

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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MARCH 1983

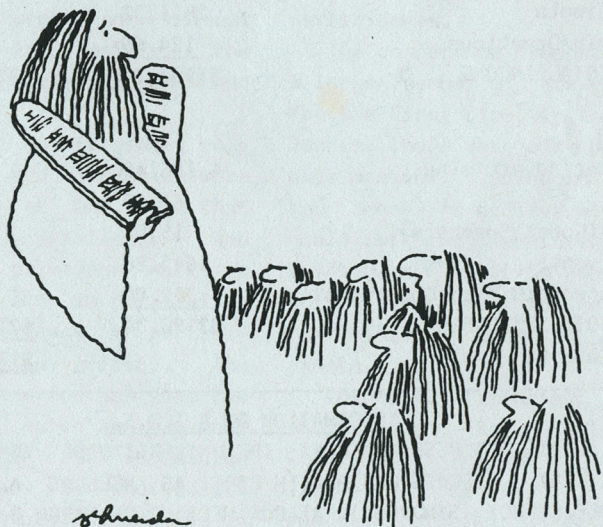
GGE ELECTIONS AT HAND

According to our Constitution, elections will be held at the General Meeting during the first week of April of each year.

Our 1983 elections will take place on Tuesday, April 5. There are three positions on the Executive Committee which will come open this year.

Nominations to the three vacant positions on the Executive Committee may be submitted in writing up to and including the day of the election. All nominees must be members-in-good-standing of GGE prior to the election.

All members who have been in good standing a minimum of four (4) weeks prior to the election may cast a vote. .../2



"Don't do this—Don't do that.' After 40 years in the desert we expected something a little more positive!"

Election time in any organization, including Guelph Gay Equality is an important event. It gives it's members an opportunity to speak up and be heard.

If you feel you would like to serve on the Executive Committee by all means make your intentions known. If you are not sure of the responsibilities of an Executive Director feel free to ask. Very little time is involved and the rewards are many.

Members of Guelph Gay Equality who have voting privileges are requested to be in attendance at this important meeting.

Remember, election and general meeting, Tuesday, April 5 at 8 PM in room 536, U.C. Building.

DIALOGUE ON HOMOPHOBIA
CONFERENCE REPORT

The dialogue on Homophobia Conference was held on Feb. 18-20, sponsored by the Gay/Non-gay Coalition of Guelph. The conference began on Friday night with a presentation of videotapes and films on Gay issues and lifestyles, to a full house of over 80 women, men and children too! One of the major points raised about the presentation was that even in 1983 there are still very few films available which give a complete and representative picture of Lesbians and Gay men and our lives.

Following a keynote address by Laura on Saturday morning, we spent a short time massaging each

others backs to get more relaxed. Then a panel of Gay and Non-gay women and men, set out to identify Homophobia. The sources of Homophobia were revealed to be: Religious, Secret Fear of Being Homosexual, Repressed Envy, Threat to Society's Values and Existence Without Vicarious Immortality - i.e. Children.

Panel members explored the role of Homophobia in their own lives, including the oppression of Gays by themselves and abuses of heterosexual privilege.

Following this, guest speakers took the floor. Barry from Windsor traced the roles of women and men in the changing face of society from the Middle Ages, from an agricultural feudal society, through the industrial revolution, to modern society. Carol and Mariruth examined some of the myths which have been perpetuated by the Church and Medical professions to justify the oppression of Homosexual women and men.

After lunch on Saturday, role reversal skits and discussion were used to look at the ways that power, male privilege, and Heterosexual privilege work to deprive Gays and in particular, women, of the freedom to participate as equals in society. The concept that men and Non-gays (as oppressors of women and gay-men) are accountable for oppression even though they as individuals are not responsible for setting up the system which oppresses, was delved into. Privilege is power which you are born with as a man or as a heterosexual.

Afternoon workshops examined Lesbianism and Feminism, the role of Gays in Non-gay movements, Gays in the family structure and confronting personal fears in dealing with Homosexuality. Saturday night saw our second Pink Triangle Dance a big success, with over 250 people in attendance.

On Sunday, one workshop examined divisions within the Gay community - the issues of social vs. political focus, being "out" vs. "in the closet", and involvement of Lesbians in predominantly gay-male organizations. The second workshop, "Supporting Gays", allowed gays and non-gays to look at ways for non-gays to be supportive of gays in our struggle.

After lunch, the Conference concluded with skits on dealing with Homophobia among family and friends. There were workshop reports and many comments from the participants.

The conference brought together a large number of Non-gay people for the first time, to look at gay issues. There were also parents of Gays present. Although time was too short to achieve all of the goals of the conference, the Gay/Non-gay Coalition hopes to use this experience to help other communities organize similar events.

Thanks for financial and moral support go to, Guelph Gay Equality, Womens' Collective Issues, Central Students Association(UofG), Ontario Public Interest Research Group(OPRIG) and Office of the Provost(UofG).

G.G.E. FINANCIAL STATEMENT - NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 1982

<u>INCOME</u>			
Balance forward	\$ 968.22		
Social Events	2811.32		
Membership/Donations	124.69		
TOTAL INCOME	\$3904.23	\$3904.23	
<u>EXPENSES</u>			
Newsletter/Advertising	\$ 156.45		
Gayline	61.09		
Meetings(Guest Speakers)	15.00		
Social Events	1645.80		
Miscellaneous(Office/Donations)	312.00		
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2190.34	\$2190.34	
CASH ON HAND		\$1703.89	

INFORMATION ON A.I.D.S.

DR. BILL LEWIS, A RESEARCHER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, WILL DISCUSS GAY HEALTH CARE AS WELL AS A.I.D.S. (AQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME) AT OUR MEETING ON MARCH 8 AT 8PM IN ROOM 536, UNIVERSITY CENTRE, UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH. DON'T MISS THIS ONE!

the gayline 836-4550

Tue. Mar. 1: VIDEO MOVIE NIGHT

Another film in the group of Gay films recently coming out of Hollywood. 'VICTOR/VICTORIA' starring Julie Andrews and Robert Preston.

Tue. Mar. 8: GUEST SPEAKER

Bill Lewis from 'Gays in Health Care' will lead a general discussion concerning A.I.D.S. and General Health Care for Gays. This meeting will be an excellent opportunity to learn the facts and fallacies about AIDS. Don't miss it!

Tue. Mar. 15: DRAMATIC READINGS

An entertaining and informative evening of dramatic readings of Gay-related material by one of our members.

Tue. Mar. 22: WOMENS' NIGHT

A general discussion lead by Jane MacKinnon on the subject of "Breaking Up".

Fri. Mar. 25: DANCE AT SCHOOL HOUSE

611 Silvercreek Parkway, Guelph, starting at 9PM. Don't forget your membership cards for admission discount. Door prizes.

Tue. Mar. 29: VIDEO MOVIE NIGHT

'CABARET' starring Liza Minnelli, Micheal York and Joel Grey.

Tue. Apr. 5: ELECTIONS

This meeting will be devoted to our yearly elections and our April General Meeting. All members-in-good-standing are requested to attend. Refreshments will be served.

PLEASE NOTE

ALL MEETINGS LISTED ABOVE ARE HELD IN ROOM 536,
UNIVERSITY CENTRE, UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH AT 8 PM
UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED