

GLF

NEWSLETTER

GAY LIBERATION FRONT
Washington, D. C.

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EDITORIAL

The Discussion at
Tuesday's
Meeting regarding -

The discussion at Tuesday's meeting regarding possible tactics to use against bars which continue to discriminate against blacks and women failed to focus properly on a fundamental point mentioned by one brother: "There will be such discrimination as long as a sizable portion of the gay community desires it." The law can force a proprietor to admit members of a minority group, but it cannot force him to make them feel welcome. Picketing and other harassment devices may have the effect of changing practices at a given bar. If the situation were to arise that all gay bars were well integrated, however, a need would be felt by some bigots for an all male, all wasp bar--a need which many pig businessmen would not hesitate to attempt to fill.

It is not necessary futile to picket against discrimination, however such action might enlighten some gays about the discriminatory practices, discourage a few customers from entering a bar, and could embarrass the establishment enough to force it into some change of policies. However, if no effort is directed towards "educating" the bigoted gays whose needs create the segregated bar, little is won by a victory against a single bar. Whether or not such education is possible is another subject, and is the fundamental question behind a consideration of anti-discriminatory tactics.

Thirty in a bed!

GLF held its second fund-raising party on Saturday, Nov. 7 at the Commune. Aside from affording an enjoyable alternative to the bar scene, the parties also raised money for desperately needed food supplies for the upcoming Revolutionary Peoples' Constitutional Convention. At that time, GLF will be providing housing for out-of-town gay brothers. A coordinated effort between GLF, Quicksilver Times and the Yippies will be directed towards providing food for all people who attend the convention.

Contribution of money, time, housing, etc. are urgently needed, so if you have any kind of donation (however small) contact the appropriate groups listed below:

HOUSING -- GLF 265-2181 (For Gay People)

FOOD -- 265-2181

YIPPIES -- 667-3890

QUICKSILVER TIMES - 483-8000 -- Bobby

Balto. Bros.

Saturday night's party was attended by 12 brothers from the Baltimore GLF who were having their first contact with GLF in Washington. Several of our Baltimore brothers spoke of increased pig harassment occurring in the area surrounding Mt. Vernon Place near the Peabody Institute--a gathering place for gays, street people, students, etc. Since the pigs are not discriminating in picking their targets, a situation exists which could lead to a feeling of solidarity between gay people and others who frequent the Mt. Vernon Place locale.

GLF in Baltimore is working on plans for several events in the near future, one of which is a dance tentatively set for December 5. Gay people from Washington are invited. There will be more detailed information on this in future newsletters.

Bobby

That Notorious

DANCE

Don't forget the joint HSL-MSW-GLF dance to be held in St. Mark's Episcopal Church at 3rd and A Sts., S.E., from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. this Saturday, November 14, 1970. Admission is \$1.00, payable at the door.

You are requested not to bring drugs in order to avoid unnecessary police hassles. You're cordially invited to come stoned out of your mind if you want.

And don't forget the GLF after-hours party right after the dance. It will be held at the Commune. Donations are \$1.00, which will be used to buy food for the people who will be attending the Revolutionary Peoples' Constitutional Convention.

News from the
Liaison
Committee

On Friday, November 6, representatives from the various campuses. Gay Liberation, YIP, Quicksilver Times, DMZ, CRV, the Panther Defense Committee met to discuss how they and other progressive groups in the area can relate to the Revolutionary Peoples Constitutional Convention. Two areas were discussed: 1) support work in regard to food, transportation, housing, funds, etc. 2) participation in the planning of agenda and procedure; ie: how workshops are to be organized, speakers chosen, reports written and ratified, etc. A liaison committee was set up to meet with the Panthers to find out what has already been done and what remains to be done in both areas so as to provide more specific guidance on how to proceed.

The following support committees were organized:

FOOD

YIP -667-3980
GLF -265-2181
QUICKSILVER - 483-8000

HOUSING

AU - 333-8458
CU - 529-7418
GW - 338-0182

MONEY

John Dente - 434-6658
Julie Edgcomb - 462-6789
John Blum - 965-2598

TRANSPORTATION

Marjorie (CU)
832-5672

CONTACTING AREA GROUPS

Bob (DMZ) 232-0311

THE LIAISON COMMITTEE WAS CHOSEN:

Peggy (Quicksilver)- 483-8000
Terry (Quicksilver)- 438-8000
John Dente (DRUM)- 434-6658
John Blum (GW)- 965-2598

Jack (GLF)- 265-2181
Jenny (EDC)- 462-6789
Dick (M. Blor)- 935-5281

The Liaison Committee prepared the following list of questions to ask the Panthers:

1- TRANSPORTATION: How many car/trucks are needed? Are drivers needed? Are people needed to run a transportation center?

