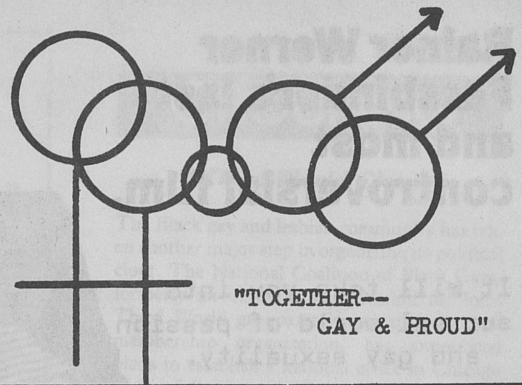


GSO NEWSLETTER

LEXINGTON GAY SERVICES ORGANIZATION

POST OFFICE BOX 11471

LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY 40511



OCTOBER 1983

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

Keith Elston, President

Well it was bound to happen sooner or later. I lost my mind while I was writing my message last month.

Anger is one of the most powerful of human emotions and, yes, I was angry when I wrote the message. My anger had the unfortunate effect of clouding the intended issue which was perfectly clear in my mind. I had apparently shot the gun without taking very careful aim. I am reminded of a minister I had when I was growing up. He would give powerful sermons designed to shake up the complacent members of the congregation and invariably one of the very people he was speaking to would say, "Nice sermon. I certainly hope those people got the message." Obviously not. Those who were innocent of any of the things that he had spoken of were also those who felt that the sermon was directed at them.

My last letter needs some clarification.

I was shooting for those who constantly degrade GSO with thoughtless statements, unfounded rumors and gossip and those who prefer to gripe behind the scenes rather than bring their complaints and criticisms to a meeting. This is most surely because they could not or would not present the things they have said at the general meeting if they had to support their statements with logical reasoning or hard evidence. It is for those people that I have no sympathy. Unfortunately, the message confused those people with closeted persons.

There are many individuals who are and prefer to remain closeted for personal reasons. However, many of them do help GSO and give their support as far as circumstance will allow. I extend a sincere thanks for everything you have done. There are some who cannot do anything for the organization but are interested in its welfare. GSO appreciates them and wants them to know GSO is here when or if needed.

To all who were unintentional victims of my anger, I humbly apologize and ask for your understanding.

This incident HAS served a purpose, however. I have reevaluated the purpose for having a Presidential Message. The President of GSO should reflect the thoughts, ideas, and decisions of the entire organization. With that in mind, I cannot responsibly present my personal opinions on issues in the name of GSO. Therefore, the Presidential Message will become a brief statement of notable happenings. Also, other pages will contain space for editorials from guest writers and letters to the editor. Letters and editorials will be edited for space, grammar, etc., and must be accompanied by the writers name and address. Initials will be used if so desired. This must be requested in writing and submitted along with the letter or editorial.

GSO hopes these changes will bring about a greater volume of participation and a broader sense of responsibility within the community.

Rainer Werner Fassbinder's last and most controversial film.

It will take you into a surreal world of passion and gay sexuality.

It's a film that goes further than most would dare to go.

LEXINGTON PREMIERE!

Starts October 5

See calendar for showtimes

ALL SEATS \$1.75

Querelle

Based upon the novel by Jean Genet

DIETER SCHIDOR and GAUMONT Present

BRAD DAVIS FRANCO NERO JEANNE MOREAU LAURENT MALET

in QUERELLE A film by RAINER WERNER FASSBINDER

R RESTRICTED
UNDER 17 REQUIRES ACCOMPANYING PARENT OR ADULT GUARDIAN

Based upon the novel by JEAN GENET "QUERELLE DE BREST"
A TRIUMPH FILMS RELEASE © PLANET FILM MUNICH GAUMONT PARIS
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THE KENTUCKY

READER RESPONSE

To the Editor:

I was surprised to see Keith Elston's unwarranted attack (in his September Presidential Message) on a group of people who are a valuable part of our community. The letter was contradictory to previous statements made by Keith in the Newsletter. GSO must serve the entire lesbian and gay community, which includes both closeted and openly gay persons, without being judgemental as to how people choose to live their lives. In reference to those people who felt uncomfortable coming to the public Gay Pride Week celebration, I know that some of those people have been active, behind-the-scene supporters of GSO in the past. I hope that last month's Presidential Message has not caused them to change their minds about the importance of supporting GSO.

