

AGN

ARIZONA GAY NEWS

Volume 4

Serving Arizona and the Southwest

Issue 34

GAY TOURIST VICTORY



TUCSON - The historic meeting of the two Arizona men's clubs happened the weekend of August 10-12. The Phoenix Levi/Leather Club came to Tucson for a run hosted by the newly formed Tucson Knight Owls. Three days of visiting, eating, drinking and touring among other things kept the visitors busy. For the entire story and more photos see pages 8 and 9. Shown above at the Saturday dinner ceremony is the presentation of the gavel from PLLC to TKO. L to R: Bill James, TKO Treasurer; George Martinez, TKO Secretary; Dale McKissack, TKO President; Bob Hekyl, PLLC President and John Boetje, PLLC Master-At-Arms, with Murray Lorenzen, TKO Vice President joining in the smiles.

BERNER FILES MULTIPLE LAWSUIT

HEALDSBURG, CA (BAR) - Larry Berner, an elementary school teacher from here, who became a symbol of what the No On 6 campaign was all about when State Senator John Briggs, a Republican from Fullerton in Orange County, made him a target of Briggs' unsuccessful initiative drive against homosexual teachers last year, has filed a \$3.5 million lawsuit against Briggs, his campaign organization, a Healdsburg school trustee and a Los Angeles television station. Berner, who traveled the state speaking out against the so-called "Briggs Initiative," teaches at Fitch Mountain Elementary School in Healdsburg.

Berner's attorneys filed the multiple suit in Sonoma County on July 31. Berner contends that Briggs and the other defendants defamed him last year in the bitter battle over Proposition 6, the initiative that would have allowed school boards to fire openly Gay teachers. Senator Briggs, Healdsburg school trustee Lee Lee, who campaigned for the Briggs Initiative, and Los Angeles television station KNBC are being sued for \$1 million each in punitive damages.

In addition to those suits, Berner's attorneys have filed another suit seeking \$500,000 in punitive damages from California Defend Our Children, the pro-Prop. 6 group. KNBC, the Los Angeles affiliated station was sued for broadcasting a commercial that Berner says was slanderous. On the commercial, Ms. Lee, the Healdsburg school trustee, said, "We have a second grade teacher who uses his status to flaunt his homosexuality to our school children. The parents petitioned my school board. Our lawyer told us under current law there is nothing we can do about this problem." by Wayne Friday
ED NOTE: See original story AGN Sept. 15, 1978.

SAN FRANCISCO (BAR) - Word reached San Francisco of a major victory for Gay rightists in the running conflict with the U.S. Department of Immigration and Naturalization. Leonel Castillo, Director of Immigration and Naturalization has issued a directive to all U.S. installations both foreign and domestic that Gay people are free to come and go. Top Justice Department officials concluded that there wasn't any specific direction from Congress on how to deal with Gay visitors.

Castillo ruled that until Congress acts definitively, any Gay visitor will be placed on "deferred inspection status." In essence: if anyone is identified as being Gay, no longer are exclusionary hearings required. Don Knutson, staff attorney for the Gay Rights Advocates, called the directive "a major victory for Gay people. Both Gay Rights Advocates and local politicians were largely instrumental in effecting the change in policy. The Advocates took the cases into the courts and the politicians exerted pressure up the line.

The recent conflict began in mid-June when two English tourists were detained at the San Francisco International Airport (AGN 29 June 1979). One, Carl Hill, who was wearing a Gay rights button, was ordered to undergo a psychiatric examination and was "paroled" into the country. Several weeks later a similar incident occurred in Milwaukee and last week, two Mexican nationals were ordered to return home immediately. The Gay Advocates took the Hill case into Federal court to achieve a definitive ruling. According to Knutson, every time a trial was set, Justice Department lawyers sought to delay, reschedule, or else caved in. "They hoped to keep it a local issue. Immigration was looking for some way to keep the case from being tried. They sought - despite all their official protests of neutrality - to avoid any judicial determination," Knutson said.

Meantime San Francisco city and California state politicians bombarded Congress and the White House with letters and telegrams of protest. In the midst of the Hill controversy the U.S. Department of Health - from the office of Julius Richmond, U.S. Surgeon General - announced that in the light of most advanced thinking - i.e. homosexuality was no longer classified as psychopathic - the Department of Health would no longer do any psychological testing of tourists. Knutson told B.A.R. that once Public Health backed out there was nothing left for Immigration to do - but when it would act was the question.

Knutson said the Department of Justice was forced to instruct its local people on how to proceed. They caved in. "However," Knutson added, "it was a most appropriate decision. If Congress wants to exclude Gay people, it now must pass a new and explicit law. They will have to determine who, what and how 'is' a homosexual; they will have to provide a vehicle for identification." Chances are Congress will do nothing. Still, the Gay tourist issue is out of Public Health; it is out of INS; it is out of the Courts. "It is back where it belongs," said Knutson, "with Congress.

The current rules stem from Congressional rulings carried at the height of the McCarthy hysteria in 1952. Over the years, the Immigration and Naturalization has chosen to employ them as they suited their purpose or whims. The recent San Francisco airport incidents were viewed by some Gay activists as part of the backlash to the May 21 riots. Commenting on Supervisor Harry Britt's role, Knutson told B.A.R., "Lesbians and Gay men everywhere owe Supervisor Harry Britt a special thanks for his quiet and effective efforts behind the scenes. He played a decisive role."

News Briefs

PRESIDENTIAL HOPEFUL CONNALLY ENDORSES GAY RIGHTS

SAN FRANCISCO (STAR) Republican John B. Connally said July 27 that Gay people should be given the full protection of American laws. "They're human beings, entitled to the protection of the laws of this country," the 62-year-old former Texas governor said. "They are entitled to the same treatment and protection of their rights as everyone else," he added.

Connally, in the midst of a five-day campaign through California, was addressing the National Conference of State Legislatures. California will have a presidential primary election next June, with Gov. Ronald Reagan at this time the heavy favorite on the Republican side. Connally, however, said, "I'm not going to concede you Gov. Ronald Reagan, not one whit."

His speech to the 1500 strong gathering of state legislators from around the country, most of them Democrats, touched on many subjects besides Gay rights. At its conclusion he was given a standing ovation.

LITTLE INTEREST IN ANITA'S SEMINAR

TULSA, OKLA (STAR) - The Anita Bryant Ministries had less than a dozen people register in mid July for a highly publicized, well-funded seminar for counseling homosexuals. However, the seminar, held in the city referred to as the Evangelistic Capital of the World, was not accepted by the Tulsa religious community, according to Carol Chase, the organizer of the event.

The Bryant Ministries mailed out over 500 announcement letters to Tulsa clergymen, yet not a single one responded. Chase, a recent graduate of Oral Roberts University, had done a study of homosexual counseling as a master's degree project. She said the seminar was planned to help homosexuals "re-order their lives to conform with a Christian emphasis." The meeting was not announced publicly, she said, in order to prevent a pro-Gay protest.

Aiding Ms. Chase was John Hansen, a representative of the Florida based Bryant Ministries. Hansen is described as "formerly homosexually-inclined" but is now married with three children. Hansen bases his teaching on his own experiences, he said.

