

Erie Gay Community Newsletter - Extra! Winter, 1993 Edition - Premiere Edition!

1992 - A Banner Year for Erie Area's Lesbians

1992 was an unbelievable year for the gay community in the Erie area. Beginning in the spring, gay groups started popping up all over. Nothing like it had ever happened before.

The local explosion reflected what was going on nationally. All over the country, gay, lesbian and bisexual issues and actions burst onto the scene with unprecedented power and visibility. The 1992 election year was compared to the Stonewall Riots in 1969 in terms of its importance for gay/lesbian power.

Here's a retrospect of an incredible year and here's to more of the same!

League of Gay & Lesbian Voters

The newly formed chapter of the League of Gay and Lesbian Voters gathered information on candidates for state and federal offices. This information was taken from questionnaires returned by the candidates as well as from the candidates' records.

The gathered information went into the LGLV Voters' Guide. That first guide would figure prominently in the fall race for 1st District Assembly seat.

The production of the spring Primary Election issue of the Voters' Guide was complicated because voting districts had just been rearranged. On top of that, the Pittsburgh printer who had been commissioned to print the Guide was not doing so. The League ended up having an Erie printer do the job (5,000 copies—with one week to go before the election!) When it became clear that the local printer was going to be unable to finish it, the League managed to coordinate a massive volunteer effort that went on for two days and two nights—with about 30-40 volunteers folding collating, stapling and "cutting" the guides. A potential disaster was averted by this great cooperative effort.

The Erie LGLV chapter put a lot of effort into the issue of hate crimes against "lesbian" individuals. Members pushed for

passage of House Bill 1353, which would amend Pennsylvania's Bias Crimes Act to include acts committed against people because of their actual or perceived sexual orientation. The Bias Crimes Act has protected other minority groups for the past decade. Activities included educating the public at large by speaking with the media, collecting hate crimes information from local victims of anti-gay violence and lobbying legislators. At least one member was successful in obtaining the support of his representative.

The trial in the gay-bashing/murder of Donald Kremer, a local gay man, was held at the same time that HB 1353 was being considered in the PA House. The details of the well-publicized trial demonstrated why "special protection" is needed for the gay community. An Erie jury returned a guilty verdict against the two men accused of Kremer's murder.

The Times-News published an article on violence against gay men and lesbians in the Erie area. Jerry Trambley, author of the article, quoted several gay people. The article gave almost everyone pseudonyms and

appeared just before the HB 1353 vote. The session ran out before the House could vote on the bill. (It was approved by the Judiciary Committee). The bill will be re-introduced.

Cascade Street Playground

One big cooperative project also was assisting in the construction of the Cascade Street Playground behind Emerson Elementary School. Pastor Todd Davis of Kingsley United Methodist Church had contacted the League, as well as numerous other groups and individuals in the general community for help in building the playground. In mid-May, members of Erie's lesbian community worked 100 hours on the project. A plaque to be posted at the playground will include "Erie's Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Community." It was a very heartening experience to see so many of Erie's people, gay and straight, working happily together on a project to improve the community for all of us.

KKK

Local members of the Ku Klux Klan were also busy organizing in 1992. The Klan planned a massive rally to be held in Albion, see 1992 in Review, page 6

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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.

An Opinion on Outing by Jacquelyn, member of the editorial staff

In talking with people about the *Erie Gay Community Newsletter*, some people questioned us about whether or not we were in favor of or would practice "outing."

The issue became real to people in the Erie area when it was learned that three people were "outed" on WSEE-TV's series "Erie's Gay '90s," after reporter Randy MacIlwain had agreed not to expose their identities.

For the record, we will not be "outing" anyone in this publication. We believe that each individual has the right to determine whether or not it's the right time to come out. Each person has different circumstances in their life, and a decision about coming out publicly involves taking into consideration such issues as one's work and family situation, the community one lives in, one's own feelings about being gay, the network of support one has, the neighborhood one lives in, and the possibility of becoming the target of violent attack or vandalism. In short, the decision to be out on a more public level is not a decision to take lightly.

Is forced public "outing" ever okay? We found some difference of opinion about that. Some of us think that "outing" is basically wrong except in cases where it exposes someone who repeatedly acts in a hypocritical way—such as the gay congressman who repeatedly votes against gay affirmative legislation. Others of us think publicly "outing" someone is always wrong because it leads to a perception of us as uncaring radicals tramping with single minded intent on the rights of others.

I personally believe that "outing" is always wrong regardless of the motivations behind it. In my personal life, I have found it to be an empowering experience to come out voluntarily to family members and to trusted friends and co-workers. My choice of

sexual partner is irrelevant to those who know me, care about me, and love me. To be free of the secret of my lesbianism has, for me, been a wonderfully restoring experience. The chains of homophobia, both internalized and externalized, have been knocked a little freer and I do not feel prisoner to my sexual orientation. It just flat out takes less energy to be open than it does to maintain a secret.

To conclude, I believe that "outing" another is wrong but that we would be wise to out our individual selves at every opportunity. That we may lead fuller lives, taking all of ourselves everywhere we go. We must encourage and support one another as we move out of isolation, out of our closets and into fuller community with many, many others. I truly believe that 90 percent of the population does not care whether I am gay or straight. That it is just not relevant to their lives. I think we make much ado about who we are and then fight the enemies our minds create. So go out, if you must, and proclaim your sexuality from the nearest rooftop but never, ever, out another.

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.

Upcoming Features

- ▽ **Reviews:** Books, films, videos, music
- ▽ **Q&A:** Got a question? Send it our way!
- ▽ **Safer Sex info:** Where to buy condoms for less, how to make safer sex hot, etc
- ▽ **Transitions:** Birthdays, deaths, anniversaries, marriages/handfastings, births, jobs, promotions, moves out of towns, etc
- ▽ **Letters to the Editors**
- ▽ **AIDS/HIV info:** Where to get confidential HIV testing, etc

Subscriptions & Ad Rates

Wanna be sure to always get the latest and greatest in Erie's lesbigay community news every month? Have we got a deal for you! For just \$15 per year, we will mail you the quarterly expanded edition of *EGCN*, as well as the regular edition of the newsletter in the months that the supplement is not published. That's \$1.25 per month! How can you pass this up? Send your check for \$15, payable to *EGC Coalition*, to *EGCN*, PO Box 3063, Erie, PA 16508-3063. Call (814) 456-9833 for more information. The newsletter arrives discreetly in a security envelope with just our PO Box as the return address. We won't put your name on any other mailing list without your explicit consent.

