

SOUTHERN VOICE

An Alternative To
MALL MADNESS

Holiday Shop
Little 5 Points

Page 11

Vol. 1, No. 21

Taking Pride in Our Culture

December 8, 1988

Atlantans Prepare to Challenge Operation Rescue

Atlanta—A coalition of progressive groups is preparing to mount a major counter-offensive to help neutralize the upcoming assault on the city by Operation Rescue.

The anti-abortion group Operation Rescue is scheduled to return to Atlanta from December 7th through December 10th. This time, Jerry Falwell, the ultraconservative founder of the Moral Majority, will conduct a conference on anti-abortion protests designed to draw more participants to the cause. Operation Rescue targeted Atlanta during the Democratic National Convention last July. Since that time, more than 1200 of its members have been arrested for blocking access to abortion clinics during numerous protests where they have harassed women who choose to have abortions. Falwell's conference will take place at the Omni Hotel on Thursday, December 8th.

Coalition Opposing Operation Rescue (COOR) will hold a demonstration at the Marietta Street lobby entrance of the hotel from 11:30am to 12:30 pm.

On Friday and Saturday COOR members and supporters will help escort women into the clinics where Operation Rescue takes its forces. COOR members want to build a mass resistance movement in Atlanta. They note that the attitude of waiting for the anti-abortion protests to fizzle out has not worked here, whereas in cities like Boston, where Operation Rescue was met by huge pro-choice demonstrations, the attacks on abortion clinics have failed.

Rita Barnes of the Atlanta Feminist Women's Health Center and COOR noted that the Supreme Court is now considering whether to reexamine the *Roe vs. Wade* decision that legalized abortion in the United States. Restrictions on public funding of abortion are already being enacted in several states, even though polls show most people favor allowing women to choose without government interference.

One COOR member pointed out, "This whole thing is not just about abortion, it's about oppression.

"After women," he said, "they'll go after gays, blacks, and others."

COOR is made up of a wide-ranging collection of local organizations. The December 8th demonstration, for example, is officially sponsored by at least 15 organizations, including the All People's Congress, Black Women's Health Project, New Jewish Agenda, Planned Parenthood, Refuse and Resist, Charis Books, Georgia Women's Political Caucus, and *Southern Voice*. For more information on the December 8th demonstration and other COOR activities, call 365-5311 or 351-7105.



PAMELA J. COLE

Atlanta is the newest and fastest growing member of the Lesbian and Gay Bands of America (LGBA). The band will perform "bar raids" as fundraisers over the holidays. Watch for them to come marching through your favorite bar—and be generous when the hat is passed.

Nat'l Leaders Call for Political Visibility at Conference

San Diego—Participants at the Fourth National Conference of Gay/Lesbian Public Officials approved the formation of the Gay and Lesbian Leadership Political Action Committee (GALLPAC) according to the *San Diego Gay Times*. The 100 politicians present issued a statement at the end of the conference calling for more gay/lesbian visibility in the political arena.

San Francisco attorney Roberta Achtenberg will organize the formation of GALLPAC, which will financially assist gay men and lesbians seeking election and appointment to public office.

"We encourage gay and lesbian public officials to be open in public, creating as much visibility as possible," the statement read. "We must work for proportional representation by getting more lesbians and gay men appointed, including lesbian and gay people of color."

A Saturday morning panel discussion, "Working with the Bush Administration," prompted a fiery discussion between Democrats and Republicans on the value of coalition building in the Republican Party.

"We need to continue to push for gay organizations that are truly non-partisan on

our issues," said Lunenberg, Mass. town clerk Bob Ebersole. Ebersole is the first openly gay Republican official elected in the United States. He added, "We need to keep the gay press accountable and make sure that when we hold Republicans who are anti-gay up for public ridicule, we do the same thing to Democrats on an equal

basis."

Boston City Councilor David Scondras responded, "The phrase 'gay Republican' rings in my mind like 'Nazi Jew.'" He contended that gay/lesbian civil rights were a low priority for gay Republicans.

Los Angeles Municipal Court Judge Rand Schrader called Scondras' comparison "repugnant."

Speaking at the closing brunch, the Honorable Mary Morgan, presiding judge of the San Francisco Municipal Court said, "Sometimes I get tired of being a professional dyke.

"There are pressures from our community to be and do everything," she added. "People tend to focus all of their hopes and all of their frustrations on us."

Next year's conference will be held in Madison, Wisconsin. Wisconsin is the only state to have criminalized gay/lesbian discrimination. In announcing the site, Madison's five openly gay elected officials said, "We wish to show you the future in practice, where non-discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation is the law of the land."

—Chris Duncan



Roberta Achtenberg

NEWS IN BRIEF

Bathroom Closing Heats AIDS Debate

Los Angeles—The recent closing of Mac's Bathroom in Los Angeles divided gay and AIDS movement leaders in that community.

The August 30 court ruling to close the facility is part of a public health/AIDS prevention agenda, but the priorities of the organized gay community on questions involved in the case remain unclear.

Lambda Legal Defense Fund filed a brief on behalf of Mac's, noting that bathhouses reach "whole groups of men who are impossible to educate any other way—bisexuals, closeted gay men, and men who don't identify as gay but have sex with other men."

Lambda executive director Tom Stoddard said, "there is no scientific basis whatsoever" that bathhouses stimulate unsafe sexual activity and that such claims are based "on perceived political exigencies rather than on fact or data."

In direct opposition is author Randy Shilts, who said bathhouses are an "anachronism" now that the gay community is "finding a higher level of personal liberation." Shilts said continued bathhouse advocacy by any responsible gay organization is "appalling and nauseating."

"Arguing that bathhouses don't spread AIDS—and in fact help stop the spread of AIDS—is like arguing that day is night. How anybody who has ever been to a bathhouse can say such things with a straight face just

blows me away," he said.

Undercover investigators in the Mac's case alleged that in six visits to the bathhouse they witnessed "ten corroborated and 15 uncorroborated acts of unprotected anal intercourse."

John Davidson of the ACLU disagreed with Shilts' argument and criticized gay leaders who he said are willing to "sacrifice the bathhouses to straight opinion."

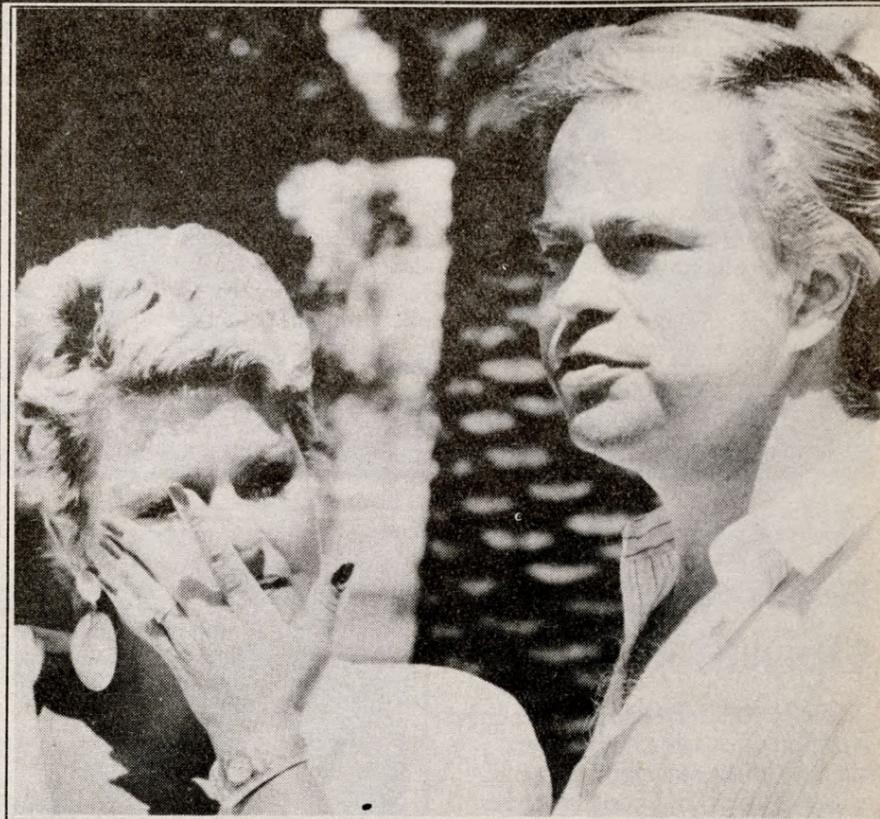
Senator to Investigate Marine Lesbian Hunt

Washington, D.C.—Senator Alan Cranston (D-CA) told the San Diego Veterans Association (SDVA) that he will look into the court martials, discharges and imprisonment of several female marines at Parris Island, South Carolina.

Lance Corporal Barbara Baum, Sergeant Cheryl Jameson and Sergeant Glenda Jones are currently serving one-year prison sentences in the Parris Island stockade. At least seven other women have been discharged for alleged homosexual behavior.

As reported in South Carolina newspapers, the methods of the investigating command have been highly questionable, including the transfers of favorable character witnesses.

The SDVA is urging letters of concern to Senator Alan Cranston, 112 Hart Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510; and to Senator Pete Wilson, 720 Hart Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510.



FAMOUS FACES

Tammy Faye's Troubles Continue

The turbulent days of Tammy Faye Bakker just refuse to end. After standing by her man, deposed PTL preacher Jim Bakker, through charges that he had affairs with people of both sexes and stole a fortune while he preached the Gospel, Tammy Faye suffered what was described as a "beauty-care emergency". Tammy was standing outside the roller-skating rink where her husband now holds services in Charlotte, North Carolina, when a newspaper photographer approached her. When the man tried to get a close-up of the face with the mythical make up, she reached for his camera and accidentally broke one of her finger nails. No one said life would be easy.

Crazy About Cagney

Are you a fan of Cagney and Lacey? Are you losing your mind over Sharon Gless—better known as Christine Cagney? Don't worry. You're not alone. Or, maybe you should worry. One of Cagney's ardent fans has been ordered by a judge to stay away from her idol, and her psychiatrist says she's undergoing treatment for an obsession with the sexy streetsmart TV cop. Joni Leigh Penn, who has sent more than 20 letters to Gless in the last few months, threatened to shoot herself in front of the star of the cancelled CBS series. Now the devoted admirer must stay at least 1,000 yards away from Gless' home or risk arrest.

Star of Tootsie to Star with Cruise

Get ready for the star of "Tootsie" to join up with All-American heartthrob Tom Cruise on the silver screen. Dustin Hoffman, the man who appeared in drag in theatres from Peoria to Puerto Rico, now plays an autistic millionaire with a remarkable memory in "Rain Man". Cruise, 26, co-stars as Hoffman's brother in the upcoming film. The 51 year-old Hoffman has been described as a perfectionist obsessed with detail. But in an interview with *Gentleman's Quarterly* he said the label didn't bother him. Until now, he said, he'd only been known as short and funny-looking. — F. G.

Farmer Encounters Gay Space Creature

Pitalito, Colombia—An unsuspecting farmer came face-to-face with a gay alien from Pluto, reported the *Weekly World News*, a sensationalistic supermarket tabloid.

According to the report, Hector Bria was visited in his home by "a seven-foot-tall sissy from outer space." The alien tried to romance Bria and "when he spurned the space sissy's advances, the creature burst into tears."

Bria reported the encounter to the Colombia Defense Department, explaining that the creature had pale green skin, huge eyes and a large mouth. He wore thick makeup, a silver jumpsuit and red striped tights. "His limbs were thin and rubbery," said the farmer.

Gay Catholic Priest Is Excommunicated

Minneapolis, Minn.—William Dorn, Jr., who was suspended from the Roman Catholic priesthood after disclosing that he was gay, has been banned from the priesthood forever and officially excommunicated, reported the *New York Times*.

A church tribunal found Dorn guilty of leaving the Catholic Church to join the Episcopal Church, putting an end to Dorn's two-year public dispute with the church over Catholic teachings on homosexuality.

In 1986 Dorn was dismissed from his job at the Christ Church Newman Center at St. Cloud State University in Minnesota after he wrote a newspaper article advocating a more compassionate view of homosexuality. He was suspended from the priesthood a few weeks later.

Brenda L. Hawkins
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Church in West Cobb Responds to Klan "Resurgence of Racism" says Hosea Williams

J.B. Stoner and about 25 other Ku Klux Klansmen did not sing the spirit of the Macedonia Baptist Church in West Cobb County when they burned a 30-foot cross next to that predominantly black church on November 12.

The church, whose congregation normally numbers 35 to 50, packed over 200 people in its doors on Saturday, November 26, for a three-hour prayer vigil held in response to the Klan rally.

"We were here before they were there and we have no intention whatsoever of leaving," said Leonard Broadnax, chairman of the church's board of deacons.

"No terrorist group of any kind will bend us

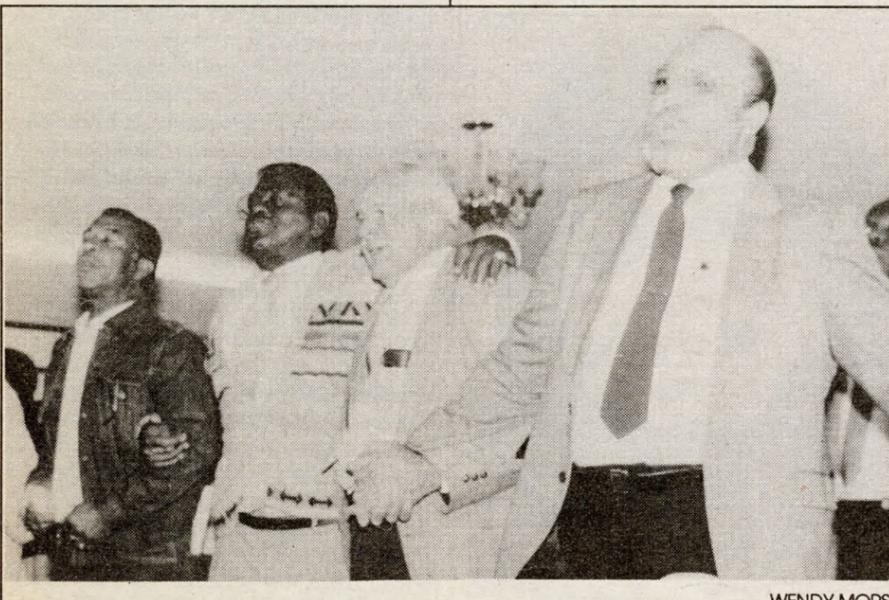
Cobb County NAACP President Terry Dodd said it is tragic that the Church had to gather in response to such an incident.

"A racist act in West Cobb County is a threat to peace, justice and love anywhere in the Western world," he said.

Dodd said he and other black leaders in Cobb plan to push for the establishment of a biracial council to explore racial activity in the county, which is only six percent black.

According to black civil rights activist Hosea Williams, recent KKK activity in Cobb and Forsyth counties is part of a "resurgence of racism across the country."

Williams said the problem ultimately is caused by an "economic crunch" brought on



WENDY MORSE

Members of the Macedonia Baptist Church congregation sing "We Shall Overcome" at a three-hour prayer vigil held to protest a Ku Klux Klan cross-burning on a lawn next to the church. Twenty religious and civic organizations sponsored the service, which was held on Nov. 26, two weeks after the Klan rally.

or will break us in any way—we are here to stay," Broadnax told the crowd. "Our message is for peace and harmony."

Kelly Ramsey, a resident at the property on which the Klan demonstrated, said her family invited them there "to send a message" to Macedonia Baptist Church. She would not say what the message was.

The Klan gathering on November 12 was attended by the Invisible Knights, a Marietta chapter, as well as small groups of other factions, including the True Knights, who were dressed in black fatigues and berets.

Emotional speeches included calls for praise to God for bringing AIDS to kill gays and blacks and celebration for George Bush's election as president.

working-class Americans by the Reagan administration.

"The poor working class is catching hell, and poor whites take their vindictiveness out on the blacks," Williams said.

"I think we've got to make an effort to bring these two elements (working-class blacks and whites) together and oppose the true exploiters.

"Poor whites have never benefitted from racism. We must overcome judging any individual by the color of their skin and reach the height of judging individuals by the content of their character," said Williams.

