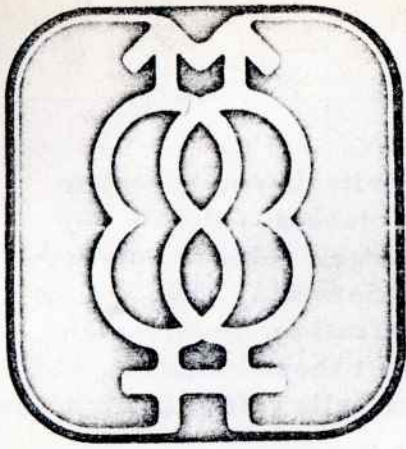




DALLAS GAY POLITICAL CAUCUS

NEWS

1976

"UNITING FOR EQUAL RIGHTS"

DGPC NEEDS YOU!

Mankind has progressed only through learning to develop and organize instruments of power to achieve security and order--civilized life itself--instead of the sheer struggle for physical survival. The Dallas Gay Political Caucus (DGPC) is a nucleus around which political power can develop. This power will be channeled to promote our common purpose, restoration of civil rights for gays, and thereby freedom and equality for our people.

Votes and voters constitute the power most easily recognized by politicians, at ALL levels. Therefore organized voting power is the best means of lending power to our "limp-wristed" image.

The DGPC has two short term goals: first, to register 20,000 voters over the next 3-4 months. Only when registration is achieved does the second goal become immediate with the spring, Dallas city elections. Screening the candidates and issues, DGPC will provide the information that the voters can act in an organized manner to elect those candidates who favor our cause.

The long term goal is a Texas Political Machine capable of making our needs felt in Austin and Washington. The ultimate goal is a bill on the President's desk prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual preference or affection. We

(Continued on
other side)

THE LAW... YOU SHOULD KNOW IT!

What follows is a verbatim section of the Texas Penal Code, Chapter 21, sexual offenses pertinent to the gay community. We make no attempt to interpret these laws.

Section 21.01 Definitions In this chapter:

1. "Deviate Sexual Intercourse" means any contact between the genitals of one person and the mouth or anus of another person.

2. "Sexual Contact" means any touching of the anus or any part of the genitals of person or the breast of a female 10 years or older with the intent to arouse or gratify the sexual desire of any person.

3. "Sexual Intercourse" means any penetration of the female sex organ by the male sex organ.

(Sections 21.02-05 dealing with rape and sexual abuse are omitted.)

21.06 Homosexual Conduct

a. A person commits an offense if one engages in deviate sexual intercourse with another individual of the same sex. (Continued on
other side)

GET INVOLVED SISTERS!

Sisters, if you are gay, every time you express your love physically for your chosen partner, you break the law. As Gays we are criminals under Texas statutes. It is most important that we, the women of our community, become involved in this movement--the DGPC! We have fought our way up from the so-called second class citizen position as women, only to find we have another, possibly harder, battle ahead of us as gay women.

We must join together with our gay brothers to protest loudly the inequities which 'til now we have endured. For too long we have been silent! Politicians at all levels

(Continued on
other side)

WHAT IS DAIR?

One of the questions everyone asks lately is, "If the DGPC is working to change the laws, then what is the Dallas Alliance for Individual Rights?"

It happens that the Gay community is able to react and organize in many ways to combat oppression. While DGPC is the result of a gradual awakening of the local gay mind to the possibilities of political action, the formation of DAIR was the dramatic response to a direct attack on the gay community.

Two months ago, one week after seemingly routine raid on the Club Baths, a sensational article appeared in the Dallas Times Herald. Dallas' resident homophobe, one Mr. Burgess, director of the Dallas Police Vice Patrol, announced his intention to harass back into seclusion the gay community. The publication of this statement triggered a two-week series of actions which saw the birth of DAIR as a fundraising organization.

Comprised of gay owned businesses, DAIR enjoys the solid backing of the Gay bar and bath owners of both Dallas and Fort Worth. There are 32 members at present.

THE LAW...

b. An offense under this section is a Class C misdemeanor. (Note that this covers consensual acts in private.)

Section 21.07 Public Lewdness

a. A person commits an offense if one knowingly engages in any of the following acts in a public place or, if not in a public place, one is reckless about whether another is present who will be offended or alarmed by one's act:

1. an act of sexual intercourse
 2. an act of deviate sexual intercourse;
 3. an act of sexual contact;
 4. an act involving contact between the person's mouth or genitals and the anus or genitals of an animal or fowl.
- b. An offense under this section is a Class A misdemeanor.

Section 21.08 Indecent Exposure

- a. A person commits an offense if one exposes one's anus or any part of one's genitals with the intent to arouse or gratify the sexual desire of any person, and one is reckless about whether another is present who will be offended..
- b. an offense under this section is a Class C misdemeanor.

That is the law. Questions may be mailed to the DGPC News, P.O. Box 22333, Dallas, 75222. Watch later issues for review of local ordinances and legal commentary.

DGPC NEEDS YOU!!!...

have set a five-year target date; TOGETHER we will achieve this and more.

DGPC needs your support in any way -- your time, money and votes! With your help we will achieve more than our most optimistic ever dreamed!

The Executive Board,
Dallas Gay Political Caucus

SISTERS!!!...

must realize there is a large minority they must reckon with. We must step out of our closets and doff our invisibility to show we will no longer tolerate discrimination from these, our Public Servants. The way to accomplish that is by voter registration, involvement in the campaign process to support those candidates and issues supporting our cause and finally voting in organized blocks to elect those candidates.

The Dallas Gay Political Caucus is the organization which can accomplish this goal. DGPC will be only as powerful and effective as we, the gay sisters and brothers, make it. Help us carry the torch of individuality and freedom for all.

Pat Cherry, vice-president
Dallas Gay Political Caucus

DAIR...

DAIR has announced a short term goal to raise \$50,000 in 90 days, and recent reports state that steady progress nears that goal. Aside from the announced public benefits at the various bars, pressure is being exerted upon suppliers (alcohol, vending machines etc.) from the community at large to obtain large contributions to support the cause. Not surprisingly the money is beginning to flow to DAIR.

The long term goal and real purpose of DAIR is to fund legal research toward legal challenges in the courts to overturn or redefine the new Texas Penal Statutes especially 21.06 regarding homosexual conduct. DAIR has retained the services of an attorney expert in law dealing with sexual statutes.

What is DAIR? It is a new and potent weapon in the fight for Gay Civil Rights.

REMEMBER SATURDAY
DECEMBER 18th!

The DGPC Fund Raising Committee
will sponsor a

GIFT WRAPPING SERVICE
and
SALE OF BAKED GOODS
from 9 am to 5 pm
2701 REAGAN (at BROWN)

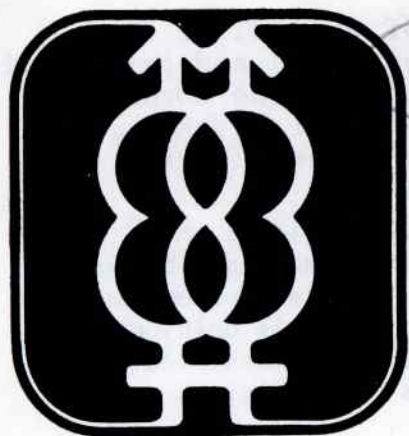
Bring in your gifties and what-nots for that special cheerful Christmas wrap complete with bow.

(Donations of baked goods for sale are welcomed and should be covered and in disposable containers.)

HAVE A QUESTION??

CARE TO COMMENT??

Address your correspondence
to the DGPC News
P.O. Box 22333
Dallas, Tex., 75222



DALLAS GAY POLITICAL CAUCUS

News

 vol 1, no. 2

IN THIS ISSUE:

- ☐ Rev. Harris Enters City Council Race
- ☐ Vice Squad Head Meets With Gays
- ☐ DGPC Statement On "P" Movie Ratings
- ☐ ...and more that affects you!

The Rev. Jim Harris, pastor of the Metropolitan Community Church of Dallas, has announced that he is going to run for the Dallas City Council. This statement of historical importance to the Dallas gay community was made during an evening service at MCC. "There is a great need by the total gay community for political representation," said Rev. Harris. According to surveys, gays make up 10-12% of the population in metropolitan areas. "Our people have never been represented," Rev. Harris stated. "The time has come for this to change." It was this desire to serve the total community that convinced Rev. Harris to say yes when approached by the Steering Committee from D.A.I.R. asking him to run for the City Council. "The salary is only \$50 a week," he said. "I am running because I want to serve the gay community, not for material gain." To back up its request, D.A.I.R. has contributed \$1000 to Rev. Harris' campaign fund.

Rev. Harris will be running for election in District 5, including most of the Oak Lawn

area, plus the White Rock area and East Dallas. The present Councilperson is Willie Cauthron (in his first elected term), who also is President of the White Rock Bank.

Rev. Harris feels that right now there are three issues of primary importance to the gay community: First, a city ordinance to ban discrimination in housing, education, and employment because of sexual or affectional preference (such an ordinance has already been passed by the City of Austin). Second, a reasonable solution in the area of prostitution on Cedar Springs. Third, a solution to the high crime rate in the Oak Lawn area, especially around the bars on Fitzhugh and Maple Avenues.

The election is on April 2. Brothers and sisters, get out and vote!

Captain Jim Everett, Director of the Vice Control Units in Dallas, recently met with representatives of our gay community. According to Rev. Jim Harris and Ms. Linda Lopez, they were warmly received by Capt. Everett, and a free and open discussion followed.

The main topics were enticement and entrapment. These are of major importance to the gay community because, according to a poll of several attorneys, 80-85% of all homosexual cases involving public sex are due to enticement and entrapment. Many known cases were cited as examples. Capt. Everett was very sympathetic, and in fact, seemed to be completely unaware of what was happening. He stated flatly that he would not condone this, and urged our people to take these facts directly to the Internal Affairs Division.

Harassment was also discussed, and it was noted that we have had no real problems since Capt. Everett took office. Many gays, however, still mistrust and even fear the police because of past events. Even routine ID checks in a bar cause apprehension and even terror because our people fear for their jobs if their names, for some reason, were released to the public. It was clearly made known to Capt. Everett that we are no longer going to accept injustices and go into hiding. We intend to fight for our rights!

The meeting was very positive, and we feel that Capt. Everett now has a better understanding of the problems of the gay community. Capt. Everett promised that "within the structure of the law, I will be as cooperative as possible." He also intends to stop any enticement and entrapment practices if in fact they exist.

Adlene Harrison, Mayor Pro-tem of Dallas, met with representatives of the gay community in her office on January 7. Although many topics concerning harassment and discrimination were discussed, the most important was the crime rate in the Oak Lawn area. It was mutually agreed that only a cooperative effort between the police and the gay community would solve the problem. Many suggestions were made and discussed, including that a high-ranking police officer be appointed as liaison with the leaders of the gay community to handle problems concerning us. This suggestion was enthusiastically supported by Ms. Harrison, and she promised to explore the possibility [This promise was kept. One week later, on January 14, Ms. Harrison called Rev. Harris and informed him that the liaison officer had been selected - Capt. Jim Everett, newly-appointed Vice Squad head]. Ms. Harrison was very positive, and sincerely concerned on every issue involving human rights. She feels that we also have the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. This is a beautifully refreshing viewpoint from a city official. Thank you, Ms. Harrison!

UPCOMING:

"T" TEXAS DANCE

A First In Dallas To Celebrate
VALENTINE'S DAY

Sunday, February 13, at Sassy's, Noon-6pm
\$1.00 cover benefitting DGPC

VOTER REGISTRATION RALLY, Sunday, Feb 27
Watch for time and place

The next DGPC General Meeting will be held at 7:30pm on Monday, February 7 at 2701 Reagan. The agenda includes ratification of the Board of Trustees' choice for DGPC President.

The Ad-Hoc DGPC Committee attended the January 12 meeting of the Dallas Motion Picture Review Board. DGPC Parliamentarian Steve Wilkins prepared and presented a sternly worded protest to the Board's new "P" classification. The Committee reports a cordial reception and a positive response. Action will be taken at the next DMPRB meeting, and the Committee members will be present. We now reproduce in its entirety the statement as presented to the Board:

We wish to speak out against the Dallas Motion Picture Review Board's new classification of "P" for perversion regarding homosexuality. It is our understanding that this classification will be used to classify any movie in which homosexuality is either implied or explicitly depicted.

In recent months many national organizations such as the American Psychiatric Association, the American Bar Association, and the American Federation of Teachers, have issued statements that homosexuality is no longer considered, in their opinion, to be a psychological disorder nor a perversion. If such nationally recognized organizations as these, whose members are educated and trained in areas of psychological behavior, feel that homosexuality is not a perversion, how can an organization such as yours label it that? We feel that your use of the word "perversion" to describe homosexuality is as wrong as many of the other unjust labels used to describe other minority groups in our society. There are as many so-called "perverse" sexual activities among heterosexual men and women as there are among homosexual men and women. The word "homosexual" cannot be classified as a perversion any more than "heterosexual" can be. There is good and bad in all societies, and to label the good with the bad has always and will always be an injustice.

