

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

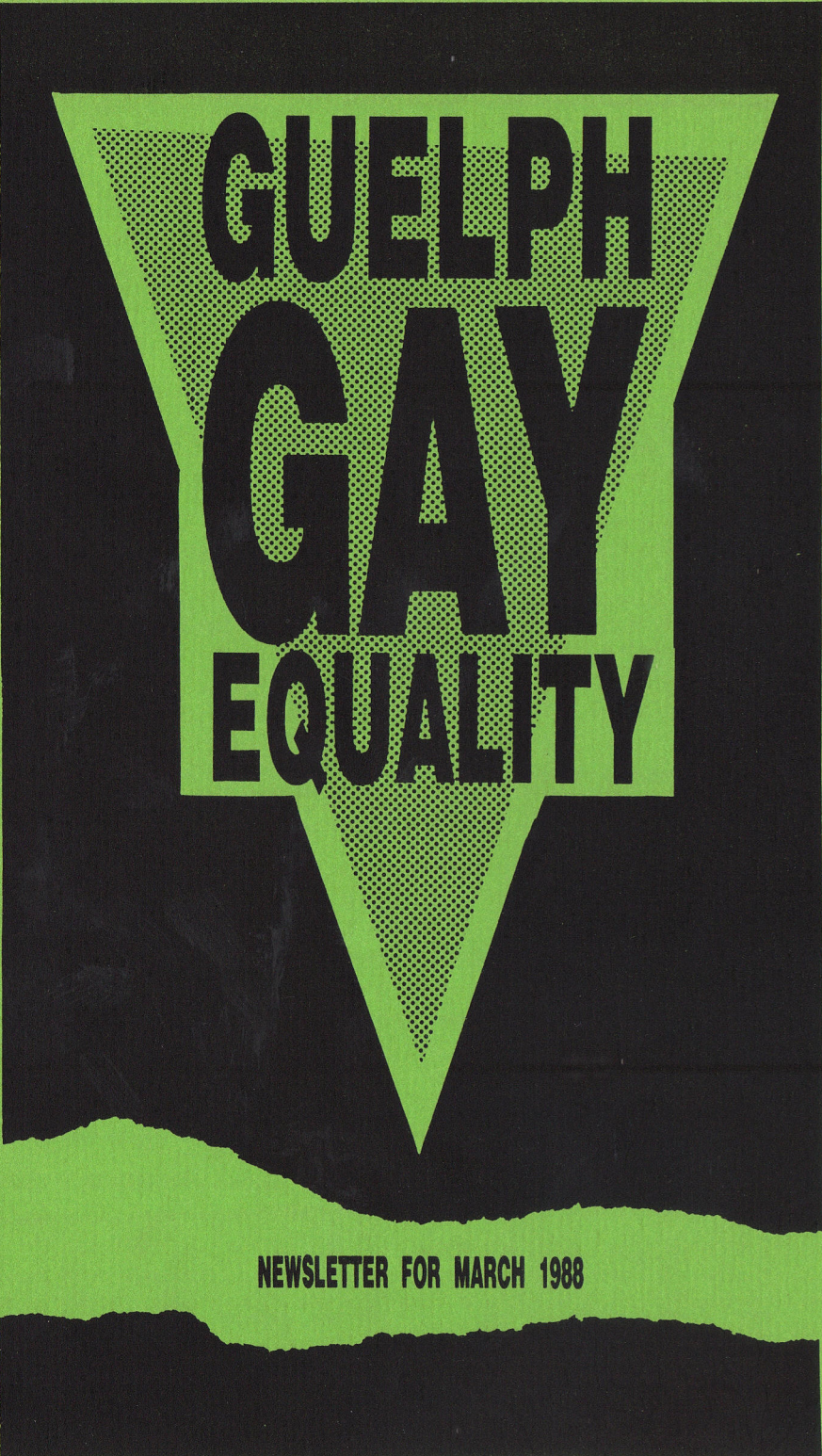
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**GUELPH
GAY
EQUALITY**

NEWSLETTER FOR MARCH 1988

EVENTS

MARCH

- 01 Movie Night - popcom
- 08 Social Night - refreshments
- 15 AIDS Discussion Night
- 22 Guest Speaker from Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) of Toronto
- 29 Husband and wife speakers from "Parents of Gays", Brampton. Parents welcome.