"God created everyone in this universe—including blacks and including gays."

— Wendy Morse



DARRELL HOGGATT

Ever-loving Deana Collins did it "One Mo' Time" when she hosted a private holiday party for over 60 AID Atlanta staff members and volunteers November 23rd. Collins, who is as irrepressible as she is generous, will kick off her PWA House Fund December 14th with a special party at her bar, Deana's One Mo' Time.

John R. Howell To Be Honored With Martha Gaines Award



John & Sally.

Oil on Canvas, Courtesy of the Estate of John Howell

Dan Poole

The Lesbian/Gay Rights Chapter of the Georgia ACLU announced that John R. Howell will be posthumously awarded the Martha Gaines Award of Excellence during the chapter's annual awards reception December 21, 1988.

Also to be honored during the annual event are MACGLO executive secretary Jeffrey Laymon, Atlanta attorney J. Patrick McCrary and DeKalb County Commissioner Sherry Sutton.

The Martha Gaines Award is the chapter's most honored award, and is named for longtime Atlanta civil rights activist Martha Gaines.

The annual award reception will be held at Frank's Place, 778 N. Highland Avenue at 7:30 pm. For information, call 521-2308.

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Blended Family Worth the Effort

These days the word "family" is used by conservative politicians and Christian leaders to draw a clear line between "us" and "them". It's another maneuver to divide us as a nation, to set forth the right-wing agenda and to preserve the status quo for white heterosexual America. The Falwells, Robertsons and Bushes want our community to be divided — they want us to feel rootless and to not have the support of our biological families. They do not want us to be or have a family.

They would certainly cringe at the thought of a "blended family" — one in which our relatives, lovers and friends know one another, spend time together and, yes, even like and support each other. Their horror at such a thing is alone well worth the effort, not to mention the emotional health and wholeness such a family would provide us. During the holidays, it becomes most important for lesbians and gays to define family and to take the steps to blend our families of choice and origin if that is what we choose.

It is all too common for lovers and friends to separate during the holidays to spend time with their biological family — more often from a sense of obligation than desire. But as we become more committed to the fight for self-respect and civil liberties, honesty becomes a value we refuse to compromise. The day will come when "Mom and Dad will have a heart attack if they know," and "I'm tired of living two lives" will have to be reconciled.

Coming out to our relatives is draining, time consuming and exhilarating. The trick to remember is that it is an educational process for everyone involved. Our parents need to go through the same process we went through when we acknowledged ourselves as lesbians or gays. Persistence and patience will usually win out as we try to consolidate our biological family with our chosen family. We also need to remember that, no matter how uncomfortable at first, we

need to create or capitalize on situations where our two families have to interact. They will never establish a relationship unless they get to know each other.

While in pursuit of the blended family where our lovers, friends and relatives play charades after a Thanksgiving meal, we must remember to nourish and comfort our individual emotional needs. We are buffeted from all sides by the oncoming holiday season, and there is nothing wrong with reserving time away to spend either alone or with special friends. It is, if anything, imperative that we anchor ourselves within our chosen families and the community while we are helping our biological family struggle with society's homophobia.

However patient or persistent we are, there are times when it is okay to let go, when it is crucial to move onward. If our biological families desert us or persistently refute us they leave us only one choice — to leave them behind as we get on with the rest of our lives.

The process of consolidating our families centers around honesty, and that means honesty with ourselves and with others. If you are forced to choose between the two, and would rather spend the holidays with a lover than with Mom and Dad, then do it. And tell Mom and Dad why you are doing it. The only good thing to come from Nancy Reagan's "Just Say No" campaign was the information that it is perfectly acceptable to say no to something and stick to your decision.

The point at which we draw our biological families into our daily lives as gays and lesbians will be the time when we turn the corner toward consolidating our lives into a healthy whole. And we will have taken a major step toward a firm and unshakable "family".

That Falwell and his groupies will hate to see that day is just icing on the cake.

A Path Through The Forest: Rebecca's Story

Nine days after her death I stood in a forest clearing, near a waterfall, one of many mourners at a memorial service for Rebecca Wight. Her lover was lying wounded in a guarded hospital room hundreds of miles away. Rebecca's sister Evelyn conducted the memorial service. The mourners were as diverse as Rebecca's interests, causes and responsibilities. Faculty members from the university's college of business where Rebecca studied and taught stood beside long-haired men wearing sandals; members of the campus gay group stood beside community



Rebecca Wight

leaders from our small town. The mourners joined hands and formed a circle with counselors, housewives, musicians, carpenters, shopkeepers, and poets Rebecca had befriended; teenagers and elderly people she had counseled. We were all there to honor and remember our friend. The service began with a Native American ceremony to purify the forest, to reconsecrate nature. Evelyn took sage that she and Rebecca had grown in their garden, dried in their kitchen; she lit it and walked our circle with the smoking sage. Evelyn spoke of her sister's love for nature, how she'd spent much of her life in nature and how, on the anniversary of her birthday, the family would scatter Rebecca's ashes over her beloved Blue Ridge mountains. Evelyn didn't speak of the outrage, the horror, that had brought us to the circle in the forest. She didn't need to remind any of us that Rebecca's brief and valuable life had abruptly ended in nature.

The sage smoke rose through the pale lace of new leaves and I tried to imagine Rebecca's last day—before there was any story, only a walk in the woods—the time just before the story, which, if we are to believe the telling, is about a woman who died for loving a woman.

Rebecca had taken a long weekend away from graduate school in Virginia to meet her friend Claudia Brenner who was on sabbatical in Ithaca, New York. They met as often as they could at that halfway place along the Appalachian Trail in Pennsylvania. They were lovers and friends and this was a much anticipated reunion. Because their meeting place was north of us and nine days earlier, I tried to imagine the clarity of spring light through the nearly bare branches of the May forest. It had been several weeks since they'd last been together, so the two women must have had so much to say of mutual friends and new events. They probably interrupted one another often as they caught up with all the tellings. They paid little attention to the man who twice approached them as they hiked the trail. The women's feet were silent over last season's leaf fall, but their voices must have risen like smoke through the leafless trees. In the late afternoon they found a place, near a stream, to make camp.

In our clearing, the mourners spoke of Rebecca and I tried to listen, but the story came back, intruded upon the present and upon

imagined memory. Stephen Roy Carr walked again and again into a different clearing, near a stream, in another forest.

Rebecca Wight lived a life of gentleness: she counseled at a crisis center, she was an environmentalist, and an articulate proponent for gun control. One minute Rebecca was resting in late afternoon sunlight with her lover; in the next, she was running from muzzle flashes and gun thunder while bullets tore her flesh, shattered her bones. Then she was dead, lying in her own blood in a darkening forest.

At the memorial service we read poems; a woman minister led us in prayer; we spoke aloud the gifts Rebecca had given to us, the truths she taught us. During the ceremony we briefly left the clearing to plant a rhododendron tree in the nearby woods. The children at the service watered the young tree and we were told that when it bloomed the blossoms would be red, Rebecca's favorite color. We were giving something back to the forest.

A month after the memorial service a newspaper report of the Gettysburg hearing of Rebecca's murder would say she was killed during a "lesbian encounter". Webster has three definitions for the word encounter, they are "1. to meet unexpectedly; come upon 2. to meet in conflict; engage in battle 3. to meet with, force difficulties". Rebecca and Claudia had been lovers for a year. Together they had planned this time in the forest; their friends and families knew how eagerly each woman looked forward to that May weekend. Yet their reunion is called an *encounter*.

The report also has the police investigator referring to the victims in his testimony as "the girls". Rebecca was 28, Claudia is 31; the 29 year old murderer is referred to in the same testimony as "a man". We might question if law is capable of transcending language.

Gentle Rebecca died a violent death. But that is not enough. Since she is dead, and all we have of her now is the memory of Rebecca, memory will be put on trial, her way of loving will be exhibited for public scrutiny. She will not, even now, be at peace. Her murderer's defense can be his righteous outrage, at women who spurned his advances, who chose their own good company over his. A rape victim wore her clothes too tight; a battered wife failed to have dinner ready on time; a woman died because she loved another woman in the forest early one May evening. In crimes against women in this country, it is the victims who are put on trial.

What gave that murderer, that Stephen Roy Carr, the right? What made him think he could stalk and seek to kill those women as though they were animals in season? Carr may have been a lunatic and homophobia may have pulled the trigger of his rifle, but the persistent, archaic sexism of our society armed that lunatic and gave him stalking rights. In the pre-trial hearing at Gettysburg, Carr's attorney, Michael George, claimed his client was provoked by his two victims, by their disinterest in Carr and interest in one another. George claimed the lesbian relationship would be an integral part of his case. Surely there are other ways to defend mad men? This attorney seeks to perpetrate, to further, to encourage outrage. Who gave him that right?

At that same hearing, Claudia Brenner testified. Wearing the new scars from five bullets, her privacy was violated again and again, her mourning disrespected by an accusatorial line of questioning. Yet stood as an example of strength to all people, who they were. This woman had to defend love and a life choice when the crime was murder, not love, not choice. The disparity is horrifying, yet, it seems it will be allowed.

Near the end of the memorial service Rebecca's father asked us to remember Claudia who had struggled to save Rebecca. Rebecca's sisters and brothers showed us that they all

Cont'd Page 5

SOUTHERN VOICE

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Power 99 Busts McCoy for Slur

November 15, 1988

Dear Mr. MacDonald,

Your letter of November 8, to Etcetera Magazine was received by me yesterday afternoon (Nov. 14).

After reviewing your complaint with the morning show, and listening to the tape of the Election Day broadcast, Steve McCoy was reprimanded and suspended from his air position until November 21st.

Mr. MacDonald, this action was taken, not because of concern for ratings or revenue. It was done because it is morally the right thing to do.

I very much regret that you did not pick up the phone or write me before writing Etcetera Magazine and copying key gay organizations and publications. You never as much as gave Power 99 the chance to do the right thing before clouding our reputation in the gay community.

We would appreciate it if you would contact us directly if you have problems in the future.

Sincerely,
Bill Phippen
General Manager

cc: Atlanta Business and Professional Guild
Atlanta Gay Center
Creative Loafing
Southern Voice
Metropolitan Atlanta Council of Gay and Lesbian Organizations

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AFTER ALL THIS TIME THEY STILL THINK WE'RE JUST OLD COLLEGE BUDDIES



A Jewish View of Christmas

It is a comfort to reflect on the past and be reminded of incidents bringing the family together. For example, as a small child I remember many times riding with my family in the car to gaze at the striking poses houses assumed during December; colored lights surrounding the houses so decoratively; neighbors and strangers alike suddenly becoming overtly good-natured; glimpses of evergreens displaying themselves through picture windows.

At the time the meaning of these events was a complete mystery. And why, I asked myself, did it disappear after the first of the coming year? Someone had yet to explain to me the existence of Christmas. To a small Jewish child, Santa Claus is simply a large white-haired man who wears a funny red suit.

During the days between Thanksgiving and Christmas the masses of messages from the media are filled with the Yuletide traditions. Whether it is Saturday cartoons or television commercials, the Christmas effect is well made. However entertaining it may be, the Jewish population feels somewhat left out. There are some instances when Chanukah, the Jewish holiday taking place near or during Christmas, is mentioned in the media, but the Christmas messages are much more visible and detailed.

Messages such as these have changed the interpretation of Chanukah. For recent generations of American Jews, Chanukah has been the reflection of the "Jewish Christmas": Christmas trees are replaced with Chanukah bushes, and



Chanukah is the celebration of the re-taking of the Temple in Jerusalem after the Maccabean war. Jewish scripture tells that although there was only enough oil to rekindle the Temple light for one day, a miracle occurred, and the lamp burned for eight days. Thus, the tradition of the Menorah, whose candles are lit progressively throughout the eight days of Chanukah.

Christmas presents are altered to Chanukah Gild. The original story of Chanukah is the victory of the Jewish people over a deadly enemy; however, in recent years the presence of competition between Christmas and Chanukah (may) have changed some history.

As a Jew in a largely Christian environment it is at least possible to share in the joys and the sorrows of the Christmas shopping rush. For the many friends and lovers who are not of the Jewish faith, it is a supreme pleasure to give these gifts from the heart. But sometimes your heart can be broken when an invitation for a Christmas party is not received because a friend: "Didn't want to offend you because you're Jewish." Quite often a remark such as this can sting more than the arrival of the credit card bills for the presents.

As in all relationships a gay or lesbian Jew involved in a relationship with someone of the Christian faith may be doubly cursed. First, the families of the lovers may not feel at ease with a homosexual relationship overtly visible to their eyes, and second, the two family's may not be sure how to react to the partner of the opposite faith during Christmas or Chanukah. It is true that any relationship between different cultures and religions may have similar effects, but the strain on the gay or lesbian couple will be further enhanced during the Christmas celebration.

A Jewish person living in a Christian community may feel out of place and uncomfortable for not decorating the house or not carrying a tree inside the home or even losing an invitation to a party, but Christians and Jews will always exist and hopefully will learn to live with and even love each other.

- Izhar Naveh
Congregation Bet Haverim, Atlanta

Forest Memorial

Cont'd from Page 4

carried, or wore, something belonging to Claudia. We honored Claudia and Rebecca and we sang and we cried for them. We left the clearing and walked past the fragile new rhododendron. The earth around it was rich and dark, the leaves still cupped the water sprinkled there by children. We slowly followed the path out of the forest. It seemed so long.

- Ann Goette

Stephen Roy Carr was convicted of first degree murder and sentenced to life in prison October 27, 1988. He plead guilty to the charge against him after Common Pleas Court Judge Oscar Spicer disallowed the homosexual panic defense.

Claudia Brenner has incurred large legal and medical costs as a result of Rebecca's death. If you wish to make a donation, your help will be very much appreciated. Send donations to: Family and Children's Services, Claudia Brenner Fund, 204 North Cayuga Street, Ithaca, New York 14850.

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, Georgia, 30308

On Loving, Dying and Legal Concerns

Part II of a II-Part Series

In Part I of this series, the stories of two couples were presented. Both John Doe and Jane Smith suffered the death of a partner. John and his lover Dave had little time to prepare for Dave's death. Dave had no will, no Living Will and John did not have Power of Attorney for Dave. As a result, John was totally dependent on Dave's relatives for medical updates, he was not included in funeral arrangements, was not asked to speak at the memorial service, and had no legal grounds to stand on when relatives came to his apartment and took all of "Dave's belongings."

Jane's story is quite different. Lynn, her partner, suffered a lengthy illness. During this time the couple made sure Jane would be considered a key figure in all decisions concerning Lynn's care.

In Part II, we pick up Jane and Lynn's story and talk with two Atlanta attorneys about the power and necessity of legal tools in lesbian and gay relationships.

At a point, Lynn became very dependent on help and on medication for pain. Steps were then taken regarding Power of Attorney and a Living Will. Legal authority, through Power of Attorney, was given to Jane by Lynn.

At the time of death, funeral and other arrangements were carried out cooperatively by Jane and her partner's relatives. Lynn's will provided instructions which were followed explicitly by all involved.

In many ways, this story of pain and premature death provides a model of cooperation and good-will. Both Jane and Lynn presented themselves with authority to all who took part in the final stage of their life together. Physicians, relatives and friends

responded with appropriate respect and cooperation.

Given the attitudes of all involved with Jane and Lynn, how did the Living Will, Power of Attorney and Lynn's final will make a difference?

"Lynn's will stated her desires clearly," she said, "and this made plans and decisions simpler and easier." Power of Attorney was also useful: "I kept it with me at all times. It gave me confidence and strength to know that I could use it if I needed to."

For legal opinion, Atlanta attorneys Jeri Kagel and Greg Schroeder were interviewed by *Southern Voice*. How, they were asked, can gay and lesbian partners create legal authority for their relationship - particularly regarding serious illness and eventual death?

Both Kagel and Schroeder stressed the value of completing a will. "A will enables you to decide, while living, what will happen with your assets after death," Kagel said. "In particular, you can choose who you want to remember, and how."

Schroeder emphasized the need to finalize wills before the advent of serious problems. "Don't wait," he cautioned, "until you are in an ICU to take care of wills and other legal matters. This can raise questions about your competence due to illness or medication."