There are many varied professions and occupations to be found among the thousands of homosexual men and women of our area, from doctors, lawyers, and teachers to clerks, secretaries, and mechanics. These people are making valuable contributions to their professions, society, and to our community. Many work with charitable organizations and on community service programs. They are hard-working and respected in their fields, but for the most part, they hide their sexual preferences from the majority of the world.

Both Congress and the State Legislature are back in session. Our lawmakers must be made aware of their substantial gay constituency. To achieve this, all members of our gay community must write their Federal and State Senators and Representatives to let them know how we feel. You should urge them to work for and vote for the passage of Gay Rights legislation. Be sure to sign your letter and give a return address - as letters without both of these are discarded. If you wish, you may use the DGPC mailing address: Box 22333, Dallas 75222. Don't forget to send a copy to DGPC, as a file will be kept to remind legislators should they ignore your correspondence.

State legislators should be urged to work for and vote for the repeal of Section 21.06 of the Texas Penal Code. This anachronistic law makes private homosexual acts between consenting adults illegal. Eighteen states have already repealed such laws - with your support, Texas can be the nineteenth. If you do not know who your legislators are, you can call the League of Women Voters (351-4125), Democratic party headquarters (521-4030), or Republican party headquarters (369-9555). Wait not! Write your lawmakers today!

Exposure to a world that considers them "perverts" can destroy all the contributions these people make and often cause them psychological and physical harm. This opinion is wrong, and your "perversion" classification furthers that erroneous and malicious opinion.

If you must use a label for homosexuality in films, use the letter "H". That is honest and describes it for what it is. Even on television during "Family Hour," which is viewed by millions of adults and children, homosexuality is labeled as that, not as a perversion. If "P" must be used to describe such things as sado-masochism and necrophilia, you will find these practiced by both heterosexual and homosexual men and women.

The purpose of an organization like yours should be to educate and advise, not create further bias and prejudice. I quote William Hazlett, the English essayist, who states, "Prejudice is the child of ignorance." It is ironic that prejudice, one of democracy's greatest evils, still flourishes widely in the very society that clearly proclaims "that all men and women are indeed created equal." Unhappily, the challenges and responsibilities for combatting prejudice and ignorance are sometimes neglected, subordinated, and forgotten.

As you know, in other cities, such as Memphis, Boards similar to this have been declared unconstitutional. If this type of classification continues and homosexuality is not dropped from inclusion in your "P" rating, we are prepared to take the legal action necessary to gain such a judgement against the Dallas Motion Picture Review Board.

We eagerly await a decision from your Board on this important matter.

D.A.I.R. and DGPC have offered a \$1500 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of those involved in the brutal murder of a brother on Dec. 18, 1976 at Maple and Throckmorton. Anyone wishing to increase the reward fund may contribute to: Reward, DGPC, Box 22333, Dallas, TX 75222.

The War Widow, a lesbian love story, will be aired at 9pm on Thursday, 2/10, on Channel 13. The National Gay Task Force rates it as being very positive.

The DGPC Fund-Raising Committee raised over \$240 from the gift-wrapping service and baked goods sale in December.

Rev. Troy Perry, MCC founder, was invited to President Carter's inauguration. Rev. Perry was on the dais at the Lincoln Memorial next to Martin Luther King, Sr. Bar owner Frank Caven donated \$500 expense money.

*Editor - Jerry West Production - RH
Reporters - Alexander Brayford, Linda Lopez, David Watts. Published by Dallas Gay Political Caucus - Box 22333, Dallas 75222 (521-5017). All contributions welcome.*



DALLAS
GAY
POLITICAL
CAUCUS

News

vol 1, no. 3

IN THIS ISSUE:

- ☐ Rev. Harris Statement
- ☐ Gay Aggies?
- ☐ Cowtown Homophobia!
- ☐ Sorry Anita, But No!

Next DGPC Meeting 14 March, 7:30pm 2701 Reagan

PARLIAMENTARY FIREWORKS SPARK FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING

DGPC has a new president, Steve Wilkins, as a result of the February general meeting. The manner in which this was accomplished has generated some slight controversy.

The problem stems from the fact that the DGPC By-Laws are ambiguous concerning the filling of vacancies on the Executive Board. After much floor discussion at the meeting, a consensus was reached as to the "intent" of the By-Laws: (1) Except for the original Board, all vacancies are to be filled by election vote of the Executive Board and ratified by the general membership. (General elections are not the method outlined in the By-Laws.); (2) Although all other Board Members are officers and can be elevated to the Board directly from the general membership, the Presidency is a special office which must be selected from the presently sitting Board, not from the general membership. The general membership, however, may nominate someone from the Executive Board for the Board's consideration for the election to the office of President.

The meeting moved to ratification of the Executive Board's choice of DGPC Vice President Pat Cherry for President. The general mem-

bership could not ratify Ms. Cherry and nominated Parliamentarian Steve Wilkins for the Executive Board's consideration. The Board retired and considered, but failed to elect Mr. Wilkins as President.

DGPC was facing a leadership crises with the Executive Board stalemated in the election process. It became obvious the caucus would founder if some solution were not found. Volunteer Coordinator Jerry Ward moved at this point the By-Laws be suspended to elect a president in the conventional manner. The motion was seconded and passed after moderate discussion, and a general election ensued with Steve Wilkins being elected as President of DGPC.

The next order of business was the restitution of the temporarily suspended By-Laws so normal business could proceed. Unfamiliarity with parliamentary procedure made this action the center of the most controversy. Many at the meeting, including several Executive Board members, were unaware that no other business could be transacted/conducted until the By-Laws (defective as they might be) were restored.

(continued on back)

GAY AGGIES!?!?!?

In Aggieland there is a group of gay students who have petitioned the University to grant them on-campus recognition. Naming themselves the Gay Student Service Organization, they have announced they will go to court to force the school to grant them the desired recognition.

Although similar groups exist in other schools including UT Austin, Dr. John Koldus, vice president for student affairs, stated "that Texas laws prohibit homosexual activity, and it would be inappropriate and possibly illegal for the university to recognize or condone such groups as the GSSO." Dr. Koldus added the university faculty and staff could provide more expertise in explaining gay lifestyles and homosexual behavior than could a group of students. (Don't laugh... the man really believes this). It makes one wonder whom would be chosen to explain gay lifestyles to gays and even to straights.

FUND RAISING A GREAT SUCCESS

The T-Dance held at Sassie's Feb. 13 was a financial success. The DGPC netted \$218. Thank you everyone for your support.

Our next enterprise will be a real, old fashioned skating party March 16.

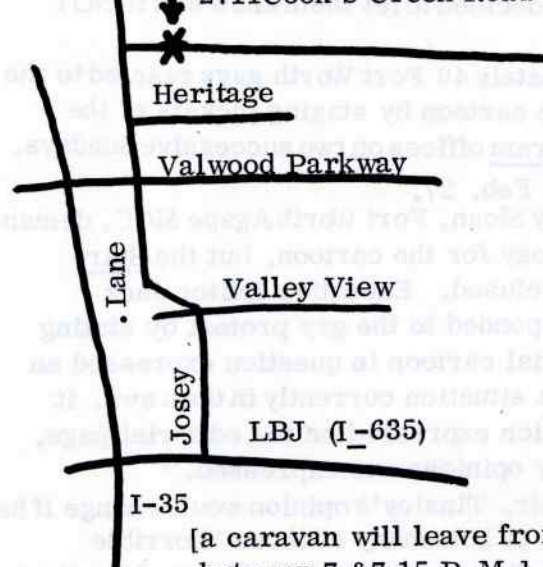
STATEMENT FROM THE REV. JIM HARRIS Candidate for City Council, Place 5

"I will support any legislation on a local, state or federal level, that would guarantee the Civil Rights of any individual regardless of race, color, creed, sex or affectional or sexual preference."

Rev. James C. Harris

ST. PATRICK'S DAY
PRIVATE DGPC SKATE PARTY
16 March 1977 8--10 P.M.
\$2.50 per person includes skates

Josey Skate Land
2711 Cook's Creek Road



PARLIAMENTARY FIREWORKS...

(Continued from front)

The motion was made, seconded and carried after much, much discussion.

At this point, one unidentified female, shouting imprecations, stormed out of the meeting, with Ms. Cherry standing immediately and tearfully announcing her resignation whereupon she, too, vacated the meeting. On the heels of Ms. Cherry, Secretary Linda Lopez read a most impassioned statement announcing her resignation and stormed out.

After much research, it becomes obvious to this reporter that these resignations occurred because the individuals involved misinterpreted the restoration of the By-Laws as an affront to Ms. Cherry. Exactly what type of affront is still a mystery. This perceived affront lead to the rash of ill-conceived resignations.

It is reported that neither officer has yet tendered the required written resignation to the Executive Board. This reporter hopes that Ms. Cherry and Ms. Lopez have recognized their error and will continue working with DGPC for all our brothers and sisters. President Steve Wilkins has announced at a recent Board meeting that a committee has been appointed to study the By-Laws and to recommend changes. The proposed timetable for this committee includes presentation of their recommendations at the April General Meeting with membership action scheduled for the May General Meeting.

GAY RIGHTS LEGISLATION

In Congress HR2998 introduced by Representative Koch of New York.

In Austin House Bill 153 introduced by Rep. Craig Washington of Houston.

Write your lawmakers! Ask them their stand on Gay Rights and urge them to support passage of these bills.

HOMOPHOBIA HITS COWTOWN

A cartoon in the Fort Worth Star Telegram Friday, Feb. 18, 1977, pictured two small children walking through the snow while being followed by four wolves labeled "Kidnappers", "Porno Peddlers", "Dope Pushers" and the fourth, "Homosexuals". Apparently the Star-Telegram, Fort Worth's only major newspaper, thinks of gays as just another sub-category of criminal, but our gay brothers and sisters in Fort Worth decided to let them know this is NOT the case!

Approximately 40 Fort Worth gays reacted to the homophobic cartoon by staging pickets of the Star-Telegram offices on two successive Sundays, Feb. 20 and Feb. 27.

Rev. Jerry Sloan, Fort Worth Agape MCC, demanded an apology for the cartoon, but the Star-Telegram refused. Executive Editor Jack Tinsley responded to the gay protest by stating "The editorial cartoon in question expressed an opinion on a situation currently in the news. It was an opinion expressed on the editorial page, where many opinions are expressed."

Possibly Mr. Tinsley's opinion would change if he were aware of how many of those "horrible homosexuals" are prominent members of the Fort Worth community.

BRANT'S BIGOTRY BACKFIRES

by David Watts

Anita Bryant, frothing at the mouth these days, and wild-eyed, is out to tear down all laws protecting the civil rights of Gays in housing and employment, especially in Miami, Dade Co., Fla. Ms. Bryant is a spokesperson for the Florida Citrus Growers Ass'n., and members of the DGPC, because of Ms. Brant's actions, passed a resolution at the Feb. 7 meeting encouraging DGPC members and other gays to support the current national boycott of Florida Citrus Fruits and Juices.

According to a recent article in the Dallas Morning News, Ms. Bryant revealed that she felt that pressure from homosexual groups resulted in the cancellation of a lucrative contract for a syndicated television series in which she was to have appeared.

Ms. Bryant said that she regretted the loss of the series. "It destroys the dream that I have had since I was a child." It is unfortunate that she does not realize that Gays have dreams too! We do not appreciate her efforts to dash those dreams of equality for our Florida brothers and sisters!

EXPRESS YOUR OPINION!

Brothers and sisters, what is the purpose of this Newsletter? Should an organizational publication express any editorial policies? Who should decide the editorial policies?

We who publish this Newsletter feel that this is your publication and any views reflected in it should reflect your opinions. However, in order to do this we must hear from you.

Have you ever boiled about an issue brought up at a DGPC meeting? Have you ever felt that you had a solution to an important problem? Are you fearful of your job, in your residence or social position because of your involvement in DGPC? If so, sit down and write us a letter! Write to: DGPC Newsletter

P.O. Box 22333

Dallas, Texas 75222

If desired, all published letters and opinions will remain anonymous.

Have problems that cannot wait call Jerry Ward at 521-1441 or , an answering service or machine will take your message and someone will return your call as soon as possible.

T.G.T.F. NEEDS WOMAN COORDINATOR

The Texas Gay Task Force (TGTF), a coalition of various of various Gay organizations in Texas, is in need of a female coordinator for the North Texas area. Any females interested in helping TGTF please contact: Rosella Kleiwer, Moderator, TGTF, P. O. Box 2036, Universal City, Texas 78148, or phone 512-655-3724.

Memberships in TGTF maybe individual or group and may be obtained for \$10. In order to vote at the April 16 TGTF meeting in San Antonio, memberships must be obtained by March 16. TGTF is actively seeking more input from the North Texas area. All interested parties should contact Rosella Kleiwer regarding membership and meeting registration arrangements.



DALLAS GAY POLITICAL CAUCUS

News

vol. 1, no. 4

P.O. Box 22333

Dallas, Texas 75222

521-1441 or 528-4233

Our Next General Meeting 11 April, 7:30 PM

DGPC ENDORSEMENTS
OF CANDIDATES ON
REVERSE SIDE

TAKE A GIANT STEP!