HOUSING: How many units found? Are other buildings needed? (for day care, food centers, etc.) Are people needed to organize housing during the Convention?

MONEY: Specific costs--rental at Howard, food costs, etc.

LOCATION: Where will assemblies, workshops, food centers, etc. be? Where should people leave cars, drop food and other supplies?

INFORMATION: What information is available to reprint? How is information going to be organized at Convention? Are mimeo machines needed? People to run them? And type? etc.

2 - How are workshops to be run? Who chairs them? How are reports written up? Who presents them to the floor? What happened to Philly workshop reports?

Who is on the Agenda Committee? What does it do?

How does the final document get written? How is it ratified? How are speakers selected?

In general--what process exists to make these decisions?

Is it possible for the various groups to be represented in this process?

Gay Liberation Front came out of its November 4 General Meeting with blood in its eye. After four months of repeated efforts to arrange a friendly meeting with the barowners to talk about the racial and sexual discrimination some barowners practice, Chuck reported that his final effort has been ignored. From all indications, the barowners do not intend to discuss this subject voluntarily.

It was the general consensus that racial and sexual discrimination in certain bars is palpable and real, and that GLF can not ignore the barowners' attitude. Many brothers felt it was time to move into a direct confrontation with the offending barowners. One brother said we should just burn the bars down. Others desired legal, non-violent confrontation. Others wondered whether confrontation would actively be effective, or whether this was a battle that white males should be fighting. Still others said this was a battle for the very meaning of the gay revolution.

Dr. Frank Kameny from Mattachine expressed his dismay at the failure of the meeting. He intends to pursue the question with the barowners. We should continue to work within the system, he said. Some objected to legal action: the courts don't work for the people. Paul from HSL said he did not know the attitude of HSL's members, but he personally pledged his support.

Chuck invited everyone to a strategy meeting over the weekend.

Otherwise during the meeting:

The Radical Caucus announced the Commune's Halloween Party had raised \$20 to help GLF's who would be coming for the Revolutionary People's Constitutional Convention. More parties will be held for the same purpose--including an after-hours party following the joint HSL-GLF-Mattachine dance November 14. A letter of invitation has been sent to 60 GLF-type groups across the country. Much more help is needed--housing, food, money, labor--for the weekend of November 24. Contact Bruce at the Commune - 265-2181

Plans are in the air to form another commune, Dave said. Interested communards contact Paul.

Bruce announced that the Empire Music record shop has backed down and posted an apology for its offensive "Smack Sucks" sign. Good Show!!!

Bill said that the newsletter will be changing its format soon, and that longer articles are wanted.

Several brothers said that money had been borrowed from the bars to launch last summer's boatride and never was paid back. The consensus was that GLF was obligated to repay this.

A visiting brother from HSL urged support for the Los Angeles GLF takeover of Alpine County. He personally pledged a contribution of \$20.00

Volunteers are needed to work on the GLF-HSL-Mattachine dance. RIGHT ON!

"Little Fauss and
Big Halsy"

According to the advertising blurbs, little Fauss and big Halsy are not your father's heroes. It is unlikely that these two selfish, stupid "supermen" would be yours, either. Now playing at the Trans-Lux Theatre, "Little Fauss and Big Halsy" centers around two motorcyclists who compete in amateur races. Halsy Knox (Robert Redford) is a swaggering, boastful stud with grand illusions of being a great cyclist. In reality, he is a doggedly second-rate performer who barely scratches out a living through competitive racing. By contrast, Fauss (Michael J. Pollard) seems to have no illusions at all. Fauss is a simple, vacant, feeble-minded lump, a steadfast hero-worshiper of Halsy.

Basically, the only interesting aspect of the film concerns Fauss' growing disenchantment with Halsy and his eventual triumph over him. In itself, that conflict would probably make a good film, working on the assumption that the characters are interesting. They aren't.

Fundamentally Halsy is a repugnant figure. He exploits Fauss' hero-worship of him shamelessly. He treats women as no more than sex machines and even steals from them; time and again we see Halsy sneaking outdoors in the morning, his arms loaded with booty. Halsy is a fine example of a bombastic egotist, forever promising this and claiming that while accomplishing nothing. Moreover, his character seems quite superficial, little different from other braggarts except in his brazenness. As the

film progresses, a more sensitive side of Halsy is hinted at but never realized. Redford's portrayal of the character is partly to blame for this shallowness-he seems to have settled into a comfortable cool stud-sterotype and is also directed in this familiar pattern.

Fauss is only slightly more interesting than Halsy. His split from his friend and his eventual maturation into an independent man and a skillful cyclist might have made interesting viewing, but Pollard too gives only a surface characterization. The break with Halsy seems contrived and his new understanding of the stud too easily achieved. Although Pollard is scuttled by the script, he also undermines himself with blank, vague, grimaces and incessant mumblings.

In addition to its other failings, "Little Fauss and Big Halsy" is also heavy with male chauvanism. Generally, to Halsy and later to Fauss, women are like pleasure valves, to be jabbed, enjoyed, and then deserted. Halsy's deeper involvement with Rita (warmly played by Lauren Hutton) is an exception, although he inevitably treats her more like a diversion than a person.

Another chauvanistic aspect is the double standard of the film's nudity-naked women abound throughout, but blond, exquisite Robert Redford takes off only his shirt. Somehow the male body seems more sacred than the female; certainly, female nudity is far more ornamental and commercialized.

Of particular interest to gays is the sequence where Halsy beds down two girls for the night and then sneaks out in the morning, telling Fauss, "No, once a chick goes AC-DC on you, it's all over. Once it's cool, twice it's queer!" Again, this underlines the super-male psyche of building up one's masculinity by putting down gay people.

In all, "Little Fauss and Big Halsy" is an entertaining film, but ultimately quite expolitative in its cashing in on the safe, popular, Redford and Pollard images.

D.B.

WASHINGTON POST - NOVEMBER 10, 1970

Books Ruled Obscene Are Seized at Airport

Special to The Washington Post

BALTIMORE, Nov. 9 — A 48 cartons of marriage manuals and books on group sex and homosexual marriages. They were flown from California to the Noble News Company in Baltimore. Within 48 hours after their arrival at Friendship Airport, Northrop signed an order holding up the crates subject to a court hearing.

In his ruling, Judge Edward Northrop, chief of the U.S. District Court here, invoked a federal law banning interstate shipment of pornography.

He advised the attorney for the book distributor to file a petition challenging sections of the federal obscenity law that permitted the seizure. The seized materials include

GLF COMMUNE - 1620 S St., N.W. 265-2181
RADICAL CAUCUS - Call Commune - 265-2181
POLITICAL ACTION - Chuck Hall 234-7594
WAYS AND MEANS \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$- Up for grabs
PUBLIC EDUCATION - Monday, 8 p.m. - The Commune
Info. - Cade
PUBLICATIONS - Tuesday night after General Meeting.
SOCIAL - Still up for grabs
WOMENS' CAUCUS - Gay and straight women. Get to know your sisters. Call Commune.

Fred Kelly Grant, attorney for Noble News, argued that the materials should not have been detained without a prior adversary hearing. He also contended that the materials are legitimate.

Nov. 10, 1970 The News

Homosexual leader hits Church

He stood on the stage at Catholic University, damning the church for its condemnation of homosexuals, angrily demanding equal rights for his people and the applause rang loudly in his ears.

But this receptive atmosphere at Catholic University was not nearly enough change in attitude for Dr. Franklin E. Kameny, founder and president of the homosexual Mattachine Society of Washington. "How dare you," he warned earlier, "how dare you insult us by including homosexuality in such a program with male prostitution, child molestation and behavioral therapy!" He said CU was lucky some of the "more militant" members of the society decided against demonstrating against the content of the seminar on homosexuality.

In condemning the church's policy, he said, "the whole Western Society would be better off than canonized . . . no small amount of our anger is directed against the Roman Catholic Church . . . which is a sex-obsessed, sex-drenched, and sex-saturated institution.

'GAY IS GOOD'

Dr. Kameny, wearing a "Gay is Good" button ("I had hoped to be wearing the new "Gay is Beautiful" button but they weren't ready") drew a parallel between the "gay" movement and the civil rights racial struggle. Both are searching for freedom, he said. "We just want equal rights — the full range of opportunity and human dignity," he said.

He attacked the Catholic Church for calling it "immoral" to practice homosexuality. "The real homosexuality is shown by the employer who fires an employee because he is a homo-

sexual or the Civil Service Commission who won't hire," he said. Dr. Kameny said every effort to repeal laws against homosexuals "is opposed tooth and nail in state-by-state by the Catholic Church."

Another main target for him was the psychiatric profession. "Homosexuality is a hobgoblin," he said. "It used to be masturbation. But doctors are not known to be members of the intellectual avant garde. They fail abysmally to show any pathology of homosexuality. The vast majority (of homosexuals) around you do not differ from the men around you except for their homosexuality. You wouldn't know it unless they told you.

"You can learn a lot more in a few hours' tour of Washington's fine, gay bars than from all the psychiatrists," he said. "I shall be delighted to take you on a guided tour."