Both attorneys said that there has been no litigation regarding Living Wills, which are now covered by Georgia statute. In a Living Will, one can direct medical personnel regarding procedures to be followed under certain conditions of severe incapacity.

Power of Attorney was described as a legal tool with which one person authorized another to act in his or her stead: to conduct business, to handle money, to gain information, to make decisions. This legal authority can be given to one or more persons regarding a variety of

specific areas in one's life.

If John had received appropriate Power of Attorney from Dave, he would have been legally entitled to obtain medical information during his partner's illness. This, and other benefits, make Power of Attorney worth careful consideration.

"Such consideration can raise questions regarding level of trust between partners," Kagel commented. "It gives great power and authority to another person, or persons, over various aspects of your life," she said. "It is very important to look carefully at what is involved. This includes who you choose and why you are choosing them, as well as the extent and duration of power given."

Both attorneys recommended mention of all significant relatives in the will. "If an heir-at-law is totally omitted," Schroeder said, "it may offer him or her grounds to contest the document."

There are clearly legal avenues available to gay and lesbian partners. Without these tools, one is largely dependent upon the good-will of the partner's children, parents and other relatives concerning serious illness or death of a loved one. Much can be done to legally empower one's partner and to ensure that one's wishes are carried out in the event of incapacity or death. "There is always the possibility of challenges and changes to the will after death," Kagel stated. "There is no doubt, however, that your position is much stronger with these documents in place."

-Dianne 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.

ACT UP Hosts AIDS Teach In

The AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power/Atlanta (ACT UP/Atl) hosted a teach-in Saturday, December 3rd, at the Highland Library looking at the variety of treatments available for AIDS.

Dr. Melanie Thompson stated "I favor testing on an individual basis", saying that preventive measures such as aerosol pentamidine to avoid pneumonia can then be started as soon as possible. She also conceded "The medical community is all over the map with AZT" and advocated that only those people whose T-cell count falls below 200 and who show symptoms of AIDS and ARC should take AZT. Which she called "the only true antiviral agent licensed by the federal government." AZT also lowers white and red blood cell counts and suppresses bone marrow, therefore people who test positive for the AIDS virus but who have no symptoms could worsen their condition by taking AZT.

Dr. Thompson also addressed the theory that syphilis causes AIDS, replying "I personally have some problems with that. Patients I've treated with large doses of penicillin haven't gotten better in my own practice." ACT UP member Linda Meredith, who has a Master of Science degree in immunology, concluded the medical portion with a slide show on the immune system and viral replication.

Homeopath Dr. James Berryhill, who has a Ph.D. in psychology, explained that homeopathy stimulates the body's inherent protecting and reconstructing mechanisms. "The body recognizes antibiotics for what they are - poison" declared Dr. Berryhill. While not ruling out taking antibiotics, Berryhill urged swallowing large doses of Vitamin C as well and acidopholus, a "friendly bacteria", to counteract the loss of nutrients from antibiotics. Chiropractor Dr. Larry Reuter encouraged chiropractic care, saying "You're an electric system that carries a voltage through it, you want a full voltage going through your system." Disdaining the power of AIDS as if "it got you", Reuter said many people with this "bug" are more alive, have more interests, celebrate life more and are even healthier than before their diagnosis. "We have less time, so we better get our asses in gear," he said. Summing up Reuter grinned "Love yourself, just because you say so."

-Dave Hayward

In Memory of Rev. Dr. John H. Hose

The Reverend Doctor John H. Hose ("Papa John") born June 11, 1914, died Friday, November 25, 1988.

Son of Henry Fred and Augusta Edna (Zerbe). Survived by Ruth Maxine Schmidt, Fred Hose, Emily Hose Robertson, Martha Hane Hose Welti, and Mary Maxine Hose Strange. He resided with his loving companion Dale Delgado and friend Gloria Gonzales. Other survivors include members and friends of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches.

As part of his on-going contributions, Dr. Hose donated his body for research studies to the Emory School of Medicine. While living with cancer, he planned his tribute-memorial service for Sunday, December 11, 1988, at 2:30 PM at First Metropolitan Community Church of Atlanta, 800 N. Highland Avenue, N.E. with the Reverend Elder Troy Perry, founder of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches officiating.

In lieu of flowers, Dr. Hose requested donations be made in his honor to First Metropolitan Community Church of Atlanta for continuing ministries of the UFMCC.

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Review

Shakin' the Mess Outta Misery

Shakin' the Mess Outta Misery is a first effort from Atlanta playwright Shay Youngblood. Based on Youngblood's short stories about a young black girl's coming of age in the 1960's, *Shakin'* is the story of a girl conceived in hatred but who is raised up out of the misery that shadowed and ended her mother's life. Partly autobiographical, the play focuses on the "Big Mamas," the wise women who mothered the writer after her "blood" mother died when Youngblood was two years old.

The Big Mamas serve as "Daughter's" landmarks—gauges by which she measures the unfolding truths about life. In each of her encounters with the women the girl is given a story—old and rich, fermented by time and memories—which helps the girl along in her journey toward adulthood.

From Ms. Tom, who has lived with her lesbian lover for 36 years, she learns about the many possibilities of love. She learns from Miss Corine, who greased her hair and her spirit, to "dream, even though it ain't gonna be easy." And from her grandmother,

Big Mama, she learns about choices—a choice to suffer through misery or a choice to "shake the mess outta misery."

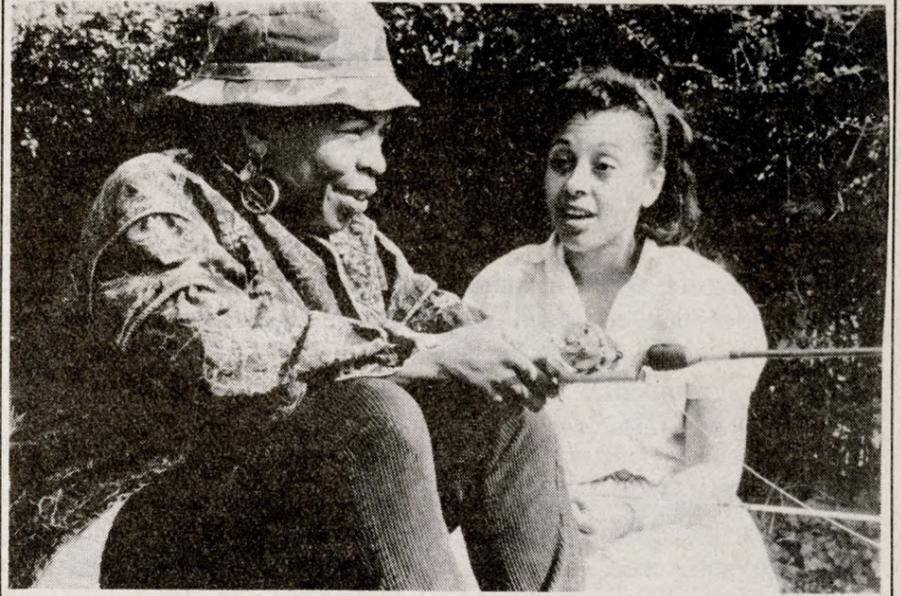
And Aunt Mae, Big Mama's independent sister, shows Daughter that you're never too old to wear your high heels and flashy red wig.

The all-female cast does an incredible job of bringing the mamas to life. Dialogue flows naturally and brought big laughs from the audience on opening night who must have been caught up in memories of their own Big Mamas. Glenda Dickerson, director of some of America's most renowned black productions, has done a fine job of adapting Youngblood's fiction to the stage.

Although the ending was a little too pat given the complexities of the women's lives, *Shakin'* is well worth the ticket price and sure to lift your spirits.

—Diane Stillwater

Shakin' the Mess Outta Misery runs through December 23rd at Horizon Theater, 1083 Austin Avenue, in the Little



Miss Tom (Carol Mitchell-Leon) and Daughter (Marguerite Hannah) go fishing in Horizon Theatre Company's World Premiere of *Shakin' the Mess Outta Misery*.

5 points Community Center. Performances are Thursday & Friday at 8:00 PM, Saturday at 5:30 & 8:30 PM, and Sundays

at 5:00 PM. Additional performances Dec. 20 and 21 at 8:00 PM. Call 584-7450 for ticket prices and reservations.

Review

For Love and For Life II

For Love and for Life II, by Rebecca Ranson *et al.*, is theater at its most loosely structured: Part celebration, part wake, part soap opera, and part musical. According to Ranson, she did not actually write the play; rather, it is a collaboration between herself and the 37-member cast. It would have been no surprise had such a multi-authored, hybrid work been a sloppy mess. And yet the

It's possible no single author could have achieved the sort of panoramic view of gay life we get in this play. There are both leather and lace, there are activists and conservatives, there are boys and girls from next door and boys and girls who look as though they're from Venus. I was struck as I have seldom been by the extraordinary variety of persons included in the catch-all category "gay".

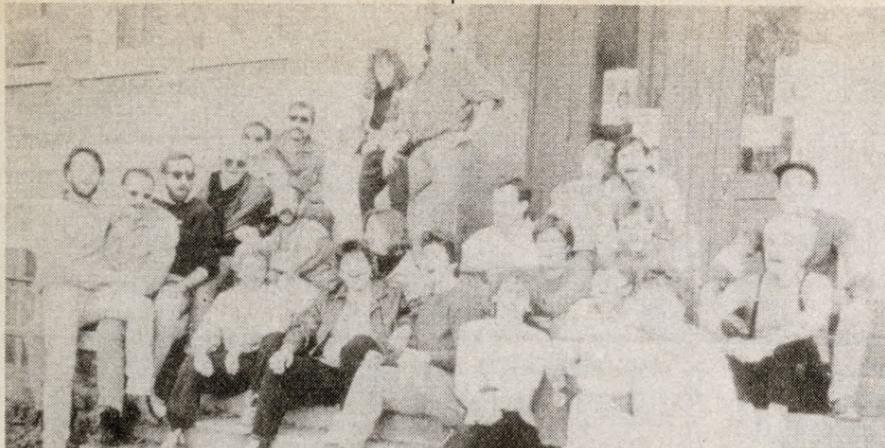
The characters interweave, soap opera style, through episodes or vignettes, some funny, others deadly serious. The threat of AIDS binds the characters into an intricate nexus of friendships, loves, and alliances. Though an occasional episode may slip into the outright syrupy, the next will wrench us back into brutal reality:

President-elect Bush gets mentioned only once amid the very few fleeting references to politics. Ranson seems willing to trust her

audiences to intuit, from the very personal tragedies depicted, the appalling cruelty of political indifference.

At nearly three hours, the play cries out for judicious editing and faster pacing. The show within the show, a benefit musical revue, is definitely too long. But although the acting is conspicuously uneven and the duration overlong, *For Love's* theme of the urgency for caring among disparate people is clear and moving.

—Ray Hesse



The Cast of *For Love and For Life II*.

production comes together remarkably well to dramatize the need for emotional openness among gay men and lesbians as they stare into the terror of AIDS.

Ranson and her SAME cohorts are, in part, congratulating the diverse elements of our community for giving a damn about each other.

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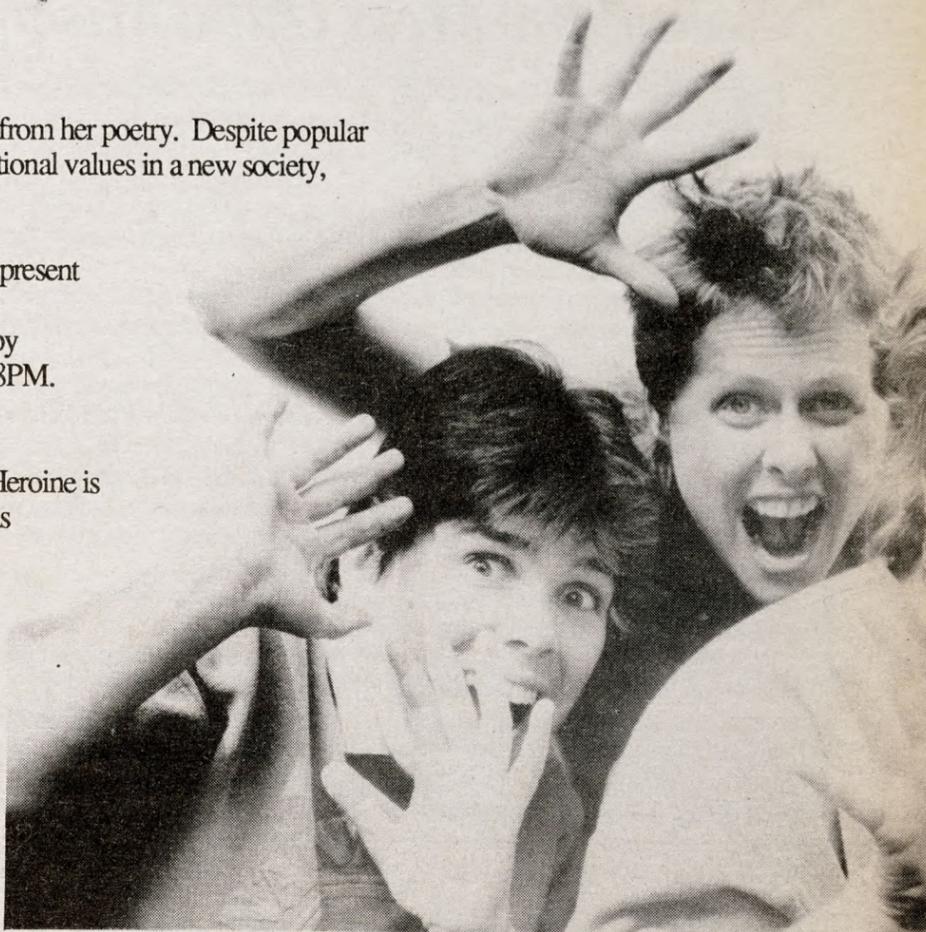
This Week's Highlights

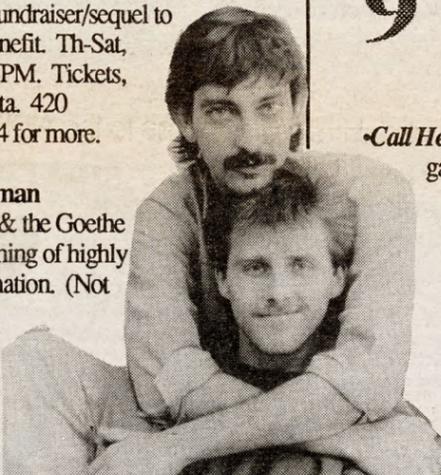
•**"Not Vanishing"**-December 8. Chrystos, a Native American lesbian offers selections from her poetry. Despite popular opinion and media hype, she says the Native American is still here, still involved in traditional values in a new society, thus the title of the program. Charis Books. 419 Moreland Ave. 7:30 PM. Free.

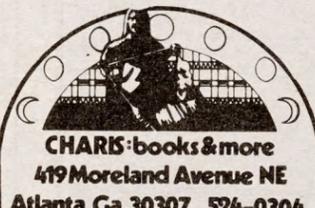
•**An Evening of German Animation**-December 8. The Goethe Institute and IMAGE present an evening of highly acclaimed Teutonic Treats! This animation festival offers topics as diverse as sexuality and man's last days on earth. Of special interest is *Indian Summer* by Helga Thamme. (NOTE: Not for Children). Image Center. 75 Bennett St. Suite M-1. 8PM. \$3.00. Call 352-4225.

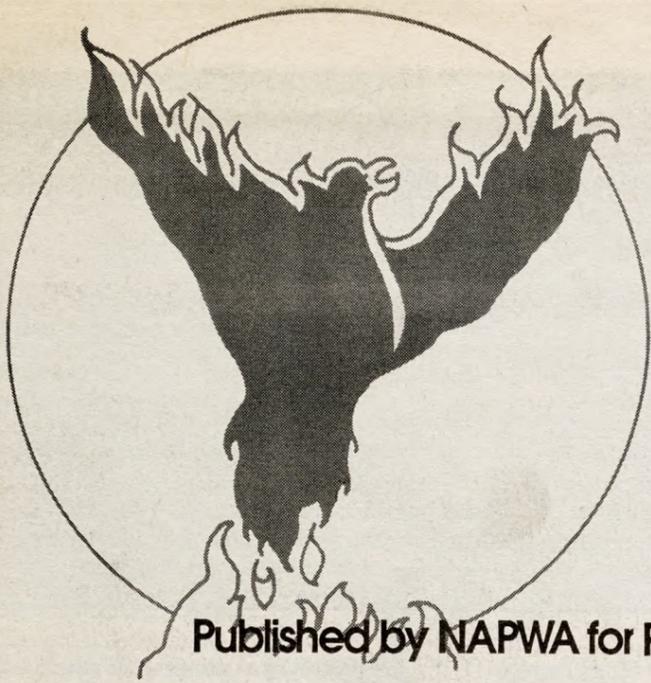
•**Call Her Savage**-December 9. A black and white 1932 Clara Bow flick in which our Heroine is a whip brandishing heiress, visiting Hollywood's first gay bar. Obviously, this movie was made "before the code." Obviously, it's a must! 8PM. Call 892-HIGH for more information.

•**Sugar Plum Bobs**-December 12-14. A gleeful, satirical and bizarre holiday celebration from ACME Theatre. As part of the continuing saga of Bunny Pellets ACME members Timothy Kern, Joe Lesterlone and Greg Carraway offer up a "Bunny Christmas," in which the **true** meaning of Christmas is called into question. "Lomen With Hammers," "Art Choreo-poem" and a generous supply of Very Great Poets complete the evening of *Sugar Plum Bobs*. Onstage Atlanta. 420 Courtland St. 8:30 PM. Only \$5.00! Call 373-8241 for reservations and more info.



THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
<p>8 •For Love and For Life II-Thru Dec. 18. S.A.M.E.'s fundraiser/sequel to last year's benefit. Th-Sat, 8PM; Sun, 5PM. Tickets, \$10.00. Onstage Atlanta. 420 Courtland St. 584-2104 for more.</p> <p>•"An Evening of German Animation"-IMAGE & the Goethe Institute present an evening of highly acclaimed diverse animation. (Not for Children). Image Center. 75 Bennett St., Suite. M-1. 8PM. \$3.00. Call 352-4225.</p> 	<p>9 •Call Her Savage-Clara Bow at Hollywood's first gay bar! 8PM. 892-HIGH.</p> <p>•Mike Whitney & Friends-Picasso's Cafe, 515-B N. McDonough St, Decatur. 9PM.</p>	<p>10 •Shakin' the Mess Outta Misery-Thru Dec. 23. A young black woman's coming of age in '60's Georgia. Thurs-Fri, 8PM; Sat. 5PM and 8:30PM; Sun, 5PM. Horizon Theater. 1083 Austin Ave. 584-7450 for prices.</p> <p>•Lesbian Potluck Dinner-Chem free. Little 5 Points Community Center. 7:30PM.</p> <p>•"Christmas with Robert Shaw"-Last performance of traditional seasonal concert. Atlanta Symphony. 1280 Ptree St. 2PM. \$12.50-\$24.75. Call 898-1182.</p>	<p>11 •"Sing It Y not kidding! ASO and a Christmas p "Messiah." Symphony H \$15.00 each, \$12.50 for 10</p>
<p>15 •The Nutcracker-Thru Dec. 30. Atlanta Ballet's traditional holiday treat. Atlanta Civic Center. Call 892-3303 for prices, specific times, etc.</p> <p>•"Hard-Hatted Women"-Editor Molly Martin and stories of women in the trades. Charis Books. 419 Moreland Ave. 7:30PM. Free.</p>  <p>The Nutcracker</p>	<p>16 •Friends Atlanta Annual Holiday Dinner-All Saints Episcopal Church. 634 Ptree St. 8PM. Bring canned goods and grocery store certificates for the needy. 434-7826 for more info.</p> <p>•Congregation Bet Haverim-8:30PM Service: Coping With the Christian Holiday Season. Quaker House. 1384 Fairview Dr. 642-3467.</p> <p>•"Marilyn Monroe: Beyond the Legend"-The real woman behind the glamorous image. Channel 8, WGTV. 11PM.</p>	<p>17 •GLPCI (Gay Lesbian Parent Coalition Int'l)-Holiday Party! Contact Bill and Lee at 386-6161 for more info.</p> <p>•Moral Hazard-Little 5 Points Pub. 10PM. \$4.00</p> 	<p>18 •"Theater & show combo LAST PERF 1105 Euclid.</p> <p>•"Emmanuel"- A Christ Choir of All Saints MCC. 622-1154.</p> <p>•"Hamlet-The Musical" Holds Bard" for this camp Theatrical Outfit. 1012 Ptree times and prices.</p>

<p>SOUTHERN VOICE</p> <p>Atlanta's Progressive Newspaper for the Lesbian and Gay Community</p> <p>SUBSCRIBE TODAY!</p>	<p>For Love and For Life II</p> <p>thru Dec. 18</p> <p>Thurs. - Sat. at 8PM</p> <p>Sun at 5PM</p> <p>Onstage Atlanta</p> <p>\$10 584-2104</p>	 <p>CHARIS: books & more</p> <p>419 Moreland Avenue NE</p> <p>Atlanta, Ga. 30307 524-0304</p>	<p>AMETHYST</p> <p>A Journal for Lesbians & Gay Men</p> <p>Now Available at Your Local Bookstore!</p>	<p>Sugar Plum Bobs offer</p> <p>"Bunny Pellets" for the Holidays</p> <p>Dec. 12 - 14</p> <p>Onstage Atlanta</p> <p>\$5 373-8241</p>
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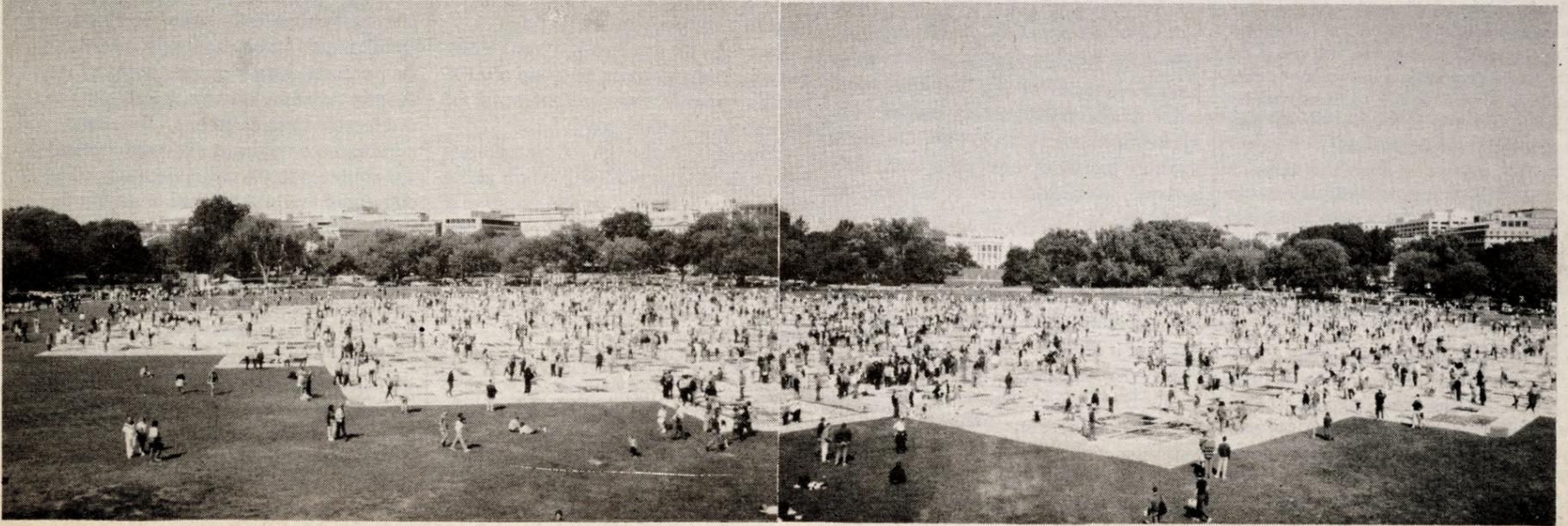


Alive & Aware

Published by NAPWA for People With AIDS or ARC and Others Who Care

VOLUME II, NUMBER 6

DECEMBER 1988



In a very emotional weekend, the Names Project National AIDS Memorial Quilt returned to Washington last October. This time the quilt was displayed in front of the White House, making a strong, silent statement about the Reagan administration's response to the AIDS epidemic.

Dextran Sulfate Facts

The information contained in the following article is intended to increase awareness of and encourage personal empowerment through active treatment strategies. It is neither an endorsement nor a recommendation of any particular treatment, drug or physician.

Since the new FDA ruling allowing individuals to import drugs for their own personal use, we have had numerous calls coming into the office about Dextran Sulfate. In an effort to answer some of these questions, we have compiled the following information from several sources. Dextran Sulfate has been used as a treatment for high cholesterol in Japan for the last 20 years, where it is available without a prescription. You may order your own three-month supply, for personal use, from Japan or any of several Buyer's Clubs.

Dextran Sulfate appears to act against HIV in two specific ways: First, it appears to inhibit the production of the protein (Reverse Transcriptase) required for the virus to reproduce. This is similar to AZT. This action protects your T-Cells from further infection. Dextran Sulfate goes one step further than AZT, however. It prevents those T-Cells which are already infected from linking up and becoming "Giant Cells" which further damage the immune system. Dextran Sulfate stands alone among AIDS drugs thus far in its ability to do this.

In addition to this, Dextran Sulfate does appear to be synergistic with AZT. All the laboratory research done thus far indicates that the two drugs in combination together work better than either drug alone. (Ueno and Kuno, June 1987, October, 1987; disputed by Berenbaum, 1987)

People with AIDS or ARC are using doses two

to three times larger than commonly used in Japan- and these larger doses have already been tested in humans without problems. PWAs and PWARCs can show unexpected toxicity to drugs; but so far studies show no serious side effects. The only known side effects are loss of appetite and feeling of fullness, occasionally there is a minor rash.

Even persons allergic to Sulfa drugs can apparently use Dextran Sulfate (Gingell, 1987).

Our impression so far from people using Dextran Sulfate is that most of them are getting good results using frequent doses- usually every four hours. Almost everyone is combining Dextran Sulfate with other antivirals, especially Acyclovir, and often low-dose AZT and/or AL 721 in addition.

Arthur Paquette is a local PWA who has had PCP and Cryptococcal Meningitis twice. In his first year of diagnosis, he used only AZT. For Arthur, the AZT caused extreme anemia. He had to receive 4 units of packed red cells every 4-6 weeks. After about 9 months, he began suffering from severe headaches.

Tests proved that his headaches were not the return of meningitis, but pointed instead to the AZT. Reducing the AZT stopped the headaches, but Arthur still needed some type of Anti-HIV drug to deal with his compromised immune system.

About two and a half months ago he began supplementing his 1/2 dose of AZT with Dextran Sulfate. He has gained back most of the weight he lost in the past year, and has found that his stamina has greatly increased. Arthur has experienced no negative side effects from the Dextran Sulfate.

Precautions and Safety

Dextran Sulfate has an anticoagulant effect, so theoretically it could cause bleeding problems.

Continued on Page 3

Christmas Survival Tips

Watch out! The holidays are upon us! For some of us the waning weeks of the old year

are a time of joyful activity. For others it is a guaranteed dose of anxiety and tensions, replete with "shoulds" and "have-to's," and a mounting sense of dread for what lies ahead. And for others still - far too many - it's an occasion of loneliness and depression.

If you are in the second or third category, there are ways to break the holiday blues syndrome. But if your negative response to the holidays is so deep-rooted and severe that growth in this area is stifled, by all means seek counseling well before you find yourself being dragged down.

Here are some practical suggestions to help you respond to the holidays with a fresh and positive attitude:

- The holidays are filled with religious significance that is too often overshadowed by secular traditions. If you are not a regular member of a synagogue or a church that keeps you mindful of such things, do some research on what is actually being celebrated and ponder the meaning for yourself.

- Traditions, both religious and secular, are important. Think about family activities relating to the holidays when you were a child and use those that most appeal to you. Or make up some new traditions. Even if you live alone you can be comforted and inspired by something as simple as lighting a candle and reflecting on what was positive in your life that day.

- Holiday meals can be a source of anguish. It's painful to see others group into family and close-

friend units and to be on the outside of this happy crowd. Why should you have to be alone? Get together with others in the same situation and plan a dinner together. Everyone shares in the preparation and expense and each does his or her best to make the occasion festive and meaningful. But don't turn it into an orphan's party. Act like there's no place you'd rather be.

- If you are truly an outsider, whether by circumstance or choice, you still don't have to be alone. Our community is filled with people in need and many organizations geared up to offer relief over the holidays. Connect with one of them and help feed the hungry, deliver toys to underprivileged children or visit patients in hospitals, nursing homes or hospices. There are many people who choose to be involved in these kind of fulfilling activities rather than taking advantage of opportunities to socialize.

- If gift-giving has become an expensive and unwanted obligation, put a stop to it now. Tell friends and family "I love you, but let's not exchange gifts anymore." (They might be relieved.) Or draw names among family

members or your circle of close friends and buy just one thoughtful gift. Make gifts or give a gift of time, like offering to clean a friend's apartment or weed a garden. Give a donation to a charitable organization in someone else's name.

We know you'll be able to add many creative ideas to these suggestions and bring new meaning to the words "Happy Holidays."

DIRECTOR'S REPORT



As People with AIDS, one of the largest problems we face, both individually and collectively, is funding our treatment. And the dynamics of that funding is rapidly changing AIDS cases increase. Insurance companies will become

more adept at finding ways to *not* insure people who are HIV positive, resulting in large numbers of PWA's relying on the public health system. With no national health policy (or AIDS policy) in sight, the burden of funding will fall mostly on the state, county, and city governments across this nation. And because each local government is different, the level of funding varies greatly from place to place. We must all work locally to insure that adequate funding is provided, and to insure that funding will rise as AIDS cases increase.

Georgia was recently rated *last* in a survey that rated quality of life in each state, and one of the reasons for the poor rating is that we have a poor public health system. The bulk of the responsibility for funding is left up to the counties. We must force the State to take a more aggressive role.

One of the ways we can improve the situation is by getting Georgia to upgrade Medicaid. Although Medicaid is a federal program, it varies from state to state. The amount of coverage depends on options that each state "buys" from the federal program. One of these options is the Medically Needy Program, and it will be coming up for consideration soon in Georgia.

What the Medically Needy Program does is allow more people to qualify for Medicaid. It allows them to "spend down" their income by deducting their medical bills (paid or unpaid) from their total monthly income. Thus, a person who receives \$500.00 a month from Social Security, which is above the \$354.00 limit for Medicaid, could qualify if their monthly medical bills exceeded \$146.00. A large number of PWA's would fit into that category.

The Medically Needy Program has the advantage that 2/3 of the money is federal, with only 1/3 coming from the state. It will cause more money to flow into our public hospitals, allowing them to expand services to keep up with rising caseloads. It will provide benefits to any PWA who has no insurance or who may lose their insurance in the future, which is nearly all PWA's. It also solves the AZT funding problem for many, which may become a serious problem when the federal AZT program expires next spring.

Georgia is one of only 14 states without this program. Which has already been listed as a priority by both the Department of Human Resources and the Department of Medical Assistance, but it must be included in the State budget for it to take effect. The budget is proposed by the governor and approved by the legislature. There is no guarantee that this program will be included.

Now is the time to act! We need to write the governor and state legislators in support of this program. It will help all disabled Georgians. It will help PWA's.

(If you need addresses, call the League of Women Voters at 874-8683.)

Alive & Aware

Stebbo Hill
Managing Editor

Published by:
The Atlanta Chapter of
The National Association of People with AIDS
1132 W. Peachtree Street, NW, Suite 106
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404/874-7926

Alive & Aware is published by and for people with AIDS and people with AIDS Related Complex. We strongly encourage PWA's and PWARC's and our supporters to contribute articles for publication.