Business and Sponsors! Show your support and reach Erie's lesbigay community directly! Advertising space is now available in the quarterly supplement 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 (814) 456-9833 for further details!

Bridges' Community Dance II

We had so much fun that we want to do it again! On Saturday, January 30th, 1993, Bridges presents a Dance at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie (7180 Perry Highway in Erie) from 8:00 pm to 1:00 am. Refreshments will be provided and this is open to everyone. Tickets at the door are \$4 per person or \$3 and a non-perishable food item for Erie's Food Bank. We want to thank everyone who showed up at our last wildly successful dance. You say you need more information? Call

Jacquelyn at
(814) 455-0549 or
Michael at
(814) 456-9833.



Homo-Cooked Meals

Boule de Neige - Snowballs

10 oz semisweet chocolate, coarsely chopped (or use chips)

3/4 cups brewed strong coffee

1 1/4 cups sugar

12 tablespoons (1 1/2 sticks) unsalted butter at room temperature

5 eggs

1 oz dark rum or coffee flavored liqueur (optional)

2 pints heavy cream

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease a 5 1/2 by 9 inch ovenproof loaf pan

2. In a double boiler, melt together chocolate, brewed coffee and sugar over low heat. Set aside to cool for 10 minutes.

3. Turn the mixture into a medium bowl. Using an electric mixer, add butter, mixing at low speed until incorporated. One at a time, add the eggs, mixing thoroughly after each addition. Stir in dark rum!

4. Pour mixture into the prepared loaf pan and bake 1 hour, until the mixture is puffed and cracked. Cool to room temperature on a rack. Refrigerate for at least 8 hours or overnight.

To Serve: In a bowl, whip the cream until it holds stiff peaks. Use an ice cream scoop or two spoons to shape the chocolate into balls, about 3 inches in diameter. Fit a pastry with a decorative star tip and fill with whipped cream. Pipe each boule with a coating of whipped cream.

Les-Bean Soup

1 lb dry navy beans, soaked overnight

1 cup celery

1 cup onions

1 clove garlic

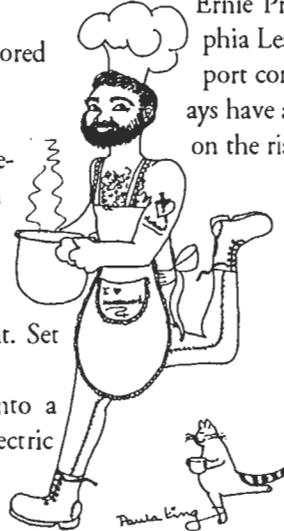
1 lg can tomatoes, chunked

1 lg can chicken broth

1 lg ham slice, diced

Freshly ground black pepper

Saute celery, onions & garlic in



butter until soft. Simmer gently for 2-3 hours until the beans are soft. Add lots of pepper, if you like, but be careful with salting because the ham is naturally salty.

Reports Show Hate Crimes Up in Pennsylvania

Reports issued by the Attorney General Ernie Preate's Office and the Philadelphia Lesbian and Gay Task Force support conclusions some Erie area lesbians have already drawn—hate crimes are on the rise in Pennsylvania.

According to information in the Preate report, all categories of hate crimes increased 60% during the 1991-92 fiscal year. Included in the statistics was the fact that more than 50% of all gay men and more than 25% of all lesbians have been victims of violence.

The PLGTF study showed a decline in criminal violence against lesbians throughout the state, but showed increases in both minor (threats, chasings) and major criminal violence toward gay males. The findings—28% of all lesbians and 60% of all gay males have been victims of criminal violence—parallels the results in the Preate study. According to the US Department of Justice, the victimization rate for gays is 7 times that of the average adult population, and 3 times higher for lesbians.

Although the League of Gay and Lesbian Voters' keeps bias crime statistics for the Erie area, few lesbians have filed reports. However, the perception is that violence is not abating, and criminalization rates likely mirror the rest of the state.

If you have been the victim of a hate-motivated crime, you can report the incident to the League. It is not necessary for you to include your name in the report, but we encourage you to. Call Michael at 456-9833, or Greg at 833-3258. We suggest you also report it to the local police, and the Hate Crimes Hotline—administered by the US Justice Department—at 800-347-4283.



Erie Area's Lesbigan Community—The Future

By Michael Mahler

Erie area's lesbigan community has made some **amazing** strides in the past year. To think, not much more than a year and a half ago, I was wondering if there was such an entity. I feel that there are some things which do not as yet exist that should.

Erie really needs a chapter of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG). There are PFLAG chapters nationwide, including Buffalo, Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Jamestown. Certainly, our family and friends could use the support that such a worthy organization could provide. We also need some kind of support system or group for lesbigan youth. It has been established that this population commits suicide at 3 times the rate of non-gay youth. Human beings are too valuable to allow this to happen. Maybe there are other populations within our community that feel the need for support groups specific to their needs.

Plans are going strong for a bus trip to the March on Washington on April 25, 1993. I encourage **all** of you to attend or support this. Wouldn't it be nifty to also organize a trip to New York City in June of 1994 to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Stonewall, regarded by most as the birth of the modern gay movement?

It would be great to see this newsletter strongly supported by subscribers and advertisers (see *Subscriptions and Advertiser Rates* for more info). One of the most important ways to build a strong and happy lesbigan community is to keep everyone informed; your help is essential in making this happen. Not only can you help by subscribing and/or advertising, you can also help by helping us get material for this: events, new groups, opinions, questions, artwork, articles, and news. It would also help to have a directory of local gay/gay-friendly businesses and resources. We are trying to encourage all local gay & gay-friendly resources to list in the GaYellow Pages (contact us at PO Box 3063, Erie, PA 16508-3063) so we can let people out of our

area know about us. It would also be useful to have a local directory of resources.

We could also use at some point some sort of centralized office to hold meetings and work parties. Having a post office box and a community newsletter are excellent strides forward. This supplement is scheduled to be quarterly; maybe bimonthly will at some point be a possibility.

We have much to be proud of, and a lot to look forward to. Together, we can accomplish so much it may surprise us.

In Search of Youth Services By Greg Valiga

Author's Note: In the course of searching for supportive youth services, it was suggested that I contact local school districts to find how our gay and lesbian youth are being treated now. After many phone calls to pleasant secretaries, administrators, guidance counselors, and a teacher, I couldn't decide if I was getting the run-around because of the controversial nature of my questions, or if these people simply weren't qualified to deal with this subject. What follows is the result of my search, which started innocently enough as a listing of youth services.