Although the letter was directed towards two different groups of people, it was written so that it implies that all closeted gays are critical of GSO and vice versa. The president of GSO should be more cautious in his statements and more sensitive to the opinion's of others. GSO depends on the support of the community for it's existence.

In closing, I am sure that Keith had good intentions and simply allowed his anger to cloud his view of what his letter had to say. In the future, he should take his own advice, stop complaining and start working towards building a better community for Lexington's lesbians and gay men.

Mac Mathis

The Red Cardinal Inn

521 W. Short Street
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Fine traditional food in an historical setting.

Located In Todd Square



Gay & Lesbian Services

Lexington Gay Services Organization

P.O. Box 11471
 Lexington, KY 45011
 (7:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m., Tue & Thur. 231-0335
Support group for gay men and lesbian women; information telephone; speakers bureau; workshops; community forums; newsletter; recreation; monthly meeting.

Dignity/Lexington

P.O. Box 1984
 Lexington, KY 40593
Gay men and lesbian women; non-gay men and women; Catholics and non-Catholics; laity and clergy; spiritual development; education; social involvement; social activities.

Gay Alcoholics Anonymous & Parents of Gays

Call the Gayline: 231-0335
 between 7:00 p.m.-11 p.m., Tue & Thurs.

AIDS Hotline

Current information 1-800-342-AIDS (2437)
Up-to-date information on Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome

Gay & Lesbian Union of Students

c/o 123 Warren Court, #1
 Lexington, KY 40508
 Gayline: 231-0335
 (7:00 p.m.-11 p.m., TH. & F).
*Dues: \$2/semester for voting privilege.
 U.K. student organization; information for and education of university community; creation of legislative library; members are primarily university students; watch for meeting dates in "The Kernel".*

GROUPING

Third World Clout

The Black gay and lesbian community has taken another major step in organizing its political clout. The National Coalition of Black Gays, formerly an umbrella organization for local Third World groups and now an individual membership organization, has announced plans to establish a national office in Chicago with a full-time, paid Executive Director and staff.

This move grew out of a perceived need for a professional organization which would give voice to the multiple discriminations faced by Third World lesbians and gay men, and which would bridge the gay and Black civil rights movements. In recent months NCBG has been swamped with requests for support and technical assistance in starting local Third World gay groups, information on supportive Black elected officials, and outreach and education programs for the larger Black community.

NCBG's major focus in the coming year will be on a voter registration drive aimed at the Black gay community. NCBG has already endorsed the 20th Anniversary Mobilization March on Washington, and will represent the Black gay community there, as well as in coalition efforts with other national gay and Black organizations.

For further information, please contact Executive Director Gil Gerald, 601 Q St., NW, Washington DC 20001, or Board Co-Chairs Chris Cothran and L. Grace Merchant, NCBG, PO Box 11493, Chicago IL 60611.

Changing Sexual Lifestyles (A Two-Part Report)

The rapid spread of AIDS has provoked many changes in our communities; certainly a re-thinking of how we interact sexually is foremost among them. The fear of the sexual transmission of AIDS has led to a decrease in bath house patronage and lowered visibility in the bars in some areas. Many men in relationships are considering monogamy, and men who were content with impersonal and casual sex are beginning to consider relationships. There appears to be a resurgence of dating and growing concerns over capacities for intimacy.

This transition is not an easy one. However, as a minority whose rituals have evolved from survival and necessity, adaptability appears to be a natural component of the gay psyche.

The sexual awakening of the late 60's and early 70's had a particularly liberating effect on gay male culture. Socializing through sexual contact became more prevalent, along with more casual attitudes toward sexually transmitted diseases.