Alive & Aware is published by the Atlanta Chapter of NAPWA. Opinions expressed are those of individual authors and in no way represent official opinions of NAPWA, nor any other group of agency mentioned herein.

Articles contained herein are for information only and do not constitute an endorsement of any experimental therapy or drug treatment. Persons interested in experimental drugs or alternative therapies should consult with their health care practitioner.

The publication of any name or image in Alive & Aware does not necessarily imply anything about that person's condition of health or sexual orientation.

Alive & Aware is dedicated to the memory of its founding editor, Ralph Ginn

Mission Statement of The National Association of People with Aids

We are people with AIDS and People with AIDS-related Complex (ARC) who can speak for ourselves to advocate for our own causes and concerns. We are your sons and daughters, your brothers and sisters, your family, friends, and lovers. As people now living with AIDS and ARC, we have a unique and essential contribution to make to the dialogue surrounding AIDS and we will actively participate with full and equal credibility to help shape the perception and reality surrounding this disease.

We do not see ourselves as victims. We will not be victimized. We have the right to be treated with respect, dignity, compassion and understanding. We have the right to lead fulfilling, productive lives-to live and die with dignity and compassion.

NAPWA will network with other PWA's and PWARC's regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, gender, age,

disability and sexual or affectional orientation. We are born of and inextricably bound to the historical struggle for rights-civil, feminist and gay, physically challenged and human. We will not be denied our rights.

Statement of Purpose

Our purpose is to promote self-empowerment of People with AIDS and ARC by:

- Enhancing understanding through education and support
- Becoming equal partners with our health care providers service organizations
- Helping develop and implement the necessary services and programs that will enhance the quality of our daily lives; and
- Continuing to have control over and direction of our lives.

Atlanta to Host National NAPWA Board Meeting

Atlanta has been selected as the site of the National Association of People With AIDS' Semi-annual national board meeting. Members and representatives from over 80 PWA Coalitions across the country are expected to attend. The conference will be held at Tower Place Hotel on January 26 - 29.

A variety of events and activities are scheduled around the conference to supplement the board meeting. Active EAR is scheduling a physician's conference to discuss the AIDS/Syphilis link and a proposed treatment plan. The CDC has been invited to hold workshops as well.

There will also be a special reception at the Nexus Contemporary Arts Center, where a month-long show of artworks entitled "The Subject is AIDS" is being held. There will also be a special benefit performance of Rebecca Ranson's new play, "Body to Body."

Local NAPWA members are encouraged to attend this conference, where you will be able to meet people from all over the nation and learn how they are dealing with AIDS in their own communities. It is an opportunity that should not be missed!

Decrease in New AIDS Infections

Berkeley - The latest analysis of a major AIDS study shows new AIDS infections in San Francisco have continued to decline substantially, mostly because of a decrease in high-risk sexual behaviors.

The rate of new infections per year among previously uninfected persons in the San Francisco Men's Health Study dropped from 5.9 percent to 0.7 percent between the first half of 1985 and the second half of 1987.

The new statistics, which amount to an 88 percent drop in the annual rate for new infections, are reported by Warren Winkelstein, M.D., director of the Men's Health Study and professor of epidemiology in the School of Public Health at the University of California at Berkeley.

The reason for the decline is that more and more homosexual and bisexual men have abandoned or greatly reduced their practice of unprotected anal-genital intercourse and have decrease their number of sexual partners, Winkelstein said.

Winkelstein and his colleagues reported their new findings in the current issue of American Journal of Public Health.

The research team includes James Wiley, assistant director of U.C.-Berkeley's Survey Research Center; Nancy Padian, assistant professor of epidemiology at U.C.-San Francisco; Michael Samuel and Stephen Shibofski, both graduate research assistants at U.C.-Berkeley's

School of Public Health; Michael Ascher, M.D., deputy chief of the Viral and Rickettsial Disease Laboratory of the California Department of Health Services; and Jay Levy, M.D., professor of medicine at U.C.-San Francisco.

Since 1984 the San Francisco Men's Health Study has been monitoring the spread of AIDS among a representative sample of homosexual and bisexual men in San Francisco.

Previously, Winkelstein and his colleagues found a decline in new AIDS infections among men in the study from an estimated annual rate of approximately 18 percent per year between 1982 and 1984 to approximately four percent per year in 1986. This decline was also a result of reduction in unprotected anal-genital intercourse and number of sexual partners.

The newest findings reinforce the conclusion that current public education strategies, supported by effective community organization and public health department efforts, can control the spread of the epidemic of HIV infection, Winkelstein pointed out.

He also emphasized the importance of maintaining the present policies regarding confidentiality of HIV test results, availability of alternate test sites and contact notification procedures, rather than switching to alternate strategies.

Strategies from the NAN Conference:

Conflict and Group Development

by George Sinclair
Special to Alive and Aware

New Orleans - Because there were 67 workshops to choose from at the NAN Skills Building Conference here, and only nine time slots to fit those choices into, it seemed like a good idea to too the ones that NAPWA and AID Atlanta as groups and I as an individual are least good at. High on the list, for me at least, was a seminar on "Time Management", and I hit that one first. It was good enough that a cassette of it is on order, and anyone interested can hear it, when it gets here. For now, just check out the diagram below, which is useful for zeroing in on what to do next with your time:

Is it urgent?	Is it Important?	
	Yes	No
Yes	CRISIS	TRIVIAL
No	WATCH IT	DROP IT

A couple of workshops that sounded great, actually weren't, and one was plainly self-serving, but most that I

attended were at least honest tries at offering something useful. Two of the best I lucked into covered different techniques for analyzing and coping with conflict within or between groups or individuals, especially where AIDS is involved. The perspectives were not the same - one dealt with people whose differences are cultural, the other, with stages of conflict in teambuilding - but a single basic principle was stressed in both:

People must learn to talk about the things that keep them apart.

Although the problems explored in one workshop were chiefly perceived in terms of different social-cultural (usually racial) groups operating within the same agency, the tensions and the paradoxes noted were not created by the differences, but by attempts on both sides to oversimplify those differences. For example, unless gays and straights, or PWA's and other staff and volunteer people can respect each other's differences, they will both fail to see that the problems are ours in common - not just yours, and not just mine. We will tend to focus on the problem, and be overwhelmed by it, instead of focusing on a goal, an objective - like "What would you like to see instead?"

People in conflict tend to take fixed positions and to make rigid demands, which may not be realistic. When this happens, one suggested technique is to ask each other, "If you could have that, what would it get you?" (In other words: "What is it that you feel you really need to have?"). Other options that are satisfactory may be possible.

In another workshop, the main point was how to keep your energy focused on things you can do something about, rather than making "fractionalized" efforts in random directions (Oiling the squeakiest wheel of the moment). A key point here is recognition that diversity is legitimate, that not everybody has to have "all the right values," that we must be committed to sharing power, not blocking other groups - especially in fundraising - but networking instead.

In team building, there are stages of conflict, and they tend to recur in cycles. Morale rises and sinks accordingly. In the beginning, both expectations and morale are high. Disenchantment follow when expectations are not met, and morale plummets. Then comes adjustment, a normalizing period, followed by a plateau period of productivity and steady morale, leading to a repeat of the same cycle as before, unless something is done to stabilize. The workshop offered the following model for use at any point in the cycle, for optimum growth and maturity:

	Going Well	Not Going Well
Flexible	Nurture, Support, Maintain	Problem-Solving (Most time & energy)
Fixed	Leave It Alone	Isolate It (Don't Waste Energy)

By sticking to the model above, we are better able to keep ourselves focused on what is organizationally important, and keeping that organization growing, moving forward, aware of and facing up to its shortcomings, but neither dissipating our energies in tilting with windmills nor failing to solve the problems over which we actually do have some control.

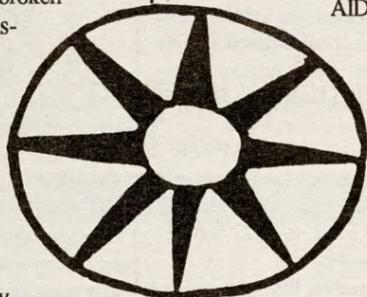
What is Healing? Why a Circle?

by Franklin Abbott
Healing Circle Coordinator

About a year ago, a friend told me about the healing circle in New York City. She had heard from a friend of hers that the PWA's and PWARC's attending the circles were finding them of great benefit in keeping healthy. As a psychotherapist I have noticed for a long time that there is a profound connection between attitude and health. The word disease broken down into its components is dis-ease, a lack of ease. Ease equates for me with an inner peace that is often hard to find and even harder to hold on to in the chaos of modern times. This is more true of people who face discrimination and prejudice. It is also more true of people who are physically, emotionally and spiritually challenged by life threatening illness. Most people coping with HIV infection have struggled within prejudice against them based on their sexual preference or the label of drug addict or hemophilic or a combination of several of the above.

Many people who are HIV infected have faced rejection by families, co-workers, neighbors, friends, churches, employers. When confronted with prejudice one rejection on top of battling a deadly viral infection it is difficult to maintain an attitude that fosters inner peace. Simply put, it is harder to keep one's spirits up, harder to focus on being alive and staying well. Jamie Achterburg, author of *IMAGERY AND HEALING*, describes

healing as "becoming whole and in harmony with a community that demonstrates compassionate support." This is very different from the tradition model of doctor healing patients or faith healers curing the afflicted. The circle of healing aims to be a community demonstrating compassionate support. We do that through the use of the circle format. In a circle all participants are viewed as equal. Everyone who comes to the circle is seen both as a healer and as someone in need of healing. HIV infects individuals but



AIDS has infected our whole society with fear, bigotry, and hopelessness. Healing needs to happen both for HIV infected individuals and a fear infected world.

The healing process employs a variety of tools and many of these are used at the healing circle. Breath, imagery, music and touch are basic elements in our meditation. The healing circle attracts many different kinds of people with different systems of belief. Consequently it is designed to be comfortable for Christians, Buddhist, Jew, Pagan and non-believer alike. The energy that is generated by the circle if life enhancing - there is no claim to cure anyone of anything. It is my belief that healing begins in the heart and spirals outward into the body, mind, and spirit. Meditation is a way to contact the heart and for most people brought up in Western culture meditation is a difficult task to accomplish alone. The support of the circle is important in helping participants deepen in their meditation.

release less fat. This raises questions about how Dextran Sulfate might interact with AL 721/lipid products, since it would be affecting the environment in which such products operate in the body. The effects of any possible interaction, for better or for worse, are speculative at this point, as no one has studied the matter.

Please note that this article does NOT contain complete safety precautions, nor instructions for use. The Dextran Sulfate situation is moving so rapidly that any detailed instructions could be obsolete very quickly. Check with your Buyer's Club or call Project Inform (1-800-822-7422) in San Francisco, or from your Dextran Sulfate source, to obtain the latest information. Most

The symbol for the healing circle is African origins. It is seven triangles converging on a circle of light. Seven is a magical number with various significance in the world's religious and mythological systems. In India it is believed that there are seven energy centers in the body called chakras. When they are aligned and in tune with each other an optimal state of well being can be experienced. The circle of healing intends to be a place where anyone in need of healing be it physical, emotional or spiritual can find support to tune in to his or her own inner processes and rhythms. In doing so we enhance the possibility of finding a circle of light inside ourselves that can be source of hope and health, a place where healing can begin and deepen.

The circle meets at the First Existentialist Church, 470 Candler Park Drive. The Church is near Little 5 Points and the Candler Park MARTA Station. It is wheelchair accessible. The circle meets from 3:45 - 5:30 on the first and third Sundays of each month. It is free and open to all who need healing be in physical, emotional, or spiritual. The circle is supported by the First Existentialist Church which donates the space and by the various facilitators who donate their time. The circle begins with music often provided by Beth York whose album, *TRANSFORMATIONS*, is available at Charis bookstore. It is conducted in part on the floor so participants should wear comfortable clothing and bring a pillow/blanket. For more information call 378-5570. Facilitators for the rest of this year are Linda Malrose, psychologist, November 20th, Maya Smith, body therapist, December 4th, and Beth York and Aurora, musicians and music therapists, December 18th.

NAPWA Annual PWA Christmas Party

Watch Your Mailbox for details- or call the NAPWA office at 874-7926.

Ampligen Study Dropped After Poor Results

An article in *The New York Times* October 14 confirmed rumors that had been circulating for weeks - - that ampligen was not proving effective in the current double-blind trials.

After 20 patients in that study progressed to AIDS, the code was broken for those 20. Twelve of them were taking ampligen, compared to eight who were taking the placebo - - indicating that ampligen was not stopping the progression to AIDS.

Ampligen had been considered a very promising treatment after an earlier study, published in June 1987, reported good results in 10 patients with AIDS, ARC or lymphadenopathy - - especially reductions in viral cultures or other measures of viral activity. That study did not have enough patients to look for prevention of progression to AIDS.

Apparently no one knows why the two studies of the same drug produced such different results.

Dextran Sulfate Facts

Continued from Page 1

Before starting on Dextran Sulfate, *make sure* from your doctor that your kidneys and platelets are okay. Otherwise there could be some very extreme problems with bleeding. The literature for physicians strongly recommends coagulation tests.

Dextran Sulfate is used to lower cholesterol levels in the blood, probably by causing the liver to

The Bottom Line

Pro:

- Strong, confirmed *in vitro* evidence.
- Synergism with AZT.
- Blocks cell-to-cell infection missed by other drugs.
- Very promising results reported by physicians monitoring a growing number of people.

Concerns:

- Possible differences between the research product and products actually available.
- Lack of early results in very preliminary U.S. human trials, *using Dextran alone*.
- Unknown effect of AL721/lipid products (no impact or possible beneficial impact reported by users, however.)

	Number of Patients	Average Months Followed	Change in T-4 Helper Cells
No Treatment	137	8.8	-19.5%
Standard AZT @1200 mg/d	65	5.4	-10.8%
Low dose AZT in combination with Dextran Sulfate and Transfer Factor	66	3.8	+29.5%
Transfer Factor alone and in combination with Dextran Sulfate and/or AZT	130	8.8	+39.5%
Dextran Sulfate alone and in combination with AZT and/or Transfer Factor	122	4.0	+24.4%

importantly, let your physician know about any treatment plan you plan to use, in case he or she knows of any new dangers or precautions.

Summary

Dextran Sulfate appears to offer many potential benefits with only known and manageable side effects. However, until hard data is obtained from human studies, no claims can be made about the drug's effectiveness. Finding a clear answer is made more difficult by the usual FDA red tape.

Official government research efforts are looking at the results achieved by Dextran Sulfate alone, despite the fact that the data suggests a better response from a combination with AZT. Once again, we must look to the Community-based Research Initiatives, where a wide range of combinations are being monitored, but where it is difficult to know just what results are being observed.

-Stebbo Hill

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Atlanta NAPWA Moves to New Space

The Atlanta Chapter of NAPWA is pleased to announce our relocation to a new office space. On January 1, 1988, we will be moving to 131 Ponce De Leon Avenue (pictured above). We are all very excited about our new space, as it will enable us to expand our services to serve the needs of the HIV+ community in Atlanta. One of the nicest features of the new space will be a drop-in center. This will be a very comfortable space where people can come by to relax, socialize, and gather the latest information about treatments and alternatives. We will also have a very flexible meeting room for seminars, lectures and exercise programs.

Many people have worked long and hard to make this space a reality, and our thanks goes out to them. We owe special thanks to all the people from Helping Hands, who made this possible.

NAPWA Services

The Atlanta Chapter of the National Association of People With AIDS was created in 1987 by and for people with AIDS (PWAs) and people with AIDS-Related Complex (PWARCs) to provide people affected by the AIDS crisis with the information to enable them

to make well educated choices for themselves. It is a promotion of the philosophy and practice of self-empowerment that will ultimately improve the quality of all of our lives. Atlanta NAPWA's programs assist PWA's, PWARC's and HIV Positive individuals in living with AIDS from day-to-day, making decisions for their own lives. We are not service providers in the traditional sense; we are people with AIDS and ARC helping others with AIDS and ARC families.

