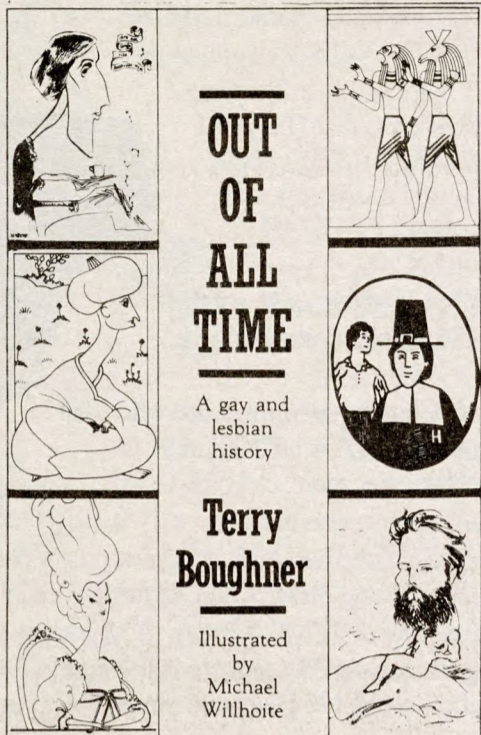
Willa Cather

Willa Cather was born in Virginia in 1873 and grew up in Red Cloud, Nebraska. She rebelled at an early age against her surroundings. Her family was tolerant of her behavior, thinking that it was only a phase. Their tolerance was strained, however, when she asked to be called William. She further proclaimed in her high school yearbook that her favorite form of amusement was vivisection and the greatest wonder in the world was a good-looking woman.

At the University of Nebraska Willa discovered writing, but soon decided she needed the excitement and the intellectual stimulation of a large city. She chose to live in Pittsburgh where she met the first great love of her life, Isabelle McClung, the daughter of a prominent Pittsburgh family.

Feeling constrained by the dullness of life in Pittsburgh, Cather accepted the offer of a position at *McClures Magazine* in New York. Isabelle begged Cather to stay, and Cather begged Isabelle to join her in New York. Isabelle could not imagine leaving her home, so Cather left for New York alone in 1905.

Just after her arrival in New York, Cather met Edith Lewis, also a Nebraska native, who lived in the same building as Cather on Washington Square. Cather and Lewis did



not experience love at first sight, but rather grew gradually to care for each other. Eventually, they chose to live together and did so for thirty-nine years until in 1947 Cather died peacefully one afternoon while Lewis was away.

Suleiman the Magnificent

Suleiman the Magnificent, ruler of the Ottoman Empire from 1520 to 1566, was born around 1495. He was quiet and sensitive, and loved poetry and music. He had a long thin body which he carried gracefully, a delicate complexion, and long, thin hands.

In his adolescence, Suleiman's father gave him a Greek slave named Ibrahim as a companion. Ibrahim was two years older than Suleiman, and was tall, with dark, curly hair and a solid, muscular body. The two men shared many interests, often discussing religion and philosophy. Ibrahim never left the prince's side, and it was common knowledge that Ibrahim shared the prince's bed.

When Suleiman became the tenth Sultan of the house of Osman, he made Ibrahim his Grand Vizir, or head of the Imperial Council. Later Ibrahim was also named head of the army, making his second only to Suleiman who had no real desire to rule. Ibrahim's new-found power corrupted his values and he soon rejected some of Suleiman's most cherished ideas.

In 1534, hearing a rumor that Ibrahim was plotting to take over the empire, Suleiman summoned Ibrahim to dinner. After eating, the two went to the sultan's bedroom. The next morning, slaves found the walls streaked with blood and Ibrahim's naked body, which had been strangled with bowstring, lying face down on the bed. Suleiman refused to allow the walls to be cleaned and the stains remained until his death.

For Love and For Life Returns!

Recipes for the creative life;
remove safety belts,
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a frolicsome child,,
and never ask the end.

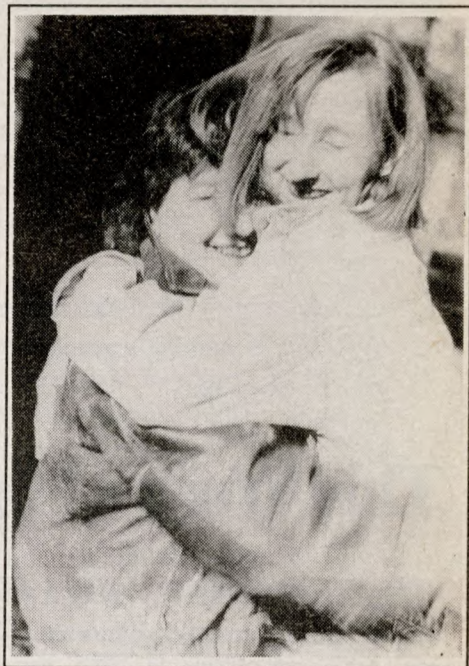
James Broughton

James writes poetry and makes films in southern California. He won't be in Atlanta this December to see *For Love and For Life II*, but the creative spirit that is central to his life and work definitely infuses SAME's latest production. The original *FL & FL*--which critics called "incredibly brave" and "...a shining example of art taking an active role in the process of social change." *FL & FL* premiered in September 1987 at the Alternate ROOTS Festival and went on to play to cheering houses at Lavita's and the Peachtree Playhouse.

The theme of that *FL & FL* was the October '87 March on Washington and the role of gays and lesbians as history makers in the past and present. This edition focuses on holiday celebration and the families that lesbians and gay men have created. *FL & FL II*'s creator, writer, director Rebecca Ranson says, "We wanted to create a play, a holiday ritual, that would honor and celebrate the unique relationships that many of us have created..."

For Love and For Life II's cast numbers 37; professional performers, amateurs, and those who have never acted before join together to create characters as diversified as the community they represent. Ten actors will continue to develop roles they created in the '87 production; eight of the performers appeared in Ranson's *Higher Ground: Voices of Aids*.

Describing the process that she uses to create plays such as *FL & FL*, Ranson says, "I really don't write these plays. We gather



PAMELA COLE

Art imitates life. Tia Nikolopoulos and Candace Wiggins, friends in real life, portray lovers Jo and Grace in *For Love and For Life II*.

some people who want to act -- strong willed, opinionated people -- and then I write some words. People take the words, read them and come back to me with their own ideas. We discuss the ideas and find ways to incorporate them. Inherent in our process is a group mission, a collective need to make and share a play."

That play is a sometimes funny, sometimes sad and always honest and affectionate portrayal of the way we live, love and celebrate our lives. Make plans now to see it.

Performances of *For Love and For Life II* are December 1 through December 18, Thursdays-Saturdays at 8pm and Sundays at 5pm, at Onstage Atlanta, 420 Courtland Street. Tickets are \$10 and are available at Charis Books and More, 419 Moreland Avenue or by calling SAME at 584-2104. The Sunday, December 4 performance is a benefit for Project Open Hand.

-Gary Kaupman

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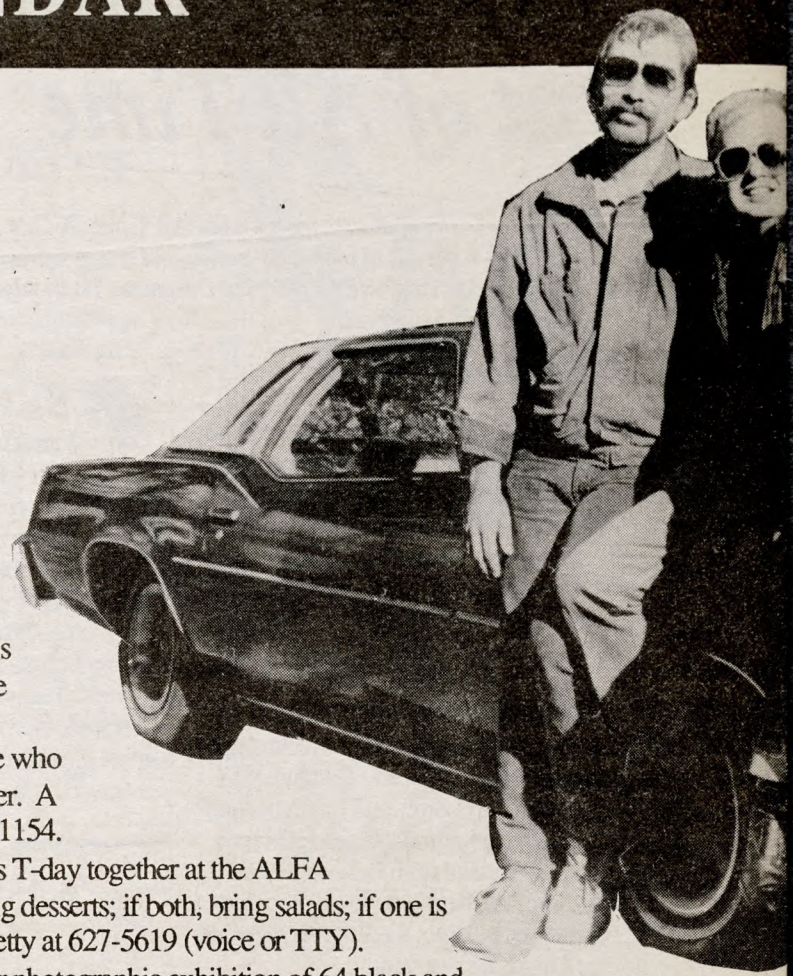
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See Page 15