What happens in this year's Dallas mayoral/city council frolics is of tremendous importance to the Dallas Gay community. Even the eyes of a national public - both gay/straight communities - are focusing on this local Dallas election, for it is the first time in two years that an openly gay candidate is actively running for a local city council position anywhere, and the election results will have their local, state and national effects, showing whether we Gays are a strong and potent voting force. No Gay Dallasite can afford to miss the District 5 race between the Reverend James Harris and incumbent, William Cothrum, who is unresponsive to Gay interests and implying, without openly charging, that to elect Harris to the Dallas city council is to open the Dallas city gates to homosexuals, making the city a mecca for degenerates. The real campaign issue is clear: Gay rights versus the license to harass homosexuals. Jim Harris' candidacy is a unique phenomenon in this election, where it is traditionally thought that homosexuality, viewed as both immoral and criminal, is assumed immediately to disqualify a potential political candidate from a place of leadership. Harris is sidestepping this issue, yet running as an openly gay candidate, and his reputation as a minister to the Dallas Gay community does precede him in his

HARRIS IS STANDARD BEARER

campaign. Whether we like or dislike Reverend Harris is unimportant. He is the standard bearer for all Dallas Gays. We must support him even though some may disagree with his policies and philosophies. With Reverend Harris' statement: "I will support any legislation on a local, state or federal level that would guarantee the civil rights of any individual regardless of race, color, creed, sex or affectional preference," he has stepped

forward to represent the Dallas Gay community. Who else among us has done so? Gay Dallasites, we need to take another look at the fate of the city we claim to love so much. Who is going to save it? The answer is simple: only WE can! We have the potential for power but have not yet begun to tap it. We must show our voting power and NOW!

RARE OPPORTUNITY

This April 2 election offers us a rare opportunity to demonstrate effectively and finally the power of a unified gay vote, as we and gay communities elsewhere develop into bodies of rapidly growing political awareness and sophistication. National politics will not overshadow local and state results. The lesson will be brought home loud and clear. Ours is a grass roots movement! A strong showing of Gay voting power can pay off with the passage of a Dallas Gay Rights City Ordinance.

With the current police moratorium on Dallas' gay establishments, we have been lulled into complacency. The police do fear retaliatory job loss should Harris win. Are we all that short-sighted so soon after last October's Club Dallas raid and arrests that we lose sight of an election-time phenomenon from which NO community is ever excepted. If Gays do not make a good showing at the polls, we can expect increased raids and arrests on our gay bars and baths. Election campaigns always focus on "public morality" when more substantive issues are lacking or avoidable. Crusades against "perverts" and "degenerates," smut and pornography are substituted for realistic proposals dealing with rising crime rates, drug addiction, racial tensions and urban bankruptcy, stressing pious talk about the need for stronger laws and their stricter enforce-

POLICE TOLERANCE IS TENTATIVE

ment against homosexuals and prostitutes. We should remember that police tolerance is tentative at best. With the present laws, there is a vice squad threatening every Gay in Dallas. Unless we Gays make a strong, heavy show of support in the District 5 race for Reverend Harris, all the predictions this season are for bad, possibly stormy, turbulent weather ahead for Gay Dallasites in the next two years.

Especially in the last few years, the strength of the Gay vote and the influence of the Gay community has been more sharply felt than was dreamed possible a decade ago. As long as we cannot obtain our most basic rights where we are most visible and numerous in Dallas, we will not be taken seriously on the state and national level. This is a fundamental truth about any minority group, ours included. In politics, respect is of great importance. We must appear strong to have sufficient respect to get local, state and national Gay Civil Rights. This 1977 Dallas local election offers Dallas Gays a chance to organize for change. Gay votes can and will make the difference in the city council races. Responsible Gay presence in many campaigns is the only hope we have of Gay rights legislation in 1978 and thereafter.

PERSEVERE! We know there is great potential in Dallas. We hope to see it realized in this election. At stake is the very future of the Gay people in Dallas.

Get out and make your vote count on April 2. April 3 may be too late.

LETTER WRITING PARTY

Saracen Apartment Club House
3240 North Hall

April 4 at 7:00 P.M. til ?

Come write your legislators among Friends. We must show that we are serious. We must write our state and federal legislators to urge passage of Texas House Bill 153, to repeal Section 21.06 of the Penal Code: Homosexual Conduct, and Federal H. R. 2998, to enact a national Gay Rights Bill.

The Dallas Gay Political Caucus is a non-profit corporation, chartered by the of Texas. The Caucus' purpose is to pool the resourses os the community for the benefit and pro-motion of full equality under the law for all human beings, regardless of affectional or sexual preferences.

The Caucus is active in voter registration, in voter education and in keeping with these goals, the Caucus has conducted screenings of candidates running for the Dallas City Council. Candidates were screened according to their responses to relevant questions and their receptiveness to the Caucus. All screenings were conducted without regard for political affiliation. The Dallas Gay Political Caucus endorsements are based on these screenings and our working knowledge of these candidates.

QUESTIONS PRESENTED DALLAS CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATES

1. Would you accept discrete endorsement by the Dallas Gays?
2. Would you support or introduce a civil rights ordinance barring discrimination in housing or private employment practices based on sexual orientation?
3. Would you support or introduce an ordinance banning discrimination in city employ-ment practices based on sexual orientation?
4. Would you appoint or support a police chief who will not harrass gays congregating lawfully in gay establishments?
5. Would you be willing to hire a gay for your staff if that person was qualified for the job?

CANDIDATE RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS

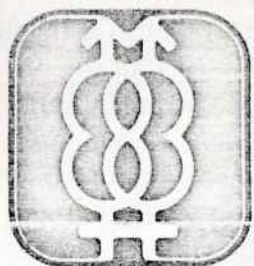
[+ indicates positive, - indicates negative]

PLACE	CANDIDATE	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	COMMENTS
1	David W. Martin Rose Renfro Billy R. Allen Don Hicks	NO RESPONSE FROM ANY CANDIDATE !					NO ENDORSEMENT
2	Ruth M. Baril Wm. F. "Bill" Nicol Michael Henderson	?		+	+	+	"believe homosexuality is abnormal"
3	John N. Leedom	no response					ENDORSED BY DGPC NO ENDORSEMENT
4	Bill Fair Richard "Dick" Smith	no response					NO ENDORSEMENT
5	Jim Harris William Cothrum	+	+	+	+	+	ENDORSED BY DGPC
6	Osborn Caldwell Jas. J. Frank Harris Elsie Faye Heggins	no response					
	Jas. H. Anderson Juanita Craft	+	+	+	+	+	very positive response ENDORSED BY DGPC
7	Joseph J. Jackson John W. Evans Jim Bradshaw Dr. John A. Walton	NO RESPONSE FROM ANY CANDIDATE					NO ENDORSEMENT thought to be positive ???
8	E. Brice Cunningham Lucy Patterson	no response					
	Rita Solon Bill Blackburn	+	+	+	+	+	very supportive--ENDORSED NO ENDORSEMENT
10	Adlene Harrison	+	+	+	+	+	arranged police-gay liason--ENDORSED
11	Dr. Emerson Emory Roy E. Oliphant III Morris H. Fugitt Robert S. Folsom	no response					very positive response--ENDORSED
		+	-	-	+	+	answers indicate confused stand generally opposed to gay rights

DALLAS GAY POLITICAL CAUCUS ENDORSEMENTS

PLACE 1	no endorsement	PLACE 6	JUANITA CRAFT
PLACE 2	MICHAEL HENDERSON	PLACE 7	no endorsement
PLACE 3	no endorsement	PLACE 8	LUCY PATTERSON
PLACE 4	no endorsement	PLACE 9	no endorsement
PLACE 5	REV. JIM HARRIS	PLACE 10	ADLENE HARRISON
PLACE 11		DR. EMERSON EMORY	

VOTE !!!! INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS ARE GAINED BY INDIVIDUAL VOTES!



DALLAS GAY POLITICAL CAUCUS

News

vol. 1, no. 4

P.O. Box 22333

Dallas, Texas 75222

521-1441 or 528-4233

Our Next General Meeting June 13, 7:30 pm, MCC, 2701 Regan

IN THIS ISSUE:

benefit for miami gays
exercise your writes
save us from anita
harris defeated--reasons
skating party success

SAVE US FROM THE ANITA NIGHTMARE !

The real issue in Miami's Dade County is whether or not to lift a taboo, giving us the freedom to grow up with humanity validated. The reality is that everyone's sexual preferences are fixed long before they begin school. Here are a few items Anita and her "hate homosexuals" said about us in a fullpage advertisement in the March 20 edition of the Miami Herald:

"Homosexuality is nothing new. Cultures throughout history have dealt with homosexuals almost universally with disdain, abhorrence, disgust--**EVEN DEATH** (emphasis added)."

"...[The Metro Commission's] blundering 'gay' ordinance is no more a civil rights issue than is the arrest of a drunk for disturbing the peace..."

"...this recruitment of our children is absolutely necessary for the survival and growth of homosexuality--for since homosexuals cannot reproduce, they **MUST** recruit, **MUST** freshen their ranks. And who qualifies as a likely recruit: a 35 year old father or mother of two...or a teenage boy or girl who is surging with sexual awareness?"

"...blatant...perverted lives..."

Anita vows (April 11 edition, Newsweek), "Before I yield to this insidious attack on God and His laws I will lead such a crusade to stop it as this country has not seen before." and (TV's Who's Who, April 12) "Homosexuality is an abomination to the Lord."

If Anita and her bigoted group, Save Our Children from Homosexuality, Inc., win in Dade County, we can rest assured that they will bring their "hate homosexuals" crusade to our front door in Houston or Dallas or wherever we think we are living in relative safety. Reliable sources indicate she already is moving to export her campaign to New Mexico, where Tucson recently passed a new Gay Rights city ordinance. If Hitler had been stopped in Czechoslovakia, World War II would not have occurred. The analogy is exact. You and I, just as much as Gay Floridians, have our freedom, our safety, our future on the line in the special June 7th referendum there.

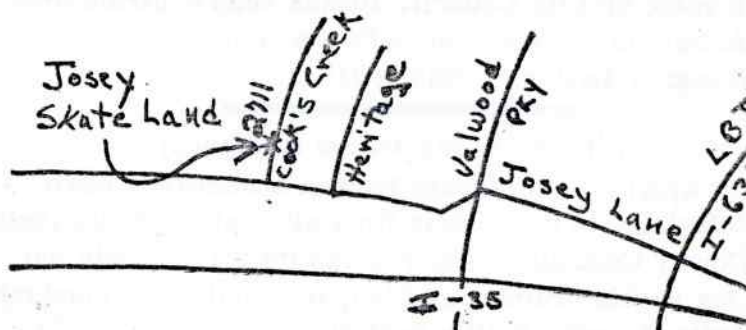
(continued on reverse side column 1)

REVEREND JAMES HARRIS DEFEAT

We all know by now that the Rev. James Harris of the Dallas MCC was defeated in his bid for Dallas City Council against incumbent William Cothrum in the District 5 race by a vote of 6,470 to 1,207. Rev. Harris failed to carry any Oak Lawn precinct, and the "death" was great. The unanimity of the local gay community, willingness of businesses to raise money, the unprecedented/unsolicited support in the straight community, combined with a concerned and helpful, supportive gay community, which would have meant an easy victory in San Francisco, or any one of several gay communities with political experience, were **LACKING FACTORS** in Rev.

DGPC SPONSORS BENEFIT FOR MIAMI GAYS !

On 18 May 1977 the Dallas Gay Political Caucus will sponsor a second **SKATING PARTY** at the Josey Skateland, 2711 Cook's Creek, Carrollton.



The cost--\$2.50 --includes roller skates, the time--8 to 10 PM. C'mon bring a friend for a grand evening of skating. All proceeds will be sent to the Dade County Coalition for the Humanistic Rights of Gays in Miami, Florida.

EXERCISE YOUR WRITES!

Federal/ Texas Gay Rights guarantees depend entirely on us Gays! They do not depend on the National Gay Task Force, They do not depend on the Gay Rights National Lobby, or on MCC's lobbyist, or The Advocate, or radical/conservative Gay spokespeople. Federal/Texas Gay Rights will be legislated when you let your federal/state lawmakers know your rights are not protected, that you feel they should be, that you vote, pay taxes and intend to vote in the future on your representative's record in obtaining for you, as a constituent, your basic human rights. Gay Rights will pass only when we bring more logical pressure to bear than Anita Bryant or other anti-gay pressure groups. Gay Rights will **NOT** be legislated because it is right or humane. It is impossible to express how important visits to your lawmaker's home district office and personal letters are. Visits, letters (between campaigns), plus **VOTES**, dollars, volunteer hours during campaigns are all politicians listen to or care about.

Anita Bryant and her group(s) have communicated often with their Washington representatives to stop HR 451. Bryant has said, "The seed of sexual sickness that germinated in Dade County has already been transplanted by misguided liberals in the U.S. Congress. America's political leaders at all levels must not be permitted to impose on the people a standard that legitimizes abnormality."