The Atlanta NAPWA Office is a safe space for PWAs and PWARCs in Atlanta that is a loving, nurturing atmosphere fully accessible to all people. There is a comfortable "living room" space where PWAs and PWARCs can socialize, exchange information, and relax.

Atlanta NAPWA Support Group offers a time for PWAs, PWARCs and HIV Positives to meet and exchange the important perspectives unique to their conditions in the AIDS crisis. It also creates an important opportunity for people to learn more about current issues affecting them in the community.

Legal & Insurance Clinics are offered to help PWAs and PWARCs with the unique problems they encounter in these areas. Assistance is offered with preparing living wills, last wills, and power of attorney. Insurance

clinics help people get the most out of their insurance and disability programs.

Atlanta NAPWA Counseling Service is a volunteer group of PWAs and PWARCs who field calls on a daily basis to answer questions of treatments, to direct callers to the available resources, and to lend a sympathetic, understanding ear to those feeling overwhelmed by the experience of having AIDS.

NAPWA Public Forums are held offering lectures/discussions on topics of AIDS related interests. The lectures include current AIDS drug treatments, experimental treatments, and alternative therapies including holistics.

The Speakers Bureau makes PWAs and PWARCs available to print and broadcast media and for speaking engagements to corporations and local community groups, thus helping to "put a face on AIDS" and offer valuable educational opportunities.

AIDS Treatment Information Bureau is a library of drug treatment information for AIDS and ARC that is made available, free of cost, upon request. Printed information distributed includes current protocol results, on-going protocols, John S. James and Project Inform research articles on treatments not yet approved for clinical trial, and is updated regularly to be inclusive of the most accurate information.

The PWA Job Line is a convenience offered to PWAs and PWARCs who are interested in supplementing their income with employers who are

sympathetic to and understanding of their condition. Atlanta NAPWA places an average of 3-4 people per week in such positions.

The Atlanta Chapter of the National Association of People With AIDS is incorporated in the state of Georgia as a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation. All donations are tax-deductible.

Grady Offers Occupational Therapy

Paula Patton Reid is an occupational therapist who is concerned about the way in which you can affect your health and increase the quality of your life. An assessment of your unique personal situation including health habits, daily activities, stressors and your actual stress level allows you, working together with Paula, to set therapy goals and outline a course of action to improve the quality of your life.

Ways to Affect Your Immune System, Coping With Disease/Diagnosis, Putting Control Back Into Your Life, Conserving Energy Through Work Simplification, Exercises to Increase Muscle Strength and Endurance, and Dealing With Sleepless Nights are frequently requested topics. Grady Clients may call 589-4621 and request an appointment with Paula. In addition to individual sessions, there are supportive group settings available to you.

Support Groups Schedule

PWA- Evenings Persons diagnosed with Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome meet Wednesday evenings from 7:00 - 9:00 PM at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 435 Peachtree St. - Facilitator: Bill Gillespie

PWA/PWARC Women's Issues Women with AIDS or ARC meet the first and third Tuesdays of each month from 7:00 - 9:00 PM at AID Atlanta, 1132 West Peachtree St. - Facilitator: Doris Thomas

Lymphadenopathy/ARC Persons diagnosed with Lymphadenopathy and/or AIDS Related Complex meet Monday and Thursday evenings from 7:00 - 9:00 PM at AID Atlanta, 1132 West Peachtree St. - Monday Facilitator: Donna Higgins, Thursday Facilitator: Jim Sacco

Family, Friends & Partners Group Relatives, friends and lovers of PWAs meet on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 7:00 - 9:00 PM. Monday group meets at AID Atlanta, 1132 W. Peachtree St.- Facilitator: Jim Warwick. Wednesday group meets at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 435 Peachtree St.- Facilitator: Peggy Rothchild

Bereavement Group People who have experienced loss of a loved one with AIDS meet Monday evenings from 7:00 - 9:00 PM at AID Atlanta, 1132 W. Peachtree St.- Facilitator: Bobbie P. Karrell.

PWA/PWARC Minority Issues Persons with AIDS or ARC concerned with minority issues meet Thursday evenings from 7:00 - 8:30 PM at AID Atlanta, 1132 W. Peachtree St.- Facilitator: Faye Brown

PWA- Weekend Group Meets Saturdays from 4:00 - 5:30 PM at AID Atlanta, 1132 W. Peachtree St.- Facilitator: Bill Rogers

The Worried Well Meets Tuesdays from 6:00 - 7:30 PM at 699-B Piedmont Ave.- Facilitator: Ken Saunders

PWA in the Family Meets Wednesdays at 7:00 PM. By reservation only. Call 874-4737 for details.- Facilitator: Ken Saunders

Positive Living Group Study/support group for people interested in physical, mental and spiritual growth. Anyone striving towards greater awareness and health is welcome. Every Wednesday morning, 10 AM to Noon. Siener Auditorium Building, Room 304 (Corner of Butler and Armstrong Streets).- Facilitator: Paula Reid

Meditation Scientifically proven method of increasing stress management and inner healing. Includes progressive relaxation and guided imagery. Fridays at 1:00 PM, Grady Infectious Disease Clinic.- Facilitator: Paula Reid

Exercise This class is designed to challenge those who are physically fit and can be adapted to those recently recovering from illness. Promotes strength, balance, circulation and deep-breathing. Tuesdays and Thursdays 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM. At the Shrine. Facilitator: Paula Reid

PWA Dinners Every Tuesday Evening at 6:30 PM, a wholesome meal and a chance to meet with friends. At the Central Presbyterian Church, across from the Capitol Building on Washington (Juniper) at MLK Blvd.

Atlanta NAPWA Meetings The second and fourth Thursday of each month. A valuable opportunity to learn about issues affecting PWAs, PWARCs and HIV positive individuals in our community, and to find out how to get involved.

Atlanta Center for Attitudinal Awareness This group meets every Wednesday evening from 7:30 to 9:00 PM. The focus is to support participants in releasing fear and anxiety, developing strategies to manage depression and loss of control, and to encourage individuals in their attempts to eliminate any negative impacts of HIV infection. Call 953-3136 for information. Facilitator: Jim Sacco

AIDS Healing Circle Anyone in need of healing, be it physical, emotional, or spiritual is welcome to attend. Every First and Third Sunday from 3:45 to 5:30 PM at the First Existentialist Church, 470 Candler Park Drive. 378-5570.

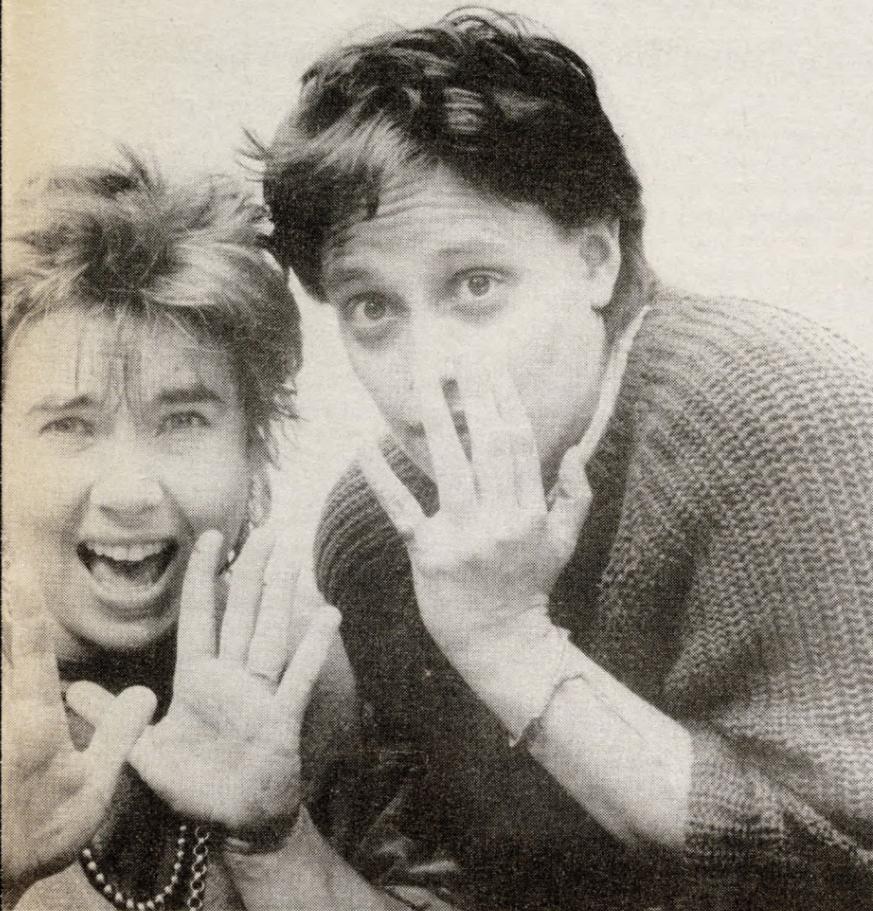
SUBSCRIBE TO ALIVE & AWARE HELP US PWA'S TO HELP OURSELVES.

Name _____
Address _____ Apt. _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

- I am a person with AIDS/ARC.
(Alive & Aware is provided free of charge, especially to those on disability or assistance.)
- From our concerned friends we ask a contribution of \$20.00 for a yearly subscription. Please make checks payable to The Atlanta Chapter of NAPWA.
- I want to help meet the growing needs caused by the AIDS crisis.
Here is my additional contribution of \$ _____

Mail to: **Alive & Aware/NAPWA**
1132 West Peachtree Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30309

I would like to make a donation to the Atlanta Chapter of NAPWA in the amount of \$ _____
Please add my name to your mailing list.



Next Week's Highlights

•**The Nutcracker** -December 15-30. Atlanta Ballet offers their best traditional performance to date with additional performances this year. Atlanta Civic Center. Times vary according to weekday performances, ditto prices. 892-3303.

•**"Hard-Hatted Women"** -December 15. Editor Molly Martin and an array of stories revolving around women in the trades will make for an interesting program. Charis Books. 419 Moreland. 7:30PM. Wheelchair access. Interpreted for the hearing impaired.

•**Moral Hazard** -December 17. This group of hard-rockin' females will perform yet another audio-visual extravaganza. Their style and appeal remain consistent. The Pub. Little Five Points. 10PM. Tickets, \$4.00. (Pictured at left.)

Y

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

•**Myself Messiah** - (No Im...)
Wm. Fred Scott leads the...
audience members in the...
portion of Handel's...
Call. 1280 Ptree St. 3PM.
or more. Call 892-2414.

12 •**LAMP (Living AIDS Memorial Park)** -7:30PM. N. Highland Branch Library. Call 874-3107 or 872-7568.

•**Sugar Plum Bobs** -Thru Dec. 14. Onstage Atlanta. 420 Courtland St. 8:30PM. \$5.00. 373-8241. Pictured: Joe Lesterlone, front, Timothy Kern and Greg Carraway as the Bunny Pellets in *Sugar Plum Bobs*. Photo by Bill Georgia.



13 •**"Golliwoppers"** -Dec. 13 and Dec. 15. Four tall tales in a one hour format. Presented by Alliance Theater's Acting Intern Company. Bring your lunch! Alliance Theater Co. 1280 Ptree St. \$2.00. Noon. Call 898-1137.

•**The Atlanta Business and Professional Guild** presents a Holiday Mixer for members and their guests. 6:30PM. 1245 S. Ponce de Leon. 662-4202.

14 •**Signature Party with Andre Fiset and Phyllis Colmar**, creator of the Glamour Lesbian Calendar to kickoff Deana's PWA House Fund. Deana's One Mo' Time. 1890 Cheshire Bridge Rd. Free. 874-0980.

•**Burkhart's 1st Anniversary!** Come celebrate! Ansley Square. 872-4403.

•**Keith Jarrett: Standards** -Channel 8, WGTV. 10PM. Showcases the true masters of jazz improv.

•**Jazz** -A play and jazz features jazzy trio, Unity. PERFORMANCE. 7 Stages. \$10.50. 523-7647.

19 •**W.O.W. (Women of Wisdom)** -North Highland Branch Library. 7:45PM. Free.

•**Thomas Cantata** by the Church 5PM. 575 Boulevard, S.E.

•**Thru Jan. 15.** It's "No version of Will's best. See St. 872-0665 for specific

20 •**Black Nativity** -Thru Dec. 24. Center Stage Theater. Tues-Thurs, 8PM; Fri-Sat, 3PM & 8PM. \$15.00. 873-2500, or any SEATS outlet.

•**Yuletide Folk Concert** -Features the Atlanta Area Friends of Folk Music. Picasso's Cafe, Decatur. 9PM. 373-8270.



21 •**HIV Support Group** -Health issues -physical and emotional -dealt with. Bldg. 2, 1640 Powers Ferry Rd. Free. Transportation available. 953-3136.

•**Michael Catalano** -"Ga. Songwriter of the Year." Picasso's Cafe, Decatur. 9PM. 373-8270.



S.A.M.E.

Southeastern Arts, Media Education Project, Inc.



Bittersweet

By Charles Haver

Now Appearing on Page 14!

Fabulous Holiday Dinner Raffle!

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ORGANIZATIONS

AALGA- African American Lesbian/Gay Alliance. 1st Sunday of each month. 4:00 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 Wednesday 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 Tuesday. 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 all interested singers and non-singers alike. 378-9676.

ALFA- Atlanta Lesbian Feminist Alliance. 2nd Sunday 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 Thursday 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 Tuesday of each month. 7:30 PM. North Highland Branch Library. A community based activist organization that works toward promoting lesbian and gay rights through educational, social, cultural, and political events. 377-8312.

AVS- Atlanta Venture Sports. Activities and meetings vary. An association in which the membership enjoys 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.

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 more info: 662-4202.

Atlanta Feminist Women's Chorus- A community-oriented choral group of women's voices. Membership is open to all women interested in singing. Chorus practice held each Sunday, 6:00-8:30 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 all singers and non-singers alike. Rehearsals every Tuesday at MCC-Blessed Redeemer, 800 N. Highland Ave. 7:30 PM. 874-1622.

Atlanta Lesbian and Gay Marching Band - Every Monday night 7:30PM-9PM 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 organization committed to fostering a supportive environment wherein racial and cultural barriers can be overcome and the goal of human equality realized. 794-BWMT.

Circle of Healing- 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month. 4:00 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 Friday of each month at 8:30 PM. Shabbat Seder, 2nd Friday 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 may 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. Sunday Services at 11:00 AM and 7:00 PM evangelistic service. Mid-week services on Wednesday at 7:30 PM.

800 N. Highland Ave. Office hours Noon-6:00 PM, Tuesday-Friday. A Christian church proclaiming God's love for lesbians and gay men. Counseling 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. Meetings social in nature and at members' discretion. To assure freedom of speech; freedom from religion; to defend the separation of church and state; to assist in obtaining 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, parties, etc. several times per month. For info 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 the local political scene. 885-0510.

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

The Group- Thurs. 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. Call 875-0700.

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 Monday of every month. 7:30PM. N. Highland Branch Library. For info: 874-3107 or 872-7568. Address correspondence to: LAMP, PO Box 301, 1579 F Monroe Drive, Atlanta, 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.

MCC Southside- 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.

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 Thursday of each month. 8:00PM. 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 Monday of each month. 7:45 PM. North Highland Branch Library. Aims to facilitate women meeting together with other women in a pleasant atmosphere. Offers timely programs of interest to the community, reaches out to older women and women with special needs.

GAPAC Commentary*

A Thanks-Giving To All Of You...You're The Best!

Sit back and relax...in line with the season, this is on thanks-giving, which is also, in part, what the GAPAC fundraising dinner this past November 12th was about.

The evening was, in a word, wonderful; and I give thanks to all of you who participated. Support covers so many areas. Most obviously, money is crucial, since it buys the ability to communicate. But aside from that is the psychological POW!, that comes by just dressing up in our glad rags.

And how beautiful we were that night, no matter what was worn (and it ran the gamut, as we hoped). What a thrill to arrive at the top of the escalator going down to the ballroom, and see the lobby jammed with hundreds of happy gay men and lesbians! And then to proceed into the candlelit ballroom, flowers gracing each table. The words of welcome; calls to create a greater community for Atlanta; the hilarity of Doug Lothes' Scarlett O'Hara and all her friends; the warm, svelte songs of Suede. The wit of emcee Cathy Woolard (whose humorous editorial comments do not necessarily reflect GAPAC positions!).

