

# Grand River Rainbow Historical Project

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*celebrating the lives and times of rainbow folk in Grand River country*

## *Guelph Gay Equality Newsletter → Guelph Gay & Lesbian Equality Newsletter → Guelph Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Equality Newsletter*

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# Guelph Gay Equality

NEWSLETTER - MARCH 1981

## Coming Events

Wed. March 4 - Informal Dropin  
9th Floor Lounge, Arts  
Bldg., U. of Guelph. 8pm.

Fri. March 6 - Gay Freedom  
Rally, St. Lawrence Market  
North, Toronto. 7:30pm.

Wed. Mar. 11 - Film Night - the  
CBC production of "The  
Running Man". 8pm. 9th  
Floor Lounge.

FRI. MARCH 13 - Dance at the Schoolhouse. U.E.W. Hall, 611 Silvercreek Pkwy. 9pm.

Wed. Mar. 18 - Women in our Community Speak Out. 9th Fl. Lounge, 8pm.

Wed. Mar. 25 - Discussion on Coming Out. How do you do it? 9th Fl. Lounge, 8pm.

\*\*\*\*\*DANCE\*\*\*\*\*DANCE\*\*\*\*\*DANCE\*\*\*\*\*DANCE\*\*\*\*\*DANCE\*\*\*\*\*DANCE\*\*\*\*\*

Listed below are the dates, and addresses of upcoming DANCES in the area. Many of these clubs have supported us in our endeavors and you may find it interesting to reciprocate.

Mar.7 Dance sponsored by the Hamilton United Gay Society, (HUGS). It's at the Textile Workers Hall, 545 Main St., East.

Mar.13 Dance sponsored by the G.G.E. at the old Schoolhouse.

Mar.20 G.L.O.W. will have a dance, for info call 884-GLOW.

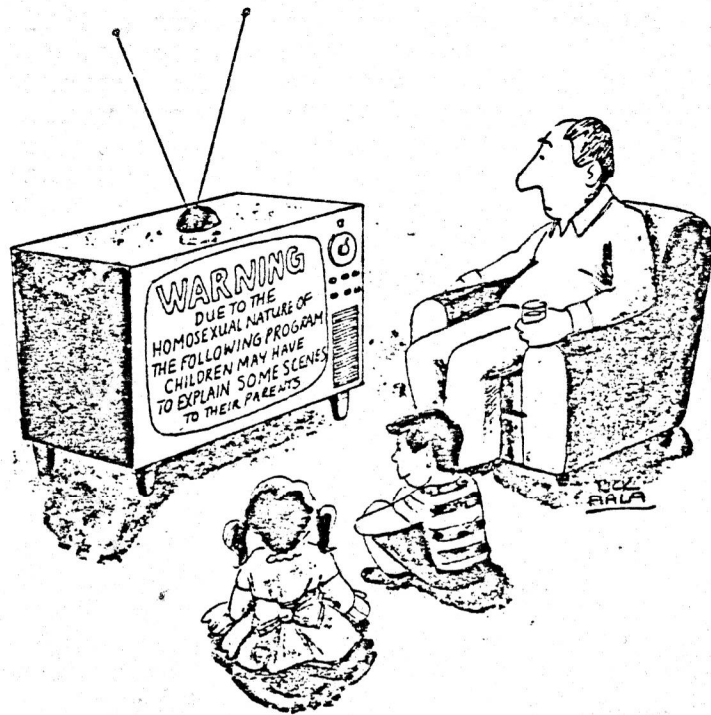
Mar.21 HUGS hosts another, at the same location.

Mar.27 GEM is having a dance at-84 South Service Rd., on the south-east corner of Hwy 10 and the QEW, in the Unitarian Church.

If you go to one of these dances, let people know that you're from out of town!

'EXPERIENCE '81, A RESOURCES SHARING WEEKEND FOR LESBIANS AND GAY MEN,' went off with a bang! Nearly 100 people participated in the workshops and demonstrations. Over 250 people crowded into the PINK TRIANGLE DANCE, held in Peter Clark Hall, University of Guelph. Many thanks to those that helped!

Gay Student Attacked! Only one ugly incident marred the otherwise successful Experience '81 weekend. On Friday night, two men



Gayline - 836-4550 Office - 824-4120 ext 8575

Box 773, Guelph, Ont. N1H 6L8 - Office: 221 U.Centre, University of Guelph

attacked a member of the G.G.E., from behind, in the washroom of the university centre. The attack was a typical queer bashing-two cowards ganged up on a single person. One way to prevent such attacks is to take a self-defence course. We could organize a course in Guelph if enough interest is expressed. The course would teach you how to recognize a dangerous situation, how to protect yourself, and how to assert your right to move about freely, without intimidation. If you're interested, call Jim (822-██████). We need at least 20 interested people.

#### MASS ARREST IN TORONTO

On Feb. 5, Police raided the 4 largest steambaths in Toronto, and charged over 300 men, under laws dating back to the 19th century. The mass arrest is the second largest since the War Measures Act was invoked in 1970. The police also did over \$35000 damage, breaking walls, doors, windows, sound equipment, etc. The following night over 3000 men and women took to the streets in protest. A week later, people massed again in protest. A Gay Freedom Rally is planned for Friday, Mar. 6, at the St. Lawrence St. Market, North, starting at 7:30, p.m.

It is estimated that the defence for the 300 men will cost at least \$500,00. The RIGHT TO PRIVACY COMMITTEE, is a group which was organized in 1977, to support persons arrested under the "bawdy house" laws, and to fight for changes in these archaic laws. If you can help out with a donation, sent it to the Right To Privacy Committee, c/o Coanish, King and Sachs, Barristers and Solicitors, 111 Richmond St., West, Suite 320, Toronto, Ont., M5H 3N6. Make your cheque payable to "Harriet Sachs in trust for R.T.P.C."

A growing number of people, including many non-gays, are demanding a full inquiry into the way the raids were conducted. If you agree, write today to Attorney-General Roy McMurtry, c/o, Queens Park.

In case you feel secure because you never go to the steambaths, watch-out!! To date at least two men, a teacher and a lawyer, have been charged with operating a bawdy house"-in their own homes!

#### PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS-MARCH 19

Some gays believe that the steambath house raids were a ploy used by the Conservatives, to bait the Liberals and NDP into voicing support for the gay rights. So far Gay Rights has remained a non-issue in the campaign.

Here is how the parties stand on the issue ;

LIBERALS-although Stuart Smith supports us personally, his caucus is divided on the issue.

CONSERVATIVES-some candidates are supportive, but the party as a whole has avoided the issue.

NDP-this party has traditionally supported us, but just before the election they refused to amend a bill which would have given us our rights. They knew an election was coming.

What Can You Do

There are several options ;

1. spoil your ballot by writing "GAY RIGHTS NOW !" across it. when the votes are counted, scrutineers must inspect all spoiled ballots-they'll find your message!
2. vote for an alternative party such as the Rhinoceros or Marxist-Leninists, if that appeals to You.
3. go to an all candidates meeting in your riding and ask the candidates what their stand is.

GAYLINE TRAINING If you would like to try out, come to the next training meeting on Sunday, March 22 at Rm 221 u.c.