One of the most difficult periods in a lesbian or gay person's life is when they begin to realize that their sexuality is different from the norm. Recognizing the difference at a young age makes it even more unbearable, as I'm sure most of us are well aware.

The few who have not gone through this process of sexual awareness in school may still be familiar with the results: as we discover who and what we are, we become more aware of society's contempt for us by the persistence of its ugly characterizations and comments about us. The constant derision, whether it is aimed at oneself or another individual, steadily chips away at the armor of one's psyche, until lasting damage develops. The resultant scars caused by this physical and verbal abuse become the foundation upon which we oftentimes build shaky relationships, lending fundamentalists convincing evidence that gay and lesbian relationships are genuinely unstable.

How do we go about changing this insidious destruction of our youth? The answer is exceedingly simple in theory, but mostly impossible in practice—provide affirmative programs for teenagers in schools.

Not surprisingly, after speaking with representatives from area schools, I recognized a familiar pattern—few youths were coming forward with problems concerning their sexual identity, so schools could easily dodge the issue by saying the services and support were not needed. As an example of how things have been, let me relate an experience of Jim, now in his mid twenties. Jim attended both Tech and Academy High Schools, and was 'out' at both schools. He experienced homophobia at both schools, and received no support from the guidance offices. In a meeting with a Vice Principal who was aware of his sexual orientation, Jim was verbally assaulted by the VP, who shouted at one point, "Haven't you ever sucked a woman's tit?" Thankfully, this individual is no longer employed in the district. But how many more like him are present in our schools today? And has the approach changed at all in recent years?

The procedure these days is through crisis management. You know the deal—wait until the unfortunate soul is at the brink of self-destruction before calling out the troops from an area hospital's mental health unit. When I first heard of this band-aid approach, I asked indignantly, "Is this how the sexual orientation issue is regarded—as a mental health concern?" I was assured it wasn't, but by the time counselors are aware that someone is experiencing difficulty, it has festered into a problem best handled by Mental Health. Why should we be led to believe that Mental Health can better handle troubled lesbians and gays? One counselor I spoke with said she was assisting an individual who found Mental Health counseling deplorable after the client confronted the advisor with her sexual orientation.

Could this approach be any more twisted or ironic? The problems gays and lesbians face are not caused by their sexuality, they are caused by society's lack of acceptance toward them. Give our youth some support

and acceptance before the fact, and we will undoubtedly see more well-adjusted, happy teens—and consequently, stable, productive members of society.

School administrators aren't the only adults turning their backs on this problem. The result of the gay and lesbian population's apathy towards area teens is also apparent. Take a look out at the bars and on downtown streets—we have young gays with low self-esteem having unsafe sex with people they don't even know; there are many who who absolutely will not come 'out'—because few of us are willing to lead the march out of the closet; drug and alcohol abuse are rampant; young gays and lesbians rarely even interact with one another—may turn their heads when a familiar bar face turns up in public; violence among partners is commonplace... Add to this the young who are quietly committing suicide because we have provided precious little leadership for them. It's no wonder that gay and lesbian youth need guidance and direction.

A counselor at a large county high school was well aware of the dilemma, and the lack of policy aimed at gays. While she seemed sympathetic towards the problem, she suggested the gay and lesbian community do more to provide these services outside the confines of the schools because of the controversy involved. She cited, as an example, a troubled individual in her district who was attending a support group provided by the gay and lesbian community. An arrangement like this seems ideal—youth being helped by understanding, gay or lesbian adults—until one examines the motivation behind the advice. Clearly, pressure sensitive advisors don't want to open a can of worms, so the tendency here is to deny existence of the problem so it can be disregarded. Anyone causing trouble or demanding attention can be easily referred to an outside provider.

How can we expect the society which has oppressed us for so long to initiate services for us now? Perhaps the solution would be to search for a qualified individual within our community who could provide experience and leadership in working with

our schools and legislators to push for reform. A visible role model appearing on a newscast would have a great impact upon our youth. As the saying goes, if it helps one person, then it's worth it.

In conclusion, I believe we all should be responsible for the well being of our younger 'brothers and sisters'. We may not all be qualified or motivated to assume total leadership, but each of us can contribute by educating both ourselves and any person under 21 about the services provided locally and nationally:

Erie Area Support and Counseling

Listed here are counselors known to be gay/lesbian affirmative. This list is not complete, others are being researched. If you have a negative experience with any of these, please contact Greg at 833-3258, or write: LGLV, Box 3063, Erie, PA 16508-3063.

Lisa DiPlacido, MS 452-4366 Private practice gay/lesbian affirmative counseling by appt. Fees based on a sliding fee scale.

South Shore Counseling Group 725-8504 Gay/lesbian affirmative counseling. Fees are also based on a sliding scale.

GALA-10 (Gay and Lesbian Alliance-10) Support group for gays/lesbians of all ages. Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 8 pm on the 3rd floor of Old Main on Mercyhurst campus. Free counseling available, ask for Sister Marlene Lehmkuhl.

Pittsburgh-Cleveland Support Growing Alternative Youth (412) 521-5444 PO Box 71053, Pgh, PA 15206
Presence and Respect for Youth in Sexual Minority (216) 522-1999 c/o Cleveland Lesbian-Gay Community Center, PO Box 6177, Cleveland, OH, 44101

National

Indianapolis Youth Group (800) 347-8336 This organization operates a toll-free hotline for gay/lesbian/bi youth. It is accessible to the hearing impaired, and is available for youth under 21 only. NOTE: The hotline runs only Thursday through Sunday, 7pm to midnight.

National Gay Youth Network Publishes "We Are Here," a resource guide for gay/

lesbian youth. Send \$3 to NGYN, Box 846, San Francisco, CA 94101

Pen Pals Alyson Publications provides a pen pal service—for information (including how to set up an alternative address), write: Alyson Publications, Pen Pals, 40 Plympton Street, Boston, MA 07718
National Gay Alliance for Young Adults Supports a program for isolated youth to correspond with each other. Free service to members, memberships are easy to get. For pamphlet (which includes how to obtain an alternative address), write: NGAYA, Box 190426, Dallas, TX 75219

Lesbian Mother Support Group

We know that lesbian mothers and their children from all over northwestern Pennsylvania have been informally getting together for years to offer each other support and have some fun. Now some of us are ready to explore the idea of forming an organized group (you know, like in the big cities!)