In one of the most satisfying actions of my life to date, I was privileged to present the first annual GAPAC Impact Award at our dinner. And not just once, but twice, to two winners. This column is to applaud all those nominated.

First of all, the Impact Award is that rarest of all awards: cash! It goes to nominated organizations which in the past year have excelled in activities that directly, positively impact the gay/lesbian community. And, as the Chairwoman of an organization that daily struggles to match pragmatic financial reality with laudable goals, it is particularly satisfying to me to be able to publicly applaud, and contribute to, local organizations that literally do "do so much with so little for so many."

This year, the nominees were all heavyweights, wonderful examples of our community's bumper crop of proactive action in the past year. Though all of them exist and prosper under the care of many people, we honored their founders and guiding lights.

FIRST NOMINEE: S.A.M.E., the Southeastern Arts, Media and Education Project, which beautifully promotes increased understanding of alternative lifestyles and points of view through its original, innovative and generally inspired arts and media presentations. Founder Rebecca Ranson is particularly honored.

SECOND NOMINEE: the *Southern Voice*, our new biweekly newspaper, presenting news, activities, columns and editorials specific to the gay/lesbian community. It has already been nationally noted and admired for its content as well as its impeccable layout and presentation. Impressive from the outset, we hope to see this paper develop into the country's premier gay/lesbian publication. Particularly honored is Managing Editor and Founder Christina Cash.

THIRD NOMINEE: the Metropolitan Atlanta Council of Gay and Lesbian Organizations, MACGLO. Out-of-town visitors have been awed by this organization, nationally unique in its size (over 60 member organizations), increasing strength, and effectiveness in drawing together many disparate sectors of our community. Particularly honored is Executive Secretary Jeffrey Laymon.

FOURTH NOMINEE: the Georgia AIDS Legislative Coalition. Comprised of five cooperating organizations, this coalition magnificently proved its effectiveness in its very first year by successfully lobbying for the final, vastly improved version of the 1988 AIDS Omnibus Bill. Particularly honored is Chairman Maury Weil.

FIFTH NOMINEE: LEGAL, Legislate Equality for Gays and Lesbians, the Gay/Lesbian Democratic Club. Another brand-new organization, LEGAL astounded the old-guard Georgia Democratic establishment with a stunning, politically savvy coup: not only electing the first openly gay and lesbian delegates to the Democratic National Convention, but narrowly missing a complete sweep of delegates from two districts. Particularly honored are Lee Harrington and Linda Meredith.

You can imagine how difficult it was to choose among all these wonderfully effective organizations. And imagine how much fun it was to say: AND THE WINNERS ARE...the Georgia AIDS Legislative Coalition, and *Southern Voice!*

What an evening. It was wonderful. Be there next year; it'll be bigger and better yet! And remember all your gay and lesbian organizations, Mr. and Ms. Santa. 'Cuz, we just can't do it without ya.

Thank you; bless your hearts; and have a great holiday season!

- Marie J. Murray
Chairwoman
1988-1989

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7 **BOOMERANG!**

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A. Tapatio Restaurante Mexicano - Join us during the holiday for out and above the ordinary Mexican food. Open for lunch and dinner. 688-8903

B. Shiver me Timbers!!! Voted the Best New Bar of '87, **The Yacht Club** is the stuff traditions are made of: All Kosher Dogs, all the way & 473.103.14 types of brew. 688-2582

C. The Pub serves lunch, dinner, drink & more...Holly Faith Dec. 8,9; Michelle Malone Dec. 16; Moral Hazard Dec. 17; Dede Vogt & Kristen Hall Dec. 21 & 28; Showtime 10 pm. 577-7767

D. Fellini's is known for its Friendly Service...

E. Eat Your Vegetables specializes in Natural foods - vegetarian, seafood & poultry. Open for lunch, dinner & Brunch on Sunday. 523-2671

F. Dundee's for breakfast, lunch & dinner, featuring their lunch buffet special - it's oriental & only \$3.95 for all you can eat. Open 7am to 10pm.

G. The Blue Heron, a classy little restaurant, featuring fine seafood, beer, wine & gourmet specialties. Lunch, Dinner & Sunday Brunch. 681-3416

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9 **The Junkman's Daughter**

10 **Dream Maker Futons** natural home furnishings

11 **RSVP** Cards & Gifts

12 **Days Gone By** Vintage Fashions

13 **SPARKLE**

PARKING

1. Beguiling floral arrangements, fresh flowers, wreaths, collectible vases, ornaments & cards - Great style! **Sassy Marue** - 688-7612
 2. **Sevananda** offers more than just organic vegies & fruit - books on nutrition, scents & soaps for the bath, & for that long lasting gift, a Sev. membership that can save 10% on all the things that are good for you & your's. 681-2831
 3. Distinct wearables for going out or just lounging. Modular pieces - one size fits all - vibrant colors - terrific service - great prices (\$5 to \$45) at **Labyrinth**. 827-9893
 4. **Outback** offers cold weather gear for the outdoors in everyone. Cycling is their specialty, but check out their clothing, footwear & multitude of stocking stuffers for that survivor on your list. 688-4878
 5. **The Untitled Gallery** features local artists' truly original holiday works, plus a unique selection of earrings & ornaments.
 6. **The Energy Shop** has the smart treatment for your windows, inside and out. All custom work, including this month's special: "Window Quilt" insulating shades. 581-0482
 7. **Boomerang!** New to L5P, 1950's furniture, redesigned, upholstered pieces, hand-made tables and lamps, hand painted items, fine art, & collectable gifts from \$5.00. 577-8158
 8. A classic of its kind offering new & used jewelry, gems, cameras, stereo equipment, musical instruments, guns & hunting accessories. **The Euclid Pawn Shop**. 523-4927
 9. **The Junkman's Daughter** has men & women's new & vintage clothing & costumes, boots & shoes from London, great jewelry from around the world, plus strange stocking stuffers. Don't miss this month's window display! 577-3188
 10. **Dream Maker Futon**, Atlanta's First, offers great prices on 100% cotton quality futons & hardwood frames - custom work too! Guaranteed family owned & operated since 1982. 523-1098
 11. **RSVP Gifts!** Calendars, cards, wrapping, ribbons & more - this little slice of L5P has it all including Safe Sex Kits to Go. Stop and say hey to Terry. 523-1331
 12. **Days Gone By** - Vintage clothing, jewelry, alligator bags, shoes, gloves, furs, men's formal wear and coats. 523-8478
 13. Bring some **Sparkle** into your closet - dress up or down with their jewelry, jeans, leather & lame. 688-1103
 14. **The Foam Store** handmakes futons with the utmost care & highest quality materials. Holiday gifts for the home under \$70, including a futon bed for pets, on \$49. 586-9647
 15. **Major Furniture Co.** is more than just a hoot - it has something for every home, practical to outrageous, including those hard to find sequined & satin Elvis wall hangings. 522-2093
 16. At **Stefan's** you too can be a star whether you've been casted or not. Jewelry \$15 to \$135, silk ties \$5 to \$15, hats from Bogie to BeCALL \$15 to \$35, jackets \$28 to \$65 & overcoats \$65 to \$125. 688-4929
 17. King Kong would stuff his stocking with the whole store. **Aunt Teeks** is chucked full of fun and fantasy gifts at great prices. 525-0630
 18. **Crystal Blue** offers, you guessed it, crystal, minerals, crystal balls, jewelry, newage music, Tibetan bells & bowls, even crystal singing bowls, not to mention wind chimes. 522-4605
 19. Holiday Doo's - Men & women's contemporary & conventional hairstyles, colors, highlights, perms by Redken. Ear & nose piercing, too, at **Permanant Raves**. 688-HAIR
 20. **Dancers' Bicycle Shop** - bicycles & accessories. Traditionally, the most impressive gift under the tree. 522-6182
 21. **Gear**. Clothing and jewelry. Is it political? Is it Hip? Is it you? No doubt! Come see... 523-0220
 22. **Charis Books & More...** Lesbian & feminist books, records, cards, jewelry & more. Mail order available. 524-0304
 23. **Frames & Fine Arts** offers custom framing for your prized pieces. Ms. Langley also specializes in works by black Artists. 581-1960
 24. **Abbadabba's** can fit you in comfortable & fashionable shoes & boots, flashy legwear & sexy sox, designer jewelry & wearable art. Avant-Garb from Abbadabba's. 588-9577
 25. Gift giving made easy - consult **The Wizard!** Art glass, door harps, dragons, kaleidoscopes, wind chimes, wild toys & wonderful stuff! 524-1358
- SPECIAL NOTE!** The next two items are located in the far end of the stripshopping center facing Moreland.
26. **The Little Five Points Pharmacy** is having a sale on wrapping paper, gifts and toys. Video rental also available, as is that old fashion soda fountain.
 27. **Eye Etc. Vision Center** is offering Free Contact Lenses with the purchase of a complete pair of Eyeglasses at the regular price. Daily wear CQ4's. Call 523-3937

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Thanks goes out to the Little Five Points Merchants who took part in this Ad. Our Best Wishes and Happy Holidays.

AIDS: Words From The Front

Part I of III-part series

The long search for a cause and cure for AIDS has, for the most part, taken place in predictable settings; the somber halls of the National Institutes of Health in Washington, D.C. and France's Pasteur Institute; in hospital wards from San Francisco and New York to Port-au-Prince and Kinshasha. But one setting, perhaps the most hopeful one, is wildly improbable; the basement laboratory in a house in Valley Stream, Long Island. There, a retired medical technologist, 72-year-old Salvatore Catapano, appears to have found the AIDS treatment the world has been waiting for—using a substance that has been standard item on pharmacists' shelves for decades.

Catapano proudly shows visitors a framed certificate on his dining room wall, of the patent he obtained last year—one of only three American patents ever granted for AIDS treatments. The substance Catapano uses and licenses other doctors to use to treat AIDS patients is, simply, typhoid vaccine.

His patent, Number 4,711,876, contains the statement: *It has been found that a complete immunization and remission of a person afflicted with AIDS may be achieved by the administration with typhoid vaccine with no observed toxicity.*

All day long Catapano receives phone calls from patients and physicians around the country who have heard reports about the typhoid vaccine therapy. Catapano discusses his 15 years of research in which he discovered the vaccine's unique immune stimulating properties as a result of conducting tumor reduction experiments with laboratory hamsters. Catapano goes on to explain that he does not accept that a biochemically inactive virus could cause death, and that he believes that the course of immune suppression in AIDS patients is not viral but bacterial. The patients, he asserts, are suffering from extraordinarily entrenched late-staging syphilis, its symptoms exaggerated by multiple exposures, the resulting depression of the immune system and misapplication of antibodies and radiation. Once the immune system is restored with typhoid vaccine, he says, a course of penicillin should bring the patient into remission.

The expertise he claims for his assertion is straightforward enough: In 40 years as a medical technologist, and particularly in the navy, he was involved in the testing and treatment of literally thousands of syphilitics. Catapano learned every trick the disease, known as "medicine's great masquerader," could play in assuming the form of other maladies. Nothing about AIDS seems new to him; not the skin lesions, the strange pneumonia, the heart prob-

lems, the rashes, the bone pains, the dementia, the tuberculosis. For centuries, these have been well-documented symptoms of syphilis. In the pre-antibiotic era, tuberculosis was the most common opportunistic infection and cause of death among syphilitics. Catapano hypothesizes that HIV is simply a marker for severe immune suppression, induced in this case by syphilis.

A year ago, Catapano and a Long Island physician he worked with, Dr. Miguel Cima, were the

only providers of typhoid vaccine for AIDS patients. But word of their success spread through the nationwide grapevine in the gay community. Just one year later doctors are using the Catapano protocol in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Atlanta, Dallas, Cincinnati, Washington, D.C., Miami, New York, Chesapeake, Virginia and Indianapolis. (By law, a doctor must obtain a license to use typhoid in treating AIDS patients or they are guilty of infringing on Catapano's patent.)

Some 300 hundred AIDS patients are on the protocol nationwide. Among the 200 patients Catapano and Cima have treated, only one has died: a man who chose to stop eating when he was admitted to hospital.

The reports of the first physicians using the typhoid vaccine are full of cautious delight. Dr. German Maisonet, an oncologist and pediatric hematologist in Los Angeles, admits that he was skeptical when he first heard of the vaccine. "But when I saw a patient with 68 T-helper cells go up to 300 within two

months—and maintain that improvement—I decided I had to investigate." Maisonet has been treating 20 AIDS patients since July. Obviously the patients were at different stages of their illness when they started the protocol. Four of the patients have doubled their T-helper cell counts. "I was getting tired of having all my patients die," Maisonet says dryly. "The patients I'm treating with typhoid are getting better. This stuff works, that's what I care about."



Original Art by Shelton Bryant

appear in many patients; in a few patients he has witnessed remarkable recoveries. One 48-year-old man came to Mehl desperately sick, barely able to walk, unable to work. After two and a half months on the typhoid vaccine, his T-helper cell count rose from 200 to 1000. His symptoms cleared up one by one; his strength was restored. "You would never know the man had AIDS," Mehl says flatly. A second patient, who had been plagued by neurological disorders for a year and a half showed dramatic improvement in motor skills, walking and writing within two months.

Five of his patients have chosen to discontinue the treatment, although one of these,

Equally enthusiastic is Dr. Lewis Mehl, a physician in San Francisco, who has also been treating 20 patients since the summer. (All 20 of the patients had previously taken AZT but had to stop because of the drug's extraordinary toxicity.) He has seen lesions and chronic respiratory symptoms dis-

Mehl says, was actually getting better. "Like everything, the vaccine may not work in every patient," he cautions. "Still, I'm so excited by what I'm seeing; I feel like someone standing on the edge of a new frontier."

Dr. Terry Pulse, who practices family medicine in a suburb of Dallas, Texas, was the first physician to obtain a license, in January.

Of the fifteen patients Pulse has treated, two are in remission and receiving maintenance shots. Although he wishes to wait a full year before making any definitive assessment of the vaccine's usefulness, Pulse says, "There has been dramatic visual improvement and the patients who are on the typhoid vaccine report feeling better than patients on any other form of treatment." Pulse has been less struck by dramatic rises in patients' T-helper cell counts than in the normalization of many patient's complete blood count (CBC).

In fact, Salvatore Catapano is less interested in the patient's T-cell count, which he finds an "unreliable" indicator of immune status, than in the complete blood count, including the red cell count, hemoglobin, platelet count, etc. He focuses particularly on the so-called "differential count," a tally of the various types of leucocytes, or white blood cells, which as a class constitute the body's defense mechanism.

Most important, according to Catapano, is the ratio between two types of white blood cells: the neutrophils and the lymphocytes. A significant decrease in lymphocytes and corresponding rise in neutrophils is regarded as a "shift to the left," in favor of infection. In each of the patients Catapano has seen, following treatment, the percentage of neutrophils dropped and lymphocytes rose. That increase is vital, Catapano asserts, because lymphocytes are the chief "killer" cells, cells that kill off organisms that invade the immune system.

—Katie Leishman

This article originally appeared in the November, 1988 issue of Spin magazine. The article was accompanied by a condom with explicit instructions on safer sex usage which prompted a nationwide controversy (See Southern Voice, Vol. 1, #20).

"AIDS—Words from the Front" is reprinted courtesy of Spin Magazine.

Living with AIDS, which regularly appears in this space, will resume after Part III of "AIDS—Words from the Front."

Contributors to Living With AIDS are sought from 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. Please mail submissions to Southern Voice, c/o Living With AIDS, P.O. Box 54719, Atlanta, GA 30308.

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Health and Healing

The gay and lesbian community is challenged to find and improve ways of maintaining our health and healing our hearts and our bodies. This column will offer insights and advice by various writers with a range of viewpoints and expertise. To submit an article or request a topic, contact Franklin Abbott in care of Southern Voice, P.O. Box 54719, Atlanta, GA 30308.