While we should communicate first with our own representatives in both House and Senate about Gay Rights, there are some key people who need to hear from Gay Rights advocates: Congressman Don Edwards (California) chairs the Subcommittee on Civil and Constitutional Rights of the House Committee on the Judiciary, which is HR 451's first stopping place. Rep. Edwards is one of the House's most respected members, he supports Gay Rights. Other

Passive Gay voter apathy without massive volunteer help is NOT the way to win Gay Rights. Our most important, potent weapon is the power of the secret ballot and REGISTERED Gay Voters WHO VOTE! We can win our rights only by political means.

Anita knows that in Miami when she says, "Homosexual acts are not only illegal, they are immoral. Through the power of the ballot box, I believe the parents and the straight-thinking normal majority will soundly reject the attempt to legitimize homosexuals and their recruitment plans for our children...". Why don't we Gays realize this voting power? Dallas could be Miami!

Rev. Harris' currently faces an \$8,000 campaign debt. We Gays owe him for his attempt to give us a voice on City Council. Please send contributions to help him reduce the deficit c/o MCC, 2701 Reagan, Dallas, Texas 75219.

(The Anita Nightmare continued)

On April 5, the Bryant Baptist housewives were scheduled to make their final attempt to get the Dade County Commission to rescind its 2 1/2 month old Gay Rights ordinance. Also, on April 5, the combined Anita Bryant--Phillis Schlafley troops were due to march against the ERA in the state capitol. ERA's fate was decided when the Florida Senate killed ratification by a vote of 21 to 19. Anita and her lunatic fringe have been through many battles: they have killed ERA in Florida, wiped out pornography in many communities, seriously endangered abortion rights, and along the way, they have fired up the bus issue into a racist hate movement. Gay Rights are merely the latest of their targets. The lunatic fringe has not had such strength since the McCarthy era. They now--ALL of them--have a symbolic leader who is proving more popular than those preceding her.

Save Our Children has already announced its nationwide anti-gay campaign. Just as the women's movement has seen Phillis Schlafley in all its communities, we Gays can now expect to see Anita Bryant in all our communities, if she wins in Miami. There is no question about that. An anti-gay victory in Dade County will certainly inspire Bryant and her organization to further zealous bigotry.

After Anita does in Gay Rights and ERA is no longer an issue, what group will be next? Jews? Blacks? Chicanos? How many gains of the last decade will the Lunatics erase before liberal America wakes up and does them in once and for all? THESE ARE THE LESSONS OF MIAMI!

To fight an election takes many thousands of dollars, as well as professional skill and a lot of sweat. The Dade County Coalition (the Gay Miami organization) have spearheaded a national drive for financial support of a campaign to defeat the repeal referendum election. The outcome of this battle against bigotry depends on the ability of the Coalition to wage an effective campaign. The Coalition needs our support. It is an important fight against the real enemies of Gay people--hatred, bigotry and ignorance!

Individual donations and legal, welcome and encouraged. Those wishing to donate send to P.O. Box 414, Miami, Fla. 33133. The victory over Anita can be won. We are not alone there. Thousands of non-gay/gay people throughout Florida and the rest of the United States are helping. In the long run, Anita could be the best thing that ever happened to the Gay movement in spurring its progress!

The recent DGPC sponsored St. Patrick's Day roller-skating party at Josey Skate Land in Carrollton turned into a thoroughly enjoyable time for all 120-plus people who attended. Several excellent skaters showed their skills and some helped each other along the rails, but the majority skated their feet off -- dodging, whizzing or just rolling along. Several people have said they would like to see this become a regular event -- possibly monthly. If you agree, let DGPC know by telling a member, or writing to DGPC News.

(Exercise Writes continued)

would be helpful are Anthony Bielsonson (D-Ca.), M. Caldwell Butler (R-Va), Robert McClory (R-Il) and Harold L. Volkmer (D-Mo). On the Senate side six Senators are important: Alan Cranston (D-Ca), Jacob K. Javits (R-NY), Lloyd Bentsen (D-Tx), Clifford P. Case (R-NJ), Harrison A. Williams, Jr. (D-NJ) and John G. Tower (R-Tx).

Gay Rights legislation needs to be supported by other constituencies, including the NAACP, women's groups, unions and religious organizations. The NAACP opposes extending civil rights to any more groups. Our Gay black friends will have to help change their minds. If you are a union member, you could begin lobbying your own union--union leaders look to elections and input from members, like politicians. Those of you working within mainline churches must try to get your church to lobby Congress for us rather than against us. We'll never get unanimity, but if we get some substantial support, it will be enough.

When bill hearings are held, they will need to be of high quality. The committees will want to hear from Gay/non-Gay psychiatrists, clergy, lawyers, public officials, personnel experts, educators, military personnel and people discriminated against.

Adam deBaugh, the MCC lobbyist, cannot go on much longer without substantial additional resources. Those who wish to make donations should send checks made out to UFMCC Washington Office, Suite 210, 110 Maryland Ave. N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002.

The fact that many of us are frightened communicates very effectively in itself why we need federal/state legislation. No politician, unless he is a hopeless nit or an insane bigot, could fail to be moved by your sincere explanation of your fears about losing your job, or your actual experiences of oppression/discrimination/harrassment. And (s)he must keep your visit confidential or violate the law.

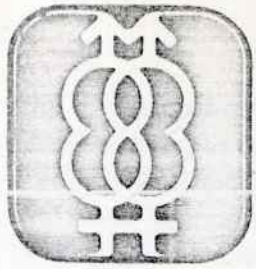
Person's wishing to convey their opinions regarding the Miami ordinance and the activities of Anita Bryant with Save Our Children from Homosexuality Inc. may use these addresses:

Commissioners who voted "yes"--Ruth Shack (she introduced the Miami ordinance), Bill Oliver, Harvey Ruvin, Jim Redford, Beverly Phillips at 73 West Flagler Street, Miami, Fla. 33130.

Financial Support--Dade County Coalition for the Humanistic Rights of Gays, P.O. Box 414, Miami, Fla. 33133.

Edward Taylor, Executive Director, Florida Citrus Commission, 1115 East Memorial Blvd., Lakeland Fla. 33801.

The Executive Director, Orange Bowl Committee 1400NW Fourth Street, Miami, Fla. 33135 (sponsors Bryant to head the annual Orange Bowl Parade)



DALLAS GAY POLITICAL CAUCUS

News

vol. 1, no. 6
P. O. Box 22333
Dallas, Texas 75222
521-1441 or 691-8497
Our Next General Meeting June 16 at 7:30 PM

in this issue:

anita won't debate
candle light protest in houston
at large board positions elections
texas gpc's offer bryant's safety
revised by laws proposals ready
official response to miami results

ANITA REFUSES TO DEBATE

On May 26, the Gay Political Caucus' of Texas, the recently formed coalition of the Dallas and Houston GPC's, through its spokesperson Gary Van Ottingham, challenged Anita Bryant to a debate on homosexual rights to take place in Houston June 17. This coincides with Bryant's appearance to "entertain" at the Texas Bar Association meeting in Houston on June 16.

The challenge carried with it a promise of payment of \$1000.00 to Bryant if she would appear. The response from her Husband Bob Green, "I'll believe it when I see it!" After said \$1000 was placed in a guaranteed escrow account in a Houston bank, Mr. Green was notified. His response then was, "Miss Bryant is a singer not a debater."

The Texas GPC's nonetheless plan a TV Talk Show/ Press Conference to occur on June 17 in Houston whether Bryant appears or not. Details will be available at the June 13 General Meeting.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES ON RETREAT

The Board of Trustees of the Dallas GPC is on retreat June 10, 11 and 12. Their avowed purposes: 1. to develop policies for consideration by the General Membership, 2. to set goals for DGPC and to develop plans for achieving these goals, 3. to develop a public image for DGPC, 4. to organize the Board of Trustees more effectively and 5. to reorganize the present committees more effectively and to create new and/or eliminate outdated committees. In General this weekend retreat is a working get-it-together session for the Board. They plan to report on the results of the retreat at the June 13 meeting.

CANDLE LIGHT PROTEST MARCH IN HOUSTON

Dallas GPC, Houston GPC, the MCC'S of Dallas and Houston along with other Gay organizations are organizing a candle light protest march on City Hall in Houston to coincide with Anita Bryant's visit to that city. It is hoped that 5000 or more will attend. The event will be televised and invitations have been sent to several celebrities known to be sympathetic to the gay cause.

Plans are to gather in the parking lot at Depository II at Bagby & McGowen at 8 PM Thursday June 16. When organized the procession will march to City Hall where a rally will be held. A show of numbers is Necessary---Anita Bryant, flushed with victory, has vowed to come to Texas to work for the repeal of the Gay rights ordinances in Austin and San Antonio.

WE NEED TO SHOW HER THAT GAY TEXANS DO NOT WELCOME HER TO THE REPUBLIC!

TEXAS GAY CONFERENCE IN AUSTIN

A TEXAS GAY CONFERENCE, funded by the Texas Gay Task Force, is being organized by a group of Austin Gay organizations. The conference which promises to be worthwhile will be held in Austin on June 18 and 19. Further details will be available at the June 13 meeting of DGPC.

ELECTIONS AT JUNE GENERAL MEETING

At the next DGPC General Meeting (June 13) the four (4) At Large positions on the Board of Trustees come due for election. The present position holders are as follows: Position #1 Don Baker, Position #2 Neal Nichol, Position #3 Mike Minogue and Position #4 presently vacant.

None of the present At Large positions have defined qualifications or specified responsibilities, however the Board of Trustees at a recent meeting has promised to delineate areas of responsibility for all positions, possibly as soon as July (1977). The Board has advised that only the dedicated and stout-of-heart need apply--those who do should be prepared for lots of long hours and hard work.

According to Parliamentarian Dick Peeples, to file interested parties may contact him through the DGPC phone numbers listed in the masthead, leave message directed to him and he will return your call. Persons may apply for any one of the four(4) positions, but only one since all positions will be voted on simultaneously. As always nominations will be welcome from the floor during the meeting.

TEXAS GPC'S OFFER ASSISTANCE IN BRYANT'S SAFECONDUCT

Regarding Anita Bryant's visit to Houston, Texas Gay Political Caucus' released the following statement: "Miss Anita Bryant has been re-invited to entertain at the annual meeting of the Texas Bar Association in Houston on June 16. There have been many rumors concerning Miss Bryant's safety during her visit to Houston.

While The Texas Gay Political Caucus' are strongly opposed to Miss Bryant's position against the human rights for homosexuals, we feel that she has the right to perform without fear of physical harm. Therefore, the Gay Political Caucus' of Texas stand ready to assist the Houston Police Department and the Texas Bar Association in providing any services necessary to protect Miss Bryant.

As We have communicated to Miss Bryant, and the public, the Texas Gay Political Caucus' will continue to seek human rights for homosexuals through public education, constructive dialogue and other peaceful methods."

BOX LUNCH PARTY A SUCCESS

Sunday, June 5, Bachman Lake was the site of an annual event--the BOX LUNCH SALE and VOLLEY BALL TOURNAMENT. This year's sponsors were DGPC and OLITA.

Reports filtering back to NEWSLETTER indicate that Olita "probably won" the volleyball game, but no one seems very sure about the final score.

Free beer was provided by the sponsors and no mean amount was consumed during the festivities. Among the many Box Lunches to be had, one lucky bidder found his being in the air conditioned environs of a Winnebago, while another purchaser was served splendiferously among silver, crystal and flowers. A grand time was had by all and the over \$400.00 proceeds will be split by the sponsors.

REVISED BY LAW PROPOSALS READY

As promised in March (1977), the special committee to revise the DGPC By Laws has completed its work. Free printed copies will be available at the June 13 General Meeting. Copies of the present By Laws will still be on sale at the same meeting. Be sure to obtain a copy to review during the next month: voting on these proposed revisions will be on the agenda for the July 11 General Meeting.

NEWSLETTER FUNDING STILL A PROBLEM !

With the last mailing of the DGPC Newsletter a form was enclosed expressing the need to place the Newsletter on a self-sustaining basis. Over 400 copies were mailed and to date only 10 responses have been received. Because of this poor response the Board of Trustees has deferred action pending responses to this appeal. Previous suggestions were:

1. paid advertisements in the Newsletter
2. envelope stuffer type advertisement leaflets enclosed with the mailed Newsletters
3. paid subscriptions of \$1.00 per month or \$11 per year (or less depending on the number of subscribers)

Other suggestions are solicited. If you do not make your preference known before July the Board of Trustees will be forced to decide for you. Call or write to Newsletter at the phones or P.O. Box listed in the Newsletter masthead.

FUND RAISER FOR DADE COUNTY GAYS HELD

On May 18, DGPC held its second Skate Party/Fund Raiser. Ninety seven people attended and the proceeds of \$215.00 were sent to the Dade County Coalition for Human Rights.

June 8, 1977

AN OFFICIAL STATEMENT

It is unfortunate that the citizens of Dade County Florida have let irrational myth, misinformation, and emotion rule over intelligent thinking, human reasoning, and human compassion by their refusal to extend civil rights to the homosexuals of their community. It is difficult to understand how and why their citizenry could view an extension of human rights to a large segment of the human race as a threat to the well being of their society.

