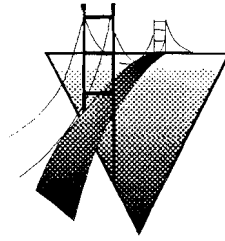


Erie Gay Community Newsletter

Published by BRIDGES



March, 1994

Celebrating the goodness & diversity of Erie area's lesbian, gay & bisexual community

Romanovsky & Phillips in Erie!!!

*Romanovsky and Phillips
Concert
Sat. April 9 at 8 p.m.
Unitarian Universalist
Congregation of Erie
7180 New Perry Highway
Erie PA*

Internationally-acclaimed recording artists Ron Romanovsky and Paul Phillips will be performing their energetic, humorous, gay-affirming music in Erie on April 9.

Much of the material for the songs they do is drawn from the gay experience—the good and the bad, the personal and the social. “Straightening Up the House” is a humorous tale about the preparations a gay person makes for a visit by a homophobic parent. “Love is All it Takes” is a lullabye for children of lesbian and gay parents. “One of the Enemy” is about gay and lesbian teachers who have to remain closeted. They sing about relationships, too—seriously and humorously. “Closing Chapter” is a tender song about the things that keep ex-lovers connected. In “I Met a Man,” they sing, “I met a man with arms of steel/He had muscles a-plenty and sex appeal/He was hearty and hale/The



essence of male/But his consciousness paled when compared.../To a potato.”

They play a wide variety of musical styles: folk, tango, rock, calypso. But always with their wonderful lyrics taking center stage. Also worth noting is that lesbians and gay-friendly straight people will enjoy their music as much as the gay men.

So head on over to the concert on April 9. You'll not only be treated to a great concert, there will also be a table with all

of Romanovsky and Phillips music available.

Tickets are \$10 in advance from Cocoon, 1164 W. 10th Street in Erie (459-6608) or by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to EGCN, P.O. Box 3063, Erie PA 16508 (checks or money orders payable to “EGC Coalition” make special notation for Romanovsky and Phillips Concert)

IMPORTANT: The arrangements for this concert were still being worked on as we go to press, so we strongly recommend that you call in mid-March for confirmation of the date (if you see the posters up at the bars and elsewhere, consider it confirmed).

Statement of Purpose

The purpose of *Erie Gay Community Newsletter* is to serve as a voice for lesbians, bisexuals, gay men and our friends & families in the Erie area. We wish this newsletter to be a source of information, support and affirmation. We also see *EGCN* as a vehicle for celebration of the goodness and diversity of the lesbian, gay and bisexual communities. *EGCN* is a cooperative effort between lesbigay groups and individuals to help our community develop and thrive.

Ad Rates

Businesses and Sponsors! Show your support and reach Erie's lesbigay community directly! Advertising space is now available for just \$20 for an eighth page ad, \$35 for a quarter page ad, and \$65 for a half page ad. Write the address above or call our Advertising Director at (814) 455-0549 for further details!

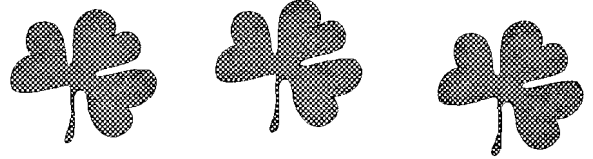
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A Bed and Breakfast Inn...with Country Spirit

A winter weekend in the country! Ski, read, relax, surrender to self-indulgence! Four comfortable guest rooms with private baths; breakfast at individual tables. Cozy up to our fireplace with someone special. Dinner option available. Triple A Approved. Gift Certificates.
Cuba NY14727 For reservations: 716-968-3335
Only 100 miles from Erie: Exit 28, Rte 17, So. Tier Expy.



Editorial Policy

We will consider for publication any material which broadens our understanding of our lifestyles and each other. Views and opinions appearing in this newsletter do not necessarily represent those of the staff nor those of the component groups.

We will not publish any material which promotes hatred or discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, race, gender, religion, age, class, physical ability or any other reason. We do not support exploitation of minors.

All materials submitted must be signed so we can contact the authors should we need to consider editorial revisions. However, within the pages of the newsletter, articles may appear anonymously, upon request, and strict confidentiality will be observed. If you wish to have your full name published, you must send a written and signed note that gives us permission to do so. This publication will not "out" anyone.

We welcome and encourage all readers to submit news for publication and to share your comments, criticisms, and positive feelings with us.

Materials should be sent to: EGCN; PO Box 3063; Erie, PA 16508-3063. Call (814) 456-9833 for more information. Email: CompuServe: 70431, 1622.

Before submitting, please send SASE for writer's guidelines.

☛ = New or Modified Group/Event this issue

Calendar

Important Note: Events listed here are specifically gay or of interest to a lot of lesbigay people. If you know of an event that should be listed here, please get the info to us by the 20th of the month. For out of town events, call a day or two before to confirm that it is still on; mistakes can occur and circumstances can change at the last moment. Also, please note our e-mail address! From CompuServe, 70431,1622 or from Internet 70431.1622@compuserve.com

Mar 6-16—Stonewall 25 Celebration at Allegheny College (Meadville) Allegheny College's Committee in Support of Gay, Lesbian, & Bisexual People will be observing the 25th anniversary of the Stonewall riots of 1969, commonly regarded as the beginning of the modern gay/lesbian rights movement. Throughout the celebration, there will be a large scale timeline display outlining significant lesbigay events since the Stonewall Riots. The display, called Timeline: A Look at 25 Years of Lesbigan History, will be at the Campus Center Lobby at Allegheny daily March 6-16. For tickets and info call (814)332-2838 or stop by Cocoon, 1164 W. 10th Street in Erie.

Mar 6—Martin Duberman Speaks on "Reclaiming the Gay and Lesbian Past" (Meadville, PA) 8:00 p.m. in Ford Chapel at Allegheny College. Duberman is a gay historian, activist, and award-winning author, who has written 15 books, including *Stonewall*. Also: following the lecture, numerous vendors will be selling lesbigay literature, including Duberman's works and Stonewall 25 merchandise and other items. Part of the Stonewall 25 Celebration at Allegheny College. Info: (814) 332-2838.

☛ **Mar 6—New Orleans Live! Roots Rock** Among the performers here are the **Indigo Girls**. Filmed at the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival...other performers include Richie Havens and the Neville Brothers. On A&E at 9 a.m.

Mar 7—Cabaret (Meadville PA) Allegheny College, 8 p.m. in Shafer Auditorium, tickets \$10/ \$7.50 for kids 14 and under. Performed by 3-D International. The Committee in Support of Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual People describes the production thus: "The characters at the risqué Kit Kat Club are so busy enjoying the decadence of life in 1929 Berlin that they hardly notice

the impending doom of the Third Reich...Not specifically lesbigay-themed, but of lesbigay interest." Info: (814)332-2838.

☛ **March 7—The Incomparable Judy Collins** On WQLN-TV at 8 p.m. Performance.

Mar 8—Last Call at Maud's (Meadville PA) Video that focuses on the closing of the world's oldest lesbian bar, Maud's, in San Francisco. It also looks at lesbian history (especially the bar scene) from WWII, and documents the lives and histories of major figures in the lesbian community. Part of the Stonewall 25 Celebration at Allegheny College. 7:30 p.m. at Brooks Alumni Lounge, Allegheny College. Free event. Info: (814)332-2838.

Mar 8—Rescheduled: The Flirtations Concert, now scheduled for March 15

☛ **Mar 8—Rainbow Connection (Warren PA)** Info: Denny at 757-8583.

☛ **Mar 9—An Early Frost** AIDS drama on Lifetime, 10 a.m.

Mar 10—"Lucy Park Byrd: The Dynamics of Gender and Race in Early Virginia" (Meadville PA) An exploration of the intense combination of sexuality and power in early American history. Humanities lecture with Associate Professor of History Paula Treckel. "Not specifically lesbigay-themed, but of lesbigay interest"—CSGLP). Brooks Alumni Lounge, Allegheny College. Free event at Allegheny Stonewall 25 celebration. Info: (814)332-2838.

☛ **Mar 10—World Cup Figure Skating Champions (Erie)** With Erie native Caryn Kadavy plus Klimova and Ponomarenko and Elizabeth Manley, at Erie Civic Center. Tickets \$19.50/23.50/\$35, on sale



13 North Park Row

Erie, Pa 16501

4549156

at Civic Center box office or Ticketmaster (814) 456-7070.

☛ **Mar 10—Judy Garland: The Concert Years** On WQLN-TV at 8 p.m.

☛ **Mar 10—Stage: Degas** On A&E at 10 p.m. and 2 a.m. Profile of the French Impressionist painter whose subjects included Parisian cafe society and the ballet.

☛ **Mar 10—Daughters of the Dust (Edinboro)** At Edinboro University. 7 p.m. showing in Doucette 119, 9:30 p.m. in Memorial Auditorium. Film about the lives of black women.

☛ **Mar 11—The Men's Bunch (aka the Men's Coffeehouse)-Topic: Heartthrobs & Heroes** "Let's get together and chat about the TV heartthrobs of our youth and the heroes of our lives. Bring munchies if you feel like it, or not if you don't!" 7 pm at the Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway, Erie.

☛ **Mar 11—The Judds: The Final Concert** On WQLN-TV at 9 p.m.

☛ **Mar 12—Austin City Limits: Joan Baez in Concert** On WQLN-TV at 8 p.m.

☛ **Mar 13—Erie League of Gay and Lesbian Voters Meets** 3 p.m. at 227 W. 5th, Erie. Info: 833-

3258. You needn't be a member to attend! Also, right after the meeting, they'll head down to Meadville to see the video *Before Stonewall*.

☛ **Mar 13—Before Stonewall: The Making of a Gay and Lesbian Community (Meadville PA)** Emmy-winning video presents a unique portrait laced with humor and irony of gay and lesbian history in America. Free event at Allegheny College, 7:30 p.m. Campus Center Walker Room. Part of Allegheny's Stonewall 25 Celebration.

☛ **Mar 13—Integrity Meets** 7 p.m. St. Paul's Cathedral, 133 W. 6th, Erie. Info: 774-0903.

☛ **Mar 14—LGLV Skating Party at Skateway Roller Rink** 4646 Buffalo Road, Erie from 7:30-10 p.m. Cost: \$5 Adult, \$4 Student and low income, \$3 children skate rental additional \$1. No alcohol or roller blades, please. The rink has been reserved and the only people attending will be those for the LGLV skating party, so feel free to relax and be yourself. Even if you don't skate, come and enjoy yourself anyway...there'll be good music, great people, and lots of fun! Try something new and support the LGLV too! For more info call Greg at 833-3258. For directions check "Local News," on page 14.

☛ **Mar 14-18—AIDS Awareness Week: A Symposium (Edinboro)** At Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, Cooper Hall 101, 7:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m. See detailed schedule on page 12-13.

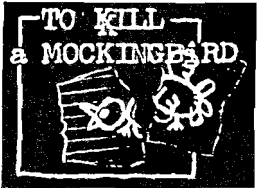
☛ **Mar 15—The Flirtations in Concert (Meadville PA)** 8 p.m. in Ford Chapel at Allegheny College. Internationally renowned, multi-racial gay male acappella singing group. General seating concert tickets are \$10, or \$5 with any student ID. A special package which includes reserved concert seating and a "Flirt with the Flirts" post-concert reception is \$20, or \$10 with any student ID. Info and tickets: (814) 332-2838, or at Cocoon, 10th and Cranberry Streets in Erie. Event is part of the Stonewall 25 Celebration at Allegheny.

☛ **Mar 15—Melissa Etheridge in Concert (Buffalo)** Shea's Buffalo Center at 7:30 p.m. Tickets at Shea's box office and all Ticketmaster locations. Matthew Sweet will open the show. Info: (716)847-1410.

☛ **Mar 16—Workshop & Discussion: "Coming Out with the Flirts" (Meadville PA)** Noon-1:30 p.m. Workshop and discussion with the members of the Flirtations. Campus Center Walker Room, Allegheny College. Free event. Info: (814)332-2838.