**Washington DC
APRIL 25, 1993**



**DON'T MISS
THIS ONE!**

dinner (bring a dish; table service and beverage provided); a short organizational meeting, and some fun and games thrown in. All lesbian mothers, lesbian co-parents, and children are welcome.

We are open to any and all ideas and looking for the group to create itself around our common needs. Our proposed purpose is to come together, meet each other, and share our mothering experience. We'd like to plan family activities with like-minded/like-lifestyled families and offer support for both mothers and children. Lesbians not yet mothers, but interested in the possibility of parenthood, are encouraged to come.

Our first meeting is being planned for Saturday, January 9th, 1993, at 5:00 pm, at the office of Lucinda Marsh in Waterford. For directions please call the office at 796-3535. It will include a pot luck

1992 in Review, continued.

with the hopes of building a strong Klan presence in northwest PA.

Inter Church Ministries (ICM), which is an organization of area churches, began meeting to discuss actions to take. Integrity became part of that effort, and sent Jacquelyn in as a representative. Integrity is the Episcopal ministry to the gay and lesbian community.

"We were concerned about the Klan for two reasons," said Jacquelyn. "One, because we are generally opposed to the Klan's philosophy and practice of spreading fear and hatred. And two, because we as gay men and lesbians are a major target of that hatred."

After some dialogue, ICM chair Bill Merriman included "sexual orientation" in his public statements against bigotry and in favor of tolerance.

Cup-a-ccino's, the popular gay-friendly coffeehouse, also participated in the pro-diversity activities by taking part in the Peace Project: A Peaceful Alternative, a day that celebrated diversity among all people. Musicians performed for free and management printed and made available a booklet featuring speeches and writings that called for an end to all discrimination.

The Klan rally went on as scheduled and was a massive failure. As much as we tend to think of Erie as a conservative place to live, we may all take pride in the fact that organized hatred found no real support here.

Erie Gay Community Newsletter

The *Erie Gay Community Newsletter* started publication in the spring, on a more or less monthly basis. It listed together in one place all the activities, events, meetings, and announcements of interest to the "lesbigay" community. It helped promote an awareness of the burgeoning gay community in the area, and probably inspired new organizations.

The calendar will continue to come out on a monthly basis. The expanded newsletter—with news and features—will come out on a quarterly basis. [Ed's note: Subscriptions are available! See *Subscription and Ad Rates* in this issue! Never miss another issue! Operators are standing bi!]

First Publicly Out Erieite

In May, Michael Mahler became the first local gay person to voluntarily come out in the media.

Mahler is the spokesperson for the Erie Chapter of the League of Gay and Lesbian Voters, and had been contacted by

WSEE-TV to respond to the guilty verdict in the Donald Kremer gay-bashing/murder trial.

Since then, Mahler has appeared several times on TV, twice on WLKK, and in the local paper.

"I was tired of gays always looking like mafia members, hiding in the shadows. If there is going to be any progress in respect and decent treatment for gay people, we have to act responsibly and with pride," Mahler said.

He has not suffered any real repercussions, but reports receiving hate-messages on his answering machine.

Pride Picnic

In June the Pride Picnic was held. The picnic was scheduled for June because that is the month when gay and lesbian pride marches and other observances take place around the country and internationally.

Held at a cabin near Beach 6, the picnic attracted about 40-60 people. Organizers of this first effort didn't strive for large attendance, preferring to see how the event went before moving on to something that drew a real crowd.

There weren't really any organized events, but folks attending the picnic kept themselves entertained by hanging out on the beach, playing games, hiking, listening to music, chatting with friends...and, of course, sampling the various foods (it was a pot luck).

Bridges will be taking over the Pride Picnic (next is scheduled for June 12, 1993), but in the future, it will probably not be held



PIE IN THE SKY

"Real Food
for
Surreal People"

CAFE

HOURS
 Breakfast M-F 7:30-11:00
 Lunch M-F 11:30-2:00
 Dinner Th, F & Sa 5:30-9:00

W 8th & Walnut Street
 Erie PA
 459-8638

at the peninsula. This decision was reached because it contradicted what the picnic was supposed to be about: since the picnic was in a public park, the lesbians and gay men attending the picnic respected the sensibilities of others in the park and did not "act gay" or show physical affection to the same sex. Although such respect for others is to be commended, it doesn't seem right to go to a gay pride event and feel restrained about being gay. So at this writing, alternative sites are being investigated. Suggestions would be appreciated.

Coalition: Bridges

In the mid-summer and early fall, a group of people from several local gay and lesbian organizations started meeting to talk about developing communications and cooperation between the various groups. One of the ways they wanted to accomplish this was by working on certain projects together. The first of these projects was the Community Dance, held on October 24. Another dance is planned for January 30 and an open forum/pot luck for February 20.

Bridges' first dance was a roaring success. The dance was held at the Unitarian Universalist Church and attracted about 150 people. The DJ kept the crowd dancing all night. A separate quiet area was set aside for those who wanted to socialize with each other. La Bella Bistro Restaurant donated a delightful spread of gourmet food. A long table with free literature from the various organizations was set up. The Closet Door Prize Raffle, a Basket of Debauchery, was a major hit. Another is planned for the next dance. Another positive result of the Com-

munity Dance was this expanded version of the newsletter. The monies raised from the dance are helping to defray the cost of this publication.

Linda Bebko Jones vs Jerry Knight

Erie's first gay rights battle took place in the fall race for the First District (Eastside) Assembly seat.

Republican candidate Jerry Knight attacked Democratic candidate Linda Bebko-Jones for her support of gay and lesbian rights, and distorted her statements favoring better AIDS education and prevention programs. The anti-gay stance became Knight's major focus in the campaign. The Republican State Committee helped fund these efforts.

Knight used the League of Gay and Lesbian Voters' *Voters' Guide* as "documented proof" of Bebko-Jones' stands on these issues, and frequently referred to the guide in campaign literature and ads. The League specifically prohibits the partisan use of information in the guide, and sought legal recourse for copyright infringement. Knight also misused voters' guides put out by the League of Women Voters and the Central Labor Council, and these organizations publicly criticized Knight for that misuse.

A number of lesbians and gay men became active in the Bebko-Jones campaign, because they were angered and concerned about Knight's tactics. It was the first time gay people became active—as a group—in an Erie election, and many who participated said they would like to become involved in an ongoing partisan political action group (the LGLV does not become involved in campaigns for political office).