BOWL TO HELP TUCSON FOOD BANK

TUCSON - Help the Community Food Bank feed the hungry in Tucson. Santa Cruz Lanes presents a pre-opening Food Bank Days. Bowl one lane for each can of food donated, limit - three per person. The date is Monday and Tuesday, Aug. 27 and 28. The time 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Santa Cruz Lanes are located 4 blocks North of Ajo and 16th Avenue.

MAN RAPED AND ROBBED

TUCSON - a 21-year-old man told police he was raped and robbed at gunpoint after he was picked up hitch-hiking by another man. The man said he was walking on East Broadway about 2 a.m. near Craycroft when the man stopped and offered him a ride. Shortly afterward, the victim said, the man pulled out an automatic pistol and drove to the north side of the El Con Shopping Center, where he made the man take his clothes off and raped him. The man then stole \$220 from him and drove off.

ITALIAN GROUP OFFERS \$1 MILLION FOR KHOMEINI

TURIN, ITALY (STAR) - Italy's Gay Association has declared war on the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and has offered a \$1 Million reward for the delivery of the Iranian revolutionary and religious leader to Italy to be tried for crimes against homosexuals. Angelo Pezzana and Renzo Francone, leaders of the Front of Revolutionary Homosexuals, said a large amount of the reward had been raised through self-taxation by Italian Gay people. They said they expected financial support from international associations.

Pezzana, a member of the leftist Radical Party, said many Iranian homosexuals were executed by Khomeini's followers in the weeks after the triumph of the revolution in February. Spokesmen for Officials of the Homosexual Front said they are not seeking underworld figures or bounty hunters.

Francone, who was arrested and expelled from Iran last March after he demonstrated in Tehran against the new regime, said the Front will pay cash for Khomeini's "extradition."

GAY POLICE WELCOMED IN SAN DIEGO

SAN DIEGO (GCN) - The San Diego Police Department has announced the withdrawal of its long-standing opposition to hiring Gay people as police officers. Police Chief William Kolender, who feels it is wrong to discriminate against a person because of his/her sexual orientation, said, "We're not going out and searching for them," but if a person meets the qualifications, she or he will be hired. Asst. Chief Bob Burgreen said that the new policy, which remains unwritten, went into effect July 1.

TUCSON V.D. CLINIC ONE YEAR OLD

TUCSON - It's been one year and over 330 clients since the Gay Community Services of Tucson V.D. Clinic first opened its doors. In that period they have progressed from a diagnostic only clinic to a full treatment VD clinic. The clinic still has a long way to go. They need better facilities and equipment. Corporate sponsors have been very generous, but the clinic needs support from the general community.

Many other Gay VD clinics charge a flat fee for all services (the Chicago clinic asks \$10 for exams and \$20 for treatment). If community support for the local clinic is not forthcoming, they may be forced to adopt such a policy. Everyone can see the consequences of such a move. The next time you reach into your pocket to buy that "last" drink - think about the clinic and yourself. After all even you can get VD.

Clinic donations can be dropped off at the clinic Monday nights or mailed to GCS VD Clinic, 345 E. Toole, Tucson, AZ 85701.

F.R.A.T. REPERTORY THEATER SEASON SET

PHOENIX - Dignity's Friars Repertory Arts Theater held auditions on Saturday Aug. 18 and cast their three plays by Robert Patrick ("One Person," "Fred and Harold," and "T-Shirts") for AN EVENING OF GAY THEATRE to be presented October 5 and 6 at the Black Theater, 1002 E. Moreland. Steve Schemmel has the lead role in two of the shows. Steve has been seen most recently in Valley productions of "Boys In The Band" and as King Henry VIII in "Anne of the Thousand Days."


Others in the cast include Bud Guiles, Kevin Herrick and Patrick J. Williams. Advance ticket sales for the production may be obtained by calling 274-0070 for reservations or by direct purchase at the Alternative Relations Center (ARC) on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday nights after 7:30 p.m. Those attending Opening Night will be treated to a wine and cheese repast in the Theater's Green Room and will get to meet the playwright, Mr. Robert Patrick.

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Perspective

by A. Nolder Gay

THE VIEW FROM THE CLOSET . . .

Coming out to one's family is the last frontier of Gay liberation. To avoid undue suspense, I shall admit at the start that I have not crossed it. Nor do I intend to do so.

You may well ask, why not? After all, you're out to most of your friends, you've written a book on Gay life and liberation (which, of course, makes you an expert). You've even taught a Gay studies course, the Gay academic's way of "coming out" in the workplace. In all these contexts you freely emulate Oscar Wilde with a lily in his hand. How is it that on this one the lily suddenly gets transferred to your liver?

I'm not sure that I have a rational explanation, but then family affairs are seldom rational processes. I'd like to share my wrestlings with this issue, however, partly in the hope of stimulating dialogue on this question, and partly because I've not seen anything in the Gay literature about not coming out to one's family.

Why, in the sixth year of my own "coming out" process, should this matter suddenly become intense? One reason is my peripheral involvement in helping launch the newly formed Boston chapter of Parents of Gays. (Talk about sublimation!) The other is the recent celebration of my parents' golden wedding anniversary, an event which, to the dismay of my sisters and myself, turned into a family reunion of no small magnitude. In fact, it was the first time I'd seen most of these people since my younger sister was married nearly twenty years ago. Some of them I was rather hoping to get away without seeing for the rest of my life. I don't know that I have any Gay relatives, though statistically there is a fifty-fifty chance for one of my five young nephews. The gathering was unreservedly straight and depressingly upward-mobile suburbanite. And it proved unexpectedly taxing that weekend to hear all that conversation about present, absent and deceased family members, as well as to fabricate an excuse to get away for half an hour in order to phone up my lover. (Granted he is a Leo, I don't want to be type-cast as the Cowardly Lion.)

Why not come out to the family? In my case, at least four reasons (other than just being chicken-hearted). First, age structure. As the oldest child of a fifty-year

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marriage, I'm within sight of the half-century mark myself, and my parents are in their seventies. It's one thing to try to explain matters if you are the child of parents born in the 'thirties and coming of age in the 'fifties (my own generation, now the parents of Gay teenagers). It's quite something else to come out to a parent, born in the year McKinley was assassinated, who hasn't changed his views about anything since casting his first vote, for Calvin Coolidge.

Second, distance. Again, it's one thing to have your family geographically close, as my lover does (I'm on very good terms with my mother-in-law). It's another when your parents have retired to Florida and are 1500 miles away. I have no relatives within a hundred miles, no close ones for over 300, and none who live in central cities, where they might have some conditioning exposure to Gay people. So why rock the boat or, to change the image, launch a kamikaze attack and thereby raise anxieties I couldn't allay by a brief visit or by letter.

Third, flexibility. Most members of my family possess religious, political and cultural attitudes I don't share, and most of these don't seem congruent with the notion of Gay liberation. In other words, it wouldn't play very well to have them learn that their son (nephew, brother, etc) is a Gay activist, for essentially sociological reasons. And that's aside from their foreseeable consternation that their sober, scholarly, utterly dependable relative has, in middle age, suddenly taken leave of his senses!