☛ **Mar 17—St. Patrick's Day Party at Lizzie Bordon's** Snack trays, DJ from 10 til 2. Special guest appearance. No cover charge!

The Erie Playhouse
presents the Erie Premiere of...



Starring
Leo Estes,
Les Craig &
Gillian Garcia

March 10-13, 17-20, 24-26

TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD is the courtroom drama telling of the Finch family, and their summer of learning about love, prejudice and treating mankind equally. This American classic is a must see for all ages.

The Erie Playhouse, 13 West 10th, Erie, PA

Ticket prices: \$14-adults, \$13-sr citizens, \$7-students
Special student group rates available
Group rates available for all our shows.

**For ticket information or to make reservations
Call 454-2852, ext.41**

☛ **Mar 17—St. Patrick's Day Party at Silver Slipper (Erie)**

Mar 17—St. Patrick's Day Party at Leeward Lounge (Ashtabula) Green beer, Irish drinks, and corned beef and cabbage.

☛ **Mar 17—Rodgers and Hammerstein: The Sound of American Music** On WQLN-TV at 8 p.m. Performance film clips and interviews with two of American's greatest composers. Hosted by Mary Martin.

☛ **Mar 17—Eleanor Roosevelt: First Lady of the World** Portrait of Eleanor Roosevelt, humanitarian and wife of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Although probably not dealt with in this documentary, Eleanor and another woman (Lorena Hickock) loved each other very much and for life—a posthumous revelation that some regard as a “sully” of the beloved First Lady's memory! On A&E at 7 a.m. Also on Disney March 22 9 p.m. and March 28 11 p.m.

☛ **Mar 18—The Void at Goofie's Tavern (Erie)** An Edinboro-based, original alternative band that isn't a gay band but is gay-positive, and they want *EGCN* readers to come on out! Starts at 10 p.m. Goofie's is at 1062 W. 12th. (The Void's first CD is coming out soon!).

☛ **Mar 18—Videos at AIDS Awareness Week (Edinboro)** See details on page 13.

☛ **Mar 19—Friends from the Heart Meets** 11 a.m. at la bella bistro restaurant, West Fourth and Cherry Streets in Erie. Info: 838-0123.

☛ **Mar 19—The Women of Country** On WQLN-TV at 8 p.m. The evolution of female artistry in country music over the last century, featuring performances and interviews with every major female country star. Includes Tammy Wynette, Trisha Yearwood, and Patsy Cline (Cline was k.d. lang's major country influence). In stereo.

☛ **Mar 19—10% Network (Jamestown)** 7 p.m. at Unitarian Church, 1255 Prendergast. Info: (716)484-7285.

☛ **Mar 20—HAPPY SPRING!!!**

☛ **Mar 20—Deadline for Ads, Event Listings and Articles Please?**

☛ **Mar 20—Peter, Paul, and Mommy Too** On WQLN-TV at 4 p.m. Celebrates the spirit of childhood, Peter, Paul, and Mary sing old favorites as well as new songs. Stereo.


☛ **Mar 22—Rainbow Connection (Warren PA)** Denny at (814)757-8583.

☛ **Mar 22—Humanities Lecture—“The Dead Awakening: Anne Sexton, Sylvia Plath, and Adrienne Rich in the 60s”** Diane Hume George, author and Professor of English and Women's Studies at Penn State Behrend. Sexton, Plath, and Rich were writers who contributed much toward women finding their own literary voice in the 1960s. Rich has written a lot from her experience as a lesbian. At Gannon University, Zurn 118 at 7 p.m.

☛ **Mar 22—The Heck with Hollywood** On WQLN-TV at 10 p.m. Explores the frustrations of independent filmmakers in finding established film companies to distribute their work, a situation that gay and lesbian filmmakers are all too familiar with..

☛ **Mar 23—Penn State Behrend Open Forum Series: “Gender Relations and Male Bashing”** 8 p.m. Reed Lecture Hall, Penn State Behrend, Erie.

☛ **Mar 23—Hans Christian Anderson (1952)** On AMC, 5 p.m. and 11 p.m. Danny Kaye, who was gay, plays the part of Danish children's storyteller Hans Christian Anderson, who was also gay, but here falls in love with a beautiful ballerina. It's a lovely musical fantasy, if you don't mind things on the sweet side.



Skating Party

COME OUT AND SK8 FOR A GOOD CAUSE!

Monday, March 14th, 1994 • 7:30-10:00 pm
Skateway Roller Rink • 4646 Buffalo Road • Erie, PA

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY:

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DONATIONS:
 \$5 ADULT
 \$4 STUDENT/
 LOW INCOME
 \$3 KIDS UNDER 12
 PLUS \$1 SCATE RENTAL

- ♣ **Mar 24—Erie Co. AIDS Network** 5-7 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 133 W. 6th St. Info: Steve Brockwell at 833-0942.
- ♣ **Mar 24—Healing and the Mind with Bill Moyers "The Mystery of Chi"** On WQLN-TV at 10 p.m.. Traditional Chinese medicine and its approach to healing. Part 1 of 5.
- ♣ **Mar 24—The Trials of Oscar Wilde (1960)** Biographical drama about the controversial gay 19th century Irish wit and writer, and the trials that ruined him. Some gay writers have (This is about the defeated Wilde, toward the end of his life... so you might want to pick up a good biography about his interesting life, to balance out the sad story the movie tells). Stars Peter Fitch. On TNT at 1:15 a.m.
- ♣ **Mar 24—Censorship Debate at Gannon University** Tom Riley, National Public Radio Commentator and rock music author vs. Dr. Robert G. Grant, President of the right-wing American Freedom Coalition and Chairman of the Christian Voice. At Gannon, Zurn 104, 7:30 p.m. Free and open to public. Part of Gannon's year-long series "1963-1974: An Era of Change and its Legacy."
- ♣ **Mar 25-26—Episcopal Church Women Lenten Retreat "Christ is God in Relationships"** Villa Maria Center, 2551 W. 8th, Erie. Directed by Rev. Tom Momberg, (Chaplain of Integrity-Erie) and Chilton Knudsen (Chaplain of Integrity in Chicago). The retreat is open to gay and straight, men and women. For more information call (814)774-0903.
- ♣ **Mar 25-27—Friends from the Heart Bake Sale** Friends will be at the Whole Life Expo, held at the Avalon Hotel, 10th & State in Erie, so come on down and buy some goodies! If you'd like to bake something for the sale contact Deb at 838-0123. By the way, the Whole Life Expo is organized by Roseanne at Perceptions, and they have all kinds of stuff related to healing, self-help, spirituality, and such, so you might want to check out the whole thing! Deb Monohon will be lecturing on stress management, sometime on Saturday.
- ♣ **Mar 26—Silver Slipper Benefit for AIDS Food Pantry (Erie)** Benefits the Food Pantry of the HIV/AIDS Outreach of the Cathedral of St. Paul. Performers—Showtime 11:30 p.m. Admission \$3, or \$2 with canned good ("You 'can' bring more!")
- ♣ **Mar 26—Chevrei Tikva Passover Observance (Cleveland)** 7 p.m. at Jason's Pewter Mug on Chagrin Blvd. Full-course dinner, moderns degenderized Seder, \$25. Seating limited—you *must* make reservations! Chevrei Tikva is a gay/lesbian/bisexual Jewish organization. Info: (216)932-5551.
- ♣ **Mar 26—Women's Coffeehouse: Celebrating Women's History (Cleveland)** 8-12 p.m., 2605 Euclid, \$2.50 at the door. "Refreshments, good conversation, good coffee, & women's energy." Info Susan at (216)491-0157.
- ♣ **Mar 27—Fonteyn and Nureyev: The Perfect Partnership** Focuses on ballet greats Margot Fonteyn and Rudolf Nureyev. Nureyev was a gay Russian man who died last year of AIDS complications. On A&E at 9 a.m., part of the *Breakfast with the Arts* series.
- ♣ **Mar 27—Friends from the Heart Chinese Auction Fundraiser** 3 p.m. at the Avalon Hotel, 10th and State Streets in Erie. (At Whole Life Expo).
- ♣ **Mar 28—Oklahoma City Dolls (1981)** On TNT at 4 a.m. Comedy about some female factory workers who get fed-up and form a football team.
- ♣ **Mar 28—Hypnotic Clambake Performs at Grind & Squeeze Coffeehouse (Edinboro)** Admission \$5, group from Boston. 105 Erie Street (upstairs). Call 734-3225.
- ♣ **Mar 28—And the Band Played On** On NBC at 9 p.m. Highly acclaimed docu-drama of the early years of the AIDS epidemic. Will probably be edited for length.
- ♣ **Mar 28—The Legendary Ladies of Rock 'n' Roll** On Cinemax 9:30 a.m. Martha Reeves, Leslie Gore, Freda Payne, Shirley Alston Reeves, Mary Wells, Brenda Lee.
- ♣ **Mar 30—PFLAG-Erie Meets** Unitarian Universalist Congregation 7180 New Perry Hiway, Erie. Info: Kathy at 838-6020.
- ♣ **Mar 30—The Metropolitan Opera Presents Verdi's "I Lombardi"** Simulcast on WQLN-TV and WQLN-FM at 8 p.m. Luciano Pavarotti, Lauren Flanigan, and Samuel Ramey. Stereo.
- ♣ **Mar 31—2 Girls Alone! at Pie-in-the-Sky** 463 W. 8th Street, Erie, 6-9 p.m.
- ♣ **Mar 31—Healing and the Mind with Bill Moyers: The Mind Body Connection** On WQLN-TV at 10 p.m. Part 2 of 5.
- ♣ **Apr 1—April Fool's Day!**
- ♣ **Apr 4—Ohio Residents: Last Day to Register to Vote**
- ♣ **Apr 7—Deadline for EGO Art Exhibit** See Local News for more details on pages 14-15.

✦ **Apr 8—Men's Coffeehouse** at 7 p.m., Unitarian Universalist, 7180 New Perry Highway, Erie. Info: 455-9049.

✦ **Apr 8—Show: "Sister Act" at Lizzie Bordon's** Bobbi B., Jackee Regina, Gene Brandt and special guest. Showtime 11:30 p.m.

✦ **Apr 9—Romanovsky and Phillips in Erie!!!** Don't miss this internationally famous gay male singing duo. 8pm at Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie. Tickets are \$10 in advance from Cocoon at 1164 W. 10th Street in Erie (459-6608) or by mailing a self-addressed stamped envelope with a check made out to "EGC Coalition" to PO Box 3063, Erie, PA 16508-0063 or call Michael at (814) 456-9833 for more info. *These arrangements were being made as we are going to press, so we strongly recommend you call for confirmation of this date.*

✦ **Apr 10—Rainbow Cruise '94 (Pittsburgh)** River cruise, buffet, live band, dancing, live entertainment by Bambi and Laritta Not-So-Young. Various raffles from Lambda Foundation and Fun Packs and special gifts donated by Pittsburgh-owned and operated gay businesses. Also, Lambda foundation recognizes "Unsung Heroes." Must be 21 with proper ID. Board ship by 5:30 p.m. (at Station Square) Cruise lasts from 6:00-10:30 p.m. Tickets are \$40. Benefits the Lambda Foundation. To get tickets: Erie people can contact Harvey at 456-3674. Or, send check or money order to Lambda Foundation, P.O. Box 5169, Pittsburgh PA 15206. They can also be picked up at most Pittsburgh lesbian/gay businesses.

✦ **Apr 10—Erie's League of Gay and Lesbian Voters Meets** 3 p.m. at 227 W. 5th, Erie. If you are interested in helping protect gay people's rights, come see how you can help! Info: 833-3258.

✦ **Apr 10—Spaghetti Dinner by Integrity & AIDS Ministry of the Cathedral of St. Paul (Episcopal)** From 12-5pm. At St. Paul's 133 W. 6th. Fundraiser at the Cathedral to raise funds for the AIDS Food Pantry. Cost is \$5.00 for adults and \$2.50 for children. No Integrity Meeting will follow.

