

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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Gay Quality

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 1982

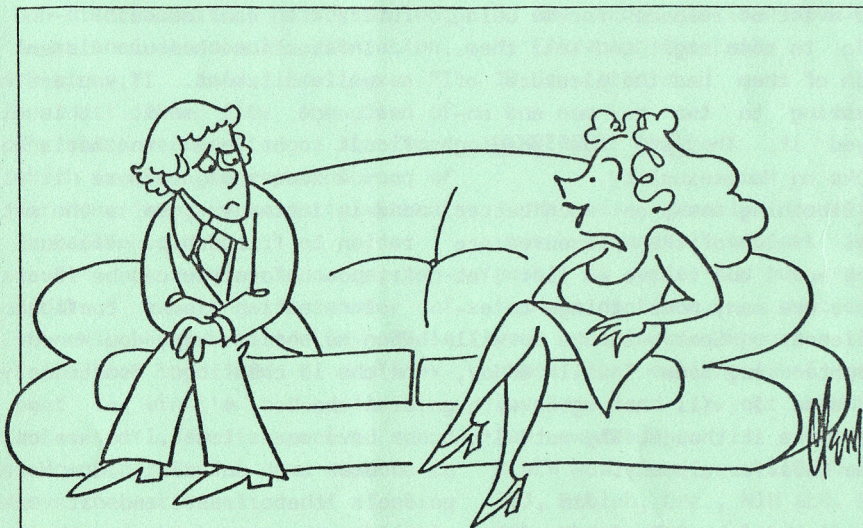
AT 16: COMING OUT

What will happen if I admit I am Gay? Am I? Will I ever be able to lead a decent life? What will my parents do if they find out?

These and many more questions run through the minds of all Gays at one time or another. Some never learn the answers. I took a chance and faced these questions and the truth. Hopefully in the story that follows about my experiences, you will learn something, and maybe I will be able to answer some of these questions for you.

I am sixteen years old. I had my first gay inclinations when I was younger. As time went by, these feelings became stronger and the need to meet other gays was unbearable. These feelings were suppressed for a long time, as I was not sure of the truth. A lot of my time was spent trying to change myself. It didn't work. After awhile, I had to find out for sure. That is when I came in contact with The Gays of Thunder Bay.

.../2



"What a coincidence, Roger — I'm seeing another man, too."

Everyone at The Gays of Thunder Bay was, and still is, really super to me. I enjoy talking to them and learning from them. Because of my age, this became harder to do. It is not fun to have to lie to your parents, especially when your relationship has been really close. But I was happy, so I lied.

My home life soon became the pits. If there was a fight at home, I had no desire to make up afterwards. What's the use, if your parents kick you out when they find out you are Gay?

For a month, I thought I was so smart. My parents would never find out. They couldn't catch me in a lie. Well, they did.

The reaction from my parents was totally amazing. Of course there were the tears and guilt trips, but my mom and dad agreed that they would try to understand. They still loved me. Both of them had a lot of respect for me being able to come right and tell them. Both of them had the pleasure of speaking to two gay men and enjoyed it. They are now reading books on Homosexuality.

Everything seems so much better now. A lot of the pressures are gone and I don't have to lie. Yet there are many more things to experience. Some things will frighten me, some I will enjoy, and some I will not agree with. I'll make it though. Why not? I've come this far already.

Jim

(Reprinted from GTB, Oct/Nov/82)

IS IT LOVE OR INFATUATION?

Infatuation is marked by a feeling of insecurity. You are excited and eager, but not genuinely happy. There are nagging doubts, unanswered questions, little bits and pieces about your beloved that you would just as soon not examine too closely. It might spoil the dream.

Love is the quiet understanding and mature acceptance of imperfection. It is real. It gives you strength and grows beyond you - to bolster your beloved. You are warmed by his/her presence, even when he/she is away. Miles do not separate you. You want him/her near, but near or far, you know he/she is yours and you can wait.

Infatuation says, "We must live together right away. I can't risk losing him/her."

Love says, "Be patient. Don't panic. He/she is yours. Plan your future with confidence."

Infatuation has an element of sexual excitement. If you are honest, you will admit it is difficult to be in one another's company unless you are sure it will end in intimacy. Love is the maturation to friendship. You must be friends before you can be lovers.

