

# Grand River Rainbow Historical Project

[www.grandriver-rainbowhistory.ca/](http://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

AUGUST 1982

### JUST FOR YOU! OUR FIRST ANNUAL CORNROAST

We are planning a corn roast for Saturday, September 11, 1982. The theme will be "ALL YOU CAN EAT AND DRINK", just bring your body. The location will be Clearwater Abbey near Puslinch, Ontario. Starting at 4 PM, there will be swimming and sunbathing, followed by a variety of foods including fresh corn-on-the-cob. At sundown, there will be music and dancing. All of this will cost \$10.00 per person. Call Jim at 822-████ or the GAYLINE at 836-4550, Wednesday to Friday, 7:30 to 10 PM and leave ticket orders. For every 15 purchases sold we will give you a free ticket.



*"Son, when you're through coming out can I have my gloves back?"*



Tickets will have detailed directions to Clearwater. Tell your friends today! ADMISSION BY ADVANCE TICKETS ONLY

Clearwater Abbey is a 350 acre property including a large quarry filled with clean, clear water. There are also camping facilities. Each July, the NUDE OLYMPICS are held at Clearwater. See you there on September 11.

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### LAMBDA

The eleventh lowercase letter of the Greek alphabet, lambda, is the forerunner of our letter 'L'. Originally the letter was a picture symbol for the scales often seen being carried by the figure of Justice. With the passage of time, the lambda bore less of a visual resemblance to scales and its meaning became more abstract. It came to represent the concept or qualities of balance.

The Greeks believed that balance was a reconciliation between two opposites and as such was not a stable state but one needing continuous adjustment.

Finally, due to the influence of Greek philosophy, the lambda emerged as it appears in modern-day form; the small hook was added to the base of the letter to indicate both that some form of action was necessary to bring about a state of equilibrium and that constant action was necessary to maintain that state once it was achieved.

Owing to the fact that the Romans saw the overall shape of the lambda as suggestive of a flame, it was used as the symbol for lampa - their Latin word for the torch. In our day, scientists seeking a symbol for the wavelength of light drew on the historical past, and the lambda, because of its connection with the torch, was chosen.

In the 1960's, when the quest for Gay Liberation started to emerge as an organized movement after the Stonewall riots, the lambda was selected as a gay symbol because of its famous historical associations. Previously symbolizing justice, balance, the reconciliation of opposites, unity, the

relationship of human beings to society, freedom, equality, the independence of the individual, and light, the lambda had those qualities which best represented the objective of gay people.

As acceptance of the lambda became more widespread and its popularity grew, use of the symbol spread rapidly across the United States.

The lambda's most recent historical association - with light - began to take on an added meaning, one of a social nature. As a symbol for gay people, the lambda has come to represent the "light of knowledge shed into the darkness of ignorance" and promises hope of a new future with dignity for gay men and women everywhere

Today the lambda is recognized as a unique symbol for gay rights, for sexual liberation, for justice and enlightenment, as well as for a needed balance in acceptance of differences by and within all humanity.

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### BOWLING ANYONE?

We are still planning to organize a bowling league for the Fall. If you are interested, call the GAYLINE - Wed. to Fri. 7:30 to 10 PM.

### ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

As you are no doubt aware, Canada's largest Gay newspaper, Body Politic, faces another appeal on charges arising from a 1977 article about sex between men and boys.

The Ontario Attorney-General's Ministry has served papers on Pink Triangle Press, publishers of Body Politic, appealing last month's acquittal and asking the York County Court to substitute a conviction on the charge of mailing indecent, immoral or scurrilous material.

"IT'S THE MOST APPEALED SUMMARY CONVICTION CASE IN THE HISTORY OF MANKIND," Body Politic lawyer Clayton Ruby said in an interview. "this is a minor charge. They are not supposed to torture anybody to get a conviction."

Asked whether Body Politic considered the appeal part of a campaign of harassment against the Gay community, Mr. Jackson, president of Pink Triangle Press, said in an interview: "We've wavered about this sometimes, but this seems to make it unmistakable. There can't be any other conclusion." LET YOUR MP KNOW NOW how you feel about the Ontario system of Justice.



COMING EVENTS

- Tue. Aug. 3 - VIDEO MOVIE NIGHT  
"Sitting Pretty" starring  
Clifton Webb
- Thu. Aug. 5 - GENERAL MEETING OF GGE MEMBERSHIP  
All members welcome - discussion  
of general business of GGE  
Room 332 - University Centre - 8 PM
- Tue. Aug. 10 - DROP-IN  
Wine and Cheese and friendly  
conversation. Please bring your  
own Wine and Cheese.
- Tue. Aug. 17 - DESSERT NIGHT  
Bring your favourite dessert to  
an informal get-together.
- Tue. Aug. 24 - GUEST SPEAKER  
Leon Bushey - Publisher of Int'l  
Justice from London, Ont.  
Discussion of "Being Gay In Middle  
Age - Crisis or Fulfillment".
- Fri. Aug. 27 - DANCE AT SCHOOLHOUSE  
611 Silvercreek Parkway - Guelph  
9 PM. Don't forget Membership Cards  
for discount and Door Prizes
- Tue. Aug. 31 - WOMENS' NIGHT  
Check GAYLINE for details
- Tue. Sep. 7 - VIDEO MOVIE NIGHT  
Monty Python: "The Life of Brian".  
Coming soon: "Making Love"

PLEASE NOTE: ALL EVENTS, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, ARE  
HELD IN ROOM 536,  
UNIVERSITY CENTRE, UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH AT 8 PM

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the gayline 836-4550

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