✦ **Apr 10-15—Edinboro Gay Organization (EGO) Art Show** Bates Gallery, Loveland Hall, at Edinboro. See details in Local News on pages 14-15.

✦ **Apr 11—Last Day to Register to Vote (PA Residents)** Registration should be *in* voters' registration office by this date.

✦ **Apr 12—Gene Brandt & Company Show at Lizzie Bordon's** \$2 cover charge.

✦ **Apr 12—Cabaret (Edinboro)** 8 p.m., Memorial Auditorium. Tickets \$5 for adults, \$4 senior citizens and others. Ticket reservations/info 732-2518. A Cultural Series performance.

✦ **Apr 12—Rainbow Connection (Warren PA)** Info: Denny at (814)757-8583.

✦ **Apr 13—Artists Reception at EGO Art Show (Edinboro)** 7-9 p.m. If you are interested in buying any of the works on exhibit, this is when and where to do it. See local news for details.

✦ **April 15-17—Rainbow Wranglers Country Dancers Weekend (Cleveland)** Line dancing, lessons, entertainment. Saturday there'll be a tour bus around Cleveland to line dance in bars all over the city. Comedian Karen Williams will perform Saturday night, also performers. Call if you need help finding a hotel, "Or if you're on a budget, we can put you up!" Info call Gerry Wheeler at (216)671-0727 or Bob Downing (216)621-0228.

✦ **Apr 23—Bridges Lesbian/Gay Book Fair/Author Brad Fuller Book Signing & Spring Informal Dance** Brad Fuller, author of *Men of Fire Island present: Hot Cookin'* (a collection of recipes and photos), will be flying up here from Texas. Book fair will run from 6 pm to 11pm (no charge for just the book fair between 6 and 8). Dance will run from 8-midnight. Admissions: \$5/person or \$4 with a nonperishable food item for the AIDS food pantry. At Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway, Erie. For info: (814) 456-9833.

Lesbian/Gay Book Fair on April 23!!

Details above!



Apr 23—2nd Annual Pageant for the Bar Title of "Miss Downtown" at Silver Slipper Deadline for entry extended to Monday, March 14, fee \$25. Forms at bar. \$200 cash prize, and more. \$3 cover. (716)298-4313.

Apr 23—Coronation 1994: "Light the Lights, A Trip Down Broadway" (Buffalo) The Coronation Ball is "A night full of festivities, fun, and entertainment." Put on by The Imperial Court of Buffalo, Inc. ("House of Unity and Strength, Court of Song and Dance") to benefit HIV/AIDS organizations. For more info (on event or accommodations) call David Carr or Guido Tomassi at (716)884-8871.

Apr 23—Concert for Life (Buffalo) Had to be rescheduled (originally Feb. 18) because of illness. Benefits Life Memorial Park (AIDS memorial park in Buffalo). Holy Angels Church, corner of Porter and Fargo. Performances by Leah Zicari, Michael J. Maffei, Madeline Davis, The Queen City Chorus, Anne Marie Szapakowska, and very special guests. (716)298-4313.

Apr 29—First Class Male Revue at Lizzie Bordon's Male & Female dancers. Showtime & cover charge next issue.

Apr 30—Dykes Do Drag (Buffalo) Performance at the Pfeiffer Theater in downtown Buffalo (Main St. near Tupper). Info call Margaret (716)884-5984. Proceeds benefit a local lesbian health care project.

Apr 30—Gay Prom (Youngstown) At the X-Change, 114 Javit Court, Austintown Township (west of Youngstown). \$8 per person, \$14 per couple. Formal attire requested. Carnival theme. Not clear whether this is for 21 and over (the X-Change is a bar), or what kind of age range they're aiming at. You can call them at (216)792-MARY.

Festivals & Conferences

Apr 15-17—The Experience Workshop (Baltimore) For further info, call 1-800-966-3896 or (410)-528-0008. A workshop to help people get in touch with who they are and be true to themselves. Not specifically gay, but it grew out of the gay community and coming out stuff.

May 13-15—Virginia Women's Music Festival Alix Dobkin, Jane Anderson, Sarah Citon, others. Contact: INTOUCH, Rte. 2 Box 1096, Kents Store VA 23084 (804)589-6542. In light of the sorts of things that have been going on with other music festivals south of the Mason-Dixon line (see below), you may be interested to know that Janet Grubbs, from the Virginia Fest, says, "We haven't had any problems here. Our county is pretty much behind us!"

Southern Women's Music and Comedy Festival—Cancelled See article on Camp Sister Spirit, page 19.

Memorial Weekend—Gulf Coast Women's Festival (Ovett, Mississippi) This will be held on the land owned by Wanda and Brenda Henson, which is currently under seige by the religious right. The Hensons organize the festival every year, and intend to go ahead with the event. See the Camp Sister Spirit article in our "National and World News Bits" section.

Important: although many see this as an important place to take a stand for gay and lesbian civil rights, it is also important that people considering attending understand that the situation is *extremely* dangerous. The Hensons' anti-gay neighbors are armed, have grown up with the Klan tradition and are no strangers to acting out their considerable hatreds. Before this battle is resolved, someone may end up injured or killed. For more info: Camp Sister Spirit, P.O. Box 12, Ovett, MS 39464 Phone and fax number (601)344-1411.



INTEGRITY

A Christian-based spiritual and support group sponsored by the Episcopalian Church that welcomes people of all faiths. Meetings are held the 2nd Sunday of the month at 6 pm at St. Paul's Cathedral, 133 W 6th St. Erie, PA. Our mailing address is: Integrity-NWPA, PO Box 1782, Erie, PA 16507-1782. For more information, call (814) 774-0903

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On TV This Month

- Get out your calendars and mark down these dates!**
- ☆ **And Then There Was One** Lifetime's original AIDS drama premieres this month. Based on a true story. The movie can be seen March 9 at 9 p.m., March 13 at 8 p.m., March 18 at 9 p.m., and March 26 at 8 p.m.
 - ☆ **Great Performances: "Jerry Herman's Broadway at the Bowl"** On WQLN March 6 at 3 p.m. and March 16 at 9 p.m. The music and lyrics of the creator of *La Cage aux Folles*, *Mame*, and *Hello Dolly* are celebrated in a gala concert performance from the Hollywood Bowl. Stereo.
 - ☆ **More Than Friends: The Coming Out of Heidi Leiter** The true story of Heidi Leiter, a lesbian teenager who in 1991 took her girlfriend, Missy Peters, to the prom. Deals with a lot in a half-hour show: Her courtship with Missy, rejection from other kids, coming out to family members (her parents sent her to a psychiatrist), Missy getting gay-bashed, and yes, an actual, tender, *kiss* between the two girls. This will probably be a good show to point out to parents of gay teens and others who work with adolescents. Heidi and Missy are still together, by the way, and attending Radford University together. *Part of the Life Stories: Families in Crisis* series. On HBO March 7 (9:45 p.m.), 10 (6:30 p.m.), 13 (12:30 p.m.), 22 (4 p.m.), 25 (Noon), 27 (5:30 p.m.), 30 (2 p.m.)
 - ☆ **The Nature of Sex** On WQLN-TV. This series is a delightful look at the non-fixedness of sexuality among all kinds of creatures, including humans. Watch out for those lesbian lizards! Starts on Tuesday March 29 and will show every Tuesday for six weeks.
 - ☆ **Paula Abdul: Under My Spell** On Disney Channel, March 20 (9 p.m., 4 a.m.), March 31 (7 p.m.)
 - ☆ **Why Am I Gay? Stories of Coming Out in America** On HBO Mar. 6 (1 p.m.), 14 (7 a.m.), 17 (2:30 p.m.), 28 (Noon). Documentary about growing up gay in America. Features the Flirtations and the late Michael Callen.
 - ☆ **Women's Sports on TV: Basketball**—ESPN's coverage of women's college hoops wraps up this month (end of the season). The *NCAA Women's Selection Show* will be March 13, *NCAA Division II Championship* on March 28, and all four regional tournament finals on March 26...**Bodybuilding**—March 28 (1 a.m.) on ESPN...**Golf**—LPGA Tour airs on ESPN March 19-20 and March 24-25, and March 26-27 on ABC...**Tennis**—On Sports Channel March 27 (2 p.m.), 29 (2 p.m.), and ESPN (1p.m.)

Places to get EGCN...

Ashtabula

Lecward Lounge, 1022 Bridge St.

Erie

Cocoon, 1164 W. 10th

Cup-a-ccino's, 18 N. Park Row

Lizzie Bordon's, 3412 W. 12th

Perceptions, 328 W. 6th

Silver Slipper, 1317 State Street

Edinboro

Book Shelf, 200 Plum

Earthshine, 131 Meadville Street

EGO meetings

Grind & Squeeze (Coffeehouse), 105 Erie Street

Jamestown NY & Warren PA

Nite Spot, 201 Winsor, Jamestown

Rainbow Connection, Warren 723-1719

Sneakers, 100 Harrison, Jamestown

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Entertainment Notes

☆ **COUNTRY AIDS BENEFIT ALBUM:** Country fans will want to know about the new country AIDS benefit album called *Red Hot + Country* (Arista), which has just been released. Country recording artist Kathy Mattea coordinated the project. The album is part of the Red Hot Organization's series, which puts artists of the same genre together on concept albums that benefit AIDS organizations. Other albums in the series include *Red Hot + Blue*, *No Alternative*, and *Red Hot + Dance*.

☆ **TALES SEQUEL:** By the way, the *Tales of the City* TV miniseries was very successful, bringing in twice as many viewers as is normal for PBS on a Monday night prime time show. Plans are underway for the next installment, called *More Tales of the City*, set to air next year.

☆ **WQLN MEMBERSHIP DRIVE:** WQLN will be having a membership campaign in March...and if you're not already a member, maybe it's time to start thinking about it. PBS and WQLN have brought a lot of worthwhile programming to our little neck of the woods. Not only did they air *Tales of the City* (WQLN aired the unedited version, much to their credit), but they have regularly broadcast important programming of interest to our community. In the past year they have had a profile on militant gay activist Larry Kramer, author Armistead Maupin, a documentary on long-time couples that included a gay couple (*POV: For Better or Worse*), a radio program on women's music, and a lot more of interest. Think about it! And if the way

they deal with issues of interest to you has something to do with your decision to join, why not tell them so! (Call WQLN at 864-3001).

☆ **COMING OUT FINE:** It's not exactly a surprise, but the **Indigo Girls** singing duo came out in the April issue of *Out* magazine, on newsstands now. The announcement was made in time to coincide with the release of their new album *Swamp Ophelia*, on the Epic label. Amy Ray, who's been in a committed relationship for five years, told the magazine, "I always thought it was funny when people would ask me if I wanted to come out, because I already *am* out." Emily Saliers has been a more private person, and said, "I object to sexuality becoming a focus...[but] I finally decided that it is important—for the cause and for understanding—to come out publicly."

☆ **OUT THERE ONCE MORE:** Since the all-gay comedy special *Out There* got such fantastic ratings, the Comedy Central cable channel is planning another one! They plan to tape it in New York City this June, in conjunction with the Unity '94 events (Stonewall 25, Gay Pride Week, Gay Games 4, and Gay Pride Week). *Out There II* will be then be broadcast in the summer.

☆ **ERIE THEATER:** This month, the Erie Playhouse will be presenting the highly-acclaimed *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Set in the South of the 1930s, it tells a story of understanding and tolerance overcoming prejudice. Ticket prices are \$14 for adults, \$13 senior citizens, \$7 students. Group rates are available. The play shows March 10-13, 17-20, 24-26.