APRIL

- 05 Movie Night - popcom
- 12 Social Night - refreshments

OTHER DATES TO REMEMBER

- Feb. 29, Mar. 1-3 CSA Elections
- Sat. Mar. 19 For those who are interested, we're organizing a trip to the HALO Club in London. C'mon out and party in London.
- Fri-Sun, Mar. 11-13 College Royal '88
- Mon-Tue, Mar. 14, 15 AIDS Awareness Days on Campus
- Fri. Mar. 25 GGE Dance, UEW Hall 611, Silvercreek Pkwy. N.
- Fri. Apr. 15 GEM-GCO Dance, The Clarke Hall, 161 Lakeshore Rd., Mississauga
- Fri-Sat, Mar. 26, 27 CLGRO Meeting - OTAS Lounge 536 UC, People are needed to help accommodate approx. 12 CLGRO members while in Guelph: call Jim D. at 822- [REDACTED]

GGE ELECTION RESULTS

- Financial Director Lonny C. (re-elected)
- Activities Director Reggie B. (re-elected)
- Publicity Director Jim C. (elected)
- Dance Director Kathy H. (except May-Aug.)
- Education Director Robert L. (elected)
- Executive Director VACANT

Positions need to be filled for the GGE to continue its active role in our community. Anyone interested in working on the executive committee is asked to please help out.

AIDS AWARENESS DAYS

MARCH 14 & 15 - THEME: "DON'T DIE OF IGNORANCE"

Staffed booths will be set up in the UC, AC, and the Library. The purpose of these days is to educate people about safe sex, to address the misconceptions about the transmission of AIDS and to promote responsible sexual practices in both straights and gays.

Volunteers are needed to staff the booths for one hour periods. Training sessions are being held on Mar. 10th in UC 332, 5-7 pm. Call Norm DeMers for info at ext. 2387.

BE AWARE AND PLAY SAFE!

MAILBAG NEWS

EGALE (EQUALITY FOR GAYS & LESBIANS EVERYWHERE)

A new newsletter called Info-EGALE has now been published to keep the Canadian Gay Community informed of progress towards our common goal - the inclusion of sexual orientation in the Canadian Human Rights Act. Info-EGALE requires subscriptions to remain in print (\$10/yr.). On Thursday, March 3, EGALE is holding a major fundraising reception on Parliament Hill. EGALE is the primary lobbying group for gay rights in Canada and they need our help. During early 1987, EGALE launched the "HATE HURTS" campaign. Lobbying kits for MP's in Parliament are available from EGALE. Only a strong lobbying effort will achieve the goal for gay equality. Info-EGALE is available in the GGE office. Check it out!

GAYS & LESBIANS OF McMASTER

G.L.A.M. began as a support group for gays and lesbians at McMaster in the 1986-1987 school year. Presently the group enjoys a membership of about 30. Activities include weekly meetings, distribution of pamphlets, work for a radio program on the McMaster university radio station and outdoor excursions. G.L.A.M. is also planning a dance for mid-March and are hoping to launch a group specifically oriented towards women. (from Gay Phoenix, Feb. 88) GLAM can be contacted at Box 313, McMaster University, L8S 1C0.

QUARANTINE LAW PASSED IN B.C.

Despite major demonstrations opposed to the new law, Bill 34, the Quarantine Law passed in the B.C. Legislature. Amendments to the bill included specifications that only the Cancer Control Agency can force doctors to turn over private records and only people a doctor feels are willfully spreading disease, carelessly or through mental incompetence can be quarantined. Activists argued that the rights of PWA's and HIV positives need to be protected. Progress has been made with AIDS and homophobia education with several major B.C. worker's unions in direct contrast to the B.C. government's repressive policies regarding AIDS (Rites, Feb. '88).

B.C. BOOKSTORE BOMBED

Little Sister's Book and Art Emporium in Vancouver was bombed in December 1987 and has brought attention to increasing anti-gay and anti-lesbian violence against Vancouver's gay and lesbian community. People claiming responsibility stated through the VANCOUVER SUN that "this was only a warning, next time we're going to finish the job". Both AIDS Vancouver and Lotus (a gay club) have received bomb threats recently. The B.C. government's repressive attitude has given fuel to homophobic attitudes and violence against gays/lesbians. None of the threatened businesses have plans to close. (Rites, Feb. '88)

CUSO

CUSO, the Canadian non-governmental development agency has amended its employee benefit package to add dependent coverage for "spouses of the same sex". The union representing CUSO workers (CUPE) also includes a non-discriminatory clause on the basis of sexual orientation in their collective agreement. The CUSO Gay and Lesbian Working Group can be contacted through Moffatt Clarke, CUSO, 135 Rideau St., Ottawa, Ontario, K1N 9K7 (Rites, Feb. '88).