Most of the effects of liberation are positive ones, but critics like New York physician, Dr. Dan William, see the sexual revolution as evoking some irresponsible attitudes toward gay health. "We had taught people that being sexually active was an accepted health risk," says Dr. William. "We were wrong. AIDS changed the rules." While some individuals are calling those with views similar to Dr. William's, "the new moralists," he asserts that, "I don't consider it morality, I consider it survival."

While teaching gay men in his practice to reconsider indiscriminate sex as a potential health hazard, Dr. William has observed some angry and depressed responses. Some men feel that they can't, or won't, change their lifestyles.

WHAT CAN YOU DO? RESPONDING TO PENDING LEGISLATION

Many times when a crisis feels overwhelming we respond by attempting to deny it or withdraw by trying to put it out of our mind. Nevertheless, action is the best antidote to defeatism and negativity. Action on the AIDS issue is something all of us can take, even those of us who choose not to volunteer for specific committees or organizations. Politicians respond to their constituency by taking stock of public sentiment, measuring their mail as votes. Each telegram, letter, or phone call you initiate represents your opinion and that of 200 other voters who haven't taken the time to respond. Don't think that your opinion doesn't count. It does!

Approximately 14 bills have been introduced to Congress in response to the AIDS crisis. Among the fastest moving are the following:

The Waxman and Cranston Bills, HR 2713 and S 1226 Rep. Henry Waxman (D-CA) introduced a bill calling for a \$40 million emergency fund to address public health emergencies. Sen. Alan Cranston (D-CA) introduced a companion bill in the Senate. Waxman's bill was amended to create a \$30 million fund, and passed the Subcommittee on Health and the Environment with only one negative vote. Cranston's bill has been slower due to the fiscally conservative Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee.

The Boxer Bills, HR 2762 and HR 2763 Rep. Barbara Boxer (D-CA) introduced two bills to replace similar AIDS research funding bills written by the late Rep. Philip Burton. HR 2762 calls for \$10 million for CDC research funds for fiscal year 1984 (FY 84). HR 2763 calls for \$20 million for the National Institute of Health research in FY 84. There are no companion bills in the Senate but the existing Senate Health and Human Services appropriations could be amended to include measures similar to the Boxer bills.

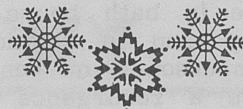
The Waxman and Kennedy Amendments HR 2350 and S 773 Waxman's amendment

is part of the National Institute of Health Reauthorization Bill, which is controversial because of its fetal research provisions among other new requirements. It currently takes NIH, the world's largest medical research organization, more than a year to fund and initiate research projects due to an extensive peer review system. Waxman's amendment will expedite this process for public health emergency research. Kennedy's (D-MA) amendment, which is identical, has progressed well in the Senate.

The Weiss Bill, HR 2880 Rep. Ted Weiss (D-NY) has written the first bill to help people with AIDS directly by calling for automatic Medicaid eligibility when AIDS is diagnosed. The average cost of hospitalization for a person with AIDS, at current rates, is \$64,000. Since claiming disability is a long and tedious process, this bill would cut through the bureaucratic red tape and allow for services when needed.

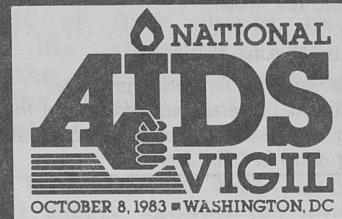
Several state and city administrations have passed or are considering legislation to provide funding for AIDS related projects and services. We encourage you to write your local and state officials as well, and urge them to allocate funds for AIDS. Find out the names of your representatives today (you can call the local League of Women Voters for this information) and contact them immediately. Get your family and friends to write as well. You can make a difference!

Don't be left out in
the cold.....



ADVERTISE!

Let's
all work
together
to
conquer
AIDS



Poetry

DREAMS and REALITIES

Submitted by Alley

Bigger dreams and better realities
Are for those who are themselves...
You are as free as you dare to be.