- ☆ **SPIELBERG GAY FILM:** Look for the screen adaptation of gay author **Paul Monette's** novel **Halfway Home**, to be produced by Steven Spielberg's production company. It's the story of two Irish-American Catholic brothers—one straight, the other gay and diagnosed with AIDS. One of the characters in the book was a performance artist but will be turned into a gay comic in the film. Reportedly, the comedy group Funny Gay Males was called in for consultation regarding the part.
- ☆ **GAY WARTOY: GI Joe** turns 30 this year. The manly-man's doll has changed with the times, and so it was only logical that someone would ask the Hasbro toy company if, considering recent changes in the military, there might someday be a gay GI Joe. "We don't know," said a spokesman for Hasbro. "Let's see where society takes us."
- ☆ **BARBRA'S BACK: Barbra Streisand** will be doing a tour of some "select" cities between mid-April and July. If you're a Barbra fan, watch for date announcements, then act fast, because those tickets are bound to go fast!
- ☆ **GRRRRR!** To **Saturday Night Live** for a recent skit that showed an adult scoutmaster (Alec Baldwin) sexually harassing and assaulting a terrified boy during a camping trip. Sexual abuse of kids isn't funny, and with the religious right pushing the idea that gays are child molesters who "recruit" kids, this kind of portrayal just feeds into that prejudice. If you want to tell them how you feel, write *Saturday Night Live*, NBC, 51 W. 52nd Street, New York NY 10019
- ☆ **OSCAR NOMINATIONS OF NOTE:** The Academy Awards will be held March 21. Among the many nominations were a number of films that were gay-themed or of great interest to lesbian/gay people. These include:
- Foreign Language: **Farewell My Concubine** (Hong Kong) and **Wedding Banquet** (Taiwan)
- Actor: **Tom Hanks**
- Original Script: **Philadelphia**
- Cinematography: **Farewell My Concubine**
- Costume Design: **Orlando**
- Documentary Feature: **The Broadcast Tapes of Dr. Peter** and **For Better Or Worse**
- Make-Up: **Make-Up: Mrs. Doubtfire**
- Music Original Song: **Philadelphia, Streets of Philadelphia** (Both from Philadelphia)
- ☆ **GLAAD AWARDS:** The Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation/NY has announced the recipients of their 1994 awards. Awards Ceremony will be held March 13, 1994. These include:
- Theater: **Angels in America**
- Independent Video: **Forbidden Love: The Unashamed Stories of Lesbian Lives**
- Special Award: **MTV** ("By focusing on openly lesbian and gay musicians, and the many issues that affect lesbian and gay lives, this pioneering network not only entertains, but informs millions of young Americans."—GLAAD/NY)
- Television/Drama: **Other Mothers/ CBS**
- Studio Film: **Philadelphia**
- Vito Russo Film Award: **The Wedding Banquet Awards from GLAAD/Los Angeles:**
- Comedy Series: **Seinfeld/NBC**
- Dramatic Series: **Sisters/NBC**
- Dramatic Episode: **"Manhood" episode, Law and Order/NBC**
- Cable TV Movie: **And the Band Played On/HBO**
- Actor and Playwright: **Harvey Fierstein**
- To find out how to receive GLAAD newsletter, send SASE to GLAAD, 80 Varick St. #3E, New York NY 10013 or call (212)807-1700.

AIDS Awareness Week: A Symposium

March 14-18
Cooper Hall 101, Edinboro University of Pennsylvania
7:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m.

Format: Panel/presentations/discussions, 15 to 20-minute presentation per panel member, and Question-and-Answer session following presentation.

Listings are current as of Feb. 26, 1994, but may change. Hopefully *Showcase* will publish most up-to-date listings.

For information: call Jan Kinch at 732-2617 (M-W-F between 11 a.m. to noon) or 732-2637 (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

Monday, March 14—OVERVIEW & HISTORY—“THE BIG PICTURE”

☛ **Opening Remarks:** *Dr. Ronald Martin*, Director of Ghering Health Center, Edinboro University of Pennsylvania

☛ **Keynote Speaker:** *Mary Lee Brooks*, former AIDS educator at the AIDS Council of Erie County. Overview and History.

☛ **Jeff Schwenk**, former educator and case manager at AIDS Council of Erie County. World AIDS Day, National and Global Issues, Background, History.

☛ **Andee Childs**, formerly of the AIDS Council of Erie Co.

☛ **Mary Ellen Reitz, M.D.**, Medical Director of Community Blood Bank/Associate Pathologist Saint Vincent Health Center. Medical aspects of HIV/AIDS, Testing, Infectious Control and Clinical Aspects.

☛ **Lori, Bill, and Deb** Personal stories.

Tuesday, March 15—HIV/AIDS AND THE INDIVIDUAL (Testing/Counseling/Employment/Community Stigma/Other Personal Issues)

☛ **Jacky Kocz**, Executive Director of Erie Community Blood Bank. HIV Testing, Pre- and Post-test Counseling, Issues of Confidentiality (Act 148), Blood Supply, Myths About Donating Blood, Impact of HIV/AIDS on Erie County and Nationwide, HIV/AIDS and Other Infectious Diseases, Demographic Research.

☛ **Agnes Priscaro** Executive Director, MHEDS (Minority Health Education Delivery System). Function of MHEDS, Testing, Outreach, educational role, HIV/AIDS and Minorities, Supportive Services.

☛ **Bob Washek**, Erie Family Crisis Center. Function of agency, Crisis Intervention in General and HIV/AIDS in particular, individual counseling approaches, support groups

☛ **Sue B. Kuebler**, HIV/AIDS Outreach Ministry of the Episcopal Cathedral of St. Paul's. Episcopal Church Positions/doctrine on Issues Relating to HIV/AIDS, Outreach Services, Compassion for the Individual, Names Project: AIDS Quilt, Counseling, World AIDS Day and Other Personal Involvement in HIV/AIDS Issues in the Erie Community.

☛ **Bob and Jolin Alderfer**, Northwestern Rural AIDS Alliance, McKean Co. AIDS Resources Network. Grassroots Projects, Support for Prison Inmates, Consumer Representatives and Advocates, Personal Involvement.

☛ **Karen, Kelvin, and Bob.** Personal stories.

Wednesday, March 16—HIV/AIDS AND THE IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY

☛ **Overview—Robert Rhodes, M.D.**, Professor of Political Science at Edinboro. Pressures of HIV/AIDS on the Health Care System, Formation and Implementation of Health Policy Regarding AIDS.

☛ **Ann Schlimm**, Erie Public Health Dept. Role of the Health Dept. in General and Since the Loss of the AIDS Council, STDs and HIV/AIDS Testing and Counseling, Statistics.

☛ **Peggy Briggs, R.N.**, Infection Control Coordinator, Hamot Infection Control Center. Transmission of Virus, Reporting Cases, Growing Concerns: HIV and Women, Infants and Children, Statistics for Erie Co. and Nation.

☛ **Jeanne Weber, R.N., C.S., Ed. D.**, Professor of Nursing, Edinboro. Speaking from the perspective of

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educator and nurse: Impact on Health Care System (Especially on Physicians and Nurses), HIV/AIDS and the Nursing Field, New Issues Concerning the Training of Nurses, Curriculum Changes, Physician and Nurse Concerns and Precautions, Care of Clients, Influences of HIV/AIDS on Professional and Community Health Education.

✦ **Kim Swab**, Northwestern Pennsylvania Rural AIDS Alliance. Services Provided by the Agency, Case Management, Channels for Patient to be Able to Receive Assistance, Available Funding in PA and USA, Ryan White Funds, New Branch of Agency in Erie, Statistics.

✦ **Sue Sucharski**, Infection Control Practitioner/AIDS Coordinator. Veterans' Affairs Medical Center. HIV/AIDS and the Military, Options for those Who test Positive, Military Statistics, Resources for Testing and Treatment for Veterans, How the New Policy on Gays in the Military Affects Testing.

Thursday, March 17—HIV/AIDS EDUCATION AND PREVENTION

✦ **Stephen M. Brockwell**, Director of Health Services, Greater Erie Chapter American Red Cross. General Role/Function of the American Red Cross Nationwide and in the Community, HIV/AIDS Educational Programs, Red Cross Role After AIDS Council Closes, Funding for these Educational Programs.

✦ **T. Alicia Manus**, Certified Medical Assistant, HIV Prevention Education Specialist. High-Risk Behavior, Universal Precautionary Measures, Prevention, Minorities and the Future of the Epidemic.

✦ **C. Anne Kebles Ph.D.**, Professor in Health and Physical Education at Edinboro. AIDS Information and Education at the University Level, Curriculum Concerns, Courses on Human Sexuality, Diet/Nutrition and HIV/AIDS.

✦ **George Roberts**, Head Athletic Trainer at Edinboro. HIV/AIDS and Sports, the Immune System's Response to Exercise as Part of a Treatment for People with HIV/AIDS.

✦ **Mary Ann Weiner, R.N., M.S.** Health Awareness Coordinator, Ghering Health Center, Edinboro. HIV/AIDS on the College Campus: College Student Risks of STDs and HIV/AIDS, Issues of Dating, Self-Esteem, Abstinence vs. Condoms Debate, Health Awareness Programs at Edinboro and Ghering Health Services.

✦ **Kathy Kitchen**, Family Planning Services of Edinboro. Role and Function of Family Planning Ser-

vices, Educational Programs, Counseling, Sexual Awareness.

Friday, March 18—VIDEOS

✦ **Stephen's Message** (7 min.) This video discusses heterosexual transmission of the virus and emphasizes correct and consistent use of condoms.

✦ **People Like Us** (25 min.) Depicts several people who are HIV+. Each person describes the impact of the diagnosis on his/her life, and the fears and concerns with which they live. It also explores the discrimination and homophobia that People with AIDS experience.

✦ **Common Threads: The Stories from the Quilt** (79 min.) Dustin Hoffman narrates this powerful, Academy Award-winning documentary which tells the story of five people shared something in common—they had AIDS. Their names are now commemorated in five panels of an ever-growing quilt.

✦ **And the Band Played On** (2½ hours). Dramatization of Randy Shilts' book of the same name, which gives an account of the early years of the AIDS epidemic.

Others may possibly be added to the list.

**FOR TRI-STATE HIV/
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Local News

LOCAL COLLEGE GROUPS MEET

Representatives of three area college groups met on Superbowl Sunday (January 30) to discuss networking between the groups. The groups (namely, the Committee in Support of Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual People of Allegheny College, Trigon at Penn State-Behrend College, and the Edinboro Gay Organization) met at Edinboro University in hopes of making more connections and strengthening communications among lesbian youth groups.

The reps spent a great deal of the time comparing group activities (check them out in *EGCN's* calendar!). Allegheny's people spoke about and distributed posters for their Stonewall 25 Celebration, so that this extensive program could be advertised at other colleges. EGO invited everyone to their semester functions, including a social at Skate Way, a trip to the Stock Exchange in Pittsburgh, and an art show in April. EGO solicited any interested parties to submit their art to the show. Trigon discussed their annual "Straight Talk" and methods of getting heterosexual allies to attend meetings. A particularly helpful method they discussed was to have allies only, no lesbians, sign a special petition. Trigon feels that this relieves some of the "stigma stress," and makes it easier for allies to feel comfortable attending meetings.

The groups discussed pooling together, furthering their communications, networking, and perhaps even working as a team to obtain fundraising supplies in bulk.

The Superbowl Sunday in an Edinboro classroom, with all of its topics and teamwork, was a success. Hopefully, all colleges will keep to their commitment to communication. For all of us know that there's power in numbers. And we need all the extra umph we can get.

Mara Klein
Corresponding Secretary, EGO

Skating Party Tickets/ Directions

Presale tickets are now available for the LGLV Skating Party which will be held at Skateway, 4646 Buffalo Rd., Erie, on Monday, March 14 from 7:30 pm to 10:30 pm.

Tickets are priced at \$5 for adults, \$4 for student/low income, and \$3 for kids under 12. Call 814.833.3258, or see Greg Valiga or Joel Brecht, who will be roaming around the bars selling tickets.

If you are coming from out of town, please take I-90 to exit 9, (Rt. 430) and proceed north to the junction of Rt. 20. This is Buffalo Road. Turn right and travel about 1.2 miles. Skateway will be on the left, past Giant Eagle, and across the street from Grossman's.