Fourth, they've probably figured it out anyway. I mean, when that same sober, etc etc relative, having lived alone for his whole academic career, suddenly takes into his bosom (as it were) a young man of quite different social and educational background, something's got to be going on which doesn't bear looking into.

You see, I come from a setting, era and class where sexuality was never brought to the surface and in which what is euphemistically known as "sexual deviation" would be referred to elliptically, if at all. I, and my relative have been heavily conditioned by the notion that "nice people don't talk about such things." I don't say that this state of affairs is healthy; in fact, for my and my young homosexual growing up, it has to be one of the more unhealthy states around. I simply see it as one of the parameters in which I still have to function.

I will freely concede that my reasoning is not politically correct (which is not, I might say, something that keeps me awake at nights), and it may not even be very helpful. Clearly my method of coping with my own family does not advance that one-by-one disclosure process which gets people to understand that Gay is good, Gay is everywhere, Gay is a valuable addition to our stock of social goods. To all this, my response still has to be that I do what I can to advance the Gay cause in various ways, but I must leave to others to crossing of this last frontier.

So much for my biological family, the family in which I was nurtured. Who now are my family? I must begin with my lover. His self knowledge as a Gay person came

CONTINUED ON PAGE SIX



THE PHOENIX BIRD

As a current victim of Tsittiosis Abdomenae, I am taking it easy this week, and allowing a special guest to provide much of the meat for this outing. But first, a special reminder that Sunday is Grand Opening of Rob and Jay's Kitchen in T&J Salon. The festivities

are to last all day and be highlighted by a side-of-beef barbecue. It's billed as "On the Trail," signalling the bar's new lean to the west. There will be all sorts of ranch type vittles served up with that beef, at a remarkable affordable price. And free beer will be poured all day (Noon till 8:00 PM) for those who buy dinner tickets. The gang's all there and you could do worse than to get roped in for a day of rootin' tootin' cowboy capers. Wear your best chaps! I'll be a-flyin' around helpin' to herd up those cattle (crazy thing for a Phoenix Bird to do! ?)

ENTER THE MAGPIE: I herewith bow and turn the rostrum (roosterum?) over to my good friend and honorary bird, Award-Winning bartender from Incognito Lounge, Ilene Meyers, who speaks of her just-completed New York trip:

"I lived in New York practically all my life, but I never really lived there until I experienced the gay scene in the Big Apple. It was the most incredible feeling to be able to show affection publicly without the feeling of discomfort, and actually being accepted. This acceptance is not in all of New York, but it exists mainly in Greenwich Village. This visit was my coming-out party. Here I am a native New Yorker being introduced to a city I thought I knew so well!

"First thing that really impressed me was how easy it is to get around to the bars. You don't have to worry about having a few drinks and being slapped with a D.W.I.. My first stop on my little adventure was the Duchess Club. It was a Wednesday night and I had to squeeze through the crowd, wondering kind of special they were running and finding out there was none. There were cover charges at almost all of the bars that I ventured into, not for the purpose of covering for drink specials or special entertainment, but for the ability to be in a bar without one single man. If you have a weak bladder, I suggest you do not make the Duchess one of your stops. After conquering the steep stairs, you are confronted with one toilet; eight rolls of toilet paper (the Soft and Pretty Collection?) and ten people waiting. Since the wait at the Duchess was unbearable, I decided to cruise over to the Sahara (not the desert, the club). I have never seen so many beautiful women in one place, and that was true of all the bars, but not one damn pool table. So Melinda, leave your pool cue at home - you'll have to find something or someone else to hustle.

"The next evening I had dinner at a gay restaurant - Bonnie's - owned and operated by women. It was a wonderfully com-

HOLLYWOOD HOTLINE

by Hedda Cheez

Rumor has it, all over town, that Knight Flight '79 will be the hottest show of the season! The star studded cast will be working on a new stage that will offer nine different levels for entertaining.

An undisclosed production source confides the set will be a shimmering sea of silverish opulence under a newly installed lighting arrangement and amid improved sound equipment.

This celestial extravaganza brings to the stage Kitty Litter, Gypsy, Brenda Starr, Misty, Ginger and Shirley. As a special added attraction Tucson's version of the dynamic group Village People will debut as The Knight People.

Reservations are recommended for this spectacular one night engagement. Pre-show begins at 8:00 p.m. Showtime begins promptly at 8:30 p.m.

KNIGHT FLIGHT '79 / SATURDAY AUG. 25 / AT HAIR TIZ

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fortable dining experience. I hope to see in the near future a similar establishment in Phoenix. After dinner, all you have to do is walk downstairs and disco the calories away at Bonnie and Clyde's.

"My incredible find was a women's bar (Rhythms) in Brooklyn. Don't let Brooklyn's reputation frighten you. Take the opportunity to make it to Rhythms. I promise you'll be a satisfied customer.

"After being out in the bars to all hours of the night (bars in New York close at 4:00 AM), I suggest you rejuvenate your energy by soaking up the rays by the sea at Riis Park (Bay 1). Things not to bring - bathing suits. It's au natural! One suggestion - if you're planning on coming to the big city, bring lots of money or a Sugar Momma. New York is a nice place to visit and a great place to "live."
(Special thanks are offered to: Lori from Rhythms, Joyce from the Club, Millie from Bonnie & Clyde's, Georgia from Jersey and warm thanks and love to my pal Adele - Happy Birthday)"

Thanks Magpie, and a special note on that R&J Kitchen grand opening - if you don't know what Mountain Oysters are, come in and find out! And latest word is that there will be some free champagne floating around. And beer lusters, take note that Our House now features a beer bust every night from 9:00 PM till Midnight, \$1.75 for all you can drink! Burppp!

TUCSON N.O.W. TO HOLD WALKATHON FOR E.R.A.

TUCSON - On Saturday, August 25, 1979, the Tucson Chapter of the National Organization for Women will hold a walkathon in support of the Equal Rights Amendment.

Any woman, man or child who chooses to participate is most welcome. A kick-off rally will be held in El Presidio Park at 8:00 a.m., Saturday, August 25.

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PERSPECTIVE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE FOUR

earlier and with more guilt attached than did mine; the cost was two nervous breakdowns and electroshock therapy, among other things. Neither of us have ever been involved in a Gay relationship before January, 1975. There were few accessible patterns for us, for our relationship involves a substantial age difference. But he needs my care and love, and I his; together we have created a nurturing family unit at least as meaningful to us as our biological families.

Our Gay friends take the place of a nearby extended family. With them we go through all of life's crises - finding a place to live, losing a lover, surviving in the job market - and share their tears and laughter as we might those of our siblings. Gay support groups at their best (and, like us, they are not always at their best) also

serve this basic, almost sociobiological function for those who participate.

The need for familial ties is too fundamental a human quality to be lightly dismissed, as in "smash the patriarchy" or whatever. My point is, rather, that this need can be satisfied in alternative ways, and that we as Gay people in this generation can be in the vanguard of these model-making alternatives.

Is all this simply avoiding the frontier crossing by a circuitous series of bridges? Perhaps so. Not being either Ann Landers or the AAA, I can't prescribe routes for other people. I can only make my own way, and in family affairs this is the way it has to be for me.

ED NOTE: A. Nolder Gay's book *The View From The Closet* is now available from Books Brothers, Ltd. in Tucson. Copyright (c) 1979 by Union Park Press.