THE SOUTHERN VOICE CALENDAR



This Week's Highlights

- THANKSGIVING POTLUCK!**—November 24. BWMT (Black & White Men Together) sponsor this feast as part of their *seventh* anniversary celebration weekend. Awright! Turkey is provided but *please* bring the rest. 1688 Porter Drive. 3-7PM. For more information, please call 794-0264.
- MCC THANKSGIVING**—November 24. All Saints Metropolitan Community Church is inviting those who can't make T-day home to celebrate by joining their "other family" for traditional family style POT-LUCK dinner. A worship service starts the day at 10AM followed by dinner. 575 Boulevard, S.E., 12 Noon. For more, call 622-1154.
- DYKESGIVING**—November 24. The Atlanta Lesbian Feminist Alliance (ALFA) sponsors and celebrates T-day together at the ALFA house. Turkey provided; Boogiewomyn supplies plates, etc.; if one has cats, bring veggies; if one has dogs, bring desserts; if both, bring salads; if one is petless, bring breads/stuffing. After dinner, there will be "family" things to enjoy. ALFA House. 3PM. Call Betty at 627-5619 (voice or TTY).
- "HOMELESS IN AMERICA"**—Media preview on November 30. Exhibit runs Dec.1- Feb.3. A major photographic exhibition of 64 black and white photos documenting the tragedy of increasing American homelessness. Among the acclaimed artists are Bill Pierce of *Time*, Mary Ellen Mark, and Stephen Shames of the *Philadelphia Inquirer*. The High Museum at the Georgia-Pacific Center. 133 Peachtree Street, N.E. For more information, call 577-6940.

THURSDAY

24 •HAPPY THANKSGIVING FROM SOUTHERN VOICE!

•Charis Books is closed today.

•L.I.F.E. (Lesbians in Fun Endeavors) Thanksgiving Dinner. Call 493-3966 for more info!

FRIDAY

25 •"Lesbian Support Group" meets every Friday at 7:30PM. Call Miriam, 627-7387.

•Judy Arnold—Through Nov. 26. Classical/pop/jazz guitarist/lyricist. Acclaimed international performer. Upstage Cafe. 9PM. \$3. 377-7379.

•American Jukebox—Through Nov. 27. A musical revue of "sure-fire hand-slapping" nostalgia. Buckhead Roxy. Fri.—Sat., 7 and 10PM; Sun., 3PM. \$15-\$21. 873-4300.

SATURDAY

26 •Champagne & Coffee Concert/ASO—A marvelous musical extravaganza includes works from Mozart to Gilbert & Sullivan to Rodgers & Hammerstein. Comp. champagne after PM shows; coffee & pastries after AM show. 133 Peachtree St. Tickets, \$12-\$24.50. For more, 892-2414.

•Taj Mahal—Center Stage. 9PM. \$13.50. 873-2500.

SUNDAY

27 •Peter Pan—the children's classic the holidays. Sp. prices Nov. 26-27. Mainstage. \$12-\$26 beginning 892-



4 •Shakin' The Mes Misery—thru Dec. Theatre. 1083 Aud. 7450. (right: Big Allen) keeps the peace bet friends Aunt Mae (left, Gi Miss Lamama (Elizabeth C

•For Love and For Life II—benefit for Project /Open Hand there! Onstage Atlanta, 420 Courtland Ave. 5PM. \$10. 584-2104.

1 •"For Love and For Life II"—Premiere! Through Dec. 18. Onstage Atlanta. 8PM, Thurs.—Sat.; 2PM, Sun. Tickets \$10. Call 584-2104.

•Charis Books & More—Meet the "Glamour Lesbians 1989" models. To audition for "Glamour Lez 1990," bring a snapshot. Calendars for '89 available now. 419 Moreland Ave. 7:30PM. Free. Wheelchair access. 524-0304.

•Atlanta Symphony Orchestra—Thru Dec. 3. Japanese conductor Hiroyuki Iwaki brings the city varied selections, from Barber to Nielsen and Stravinsky. 1280 Peachtree St. 8PM. 898-1192.

2 •Betty—All-female "heavy mental" group. 2 shows. Avondale Towne Cinema. 106 N. Avondale. 8PM and 11PM. \$10 advance, \$12 door. 377-8312.



3 •Monet in London—Ongoing. The impressionist's London works, seen only in Atlanta during its U.S. visit. High Museum. 892-HIGH.

•Angela Motter—Upstage Cafe. Decatur. 9PM. 377-7379.

•The Klezmerim—A Hanukkah celebration. Center Stage. 8:30PM. All SEATS outlets, or 873-2500.

•ACT UP Teach-in—On AIDS and AIDS issues at the Highland Branch Library. 2:30PM. 286-6247.

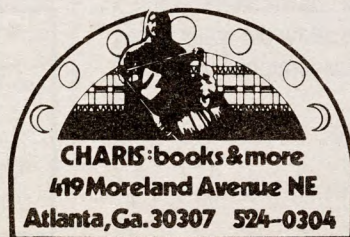
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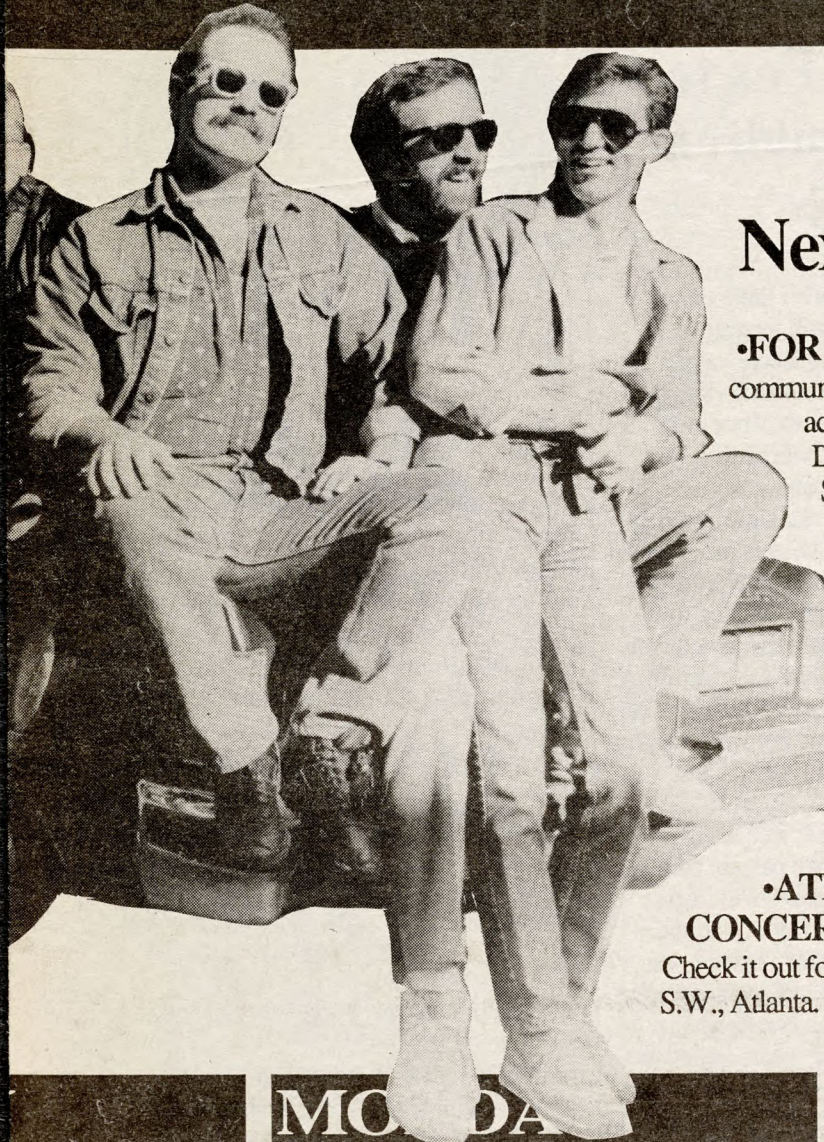
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Next Week's Highlights

•**FOR LOVE & FOR LIFE II**—December 1–18. The sequel to last year's tremendously successful community happening from SAME. Musical numbers accompanied by several vignettes—authored by the actors. Recommended! Your dollars help your community, so put on a good show for a good show. Directed by Rebecca Ranson. Onstage Atlanta; 420 Courtland St. Thursday–Saturday, 8PM; Sunday, 5PM. Tickets \$10. Call 584-2104. Pictured at left: "Dark Pontiac" a scene from FL&FLII featuring (from L to R) Kurt Rahn, Jim Knoll, Stebbo Hill, Ralston Cox and Jon Goldman.