THE NORMAL HEART

This historical play about AIDS and the gay lifestyle in the 1970's and early 1980's was written by Academy-Award winning and controversial screenwriter Larry Kramer. Kramer has been criticised for his "anti-sex" stance in his novel "Faggots". The play dramatizes Kramer's experiences in New York City as well as documenting and scrutinizing the gay lifestyle. Kramer's condemnation of sex outside of a monogamous relationship is only one argument that has created controversy.

The play accomplishes its goal: that is to inform audiences about a subject that is shrouded in misinformation and conflicting opinions. The play is being presented as a fundraiser for the AIDS Committee of Toronto, the PWA Foundation and the Casey House Hospice. "The Normal Heart" opens at the Bathurst St. Theatre, March 1 (533-1161 and Bass ticket outlets), 736 Bathurst St., Toronto. (From Xtra - "On Stage" by Jim Leahy, Feb. 12, 1988.)

COLLEGE ROYAL 1988

This year's open house on campus runs March 11-13. This annual event attracts up to 30,000 visitors to campus. College Royal '88's theme is "Search for Excellence". There are displays, competitions and shows in all departments and facilities on campus during College Royal. Highlights include live surgery at OVC, fashion shows, square dancing competitions, cat shows, livestock, seed and forage shows, dog shows and a honey-making competition in Environmental Biology. College Royal's annual musical production, Curtain Call, now in its 35th year, called "Too Cool for Words" runs March 9-12. Take some time and check out the U. of Guelph's varied scientific and cultural mosaic.

WHAT ABOUT BOULDER, COLORADO?

Voters in Boulder added "sexual orientation" to their city's human rights code which prohibits discrimination in housing, employment and public accommodations. Boulder joins over 50 U.S. cities with Gay rights ordinances (from RFD, Winter '88).

WHAT IS RFD?

RFD is a reader-written journal for gay men which focusses on country living and alternative lifestyles. Articles cover a variety of topics including book reviews, international gay events, faerie consciousness, health, interviews, poetry, politics and spirituality. RFD is published quarterly on the equinoxes and solstices at Running Water, Rt. 1, Bakersville, NC, USA. A copy is available in the GGE office.

SPARTACUS '87

This International Gay Guide is available in the GGE office. The Gay and Lesbian Almanac is also available. Check them out!

THANK YOU

Special thanks are extended to those individuals who came out to attend the GEM-GCO dance Fri. Feb. 19 in Mississauga despite near-blizzard conditions. Thanks to GEM for a great time too!

WHEN IN WINDSOR: ONTARIO'S BANANA BELT

SERVICES

- Lesbian and Gay Community Service Group, Box 7002, Windsor, Ontario N9C 3Y6
- Windsor's Gayline 973-4951
- Gay Radio of Windsor; "Closets are for Clothes", Mon. 7:30 p.m., 91.5 FM, CJAM
- AIDS Committee of Windsor 973-0222, 24-hr. infoline: 256-AIDS
- Metropolitan Community Church of Windsor 945-4645

BARS

- JP's, 623 Riverside Dr. W., 7 days a week, male dancers, 258-2313
- Happy Tap Tavern, 1056 Wyandotte St. E., male dancers, 256-8998
- Maybes - Women's Bar - basement of Happy Tap - weekends only
- Vesuvios Baths - 563 Brant St., 253-0251

FUN IN THE SUN PART II

Gay life in Trinidad is very oppressed mostly because of ignorance. The only time you hear reference made to gays is with a derogatory meaning. Just a few of the expressions used are: "Bullerman," "panty-man", "Sheila", "Barty-man", "Tantie", and "Macoumere-man". There isn't any type of gay literature going into the country. The only exposure Gays in Trinidad have of other Gays is in the media and it is usually of a demeaning nature.