Futhermore, it is hard to believe that the issue of civil rights for certain American citizens could be determined by a public referendum. Should the idea of extending the concept of "freedom of religion" to the Catholics, Jews, Mormons, and Moslems, back when Protestant America was being established, have been put to a popular vote? Should the issue of slavery have been voted on in Atlanta, Georgia after the Civil War in 1865? Should the extension of the right to vote for women have been determined by a public referendum? All of these situations would probably have been defeated due to the popular consensus at the times they were debated. So why determine civil rights for homosexuals in this way? Such hypocrisy on the part of American society is inexcusable!

Today, homosexuality is viewed through glasses scarred by myth, bigotry, and hatred. We are committed, therefore, to do everything within our power to stem this flow of ignorance. The Miami results have provided us, if nothing more, with cohesiveness and visability. We will pursue our cause!



DALLAS GAY POLITICAL CAUCUS

News

vol. 1, no. 7

P. O. Box 22333

Dallas, Texas 75222

Official Phone 691-8497

Our Next General Meeting July 11 at 7:30 PM

IN THIS ISSUE:

houston gay protest march
brownwood protest advertisement
message from miami
legislature moves against gays
anti-gay amendment to legal services

FIRST TEXAS GAY PROTEST STAGED IN HOUSTON JUNE 16

Texas Gay history was made in Houston on June 16, 1977. More than 6,000 Gays and friends of Gays marched to protest discrimination against Gay men and Lesbians.

As the gathering converged at Bagby and McGowen in the Depository Two parking lot for the rally, members of the Houston GPC distributed information sheets and black armbands with inverted pink triangles, a symbol of the Nazi death camps in Germany where hundreds of thousands of Gays were tortured and put to death, as they marched to the gas showers with other minorities. Approximately 240 Dallas Gays gathered under an 8-foot DGPC banner. Channel 8 sent a reporter and live mini-cam to cover the event. Gays came from Florida, California, Nevada and all across Texas, as well as Houston.

Liz Torres, movie star and television personality, led the parade of personalities who spoke to the cheering, exuberant crowd. Others speaking were David Goodstein (ADVOCATE publisher), Nikki Van Hightower (noted women's activist) and the Reverend Troy Perry. Gary Van Ooteghem, the moving spirit and sole funder of the rally and march, took the podium to read a list of telegram endorsements from Paul Williams and wife, Alan Alda, Burt Lancaster,

Jane Fonda, Rod McKuen, Shirley MacLaine and Lily Tomlin.

After forty minutes of speeches, the crowd divided into groups of forty for the sidewalk march down both McGowen and Smith streets to the Houston Public Library reflecting pool. The sight of the Gay throng gathering and singing with lighted candles was at once beautiful and awe-inspiring. After five minutes of silence, the demonstration surged along McGowen and, with police permission, filled the entire right half of the two-mile stretch of the return march route. During the return, marchers broke into chants of "No, No, Anita!", "Equal Rights, Now!" and "Go Home, Anita!" as each group passed the Houston Hyatt Regency Hotel where Anita Bryant was lodged.

That the entire two-and-one-half hour march passed without violent incidents is a tribute to the march's organizers - Gary Van Ooteghem, Houston GPC and many Houston bar owners - and to the Houston Police Department.

The Dallas GPC is proud to have participated in this historic event and says hats off to Houston for a job well done!

MESSAGE FROM MIAMI

It is the day after the Battle of Dade County. Most of us are angry, depressed, frustrated. Our first task is to get through these emotions, taking care not to over-react. From the ashes of defeat, we will resume the war, seize the initiative from our enemies and proceed to win our rights. It is not an easy agenda. Nothing is as destructive to a community as recrimination after defeat. Further, it is inappropriate. The Miami Gay community performed magnificently. We performed magnificently, gaining more than we know by giving and being a part of the battle. Nothing will ever be the same. By our involvement, however remote, we took a giant step in coming out. That takes great courage. Courage once experienced becomes easier to repeat. Although bigotry, hate and prejudice won, every one of us who took part is

stronger, braver, prouder. There is no turning back. Our inner selves could not handle the dishonesty and hiding. Our sense of community and solidarity has grown and made us more resolved to win our freedom. We will win. We would not have it any other way.

Anita Bryant stated after her victory, "Nonetheless, they [Gay people] have learned a lesson." Lesson? What lesson? That frightened, insecure, misinformed people can be moved by vicious, deceitful, dishonest propaganda to trample on the oppressed? That the simple-minded will fall for any distortion of fact, any dangerous lie, as long as it is attributed to a white, male, Christian god? That society loves nothing better than persecuting/oppressing its chosen scape-

(continued on back)

BROWNWOOD AD A SUCCESS

At the June 27 special meeting of DGPC the membership resolved not to march in protest of the appearance of Anita Bryant in Brownwood, Texas but encouraged the Board of Trustees to devise some other form of protest.

To this end, the Board gathered together a professional staff writer, a layout artist and a newspaper production specialist and several Board members with DGPC NEWS staff. The result was the now much-publicized full-page advertisement in the

Brownwood EXPRESS titled "Speaking of Freedom."

Funding came from the Gay community-at-large coming from Crews Inn bar owner, Ernie Benhaman and three other people who prefer anonymity.

Responses (all positive) have come from all over Texas. Dallas GPC President Steve Wilkins feels that the Ad accomplished its purpose of presenting a firm rational Gay presence in the Texas mind.

MIAMI MESSAGE continued

goats - whatever race, color, religion they may be or sexual preference they may have? That's hardly a lesson. What is depressing is that no one seems to have learned the real lesson in Miami.

No doubt those who led our side into battle made mistakes, but they performed magnificently. No election campaign fought has ever been free of mistakes. That they were unable to overcome 2,000 years of myths, bigotry and hate in 6 weeks is hardly surprising. As Robert Brake, one of Anita's top henchmen, proudly proclaimed, "We won two to one, which is proof the country sees homosexuals as child molesters and religious heretics." Isn't that a sorry comment on the status of American intelligence, tolerance, justice and sense of truth?

The biggest lesson is that we still have an enormous job ahead of us: education. That Anita Bryant was credible proves how deeply felt and tenacious the myths about us are. Our most obvious failure is in the public relations area. We were unable to overcome the emotional power of the stereotype, the myth, the popular image of the Gay person as child molester, religious heretic, sexual libertine and cross-dresser. Bryant's hate is credible because it conforms to society's belief. Society's perceived truth about us is a lie. We have to change that. We will not win battles until we do. This will take time, sophistication and resources. Gay religious organizations must continue to enlarge their efforts, because Bryant's perversion of religion is her strongest card. We must develop effective arguments to communicate the truth.

We also learned that Gay rights are the new emotional issue to be exploited by power-strivers of the conservative New Right. Miami taught us that it can be used successfully to rally great numbers to work against us.

We learned that the organizing and propaganda tactics of this New Right are highly effective.

It is difficult to see the bright side of the Battle of Dade County, but in the experience of civil rights struggles, our own and others, truth eventually wins out. We learned that the Gay community can and will respond to threats against our humanity. Anita Bryant opened many closet doors - doors which will be most difficult to close once again. We learned that we can raise significant funds. We learned that we can solicit an army of volunteers. We experienced political professionalism within our ranks of those who can skillfully organize and conduct campaigns. Our ultimate victory in achieving constitutional and human rights is simply a matter of time. The effort of Gays flexing their political muscle and demonstrating their professionalism has given all of us hope and inspiration, renewing our will to win. The Dade County campaign for human rights has mobilized Gay people politically in Dade County, in Florida, all across America, even in Europe. We have a national presence now. The campaign itself earned the attention of the local, national and world press, a fact that in itself overcomes one of our most serious past problems: invisibility. There is no place for us to go but toward more freedom. The war has just begun. We shall overcome!

CONGRESS TAGS ANTI-GAY AMENDMENT TO LEGAL SERVICES

An issue of major significance to Gays has surfaced in the U.S. Congress regarding legal services for the poor. The Legal Services Corporation is being formed by congressional action, and a major amendment to that action specifically denies these legal services to poor Gays, passing the U.S. House of Representatives by a 2-1 margin.

Dallas GPC Board members, Louise Young and Viv Armstrong, attended a July 4th gathering of the Texas Democratic Party at Fair Park, saying, "We want to open lines of communication to work together."

Two federal congressional representatives attending the gathering were the Honorable Jim Mattox and the Honorable Dale Milford. U.S. Representative Jim Mattox, who voted AGAINST the amendment [indicating a pro-GAY stand], said he "received some very irate telephone calls," but that he "believes in individual rights." U.S. Representative Dale Milford, on the

other hand, voted FOR the discriminatory amendment [an anti-GAY stand], saying he was "representing [his] constituency." His personal feelings were "irrelevant."

At the same gathering, Texas State Democratic Party Chairman Calvin Guest was quite receptive to the DGPC Board members, as was the head of the National Young Democrats, as well as to the issues Ms. Young and Armstrong presented.

On July 6, DGPC President Steve Wilkins and Secretary Louise Young approached U.S. Senator Lloyd Bentsen at a reception hosted by the North Dallas Chamber of Commerce, presenting the Senator with a Texas Gay Task Force Legislators Information Packet concerning Gay rights and a letter of concern about the Legal Service Corporation amendment. Wilkins and Young made contact with Chamber of Commerce representatives with the aim, again, of opening lines of communication and concern for Gay rights.

TEXAS LEGISLATURE MOVES AGAINST GAYS

In recent anti-Gay legislation moves, the Texas House Representatives voted 110-28 to ban Gay organizations from all state college/university campuses. Proponents of the measure warned that Gay campus groups would promote "flagellation corps, masochists anonymous and the foot fetish fraternity." The bill now goes to the

Texas Senate. Additionally, the Texas Senate is considering S.B. 238 to prohibit female impersonators' performances in establishments serving alcoholic beverages. The bill, aimed at curbing entertainment in Texas Gay bars, has been referred to the Senate Jurisprudence Committee.



DALLAS GAY POLITICAL CAUCUS

News

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Dallas, Texas 75222
Official Phone 528-4233
Our next General Meeting 8 August, 7:30 PM

in this issue:

citrus fruit/coors boycott
national gay leadership conference
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boycott shopping hints
opinion... gays making progress
uta graduate seminar to visit dgpc

NATIONAL GAY LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE VOTES TO ENDORSE BOYCOTT FLORIDA CITRUS PRODUCTS AND COORS BEER

Steve Wilkins (Pres.) and Louise Young (Sec.) of DGPC were two of twenty Texas representatives attending the second annual National Gay Leadership Conference held July 29 and 30 in Denver, Colorado. The conference was sponsored by National Gay Task Force (NGTF), Gay Rights National Lobby (GRNL), United Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC) and Dignity, Inc. Among the Four hundred in attendance were prominent Gay leaders such as Massachusetts State Representative Elaine Noble, Bruce Voeller and Jean O'Leary of NGTF, Jack Campbell of the Dade County Coalition for the Humanistic Rights of Gays, Ginny Apuzzo of GRNL, Rev. Troy Perry of UFMCC and Adam de Baugh national lobbyist for UFMCC in Washington, D. C.

The conference's format used panel presentations with Gay leaders speaking on such topics as "How to Lobby Your Legislature", "The Religious Issue in Gay Rights", "How to Gain National Support for Gay Rights Issues". Question and answer sessions followed each panel discussion.

During the conference several resolutions were brought to the floor for a vote. Three resolutions of interest follow.

The National Gay Leadership Conference endorsed a national boycott of Florida citrus products, specifically Florida orange juice, until such time as the Florida Citrus Commission issues a statement supporting Gay Rights. As per DGPC resolution both Wilkins and Young voted in favor of the boycott.

Secondly, the conference endorsed a national boycott of the Adolph Coors Brewing Company and of Coors beer, which despite a widely circulated letter to the contrary, does support anti-Gay elements.

The Texas delegation, among whom were representatives of D. A. I. R., DGPC and MCC/Dallas, sponsored a resolution which calls for an end to unwarranted Gay links with sexual abuse and molestation of children and the sexual exploitation [as in movies] of children. It further calls for a Presidential Commission to investigate these crimes.

The conference was ended on a powerful note with

The conference ended on a powerful note with Massachusetts State Rep. Elaine Noble's statement that never again should Gays allow a human rights issue to be put to a public vote!

NORTH DALLAS STATE LEGISLATOR FAVORS SECTION 21.06 REPEAL

In recent contacts with Texas state legislators, two members of DGPC's Political Action Committee attended a question and answer session held by Representative Lee Jackson (R-North Dallas, District 33-Q), questioning him on recent state legislation involving Gays. Although Rep. Jackson does not favor anti-discrimination legislation (i. e. gay civil rights in employment, housing, education, public accommodations, etc) he did say he would vote to repeal Section 21.06 of the Texas Penal Code. These same committee members gave Rep. Jackson a "Legislator's Information Packet" and they plan to follow up with a personal visit. This type of contact will be made with all Dallas area state representatives and senators in the future.