Surviving "The Season" and Finding Something to Celebrate

The holiday season can be especially difficult for lesbians and gay men. It is a time of year that families reunite, and it is also a time when major religious holidays occur. Many lesbians and gay men have difficulty with their biological families during the holidays. Some of us are not welcomed into our parents' homes. Others are welcomed but without our lovers or without affirmation of our primary relationship, and many a holiday meal will be passed avoiding certain topics. Unknowing relatives will still inquire this year as they did last year and the year before about marital prospects. Many lesbian and gay couples will divide on important days to please their families of origin. Many of us will be glad to see the holidays over and done with so we can return to normal patterns.

Just as many of us will suffer over troubles with our families of origin, many of us will feel alienated from the religious traditions with which we grew up. Organized religion is often homophobic. Ancient rituals that were invented to aid in spiritual development can also be used as a bludgeon. We are made to feel immoral and guilty by a large segment of organized religion.

So in a season of giving, many of us are counting our losses. In a season of hope many of us grapple with despair. We may overcompensate for our losses by getting lost in the commercial aspect of the holidays by decorating our houses in grand style, by drinking and wasting way too much as we struggle to find some little piece of the holiday spirit. It may be too late at this point to do anything more than survive the holidays one more time, but we have some things to think about that may make these holidays easier and future holidays much more pleasant.

One: Take care of yourself as best you can. Lower your expectations of yourself and others. You don't have to accept every invitation, send out all cards before December 25th and find all your important people the perfect gifts. You need more alone time in proportion to the increased social demands. Gift giving is okay but not if you impoverish yourself. Some of the best gifts arrive late, are homemade or cost

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very little.

Two: Recognize your need for ritual. Those of us of European descent come from cultures where the seasons were of supreme importance. The pagan festival of Yule celebrated the return of the sun. Christmas was grafted on to Yule, the return of the Sun God and the coming of the Christ child linked psychologically. Simply because we cannot relate to Christmas or Hannukah rituals does not negate a need we have as old as our humanity to reassure ourselves through ritual practice of some kind that light is returning.

Three: Recognize your need for family. The words "family" and "familiar" sound a lot alike. Sometimes what we are familiar with is not in our best interests. When our original (biological) families don't nourish and affirm us it is time to start looking elsewhere to get our needs for closeness and support met. We have the capacity to choose friends who can become family.

As lesbians and gay men, we have lost a lot. The holidays need not be added to that list of losses. — Franklin Abbott

Franklin Abbott, LCSW, co-hosts "Soundings" on WRFM-FM 89.3 every Thursday afternoon from 1:00-2:00 p.m. He edited the anthology *New Men, New Minds: Breaking Male Tradition*. He is a psychotherapist in private practice with *Ansley Therapy Associates* and coordinates *The Circle of Healing*. He can be reached at 874-8294.

Far Out Gifts For Funky Folks

This holiday season, you may ask "What DO I get that special person in my life?!" One wants to be economic, of course, but a person also has to be fashionably correct. Look no further than *Southern Voice* for a gift that is understated yet says it all; is loud but tastefully tasteless; full of fantasy (for those who like a little lovin' with their leather) but exuding safe sex.

What would be a good present for the macho dude who has been paying your electric bill for the last two months, or the lesbian activist you live with but only see at planning meetings?

How about a handpainted fish from AFFAIRS on North Highland Ave. You can get a fish for anywhere from \$15-\$45



TIA NIKOLOPOULAS

Peruvian fetish dolls

on Piccadilly Pets at Ansley Mall. Everybody needs a nice iguana. (Iguana be glad if he gets one.) A cold blooded reptile, you say, for the love of my life!? Think about it. Iguanas are no cheap meat (but are you?): \$69.

Well, maybe you are. In that case, there's Whipped Creme (\$9.95) or Pleasure Bombs (\$8.00) from the Poster Hut on Cheshire Bridge Rd. (certainly my favorite strip.)

If you want a gift that smacks of exotica without delving into erotica, you should check out the ONION DOME, 1192 N. Highland. Bellydancer paraphernalia begins at \$10.00; bellydancers are considerably more. Pretty hot stuff for those Arabian knights.

And then there's my personal favorite -- Peruvian fetish dolls, \$32 from Folk Art Imports. What more could a girl want?

— Candace Wiggins
with Pamela J. Cole



TIA NIKOLOPOULAS

Hand-painted fish

(depending on how good your little fishy has been this year). They look like the real thing - but no fishy smell here. AFFAIRS also has other odd ideas for gifts if the fish doesn't hook you.

Maybe you prefer live fish. Then pick

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EDITED BY FRANKLIN ABBOTT

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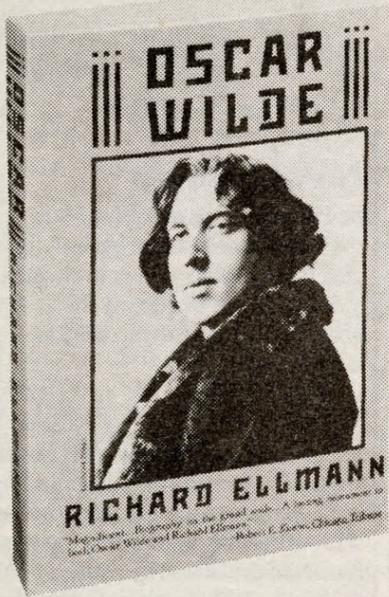
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Star Gays

by: Martia Proba
December 6 - 19, 1988

It is said that the best day to break a habit is the 2nd day the Moon is in Sagittarius. On the 9th, the New Moon is in Sagittarius for the 3rd day. So quit smoking on the 8th and plan for the future on the 9th.

SAGITTARIUS The Sun continues in your 1st house this period, emphasizing your fiery personality. Be careful in financial matters. Shop with a Capricorn on the 10th.

CAPRICORN You may feel a lot like day-dreaming this time of the month but, take heart, the sun will soon energize you back to reality. A Taurus on the 17th could be dynamite.

AQUARIUS Stay at home and entertain now even if you do overspend. Be sure to watch your health - let a Pisces help you on the 14th.

PISCES Your social life is accentuated by a clump of planets in your 11th house. Your career could receive a boost on the 17th. Boogie with a Scorpio on the 6th.

ARIES If you've been putting it off, visit your birth family after the 9th. Arrange to share the cost of gifts with another person. This is a good time to think about New Year's resolutions.

TAURUS You and your lover should talk about shared visions of the future, with emphasis on financial aspects. An Aquarius on the 18th could be lovely.

GEMINI Until the 14th, communication with your mate or partner should be beneficial. If you don't have a love interest, talk to a Sagittarius on the 19th.

CANCER You should mix business with pleasure this period. The Sun ensures the wherewithal to do so. Listen to a Scorpio on the 11th for news about sex.

LEO Expect a proposal of undying love on the New Moon of the 9th. You are one of the few signs for whom travel is advised now. Be careful not to overdo on the 10th and 17th.

VIRGO Neptune hints at creative love-making so head for the idealistic heights, especially on the 12th with a Capricorn. Jupiter suggests you keep it legal.

LIBRA Family is paramount in your mind this period. Take it easy with a Capricorn on the 10th. An Aries brings an unwelcome message on the 15th, but you need to hear it.

SCORPIO Favorable relationship developments are highlighted. Expect to feel out of sorts on the 6th and 7th. Spend money with a Sagittarius and buy a hot present on the 13th.

Dykes to Watch Out For



bittersweet

by Charles Haver



*AIDS-Services & Education

The Atlanta AIDS Research Consortium needs office furnishings: chairs, desk and floor lamps, rugs, artwork, typewriters and a conference table. Your donation is tax-deductible. Contact Jim at 876-5789.

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. Also, Pat Zerman leads a chronic illness group on Tuesdays, 1-3PM. (V1#22)

Minority outreach on AIDS meets the second Tuesday of each month. Seeks new approaches to AIDS education in Black, Hispanic and other minority populations. Visitors, volunteers welcome. An AID Atlanta project. Call Margie Peterson at 872-0600 for details. (V1#22)

AIDS Information Line - 9AM - 9PM weekdays. 9AM - 5PM weekends for confidential, factual answers on risk, transmission, testing, medical and other referrals in Ga. and elsewhere. Atlantans call 876-9944, other Georgians dial toll-free 1-800-551-2728. Hearing impaired callers access via TTY 876-9950. Spanish-speaking operators available. A service of AID Atlanta and the Georgia Dept. of Human Resources. (V1#22)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ride needed to Columbia, S.C. or near Interstate 20 or 26. Can leave anytime near Christmas - return ride also needed. Can help with gas and driving. Call George at 986-9326. (V1#22)

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)

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)

*CHILD CARE

Babysitter needed for 18-month old boy. Loves other children and pets. Call Gwen Johnson at 523-2560 between 6:30 and 3:30. (V1#23)

*EMPLOYMENT

Experienced press operator wanted. AB Dick, 360, 9800. Management skills also required. Call after 6:00PM. 329-0043. (V1#22)

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.

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FOR SALE

FOR THE HOLIDAYS - Exquisite clay bust or torso wall piece of a loved one, of yourself using actual casting techniques. Surreal, romantic or naturalistic - colors fitted to your scheme. Peg Morar, studio artist. 584-0408. (V1#21)

Apex computer for sale. Call Gregg at 233-0083. (V1#21)

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*ORGANIZATIONS

Co-ed recreational volleyball every Saturday from 7-10PM. Morningside Recreation Center, 1053 East Rock Springs Rd. Call 875-0700 for information. (V1#23)

Friends Atlanta's annual holiday dinner will be held Fri., Dec. 16 at 7:00PM, Ellis Hall, All Saints Episcopal Church, 634 W. Peachtree St. Entertainment by the Lambda Chorale and the Atlanta Lesbian & Gay Marching Band. 662-4501. (V1#21)

Atlanta Gay Men's Chorus seeks new members for the remainder of its 1988-1989 season. Auditioners should bring a prepared work and be ready to sight read unfamiliar works. Auditions are with the musical director; accompanist can be provided. For more info or to schedule an audition contact AGMC musical director at 266-8002. (V1#23)

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

PERSONALS

GWF, 31, attractive, sense of humor, creative, well-educated, well-read seeks same. Enjoy film, literature, computers, vegetarian food, newspapers, the ocean. No drugs, alcohol, tobacco. Send photo and letter to SV Box #2240. (V1#23)

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)

Mature, retired sugar daddy seeks friend 25-45 for occasional daytime companionship. 446-8716 (ext. BOTTM). (V1#23)

GWF, sporty, professional, cute, looking for Ms. Right. Are you over 28, sincere, a romantic, into

home life, the great outdoors, candlelight dinners? Non-smokers. Reply to: PO Box 48561, Atlanta, Ga. 30340. (V1#23)

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 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 SV Box #2232. (V1#21)

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Decatur - Lesbian would like same to share duplex apt. \$250/mo + 1/2 utilities. Washer & dryer. Non-smokers only please. 371-0418 or 378-0611. (V1#23)

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)

Merchants Directory

Border's Books, 2655 Roswell Rd., Atlanta, 237-0707.
Charis: Books and More, 419 Moreland Ave, Atlanta, Ga. 524-0304.
Colmar Productions, PO Box 2476, Decatur, Ga. 30031.
Dashboard Audio, 1927 Cheshire Bridge Rd., Atlanta, Ga. 876-2277.
Deana's One Mo Time, 1980 Cheshire Bridge Rd., Atlanta, Ga. 874-0980.
Dan Easton, 2920 Brandywine Rd., #250, Atlanta, Ga., 30341. 457-0087.
ETC., 427 Moreland Ave, S#700, Atlanta, 30307. 525-3821.
Feminist Women's Health Center, 580 14th St., Atlanta, Ga. 874-7551.
HLM Services Inc., 535 Oakdale Rd., Atlanta, 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, 634-3835.
Leather Graphics by Tagio, 632 N. Highland Ave., Atlanta, Ga. 873-3375.
The Neon Company, 617 N. Highland Ave., Atlanta, Ga. 873-1026.
Edward O. Nix, M.D., 3756 LaVista Rd., Suite 100, Tucker, Ga., 30084. 634-0672.
Old Queen Enterprises, 279 S. Beverly Dr., #1090, Beverly Hills, Ca., 90212.
Optical Stores, 2441 Cheshire Bridge Rd., Atlanta, Ga. 636-9727 or 636-9811.
Second Hand Antiques, 628 N. Highland Ave., Atlanta, Ga. 876-6773.
Sevananda, 1111 Euclid Ave., Atlanta, Ga. 681-2831.
Sharon J. Sanders, 1549 Clairmont Rd #108, Decatur, Ga. 373-0278.

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Put your reply in a stamped sealed envelope and write the box number on the lower left corner. Mail your reply envelope in a separate envelope to Southern Voice, PO Box 54719, Atlanta, Ga., 30308. We will forward your reply to the appropriate party.

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Good Mother Raises Tough Questions

The advance notices for Leonard Nimoy's *The Good Mother* may have inadvertently heightened this film's effectiveness. Unaware of the Sue Miller novel on which the movie was based, I first heard the film was about a divorcee (Anna, played by Diane Keaton) whose child is taken away from her by the courts because she's having sex with a man to whom she is not married. That seemed absurd to me. Then I learned that Anna's lover (Leo, played by Liam Neeson) allows the child to touch his genitals, and immediately the 98% open mind I'm so proud of slammed shut. Sex play with a child? That was going a bit too far, and I concluded that perhaps this good mother was pretty bad.

Thus, I saw the film in a state of mind approximating that which the average judge or jury might have upon hearing these, the bare bones of the case. And this is pretty much what the judge in the film does hear: The bald statements that Anna's unmarried lover, at the child's request, allowed her to touch (or, as it is put by Anna's ex-husband's attorney, "fondle") his genitals, and that Anna and Leo had sex while the child, Molly, was in bed with them. The judge does not get to see, as we do, the accidental and innocent way the three end up in bed together, does not see their relationship develop into a loving family, simply does not know what he needs to know to make an intelligent decision. My own initial judgment against Anna and Leo and the subsequent proof of how wrong I was makes Anna's dilemma—how to live her own life as she wants in spite of society's opposition—that much more moving.

The price for passion and independence is high, and Anna is not at all certain she wants to pay it. Keaton's hesitant, halting, slightly kooky manner, a hallmark of her characterizations in her Woody Allen comedies, is perfect for the adult Anna, the careful woman who would still like to be passionate. Having divorced her husband of seven years because she finally admitted that sex with him was no good, she is nevertheless tremendously tentative in beginning her affair with Leo, as though she can't believe she'll be allowed to get away with getting something she wants, something really wonderful.

Sure enough, she doesn't have it for long, just long enough for

her to know that the love she'd been resigned to not having is in fact attainable. But when her ex-husband Brian sues for custody, she has to decide between forthrightly defending her open way of life as good for both Molly and herself (which it is; the film beautifully



depicts them, with Leo, forming a loving family), or scapegoating Leo by condemning his actions with Molly as a mistake, possibly having to agree to sever relations with the man she loves in order to keep her own child. (Parallels with lesbian and gay parents and the choice to risk coming out versus the compromise of remaining forever closeted to retain custody are apparent.)

Anna may be the best vehicle Keaton has ever had. She gets to cry, scream, laugh, mourn, and

experience sexual ecstasy in scene after powerful scene, and she makes the most of every opportunity. Neeson is a good match for her, playing an irresistibly sexy, dynamic, caring man.

One mildly symbolic stroke in *The Good Mother* is particularly worth noting. Anna lives in one half of a duplex whose address numbers are conspicuously displayed as "69 and 69A." Director Nimoy didn't have to show us any address at all, and he could have picked any one of hundreds of other numbers, all of them perfectly innocuous—why choose virtually the only one with obvious sexual connotations?

Perhaps the number's simple existence was the point. It's there, and in and of itself it may mean nothing, but anyone who sees it can make anything of it he or she wants. No matter how we live our lives, someone will always be there to judge, to approve to disapprove, to point a finger. As Anna finds out, the only way to live is to go ahead, grit your teeth if you have to, and be yourself. Anna's address is a clever comment on the action of the film, and perhaps a word of advice to its audience.

—Ray Hesse

The Good Mother is currently playing at Midtown 8 Cinema.

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