Bebko-Jones won by over 1,000 votes. It's not known how much Knight's gay-bashing hurt him. One can safely assume that this approach upset almost all of his district's gay and lesbian voters, which would have cost him a 10% voting block. Also, in elections around the country, gay-bashing as a political tactic tended to back-fire on the people using it, with many of the gay-bashing candidates losing elections. But Knight also offended the sensibilities of liberal Democrats and moderate voters of

both parties. Also Bebko-Jones has a lot of support in the black community, in organized labor, in women's groups, among seniors, and among the city's eastside Democratic voters. These people were willing to work hard to get Bebko-Jones into office.

WSEE Series

In November, WSEE-TV ran a three-part series called *Erie's Gay 90's*, produced by reporter Randy MacIwain.

The station had done a three-part series on Erie's gay community once before—in 1985, loosely based around the theme of Gays and AIDS in Erie. The difference this time was that there were local gay men and lesbians willing to speak on camera, with no facial disguising or voice alterations.

People in the gay community were so divided in their opinions over this series that it's hard to believe they all watched the same thing. Here's what it included:

The first segment focused on legal and political issues, with much attention given to the League of Gay and Lesbian Voters and anti-gay violence. Chris Young (founder of the League) and Michael Mahler (League secretary and spokesperson) spoke on camera about the purpose of LGLV and the need for equality and respect.

Bob Burford, DJ at the Silver Slipper bar, spoke about the verbal harassment and assaults that had taken place outside the Slipper. Reporter MacIwain brought up Republican Jerry Knight's anti-gay political campaign, and mentioned the possibility that it may have cost him the election. Visuals in the first segment included an LGLV meeting and a waist-down shot of people dancing at the Slipper.

The second segment centered on work, and featured an interview with Dr. Lucinda Marsh in her office. Bob Burford was shown again, discussing the anti-gay harassment he experienced while working at the Millcreek Mall. Meg Maly, a local human sexuality educator, discussed anti-gay prejudice in the work place. Visuals included Dr. Marsh working on MacIwain (Marsh is a doctor of Chiropractic), and the bar scene from the first segment was shown again for some odd reason. Dr. Marsh said that she knew of at

least nine gay friends of hers who were professionals, none of whom were in a position, personally or professionally, to speak out, but she was so "I can do it."

The third and final segment dealt with family-related issues. Much time was spent with Dr. Marsh, who has a 2-year-old daughter. She discussed being a lesbian mom, and was shown reading to and being affectionate with her little girl. Rick Shenker from the Erie chapter of the right-wing Christian Coalition was shown denouncing gays as "demented and depraved" and unworthy of parenthood; Dr. Marsh's dignified and gentle demeanor in the interview did a lot to discredit that view. Meg Maly commented favorably on the suitability of gay and lesbian parents.

There was another first achieved by this series, and it is much more disturbing: MacIwain "outed" three gay people, exposing their identities even though he had agreed not to. This, then, was the first time in anyone's memory that any media person has ever gone against an agreement to protect the confidentiality of local gay people.

House of Compassion

Father Pat Dunlap, a Roman Catholic priest, established the House of Compassion, a home for men dying of AIDS. In the fall, Father Dunlap passed away due to complications from AIDS, and the House of Compassion closed shortly after that. Fr. Dunlap is profoundly missed, and we offer our condolences to his loved ones.

New Groups/Campus Groups

The Men's Coffeehouse started meeting at the Unitarian-Universalist Church, providing a smoke-free, alcohol-free space for gay and bisexual men to get together. Activities include videos, pot lucks, sing-alongs, and game nights.

Life's Blood, the gay A.A. group, became more well-attended in the spring. Feeling safe about being open and honest is so important in succeeding with a 12-step program, and Life's Blood now provides such a place for gay people who need it.

Two new gay and lesbian student groups formed in the Erie area in 1992.

This past spring at Mercyhurst College, the Gay and Lesbian Alliance-10 was formed.

It's a support group for lesbians and gay men as well as a place where concerned non-gay people can come to gain an understanding about gay people. Many people outside of the Mercyhurst community attend the meetings.

At Behrend, students have formed a support group called TRIGON (originally Gamma Beta Lambda). Despite the name, the group is not part of the Greek system and is open to all gay men and lesbians at Behrend. In December 1992, the Behrend Student Government voted unanimously to make TRIGON an official student organization.

Allegheny College's Committee in Support of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual People—formed in 1991, really started picking up steam.

And this year EGO (Edinboro Gay and Lesbian Organization) had its 14th birthday, making it the longest existing gay organization in northwestern Pennsylvania. Started in 1978, it was originally called the Homophile League. Although the group has had its dormant periods and the massive membership turnover characteristic of student groups, it has hung in there. Congratulations, EGO!

Two other groups celebrated anniversaries in 1992. Womynspace turned three years old this fall, Integrity turned two.

Groups forming at the end of 1992 include a lesbian mother's support group (see related article) and Friends Alike, a peer support group for lesbian and cross-gendered people in the Oil City area (see *Groups and Meetings*).

The Erie area lesbian community had a lot to be proud of in 1992, and we are eager to see what the new year will bring!

Bridges

Bridges is a newly-formed organization within the Erie community. At this point in time, we are made up of a group of dedicated volunteers from other organizations. Our hope is that we will be able to help bring a more positive sense of lesbian and gay identity to the Erie area, to ourselves, and to all of you.

Since we are a new group, we are very much in the formation stages. Bridges can

be accurately referred to as an infant, a baby who is in need of the protection of all of us so that she may grow to her fullest potential. We who have been a part of Bridges are very excited. We are seeing that what we imagine, what we dream, can be made real. We can work together to improve our communication and people skills, we can resolve conflict within the group, we can encourage quieter voices to speak and to participate. Participation is the purpose which underlies the planned potluck and forum of February 20th. We want to hear and need to hear from each and everyone of you. Your voice is a valuable voice. And imagine, for just a moment, the power, resonance, and timbre of all of our voices raised at once and together.

Bridges first event was the very well attended dance of October 24th. From that first event, we raised the money needed to expand the newsletter to its current format. The money you gave us is coming back to you. This newsletter will hopefully keep you informed, entertain you, please you and at times provoke you. Also from that first dance we raised 125 pounds of food to donate to the Erie Food Bank. The Erie area lesbian and gay community has much to be proud of.

Our next planned dance is January 30th at the Unitarian Universalist Church. We hope to see all of you who came to the first dance at the second dance and at all of our future functions.