DGPC MEMBERSHIP SENDS MASS MAILING TO D. C. REGARDING LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION

At the July 11th general meeting, DGPC members wrote 68 letters and telegrams to U. S. senators and representatives regarding the Legal Services Corporation bill. Copies were sent to the Gay Rights National Lobby in Washington, D. C. The Political Action Committee of DGPC is monitoring various issues/bills and will present another topic for the August 8th general meeting. This committee heartily endorses individual letter writing on any gay issue, but requests that carbon copies of any such correspondence be forwarded to DGPC Political Action Committee, P. O. Box 22333, Dallas, Texas 75222.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE NEEDS LIBRARIAN

The Education Committee of DGPC has need of a librarian, typist and illustrator. Please contact Rodger Pettyjohn or Don Baker c/o DGPC P. O. Box 22333, Dallas 75222 or call 528-4233 and leave information on recorder.

BENEFIT SHOW for DGPC
MONDAY NIGHT AUGUST 15
10:00 PM \$1.00 CONTRIBUTION
SASSY'S at 4516 MCKINNEY

personal opinion...

ARE GAYS MAKING PROGRESS?

by michael c. stevenson

Many Gays have a gut fear that people really hate us; that, despite our progress, the public will soon rise up and destroy us. They see each "Anita" as the beginning of our end. Does almost every office seeker in some cities solicit our support? The fearful will point to areas where even most liberals remain homophobic. Have Gays been invited back to the White House? But what about those in the boonies who hate us and Carter both? If Law reform has advanced in a few more places, has it not also been reversed in others?

Progress generally moves with a sort of shuffle: two gains here, a setback there. Pessimists can always point to losses and lurking dangers--and we would be fools to ignore them. The strident attack by Our Lady of the Citrus Acid gave many of us the jitters, although a decade

ago her view was so common it would barely have made local headlines. She raises not just the spectre of legal-legislative reverses not just in Dade County, but also of recently liberal churches reverting to faggot-burning and of parents taking extreme measures to protect their children from us. These fears are vastly overblown even if they are not groundless. It is pointless to guess when a particular opponent will win a big round or even retire from the fray. Anita can afford to quit this fight. WE CANNOT!

That we lost the vote in Miami counts less than whether we let despair, apathy, complacency and indifference immobilize us. We must continue to fight for our rights even if we are not, by nature, fighters. We must never give in to "all is lost" hysteria. We must urge more Gays and non-Gays to meaningful commitments to freedom and rights. We must remember that no matter how far our progress goes, we will be plagued continually by Anita Bryants and Ed Davises. The possibility always will remain that the sky may fall, and if it does, it will be no more or less so than for other minority/ethnic groups.

BOYCOTT SHOPPING HINTS

The boycott of Florida Citrus Products is on full force now. Be sure to check citrus fruit and fruit products in juices, concentrates and dried mixes. The following is a partial listing of fruit juice and concentrate brands and where the citrus bases originate. Take this listing with you to the store so that you can more effectively observe this important political move.

These products use Florida fruits: TREE-SWEET, TROPICANA, MINUTE MAID, VITA-PAKT(uses concentrate from Florida).

These products do not use Florida bases: TEX-SUN (uses only Texas grown), and SUNKIST (fruits from California, Texas, Arizona and Brazil)

We will try to keep you posted as to other products as they come to NEWSLETTER attention.

EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS...

U. T. A. GRADUATE COURSE TO ATTEND DGPC MEETING

Members of a University of Texas at Arlington graduate course in Social Deviations have been invited to attend the next general meeting of DGPC on August 8th. This is part of a seminar being conducted by Rodger D. Pettyjohn, Chairperson of Psycho-Medical Research for DGPC. The purpose for their attending is to meet Gay people and to become aware of the organization and the structure of Gay lifestyles.

DGPC is planning a GARAGE SALE to be held on Saturday and Sunday, August 20 and 21 at 4115 Rawlins. Please bring anything you wish to donate to the August 8 meeting or arrange with any committee member for collection any day up to and including August 20.

A V.D. abstract with particular reference to Gays will be presented at the August general meeting by Rodger Pettyjohn, Chairperson Psycho-Medical Research Committee.





DALLAS GAY POLITICAL CAUCUS

News

vol. 1, no. 9
P.O. Box 22333
Dallas, Texas 75222
Official Phone 528-4233
Our Next General Meeting 10 October, 7:30 PM

in this issue:

gpc attends democratic conference
august fundraisers successful
gpc endorses coors boycott
dgpc week--fund raising drive
rev. troy perry fasting
secret project to reveal gay power
united way warned about gay discrimination

DGPC WEEK ANNOUNCED, CAUCUS SETS DRIVE GOAL AT \$10,000

DGPC Fund Raising Committee announced a major fund raising drive "DGPC WEEK" beginning 30 September and ending 10 October. This week of events will kick-off with a rally with keynote speaker the Hon. Elaine Noble, State Representative to the Massachusetts Legislature, and featuring Kathy Deitsch, Texas Gay Task Force Moderator, and Steve Wilkins President DGPC. The rally will be held at 6:45 PM Friday 30 September at 2701 Reagan.

DGPC has set as its fund raising goal \$10,000. The Money will be raised via contributions and donations to be collected at the various events throughout the

week, such as a disco "T" Dance, Bar-B-Que picnic at Bachman Lake, skating party, a special theatre preview performance and many more events.

The Gay community is urged and the community at large is welcomed to participate and support the drive. The money realized from this drive is to be used to fund a massive media education campaign to inform the public as to the truths of homosexuality and in this way soften prejudice against Gays and pave the way for public acceptance of our lifestyle and for repeal of Texas Penal Code 21.06 which presently makes Gays criminals in this State.

DGPC ENDORSES COORS BOYCOTT, FLORIDA CITRUS COMMISSION ISSUES STATEMENT

The general membership voted overwhelmingly to endorse the boycott of the Adolph Coors Company. This action came at the September meeting and moves the DGPC into the already bulging ranks of businesses and organizations, Gay and non-gay, who are already boycotting Coors.

The resolution passed after much discussion both for and against the boycott. Documented evidence of anti-gay activities on the part of the Coors family and/or company was requested by the membership. Evidence came in a statement by a prominent lawyer who stated he had seen copies of cancelled checks from Mrs. Joseph Coors to "Save Our Children" (copies will be made available to DGPC) and also in a quoted newspaper interview article with Joseph Coors in which he admitted giving financial support to foundations which have funded anti-ERA and other unnamed conservative movements.

The membership voted 4 to 1 to endorse the boycott against Coors.

REV. TROY PERRY FASTING IN FRONT OF WHITE HOUSE

The Rev. Troy Perry, founder of the United Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Church, has asked President Carter to convene a commission to investigate the prevalence and impact of harrasment of Gays in the United States and has also asked that this commission investigate allegations of child molestation attributed to Gays.

Rev. Perry has vowed to fast in front of the White House until the President implements his request. As of 21 September Rev. Perry's fast was in its 19th day and it is reported that the Reverend's health is not good.

GAYS NATIONWIDE are being asked to send telegrams and letters asking President Carter to act before we all lose a dedicated friend.

At the same meeting Louise Young, GPC Sec., read a statement from the Florida Citrus Commission in response to the resolution reaffirming DGPC's endorsement of the boycott against Florida citrus products which was passed at the August general meeting. The Telegram statement reads as follows: "neither the Florida Department of Citrus nor the Florida Citrus Commission consider ourselves as part of the controversy regarding Anite Bryant and do not intend to become involved. What Anita Bryant has done--she has done of her own volition we never endorsed nor denied her posotion. We do believe that she enjoys the same first amendment privileges as every other American because free and open discussions has made our country what it is today whether we agree or disagree with what any one individual might say."

The General membership did not move to withdraw its endorsement of the standing boycott against Florida citrus products.

PROJECT TO REVEAL GAY FINANCIAL STRENGTH ANNOUNCED

Steve Wilkins, President of DGPC, announced a secret project which will demonstrate the financial strength of Gays in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. The project began 19 September and will continue through 10 October, when at a public news conference the results will be announced.

Because of the nature of the project and the expected momentous impact upon the Dallas-Fort Worth area Community when the results are announced, the exact nature and details will not be disclosed here. The NEWSLETTER urges that all area Gays contact a member of GPC (or using the information in our Masthead contact GPC) for further information on how you and your friends can participate.

Only you can make this project one that will blow-the-socks-off the Dallas area populace!

POLITICAL ACTION MEMBERS ATTEND TEXAS DEMOCRATIC LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

The Texas Democratic Party sponsored a leadership conference in Austin on August 27-28. The purpose of the conference was to increase knowledge of campaign techniques through seminars led by top party campaign strategists from all over the United States. Political Action Committee members Viv Armstrong and Louise Young attended the conference and report they added to their political "savvy" which will aid in future DGPC campaign participation.

Young reported that they made valuable contacts within the Party hierarchy such as State Democratic Chairman Calvin Guest, State Democratic Executive Committee member Dwayne Holman (who also heads National Young Democrats), and Billie Carr, Democratic National Committee Member from Houston (who is probably the most powerful figure among liberal Texas Democrats). Armstrong and Young

also met with U.S. Senate hopefuls Bob Kreuger and Joe Christie. All of those contacted knew they were dealing with DGPC representatives who were interested in supporting those who would further the cause for Gay Civil Rights.

Young and Armstrong on their return announced that, "We will make our presence felt politically. This conference was one of several first steps. Another most important step is for Dallas Gays to register to vote."

From now on voter registration cards will be available at all GPC general meetings or from any GPC Board member. For your information you must register each time your address changes, however, if you vote at least every four years and have not changed address you need not re-register.

REGISTER NOW so you can vote later!

AUGUST FUND RAISERS SUCCESSFUL--MORE PROJECTS ANNOUNCED

During the month of August the Fund Raising Committee held two events: a Garage Sale which brought in \$522.00 and a Female impersonator's show held at Sassy's which gleaned \$240.00. In addition to the Fund Raising Drive events planned for 30 Sept. -- 10 Oct., the committee announced the launching of three other projects.

The first is a raffle for a trip for two to the Bahamas. Five departure dates are available and the trip includes airfare and lodging, 8 days and nights, for two people at the Grand Bahama Hotel. Tickets are

\$2.00 each; contact any GPC Board member or Fund Raising Committee member for further information.

The second project is the sale of the photographic collection "Dallas Nude" by Charles Collum. DGPC has purchased a limited number for sale at \$31.00 each (\$10.00 goes to GPC) for this handsomely bound autographed first edition which will undoubtedly become a collector's item.

The third project involves the collection of recipes for a GPC sponsored cook book to be published in the spring. Details are elsewhere in NEWSLETTER.

RECIPE CONTRIBUTIONS REQUESTED FOR GPC SPONSORED COOK BOOK

Vena Jenkins, spokesperson for the GPC Fund Raising Committee has announced plans to publish a GPC sponsored Cook Book. The proceeds from sales of the book will be used to further Gay Civil Rights. All culinary contributions whether originally contrived, slightly modified or frankly plagiarized should be mailed to Ms. Vena Jenkins, 3611 McKinney Ave. #105, Dallas 75204 or to DGPC Recipes, P.O. Box 22333, Dallas 75222.

UNITED WAY WARNED TO BEGIN GAY RIGHTS AFFIRMATIVE ACTIONS

At the September meeting a resolution was passed directing the Board of Trustees to draft a letter to Don Martin, Director of Public Relations for the United Way. The letter is to state that the United Way has until this time next year to initiate an affirmative action policy to discourage discrimination against Gays among their many constituent agencies. If such action has not been taken by this time next year, DGPC will recommend that all Gays cease contributing to the United Way until such time as they have such a non-discrimination policy.

DGPC MEMBERS MEET WITH AREA CONGRESSMEN DURING AUGUST RECESS

Dallas area congressmen Jim Collins and Jim Mattox held open meetings during the August recess and DGPC members were among the constituents who met with them.

Congressman Jim Collins held an open meeting in Plano which Viv Armstrong and Louise Young attended. At that meeting Mr. Collins again stated that he did not believe he had Gay constituents in his district. Young said that she knew there were Gays among the people he represented and vowed some of those Gays would visit him. A Plano Morning News front page story devoted two paragraphs

to DGPC's visit. According to Young, at least eleven Gay constituents did visit Collins' offices subsequently.

Several DGPC members attended Congressman Jim Mattox's meetings and personally thanked him for his pro-Gay vote regarding the Legal Services Corporation amendment. Mr. Mattox expressed to one DGPC member that he needs workers for his '78 campaign. The Political Action Committee plans to help this dedicated friend of Gays in the future so he can retain his legislative seat.



