

GLF

NEWSLETTER

GAY LIBERATION FRONT
1041 Wisconsin Ave., N. W.
Washington, D. C.

October 6, 1970

8 P.M.

Volume I, No. 9

PUBLICATIONS
MARCH
FORWARDED
HALTED

VIEW POINT: RAP
SEPT. 29

The publications glonk has had some rather disappointing experiences lately. Whenever we've called for volunteers to work on the newsletter, there have usually been three or four people who immediately expressed interest and come to the planning sessions to receive assignments. Unfortunately, these people rarely turn in copy, which needless to say, discourages the regular members of the collective. When the same few people do the same thing over and over again a detrimental stateness sets in. New people bring fresh outlooks and new perspectives. We would like new people to work with us on a regular basis; giving up every Sunday to produce the newsletter is a drag. As it is, the other GLF publications and projects are being delayed because of the time spent on the newsletters. Incidentally, contributions on an irregular basis are most welcomed.

One of GLF'S most interesting voices returned at Sept. 29's general meeting, this time asking questions. After several week's absence, Nancy came back to explain her editorial on the liberals and radicals, why she was tempted to drop out of GLF, and to ask why other folks think Gay Lib is really worthwhile.

General rap, opinion-bouncing and productive view-taking followed: Many liberals are leaving GLF discouraged. They feel GLF is disorganized, too much involved in extraneous political issues. They feel radicals fail to understand what liberals need in GLF, that radicals get too much involved in overblown abstractions.

But isn't GLF getting more organized? Aren't the radicals making an effort to live with the liberals and vice-versa. Aren't the radicals and the liberals both important? Yes, because the radicals have the energy, the hard cutting edge. But the liberals temper it, and can reach out better to the up-tights.

Should reaching out be directed toward the straights or toward the straight-gays, i.e. the unliberated homosexuals? The straight-gays won't get on the bandwagon till it's almost home. For that matter, what is "being liberated?" Does liberation mean being a hippie? What place do liberals have in gay liberation?

These and other issues were discussed in a most complicated and deep digging rap.

CRUISING AROUND
AT TUESDAY
MEETING

Joe said he was going to be on the Claire show on WMAL-TV again and asked if GLF had anything for him to say. Some brothers were upset that he planned to wear dark glasses on TV; Joe explained he wore them to protect his job. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS: SPREAD THE WORD THAT GLF EXISTS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

St Mark's Episcopal Church on Capitol Hill will be available soon for a Mattachine dance. Perhaps GLF and the Homophile Social League will want to make it a joint effort, Dr. Frank Kameny suggested. St Mark's is very far-out. Acid rock looms in the vestry.

The political action committee is planning a meeting with the bar owners soon. Chuck Hall has got some good vibrations from some important bar owners. It looks like a successful agreement may be possible. The owners want our help in persuading gays not to smoke dope or sell hard stuff in the bars. Is there a chance of developing a permanent working committee with the bar owners?

Kent is working on distribution of The Gay Manifesto on campuses.

A star-spangled bike helmet went around to help pay for the Commune service phone deposit. One ten more \$\$\$\$ to go!

REVIEW:
WASHINGTON BLACKOUT
by Earl

Two weeks ago CBS' Medical Center, in its second show of the new season, presented a drama sympathetic to homosexuals. The show depicted a homosexual medical researcher at a hospital, exposed by letters sent to the hospital's board of directors, and consequently in danger of losing his job as well as mankind's losing a cure for leukemia.

By a 2-1 vote the board selected a less promising experimental cure for a terminal leukemia patient rather than the more promising formula developed by the homosexual. One of the board members voted against the better formula on the grounds that the hospital would suffer a bad reputation and loss of funds if it became public that a method developed by a homosexual were used.

Much of the program was devoted to one doctor's attempt to convince the holder of the swing vote that the researcher's sex life was irrelevant to his work. At one point the doctor asked the board member whether the Sistine Chapel should be destroyed because it was decorated with frescoes by Michelangelo, a homosexual.

As with most television shows, where within sixty minutes a problem is presented, solved, and the world lives happily ever after, the homosexual's formula is used, with relative success, and nobody loses his career. The program carried the message that what a person does in his private life is not his employer's, his co-workers' nor anyone else's business.

Too bad Washington's CBS outlet killed the show to present a World War II Frank Sinatra movie, but Baltimore's channel 2 carried this best-to-date television prime-time network show on GAYS.

RADICAL ACTION

Members of the GLF radical caucus participated actively in demonstrations planned to counter Rev. McIntire's March for Victory last weekend.

Acting on the principal that the oppression which foreign intervention and Ky's corrupt government bring on the Vietnamese people is of concern to gay people as an oppressed group. Caucus members were present at all planning sessions for the demonstrations which were originally aimed at protesting the presence of South Vietnamese Vice Premier Ky.