In community,
Jacquelyn

Integrity

Integrity NW/PA is an Episcopalian affiliated group for gays and lesbians. The Episcopal church is historically one of the three catholic branches of Christianity, The other two being Orthodox and Roman Catholic.

We are church in the sense that "wherever two or more of you are gathered in my name there I am." We are church because we support one another in our strengths and weaknesses along our spiritual journeys. We are church because we recognize that both body and soul must be nourished and that to

neglect one or the other is a great impoverishment.

We are a church that welcomes men and women, regardless of race, creed, or physical ability. Families and friends of gays and lesbians are most welcome. We are sensitive to women's issues regarding church policy and language. If you feel that Integrity can be a safe harbor for you in your search for God, then come and be among us.

Peace,
Dorothy, President

PA Civil Rights Bill

State College—Activists from six regions of Pennsylvania met recently to begin preliminary work on civil rights legislation aimed at providing protection to the commonwealth's 1,000,000 gay, lesbian and bisexual citizens.

Representatives from the Harrisburg, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Erie, Lancaster, and State College areas assessed legislator commitment, debated content and principle, and discussed strategy for this fundamental Pennsylvania legislation.

A considerable amount of time was spent deliberating the non-negotiable bottom line—what, if anything, would the lesbian and gay community be willing to give up (such as the right to marry) to get the bill passed? Attendees had the chance to review other states' laws; it was painfully obvious that activists had to make major concessions to get the laws on the books. Rita Adessa (Philadelphia Lesbian and Gay Task Force) made it clear she thought the Massachusetts law was a sell-out, and wanted stronger, more far-reaching language in the bill. Voting indicated, however, that large portions of the group realized that some compromise will be necessary to get the legislation to the Governor's desk.

If passed and signed, the new civil rights law would give Erie lesbians and gays protections for the first time ever. Your input is very important at this stage—you can help shape policy that will affect our community for years to come. Contact the League of Gay and Lesbian Voters, PO Box 3063, Erie, PA 16508-3063, with your suggestions; or call Greg at 833-3258.

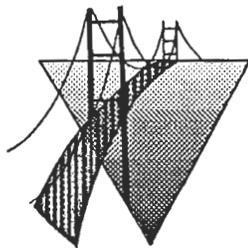
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Contact us at (814) 456-9833 if you would like to get extra copies to people or organizations you know.

Black Gay Writings

by Deb Spliko

Just a few years ago, there was very little literature written by or about gay, lesbian or bisexual African-Americans. Fortunately, this is changing. A recent wave of black gay published works has yielded some real treasures. Check out these anthologies for a sampling of what's out there.

Tongues Untied by Dirig Aaab-Richards & Others (GMP, \$7.95) The works of five black gay male poets, often erotic.

Piece of my Heart by Makeda Silvera. (Sister Vision \$19.95) Stories, interviews, photos & poems by lesbians of color.

Brother to Brother edited by Essex Hemphill (Alyson, \$8.95) An anthology of fiction, essays, and poetry by black gay men.

Getting Wet edited by Carol Allain & Rosamund Elwyn (Women's Press of Canada, \$12.95) Lesbian erotica, edited by two black lesbians.

Warm December by Vega Studios (Vega Press, \$9.95) Collection of erotic and loving poetry, illustrations, photos, stories about black gay men.

You can find these and other black gay books at most lesbian & gay bookstores. Lambda Rising carries most black gay/lesbian books and is considering compiling a listing of all these titles. Their catalog regularly lists black gay works. Write to: Lambda Rising, 1625 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20009 or call: (202) 462-6969.

1992: The Gaying of Popular Culture

In 1992:

★ Garth Brooks, country music's most popular performer, released his single "We Shall be Free," which, among other things, supported same-sex love. Brooks spoke against homophobia in his interviews.

★ Sandra Bernhard and Morgan Fairchild became TV's most popular fictional lesbian couple on ABC's top ten-rated *Roseanne*.

★ k.d. lang and Elton John came out all the way, proudly. Elton's new single, "The Last Song," celebrates the love between a father and his dying gay son. The video was directed by *My Own Private Idaho* and the upcoming *Mayor of Castro Street* director Gus Van Sant.

★ PBS broke ground in depicting and affirming explicit gay and lesbian sexuality (for network TV) when they aired *Portrait of a Marriage* and *The Lost Language of Cranes*. Both of these aired locally.

★ Fox-TV's *Melrose Place* has a regular gay male character and on MTV's documentary series, *Real World*, a young gay male could be seen interacting with his non-gay roommates.

★ *The Advocate* celebrated 25 years of publishing. New glossy mainstream gay/lesbian magazines started appearing: *Out* magazine could be found on Liberty Plaza Loblaws' magazine stand!

★ An episode of *Northern Exposure* told the inspiring story of the town's lesbian beginnings.

La Bella Bistrot

West 4th at Cherry

454-3616

Phone for reservations

an eclectic restaurant sure to please. Bring your own alcohol.

Calendar & Groups

AIDS Council of Erie & Location: 554 East 10th Street; Erie, PA 16503-1314. ☎ (814) 455-5492. Hours: 8:30 to 4:30 Mon-Fri. Activities: Living with HIV Group. 1st Wed of month, 6 pm. Coffeehouse/Social every other Fri. Pot-Luck Supper (open) last Wed of month. Also Buddy program, Memorial service, Bereavement group. Call for more info

Bridges Coalition of organizations which seeks to use networking and communication skills to build a better community. Bridges, PO Box 3063, Erie, PA 16508-3063. ☎ (814) 455-0549 or (814) 456-9833. Next Meeting: Sun, Jan 17 at 1:00 pm (potluck at noon)

Committee in Support of Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual People Support group for Allegheny College student/faculty. C/CSGLBP, Box 17, Allegheny College, Meadville, PA, 16335. ☎ Jill at 332-4368. Upcoming Activities: Will resume meeting in mid-late Jan. In March, bringing in alumna Nancy Wilson, Senior Pastor of Metropolitan Community Church of LA. Sermon on Sunday, March 7 at Ford Chapel at Allegheny.

Edinboro Gay Organization (EGO) & Student group, primarily social. Meetings: Tuesdays from 8-10 pm in Hendricks Hall, Room G13, will resume in mid-late Jan. ☎ Jessica at (814) 732-2574.

Erie Sisters Peer support group for TV/TS/CD. Erie Sisters, 2115 West 8th Street, Suite 261, Erie, PA 16505

Friends Alike Peer support group for gay, lesbian, bisexual and cross-gendered people in Oil City. PO Box 904, Oil City, PA 16301-0904 ☎ Chris at (814) 676-0836.