Also, please note LGLV/Erie's new mailing address! It is: PO Box 8083, Erie PA 16505-8083.

EGO Art Exhibit Call for Entries

The Edinboro Gay Organization is sponsoring an art exhibit to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the beginning of the Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual equal rights movement (Stonewall 25). "Expressions of ..." will be held from Sunday, April 10 through Friday, April 15. The exhibition is open to artists working in any medium. Artists interested in exhibiting their work should submit no more than three pieces, and the work should deal with LesBiGay issues in some way. All entries must be either hand delivered or shipped via UPS to Edinboro University.

Hand delivered work can be dropped off at Bates Gallery, in Loveland Hall at the following times.

April 2-3 (Sat. and Sun.) from 10am until 6pm

April 4-6 (Mon. to Wed.) from 11am until 1pm and 7pm until 9pm

Work shipped via UPS should be sent to : Edinboro University, Central Receiving, ATTN: Art Dept. - Patrick Hiller, Edinboro, PA 16444. Work MUST be received before Thursday, April 7, to be considered for the exhibit.

All work must be clearly marked with the artists name, address and phone number, the title of the piece, and the price. EGO is asking a ten percent commission on all work sold during the exhibit. We also ask that a short statement about the artist and their work be included.

The selection process for the exhibit will take place on April 7, and artists will be notified on April 8. Up to \$200 in juried prizes will be awarded during the artists reception on Wednesday, April 13, from 7pm to 9pm. In addition, twelve of the works in the exhibit will be selected to be part of a calendar that will celebrate the history of the GLB rights movement and other important events. For more information contact Patrick Hiller at (814) 734-5014 or (814) 732-2297.

We here at EGO are very excited about this exhibit, and we are hoping for a large and diverse turnout. As well as being educational and a great benefit to the community, it should be a lot of fun.

New Coffeehouse

A new coffeehouse just opened in Edinboro.

Called the Grind & Squeeze, the coffeehouse is located at 105 Erie Street (second floor). It's owned by Gabriella Savelli and Sean Rockey, both aficionados of the coffeehouse scene.

The Grind & Squeeze is open Monday-Thursday 9 a.m.-1 a.m., Friday-Saturday 9 a.m.-3 a.m., Sunday

Noon-8 p.m. They serve gourmet coffee and other beverages and pastries. They have poetry readings every Wednesday, open mike on Thursdays, Tarot readings on Tuesdays, and live music Fridays. A calendar is printed every month, which includes their various events and theme nights; calendars are available there. Phone number is 734-3225.

Gabriella says the coffeehouse encourages "unity and diversity." The Grind & Squeeze is a friendly kind of place, and as sort of a motto of the coffeehouse, they like to quote the Tom Waits' lyric, "Come on in/It ain't no sin/Take off your skin/And dance around in your bones."

Mark Gets Buffalo'd

The *Buffalo News* interviewed Mark from Gay Youth Pride Erie for an article about the problems of gay and lesbian youth. His organization was mentioned in the Jan. 25 issue of the paper. Way to go, Mark!

EGO Observes Condom Week

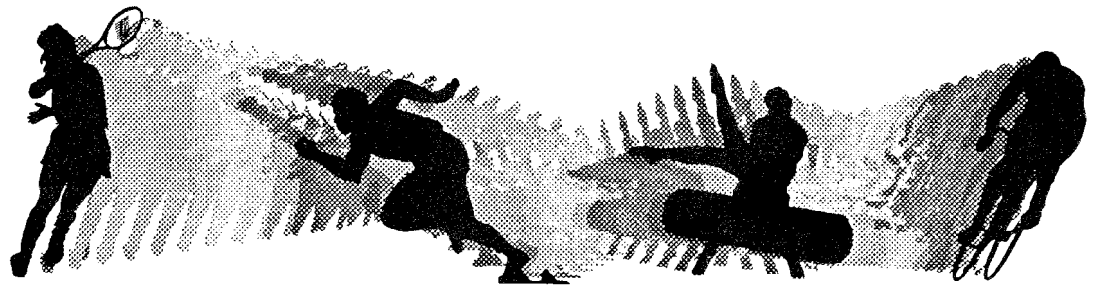
The Edinboro Gay Organization observed National Condom Week Feb. 14-21. They put up a banner (which was removed) and put up posters all over campus. A table was set up for a couple days in the dining hall with safer sex information and condoms available.

ARE YOU A TRI-STATE AREA ATHLETE?

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Stonewall 25 Updates

Stonewall 25/Erie Tri-State

by Dan

Hello everyone, are you getting your Marching Boots dusted off? June 26th will soon be upon us.

For those of you that may be reading this for the first time that is the date when the International March to affirm the human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people will take place in New York City. The march will pass in front of the United Nations and will proceed to Central Park. These events will celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Stonewall Riots that marked the beginning of the Gay Pride Movement.

Stonewall 25 is an historic event that must be fully inclusive of all the Erie community—gays, lesbians, bisexuals, cross dressers, transgender, people of color, leather, PWAs. rural, urban, young and old. The Stonewall Riots of 1969 began with drag queens, lesbians, blacks, whites, and Latinos standing up for their rights. We can neither ignore nor forget their integral role in beginning our modern liberation movement.

One of our goals is to mobilize as many as possible from the Erie Tri-State area. There are a couple of packages available that include motorcoach transportation and lodging. Package 1 is a 5 day/4 night hotel with RT transportation for \$220 pp quad or \$375 pp double. Package 2 is a 2 day/1 night for \$90 pp quad only. The availability of these packages is limited. Both packages can be reserved with a \$50 nonrefundable deposit now, payment in full must be made by April 30, 1994. A 50-50 to offset the expenses of this trip will be held at the Bridges Dance on April 23, 1994 at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway. Hope to see you there.

For reservations, information or to volunteer to help the committee you may contact us as follows: Stonewall 25/Erie Tri-State, P.O. Box 3746, Erie PA 16508-0746. Call Dan at (814)476-7926 or (814)864-4627.

Options for Getting There

by Deb Spilko

Dan and Dan (the guys from the Stonewall 25/Erie-Tri-State committee) have expressed some concern about the fact that people in our area aren't making commitments to either of the two bus arrangements they have made for the Stonewall 25 events. I was wondering about that myself, so I decided to call around to see what was going on with the Stonewall 25 stuff in nearby cities.

I was surprised to find that, so far, there are no bus trips organized out of Cleveland, Pittsburgh, or Buffalo, and that people are opting for transportation by air or car instead. The reasons they gave for deciding not to do the bus thing:

1. Because the Gay Games and Stonewall 25 are going on over an eight-day period, there is a lot of variation as far as which days and how many days people want to be there.

2. Right now there are some air fare wars going on and air fares at the present time are available at really low prices. Air travel is not that much more expensive than the bus (for now, at least) and it takes less time.

3. Organizing a bus *and* hotel accommodations is a massive and expensive project, involving responsibility for thousands of dollars.

In light of this, maybe we need to re-think the viability of doing the buses. In this article I am including remarks on my conversations with Stonewall 25 coordinators in Cleveland, Pittsburgh, and Buffalo. I've also included lesbian/gay travel agents in those communities, plus the official Stonewall 25 travel agent. If you travel on your own, you'll do well to consult one of these travel agents for help with flights and/or accommodations, because they can make the process a whole lot easier for you (especially trying to find decent accommodations).

STONEWALL 25 OFFICIAL TRAVEL AGENT

This is the official travel agency for Stonewall 25, and you will be supporting Stonewall 25 by going through them. Also, they've reserved blocks of rooms

all around the area, and can help you get good accommodations. They can help arrange a good deal on air tickets as well, even if you're leaving from Erie. The people at this number seem very courteous and helpful. Call 1-800-SW25-NYC if you need help with travel and accommodations, or 1-800-216-1880 if you just need help with accommodations.

BUFFALO

Stonewall 25-Buffalo

Connie Burns, coordinator for Stonewall 25 in Buffalo, says, "Round trip air fare between Buffalo and New York is only \$75, and it only takes about an hour to get there. People figure, if the bus trip costs \$50, why not pay an extra \$25 and not have to spend eight hours on the bus. Even the bars who are putting together travel packages are going by air. People who don't want to fly will drive by car." You can park your car by the Buffalo airport for about \$5 a night, or \$30 for a week period.

Travel Agencies

Williamsville Travel, Buffalo. Office (716)632-3400 Home (716)632-7705. Ask for Colleen. Colleen does a lot of lesbigay travel and tour stuff and has booked rooms in the Greenwich Village area, which may still be available if you call soon. (Best to reach her at home around 9-10 p.m. or early morning 7:30 to 8:30 a.m.; she's in and out of the office a lot, but you can leave a message and she'll get back to you).

Heidi's Travel and Tours, Buffalo (716)821-1991 or 1-800-777-1354. Ask for Danielle or Michelle.

CLEVELAND

Stonewall 25 Ohio

It's not clear at this writing what's going on with Cleveland's Stonewall 25 organizing. Sometimes there seems to be a lot of crankiness and intolerance going on in that city's community, and the Stonewall 25 effort seems to be part of that. The Lesbian and Gay Community Service Center and the Stonewall 25 people split recently, over "philosophical differences." Then when I called the Stonewall 25 coordinator there, she became angry and demanded to know where I got her phone number from (it is, by the way, listed in Stonewall 25's coordinators' list), and then proceeded to gripe about how disgusting "this community" is, and threw in

some other assorted nasties. Sheesh! You can call the Stonewall 25 committee office between noon and 4 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and if you can't manage that, then...? Oh well. More information as we get it. Their fax and phone number are (216)921-8130. If Ms. Sunshine here is setting the tone, though, I don't see how they're going to actually put anything together.

Travel Agents

The Travel Place, Cleveland 1-800-521-4449 or (216)521-4733. Ask for Carol. Carol says round trip air fare between Cleveland and New York is \$124 and USAir will knock 5% off that. While availability lasts, she can get you double rooms for \$66 a night plus tax. (Member International Gay Travel Association).

PITTSBURGH

Stonewall 25-Pittsburgh

Stonewall 25 Pittsburgh says they will probably not do a bus because the hotel accommodations makes the project so expensive and difficult.

Travel Agents

Pittsburgh Travel Service, Station Square. (412) 471-7417. We couldn't reach them at this writing, but now you have a Pittsburgh contact. Member International Gay Travel Association.

TIPS FOR AIR TRAVEL

If you're pretty sure you'll be traveling to the events by air, you should probably take advantage of the cheaper fares *now*. They might go up at any time.

Make sure your agent gives you "portal-to-portal" guidance on your travel arrangements. For instance, ask how you will get *from* the airport *to* your hotel.

TIPS FOR ACCOMODATIONS

Stonewall 25 and probably a majority of the activities will be in Manhattan, though the Gay Games will be spread out in different locations. Ask where your hotel is located in relation to Manhattan, and make sure there's decent public transportation available (that means buses—New York City subways are the pits, and cab fares can be get expensive if you're any distance from the events). Driving yourself around New York City is normally a pain—but with the Games and Stonewall 25 (*plus* the World Cup!) going on it will be almost impossible. So the public transportation details should be nailed down.

Obituaries

Randy Shilts Dies

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 17—Randy Shilts, best known as the author and journalist who wrote the book *And the Band Played On*, has died of AIDS complications. He was 42.

Shilts worked for 13 years at the *San Francisco Chronicle*, where he was one of the first openly gay reporters in the U.S., and one of the very first to alert the world to AIDS when it was still being called "the gay flu."

"He single-handedly probably did more to educate the world about AIDS than any other person," said gay playwright and militant AIDS activist Larry Kramer.

And the Band Played On was a 600+ page account of the early years of the AIDS epidemic, which indicted government dawdling as well as those gay activists whom he thought placed more importance on sexual freedom than human lives. The book was later made into an HBO movie, which aired late in 1993.

In 1982 he wrote *The Mayor of Castro Street: the Life and Times of Harvey Milk*. The book was about the openly gay San Francisco city supervisor who was shot to death in 1978 with Mayor George Moscone.