When the original plans were dropped after Ky decided to stay away from Washington, GLF radical caucus people joined the Yippies and other free souls in putting together a rock festival and rally at P Street Beach on Saturday at the time of the McIntire rally.

Two GLF'ers worked on arrangements for a bail fund and housing, and helped out at the information center in the Peace Center.

On Friday night, when thousands of youth culture adherents engaged in riots on Wisconsin Ave., in Georgetown, two affinity groups of GLF members were present. One GLF member got arrested--for the mundane crime of public drunkenness--and was quickly bailed out with the help of other GLF'ers.

The GLF presence was made known at the Saturday rock concert by three members dressed as Indians--symbolizing another segment of the American population which has felt centuries of oppression. Three other GLFers visited McIntire's rally, and managed to return without being converted to the "win the war" philosophy.

The radical caucus will meet again Friday night at 8 p.m. in the commune. Among subjects to be discussed will be plans for national radical gay conferences, not tentatively being made by groups in Chicago and Minneapolis.

EDUCATING THE PUBLIC

After struggling with several snags in organization--i.e., no one showed up for meetings--The Public Education Committee swelled to six members Wednesday night, with Paul Breton and Dirk Baker from the Homophile Social League and Frank Kameny from the Mattachine Society also attending. Many exciting proposals for progressive propaganda were thrashed out, and writing commenced on a few pamphlets.

First, a general broadside on gays and Gay Lib was planned, with a straight audience chiefly in mind. Another pamphlet aimed mainly at straights will contain up to fifty frequently asked questions about homosexuality; straight friends of some committee members will help in composing questions. Frank proved a very informative source in the general discussion.

WHO'S GOT THE BUTTON ?????????

Also, The Gay Liberation Front button designed by Dave of the publications glonk will be printed up and some buttons will be sold. See Warren for more button info.

SERIOUS HELP
NEEDED - CONTRIBUTE
TO THE PUBLIC -
THEY NEED HELP!

Last but decidedly not least, Bruce is writing a press release on Gay Lib for distribution to both the underground and establishment press. Anyone interested in the public education collective is ardently urged to attend regular Monday meetings at 8 p.m. at the Commune.

GLF Commune - 1620 S St., N.W. 265-2181

Radical Caucus - Call Commune 265-2181

Political Action - Chuck Hall 234-7594. Chuck needs help fast.

Ways and Means - Gay Capitalism. See Gary at the General Meeting.

Women's Caucus - Gay and straight women. Get to know your sisters. Sunday 2:30 p.m. at the Commune.

Radical Lesbians - Wednesday, 8 p.m. at the Commune

Male and Female Caucus - Gay men and gay women rap Monday nights at 8 p.m. - again the Commune

Public Education - Monday nights, 8 p.m. at the Commune.

Publications - Newsletters, magazines, comics,

New Members - Brotherly love. Bring a friend. Thursdays, 8 p.m. at the Commune - 1620 S St., N.W.

General Meeting - Tuesday's 8 p.m. 1041 Wisconsin Ave. N.W. Bring a cushion

Washington Daily News, Thursday, October 1, 1970

Chalk up a new victory for Sen. Ervin

By JOHN CRAMER

Chalk up another grand victory for Sen. Sam Ervin (D., N.C.), the Constitutional Rights Sub-committee chairman.

He has persuaded Defense Department to abandon future use for uniformed personnel of Peeping Tom Form No. 88, the notorious medical history questionnaire which asks a whole host of privacy-invading questions.

Such questions, Sen. Ervin told Defense, "as whether wife, parent, brother or sister ever committed suicide, was insane, had stomach, heart or kidney trouble, syphilis or HIV."

"It requires him to check 'yes' or 'no' in boxes answering such as: 'Have you ever had, or have you now, frequent indigestion, boils, venereal disease, epilepsy or fits, frequent trouble sleeping, depression or excessive worry, nervous trouble or any sort, any drug or narcotic habit, or homosexual tendencies.'"

WRITES SEN. ERVIN

In response, Brig. Gen. George Hayes, MC, an aide to Defense Secretary Melvin Laird, has written Sen. Ervin:

"As a result of our reevaluation, we concluded that many of the questions on the form are not of sufficient medical significance to warrant their continued use.

"Accordingly, we are requesting the General Services Administration (the agency charged with overall responsibility for standard forms) to revise the form by eliminating such questions as those relating to homosexual tendencies, family history, most of the special questions for females, plus the warning and penalty notice near the end of the form.

"In the event that the General Services Administration does not accede to our request, we will withdraw from any further participation in the use of the form and substitute for it a Department of Defense Form."

The penalty clause in the questionnaire warns that false answers may bring fines or prison terms.