Fight not with violence,
But with Pride, Intelligence, Per sistence.
Hold up your head and hold your ground,
The choice is yours to live as yourself
or die nobody.

Everyone is different and special
In one way or another:

Gay people are very special,
Yet not so different as to be
Ashamed of themselves!

Let's stand together Proud.

HIDING
IT IN A
CLOSET
WON'T
HELP!



Don't stay in the dark

PLEASE

SHOW YOUR
SUPPORT
IN '83

(courtesy)
The Lavender Letter

Perry Mason, Eat Your Heart Out...

U.S. District Judge James F. Gordon refused to throw out the suit filed by Samuel F. Dorr (president of D/I), who is claiming that First National Bank conspired to deprive him of his rights in a dispute over his affiliation with Dignity/Integrity. While dismissing a number of constitutional grounds for Dorr's claims, Gordon did agree to hear the case based on employment discrimination provisions of the 1964 Civil Rights Act (Title VII).

Dorr contends he was discriminated against because the bank was going to transfer him from his job as a vice president and branch manager to a lesser position, and was going to force him to resign if he refused to conceal his membership in Dignity/Integrity. He alleges that was illegal because his connection with D/I was rooted in his religious convictions. First National contends its treatment of Dorr has nothing to do with his religion, but reflected concerns that his public advocacy of gay rights would hurt the bank's reputation, and that Dorr's beliefs were political rather than religious.

Gordon said in his ruling that he could not dismiss the possibility that Dorr was motivated by a religious conviction, and that the bank failed to show what hardship it would actually have borne by continuing to employ Dorr in a public position or by allowing him to publicly identify with gay rights. "It has only offered speculation about the damage to its image," Gordon said.

Gordon has not yet decided whether to hear Dorr's claim based on various provisions of Kentucky's constitution which assure religious freedom and freedom from interference with rights of conscience. Section 5 of Kentucky's Bill of Rights contains the sentence: "No human

authority shall, in any case whatever, control or interfere with the rights of conscience." Section 1 promises protection for "the right of [all people] seeking and pursuing their safety and happiness" and "the right of freely communicating their thoughts and opinions." Gordon's opinion noted his reluctance to interpret Kentucky's constitution without clear guidance by any state court: "This is especially true because the plaintiff's state constitutional claims rest on passages that, to put it mildly, are breathtakingly expansive. ... [nevertheless], it would truly be an intrepid court which could ever feel safe in dismissing a claim like Mr. Dorr's. Section 5's command ... seems fairly insistent. Discretion is the better part of valor."

Focus Politics

The National Association of Gay and Lesbian Democratic Clubs has provided an initial sounding of where each Democratic candidate for the 1984 presidential elections stands in relation to the Gay Rights issue.

GSO is providing these stands in an educational series over the next several issues. Spotlighted this month is Reubin Askew-- former Governor of Florida.

As Governor, Askew expressed support for Anita Bryants 1977 Crusade against Gay Rights in Dade County. He publicly stated his opposition to hiring Gays in state government, unaware of the fact that his Racing Commissioner at the time, Dan Bradley, was a closeted state employee. When, during Senate confirmation hearings in 1979, that such discrimination was no longer legal in most federal agencies, Askew pledged to abide by the legal requirements of his office. In 1983, as he announced his campaign for the presidency, Askew expressed regrets over his earlier position of Gay Rights. He stressed that he now viewed the issue as a question of orientation rather than preference, and that is

At the Democratic National Committee meeting in July 1983, Askew reiterated his earlier comments but stressed that, in his opinion, parents do have a right to decide whether or not they want their child to be taught by a Gay teacher.