Gay and Lesbian Alliance - the Other 10% (GALA 10) Support group for gay men and lesbians and friends and family. Open to public. Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of month at 8:00 pm, 3rd floor of Old Main on Mercyhurst Campus. Next are January 19, February 16 & March 16.

Gay and Lesbian Drug and Alcohol Abuse Support Group Meetings: Thursdays at 7:00 pm at Jamestown Community College (in Chautauqua room at the Library). ☎ (716) 664-5556 or (716) 483-0749

Integrity & Episcopalian-based spiritual and support group, welcomes people of all faiths. Meetings: 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month at St. Paul's Cathedral, 133 West 6th Street. Integrity-NWPA, PO Box 1782, Erie, PA, 16507-1782. ☎ (814) 455-0549. Upcoming Activities: Participating in a Dialogue on Human Sexuality sponsored by Episcopalian church as part of its attempt to come to an understanding of all of its various issues. Meets at 5:30 pm of the 3rd Sunday of each month at St. Paul's Cathedral. Need not be Episcopalian or a member of Integrity to attend. Next is Jan 10th, on inclusive language, sensitive to men & women and why the church needs to use it. ☎ 774-0903 for more info on this.

League of Gay and Lesbian Voters (LGLV) & Non partisan voters group. Publishes Voters' Guide for primary and general election, voter registration/education, lobbying. Meetings: 1st Sunday of the month at 5:00 pm at AIDS Council, 554 East 10th Street in Erie. Next are January 3, February 7 &

March 7. ☎ Michael at (814) 456-9833. LGLV-Erie, PO Box 3063, Erie, PA 16508-3063.

Life's Blood & Alcoholics Anonymous meetings for Gays and Lesbians. Meetings: Sundays at 8:00 pm at the AIDS Council, 554 East 10th Street in Erie.

Men's Coffeehouse & Alcohol and smoke-free environment with a particular theme, topic or activity for each month. Meetings: 2nd Friday of each month at 7:00 pm. Next are January 8, February 12 and March 12. ☎ (814) 455-9049.

Trigon (Gamma Beta Lambda) Support group for Behrend students, faculty, alumni. College Mailroom, Box 1054, Behrend College, Station Road, Erie, PA 16563. ☎ (814) 453-6232

Womynspace Alcohol and smoke-free environment for lesbians, with a particular theme, topic or activity for each month. Meetings: 1st Saturday of each month at 7:30 pm. Next are January 3, February 6, March 6. ☎ Sally at (814) 454-2713.

Upcoming Special Events
Important Note: Please call and/or write before these events to confirm; mistakes can occur and circumstances can change at the last moment.

AIDS Benefit Dinner Theater Featuring leading performers from the Erie Playhouse & others. Date not fixed yet. ☎ David at (814)455-9527 for more info, tickets. PO Box 814, Erie, PA 16512-0814.

Jan 8 (8 pm) & Jan 10 (3 pm)—Sins of the Mother Play about a lesbian daughter who takes her lover home for Thanksgiving. All sorts of family skeletons come falling out of the closet! Cleveland Public Theatre, 6415 Detroit Avenue, Cleveland. ☎ (216)631-2727

Jan 9—Organizational Meeting of Lesbian Mothers' Support Group See article in this issue for more info.

Jan 10—Integrity Inclusive language and why it is important that the Church uses it. At St. Paul's Cathedral at 7:00 pm. ☎ (814)455-0549

Jan 23-24 8pm—Nanjing Banana Race Play about two middle-aged bell hops who vie for the attention of a Japanese-American businessman. Cleveland Public Theater, 6415 Detroit Avenue, Cleveland. ☎ (216)631-2727

Jan 23—City of Good Neighbors Chorale Winter Concert (Buffalo) ☎ (716) 884-8670 for more info.

Jan 30—Bridges Community Dance & Held at Unitarian-Universalist Church, 7180 Perry Highway, from 8 pm to 1 am. Refreshment provided; open to everyone. Cost is \$4 or \$3 and a non-perishable item for Erie's Food Bank. ☎ Jacquelyn at (814) 455-0549 or Michael at (814) 456-9833.

Feb 2-7—A Chorus Line: The Broadway Tour Palace Theatre, 1519 Euclid Avenue (in Palace Square), Cleveland ☎ (216)771-4444

Feb 7—2nd Annual Salon Nouveau Fashion Show Benefits Pgh AIDS Task Force. Show, reception, jazz. 6pm at Heinz Hall, Pgh. ☎ (412)363-6500

Feb 11-14—National Girls' and Women's Sports Symposium & Held at Slippery Rock. Will feature workshops and videos, including *A League of Their Own*. Members of the All-American Girls' Softball League will be present for Hall of Fame induction

ceremonies; Roberta Roberts from ESPN will MC. Concert Sat Night (See next item). Public is invited. ☎ Laurel Dagnon, NGWSS, Slippery Rock University, Slippery Rock, PA 16057 ☎ (412)738-2027

Feb 13—In Concert-Holly Near and the Washington Sisters & Held at Slippery Rock Univ. 8:00 Miller Auditorium. Part of National Girls' and Women Sports Symposium. Also appearing will be the Washington Sisters, two African-American lesbian recording artists who do blues, jazz, swing, pop, folk and calypso. A party will follow the concert. ☎ (412)738-2027 to reserve tickets.

Feb 12—A Heart Day's Night Art auction to benefit AIDS organizations. Artworks inspired by valentines. Night will include entertainment, party, catered appetizers, and a chance to meet other party-goers. \$25 advance/\$30 at door. Price includes bid number, and all of the above. At Cleveland Center for Contemporary Art ☎ (216)421-8671

Feb 13—18th Annual Womyn's Variety Show Great Hall at the Civic, 3130 Mayfield Road at Lee, Cleveland Heights. Women only please. ☎ Oven Productions (216)321-7799

Feb 14-21—National Condom Week Info & Ideas: Pharmacists Planning, Inc. Box 1336, Sausalito, CA 94966 ☎ (415)332-4066

Feb 20—Bridges Forum/Potluck & Held at Unitarian-Universalist Church in Erie. Potluck at 6:00 pm, forum at 7:00. Open to all.

Feb 20—Cause for Celebration Main Place Mall in Buffalo, NY from 10pm to 2 am. \$10 donation at the door. Desserts, music, dancing and fun! for AIDS Community Services. ☎ (814) 847-2441 for more info.