•**BETTY**—December 2. This high voltage femme group will put on a rock and roll "heavy mental" performance that will knock your socks off. Glamour, glamour, glamour! Avondale Towne Cinema; 106 N. Avondale Road, Decatur. 8PM and 11PM. Tickets, \$10 Advance; \$12 door. Call 377-8312. Wheelchair access. A Sister Sister production.

•**SHAKIN' THE MESS OUTTA MISERY**—December 2–23. This is the moving story of a young black woman's coming of age in the Sixties and the female influences in her life. Authored by Shay Youngblood, this play will be guest directed by Glenda Dickerson, a Peabody Award winner for *For My People*. Horizon Theater, 1083 Austin Avenue, Atlanta (Little 5 Points). For more information, call 584-7450.

•**ATLANTA FEMINIST WOMEN'S CHORUS (AFWC) FALL CONCERT**—December 3. This highly acclaimed women's chorus will be presenting their annual concert. Check it out for a really festive occasion and to support your community! OIC Auditorium; 818 Washington St., S.W., Atlanta. 8PM. Tickets \$6 at Charis Books. Handicap access. Signed for hearing impaired.

MONDAY

28 •Atlanta Lesbian & Gay Marching Band—Each Monday. 7:30–9PM. MCC, 800 North Highland Ave. Call 434-7826 or 951-1591.

•**ACT UP/Atlanta**—Here's your chance to do something about sexism, racism, AIDS and homophobia. Every Monday. Call 24-hr. info line: 286-6247.

ough Jan. 1 This takes off in time for social previews and 9. Alliance g on Nov. 30. 2414.



s Outta 23. Horizon tin Ave. Call 584- Mama (Georgia ween feuding nnie Randall) and Omilami).

A special i. Be



•**Angela Motter & Band**—tonight and tomorrow. Onstage Atlanta. 8PM. Tickets \$5. 873-1834.

5 •Radio Cabaret/Children With AIDS Benefit—this benefit features Big Band music, seasonal songs and local luminaries from "Big Hair & Other Teases." Egyptian Ballroom/Fox Theater. Tickets \$20 at the Fox. Contact George Sinclair, 872-0600.

TUESDAY

29 •Spectacles—Ongoing exhibit which features a new 5-year collection in the High's Junior Gallery. 1280 Peachtree St. Call 892-HIGH.

•Atlanta Lambda Chorale—A choral group for men and women. Open to all Every Tuesday. MCC, 800 N. Highland Ave. 7:30PM. Call 874-1622.



6 •"Andy Warhol, works on print & paper"—Thru Dec. 14. Fay Gold Gallery. 3221 Cains Hill Place. 233-3843.

•"Folk art nativities & Christmas decorations"—Tues.–Sat., 11AM–5PM. Folk Art Imports. 25 Bennett Street, Atlanta. 352-2656.

WEDNESDAY

30 •Life Healing-HIV Support Group—For those with HIV virus or are concerned, this group offers support and space to both. Led by Jim Sacco, MSW. Transportation available! Bldg. 2, 1640 Powers Ferry Road, Marietta. Call 953-3136. Free.

•Media Preview/Homeless in America—64 photos showing the lives of homeless persons. High Museum at Georgia-Pacific. 133 Peachtree Street. 577-6940.

HOMELESS IN AMERICA



7 •"Christmas with Robert Shaw"—Thru Dec. 10, Wed.–Sat., 8PM, plus a Sat.

matinee, 2PM. Traditional carols/choruses from major works. Symphony Hall. 1280 Peachtree St. Tickets \$12.50–\$24.75. 898-1182.

•Gay Cable Network/Atlanta presents "Lifestyle Update: Coast to Coast"—Channel 12. Prime Cable. 5PM.

•Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus—A SAME presentation. Broadway and seasonal tunes for your holiday enjoyment! On Stage Atlanta. 420 Courtland St. 8PM. \$8. Reservations, call 584-2104.



S.A.M.E. Southern Arts, Media Education Project, Inc.


Bittersweet
By Charles Haver
Now Appearing on Page 14!

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ORGANIZATIONS

AALGA- African American Lesbian/Gay Alliance. 1st Sun. of each month. 4 PM. Quaker House. A political and social organization for black lesbians and gay men. PO Box 50374, Atlanta, Ga., 30302. 691-5921 or 297-8815.

ACLU/LG-ACLU/Lesbian & Gay Chapter. 3rd Wed. of each month. Peachtree Branch Library. 7:30 PM. Working for the civil rights of lesbians and gay men in the metropolitan Atlanta area. 231-5991.

ACT- Atlanta Couples Together. A non-political, non-religious, social organization whose purpose is to support the positive aspects of gay and lesbian relationships. Events and meetings vary. Info: A.C.T. Voice Mailbox, 365-2455, or write PO Box 723291, Atlanta, Ga., 30339.

ACT UP/Atlanta-AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power Direct action group with the purpose of fighting homophobia, AIDS, sexism and racism. Meetings held every Monday. 24-hr. info line - 286-6247. Outside Atlanta, call 800-342-7038 ext. 6247.

AFC- Atlanta Faerie Circle. 1st Sunday of each month. Location and time varies. Gay men who gather to support one another and explore their connections with the earth and white light. 622-4112.

AGC- Atlanta Gay Center. 876-5372. Operated primarily by volunteers, AGC offers services for lesbians and gays men as well as educational out-reach to society as a whole. AGC Help Line-892-0661.

AGMC- Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus. A semi-professional community-oriented chorus of male voices. Membership open to interested singers and non-singers. 296-6581.

ALFA- Atlanta Lesbian Feminist Alliance. 2nd Sun. of each month. 6:00 PM. A lesbian feminist organization which welcomes lesbians of all races, religions, political orientation, economic status, occupation and degree of openness. Write PO Box 5502, Atlanta, Ga. 30307 for more information and to request newsletter.

ALGPC- Atlanta Lesbian/Gay Pride Committee. 3rd Thur. of each month. 7:30 PM. Unitarian Universalist Church. Needs volunteers to coordinate next year's lesbian and gay pride March to insure its success.

AMC- Atlanta March Committee-More Than a Phase. 2nd and 4th Tues. of each month. 7:30 PM. North Highland Branch Library. A community based activist group that promotes lesbian and gay rights through educational, social, cultural, and political events. 377-8312.

AVS- Atlanta Venture Sports. Activities and meetings vary. An group in which the members enjoy recreational, social, educational, and sports activities. 242-4899.

AID Atlanta- A community-based, non-profit agency providing multiple services to all people with AIDS, their families and friends, and education to everyone regarding the disease and its prevention. 1132 W. Peachtree St. (Entrance 13th Street). 872-0600.

AIDS Information Line- 876-9944 (Atlanta); 1-800-551-2728 (State-wide). Answers to questions about AIDS, referrals, etc., by trained volunteers staffing phone lines from 9:00 AM-9:00 PM daily. A public service of AID Atlanta and the Ga. DHR.

All Saints MCC-Serving the southside with positive Christian support for lesbians and gay men. 5:00 PM every Sunday. 575 Boulevard, SE. Office hours: Mon-Thurs. 10AM-Noon, and 1PM-4PM. 622-1154.

Atlanta Business & Professional Guild- A non-profit service organization comprised of both gay/lesbian and non-gay professionals and businesspersons. 2nd Tuesday of each month. Place varies. Membership and further information: 662-4202.

Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus- A community-oriented choral group. Membership is open to all women interested in singing. Chorus practice held each Sun., 6-8:30 PM at the First Existentialist Church at 470 Candler Park Dr. 355-8894 or 435-4498.

Atlanta Lambda Chorale- A community-oriented choral group for both men and women. Membership open to singers and non-singers. Rehearsals every Tues. at MCC-Blessed Redeemer, 800 N. Highland Ave. 7:30 PM. 874-1622.

Atlanta Lesbian and Gay Marching Band - Every Mon. night 7:30PM-9 PM at First MCC, 800 N. Highland Ave. Instrumentalists and colorguard still needed. For info call David at 434-7826 or Susan at 951-1591.