DALLAS
GAY
POLITICAL
CAUCUS

'FUND RAISING WEEK'

Friday-September 30

6:45 pm RALLY

Metropolitan Community Church (2701 Reagan)
Steve Wilkins, President-Dallas Gay Political Caucus
Kathy Deitsch, Moderator-Texas Gay Task Force
Elaine Noble, Massachusetts State Representative
Gay Rights Nat'l Lobby Board

Admission \$1.00

Saturday-October 1

1:00 pm PICNIC

Bachman Lake (near Steak and Ale)
Bar-B-Que available, free Beer

Sunday-October 2

To Be Announced

Monday-October 3

7:00 pm SPECIAL PERFORMANCE OF MUSICAL "CANDIDE"

Theater Three (Quadrangle, 2800 Routh)

Free Champagne Bar

Tickets \$10.00 Reservations 691-8497 or 528-4233

Tuesday-October 4

9:30 pm FEMALE IMPERSONATORS SHOW

Sassy's Bar (4516 McKinney)

Sherri Powers, Shy Clayton, Divine Miss Maxine
Cover Charge \$1.00

Wednesday-October 5

8:00 pm ROLLER SKATING PARTY

Josey Skate Land (2711 Cooks Creek, Farmers Branch)

Admission \$2.50

Thursday-October 6

7:30 pm WOMEN'S CHOICE

Sassy's Bar (4516 McKinney)

Katherine Hepburn Film

Admission \$1.50

Friday-October 7

To Be Announced

Saturday-October 8

To Be Announced

Sunday-October 9

4:00 pm- T-DANCE

OP Disco (1807 Harwood)

Dance Contest with \$50.00 Prize

Admission \$1.00

Monday-October 10

7:30 pm DALLAS GAY POLITICAL MEETING

Metropolitan Community Church (2701 Reagan)

Drawing for "Bahamas Raffle"



DALLAS
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News

vol. 1, no. 10
P. O. Box 22333
Dallas, Texas 75222
521-1441 or 691-8497
Our Next General Meeting November 14 at 7:30 PM

VOTE ON TUES. NOV. 8 !

SPECIAL ELECTION ISSUE

in this issue:

medrano endorsed
get involved
"candide" high point
drive achieves two of three goals
why big men shoot little birds

DGPC BOARD OF DIRECTORS ENDORSES RICARDO MEDRANO FOR CITY COUNCIL PLACE 10

The DGPC Board of Directors endorsed Ricardo Medrano for City Council, Place 10 on October 31, 1977 after the Political Action Committee made its recommendation on the basis of his being the most knowledgeable on Gay issues, aware of the harassment of the Dallas Gay community and more sensitive to our needs/position in the Gay community. It made no comment or endorsement for any candidate of District 33-0 since none have returned questionnaires and other contacts were not sufficient to make recommendations/endorsements.

Mr. Medrano, a resident of the Oak Lawn area and Chairperson of Precinct 303 stated publicly that he welcomes the support of the Dallas Gay community. He has the support of many other groups in the city.

Mr. Medrano, Michael Niebuhr and Floyd F. Wilkerson returned questionnaires with favorable answers to questions which DGPC Board of Directors/Political

Action Committee feel are important issues to the Dallas Gay community in the immediate future.

The following candidates for City Council, Place 10 DID NOT find time/chose not to return questionnaires: Peter Baldwin, Steve Bartlett, Joe Montemayor and George L. Orndoff.

If further or more specific information about a candidate, Texas constitutional amendments, Dallas County bond election is needed, copies of the Voter's Guide [published by the Dallas League of Women Voters] is available at any Dallas Public Library branch. Sample ballots will be published in both Dallas newspapers on Monday, November 7, if you wish to pre-mark your ballot to clarify issue and save time at the polls on Tuesday, November 8.

GET OUT AND VOTE!

GET INVOLVED!

Personal Opinion...

by Gary Brock

The only way to serve our best interests as Gay men and Lesbians is to become involved in the established political process. This can be as simple as registering actively supporting the best candidate/voting/seeking appointed positions on the various city, county and state committees/boards. Of course, the pinnacle of involvement is to run for office, but a good first step is to attend a precinct meeting and get to know one's elected officials.

One of the most interesting/prestigious ways to get involved is to work one's way through the political system as a concerned Gay citizen, letting your city council-person know your abilities/qualifications for specific appointments on city boards, which make and influence every decision made for the city and you, from city planning/zoning to the way city parks are run, movie classification, the status and rights of women. The Dallas City Council is interested in any constituent who has the time and qualifications to serve on these several boards and has set up by-laws requiring equal representation of women, blacks, Chicanos and other minorities, excepting homosexuals. To be realistic, the appointment or election of an

active, open, up-front Gay person at this time is not likely, but we all fit into one or more of the other groups from which the by-laws require representation.

If your primary concern is achieving your rights as a Gay taxpayer - but you do not want to commit yourself to heavy political activity - the most effective way to reach your goal is to join/support the Dallas Gay Political Caucus and Texas Gay Task Force. These organizations are making great strides in achieving recognition from many politically powerful groups/individuals with an active communication between their leaders and state/federal lawmakers to keep these officials aware of our needs/strengths. The first question any politician asks is "How much money can you raise/How many votes can you deliver?" Clearly, the first step toward achieving our goals must be to support one's beliefs and vote!

Getting involved to protect all individual rights and ensure freedom of sexual preference will be very rewarding. Every person we can place in any position on any level is a giant step forward toward our goal of establishing equality and integrity.

"CANDIDE" HIGH POINT OF DGPC DRIVE

As part of DGPC's Fund-raising Drive in early October, a private premiere showing of "Candide," the smash musical comedy production by Theatre Three was arranged at the Quadrangle with a champagne reception before the show and during intermission. Judging from the comments of the near sell-out crowd who attended, this event was an overwhelming success, with many asking when DGPC was planning another such event. Theatre Three has approached DGPC to sign a contract for four future performances, but as yet no commitment has been made.

DGPC WEEK ACHIEVES TWO OF THREE GOALS

President Steve Wilkins announced at the October general meeting that the ten-day fund-raising drive was successful on two fronts. The stated goals were to raise Gay consciousness, to encourage participation in DGPC and to raise \$10,000. Wilkins stated, "even though we netted only about \$2,400, we achieved our first two goals. We found that we [DGPC] can work successfully with other Gay organizations with mutual benefit." The diversity of the programs reached many Gays who had never been exposed to DGPC, many are now becoming involved. Wilkins concluded, "We learned a lot about fund-raising... the next drive will be more efficient!"

WHY BIG MEN SHOOT LITTLE BIRDS

... Michael C. Stevenson

In the early morning hours of October 27, a fire started in Dimension III, which, fortunately, none of its Gay patrons were injured. This writer has heard repeatedly in the Dallas Gay community that this fire-bombing was deliberately intended with innuendos that organized crime is playing a part in some gay club operations, using this tactic to infiltrate/take a club in a spirit of jealous competition/revenge to increase attendance in THEIR bars by burning out the competitor who is TOO successful.

It is not my business to probe the internal operations/affairs of gay clubs which do not affect their service to me and other Gay patrons, so long as these clubs live up to their advertisements and treat their patrons right. Bars, baths operate as any other business to make a profit - rightly so - but not at the possible/potential risk of injury and life to innocent patrons, not to mention the actual willful/criminal destruction of property. Where does it stop? Hopefully, before innocent Gay patrons, myself included, ARE injured, or worse, killed. Dallas Gay proprietors should be aware that occasionally liberated straight singles/couples patronize our gay clubs as well.

Gay-oriented businesses are not just commercial establishments but social institutions within the Gay community. Therefore, Gay patrons DO have the right to expect proprietors will conduct their business in a way responsive to the legitimate needs of the community they serve - fire safety regulations observed, including unblocked clearly-marked fire exits; adequate number of fire extinguishers; occupancy laws; decently maintained restrooms; adequate ventilation, etc. The REAL issue is safety in the bars, and when Gay proprietors provide a life-safe environment for its patrons, they show care and concern for their customers, who respond with continued patronage; likewise, employees who do not have to worry about unsafe workplaces provide better service to patrons. Going out to crowded bars and nightclubs is a way of life for most Gay people, and arson/accidental fires are major problems in Dallas and all other major cities, not just in regard to the Gay community. The problem is SERIOUS in all places where people congregate for an evening of entertainment. Violations of fire regulations have been/can be used as an excuse to close down gay bars if they become a "problem."

I would expect that Dallas Gay proprietors would be savvy enough to realize that the sizeable Dallas Gay community (300,000-400,000 estimated) provides adequate business and reasonable return profit on its investment. With the ascendancy of the "Sunbelt" as a booming growth center in the present and continuing future, Dallas gets its fair share of Gay visitors/new residents. There is enough business for all, against any fantasied wish of "wanting it all right now."

Any Gay community - San Francisco included - has enough problem in securing gay civil/sexual rights without incurring additional real problem of bar safety, where police authority may step in to regulate bar/bath operations - whether it is wanted or not - as a negative result of these practices. I find it truly amazing that Gay proprietors feel they must resort to such practices, if they cannot sit down amicably to negotiate any REAL differences among themselves as the mature, responsible persons they

should be. Although I have lived in Dallas for just a very short time, Dallas has, in the past, operated a very successful private party circuit before the successful proliferation of bars, baths which can be revived, if necessary, as innocent Gay patrons will create an exodus from the bars, baths when they perceive a very REAL threat of injury, death or incarceration to their lifestyles.

If this practice seriously escalates here, NO ONE WINS IN THE LONG RUN, and just may succeed in driving away both Gay Dallasites and potential new Gay residents to more favorable/healthier climates. When and if there were true gay unity here, Dallas Gay proprietors COULD make Dallas THE PRIME GAY SHOWPLACE both nationally/internationally as Dallas continues to grow. Dallas' opportunity to become a truly great city and build a Gay community its Gay residents can be proud of will NOT exist forever. Dallas is almost alone among American cities - besides Houston - with its youthful Gays and booming prosperity in its opportunity to show that Gays can unify and work together among themselves and with straights in harmony. The means and potential exist NOW with its wide range of talents/expertise, and Gay Dallas COULD show us all the way to something better, rather than promote petty rivalry and revenge and risk splintering/splitting the Dallas Gay community. Fire-bombing tactics/calling the police on one's competitors does not show any commitment to improving the quality of Dallas' gay life. The city is still in the making and growing with the rough charm of spontaneity and unharassed openness, but this CAN BE a crippling weakness in the face of challenges to be met and addressed which require concerted, concentrated effort. Dallas has all the elements for good leadership and new Gay residents, as myself, bringing considerable skills and a desire for a better life.

I propose a possible and workable solution: the formation of a Task Force on Fire Safety to investigate gay businesses, to meet with the Dallas Fire Department in determining the city's building/fire codes and regulations and to encourage Gay proprietors voluntarily to bring their establishments into compliance with the city's fire/building codes where violations exist. In San Francisco, for example, Gay people have led the way to better fire safety all over the city, gaining enormous respect for their contribution from the San Francisco Fire Department and related city departments. Firefighters hate fire because most of those killed/injured are firefighters, not civilians. None of those who contributed to better fire safety had to "come out" to their employer/family, as the contribution to better safety did not require it; but they did have to tell the fire department they cared about their safety. This idea is founded to assist the Dallas Gay community to participate, contribute, taking responsibility for their lives, instead of "playing victim," complaining of what others do to them, when we have very real enemies who would like to send us all to the ovens or church-operated deprogramming centers to turn us into happy heterosexuals. We can no longer afford the luxury of losing and/or playing victim; it would give other non-Gays involved an opportunity to notice our contribution to their lives as well as to our own and the chance to find out the truth about who we are. As long as we are perceived as stereotypical, as neurotic, as strident, angry "victims," no one will want to share the universe with us. Only we can change our image and perhaps expose bigots for what they are - ridiculous haters with their own insecurities running their lives. This could be an excellent start.

Dear friends,

Robert Hillsborough, age 33, lived in a small apartment in San Francisco's Mission District. He was a husky but gentle man who claimed he had only two ambitions in life: to work as a gardener and to live quietly with someone he loved. When Hillsborough got a full-time job two years ago as a city playground gardener, he called himself "the happiest man in the world" — though he had to get up at 4:30 every morning. Until recently he had lived with Jerry Taylor, and on the night of June 21 the two men, who had been talking about resuming their relationship, went out dancing. On their way home from the disco they stopped off at a local Whiz-Burger. In the parking lot a group of teenage toughs baited them with taunts of "Faggots! Faggots!" To avoid a confrontation, Hillsborough drove off. Four of the teenagers followed, caught him outside his apartment and stabbed him 15 times in the chest and face. He died within minutes.

Two weeks earlier, Anita Bryant had won her spectacular victory in Dade County, Florida. She had told audience after audience that homosexuals were "human garbage, an abomination to the Lord. I could tell you stories about these people," she said, that "would turn your stomach." I doubt if Anita Bryant will add the story of Robert Hillsborough to her repertoire.

Two years ago, Mary Jo Risher lost the custody of her son, not because she was a bad mother, but because she was a gay mother. The gay community was furious --for a few days.

Last November, police raided the Club Dallas. More than 600 people crowded into the Metropolitan Community Church to protest. But a few weeks later, the baths were full, as if nothing had happened.

This spring Anita Bryant won her campaign to repeal our newly-won civil rights law. Again the gay community was angry. Ten thousand of us marched in Houston. I guess we showed her! But did we? Busy performing, she neither heard nor saw the march.