Mar 7—Sermon by MCC of LA Senior Pastor Nancy Wilson At Ford Chapel at Allegheny College in Meadville. Brought to you by CSGLBP.

Mar 13—Rock-n-Roll Remembered Concert & North Coast Men's Chorus at Lakewood High School Try Out Theater in Cleveland, OH. ☎ North Coast Men's Chorus, PO Box 15181, Cleveland, OH 44115.

Apr 25—March on Washington Don't Miss This One!!! Chartered buses being arranged. See the ad in this issue. ☎ Sally at (814) 454-2713 or ☎ Erie March on Washington Committee, PO Box 3063, Erie, PA 16508-3063

May 27-31—Campfest (SE PA) "The comfortable lesbian festival." ☎ Campfest Festivals, RR 5, Box 185, Franklinville, NJ 08322 ☎ (609)694-2037

Jun 12—2nd Annual Pride Picnic & Sponsored by Bridges. Site to be determined. Open to all our friends. ☎ Jacquelyn at (814) 455-0549 or Michael at (814) 456-9833 for more info or write to Bridges.

Bars
Ashtabula, OH Leeward Lounge, 1022 Bridge Street
Erie, PA Lizzie Bordon's Part II, 3412 West 12th Street; Silver Slipper Lounge, 1317 State Street
Jamestown, NY Nite Spot, 201 Windsor Street; Sneakers, 100 Harrison

Washington DC
 APRIL 25, 1993



March on Washington, DC / April 25, 1993

Dear Family and Friends,
 Sunday, April 25th, 1993 will be a turning point in all of our lives! On that day the largest civil rights event in the history of our country will take place: the 1993 March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay, and Bi Equal Rights and Liberation. About a million people (650,000 of us were there in 1987) are expected to be visibly demonstrating our determination concerning social justice. And for the first time in our history, the President of the United States will support the demonstration. The March is surrounded by a week of events: concerts, conferences, rallies, receptions, banquets, lobbying, civil disobedience; there will be an interfaith service, a

mass wedding, and a week-long historical exhibit.

This is an extraordinary opportunity for us to celebrate our lives, to fully enjoy being who we are, to love openly and freely. We are part of history, we are making history! Please join us in Washington—it won't be the same without you!

You are encouraged to register for the March, which will connect you directly with the latest information out of

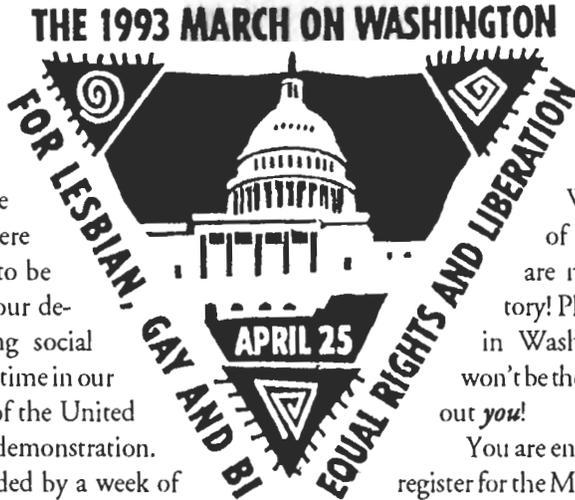
Washington. Locally, call (814) 454-2713 for more information.

You are also encouraged to join our charter bus trip between Erie and Washington. Two types of service are planned: a 48-hour trip staying over Saturday night and a 24-hour trip; both trips return to Erie late Sunday night. Individuals must arrange their own overnight accommodations: hotel reservations (800) 554-2220 / free community housing (202) 628-0493.

Local organizations are being encouraged to send representatives and all people unable to attend are most heartily invited to express both their emotional and financial support.

See you in Washington!

Sally Meiser
 Erie March on Washington Committee



Charter Bus Survey

Basic Details: About \$38 round trip Erie to DC. 46 person bus with bathroom. 8 hour trip (oneway) includes 1 hour stretch/meal stop.

I am going to DC, *not* by bus and I would like March information.

Please help us to shape our charter bus tour by completing the survey and returning it to: Erie March on Washington Committee, PO Box 3063, Erie, PA 16508-3063. Call

Smoking

- I will go only if I can smoke on the bus
- I will go only on a smoke free bus.
- I don't care if my bus is smoke free or not.
- I prefer:
 Smoking Smoke-Free

One Night Stay Over in DC

- I will go only if bus does not stay over
- I don't care if bus stays over or not
- I will go only if bus stays over (Saturday night, return late Sunday evening)

You need to arrange your own accommodations. Call 1-800-554-2220 for Hotel/Motels, and 1-202-628-0493 for Home Stay.

Special Needs: Please List any considerations important to you (examples - quiet/rest time, perfume free, different physical abilities)

- I would like to be a bus captain
- I would like to make signs for our bus(es)
- I am interested in going by charter bus and can't make a firm commitment until this date _____ (Please fill in survey)

Thanks! And see you in DC on April 25, 1993! Don't miss this one! Return this Survey Form to:

Erie March on Washington Committee
 PO Box 3063
 Erie, PA 16508-3063

Call Sally at (814) 454-2713 for more info

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North East, PA 16428

(814) 725-8504

Professional, gay-affirmative counseling is available. A licensed, clinical social worker is now accepting clients for individual, couple and family therapy to help deal with a variety of problems. Fees for counseling are based in a sliding fee scale. Confidentiality is assured.



INTEGRITY

An Episcopalian-based spiritual and support group that welcomes people of all faiths. Meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month at 7 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) 455-0549

Be a Friend of the March

We are asking everyone who plans to attend the 1993 March on Washington to register. Having a more accurate count of those participating will help us with our organizing efforts and help to finance this historic effort. Remember it can't happen without you. Please make your donation as generous as possible. If you can't or don't want to go, please contribute financially so others can. Thank you!

Friends of the March Registration Form

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

A contribution of at least \$15 is asked to cover processing costs. More if you can, less if you can't. Those sending a donation will be kept updated and receive a packet which includes a calendar of events, maps, information on using the DC Metro system, accommodations information, our latest newsletter, a certificate suitable for framing and more!

I want to do more to help make the March a success. Here is an additional contribution of:

\$10 _____ \$20 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ other \$ _____

_____ I cannot attend the March, but I want to be part of making it happen. My contribution is enclosed.

Please make checks payable to "March on Washington" and mail to

March on Washington

PO Box 34607

Washington, DC 20043-4607

_____ Please don't share my name with L/G/B and friendly mailing lists