BWMT- Black and White Men Together. 1st Sat. of each month. 8 PM. Location varies. A gay interracial group committed to fostering a supportive environment where racial and cultural barriers can be overcome and human equality realized. 794-BWMT.

Circle of Healing- 1st and 3rd Sun. of each month. 4 PM. First Existentialist Church. The Circle is open to anyone in need of healing, be it physical, emotional, or spiritual.

Congregation Bet Haverim- Services 1st and 3rd Fri. of each month at 8:30 PM. Shabbat Seder, 2nd Fri. of each month at 7:30 PM. Quaker House, 1384 Fairview Dr. Proudly serving the lesbian and gay community. Synagogue information line: 642-3467.

Couples, Inc.- The National Organization for Family Diversity is seeking full legal and social recognition of same-sex relationships. Meetings will vary as membership grows. Interested persons call Mark du Pont at (404) 634-3061 or write: P. O. Box 77266, Atlanta, Ga. 30357-7266.

ELGO- Emory Lesbian & Gay Organization. Meetings every Wed. at 7PM. Room 363E Dobbs University Center. Box 23515, Atlanta, Ga. 30322. 377-7421.

Fourth Tuesday- A networking organization for lesbian professionals and entrepreneurs, operating through monthly dinner meetings and a variety of special social, sports

and educational events. P. O. Box 7817, Atlanta, GA 30309, 662-4353.

First MCC Atlanta- Metropolitan Community Church. Sun. Services at 11 AM and 7 PM evangelistic service. Mid-week services on Wed. at 7:30 PM. 800 N. Highland Ave. Office hours Noon-6 PM, Tues.-Fri. A Christian church proclaiming God's love for lesbians and gay men. Counsel-ing available by appointment for individuals and couples. Same sex Holy Unions performed. 872-2246.

Friends Atlanta- Activities and meetings vary. A social, recreational, and educational group for gays and lesbians. Volleyball, bowling, dinners, theater nights, and dances are among the activities. 634-2500.

GALA- Gay Atheists of America. Social meetings at members' discretion. To assure freedom of speech; freedom from religion; to defend the separation of church and state; to help obtain civil rights for gays and lesbians, and to offer non-believers an alternate social scene. 875-8877.

GALA- Georgia Tech Gay and Lesbian Alliance. Every Thursday at 7:30 PM. 676-1339 or 352-9213.

GALA, Programs Area, GA Tech, Atlanta, GA 30332.

GANG - Greater Atlanta Naturist Group. For gay men who enjoy nude outdoor and social activities. Not a sex club. Nude camping, swimming, etc. Send SASE to: GANG, PO Box 7546, Atlanta, GA 30357.

GAPAC- Greater Atlanta Political Awareness Coalition. Meetings vary. The gay and lesbian political action committee monitoring and acting in local politics. 885-0510.

GLPCI- Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition International. 1st and 3rd Sun. of each month. 7:30 PM. Unitarian Universalist Church. A support group for lesbian and gay parents. 296-8369.

The Group- Thur. nights. Call the Gay Help Line at 892-0661 or write PO Box 15191, Atlanta, Ga. 30333. A support group for gay and bisexual men who are or who have been involved in marital-type situations with women.

Hotlanta Volleyball- Serious and amateur players are welcome to join. Members compete in tournaments and regulation league play. Clinics held during the year to learn and practice new techniques. 875-0700 for info.

Integrity- Gay Caucus of the Episcopal Church. 2nd and 4th Friday of each month. 7:30 PM. All Saints Episcopal Church-3rd floor of Ellis Hall. 875-2720.

LAMP - The Living AIDS Memorial Park Project. Second Mon. each month. 7:30PM. N. Highland Branch Library. 874-3107 or 872-7568. Write to: LAMP, PO Box 301, 1579 F Monroe Drive, Atl., GA 30324.

LEGAL- Legislate Equality for Gays and Lesbians. 3rd Monday of each month. 7:00 PM. Peachtree Branch Library. The voice of lesbian and gay Georgians in the Democratic party. 289-6358.

LIFE- Lesbians in Fun Endeavors. Meeting times and locations vary. Bringing professional gay women together for the fun of it, giving them the opportunity to make friends and enjoy a wide variety of events. 493-3966.

Lutherans Concerned/South Carolina- A society of gay, lesbian and non-gay Christians. All denominations welcome. We work to foster a climate of understanding, justice and reconciliation among all people. 3rd Sunday of each month. 4:00PM. 728 Pickens St., Columbia, SC. Contact: PO Box 90537, Columbia, SC, 29290.

MACGLO- Metro Atlanta Council of Gay and Lesbian Organizations. 3rd Thursday of each month. 7:00 PM. Peachtree Branch Library. A representative council of lesbian and gay organizations to facilitate the exchange of information. 242-2342.

NAPWA- Atlanta Chapter of the National Association of People with AIDS. 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month. 7:00 PM. 1132 W. Peachtree St. A political, social, and educational organization confronting the AIDS crisis. Membership is open to all individuals with AIDS, ARC or who are HIV positive. 874-7926.

The Names Project/Atlanta- A National AIDS Memorial. Every Wednesday at 6:30PM at All Saints Episcopal Church. Send correspondence to: 375 Georgia Ave., Atlanta, Ga. 30312.

P-FLAG- Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. 3rd Sunday of each month. 7:30 PM. Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Atlanta. Committed to help parents learn what we have learned. To help change attitudes and create an environment of understanding, so all gay people can live with dignity and respect. 961-6085 or 296-0830.

PLGC- Presbyterians for Lesbian and Gay Concerns/More Light. 3rd Sunday of each month. Gays and lesbians gather over light foods to celebrate their Presbyterian heritage. 373-5830.

Project Open Hand - Prepares and serves meals to PWAs, PWARCs unable to do so themselves. Volunteers needed for organizing, kitchen and delivery. 248-1788.

SAME- Southeastern Arts, Media & Education Project, Inc. Utilizes the arts and media as tools for exploration, education, and change in human rights, especially those pertaining to the lesbian and gay community. 584-2104.

UULGC- Unitarian-Universalist Lesbian and Gay Community. 2nd Thur. each month. 8 PM. Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Atlanta. A spiritual and social support group for religious liberals. Call for a copy of our newsletter. 634-5134.

WOW- Women of Wisdom. 3rd Mon. each month. 7:45 PM. N. Highland Branch Library. Aims to facilitate women meeting together with other women in a pleasant atmosphere. Offers programs of interest to the community, reaches out to older women and women with special needs.

Special at Fox to Benefit Children with AIDS

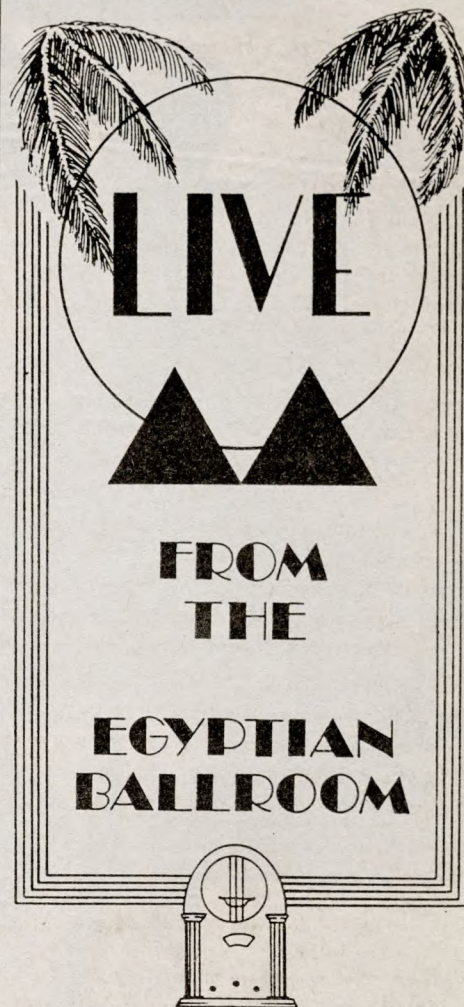
"Live from the Egyptian Ballroom—a 1940's Radio Cabaret" will recreate an authentic radio show ambiance, starting at 8:40 on the night of December 5, with the patrons as the live studio audience in the Fox Theater's Egyptian Ballroom.

Here, where the big bands played and Atlantans used to dance the night away, from 800 to 1000 ticket holders are expected to turn out for a fundraiser, with proceeds providing services, care and feeding for children in Atlanta who are diagnosed with AIDS. Chairing the event is Jake Rothschild, an Atlanta newcomer whose special events company is the sponsor, with support from local businesses and AID Atlanta named as beneficiary.