Shilts' most recent book, *Conduct Unbecoming: Gays and Lesbians in the U.S. Military* was finished in 1992. He had worked on the book for five years, and because of the stress in his effort to complete it, he contracted AIDS-related pneumonia and almost died.

Shilts tested positive for HIV back when he was finishing his work on *And the Band Played On*, but did not reveal it until last year. "I did not want my health issues to overshadow my work," he said last September.

DIED: Samuel Steward, author, of chronic pulmonary disease, Dec. 31. He was 84. Steward wrote a number of books, including *Parisian Lives*, *Murder is Murder is Murder*, and *Caravaggio's Shawl*, and had a long friendship with lesbian author Gertrude Stein. He is probably more well-known by his pseudonym, **Phil Andros**, under which he wrote a number of gay-themed books in the 1960s.

DIED: Derek Jarman, British filmmaker, author, painter, and gay rights activist, on Feb. 20, of complications due to AIDS. He was 52. Jarman's films were heavily influenced by his homosexuality, and included *Sebastiane*, *Caravaggio*, *The Garden*, *Wittgenstein*, and *Edward II*. His most recent film was *Blue*, in which Jarman shared his own experience with AIDS. "If my films are gay it's because I want to show solidarity with people who have been deprived of a culture and of an image with which to identify," Jarman said in 1991. His books include *Modern Nature* and *At Your Own Risk*, both memoirs.

In 1986, when he discovered he had HIV, he immediately made the information public, at a time when such disclosures were taboo. Jarman explained he did it because "I had to, for my self-respect."

DIED: Dr. Stephen Kritsick, television veterinarian, of AIDS complications, Jan. 16. He was 42. Kritsick appeared regularly on ABC's *Good Morning America*, and came out as a gay man and person with AIDS on that program.

DIED: Yves Navarre, author, of a barbituate overdose, on Jan. 24. He was 53. Among his books were *Le Jardin d'Acclimation* ("The Zoological Garden") and *Ce Sont Amis Que Vent Emporte* ("Friends Gone With the Wind").

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National/World News Bits

Anti-NAMBLA Statements Sought

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo.—A lesbian human rights group is requesting lesbian organizations around the country to send them statements of opposition to the North American Man/Boy Love Association. NAMBLA is a pedophile group whose sole purpose is to encourage sex between men and boys.

Ground Zero, based in Colorado Springs, wants to the statements to counter the anti-gay rights arguments about gay people condoning child sexual abuse.

Research overwhelmingly indicates that most child molestation (95% or more) is heterosexual.

Ground Zero states, "On this earth, WE ARE FAMILY. We must all learn to live together and we must learn that our children are our future. We must never allow them to be hurt."

Organizations wishing to make a statement to Ground Zero should send those statements to Ground Zero, P.O. Box 1982, Colorado Springs CO 80906.

Euro-Rights

STRASBOURG, France, Feb. 8—The European Parliament passed a non-binding resolution affirming equality and human rights for lesbian people in the European Union. The resolution states that:

Same-sex couples should be allowed to marry, adopt or have foster children;

That European Union states should not have one age of consent for heterosexual people and a different one for homosexual people;

Laws that discriminate against and/or criminally prosecute certain sexual behaviors between consenting adults should be abolished (Greece, Germany, Britain, and Luxembourg all have laws that discriminate against sexual orientation);

The draft resolution was drawn up by Claudia Roth, of the German Green Party. She also wrote and submitted a report on the adverse effects of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

Pope John Paul, on Feb. 20, directly and strongly attacked the European Parliament, stating that the resolution was asking to legitimize moral disorder. The

Pope rarely attacks international bodies. The Vatican has also issued a series of attacks on the resolution.

Amnesty International and Gay Human Rights

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8—The human rights group Amnesty International will conduct a six-month campaign to take on human rights abuses against lesbian people in the United States. The announcement was made as the organization released their study of the treatment of lesbian people in 24 countries.

Camp Sister Spirit Update

OVETT, Miss.—Wanda and Brenda Henson, the two lesbians who run the besieged Camp Sister spirit, have vowed to stay on their land and resist the fundamentalist locals who are trying to drive them from their community.

In an interview with *EGCN*, Wanda Henson said the couple has every intention of staying on the land, and that the Gulf Coast Women's Festival that they hold every year will go on as well.

Attorney General Janet Reno has ordered Justice Department civil rights mediators to get involved in the dispute, which threatens to become very violent. It was the first time such a move was taken on behalf of gay and lesbian rights.

The situation has, indeed, become very dangerous, with local men firing onto their property. "One time after they were shooting at us, we could hear their voices, that's how close they were," Wanda told *EGCN*. "They've cut down the trees up to our property so that they can see us. We're clear shots. All along our fence, you can see them walking up and down with their rifles. We also discovered they made a path onto our property." The women have built fences along some of their property, and are using used tin to protect themselves from gunfire.

Wanda said that the Gulf Coast Women's Festival will take place this year, at Camp Sister Spirit. "One of our reasons for getting this land was so we could hold women's events here and not have to worry about the property owners. I've had people say, 'I can't believe you're going to hold the festival right there at Camp Sister Spirit, in the face of all that danger!' I ask them when would you have us do it...we need to take a stand *now*. We've had performers cancel on us. Well, every

women's festival has problems, has men coming onto the property trying to cause problems. That's why you get your own security. If ten brave women show up for the festival, we're going on with it." Wanda mentioned that the festival will be held on Memorial Day weekend, which is normally the date for the now-cancelled Southern Women's Music and Comedy Festival. Robin Tyler, whose production company organizes the Southern Women's festival, will be attending the Gulf Coast Festival instead. Tyler was out of the country at the time this article was being written, but an employee at Robin Tyler Productions told *EGCN* that the company has given up trying to hold festivals in the South, at least for the time being. "It's a war that we can't take on anymore," she said. "After years and years of struggle, it still hasn't changed. We're always dealing with that hateful Klan mentality—against the Jews, against the blacks, against gays...it's always something. We fear for our lives sometimes."

Wanda revealed that nationally-known right-wing Christian Rev. Donald Wildmon is behind a lot of the homophobic organizing of the Ovett community.

The Hensons need a lot of help. Money is certainly needed—for legal defense, for emergency equipment, and other things—and Wanda notes that the organization is incorporated 501 (3)c (non-profit). They need carpenters to help them build a real house. "We're living in travel trailers right now," Wanda said. "You don't know what it is like sleeping in one of these and not knowing if you're going to wake up. If someone shoots into here, it'll kill us for sure." They also need an emergency generator, explains Wanda, because, "What the Klan used to do in the '60s is they'd cut your power and then they'd go in and kill you. In the South, the civil rights movement happened a lot on farms, because blacks owned their farms, and would fight to protect their own land."

This situation has received national—to some degree, international—coverage. ABC's *20/20* did a very good job of covering the story, and a reporter from the *Boston Globe* was at the Hensons' home at the same time our interview was being conducted.

Almost all reporters ask them the same thing: In the face of so much danger, why stay? "When we came back from last year's March on Washington, we were full of pride," said Wanda. "This is my home. I was born and raised in Mississippi and I have the right to live here without fear and without intimidation. Until we're free, nobody else can be free."

Contributions can be sent to Camp Sister Spirit, P.O. Box 12, Ovett MS 39463 (601)344-1411. Fax number is the same as the phone number. They are selling Camp Sister Spirit T-shirts to help raise funds. The T-shirts are black with "Camp Sister Spirit" printed on them. *Short sleeve cotton T-shirts* are \$20 (Sizes S,M,L,XL,3XL). *Long sleeve 50/50* and *Short sleeve Polo Shirts* are both \$25 (Sizes L, XL). If you're not interested in buying shirts, money in any amount will be appreciated. "Lots of people are concerned about whether or not someone will interfere with our mail delivery," said Wanda, "but with the FBI monitoring the situation there's been no problem. We recently got a letter addressed Old Pig Farm, Ovett MS, and it got through."

Oregon Gay Couple Adoption

SEATTLE, Feb. 17—A mother who is trying to stop a gay couple from adopting her son had a major setback after her husband separated from her.

Megan Lucas' husband Wade has accused her of mental instability, suicide attempts, and death threats against him and the couple's daughter. The revelations make it "extraordinarily unlikely" that Lucas will be able to get back the son she put up for adoption in 1992. Lucas voluntarily relinquished parental rights to the boy because of her history of substance abuse and child neglect. The boy was placed with a stable gay male couple, who filed a petition to adopt the child; when Lucas learned of the boy being placed with a gay couple, she filed a petition to adopt him.

British Age of Consent

LONDON, Feb. 21—In England, heterosexuals and lesbians may legally have sex at the age of 16. For gay males, however, the age of consent has been 21. What that meant was that males who broke that law could receive a minimum of five years in prison, and a maximum life sentence. The law was seldom enforced, but was still a threat, and gay activists saw it as a clear case of a discriminatory double standard.

On Feb. 21, British Parliament voted to reduce that age to 18.

Conservative MP Edwina Currie was a prime mover and sponsor for changing the law, and also was angered by the compromise. "I don't think 18 will do," she said. "It sounds like a compromise, but it satisfies only those who vote for it. It won't satisfy the European Court of Human Rights which is currently considering a case brought by three young men from Britain."

Opponents of the lowered age said the law was there to protect young men from being "recruited" into

a gay sexual orientation." Currie, a former health minister, challenged the logic of that argument. "We hold young people capable of judging between right and wrong from the age of 10, we hold young boys capable of rape from the age of 12, and we regard them as capable of getting married at the age of 16. To say that they are not capable of anything else at that age is just a load of nonsense. It's just discrimination and it's out of date."

Most members of the Liberal Democrats and Labour parties supported Currie, but Conservatives held back.

Gay activists were outraged by the vote. When the vote was announced to the crowd of 6,000 gay rights supporters outside Parliament, a riot ensued. Members of Parliament were trapped inside as riot police fought off some of the demonstrators who were throwing bottles and signs, and trying to force their way inside. Demonstrators shouted "Shame on you!" "Burn the Place down!" and "Scum, scum, scum!" Protesters warned of more "big and angry protests."

England was the leader in granting human rights to gay people in 1967 by decriminalizing homosexual behavior between men. Until this vote, however, it had the highest age of consent on the European continent. Lesbian sex has never been illegal, for which two possible explanations have been offered: One is that Queen Victoria's officials were too embarrassed to explain what lesbians did, the other is that she was told and refused to believe that ladies would do such a thing.

Rush Crush

MIAMI—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, gay rights activists, and the National Organization of Women are protesting the decision to make right wing talk show host Rush Limbaugh a spokesman for Florida orange juice.

The Florida Citrus Commission made a \$1 million deal with Limbaugh for a series of ads. The logic behind the move is puzzling, since they removed Burt Reynolds as spokesman after his divorce made him "too controversial" to represent the Commission.

NOW is calling for a letter-writing campaign to the Commission. The Commission reports phone calls on the issue have been equally divided.

Limbaugh is responding to calls for boycotts of Florida citrus by calling on his fans to buy up all the orange juice on the shelves.

To call or write: Florida Citrus Commission, P.O. Box 148, Lakeland FL 33802 (813)682-0171 Fax: (813)499-2374.

Newsweek Poll

Results of a recent *Newsweek* poll about attitudes toward lesbians and gay men:

Do you have a gay friend or acquaintance? Yes - 43% No - 56%.

Has the AIDS epidemic made you more or less sympathetic toward gays? More - 38% Less - 31%.

Should there be adoption rights for gay partners? Yes - 29% No - 65%.

The poll results were published in the Feb. 14, 1994 *Newsweek* with its feature on homophobia.

Clinton Takes Strong Position Against Anti-Gay Initiatives

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16—President Clinton has written a strong letter of support for gay civil rights, which strongly condemns the anti-gay ballot measures in nearly a dozen states.

"Those who would legalize discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or any other grounds are gravely mistaken about the values that make our nation strong," the president wrote in his letter. "...this is not an issue of 'special rights' for any one group. This is a battle to protect the human rights of every individual."