Then Robert Hillsborough was murdered. A neighbor heard one of the four attackers shout, "this one's for Anita" as he sank the blade once again into the dying man. 100 thousand people filled the streets of San Francisco. But Robert is still dead.

People, this time we must SUSTAIN our anger. This time we must do more than wring our hands and complain to each other. If we do not, how many more gay parents will lose their children? How many more teachers will be "asked" to resign? How many more of our people will be entrapped and murdered?

What can we do? We can vote united. Our political committee has done an outstanding job of polling the candidates. The enclosed tabulated results will help us determine which of these are most sympathetic to our cause.

And we can get behind the Dallas Gay Political Caucus. Become a paying member. In the quarter-of-a-century I've been in the movement, I've seen many gay organizations across the nation come on strong --then fade and die. Don't let this happen to the DGPC. Send your check or money order (if you prefer to remain anonymous) to the DGPC, Box 22333; Dallas, Texas 75222.

In memory of our people who have suffered, let us not forget.



Annual dues are \$15.00. But if you wish to contribute more, please do so. However, if you can only afford \$10.00 or \$5.00, you are still welcome as a member.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____ Occupation: _____

City: _____ ZIP: _____ Special Skills: _____

Do you want to be on our mailing list? _____ Is it alright to call you? _____

Would you be interested in working on any of the following committees:

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| 1. Membership | 5. Newsletter | 9. Research |
| 2. Poster | 6. Women's Awareness | 10. Political Action |
| 3. Telephone | 7. Fund Raising | 11. Public Service |
| 4. Mail | 8. Fellowship | 12. Pamphlets & Brochures |
| Other: _____ | | 13. Legal Research |



**DALLAS
GAY
POLITICAL
CAUCUS**

News

vol. 1, no. 11
P. O. Box 22333
Dallas, Texas 75222
Phone 528-4233

Our Next General Meeting 12 December at 7:30 PM

in this issue:

class action suit in fort worth
gpc attends maddox fund raiser
tgtf plans april political workshop
gay election gains in n.y.c. & s.f.
gpc undertakes charitable enterprises
washington state votes on morality
phoenix mcc destroyed by arsonists

The NEWSLETTER is a publication sponsored by the Dallas Gay Political Caucus and generally reports the views and news of interest to the Gay community. However, inclusion of names of persons in this publication cannot be construed as reflecting his/her sexual orientation or preference. The NEWSLETTER accepts opinion and commentary articles on a space available basis. The opinions and/or comments stated therein are solely those of the signed author (s) and do not imply agreement by the NEWSLETTER, nor should readers construe any such article as a policy statement of the Dallas Gay Political Caucus.

CLASS ACTION SUIT AGAINST POLICE HARASSMENT OF FORT WORTH GAYS MAY PROCEED

Over two years' ago, several Fort Worth gays filed suit against the Fort Worth Police Department, alleging that Fort Worth Police had violated their constitutional rights by depriving them of equal protection of the laws and subjecting them to illegal surveillance and harassment. At a peaceful (and lawful) meeting of the Texas Gay Conference on June 22, 1974, Fort Worth Police recorded license plate numbers of numerous automobiles parked near the conference site and stopped several participants leaving the meeting for questioning and driver's license checks. The suit alleges that the Fort Worth Police later released the names and license plate numbers to the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. The civil rights action was for damages and injunctions, (1) declaring that the Fort Worth Police activities were illegal and in violation of the gays' constitutional rights, and (2) restraining the Fort Worth Police from conducting the illegal activities in the future.

The Fort Worth Federal District Court has finally issued an order on several motions made by the Fort Worth Police Department: (1) The Court rejected motions by the Fort Worth Police Department to the effect that, even assuming everything stated by the plaintiffs were true, they were not entitled to any relief. The Court noted that the plaintiffs were not asking that Fort Worth Police be restrained from enforcing Texas Penal Code Section 21.06, outlawing homosexual conduct (The Court observed that this law is clearly constitutional), but rather asking for individual protection for those whom the Fort Worth Police assumed to be gay and were engaging in lawful activities of peaceful assembly and association. (2) The Court also noted that to dismiss the plaintiffs' case would be to recognize homosexuality as a "status" crime, that the "mere propensity or desire of an individual to commit a criminal act does not permit state interference with that individual's freedom" (The individual does not violate the law until he commits an overt criminal act.). (3) The Court ruled that it would allow the case to proceed as a class

action, meaning that an individual (in this case, a gay person) may represent a large group of people to gain greater, more meaningful court action and protection against any wrongdoing. Instead of an injunction being issued that the Fort Worth Police not harass the individual plaintiff, the injunction, if granted, would prevent the Fort Worth Police from harassing any members of the class. The Court's main consideration of class status was that class members might not be readily identifiable; if the Court were to prohibit Fort Worth Police from harassing certain individuals, Fort Worth Police would need to recognize clearly and easily the individuals. Consequently, the Court would not recognize as a class all gay persons in Fort Worth.

The plaintiffs amended its petition, attempting to define legitimate classes, and describing groups of individuals associated with certain institutions so that Fort Worth Police might believe the individuals to be gay. The Court recognized the following classes of individuals: (1) All peoples' license numbers and names that were recorded by the Fort Worth Police at the Texas Gay Conference meeting, (2) All persons attending regularly scheduled meetings of AURA (Awareness, Unity and Research Association) in Fort Worth, (3) All persons attending the Metropolitan Community Church in Fort Worth, (4) All persons attending the Baily Street Warehouse, the 651 Club, the 500 Club and The Other Place in Fort Worth.

These preliminary rulings are significant in allowing the case to proceed with a potential injunctive remedy that could be significant to a large segment of the Fort Worth Gay community, (those who attend gay bars, GPC meetings, etc.), but this case has not been won. The Court made no rulings on the actual merits of the plaintiffs' allegations (in fact, the judge stated that the plaintiffs would have a difficult time proving its charges); nevertheless, the diversionary tactics of the Fort Worth Police Department's defense have been met and overcome so that the case may proceed to the fact-gathering stage.

DGPC BOARD MEMBERS ATTEND FUND RAISER FOR JIM MATTOX

Most DGPC Board members and several other members attended a fund-raiser for U.S. Representative Jim Mattox on December 6. Mattox has been very supportive of Gays by his recent Congressional votes. We are letting Mattox know that we are behind him, but ALL of us must continue giving contributions of time and money to his 1978 campaign for re-election. Everyone interested in participating in this effort for Jim Mattox should contact Vivian Armstrong, Board member in charge of political action.

TEXAS GAY TASK FORCE PLANS APRIL POLITICAL WORKSHOP

Louise Young and Vivian Armstrong met with TGTF's Political Action Committee during the recent IWY convention in Houston. The TGTF committee is formulating action plans for the 1978 elections and the 1979 Texas Legislature session and will hold a weekend workshop in early April to sharpen political skills. Do watch the DGPC Newsletter for further details.

ELECTION RESULTS: GAY GAINS IN NYC AND SAN FRANCISCO

November 8 municipal elections in New York City and San Francisco produced strong gains for Gay people. New York City elected Democratic nominees Edward Koch for mayor and Carol Bellamy for NYC Council President, both considered supporters of gay rights. Koch, as a former U.S. Congressman, was the primary sponsor of the gay rights bill in Congress; Bellamy, a former New York State senator, co-sponsored bills to repeal the New York State sodomy law, to prevent the state liquor authority from discriminating against gay people, to include protections for gay people under New York's state human rights law and to repeal the state's loitering law, which is selectively enforced against transvestites. Both Koch and Bellamy already have indicated high priority support for INTRO 554, NYC's gay rights bill.

Meanwhile, San Francisco voted in its first openly gay city supervisor, Harvey Milk from District 5 (Castro/Haight Ashbury) with strong records of gay support. Milk becomes the first acknowledged gay person to sit on a legislative body of any major American city. In the other San Francisco supervisory races, Carol Ruth Silver (District 6 - Mission), Ella Hill Hutch (District 4 - Western Addition/Civic Center), John Molinari (District 3), Dianne Feinstein (District 2), Quentin Kopp (District 10) and Robert Gonzales (District 7), all clearly "friends" of the San Francisco Gay community, won their respective district elections as incumbents to the San Francisco Board of City Supervisors.

DGPC PARTICIPATES IN DALLAS CITY COUNCIL CAMPAIGN OF RICARDO MEDRANO

The Dallas Gay Political Caucus recently participated in the campaign of Ricardo Medrano for Dallas City Council, Place 10, the at-large seat recently vacated by Adlene Harrison, who accepted the appointment as Director of the Dallas office of Environmental Protection Agency. As a result of this candidate's questionnaire responses, the Political Action Committee recommended that DGPC endorse and support Ricardo Medrano for Dallas City Council. Medrano enthusiastically requested a public endorsement. Several DGPC members aided Medrano by phoning voters, distributing campaign literature, posting "Vote Medrano" signs, and distributing the DGPC newsletter with its lead story publicizing the Medrano endorsement. Although Medrano finished fourth in the Nov. 3th race, we gained valuable experience and exposure from our participation in his campaign.

PHOENIX MCC DESTROYED BY ARSONISTS

In the latest of a series of M.C.C. fires, arsonists burned the interior of the Phoenix Metropolitan Community Church between services on Sunday, October 23, damaging the building beyond repair. The church had just been renovated for the November District conference, which took church members one and a half years of work to accomplish. Two days after the fire, the building's last remaining windows were knocked out, and a borrowed organ that escaped total damage was the target of attackers. The Phoenix MCC has been the target of vandals since Gay Pride Week. Windows and lights were knocked out as fast as they could be replaced; thieves stole the original organ and 50 chairs, while arsonists burned the church cottage just weeks' ago.

WASHINGTON STATE VOTES ON MORALITY

The results of voting on two ballot questions in Washington State's November 8 election may/may not indicate the nature of things to come for the rest of the country. Referendum 40, which asked "Should the Washington State Women's Commission be established as a statutory commission?" was resoundingly defeated. Initiative 335, appearing on the ballot as "Shall places where obscene films are publicly and regularly shown or obscene publications a principal stock in trade be prohibited?" passed by 54 percent of the vote. Now a statute, Initiative 335 was, at first glance, a measure to fight pornography, but the bill is so broad in regard to its definition of what constitutes a "moral nuisance," that it contains potential for control of a broad range of behaviors, providing severe penalties and seizure of property from anyone connected with a "moral nuisance" - defined in one section as "obscenity, acts of lewdness, assignation, prostitution, gambling, drunkenness, fighting and breaches of peace" and in another section, merely as anything which is "injurious to the public morals." On the basis of assignation (which can be defined as sex NOT for pay as prostitution is included), serious efforts could be made to close down gay and singles bars. Because of the circular definition included in the bill, an attack could be made by a citizen who construes homosexuality as injurious to public morals against gay organizations and publications. All it takes to initiate proceedings is one citizen able to post at least a \$500 bond (which may be had for \$50 with bail-bond agencies) and an allegation that a place is used to promote one of the activities designated in the initiative.

GIFT WRAPPING

for your convenience and pleasure
SATURDAY DECEMBER 17th and 24th
from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM

STONELEIGH TERRACE HOTEL
2927 MAPLE AVE.

proceeds go to DGPC general fund

DGPC TO SPREAD CHRISTMAS CHEER

Christmas is a traditional season of charity, and DGPC is gearing up in kind. Through a local charitable organization, DGPC has obtained names and addresses of several needy families. The Fund Raising Committee asks that all DGPC members bring donations of non-perishable food items, clothing, toys and other items suitable for these needy families to the December 12 general meeting. A collection will be taken up to purchase perishable food items to accompany the other donations. DGPC is also planning visits and caroling at several area nursing homes. Details for this event will be given at the December 12 meeting.

December 1977

December 12th - Dallas Gay Political Caucus Meeting. Presentation: "The Invisible Minority". Social afterwards. Everyone welcome. 7:30 PM. The Metropolitan Community Church, Reagan and Brown.

December 20th - Telephone Committee Meeting. 8:00 PM.

December 31st - New Years Eve Dance. 8:30 PM. Saracen Club, Carlyle & Hall.

Each month the Telephone Committee contacts each member of the G. P. C. Personally to announce future meetings, fund raisers, or any other matters of importance. For some members this is the only direct contact they will have with the organization. It is an important part of our job to try to stimulate interest in the G. P. C. The Telephone Committee meets once monthly. These meetings give members a chance to get together and discuss new ideas, unusual experiences, or any problems that might arise.

The committee is in need of more members. If you are interested and can give just a few hours of your time each month, please fill out the bottom of this sheet and turn it in to Hugh Hood, PO Box 19125, Dallas, Texas 75219 or call 521-0219.

NAME:

PHONE:

ADDRESS:

ZIP:

If you missed this startling autobiography of Quentin Crisp, a flamboyantly effeminate homosexual who chose in his early 20's to live according to his nature, be sure to catch it when it is repeated: Friday, December 9th at 10:15 pm on Channel 13.

[illegible]

Annual dues are \$15.00. But if you wish to contribute more, please do so. However, if you can only afford \$10.00 or \$5.00, you are still welcome as a member.

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____ Occupation: _____

City: ZIP: Special Skills:

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- | | | |
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