Among the entertainers who have already volunteered to take part are comedians Jerry Farber and Michael West, Libby Whittemore and the case from Gene and Gabe's "Big Hair and Other Teases." Behind-the-scenes talent will include Robert Griggs of Griggs and Van Horm, who is helping to create a setting where showgoers will feel they are part of an authentic radio show audience. Others are volunteering their services almost daily.

"I am new to Atlanta, and I am amazed at how people all over the city have come forward to help us make this a successful evening," says Rothschild.

Proceeds from the event will pay for vis-



iting nurses, medical equipment and care and feeding of children in Atlanta who are diagnosed as having AIDS, some of them abandoned at birth by parents unable or unwilling to accept responsibility for their care. The goal for the evening is to raise \$25,000. Tickets are \$20 and are available through the Fox Theater box office at 881-1977.

Congratulations to the Georgia AIDS Legislative Coalition

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Olivia Continues to Charm

Olivia's 15th birthday party on Nov. 19 at Center Stage drew women not only from Atlanta but from all over the southeast. A display of hands requested by Judy Dlugacz, owner/founder of Olivia Records and emcee for the evening, showed that North Carolina women turned out in large numbers, as well as large contingents from Florida, Tennessee, South Carolina and Alabama. There were a few men in attendance, an audience Olivia would like to count as fans as the fifteen-year old company grows from a small business into a mature corporation.

Even though Olivia has her eyes on a larger market, which means moving a bit from her traditional roots, she still maintains the charisma which has drawn women to her for almost two decades. And it is the artists of Olivia, an array of talented and personable women, who work the charisma and continue to win the hearts of lesbians (and gay men) throughout the country. The Atlanta concert was no exception to the rule. For almost three hours we were rocked, cuddles and coddled by the music and energy of Deidre McCalla, Nancy Vogl, Dianne Davidson, Tret Fure, Lucie Blue Tremblay and Cris Williamson.

McCalla is a dazzling beautiful woman. Although her pitch was a bit off at times, as the opening performer she immediately pulled the audience into the evening with a sing-along of "All Day Always". McCalla also pleased a lot of people by thanking the

"lesbian/feminist community" for their support, and followed this with "Mama's Little Baby Girl", a song dedicated to her mother and all black women who make her career possible.

Nancy Vogl followed McCalla with a wonderful set including several songs from the Berkley Women's Music Collective- one of the country's first "feminist bands- and from her album, *Fight Like a Dancer*. "The Winds of Passion", a song about PMS, brought roars from the audience, although some women squirmed at hearing, "I cannot predict what I may say or do."

Vogl has a direct, almost raw singing style that contrasts beautifully with her strong, smooth acoustic guitar. She talked a lot with the audience, expressing everyone's confusion and frustration over the recent presidential election with "Oh America" which asks, "Oh, America why do you fear your daughters and sons?"

When Diane Davidson took the stage the partying began. A tall Tennessee woman, she grabbed the microphone and pulled it to her height saying, "Shit, they just don't know us Southern women. These California women are so short or something." From the moment she stepped on stage until she left to a standing ovation, Davidson owned the room. As the Janis Joplin of women's music, she carries the passion and voice of a woman done wrong, a woman done right and every woman in



Cris Williamson

between. You can tell when Davidson sings, "I'm built for comfort, I'm built for speed. I got everything that a good woman needs," that she believes it, and the audience believes it, too. Davidson is a burning performer, one you talk about long after the concert is over.

Lucie Blue Tremblay, whose album *LucieBlue Tremblay* was named as one of the top ten albums of the year by the Boston Globe in 1987, is Olivia's "best all-around" artist. Tremblay does it all, has it all. Her lyrics are unsurpassed- they're poignant, political, sometimes melancholy- and her voice and musicality are a perfect fusion of delicacy and power. Tremblay appears to be the most political of the Olivia artists, at least she talks and writes about politics in a direct manner. She shared an unfinished song which talks about, "...taking the hinges

off the cupboard doors." According to Tremblay, "People are tired of hiding... silence is dying."

Tret Fure provided some nice moments but her performance did not stand out. Fure seems to be at her best when performing with Cris Williamson. Williamson, another founder of Olivia, continues, after all these years, to be a folk hero for women. As holder of the number one, best selling, women's album of all time, *The Changer and the Changed*, she has proved time and time again that she is worth a listen. Her voice still rings as the voice of women's music. Her humor and warmth still captivate- and she still writes like a woman who has something to say. Williamson offered a new song, "Mother, mother", written for an upcoming film about the children with AIDS and their parents- "... some who reject their children," she stated.

Williamson, Fure and all of the artists closed the evening with "Song of the Soul," giving the feel of a bon a fide women's event with people holding hands and singing along.

Olivia's debut Atlanta appearance was a success, both for the audience and the label. The absence of an interpreter, however, was not well-received. Dlugacz's explanation of the interpreter backing out three days before the concert rang a bit hollow for many. Next time around, hopefully in the Spring, Olivia would best serve herself and her audience by assuring the presence of an interpreter.

-Christina Cash

Seven Victories for Openly Gay/Lesbian Candidates Nationwide

Victories of seven of 11 openly gay/lesbian candidates in federal, state and local races provided a "silver lining" to the November 8 election of George Bush to the White House.

"We won some this election and we lost some this election," said Robert Bray, Director of Communications for the Human Rights Campaign Fund.

"We may go into Congress with more supporters of AIDS legislation and gay/lesbian civil rights bills than ever before. That's the silver lining to this whole election," he said.

Among the winners are Massachusetts' Barney Frank and Gerry Studds, the only openly gay members of Congress representing any part of the country. Frank was re-elected in his first race since revealing his homosexuality.

Studds defeated airline pilot Jon Bryan in his third re-election since coming out in 1983.

Washington State voters elected their first openly gay state senator, Calvin Anderson. Anderson ran as an incumbent, after having been appointed to the seat to fill a vacancy.

Minnesota State Representative Karen Clark was elected to her fifth term in office. Clark said she will continue her efforts to pass a hate crimes bill and to increase state-

wide civil rights protection to cover discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

The defeat of U.S. Senator Lowell Weicker (R-Connecticut) by only 7,000-10,000 votes was a "tremendous loss" to the gay/lesbian community. According to Jeffrey Levi, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) Executive Director, Weicker was the community's strongest advocate and spokesperson in the U.S. Senate.

In San Francisco, Supervisor Harry Britt, who replaced Harvey Milk on the County Board of Supervisors in 1979, became president of the board, the highest position yet obtained by a gay elected official in San Francisco. Britt finished first in a field of 24 candidates and collected over 100,000 votes. Lesbian activist Pat Norman attempted to join Britt on the Board of Supervisors, but failed to capture one of six vacant seats.

Tim Wolfred, a gay member of San Francisco's Community College Board, retained his seat.

Also in California, lesbian activist Judy Abdo captured one of four open seats on the Santa Monica City Council.

- Wendy Morse

Pro-Choice Supporters: Join us.

Operation Rescue will be back in Atlanta Dec. 7-10. COOR (Coalition Opposing Operation Rescue) is working to ensure women's rights.

To find out more about COOR and the fight against Operation Rescue, attend COOR's next meeting.

Thursday, Dec. 1 at 7PM. Inman Park Library, 447 Moreland Ave. 365-5311 for more info.

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Living With AIDS: Counting the Losses

The phone rang the other day as I was coming in from work. I let the phone ring for the obligatory four rings it takes for the answering machine to take control.

"Mark, this is Regina Washington. We went to high school together. Anyway, I'd like for you to call me back just as soon as you can. We've had this emergency here in town..."

I thought quickly. I was there just last week. It's not a reunion year. I interrupted her message. "Hi, Regina, it's me. I just walked in and heard you leaving your message. What's up?"

Boy, was I surprised! One of our "football stars" from my senior class had just died. Guess what. No one had ever known of his lifestyle. No one knew that another member of our class was his lover (and lived with him). No one knew it - and they had been together since high school. I gathered details about the funeral service and decided I just could not attend.

We were about to end the conversation when she said, "Your mother said something not too long ago that you work with AIDS patients or something like that. Is that true?" She didn't sound shocked (I was the featured baton twirler for 5 years) but she just didn't know any other way to ask.

"Not exactly," I said, "but I am affiliated with several organizations in town which are AIDS-related and I do look after one person in particular in what we call the 'Buddy Program.' My Buddy and I are friends like anyone else and I attend to special personal needs he may have that no one else can do."

She asked if I would come home sometime and teach our friends about AIDS.

"No one here knows anything except what the local papers print. When word got out about Casey, people wouldn't talk to his family and the funeral home had to call a

mortician from Birmingham just to get him ready for the funeral. I doubt if many people will come unless they just want to get a look at the family's reaction."

I was mad at this point. These are the same people I grew up with, attended church with, and all the other things one does in the heart of rural Alabama. How could they act this way? If it were me, would they treat my family the same way?