The letter was sent in response from a request by the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund and other gay and lesbian civil rights groups. It took the president only five days to deliver his strong reply.

The letter will be used in organizing against anti-gay ballot measures in Arizona, California, Florida, Idaho, Maine, Michigan, Missouri, Nevada, Ohio, Oregon, and Washington.

Buddhist Leader Says Gay is OK

The Dalai Lama, considered the world's foremost Buddhist leader, told *Out* magazine that consensual homosexuality was acceptable under Buddhist teachings.

Continued on Page 22

McKean County Gay Basher Gets Life

By Greg Valiga

SMETHPORT, Pa.—After deliberating nearly six hours, a McKean County jury convicted David E. Riley, Jr. of first-degree murder for the killing of Scott Palmer, a gay man, in what was called McKean County's first anti-gay hate crime.

The prosecutor, Charles Jeffrey Duke, tried to link robbery with the murder in an attempt to extract the death penalty. However, Judge John M. Cleland ruled that there were no aggravating circumstances because of insufficient evidence that Riley planned to rob Palmer. Cleland instead sentenced Riley to life.

Riley, 20, was found guilty of stabbing Palmer, 24, and pushing him into the West Branch of the Tunungwant Creek April 2 or 3, 1993. Palmer's body was found on April 15 near the Tuna Cross Roads. The cause of death was drowning.

Defense Attorney H. B. Fink promised an appeal on the grounds that witnesses mentioned other criminal charges against his client, Riley, three times before the jury. After the third instance, Judge Cleland questioned each juror if they could disregard those references, and one juror was excused when she said she was unsure.

Three witnesses testified that Riley had bragged about the murder, but the most damaging was testimony provided by Joseph Taylor, a former friend of Riley. Taylor said Riley claimed that Palmer propositioned him and that he said "This is what I do to faggots," and repeatedly slashed him while Palmer screamed and pleaded for his life.

Taylor said Riley was afraid someone might hear Palmer, so he threw him over the railing along the Tuna Creek flood control ramparts. When Palmer attempted to save himself by clinging to the railing, Riley stabbed him in the arm so he would let go and then ran down to a bridge near the scene to "make sure he was dead."

Foster Township Police Chief Richard Gaertner testified that Taylor gave his statement to Bradford Township Police officer Robert Hodgdon the morning of April 15, before the body was found.

Riley claimed in his testimony that he bumped into Palmer while walking in the opposite direction, and said, "why don't you watch where you're going, faggot," and defended himself when Palmer pulled a knife and cut his finger. Riley said he cut and punched Palmer, and then pushed him to the ground--Palmer never went into the creek. Riley claimed that he didn't hate gays. "To each his own, I say."

Members of Riley's family were shocked by the outcome. Doris Riley, his stepmother, said, "Murder in the first degree? Premeditated? No...Who proved anything? I could have taken involuntary manslaughter, but murder in the first degree...?"

**Bridges
Dance/Book
Fair on
April 23!!!**

Nat'l News, from Page 21

In the interview, published in the magazine's Feb./March issue, the Dalai Lama at first said that oral sex was wrong. According to the interviewer, he thought about it some more, then said "If someone comes to me and asks whether it is OK or not, I will first ask if you have some religious vow to uphold. Then my next question is, What is your companion's opinion? If you both agree"—he laughed heartily—"then I think I would say, if two males or two females voluntarily agree to have mutual satisfaction without further implication of harming others, then it is OK." He also said that in Buddhist teaching, "individual rights means we have the individual right to engage in any action that gives satisfaction, provided it does not harm others."

Coming Out in High School II: Death Threat

By Mark

I'm back. Just when you thought it was safe to open up your newsletter, he's back, Gay Youth Pride of Erie's own MARK.

Well, enough with the queeny overtones of death and destruction. Let's get down to business. In my last article (Jan. 1994), I told you about my coming out at my high school. Now that the process is over, I'm going to tell you about some of the not-so-nice things that have been happening to me. Even though this article is a bit depressing, I sincerely hope you enjoy reading it.

February 1. I went to my locker after sixth period (which happens to be my gym class, so I wasn't in a good mood to begin with) and when I got to my locker, well, at first I didn't notice anything, then I realized that someone had scrawled the word "FAG" all over my locker in black marker. Inside my locker was a death threat that read:

STRAIGHT EDGE MESSAGE - WE HATE FAGGOTS. ALL FAGGOTS SHOULD DIE. YOU WILL DIE YOU ASS-FUCKER. ALL QUEERS WILL BURN IN HELL. YOU WILL BURN IN HELL. WE WILL KILL YOU. WE HATE FAGGOTS.

As you can see, it's not exactly literary award material, but it managed to shake me up badly. I turned it over to the principal, but all he really did was file it away and make me see the counselor. Oh, and he told me to keep accurate accounts of what happened to me. Do you think that this is accurate enough?

That night, I called all my gay friends to talk this out with (special thanks to Deb, the hours-long talk really helped me out).

February 2. This day was a very special day for me. This was the day I celebrated my one year out. Yea! This was also the day that I turned in the names of the kids my friends thought were the most likely to have done it. I found out that it was done by a skate boarding group named Straight Edge (bigots on wheels—whee, maybe they'll get run over). The graffiti still hadn't been washed off my locker.

February 3. This day I took a camera with me to school and photographed my locker (you know, memories). This day I also went to see the counselor. Nothing much came out of it except that she told me that I had a right to a harassment-free education and to turn in anyone who harassed me (if I did that the poor principal would have no time left to run the school).

February 4. My locker got cleaned off by the school!

Those were only a few of the things I could put dates on. There are other things that I can't put a date on. Like being called "Fag" every time I walk down the hall. Like guys not walking in front of me because they're afraid I'm looking at them. Like having to change alone in gym class and having to make sure I don't look at anyone. Like being afraid to use the bathroom because someone might think I'm looking at them.

Editors Note

The editors at *EGCN* have encouraged Mark to keep an account of his experiences and to do it in his own words.

Mark has provided accounts that are well-written and have an inspiring spirit to them, but they aren't the whole story of what is going on. Mark is also deeply hurt and disturbed by what has been going on, his school work has suffered considerably, and he has lost self-esteem. He has expressed the desire to communicate these feelings to *EGCN* readers, "But every time I think about it I get all *verklempft*," he says, being playful and serious at the same time.

When he is ready to talk about it, our pages are open to him. We'd also like to extend an invitation to other high school students to talk about their own experiences and feelings.

The contents of this editors note has been published with Mark's approval. ▼

Other Voices: On the Road Again

By Jacquelyn

This has been one of the most grueling and spirit deadening winters in my recent memory. From the bitter cold of a month ago to the seemingly endless falling of snow and more snow, this has been a winter that I will not easily forget. I have seen earth movers at the mall parking lot moving snow mountains into dump trucks to be hauled to open fields. I have driven to work over icy roads and over black ice in the predawn hours with my heart in my mouth, my sweaty palms slipping on the steering wheel as my car slips on the highway. Today, as I sit in my study typing this into the computer, I am looking out the window and I can actually see grass. I cannot begin to describe the simple delight I feel at seeing grass. The winter memory is beginning to fade and is being replaced by hope. Hope for more sunshine, gardens, flowers, and warmth. Hope for more day trips without concern for weather changes.

Lynne and I love to go on day trips. They can be such adventures. To me, a day trip is like a treasure hunt. I am convinced that around the next bend will be some glorious sight I have never seen before. Last weekend, we traveled to Cleveland to the Civic to see Oven Productions presentation of the 19th annual Womyn's Variety Show. The Civic is an old Jewish temple with windows shaped like the tablets of the ten commandments and is now used as an auditorium. It is huge. There were approximately 1500 women there for the show and the dance following. Oven Produc-

tions uses the money that is raised from this show to have other concerts throughout the year. Over the past years, they have brought Ferron, Betsy Lippet, Leah Delaria, Leah Zicari, Rhiannon, Sweet Honey in the Rock, Holly Near and many, many others to the area.

The guiding philosophy of Oven Productions seems to be a feminist one of women empowering women. Most of the acts are done by amateur women from the Cleveland area. One of the lines I remember the most was from one of the emcee's for the night, who said, "Now you can live the dream." Women supporting and encouraging other women will always be thrilling to me. All the members, and there are only six on the board, are volunteers and receive no financial reward at all for their efforts. They do, however, receive much support from their community. Without that support, productions of this magnitude would just not be possible. I have certainly become a fan of Oven Productions. I am exhilarated by the thought of women producing women's work. I am told that the variety show is the largest show of its type in the country. Next year will be the 20th year of Oven Productions and there will be another talent show. We will probably go. Unless it snows.

This weekend, we traveled to Ashtabula. I love to go antiquing. I have made it a personal goal to be in every antique store within a 50-mile radius of Erie. We wanted to go to CJ's This-n-That. She has become a new advertiser for us at *EGCN*. The store is a large one located in the very heart of the business district. It is filled with a variety of antiques, from glass and jewelry to furniture and old tins. It is worth the short jaunt to Ashtabula to see it. We got lost trying to find the harbor district but being lost is, I think, half the fun of road trips. It is such a challenge to find the way again. We found the harbor district eventually--after many loops and ellipses on the snow and ice-free roads of Ashtabula.

Could it be? Spring? Crocuses and daffodils? Soon?



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Groups & Organizations

10% Network (Formerly Jamestown Social Group)

For men & women. Smoke & alcohol-free. Meets 3rd Saturday of the month at 7 pm at First Unitarian Society of Jamestown, 1255 Prendergast. ☎ (716) 484-7285 or (716) 664-5556.

Bridges

A coalition of organizations & people which seeks to use networking and communication skills to build a better community. Also publishes *Erie Gay Community Newsletter* and puts on community dances and quarterly potluck dinners/forums. ☎ Bridges, PO Box 3063, Erie, PA 16508-3063. ☎ (814) 455-0549 or (814) 456-9833.

Chautauqua Gay Fathers & Lesbian Mothers

A support group for gay & lesbian parents in Chautauqua County & neighboring counties and a play group for their kids. ☎ (716) 672-6682.

Committee in Support of Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual People

A committee of students, faculty, & administrators who work together to educate, bring speakers, offer films, and address concerns that relate to gay and lesbian issues specific to the Allegheny Community. ☎ CSGLB, Box 186, Allegheny College, Meadville, PA 16335. ☎ Paula at (814) 332-4356 or Erny at (814) 332-4375.

Dignity/Erie Tri-State

A national organization for lesbian, gay and bisexual Roman Catholics, their families and friends. ☎ Dignity/Erie Tri-State, PO Box 3746, Erie PA 16508-0746 ☎ (814) 864-4627.

Edinboro Gay Organization (EGO)

Student group, meetings include a business hour followed by a social hour. *Meetings:* Thursdays at 8:45 pm at Butterfield, Rm 302 (♣). ☎ Jim MacCluskie MW 2-pm, TuTh 1:30-2:30 at (814) 732-2590.

Erie Sisters

Non-sexual social support group for TV/TS/CD. Good manners, taste & common sense expected. Monthly meetings, newsletter, Meetings in even numbered months are social events held at accepting establishments. Changing room provided. Interview with a club officer required before first meeting. ☎ Erie Sisters, 2115 West 8th Street, Suite 261, Erie, PA 16505.

Friends from the Heart

Volunteers helping deliver help with food, rent, transportation, moving and clothing to people with AIDS. Call Deb Monohon at (814) 838-0123 to see how you can help. Donations *greatly* appreciated.

Gay and Lesbian Alliance - the Other 10% (GALA 10)

Support group for gay men and lesbians and friends and family. Open to public. *Meetings:* Call site & time. Confidentiality respected. ☎ GALA-10/Sr. Maria Lucia Serrano, 3409 Garden Avenue, Erie PA 16508 ☎ Sr. Malu at 864-4889 around 7 pm or 824-2290 between 11am and 1 pm.