Alternative Relations Center

Unfortunately there was low attendance at the August 15th meeting of ARC, due in part to the severe thunderstorm raging outside.

In the last month, ARC took another giant step forward. The Center now has two pinball machines, a cigarette machine and a pool table. Finishing

the building was also accomplished. The most exciting thing so far was the opening of Gay Assistance and Information (GAI), the telephone line, on August 13. GAI is available from 7 to 11 p.m. seven days a week. ARC now has 14 members -- more are desired!

The Board of Directors has made two appointments this month. Doug Gordon has been placed in charge of all scheduling for use of the facilities at the Center. The building is being used almost every night but it is there to be used more. Wayne King is completely in charge of GAI and the training for it. Possibly there will be another training session in 3 months and at that time the staff will begin to expand the hours of operation.

At the present time volunteers are needed to staff the front office of the Center. We would like to have someone there during the afternoons and evenings just to keep the door open and answer the phone. Any time anyone can donate will be helpful.

A group of people are also needed to work on fund-raising. Bob Hegyi will be coordinating this and he would like to have a plan of attack in about two weeks. If you are interested in this, contact Bob.

THE NEXT GENERAL MEETING OF THE ALTERNATIVE RELATIONS CENTER WILL BE WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1979 AT 7:30 P.M. AT 1836 GRAND AVENUE.

opening!

PIER 7

THE LIBERAL PLACE

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9 PM till 1 AM

All Girl Band - SOLAR ENERGY

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ALTERNATIVE RELATIONS CENTER Financial Statement - July 18 to August 15, 1979

Receipts:	
Contributions	\$25.00
Membership dues	130.00
Coffee, pop, etc.	12.00
	<u>167.00</u>
Checking account July 18	1763.51
	<u>\$1930.51</u>

Expenditures:	
Air conditioning repairs	34.00
Copier bulb	34.93
Carpet roller and shears rental	8.88
Tile for telephone room	184.28
Carpet laying	25.00
Telephone installation	84.12
Speaker on suicide calls	40.00
Support packets and publications NGTF	86.13
Telephone service	23.59
Door	73.93
Pooltable	600.00
Cooler motor	64.96
Cooler pully	4.99
Coffee supplies	69.48
Pop, tea, etc.	29.83
Cork bulletin board	13.66
	<u>1377.78</u>
Checking account August 15	525.73
Cash on hand	12.00
Deposit not recorded	15.00
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PLLC - TKO WEEKEND

TUCSON - The weekend has come and gone, but not soon forgotten by members of the Phoenix Levi/Leather Club, Tucson Knight Owls or members of the general community who happened upon the group of merry makers. The big event took place Friday, Saturday and Sunday, August 10-11-12.

It all started innocently enough at the Toole Box, where members of the TKO's awaited the arrival of PLLC. The Phoenix club arrived on schedule and were assigned accommodations in the homes of TKO members. A couple of drinks later, all left to get settled, bar hop or whatever, the only schedule was to meet back at the Toole Box for a free kegger given by PLLC. For those PLLC's not familiar with the Toole Box, it did not take long for their initiation. From that evening, everything went uphill.

Being allowed to sleep between 4 a.m. and 10 a.m. Saturday morning, members of both clubs met for the trek to Colossal Cave. Fortunately there were enough up at 9 a.m. (the opening hour of Hair Tiz) to get a few belts down for the 45 minute drive. Arriving at Colossal Cave, it appeared that our tour was to be escorted by a female guide, but as the supervisor looked out the window, the guide was immediately changed to a male, Scott by name! Since only about 35 club members could rouse themselves for this particular trip, some straight people were assigned to the tour. Needless to say, it did not take long for the two men's clubs to assert themselves, and everything was great after that. Scott couldn't have been nicer, and the straights joined in the laughter and good times. The tour ended on a high note, and the party departed to the Hair Tiz for excellent spread of hors d'oeuvres from Polly and Dave, drinks and conversation.

Loosen the belt time again, as the group left Hair Tiz for the mountain top retreat of Del and the rest of the Whores in the Hills. It took about three seconds for some of the members to get their clothes off and into the pool. Everyone was advised to bring their bathing suits but no one remembered! Time was taken out before dinner for the presentation of a gavel from President Bob Hegyi of the PLLC to President Dale McKissack of the TKO's. Then dinnertime, courtesy of the Tucson Knight Owls which was enjoyed by all. Then back into the pool, bar hop or whatever (and there appeared to be a lot of whatever!). At midnight Saturday, most members reappeared back at the Toole Box for another free keg of Coors, again courtesy of the Phoenix club. By the time for the 4 a.m. closing, things were still going strong, but all went elsewhere to continue their thing.

Sunday morning a few stragglers were up ready to go to the Desert Museum but threatening skies, hangovers and just plain fatigue forced that interesting side trip to be cancelled. Perhaps next time. It is now 2 p.m. Sunday afternoon, and it is time for everyone to gather to eat an excellent buffet provided by Dale's Graduate, more drink and more camaraderie. The walls of the Graduate men's room will attest to the great time the visiting club had while in Tucson. At 4:30 p.m. it was the scheduled departure back to Phoenix for PLLC. Some made it, others were a little late in leaving, some even two days late!

Tucson has looked long and hard, with some envy, at the growing organization known as Phoenix Levi/Leather Club. It is both a social and service club and has done a great deal for the male image in the Phoenix area, to say nothing of the service work it provides the Phoenix Gay community. It has taken a little over a year since the formation of PLLC that a group of men got together and decided to have a Tucson counterpart. Both clubs are male oriented, dedicated to service to each of their communities, outdoor activities, trips and good camaraderie. Persons interested in joining Phoenix Levi/Leather Club should contact Bob Hegyi, P.O. Box 33532, Phoenix, AZ 85067 or any

member you can find around the Connection usually. Tucson Knight Owls prospective members may contact Dale McKissack at the Toole Box or Murray at the Graduate or any member you can find at any time at any of the local Tucson bars.



SOME PEOPLE ARE JUST PLAIN CAMERA SHY AND JUST DON'T WANT THEIR PICTURE TAKEN

Editorial

"Gee it was a fun night, dancing, having a few drinks and talking with friends. I met this really great looking guy who struck up a conversation with me. We danced and bought drinks for each other. He told me his name was David. He was about 5'8", muscular, about 160 or 170 pounds with light brown curly hair. We really got along together. After about an hour or so, David invited me over to his apartment. As we left the bar about closing time, David ran into one of his friends by the name of John. David said he would ride with John on his chopper-type motorcycle and for me to follow. It was only a few blocks away. When we arrived at an apartment complex near Park and Grant and started up the steps, David turned around and hit me in the mouth. Then John and two others appeared and jumped me. They literally beat the hell out of me. I was knocked unconscious, and when I awoke my money was gone as was my car. I was picked up by the police wandering around outside the complex. They took me back to the bar, which was now closed, and took my statement. To my amazement, they left me there all alone, without a penny, refusing to call a taxi or take me home. I had to walk back to my apartment and called a friend who came over immediately and took me to the hospital where they had to take sixteen stitches and released me. I had already made the report to the police on the robbery and assault and a stolen car report, but I went back to the police to make a complaint on the two officers who had left me in that dangerous predicament. That fun evening sure turned out no-fun. I only hope that no one else picks up that good looking, evil David."