Before my voice started conveying my feelings, I told Regina that I would have to get back with her but that I was indeed interested in giving that talk. I got out my diary and turned to the page I have reserved for AIDS casualties in my life. I added Casey to the list. Now the total number of people I have known personally has risen to 76. That's 76 too many.

I looked over this growing list of names. There's my first lover. There's the guy who taught me how to dance in pumps. There's the guy who took me to my first gay bar. There's the lady I worked with at South Central Bell who wasn't even gay. I hadn't forgotten any of these people, but I've not had to add a name since July.

My thoughts turned back to my friends,

family and acquaintances in that small Alabama town where I grew up. Why were they acting so childish? My parents have always stood as the pillars of that community. They've always supported me in my life, choices and activism. Why weren't they doing something to calm the fears of these people?

I told mother about Casey. She had just heard about it 3 hours before. She was just as surprised as everyone else.



"What are you going to do, Mom?" She paused for a moment, I guess trying to figure out what I had just asked her.

"I haven't really thought about it. I guess I'll get the usual group from the church and take food to the family. Is there anything else I should do?"

After I finished my "sermonette" my mother was ready to start her own AIDS organization. I had left enough pamphlets and literature at their house in the past, so she gathered that up and called her group from the First Baptist Church. They were hesitant (as I expected) but willing to learn. I'm happy to say that my mother calmed many fears in that town and has cleared the way for me to go there to speak to whoever cares to listen.

While I had her on the phone she asked about my Buddy. "How's he feeling this week? Are you going to bring him home for Thanksgiving?" We talked about him for a few minutes, then I asked, "Mother, what if that had been me and not Casey?" "I guess I would do the same thing I'm about to do

now. People need to know the facts so they can get rid of their fears." (She's been reading those pamphlets!)

"That's all I needed to hear. Thanks."

I am constantly longing for things and people to remain unchanged - unharmed. I thought about my Buddy a lot that night. "Why am I a Buddy, anyway?" I have this major problem with letting go. I know I'll lose him someday, too.

Ours is a very wonderful friendship based on trust, admiration and determination (not to mention Big Macs, Diet Pepsi and lots of hugs). After knowing me for only two months, he has placed the rest of his life (the emotional part) in my hands. He's such a sweet guy - caring, loving and affectionate. It's just not fair that I'll have to say goodbye to him. Our shared belief in a Supreme Being and life after life-on-earth keeps us going. We know that we will be reunited some day after he's gone. I'll be reunited with those 76, also.

Maybe that is the key to surviving Living With AIDS. Put your trust and faith in a power that is greater than your own. Love the person near you and make their life on earth as meaningful and pleasant as possible. Make your own life just as meaningful and always remember - those whom we might lose, we will see again someday, soon.

-Mark du Pont

"Living With AIDS" is written by those personally affected by the AIDS crisis. PWAs, PWARCs, HIV-positive persons, their family and loved ones, health care professionals, teachers, attorneys, and anyone in the community who has been touched by this epidemic are urged to submit to "Living With AIDS" by writing Southern Voice, P.O. Box 54719, Atlanta, GA 30308. The HIV status of any author of this column, unless specifically stated by the author, should not be assumed.

Health Sourcebook Published

The National Lesbian and Gay Health Foundation has published *The Sourcebook on Lesbian/Gay Health Care*, providing a wide range of health care information of special interest to the lesbian/gay community.

Topics include a focus on health care needs for special populations (rural lesbians and gay men; people of color, etc.); sections on mental health and substance abuse; a large section on AIDS; an exploration of health care issues for gay/lesbian families; and a section on sexuality.

The sourcebook will be available soon in lesbian and gay bookstores for \$17.95. For more information, contact Bea Roman, NLGHF, Inc., P.O. Box 65472, Washington, D.C. 20035 or phone (202) 797-3708.

KARE Cards for X-mas

K.A.R.E. stands for Kaposi's And AIDS Research Effort and is the brainchild of artist and PWA Cliff Ashmum. K.A.R.E. seeks to raise money to provide treatments, such as aerosolized pentamidine, to those PWAs and PWARCs who cannot afford them.

An assortment pack containing two copies each of seven different cards is available for \$25. Send check or money order made out to K.A.R.E., along with your mailing address, to K.A.R.E., P.O. Box 52, Fairfield, Connecticut 06430.

PWA Newsletters

A number of newsletters for People with AIDS/ARC have sprung up around the country over the past year or so. Some of these are:

ATLANTA—*Alive and Aware*, published by the Atlanta Chapter of the NAPWA. Free to PWA/ARCs. \$20 to support a subscription for a PWA/ARC. Write *Alive and Aware*/NAPWA, 1132 West Peachtree Street, Atlanta, GA 30309. Phone (404) 874-7926.

SAN FRANCISCO—*PWA Voice*, available free of charge, but a \$15 subscription is requested. To subscribe, write *PWA Voice*, 2215-R Market Street, #247, San Francisco, CA 94114 or phone them at (415) 626-7827.

DALLAS—*PWA Newslite*, published by the PWA Coalition of Dallas. Free to PWAs, or \$25 for a yearly subscription. Make checks payable to PWA Coalition of Dallas, Box 4338, Dallas, TX 75208, or phone them at (214) 941-0523.

MINNEAPOLIS—*PWALive*, a newsletter published by, for and about people affected by AIDS. *PWALive* publishes bi-monthly. Write them at *PWALive*, P.O. Box 6089, Minneapolis, MN 55406, or phone them at (612) 641-1233.

PHILADELPHIA—*We the People*, published by PWA/ARC Phila. Published monthly. Write *We the People*, 1216 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107 or phone (215) 545-6868.

WASHINGTON, D.C.—*LifeLink Newslite*, a publication of the People with AIDS Coalition of Washington, D.C., Suite 417, 2025 I Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006. Phone (202) 833-3070.



Smithsonian to Acquire Panels from the AIDS Memorial Quilt

The Smithsonian's National Museum of American History will acquire several commemorative panels collected by the NAMES Project for its AIDS Memorial Quilt.

The acquisition will take place over a period of time in an effort to document the diversity of those who have died from Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. The quilt panels will be added to the collections of the Division of Medical Sciences, which has an ongoing interest in issues related to the history of public health in the United States.

Museum Director Roger G. Kennedy, in speaking about this acquisition, said, "The AIDS Memorial Quilt is significant not only as a symbol of those who have died, but also as one aspect of the country's response to that loss."

The quilt currently consists of nearly 9,000 panels, each commemorating a person who died from complications due to AIDS. Each of the 3-foot by 6-foot panels—many created by family groups and friends—is distinctive in its design, reflecting the personality and interests of the person memorialized in the panel.

The National Museum of American History, a bureau of the Smithsonian Institution, is devoted to the collection, care, study and exhibition of objects that reflect the experience of the American people.

On Loving, Dying and Legal Concerns

Part I of a 11-part series

Both rights and responsibilities come with the ritual of marriage. For gay and lesbian partners, there is no legal access to this institution. Is it important, therefore, to seek other avenues for legal status and bonding?

Atlanta residents Jane Smith and John Doe give an affirmative reply. In 1987, both Jane and John suffered the death of a partner. Each shared the story and lessons learned in talks with *Southern Voice*.

For John, one month passed between his partner's initial symptoms and his death. They lived together for several years and had often discussed the future, including home purchase and preparations for dying. Neither of these had been accomplished when Dave was diagnosed as having AIDS. "I had done volunteer work with AIDS patients," John said, "and I thought that made us immune."

Soon after Dave's hospital admission, John had a taste of the mixed experience to follow. He and Dave's relatives were gathered in the hospital room when a doctor entered and asked that everyone but "family" leave. John alone departed. The doctor shared his diagnosis with the patient and the "family."

During the four week illness which followed, John spent all available time at - or near - the bedside, sometimes staying overnight. Dave's relatives interacted politely, but rarely included him in planning or decision-making. Doctors ignored him entirely. The single exception occurred when an adjunct physician took John aside, late in the process, and revealed that Dave's tests showed serious venereal disease. "I would have appreciated knowing earlier," John remarked with quiet frustration.

With no power of attorney and no information from doctors, John was entirely dependent on Dave's relatives for medical updates. As the situation worsened, relatives came less often while John's visits increased.

After a final week in ICU, Dave died. Funeral plans were handled entirely by relatives. "I might have liked to see his body before the casket was closed," John remarked. That option was not presented.

Upon arrival for the service, John was pulled in with the relatives by one of Dave's sisters. He sat with them while acquaintances of Dave shared memories from the pulpit. John had not been asked to participate. "I'm not sure," he said, "whether I could have."

After the service, Dave's relatives departed for the cemetery in a limousine. John followed on his own.

One day after the funeral, Dave's relatives came, with boxes, to gather his belongings from John's apartment. "They went through everything," John said, "including my dressers." Dave's queen-size bed frame was taken. A twin bed frame was left in its place. "I was totally unprepared and had no legal grounds to stand on," John stated.

Jane's story was quite different. The lengthy course of her partner's illness provided time for sharing, for planning, for decisions together. Well before the time of death, wills were discussed and finalized.

Lynn took initiative, as her illness progressed, to address insurance matters, to make arrangements for her funeral service and to inform physicians that Jane should be considered a key figure regarding medical information and treatment. Doctors had been chosen well and gave full cooperation.

As Lynn developed problems in walking, Jane received help from relatives and friends of her partner. Although no discussion had occurred regarding the specific nature of their partnership, all relatives treated Jane as a central figure. She assumed a primary role in caretaking and decision-making. "Lynn made it clear, through her behavior, that I was a key figure for her," Jane stated.

Next issue: What difference can a Living Will, Power of Attorney and a final will make? Southern Voice talks to two Atlanta attorneys and gives you their expert advice.

-Diane Dickson

The names Jane Smith and John Doe, and the names of their partners, are fictitious. Southern Voice makes no claims to legal expertise or authority in publishing this article. In all legal matters - consult an attorney.



Betty Burdette, 8/15/10 - 11/2/88

Soon after moving to Atlanta, Jana and I crossed paths with an elderly woman who was looking for a "Women's Party" in our neighborhood. She knew immediately "who" we were, but it took a long second look before we realized just who we were trying to help.

The circumstance was as ripe as the day was beautiful, so we seized the moment and pulled off to a wide spot in the road, and set ourselves into what would be a lengthy exchange of stories and information. Jana and I laughed as much as listened as Betty Burdette spun tale after tale, in her intellectually witty way, about her work with alcoholics, her tours abroad in the Airstream trailer, her lover of 23 years, Jacque Browne. She also talked about her role in the Lesbian Community in Atlanta, then gave us information that would help us find our way. But before we parted, I stepped back and saw a Southern woman, a product of the time and place in which she was born, proud of her class, her possessions and her long life. I had no doubt that she had done more than her share of fighting for her rights to be who she was. Her winning way helped pave the way for multitudes of people not as fortunate as Betty Burdette. For us, for Betty, "We shed no tears of grief; grief is for the naked lives of those who have made the world no better."



Betty Burdette, Atlanta lesbian activist, died on November 2 of natural causes. Betty also worked untiringly on behalf of recovering alcoholics. She attended the Yale University of Alcohol Studies and the Alcohol Studies program at the University of Oslo. The photo is from Yale University, Class of 1947.

Diane Dickson

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The December 4th performance of *For Love and For Life II* will be a special benefit for Project Open Hand. In addition, canned goods will be collected for Project Open Hand throughout the run of the show.

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See Page 15

*AIDS-Services & Education

Life Healing- HIV Support Group. This group explores emotional issues underlying disease and responses encouraging health and well-being. Facilitated by Jim Sacco, MSW. Atlanta Center for Attitudinal Awareness. 1640 Powers Ferry Road, Bldg. 2, Marietta, Ga. Free. Transportation available. Call 953-3136 for more info. (V1#22)

AID Atlanta Support Groups - Bereavement: Mon. 7-9PM; Families, Friends, Partners I: Mon. 7-9PM; Families, Friends, Partners II: Wed. 7-9PM; A PWA in the family: Wed. 7-9PM; The Worried Well: Tues 6-7:30PM; Women with AIDS/ARC: 2nd & 4th Wed. 12-2PM; Minorities with AIDS/ARC: Thurs. 7-8:30PM; Lymphadenopathy/ARC I: Mon. 7-9PM; Lymphadenopathy II: Thurs. 7-9PM; PWAs: Wed. 7-9PM; PWA Weekend Group: Sat. 4-5:30PM. Call 874-6517 for locations, other details. (V1#22)

Help a PWA and the environment with one phone call! Will pick up and recycle your aluminum cans if you call me at 252-4325.(V1#21)

Chronic Illness Group led by Pat Zerman. Tuesdays 1-3 PM. 1640 Powers Ferry Rd, Bldg 2, Marietta. For more info, call the Atlanta Center for Attitudinal Awareness. 953-3136.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Contemporary fiction book club is forming. Frequency of meetings and books selected will be determined by members. A focus on gay and non-gay authors is expected. Club open to all interested. Initial meeting date will be established in late November or early December. For more info, call Gary Piccola at 352-1582(home), or 351-5309 (office). (V1#21)

BETTY Performing December 2, 8:00 and 10:00 at the Avondale Towne Cinema. For information call 377-8312. (V1#20)

Angela Motter will perform her unique jazz at Onstage Atlanta, 420 Courtland Ave. at 8PM. Ann Duckworth will open on Monday, December 5; DeDe Vog will open on Tuesday December 6. Tickets are \$5 at the door.

The Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus will perform a concert of Broadway and seasonal music at 8PM on Wed., Dec. 6 at Onstage Atlanta, 420 Courtland Street. Tickets are \$8 and are available from Chorus members, at Charis Book or can be reserved by calling 584-2104.

DIVINE ART SALE - porcelain artwear, jewelry, vases, floorcloths. Fri., Dec. 2 and Sat., Dec. 3 from 10-5PM. Sun., Dec. 4 from 1-5PM. Featuring artists Jill Ruhlman and Callahan McDonough. 377-9476 or 373-0929 for more info.

*EMPLOYMENT

Writers needed by Southern Voice to cover news and entertainment. Feature writers also needed. Experience preferred, but will train. Join Atlanta's fastest growing alternative paper. 827-9678.

Experienced press operator wanted. AB Dick, 360, 9800. Management skills also required. Call after 6:00PM. 329-0043. (v1#22)

*EMPLOYMENT

Wallpaper Hanger Needs Assistant. No experience necessary. You must be physically capable of lifting heavy items. Looking for someone who is interested in learning paper hanging as a profession. Telephone and transportation necessary. Call Bonnie at 925-4292. (V1#20)

PARALEGAL - Graduate of ABA approved paralegal school with over four years experience in all aspects of medical records seeks litigation position. Full or part-time. References. Please call 264-9191. (V1#21)

ATTORNEY - The Savannah office of Georgia Legal Services needs an attorney to work with PWAs and AIDS issues. \$19,000 + D.O.E., excellent benefits. Please contact William K. Broker at PO Box 8667, Savannah, Ga., 31412. Or call (912) 651-2180. (V1#22)

FOR RENT

Little Five Points. Completely renovated building in heart of Little Five Points. Four 2-bedroom apartments, one 2-bedroom cottage. Each \$650/month, includes water. Dishwasher, disposal, AC, washer/dryer, deck, hardwood floors, ceiling fans. Beautiful space, lots of charm, great location. 577-3871. (V1#21)

Home to Share: Bedroom for rent in large Victorian home in Avondale Estates (1.5 miles from Avondale MARTA rail station.) Bedroom has 2 large closets and a built-in large bookcase. Use of the kitchen, living room with fireplace, swimming pool, large backyard with deck, jacuzzi and shared bath. Non-smoker. Cost: \$300/month, plus 1/3 utilities. Contact Brenda at 294-9027. (V1#20)

House in Emory/Druid Hills. 2 bedroom. Wooded lot. Fenced back. Deck. Refrigerator, DW, disposal. Pets negotiable. On MARTA line. Rent and security deposit negotiable. Call Cynthia at 325-3141. (V1#20)

Actor's Express is holding auditions for *The Good Woman of Setzuan* by Brecht. Dec. 2 at 7PM and Dec. 3 at 1PM. Dorsey Studio, 3593 Clairmont Rd. The cast is diverse - all ages, colors, sexes needed. For info call 643-3602. (V1#22)

*ORGANIZATIONS

Atlanta Women's Feminist Chorus needs a piano accompanist. For additional information contact Shirley at 355-8894.(V1#21)

FREE FOR LOVE AND FOR LIFE II tickets. SAME needs volunteer help for box office and concession duties Dec. 1-18. Call Gary at 584-2104. (V1#21)

PERSONALS

GWF. World-traveled, intellectual musician into metaphysics, politics and tennis seeks emotionally and physically well-balanced woman. Must like nature, art, theater and dancing. Send note and phone number to SV Box #2238. (V1#22)

GWF. Autumn, a time for romance. Curling up by the fire to watch football, heading to the mountains, or candlelight dinner. No workaholics, alcoholics, druggies or pessimists. If

PERSONALS

you're over 30, attractive, athletic (especially golf), good sense of humor, into fun things - risk it and reply to S.V. Box 2230. (V1 #21)
Let's add sparkle to these coming winter months. I enjoy arts, outdoors, even TV. Would like to meet attractive women 44-54 with sense of humor. Nice if you have children, too. Reply to S.V. Box 2232. (V1#21)