A wife, husband and children are a must in this society or else you are thought queer. It is a point forced upon by society that men and women must find someone to marry and that they must have lots of children. Also the men must keep their facial hair, wear their hair short (no perms), wear loose clothing, walk with a bump and control their wives. The woman must be submissive to her husband.

Many gays are forced into marriages as a result of all of these societal pressures and they are afraid to act upon their sexuality because they would be the only ones reacting - other gays don't want to be identified. It is a situation of each gay woman/man to herself/himself until they are in neutral territory: The Pub. There are no gay groups or organizations in Trinidad except for this one Pub. But the Gay People make the best of the little they have. They go to the beaches (posing as straights), house parties, hanging out on the street, cruising and of course going to the Pub.

Having a gay relationship is even more difficult. Most single men and women live with their parents or guardians and if there is a gay relationship it is one with lots of outdoor activities (including "that" as well). Sharing an aptment with someone of the same sex is unthinkable especially for two men. Things are slowly changing today.

Gay Trinidadians who travel are able to explore their sexuality further. Others are fortunate enough to be sent to universities where they are able to develop and freely express themselves.

ALL
NEW

D.Q. '88

Ticket order forms also available in the GGE office.

For more information on D.Q. 88 see the info sheet in the GGE office.

the sequin

A Casey House Hospice Fundraiser

Comedy, Spectacle, Music!

From the Production Team who brought you D.Q. '87!

At The Bathurst Street Theatre, Toronto

**D.Q. '87 was completely SOLD OUT!!
Order your tickets NOW!**

To order tickets call (416) 927-8890 NOW!

Fri. Apr. 8 - 8:00	— \$50 GALA
Sat. Apr. 9 - 7:00 & 10:00	— \$25
Sun. Apr. 10 - 3:30	— \$25
Thur. Apr. 14 - 8:00	— \$25
Fri. Apr. 15 - 8:00	— \$25
Sat. Apr. 16 - 7:00 & 10:00	— \$25
Sun. Apr. 17 - 3:30	— \$50 GALA

Just ask anyone who saw D.Q. '87

APRIL 8-17

POEMS

ON SEEING A CRUISABLE YOUTH

Smooth young skin;
Large, penetrating brown eyes,
peering from under clipped, black hair -
searching, but not looking.
Flowing form under clinging t-shirt
moving with purpose and control.
Tight, round buttocks
stretching faded jeans,
begging to be squeezed.
Full crotch.

Deceiving youthful innocence
luring the lustful and curious.
Lithe body enjoying the attention,
the excitement - the challenge.

Reason obscured with desire
to savour the morsel;
to sample the sensual tidbit;
to experience the high.
Anticipating eye to eye with fever
and boyish giddiness -
take an available stance.
The prey assessed, the message sent -
the stalk begins.
The youth stirs, slides past
into the arms of another.
Not to be.

- Zebulon E.

THE TOGETHER POEM

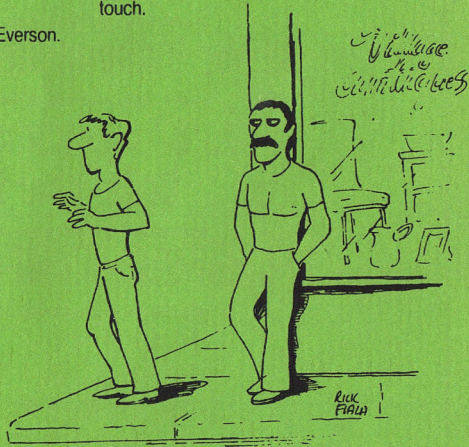
and
deep at night
when fingers touch
there will be
four truths:
one will be love
one will be dreams
one will be the end of loneliness:
for the last
there are no words,
only a thought
spoken by years
and kept by lovers
in a secret place
where fingers
touch.

- Larry Everson.

QUADRILLE

Impatience is the problem;
The waiting should be over
Yet it persists in naked hiding,
Making me lust in secret wanting;
Words merely fall.
Not for insight
But only to pass the time
Before the curtain finally goes up.

- Duncan T. Armstrong



THOUGH FACED IN THE OPPOSITE
DIRECTION, AN INNOCENT PASSERBY IS
STOPPED DEAD IN HIS TRACKS BY
AL "THE-CRUISE-OF-DEATH" JONES.

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!

STAFFED MONDAY THRU THURSDAY, 7:30 - 9:30 PM

THE GAY LINE 836-4550