

Grand River Rainbow Historical Project

www.grandriver-rainbowhistory.ca/

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

FEBRUARY 1982

TIME FOR A CHANGE IN G.G.E.?

ON FEBRUARY 18, 1982 AT 7:00 PM AT BARRY'S PLACE, THE FIRST MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY SERVICE COMMITTEE WILL BE HELD. PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS HAVE INDICATED THAT MEMBERS ARE INTERESTED IN HAVING A BOARD OF GOVERNORS FOR G.G.E. OTHER MEMBERS HAVE URGED THAT THE COMMITTEE DEVELOP LONG RANGE PLANS FOR G.G.E.

WHAT ARE YOUR IDEAS?

WHY DON'T YOU COME TO THE MEETING ON FEBRUARY 18TH AND SHARE THEM. EVERYONE IS WELCOME. IF YOU NEED DIRECTIONS TO BARRY'S PLACE, CALL THE GAYLINE.

ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD IN LATE MARCH. INTERESTED IN USING YOUR SKILLS TO BETTER G.G.E.? RUN FOR OFFICE!

ROY

JANUARY 29TH DANCE PACKED!

SPECIAL THANKS TO DAVE FOR HIS GREAT JOB OF ORGANIZING THE DANCE AND HAVING EVERYTHING RUNNING SO SMOOTHLY. THANKS ALSO TO ALL THOSE WHO HELPED WITH THE DANCE, RENE, JEFF, JOHN, PAT, MIKE, LEN, BRENT & BOB.

NEXT DANCE: U.E.W. HALL - FEB. 26

POLISH HALL - MAR. 13

SOMETHING TO ENVY IN "GAY" FREEDOM?

by JULIA FEAR

A few years ago, I was informed by a co-worker and friend that Guelph was fast becoming the "gay capital" of Ontario.

I wasn't totally unfamiliar with the gay community, having observed the painful experience of a male friend "coming out of the closet", a process not unlike the exhaustive struggles of a chick hatching from an egg or a butterfly emerging from a chrysalis.

However, the notion that the University of Guelph might have actually become some sort of homosexual mecca came as a shock even to me.

Now, five years later, though I'm still dubious of Guelph's ability to live up to this title, (what with the still strong red-neck contingent), I'd have to agree that gays have become a decidedly confident voice in university life.

Last semester, in one issue of the *Ontarion* alone, a homosexual student was offered the opportunity to "Show and Tell" with the support of other gays at a Guelph Gay Equality meeting, was encouraged to relieve his or her distress by calling the Gayline, and was invited to a Gay Dance to be held in town at the U.E.W. hall.

The last person I expected to be at the dance was me.

Yet, there I was, having been invited by a friend who was a friend of several gay students on campus. Since I happen to be of the heterosexual persuasion, I approached the evening with trepidation, though refusal to go never occurred to me. I just figured it was time to put my money where my liberal mouth was.

Do you want to know what it's like to see men slow dancing with other men? To see women fondling and kissing one another? I'll bet that even those people who think it's the epitome of depravity wouldn't mind a little peep through the curtain.

At fist, you feel self-conscious because you want to rubber-neck like crazy, but don't want to appear overly inquisitive, which of course, you are. Then, as the evening progresses, you begin to notice that nobody seems to care whether you're watching them or not. Later, if you're open to the idea, you might begin to envy them their freedom realizing that it's you who are imprisoned by your attitude

toward their sexuality.

What dawned on me was the difference between the traditional male-female dances I'd been to and this gathering Here, men danced with men, women with women and men with women, unrestricted and unthreatened. In the more traditional social setting I had always noticed an implied undercurrent of violence. Here, there was a liberation and true "gaiety".

There are numerous theories as to the causes and effects of homosexuality, all of which likely contain some validity and worth. However, it occurred to me at that dance that if humans were to evolve into androgenous beings, it would not necessarily be the end of the world.

In fact, it might even prevent it.

JULIA FEAR works at the UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH and writes a weekly column from a campus perspective.

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BE INFORMED - send for yours TODAY!

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- THE ONTARIO HUMAN RIGHTS OMISSION - By the Coalition for Gay Rights in Ontario. Quiet Terror. Queerbashing. The Police. Discrimination. Childhood and Homosexuality. And more. With lots of actual cases. 32 pages - \$3.00
- GAY/POLICE RELATIONSHIP REPORTS - Presents a history of gay/police problems since the early 1960's, and argues for better police training, accountability, etc.. 75 pages - \$5.00

Please include \$1.00 for handling
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N1H 6L8

COMING EVENTS

- Tues. Feb. 16 - INFORMAL DROP-IN
9th Floor Lounge, Arts Bldg., U. of G. -8 pm
- Sun. Feb. 21 - CROSS COUNTRY SKIING & POT LUCK SUPPER
AT BARRY'S PLACE - 2 PM
25-D Manor Park Crescent, Guelph
RSVP 821- [REDACTED]
- Tues. Feb. 23 - OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO WOMEN
"SOUND WOMEN"
A feminist/lesbian radio program broadcast
from Ryerson's CKLN. Representatives will
discuss the radio program and lesbian
issues as well as playing tapes of their
programs. SOUNDS EXCITING!" 9th fl. lounge
U. of G.- 8 pm
- Fri. Feb. 26 - DANCE AT SCHOOLHOUSE - 9 pm
611 Silvercreek pkwy, Guelph.
Call Gayline 836-4550 for more information
- Tues. Mar. 2 - MOVIE NIGHT - "MOMMIE DEAREST"
9th Floor Lounge, Arts Bldg., U. of G.- 8 pm
- Tues. Mar. 9 - SADO-MASOCHISTIC SEX - What is it?
Why do it? What is done? Whether or
not you practice S & M, wouldn't it be
interesting to find out more.
Knowledgable guest speaker will do a
presentation. 9th fl. lounge U of G - 8 pm
- Sat. Mar. 13 - DANCE AT THE POLISH HALL - 9 pm
5 Empire Street, Guelph
Accessible by bus routes and centrally
located. Look forward to a wild time!

DO YOU HAVE a poem, letter, short article, or spare time?
Write to us or come out to a meeting!!!!

the gayline 836-4550