Professional GWM, 38, 5'10", 155 lbs., moustache, honest, sincere, relationship oriented, HIV negative, not into bar scene, wants to meet similar for friendship, possible relationship. P.O. BOX 95249, Atlanta, GA 30347-0249. (V1#20)

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CANDLER PARK and LAKE CLAIRE real estate specialist. I can show you any home for sale in these neighborhoods. Is it a good time to buy or sell? Call me for advice. JO GIRAUDO, 14 West Realtors. 874-6357.(V1#21)

You could pay \$250,000+ for a bungalow in Midtown or Virginia/Highland OR you could pay \$230,000 for 11 secluded acres with 19th century renovated country cottage overlooking pond, plus guest house and stables in Decatur. 377-6677. (V1 #20)

ROOMMATES

Non-smoking sober woman seeks same to share 4BR, 11/2 bath house in Marietta. Share kitchen and one bath. A lot of room for privacy. Other woman works 3-midnight, seldom home. \$330/month. Security deposit. Availability negotiable. 438-2378. Leave message. (V1#22)

Two lesbians looking for third to share Va./Highland house. We are non-smoking, non-drinking, vegetarians, but don't mind if you aren't (within moderation). There are several cats and one dog. Central heat & air. Nice house! \$300/month includes utilities, non-food supplies. 874-6765. (V1#21)

*VOLUNTEERS

SAME seeks one or two volunteers to act as liaisons with other community organizations. Position requires some knowledge of gay/lesbian groups and about 10 hours per month, mostly on the phone. Call Gary at 584-2104. (V1#22)

Spanish-speaking volunteers needed for Hispanic AIDS education projects, either answering telephone inquiries or on community outreach teams coordinated by Elena Treto for AID Atlanta. Call Margie Peterson at 872-0600. (V1#22)

ACTOR'S EXPRESS needs technical volunteers. Call 643-3602.

Merchants Directory

Atlanta Business and Professional Guild, Box 52785, Atlanta, Ga., 30355. 662-4202.
Charis: Books and More, 419 Moreland Ave, Atlanta, Ga. 524-0304.
Diane Dickson, M.A., M.Ed., Community Counseling Center, Atlanta, Ga. 634-9440.
Dan Easton, 2920 Brandywine Rd., #250, Atlanta, Ga., 30341. 457-0087.
ETC., 427 Moreland Ave, Suite 700, Atlanta, Ga., 30307. 525-3821.
Feminist Women's Health Center, 580 14th St., Atlanta, Ga. 874-7551.
HLM Services Inc., 535 Oakdale Rd., Atlanta, Ga. 659-0315.
Charles Haver, L.M.T., 524-8221.
Brenda L. Hawkins, ED. D., 1518 Monroe Dr. #600, Atlanta, Ga., 30324. 872-9016.
Deborah E. Keefe, 1535 LaVista Rd., Atlanta, Ga. 634-3835.
Edward O. Nix, M.D., 3756 LaVista Rd., Suite 100, Tucker, Ga., 30084. 634-0672.
Optical Stores, 2441 Cheshire Bridge Rd., Atlanta, Ga., 636-9727 or 636-9811
Sharon J. Sanders, 1549 Clairmont Rd #108, Decatur, Ga. 373-0278.

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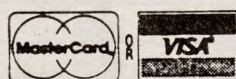
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Remembering Harvey: 5/22/30-11/27/78

On the 10th Anniversary of The Death of Harvey Milk

Talk about heroes. There was this nickel-and-dime merchant, this pug-ugly middle-aged New York fairy, this hyperbolic, abusive crypto-Goldwaterite named Harvey Milk. He was a pol-on-the-make among the rebellious sexual outlaws of the vaulting Castro. He was set to cut a deal, glad hand the available world, and raise high the roofbeams. It was destiny he had by the throat; it was a date with a chapter in gay/lesbian American history and a footnote in the annals of the mostly tawdry politics of San Francisco. It was also, he fervently believed, a date with death. He'd not live to be fifty, he said. Some kook on a wingding would shoot him down. Only 10 days before he was assassinated Milk recorded his "political will" saying, "If a bullet should enter my brain, let that bullet destroy every closet door."

Harvey was a marvel, and no mistake.

suits that'd put him back ten bucks at used-clothing stores on Mission Street. It was some kind of miracle that Glimpy Milch, as he'd been called as a randy kid on the wrong end of Long Island, emerged from the throng to become the first uncloseted elected official in a nation of 20 million lesbians and gay men.

Braver men and women preceded Milk. Many have gone to prison for acts of love; many have died, lost their careers, their families, their good names. Has-been pop singers, gimmie preachers and scabrous politicians have built their fortunes on the pain and often the blood of gay men and women. We are handy. Haven't we too much to lose if we make public our outrage, our defiance? Milk won his day and named our age because he did fight back. He peddled hope. That's the salt of the loaf: hope. That he peddled it well made him a

show biz. Harvey knew how to coo to newspaper chumps, how to reduce to a sizzling soundbite the hopes of the millions, how to get on the six o'clock news. He knew how to arouse the rabble and rake the muck. He knew how to rally guys who thought the world began and ended in the bars and bathhouses, whose faith was in the terminal grope, whose private parts were illuminated like a Caravaggio light source. Harvey knew too that the human heart is really an organ of the ego. He knew how to stroke, how to speak to each as if he or she were central to the moment. He knew how to recruit troops of volunteers whose entire lives were devoted to the political ambitions of his camera-store operator on Castro Street.

What Harvey didn't do was reach everybody. Not every heart was opened. An ex-cop named Dan White first murdered Mayor Moscone, then, reloading his revolver with dum-dum bullets, the kind that

"If a bullet should enter my brain, let that bullet destroy every closet door."

explode inside fragile flesh, paid a premeditated call on Harvey Milk.

The gays of San Francisco rioted when a friendly jury let White off with voluntary manslaughter. Dan was on a sugar-high from munching Twinkies, you see, and he couldn't help himself when Harvey "smirked" at him. So said his lawyer. It is a sorry tale whose variations in the halls of American justice are without limit. Then and now.

There have been ten troubled years since the rainy fall day of Moscone and Milk's deaths in San Francisco City Hall. Harvey would be nudging age 60 now. After him, the deluge. AIDS. Reagan. Bush. A younger generation, scored by fear and the



Efren Ramirez

Mayor George Moscone signs the San Francisco Gay Civil rights bill with Harvey Milk looking on.

wish to live, would have perhaps grown weary of Milk had he lived and stayed in the fray. The star-fuckers who lined up outside his door would have disappeared. His gay-Chinese-union alliance would by now be a tattered thing. That's politics. But there would be one plus—even if poor little Danny Boy hadn't gobbled down so many Twinkies that bad November day.

That plus was in the air October a year ago, when hope and rebellion and truth and elation prodded 500,000 women and men past a gray and sleeping White House. Milk showed us what the possibilities are. He ran against the machine and won. He spread his message of hope and dignity across the U.S. and Canada. And thousands, tens of thousands, of North Americans who are gay or lesbian discovered there ain't no reason to be a pariah on native ground.

Get off the lard and rattle the grid. That's what Harvey would say.

— Gene-Gabriel Moore



JERRY PRITIKIN

Harvey Milk speaking at Union Square rally on the night of Anita Bryant's victory in Miami.

The pissy A-gays who'd been clogging liberal straights with brie and white zinfandel, who'd seen the town rise from a day when bashing faggots was City Hall policy, not merely acts of psychosexual disarray in rogue cops, despised this Jewish person from the East. Lesbians wanted nothing to do with him. Gay men were men first. They'd learned that the hard way.

On the exploding Victorian streets off Castro and Market, the magnet for feisty young gay men from every backwater, every scabby boondock, Harvey was certainly no thrill. How you dressed, smelled, walked, talked and stood in your regulation jeans and Pendleton plaid, your trimmed macho moustache and your boots, was the common-denominator among the Castroids. This wobbly, jug-eared, maxi-snozed sissy draped his narrow shoulders in

hero.

Heroes are wanted in a movement that consumes its activists, chews them up and spits them out, and Harvey, who loved the theatrical and revered the symbol, would have approved of his becoming an icon of a movement that is starting to find itself and meaningfully coalesce. His was a name invoked when a half-million of us gathered on the Republican grass in the shadow of the U.S. Capitol last year at the National March on Washington.

Harvey had a gift for changing the minds and hearts of both his own kind and those who are programmed by priest, family and state to casually hate anything and anybody that's not what mama and papa was. As a Wall Street functionary, he'd flirted with the OOB theater in New York and learned a thing or two. Politics is magic time. It's

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