LADY
DIANA
HAIR DESIGN

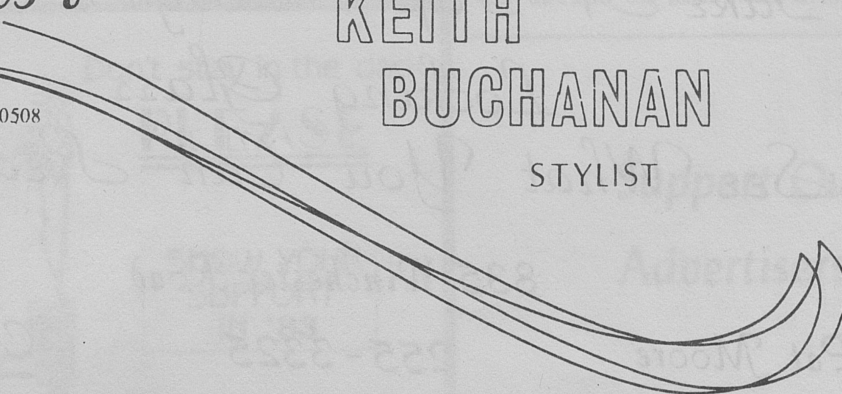
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- Presents -

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Take A Trip Through Reflections

Looking Glass

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255-3325

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103 W. MAXWELL ST.
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365 SOUTHLAND DR.
277-6155

LAKEVIEW PLAZA
2909 RICHMOND RD.
269-6332

MON. - THURS. 11 am - Midnight
FRI. & SAT. 11 am - 2 am
SUNDAY Noon - 11 pm



BOWLING BEGINS

Bowling is exciting, good exercise, and a lot of fun. GSO has organized several people to form bowling teams for League play. Everyone is having a great time in the "Slow Starters" league ranging from 80 to 180.

Another benefit of League play is to establish an average and handicap. With this, team members can be more competitive in Gay bowling tournaments throughout the nation. Last spring, members competed in Louisville Derby Classic tournament, but didn't have league averages to use so they were not as successful as they could have been.

However, it is the hope of team members, that as the season progresses the teams' positions will improve. Both teams will be bowling for possible awards at the end of the season.

MISS GAY LEXINGTON

The 1983 Miss Gay Lexington Pageant was held September 4 at the Sheraton-Inn. After a lovely dinner, the contestants were introduced on stage by interview. Each contestant was required to answer a question selected from among eight that were supplied by the judges. Following entertainment from reigning Miss Gay Lexington, Xavier, and others the contestants competed in three modeling categories and talent.

After an evening of close competition, Rita Houston was crowned the winner, and Julie Vaughn was named runner-up. Rita was also named Miss Congeniality.

When asked her plans Rita stated that she intended to provide anyone interested in impersonation (male or female) an equal opportunity to perform in shows planned for future dates. Her only requirement will be that the persons be willing to work hard and attend all rehearsals.

Rita is currently organizing a show to be held at THE BAR in early October.

Good luck with your plans and congratulations.

An interview with Rita is tentatively planned for next month's NEWSLETTER.

PHONE INFO

The GAYLINE, GSO's referral phone line, is proud to announce that the number of volunteers for the service has doubled.

This means that the phonenumber can now operate every Tuesday and Thursday from 7 to 11 p.m. The number is 231-0335.

The next goal, says Edwin Hackney, phone line coordinator, is to expand operating hours.

If you would like to contribute one or more evenings a month to GSO, come to the GAYLINE meeting on October 23 at 4 p.m. at the office on American Avenue.

HIDING IT IN A CLOSET WON'T HELP!



Don't stay in the dark

PLEASE

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT IN '83

Support Our Advertisers

Amber Moon presents the second concert in their Fall Subscription Series.

Come enjoy the blues and jazz vocal styling of Linda Tillery and the piano artistry of Adrienne Torf, Friday, October 14 at the UK Center for the Arts Recital Hall.

The rich and powerful sounds of Linda and Adrienne promise to be an event to remember. The concert is at 8 p.m.

Tickets are available at Special Media and the Good Food Co-op in Lexington; Carmichels Bookstore in Louisville; the Appalachian Book and Record Shop in Berea; and Crazy Ladies Bookstore in Cincinnati or by sending a SASE to Amber Moon, P.O. Box 22096, Lexington, KY 40522.

**AID CRISISLINE
NATIONAL GAY TASK FORCE
800-221-7044
Monday - Friday: 3pm - 9pm EST**

"Shadow" Was The Most Talked-About Person Who Wasn't There!