"It was closing time and I left the bar and headed home in my car. I live quite a way north of Tucson and as I got out of the city I noticed a car behind me, but thought nothing of it because, as I turned into my driveway, the car turned off in another direction. I parked my car, and as I got out, four men jumped me, made me get back into my car and drove me out into the desert a short distance from my house. I was stripped and held down where I was raped forcibly by two of the men who kept yelling obscenities at me calling me all the usual faggot names. They finally let me go and I ran to the safety of my house. I called the sheriff and filed a report with the deputy who took me back to the scene where I found my car and the rest of my clothes. Fortunately no money was taken. This appeared to be a violent homophobic attack on me. I had not provoked it."

Does all this sound like fiction. Well it isn't. These two incidents took place within the last two weeks in Tucson. We realize that it goes on everywhere and that 99% of the cases are not reported. The first story is a more familiar one and the rule is that if you don't know the person you are expecting to trick with, ask around and see if anyone else knows the person. If he is completely unknown by bartenders, waiters or patrons, beware!

In the second story, the situation is a little more bizarre. It could have become more violent and ended up even in murder. Going into isolated areas, where you suspect you are being followed, try some evasive action to make sure whether the car is actually following you or not. If you still suspect it is, attempt to get to a populated area where you are likely to run into a patrolman.

The police are obligated to protect you. They are obligated to help you. The case above where the victim was left alone to fend for himself is unusual and is being investigated by the authorities. Should you find yourself in a situation like the above, by all means report it to the authorities. If everyone did just that, the police officials would realize to what extent Gays are being set upon by these thugs. In any event, be careful whom you might pick up, be aware of what is going on around you at all times, and by all means beware of anyone who wants to pick you up who is unknown by anyone present.

TKO POOL TOURNAMENT FINALS THIS MONDAY AT GRADUATE

TUCSON - For the past four weeks, the Tucson Knight Owls have been sponsoring a pool tournament that attracted ten to twelve entrants per night. Each night the first and second place winners received trophies and cash awards. Now it's finals time around the old pool table.

The finalists to appear at the Graduate at 7:30 p.m. this Monday, August 27 are Jim Larrabee, Bill James, Tony Colla, Ron Bookman, Tony Sosa, Jerry Garwood, Manse McLaughlin and Mitch. The finalist winner will receive a huge trophy and prizes. See some of the best pool players in town this Monday. Everyone is welcome to watch.



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FIRE DAMAGES OLD MISS MATTY'S

PHOENIX - \$60,000 damage was done early last Monday morning, Aug. 20, to a once-popular Paradise Valley Gay bar, now operating as a straight bar called "Ziegfeld's." Formerly the establishment was known as Miss Matty's Attic.

The fire broke out in the northeast part of the bar, along the dance floor and booth area. It started around 1:54 a.m. shortly after closing. The fire was deliberately set, according to Police Department arson authorities. Co-Owners Artie Tartaro and Louis Brown were on the premises at the time, but were unable to assist investigators in discovering who would have set the place afire or why.

Fire Department personnel were alerted by two passersby who noticed the smoke and came to fire station 27 and rang the bell. When firefighters arrived on the scene, two police officers were already present. Firefighters discovered a flammable liquid had been used to start the fire, which involved eight units in bringing the blaze under control.

DIGNITY TO HOLD NATIONAL CONFERENCE

CHICAGO, IL (GCN) - Dignity, the national organization of Gay and lesbian Catholics, will hold its national conference in Chicago Oct. 26-28. Featured speakers include Minnesota Sen. Allan H. Spear, authors Rita Mae Brown and Dr. Charles Silverstein, Barbara Gittings, lesbian activist and coordinator of the National Gay Task Force's (NGTF) Task Force on Gay Liberation, William B. Kelley, a member of NGTF's Board of Directors and Renee Hanover, a Chicago attorney and member of the board of directors of the Gay Rights National Lobby.

Workshop topics include, "Coming Out," "Intimacy in Couples," "Lesbian Visibility," "Setting Parents Straight about Growing Up Gay," "Combating Discrimination," and "Legal Rights." The conference is jointly sponsored by Dignity/Chicago and the Oasis Center for Human Potential. For additional information, contact the Oasis Center at (312)274-6777 or write 7463 N. Sheridan, Chicago, IL 60626.

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STEVE MILLER

GET A GRIP ON THE FOOD

ALBUQUERQUE, NM (GCN) - Dr. Randy Thornhill of the University of New Mexico has discovered the first known example of insect transvestism - in the North American scorpion fly. Transvestism, the practice of one sex imitating the conduct of the other, has already been observed in fish, salamanders and several mammals, including humans. "Proper" scorpion fly behavior entails the catching of an edible insect by the male, who then offers it to the female, who, if interested, will "droop her wings demurely." If she likes the gift, she mates with the male.

Thornhill, however, has observed males approaching other males assuming the female role until they get a grip on the food. Once they have it, they try to run away with it. The "transvestite" males, according to Thornhill, have an advantage over the other males because they have others do the hunting for them, leaving the "transvestite" scorpion flies more time to reproduce. In addition, the "transvestite" scorpion flies would avoid such hazards of the hunt as spider webs.

TUCSON GAY CALENDAR

thursday

BACK POCKET - CHUCK WAGON LUNCHES 11:30 AM - 3 PM - COCKTAIL HOUR 5-8 PM. GRADUATE - OPENS AT NOON WITH SURPRISE DRINK PRICES DAILY. HAIR TIZ - COCKTAIL HOUR PRICES EVERYDAY FROM 4 - 7 PM. JETVILL 5 - ARIZONA'S FINEST LIVE AT 8:30 PM - DISCO TILL 1 AM. JOSHUA TREE - DISCO DANCING 9 PM - 1 AM - NO COVER - NO MINIMUM. PARENTS OF WAYS - 7 PM CALL 884-9920 OR 881-6668 - PRS. LEVELS FOR INFO. TOOLE BOX - OPENS AT MIDNIGHT EVERY NIGHT WITH FREE MOVIES.

friday

BACK POCKET - CHUCK WAGON LUNCHES 11:30 AM - 3 PM - COCKTAIL HOUR 5-8 PM. GRADUATE - OPENS AT NOON WITH SURPRISE DRINK PRICES DAILY. HAIR TIZ - OPENS AT 9 AM WITH COCKTAIL HOUR PRICES FROM 4 - 7 PM. JETVILL 5 - ARIZONA'S FINEST LIVE AT 8:30 PM - THEN DISCO TILL 1 AM. JOSHUA TREE - DISCO DANCING 9 PM - 1 AM - NO COVER - NO MINIMUM. TOOLE BOX - OPENS AT MIDNIGHT EVERY NIGHT WITH FREE MOVIES.

saturday

BACK POCKET - OPENS AT 11 AM. GRADUATE - OPENS AT NOON EVERY DAY WITH SURPRISE DRINK PRICES. HAIR TIZ - OPENS AT 9 AM WITH COCKTAIL HOUR PRICES FROM 4 - 7 PM. JETVILL 5 - ARIZONA'S FINEST LIVE AT 8:30 PM - THEN DISCO TILL 1 AM. JOSHUA TREE - DISCO DANCING 9 PM - 1 AM - NO COVER - NO MINIMUM. TOOLE BOX - OPENS AT MIDNIGHT EVERY NIGHT WITH FREE MOVIES.

