### **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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NOVEMBER 1984

## SAN FRANCISCO CLOSES 14 GAY PREMISES

SAN FRANCISCO - San Francisco authorities, worried about the fast spread of the killer disease AIDS, have closed 14 bathhouses, sex clubs

and bookstores patronized by the city's large homosexual community.

AIDS is transmitted through sexual contact, and most of the more than 6,000 U.S. victims are male homosexuals.

Amid reports that people in San Francisco are dying of AIDS related diseases at the rate of about one a day, city authorities have been increasingly pressed to close establishments frequented by gays seeking sexual encounters.

Many homosexuals activists disagree with the ban, saying it infringes on civil rights.



"I respect your choice of lifestyle, Tony; but won't it be terribly lonely without wife or children?" Announcing the closings at a press conference yesterday, public health director Mervyn Silverman said: "Make no mistake. These 14 establishments are not fostering gay liberation. They are fostering disease and death."

An estimated 20% of San Francisco's adult population is homosexual.

Since AIDS was identified as a disease four years ago, promiscuity among homosexuals has declined for fear of catching the disease, leaders of the gay community say.

Several San Francisco bathhouses have already closed for financial reasons because gays have avoided them.

IN TORONTO - Kevin Orr, spokesman for the AIDS Committee of Toronto, said last night that the move by San Francisco authorities is an unwarranted reaction to concern about AIDS.

"You're not going to chance behaviour by banning sexual activity in the baths," Mr. Orr said. "You're just going to shift that behaviour elsewhere and make it harder to reach gay men with information about transmission of the disease.

"It's the nature of the contact, not the place in which it occurs, that presents the risk.

Globe & Mail 84/10/10.

#### EXECUTIVE RESIGNATION

The Executive has accepted with regret, a letter of resignation from David. David has been a particularly valued member of our organization, writing the newsletter, doing finances and managing dances. He will be sorely missed.

This leaves us with two spaces on the Executive Board which will be filled by a p p o i n t m e n t a t a mini-executive meeting Oct. 31.

#### NAVY CLUB DANCES FOLD

The Navy Club Dances are no more, and just when they were beginning to show signs of success.

The Navy Club has been informed by the Liquor Licence Board of Ontario, that they have been contravening the liquor laws by renting out the club to private individuals and groups.

Since the Navy Club is a private club and is so licensed, non-members are not permitted to use the premises.

Our group is just one of many who have lost the use of the Club.

If you can think of any other location we might hold a second dance in the month, let your Executive know.

AND NO OBLIGATION......

North America's only book

line 836 - 4550

club for gay and lesbian readers, Century Book Club, is distributing the first of its monthly catalogues. Founders Mark Bernard and Manny Cuprill spent two years doing market research for the project, and expect to establish a membership mailing list of 100,000 within the year. Unlike most book clubs, there are no membership or postage fees, no minimum purchases and no books or little cards to send back each month.

For information, write 1560 N La Brea Ave., Los Angeles, California, 90028 or call (213) 466-8989.

#### WANT ADS

GWM- Young (just turned 21), slender and blond. I'm into social but private parties and love gay-videos. Looking for a good time with someone special. Please reply via letter with name and address or phone to P.O. Box 019245, University of Guelph.

GWM, 22, bearded, wishes to correspond with others. I like dancing, music, T.V., movies, art, swimming and science fiction. Race not important. Please reply to P.O. Box 022222, University of Guelph.

For just a buck, you too can place your ad here. Just send your ad to P.O. Box 773, Guelph, N1H 6L8. Try to keep it to 25 words or less. We reserve the right to refuse or edit an ad.

#### GENERAL MEETING

On December 6, your organization is holding a General Meeting, as we do every second month.

These meetings are held in order to give the membership of GGE a chance to give some input and to criticize, compliment or present your ideas for the continued success of one of Canada's more stable small town Gay organizations.

You can't rely solely on the Executive members to keep GGE afloat. They need and welcome your ideas.

Over the past year, attendance at our General Meetings has been very disappointing. Let's change this now!

Mark your calendar now, December 6 at 8pm in room 332 of the U.C. Building, U of G.

#### SNIPPETS

-Gay postal workers in Canada face possible insecurity, discrimination and harassment by their employer, Canada Post, if the Canadian Union of Postal Workers is unable to keep in their new contract a clause forbidding discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

-The Ontario Ministry of Health has refused to approve a subsidization project proposed by the Toronto Board of Health that would have made available, at reduced cost, to Gay men in Toronto, hepatitis B vaccine.

#### WHAT'S HAPPENIN'?

Tue Nov. 06: VIDEO MOVIE NIGHT

"Norman, Is That You?" starring Red
Foxx & Dennis Duggan. Father Foxx
shows up unexpectedly at apartment of
son and his lover, Duggan. Film has it's
moments.

Tue Nov. 13: MEMBERS OWN

An event planned and presented by one of our members. Tonight: Travelogue - places to go, slides of G.O.O.D. events, and vacation spots of interest to gays.

Tue Nov. 20: MEMBERS OWN

Tonight: A discussion about the living, political and social conditions in Greece today. Presented by one of our members.

Tue Nov. 27: CRAFTS NIGHT

Bring your scissors for an evening of 'cut and paste'. Christmas decorations etc.

Fri Nov. 30: DANCE

Our monthly Dance at the Schoolhouse, 611 Silvercreek Prkwy., Guelph at 8 PM. GGE Members admitted free.

Tue Dec. 04: VIDEO MOVIE NIGHT

To be announced. Check Gayline for title of film.

Thu Dec. 06: GENERAL MEETING

A General Meeting of GGE to discuss upcoming events and to set policy for the organization. All members are requested to attend. Non-members are welcome. Room 332, U.C. at 8 PM.

All events, unless otherwise noted are held in Room 536, U.C. Bldg., U of G at 8pm.

\*\*\*\*\* PLEASE NOTE \*\*\*\*\*
NAVY CLUB DANCES HAVE BEEN CANCELLED
DUE TO PROBLEMS THEY ARE HAVING WITH
THE LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD OF ONTARIO.