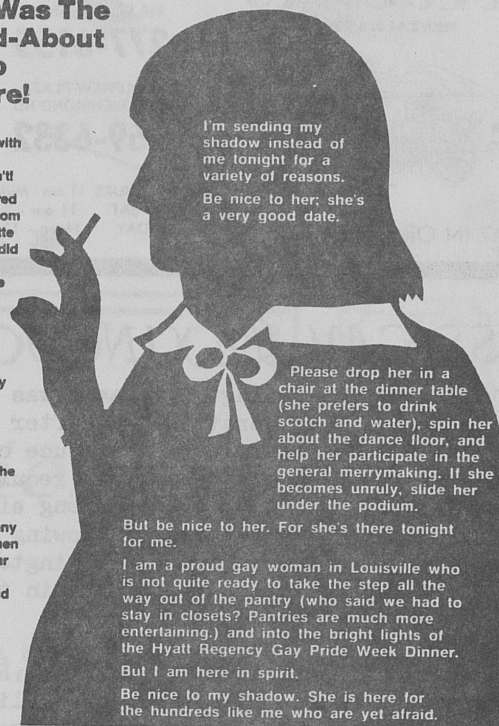
The Gay Pride Week Dinner/Dance was a hit with all who attended — and even with some who didn't!

A group of lesbians entered the Hyatt Regency Ballroom with a cardboard silhouette of a sister. Although she did not feel she could attend herself, she supported the night's activities by purchasing a ticket and sending her "shadow" instead. Her presence (or lack of it) drew almost everyone in attendance by the time the evening was through.

The silhouette, with note attached, has been reproduced for our readers at the right.

"The Shadow" gave us a gentle reminder of the many gay men and lesbian women in our community who fear 'coming out' and the consequences which could occur because of it.

We all look forward to the day when none of us need hide in "the pantry" ever again.



I'm sending my shadow instead of me tonight for a variety of reasons.

Be nice to her; she's a very good date.

Please drop her in a chair at the dinner table (she prefers to drink scotch and water), spin her about the dance floor, and help her participate in the general merrymaking. If she becomes unruly, slide her under the podium.

But be nice to her. For she's there tonight for me.

I am a proud gay woman in Louisville who is not quite ready to take the step all the way out of the pantry (who said we had to stay in closets? Pantries are much more entertaining.) and into the bright lights of the Hyatt Regency Gay Pride Week Dinner.

But I am here in spirit.

Be nice to my shadow. She is here for the hundreds like me who are yet afraid.

(Courtesy The Lavender Letter - Louisville)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
September S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	November S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30					1 274
2 275	3 GSO General Mtg St. Stephens American Ave. 8 p.m.--Office EVERYONE WELCOME!!!	4 GAYLINE 7-11 p.m. 231-0335	5 GAY A.A. 8 p.m. Office	6 GAYLINE 7-11 p.m. 231-0335	7 Cards & Games 266-8859	8 281
9 GSO POTLUCK 1:30-4 p.m. 223-4598 Discussion Group 252-8143 6 p.m. 1:30 p.m.	10 283	11 GAYLINE 7-11 p.m. 284	12 GAY A.A. 8 p.m.-Office DIGNITY 269-8500	13 GAYLINE 7-11 p.m. 286	14 AMBER MOON CONCERT 8 p.m.-UK Recital Hall	15 288
16 289	17 290	18 GAYLINE 7-11 p.m. 291	19 GAY A.A. 8 p.m.-Office 292	20 GAYLINE 7-11 p.m. 293	21 Cards & Games 266-8859 294	22 295
23 296	24 297	25 GAYLINE 7-11 p.m. 298	26 GAY A.A. 8 p.m.-Office 299	27 GAYLINE 7-11 p.m. 300	28 301	29 DIGNITY LITURGY 302
30 Discussion Group GAYLINE MEETING 4 p.m.-Office 303	31 304					

Happy Halloween!

October 1983