Gay and Lesbian Drug & Alcohol Abuse Support Group (Jamestown, NY)

Meetings: Thursdays at 7:00 pm at Jamestown Community College (in Chautauqua room at the Library). ☎ (716) 664-5556 or (716) 483-0749.

Gay Youth Pride of Erie

☎ Mark at (814) 899-6528.

HIV/AIDS Outreach Ministry of St. Paul Cathedral

Call 452-3779.

HUGS East (Mentor, OH)

Activities, events & groups for the gay and lesbian community of Ashtabula, Lake & Geauga counties. Newsletter published. ☎ HUGS East, PO Box 253, Mentor, OH 44060 ☎ (216) 974-8909.

Integrity

A Christian-based spiritual and support group, sponsored by the Episcopal Church that welcomes people of all faiths. *Meetings:* 2nd Sunday of the month (7:00pm) at St. Paul's Cathedral, 133 West 6th Street. ☎ Integrity-NWPA, PO Box 1782, Erie, PA, 16507-1782. ☎ (814) 774-0903.

Jamestown HIV Positive Support Group

☎ Eric Anderson at (716) 664-7855.

Jamestown PFLAG

For parents & friends of lesbians & gays. Meets last Tuesday of the month, call for site. ☎ (716) 488-1264 or (716) 763-1529.

JCC Support Group

A support group run by Jamestown Community College for gays and lesbians. Open to all community members. Meets off-campus. Contact: Greg Rabb. ☎ (716) 665-5220.

Lambda Group (formerly Life's Blood)

Alcoholics Anonymous meetings for Gays and Lesbians. *Meetings:* Sundays at 8:00 pm at Unitarian Universalist Church of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway. ☎

League of Gay and Lesbian Voters (LGLV)

Non-partisan voters group. Publishes Voters' Guide for elections, voter registration/education, lobbying. Currently pushing Senate Bill 1218, which provides stiffer penalties for gay bashers. **We urgently need your help!** ☎ Greg at (814) 833-3258. ☎ LGLV-Erie, PO Box 8083, Erie, PA 16505-0083. *Note new address!!!*

Lesbian Moms Support Group

Support group for lesbian moms, co-parents and women interested in parenting. Meets 3rd Saturday of each month. ☎ Lucinda Marsh, 214 Walnut Street, Waterford, PA 16441. ☎ (814) 796-3535.

Men's Coffeehouse

The Men's Coffeehouse is an alcohol & smoke-free environment with a particular theme, topic or activity for each month. They get together on the 2nd Friday of each month at 7:00 pm. *Meetings:* 2nd Friday of the month at Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway. ☎ (814) 455-9049 for more info.

NW PA Gay and Lesbian Task Force

Now forming in Tionesta/Titusville area for political/media advocacy. Write to: PO Box 213, Tionesta, PA 16353-0213.

Out & Proud

Support group for media issues, those dealing with coming out. ☎ OP, PO Box 3063, Erie PA 16508-3063 ☎ (814) 456-9833.

PFLAG-Erie

Support group for Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays. Meets last Wed. of month. ☎ Kathy Harris at (814) 838-6020 or ☎ PFLAG-Erie c/o Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, PO Box 3495, Erie, PA 16508.

Rainbow Connection (Warren, PA area)

Warren, PA and surrounding area. Meets 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month at the YWCA. ☎ Denny at (814) 757-8583.

Stone Wall 25/Erie

Organizing for June 26. Call now to get involved/make reservations. ☎ Stonewall 25/Erie Committee, PO Box 3746, Erie PA 16508-0746. ☎ Dan at (814) 476-7926.

SUNY-Fredonia Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Student Union

A support group for students at SUNY Fredonia. ☎ (716) 673-3424

Support Groups for Persons with HIV/AIDS

One group for Persons with HIV/AIDS, other for their families and loved ones. Open to people of all faiths. *Meetings:* 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month from 7:30 to 9:30 pm at Catholic Charities, St.

Mark Catholic Center, 429 East Grandview Blvd. For more info, call Barbara Nitkiewicz at 824-1250. ☺

Trigon

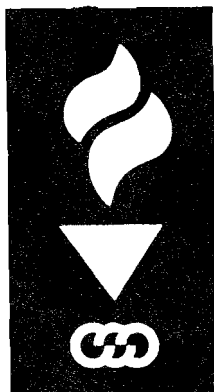
Support group for Behrend students, faculty, alumni. For more info, call (814)866-7387 or College Mailroom, Box 1054, Behrend College, Station Road, Erie, PA 16563.

Venango-Forest AIDS Support

All welcome! Meets every Tuesday at 6:30 pm at Christ Episcopal Church, 16 Center Avenue, Oil City, PA For more info, call 800-359-2437 or PO Box 834, Oil City, PA 16301

Womynspace Coffeehouse

The Womyn's Coffeehouse is an alcohol & smoke-free environment for lesbians, with a particular theme, topic or activity for each month. They get together on the 1st Saturday of each month at 7:30 pm. They meet at Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie. Presently looking for/open to new location. Contact Deb at (814)453-2785 or Sally at (814)454-2713.



Gay Games IV

**Gay Games
& Cultural
Festival
June 18-25
Stonewall 25
June 26**



JUNE 26 1994

HIV/AIDS Directory

AIDS Organizations & Services:

- AIDS Factline 1-800-324-AIDS
- Ashtabula Co. AIDS Task Force—Call Mary Ellen Coneglio (216)998-1020
- Ashtabula HIV+ Support Group.. (216)350-2554 (Chautauqua Co.) AIDS Community Services (716)664-7855
- (Chautauqua Co.) Jamestown HIV+ Support Group (716)664-7855
- Crawford Co. AIDS Coalition 337-3241 (Crawford) HIV+ Support Group & Family Support Group... Rosemary Buzzard at 333-5800
- (Erie) Catholic Charities Support Grp 824-1250
- Erie Co. AIDS Task Force Call Stephen Brockwell at 833-0942
- Erie Co. AIDS Network—Call Stephen Brockwell at 833-0942
- (Erie) Friends from the Heart (Direct Client Services) 838-0123
- (Erie) HIV/AIDS Outreach Ministry of Cathedral of St. Paul (Episcopal) 452-3779
- (Erie) Well Being HIV+ Support Group 838-0123
- National AIDS Hotline 1-800-662-6080
- Spanish AIDS Hotline..... 1-800-344-7432
- Venango-Forest AIDS Support .. 1-800-359-2437

HIV/AIDS COUNSELING AND TESTING PROGRAMS:

The following locations offer free, confidential counseling, testing, and referral.

- (Erie) Dept. of Health—STD Clinic ... 451-6700
- (Erie) MHEDS 453-6229 or 453-4728
- Jamestown or Buffalo (716)847-4520
- Meadville PA (814)332-6947
- Pittsburgh (412)578-8332
- Sharon PA (412)983-5150
- Youngstown OH (216)747-4805

**BRIDGES BOOK
FAIR AND DANCE
APRIL 23**

Community Directory

24 Hour Counseling:
 Saint Vincent 452-5151
 Family Crisis 456-2014
 Hamot 877-6136

Bars:

See back page!

Community Service Organizations:

Bridges 455-0549
 Out and Proud (Speakers' Bureau) 456-9833

Counseling:

South Shore Counseling Group 725-8504
 For more info, call Greg 833-3258

E-Mail for EGCN, LGLV, Bridges:

From CompuServe 70431,1622

Hotlines/National:

Hate Crimes (US Justice Dept) 800-347-4283

Political/Advocacy Organizations:

League of Gay & Lesbian Voters 833-3258

Publications:

Erie Gay Community Newsletter 456-9833

Religious Organizations:

Commitment Vows Terry Kime at 864-9300
 Dignity 864-4627
 Integrity 774-0903
 Unitarian Universalist Congreg. of Erie 864-9300

Social Organizations:

Men's Coffeehouse 455-9049
 10% Network (Jamestown Social Group)
 (716)484-7285/664-5556
 Rainbow Connection (Warren PA) 757-8583
 Womynspace Coffeehouse 454-2713

Student Organizations/Youth:


Comm. in Support of Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual
 People (Allegheny College, Meadville) .. 332-4368
 Edinboro Gay Organization (EGO) 732-2574
 GALA 10 (Mercyhurst College) 824-2572
 Gay Youth Pride Erie Mark at 899-6528
 Gay & Lesbian Youth of Buffalo .. (716)855-0221
 Indianapolis Gay Youth Hotline 1-800-347-8336
 (Under 21; Available Thu-Sun 7pm to Midnight)
 Jamestown Comm. College Grp... (716)665-5220
 National Runaway Switchboard . 1-800-621-4000
 SUNY-Fredonia G/L/B Student U(716)673-3424
 Teen Hotline (412)771-8336

Trigon (Behrend College) 866-7387

Support Groups

Chautauqua Gay Fathers & Lesbian Mothers
 (716)672-6682
 Erie Sisters 2115 W. 8th St., # 261, Erie, PA
 16505
 Jamestown Gay/Lesbian Drug & Alcohol Abuse..
 (716) 483-0749
 Lesbian Moms Support Group..... 796-3535
 Lambda Group—Gay AA (formerly Life's Blood)
 Sundays, 8:00 p.m. Unitarian Universalist
 Congregation of Erie.
 PFLAG-Erie Kathy at 838-6020
 PFLAG-Jamestown . (716) 488-1264 or 763-1529

*All numbers are area code 814 unless
 otherwise noted. Are you a lesbigay-
 friendly physician or professional? Please
 let us know so we can list you!*

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A Foundation for the Community

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 and Bisexual Community.**

For information on applying for grants, scholarships,
 making donations or simply getting involved contact:

The Lambda Foundation
 PO Box 5169, Pittsburgh, PA 15206 • 412/ 521-5444

Area Bars and Places

Ashtabula

Leeward Lounge, 1022 Bridge Street. Open 7 days, 7 p.m. - 2:30 a.m., food served till 1:30 a.m. (216)364-9935. Fri & Sat - \$1 cover, half goes into a 50-50 draw at end of the night, other half goes to person taking the cover. Carries *Gay People's Chronicle* AIDS Food Pantry collection site.

Erie

Gay-a-Grain's, 18 North Park Row. Mon-Wed 7:30am-11pm, Thurs-Sat 7:30 am-12 mid. A gay-friendly coffeehouse. Poetry every other week.

Lissa Jordan's Part II, 3412 West 12th. Open Mon-Sat. Bowling on Tuesday nights from 9 pm till whenever. Country played on Wednesdays. DJ with dance interaction 9:30 to 11. DJ on Friday & Saturday. Shows on some Fridays. Carries Pittsburgh's *Out*.

Silver Slipper, 1517 State Street. Open Mon-Sat. Live DJ music 9 p.m. - 2 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. On Friday the DJ plays till 10:30 p.m. (30s, 40s and 70s). Food served. Carries *Gay People's Chronicle*.

Jamestown & Southwest NY

Nite Spot, 201 Wilson, Jamestown. Open Tues-Sun 7pm-2am. Closed Mon. DJ Fri & Sat 10pm-2am. Sat. Drag show. DJ after 9:30 pm, no cover. Nightly specials.

Backin' Duck Inn, 28 Genesee Parkway, Cuba NY. Near Olean, 100 miles from Erie. Gay-owned Bed & Breakfast. Call (716)968-5355 for more info.

Snackery, 100 Harrison, Jamestown. (716)484-8816. Open 7 days a week, 2 p.m. to 2 a.m. DJ Fridays and Saturdays 10-2, Sundays. Pool tournaments, starting 6 p.m.

Subscription Form

Name _____

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The cost of your subscription includes the 12 months of newsletters mailed quarterly to you in a security envelope for 1 year. Please send this with your check for \$15 made payable to "EGC Coalition" to EGCN, PO Box 3065, Erie, PA 16508-3065. Compuserver: 70451.1622. Please remember to support our advertisers!



Bridges Book Fair!!

Bridges will have \$4,000-\$5,000 in book titles of interest to the lesbian community at our Spring Informal Dance on April 23. The Dance will be at the Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Ferry Highway from 8 pm to midnight.

More details next issue!



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