sunday

10:05 M.E.C. SERVICES AT 2960 N. DODGE. GRADUATE OPENS WITH A SURPRISE DRINK SPECIAL. HAIR TIZ OPENS. 6:00 JETVILL 5 OPENS. 7:30 LITKAR OUT B.O. AT BACK POCKET. 8:00 HOLY TRINITY SERVICES AT 833 72ND ST. 8:00 M.E.C. SERVICES AT 2960 N. DODGE. 8:00 BEER BUST AT BACK POCKET TILL 1 AM. 8:30 ARIZONA'S FINEST LIVE SHOW AT JETVILL 5. 10:00 DISCO DANCING AT JOSHUA TREE TILL 1 AM - NO COVER - NO MINIMUM. 11:00 DISCO DANCING TILL 1 AM AT JETVILL 5. 12:00 TOOLE BOX OPENS WITH FREE MOVIES.

monday

BACK POCKET - CHUCK WAGON LUNCHES 11:30 AM - 3 PM - COCKTAIL HOUR 5-8 PM. GRADUATE - OPENS EVERY DAY AT NOON WITH SURPRISE DRINK PRICES DAILY. HAIR TIZ - OPENS 9 AM - COCKTAIL HOUR PRICES FROM 4 - 7 PM. JETVILL 5 - DISCO DANCING FROM 8:30 PM TILL 1 AM. TOOLE BOX - OPENS AT MIDNIGHT EVERY NIGHT WITH FREE MOVIES.

tuesday

BACK POCKET - CHUCK WAGON LUNCHES 11:30 AM - 3 PM - COCKTAIL HOUR 5-8 PM. G.C.S. - MEETING AT 7:30 PM AT TOOLE BOX, 345 E. TOOLE. GAY STUDENTS ORGANIZATION - MEETING 7:30 PM - ROOM 350, U OF A STUDENT UNION. HAIR TIZ - OPENS 9 AM - COCKTAIL HOUR PRICES FROM 4 TO 7 PM. JETVILL 5 - ARIZONA'S FINEST LIVE AT 8:30 PM - THEN DISCO TILL 1 AM. JOSHUA TREE - OPENS AT 9 PM WITH DISCO DANCING TILL 1 AM. TOOLE BOX - OPENS AT MIDNIGHT EVERY NIGHT WITH FREE MOVIES.

wednesday

BACK POCKET - CHUCK WAGON LUNCHES 11:30 AM - 3 PM - COCKTAIL HOUR 5-8 PM. GRADUATE - OPENS EVERYDAY AT NOON WITH SURPRISE DRINK PRICES. HAIR TIZ - HAPPY HOUR PRICES ALL WITE. JETVILL 5 - OPENS AT 8 PM WITH DISCO DANCING 8:30 PM TO 1 AM. JOSHUA TREE - DISCO DANCING 9 PM - 1 AM - NO COVER - NO MINIMUM. TOOLE BOX - OPENS AT MIDNIGHT WITH FREE MOVIES.

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GAYS GAVE PHYLLIS DILLER HER START
 HOLLYWOOD (BAR) - Phyllis Diller, the nation's "top female stand-up comic," told United Press reporter Vernon Scott that Gay audiences gave her her start in show business 25 years ago. Said Diller, "The only joints that would accept a female comic in those days were Gay places. Non-Gay male audiences were hostile. They still are."

Celebrating her 62nd birthday last week the now-single comedienne continued, "To this day I won't do my act unless there are women in the audience. Men hated me at the beginning. But the Gays laughed from the beginning. They welcomed a fresh approach and new material. They were the nucleus of joints in San Francisco in those days (the mid-50's). But it was tough getting a break in straight clubs.

Diller broke in as a comedienne at 37 at San Francisco's Purple Onion. She played there for 89 weeks - starting at \$60 per week. In recent years, Diller has earned as much as \$170,000 in a single week at Las Vegas. She maintains that the second half of her life has been a great improvement over her early years. In the Purple Onion days, she was labeled "off-beat."

in Tucson DID YOU KNOW

- ...Bobby L. hasn't had any since he lost his tweezers!
- ...Nana claims she knows better than anyone in Tucson!
- ...Sister Henna was seen coming out of the MacArthur with pants and shoes in hand.
- ...Kong finally met his Fay Wray.
- ...Now that the TKO-PLLC weekend pictures are back - Dale, Bob, Wilma, Murray, "Mexican" George, Kitty, Crawford, "Polish" Mike, Blue, Ms. Piggy, Alex, Michael, Fred, Johnny and Lee all want the evidence. Mike at the dirty bookstore is accepting payments in lots of small unmarked bills.
- ...What is a Vickie Clickie Quickie?
- ...Another leftover from the TKO-PLLC weekend - George may have gotten belted, but Mike ended up with the belt. How did that happen Clint?
- ...Rick F. put two nicks in his club and one in a man's head!! Talk about flying glass!!
- ...There's a red headed woman that turned into a macho (bookstore) man!
- ...We are on the verge of some REAL talent aren't we - Hot Chocolate?
- ...What does the Toole Box, free beer, M.D.A., Levi Leather Club and a bloody tampon have in common?? Ask Bob and Doug!



- ...Is it true that Ben at the Graduate is into water sports?
- ...Alex still can't get a trick after 2 1/2 years!! Do we wonder why??? Ask ORCA!???
- ...Did anyone know Swede had two red haired, freckled faced grandchildren via his !!!

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PHOENIX GAY CALENDAR

NOTE: CALENDAR LISTINGS ARE ONE-OFF AND ONCE-A-WEEK SPECIALS. FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND REGULAR FEATURES OF BARS, SEE THESE ADS ELSEWHERE IN THIS ISSUE.

friday

BELLEWELL - AFTER HOURS TILL 3 AM.
CASA - CASA REVIEW, 10 PM.
CONNECTION - COCKTAIL HOUR PRICES, 11:00 AM TILL 7:00 PM.
DIAMOND LIL'S - HAPPY HOURS 4 - 7 PM.
FULL MOON - DISCO AT 9:30 PM.
HIS CO DISCO - OPEN 5 PM WITH AFTER HOURS TILL 3 AM.
INCORRITO - HAPPY HOURS 4 - 6 PM.
PIER 7 - SOLAR ENERGY, 9:00 PM.
RUMBLE - SON'S NIGHT - 10 TO MIDNIGHT - BOTTLES & CANS 50¢ - DRAFT & SOFT DRINKS 30¢.
SPORTSMAN - BEER BUST, 9 PM - MIDNIGHT, \$1.75 AFTER HOURS FROM 9 PM TO 3 AM.
T & J SALON - 10:15 AM 2 FOR 1 PRICES WELLS & BEER - COLLIN \$1.50 FROM 5 TO 7 PM.
UNLIMITED - HAPPY HOUR 4 - 7 PM WESTERN NIGHT