Infatuation lacks confidence. When he/she is away, you wonder if he/she is cheating. Sometimes you even check.

Love means trust. You are calm, secure and unthreatened. He/she feels that trust and it makes him/her even more trustworthy.../3

Infatuation might lead you to do things you'll regret later, but love never will.

Love is an upper. It makes you look up. It makes you think up. It makes you a better person than you were before.

KITCHENER

NON-CAMPAIGN;

NON-PROTEST

As the nomination deadline approached for what promised to be a ho-hum municipal election, it looked as if a key council seat would go uncontested until local activist Joe Szalai made a last-minute entry into the Centre Ward aldermanic race.

Incumbent Richard Christie is a Tory, Szalai says, who has opposed the nuclear disarmament referendum by "suggesting it's a communist plot." Christie has also said he opposes the city's newly adopted non-discrimination policy as long as it includes sexual orientation. "Besides," said Szalai, "I couldn't stand the thought of Christie representing the ward which is the geographic focus of Kitchener's gay community without a challenge."

"I'm not running as a gay candidate," the long-time member of the Kitchener-Waterloo Gay Media Collective told TBP. "I don't expect to win-I'm not soliciting votes and I don't expect to spend a cent." Szalai does expect to have the satisfaction of forcing his opponent to spend a little money and effort, however, "and maybe to embarrass him." I guess you could call me a protest candidate.

BOOKS

TOP 10 FICTION

- 1 The Boy Who Picked the Bullets Up
- 2 Cobalt
- 3 Tricks
- 4 Further Tales of the City
- 5 A Comfortable Corner
- 6 Perfect Freedom
- 7 A History of Shadows
- 8 A Brothers Touch
- 9 Late in the Season
- 10 This Is Not For You

TOP 10 NON-FICTION

- 1 Flaunting It!
- 2 The Homosexualization of America
- 3 Flesh
- 4 Anal Pleasure and Health
- 5 Meat
- 6 Loving Someone Gay
- 7 Sons of Harvard
- 8 The Second American Revolution
- 9 Embracing the Exile
- 10 Gay Fathers

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

We have greatly appreciated your financial support in the past. In order for our organization to continue, we must ask for your continued support. Please check the mailing label on the envelope, and if your membership has expired, or is close please RENEW NOW! Send your \$10.00 to Box 773, Guelph, Ont., N1H 6L8. Better yet, get a friend to do the same. Remember, members make the Association work for you! Support Guelph Gay Equality.

the gayline 836-4550

COMING EVENTS

- Tue. Nov. 2: VIDEO MOVIE NIGHT
"All About Eve" an Oldie but Goodie starring Bette Davis.
- Tue. Nov. 9: DISCUSSION
A general discussion on the subject, "What Can Straights Learn from Gays?"
- Sat. Nov. 13: DANCE AT THE POLISH HALL
Organized by the Women of GGE. The Polish Hall is located at 5 Empire Street, Guelph. Dance starts at 8 PM. Don't forget your membership card for admission discount.
- Tue. Nov. 16: DROP-IN
Wine and Cheese and friendly conversation. Please bring your own Wine and Cheese.
- Fri. Nov. 19: CGRO DANCE
A CGRO Regional Dance will be held in HALO Hall, 649 Colborne St., London, Ontario, 9 PM. Support CGRO, Support GGE, we all benefit.
- Tue. Nov. 23: WOMENS' NIGHT
Check Gayline for details.
- Fri. Nov. 26: DANCE AT SCHOOLHOUSE
611 Silvercreek Prkwy., Guelph, at 9 PM. Please remember: Membership cards required for Door Prizes and admission discount.
- Tue. Nov. 30: GUEST SPEAKER
Guest speaker from the Canadian Gay Archives with an interesting discussion with respect to the organization.
- Tue. Dec. 7: VIDEO MOVIE NIGHT
"A Christmas Carol" starring Rich Little. A special television movie with Rich doing all the voices in this Christmas Classic.

****SPECIAL NOTE****

DUE TO A MIXUP IN ROOM BOOKINGS WE HAVE LOST THE USE OF ROOM 536 IN THE U.C. BUILDING UNTIL JANUARY 1983. FROM NOW UNTIL WE ARE BACK IN ROOM 536, CHECK THE GAYLINE FOR THE NUMBER OF THE MEETING ROOM DURING NOV. AND DEC.