saturday

BELLEWELL - AFTER HOURS TILL 3 AM.
CASA - CASA REVIEW, 10 PM.
CONNECTION - 10 TO 4 PM BEER BUST - \$1.50 FOR ALL THE BEER YOU CAN DRINK - HOT DIPS
FULL MOON - DISCO AT 9:30 PM.
HIS CO DISCO - OPEN 5 PM WITH AFTER HOURS TILL 3 AM.
INCORRITO - BLOODY MARY'S 7:54 - 10 AM - POOL TOURNAMENT 3 PM - DISCO FROM 9.
PIER 7 - SOLAR ENERGY, 9:00 PM.
RUMBLE - POOL TOURNAMENT 3 PM - \$25 WINNINGS - 15¢ DRAFT 2-6 PM - FREE SLEEP & SMOOTHIE 1 PM.
SPORTSMAN - HAPPY HOUR PRICES FROM 10 TO 7, DISCO 2 AFTER HOURS 9 PM - 3 AM.
T & J SALON - 10:15 AM 2 FOR 1 PRICES WELLS & BEER - BRUNCH 1 PM.
UNLIMITED - 1ST DRINK ON PALMER 8 AM - NOON - POOL TOURNAMENT 10 AM - \$15 PRIZE.
UNLIMITED - DISCO 9:00 PM TILL CLOSING.

sunday

DIAMOND LIL'S - BEER BUST, 9 TILL MIDNIGHT, \$1.50.
FULL MOON - BRUNCH FROM 11 AM.

INCORRITO - BARBECUE BRUNCH, 1:00 PM - POOL TOURNAMENT, 3 PM.
M.C.C. - INTERFAITH SERVICES 11 AM AT 4035 E. MC DONELL ROAD.
PIER 7 - POOL TOURNAMENT, 3 PM.
RUMBLE - BEER BUST 5 TO 8 PM - BOTTLES & CANS 30¢ - DRAFT & SOFT DRINKS 35¢.
T & J SALON - BRUNCH & DRINK SPECIALS 1 - 4 PM - POOL TOURNAMENT, 2 PM.
SPORTSMAN - BLOODY MARY'S 7:54 - NOON 4 PM / DISCO 9 PM - 1 AM.
UNLIMITED - LARGE BLOODY MARY'S NOON TO 2 PM - DOUBLE TEQUILA DRINKS \$1.50 2-7 PM.

monday

CONNECTION - WHITE LIGER SALE 7:54 9 PM TO MIDNIGHT - COCKTAIL HOUR PRICES 11 AM - 7 PM.
DIAMOND LIL'S - HAPPY HOURS 4 - 7 PM.
FREE SPIRITS - COFFEE HOURS - 4 PM TILL 5:00-5:00 FOR LOCATION & INFORMATION.
FULL MOON - 2 FOR 1 WELLS DRINKS, 10:00 PM TILL MIDNIGHT.
HIS CO DISCO - BOOZE BASH - 5:00 PM TILL MIDNIGHT, 75¢ WELLS DRINKS.
INCORRITO - HAPPY HOUR 4 - 6 PM, EAST LISTENING BY BOBBI SMITH 8 - 11 PM.
NO TIME - BEER BUST - 5 PM TILL MIDNIGHT \$1.25.
SPORTSMAN - DOUBLE TEQUILA DRINKS (SUMMER-COLLINS) \$1.50 FROM 5 - 7 PM.
T & J SALON - HAPPY HOUR, 4 - 7 PM, 75¢ WELLS.
UNLIMITED - HAPPY HOUR PRICES FROM 10 TO 7, DRINK & DROWN 9 PM TO MIDNIGHT.
UNLIMITED - HAPPY HOUR 4 - 7 PM - ENCHILADA PLATE SPECIAL, 7 - 11 PM

tuesday

CASA - BEER BUST, \$1.50 9 TO MIDNIGHT.
CONNECTION - PHOENIX'S - 50¢ GLASS OF BEER A PITCHER - 9 PM TILL CLOSE
DIAMOND LIL'S - 100 FOR ONE (ALL BEER AND WELLS) 2 PM - MIDNIGHT.
FULL MOON - HAPPY HOUR, 10:00 PM TILL MIDNIGHT, 75¢ WELLS DRINKS.
HIS CO DISCO - BEER BUST - 4 PM TILL 1 AM.
INCORRITO - HAPPY HOURS 4 - 6 PM.
SPORTSMAN - BEER BUST, 9 PM TO MIDNIGHT - 25¢ DRAFT.
T & J SALON - HAPPY HOURS, 4 - 7 PM, 75¢ WELLS.
UNLIMITED - HAPPY HOUR, 4 - 7 PM.

wednesday

CASA - SHIRTLESS SHAPERS - 10 PM TILL 1 AM.
CONNECTION - BEER BUST 9 PM TO MIDNIGHT - ANNEX BAR OPEN WITH DRAFT'S
DIAMOND LIL'S - HAPPY HOURS 4 - 7 PM.
FULL MOON - BEER BUST 9 PM - MIDNIGHT, 50¢ DRAFT - \$1.75 PITCHER.
INCORRITO - HAPPY HOUR 4 - 6 PM.
PIER 7 - FEMALE IMPERSONATION, MISS RAFAELI BAR & CO., 9 PM - 1 AM.
SPORTSMAN - HAPPY HOUR PRICES FROM 10 TO 7, 2-7 PM WELLS DRINKS 9 PM TO MIDNIGHT
T & J SALON - HAPPY HOUR, 4 - 7 PM, 75¢ WELLS.
UNLIMITED - HAPPY HOUR, 4 - 7 PM - BEER BUST, 7 - 11 PM

thursday

CASA - 10¢ BEER BUST 9:00 PM TILL MIDNIGHT.
CONNECTION - UNIFORM NIGHT - 12¢ PRICE DRINKS & THOSE IN UNIFORM 9-11 PM.
DIAMOND LIL'S - BEER BUST, 9 PM TILL MIDNIGHT, \$1.50.
FULL MOON - HAPPY HOUR, 10 PM TILL MIDNIGHT, 75¢ WELLS.
PIER 7 - FEMALE IMPERSONATION, MISS RAFAELI BAR & CO., 9 PM - 1 AM.
SPORTSMAN - HAPPY HOUR PRICES FROM 10 TO 7, DOUBLE OLDFEIGHT, 9 PM - 1 AM.
T & J SALON - HAPPY HOUR 4 - 7 PM, 75¢ WELLS.
UNLIMITED - HAPPY HOUR 4 - 7 PM.

DIGNITY of Tucson & Phoenix

Dignity/Phoenix will have its first election of officers at the September monthly meeting. Those running for office include the following: Bud Guiles (running unopposed for the office of President), Thom Oakes and Roy Wood for V.P. and Donna Walkuski and Mike Sahn for Secretary-Treasurer. After the election, the new slate of officers will select additional members of the board to serve as chairpersons of the vital committee of Education, Social Events, Social Involvement and Spiritual Development.

The Social Involvement and Spiritual Development committees are at present working on a Mass for the Gay hearing-impaired in November. There will be a special liturgy, music and a complete "signed" Mass. Are you Gay and deaf? Call us. We need your help. Call 967-3557 or 274-0070.

We welcome all persons to Dignity. We are a community of Gay Catholics and friends (and we have lots of friends) committed to being both Christian and Gay. Come talk with us. Come listen to us. Come let us listen to you. Come ask us questions. Come and give us some answers. Come to DIGNITY/Phoenix and DIGNITY/Tucson and help us celebrate the beauty of God's multi-formed creation.

Final plans are being made for the tenth anniversary convention of Dignity International scheduled August 31-September 3 in San Diego. Highlights of the convention, whose theme is "Challenge of the Decade," includes three Masses, a harbor cruise, major addresses, workshops and business meetings.

GCS Tucson The GCS meeting and dinner at the Joshua Tree last month was a successful evening of business and socializing and was enjoyed by all in attendance. Our thanks to Bob Bishop and Big John for making it a success. This month's meeting will be combined with a pot-luck dinner and will be held at GCS Director Jim Smith's home on Tuesday, August 28 at 7 p.m. Call 326-9719 for directions. Bring a dish and enjoy an evening of planning and socializing.

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Letters to the editor

EDITORS:

My wife and I have been married for 19 years and in no way did we ever think we'd be writing to a Gay newspaper or seeking the help of a Gay organization. In fact up until recently, we viewed Gays as low, disgusting people who were to be avoided. Three weeks ago, all that was changed.

Our 15-year-old son was arrested in a local park for having sex with an older man in a bathroom. When the police called and we went down to the station to pick up our son, we were beside ourselves with grief, misunderstanding and hatred and anger for what happened. When our son told us that he was definitely Gay, we were confused asking ourselves - "Where did we go wrong?" The Juvenile Officer told us about an organization called Gay Community Services and since our son has determined he's Gay, we should look them up and maybe they could help.

We got in touch with Jim Smith who is the director and a quick phone call and a subsequent meeting with Mr. Smith has changed our attitude, and opened up an understanding of Gay people that we never knew imaginable. We might add here that Anita Bryant is wrong.

Mr. Smith told us about organizations like Parents of Gays that could help us understand our son. Religious groups that don't condemn because a person's Gay, free counseling at the U of A, and Gay Community Service's role in providing free health care and drug and alcohol abuse counseling.

We asked Mr. Smith if he could counsel our son and for reasons not necessary to go into here, he declined, stating he wasn't qualified. He did direct us to someone who was.

In summary the "straight" people in Tucson are lucky to have an organization like Gay Community Services and real nice people working there. You are fortunate people indeed. Sincerely

Mark and Cheryl Anderson

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Whatever happened to Kelly? On Wednesday, July 25, Kelly competed in Amateur Night at Jekyll's. She was announced as the winner, given the cash prize and invited to perform that following Sunday.

Apparently Kelly returned to Jekyll's that Sunday only to be told her music had not been recorded and she could perform some other time that week. Well, the week has passed and still no Kelly.

I have heard it rumored that Lady Casondra did not like the competition. Casondra did perform in the same Wednesday night Amateur Show in which Kelly was competing. It was never stated, however, that Casondra was competing against the contestants. Lady Casondra does not have a thing to worry about due to her excellent talent. I, therefore, would hope that the reason for Kelly's postponed performance is just a mistake that will be resolved shortly. I am sure I speak for many people by saying I would like to see Kelly do the show that she so well deserves. Thank you
Ruby - Tucson

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MINNEAPOLIS (GayLife) - Two murders in the Minneapolis/St. Paul area in the past six weeks have brought unity - as well as sadness - to the Gay community in these Minnesota cities. Terry Knudsen, 34, had been walking through the Loring Park area of the Twin Cities. Knudsen, dressed in a 3 piece suit, had cut through the park on his way to visit a friend. He was seen about 1:45 p.m. staggering and some friends who noticed him, assumed he had been drinking and helped him toward his home. Then they noticed his head was bloody and questioned him about what had happened. Knudsen told them two persons assaulted him, apparently with baseball bats. The friends drove him to a hospital. Knudsen was still conscious when he arrived at the hospital but then he went into a coma and never awoke. Doctors reported that his brain had been pushed to the left side of his skull and one of his eyes destroyed. He literally had "his head bashed in."

During the same period, news broke of the brutal murder of Leslie Benscoter, a 31-year-old St. Paul man. His nude body was found in his apartment, which had been burglarized. "Fags will die" was inscribed with toothpaste on a bookshelf near his body. Benscoter was last seen hitchhiking home from a local Gay bar. The St. Paul police were not especially interested in the case saying, "We don't have a murder." Toxicology reports did not indicate a cause of death, and so police closed the case. This brought a swift outpouring of protest from the Twin Cities Gay community. The Mayor of St. Paul promised that the investigation would be reopened.

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MOONIES STRIKE BACK AT FULL MOON
PHOENIX - A capacity crowd welcomed back the Moonies last Sunday, Aug. 19 for a fun-filled and wacky evening. The theatrical troupe, composed mainly of bar employees and friends, put on a review periodically, under direction of Full Moon's owner, Cheryl Emery.

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VIEWPOINT

TUCSON - No one watches public television, and certainly not at six in the afternoon on Sundays. But if you tuned into Tucson's Channel 6 (KUAT-TV) last Sunday, you'd probably have been confused, surprised, and maybe a bit pleased. That's the regular time slot for a bilingual sitcom known as "Que Pasa, USA?" Last week the story revolved around Gayness!

The toothy but otherwise handsome young adult son of the principal family of the show has agreed to research homosexuality for an article in his school newspaper. Unbeknownst to him, his folks find some of his research materials, and immediately conclude he's Gay. They spread their anguished "discovery" to his sister, their neighbors, etc., and soon the confusion has snowballed sufficiently to provide the program with 20 minutes of fag jokes, clever plays on words, repeated cases of mistaken intentions, misinterpreted gestures and emotions, lots of double meanings, and some telling comments on the all too common negative value reactions of straights toward Gays.

Some militants might argue that this portrayal was once again stereotypic, but given the audience at which this show was directed, it generally portrayed the issue straight forwardly, and displayed considerable understanding.

Several great scenes of parental and straight ambivalence are developed when the son goes off to an interview at a new Gay disco, and father goes to retrieve him. He's soon followed by most of the other principals of the show. The father's reaction to getting his hand stamped in return for paying the club's cover charge is priceless. Another tickler was the bit where the father tries to put off a hunky dude who is making a pass at him by explaining "I want my son," and that just makes the dude come on more strongly with, "I'll be your son!" Later when the old man HAS found junior, and is physically manhandling him out of the club, the same dude appears, but quickly apologizes for apparently having interrupted a loving embrace. At that point the old man doesn't have any defenses left!

There was NO WAY those really were Gays dancing in the background, but to consider that this script actually went so far as to show nearly a full ten minutes of men dancing with men and women dancing with women on family time TV, while also producing some interesting scenes of what people may be prompted to do when their close relatives are seen in physical contact with another, was quite a

sight indeed! Not only was the show remarkable for its setting in what is usually considered the most macho of ethnic backgrounds, the credits at the end told that the show was produced before a live audience, in Miami, of all places! Even the PBS disclaimer that the use of public funds for its production should not be misinterpreted as approval or disapproval, couldn't distract from the notion that the times, they are indeed a changin'. D.W. - Tucson

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