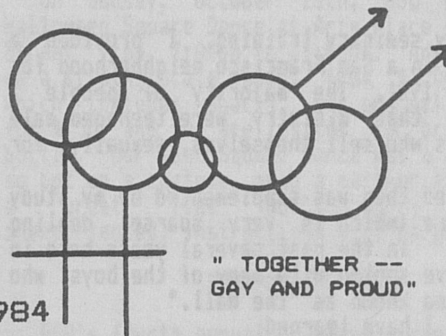


GSO NEWSLETTER

LEXINGTON GAY SERVICES ORGANIZATION
POST OFFICE BOX 11471
LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY 40511

OCTOBER 1984



THE WALL IN SPOTLIGHT AGAIN

Unless you've been out of town for the last month you surely will recognize the the two words 'THE WALL' and 'THE BAR' as the media jackpot for September. While there can really be no purpose in recapping the news stories we all have heard over and over again, we would like to print a few excerpts from some of the more reasonable responses that have appeared in the Editorial Pages of the Herald-Leader in the last couple of weeks. We would also like to thank those individuals who were willing to take the time to express their frustration at what was often sensationalism and the insinuation of guilt aimed at the Gay Community at large. One Editorial article in particular, written by The Reverend Charles G. Kast of the Unitarian Universalist Church is reprinted below in full since it points out the illogical approach The City of Lexington (and our society in general) has taken to deal with the complex problems that have been labeled THE WALL.

From Letters to the Editor:

At first I applauded that you revealed that such a problem exists in Lexington, but after day three I realized that all this exposure was doing more harm than good....Most of the people I have talked to never knew about this place, but now many are curious as to what it looks like, perhaps as the unfortunate victim of the recent shooting was curious.....Next, I note that you never fail to link the activities of these boys with the fact that they occur near a gay bar. I especially like the article that stated that the killing took place behind The Bar, an establishment that caters to gays. You are implying guilt by association of the patrons of The Bar, and that is unfair. My letter is not a defense nor an indictment of its patrons' lifestyles.

Constant surveillance, arresting people, "no trespassing signs," locking a gate and harassing teen-agers are all Band-Aid techniques offered as solutions to persuade the Lexington citizens that steps are being taken to alleviate problems surrounding "the Wall".

When adults like this have to revert to the manipulation of children to employ with bribes, entrapment, and coerce with money to pursue crime and try to solve social problems, that's about enough.

From Editorials:

No matter what safeguards are in place, though, the use of juveniles in any potentially dangerous undercover operation is troubling. It is all the more troubling when they are used in investigations of sexual activity. No matter how experienced the kids in question might be, they are still victims of sexual exploitation. And there is an inescapable air of exploitation about any decision to send them onto the streets to tempt and snare those who victimize them.

And Snoopy's Two Cents Worth:



**STAND TOGETHER—
WE ARE EVERYWHERE**

BOYS ARE THE REAL VICTIMS OF MALE PROSTITUTION

By Charles G. Kast

As part of my seminary training, I provided a street ministry in a San Francisco neighborhood for eight months in 1981. The majority of people I dealt with in that ministry were teenaged male "hustlers" (boys who sell themselves, sexually, for money).

What I learned then was supplemented by my study of the literature (which is very sparse) dealing with hustlers. In the past several years here in Lexington, I have spoken with many of the boys who frequent the area known as "the Wall."

Here is what I have learned.

First of all, most of the hustlers do so as a matter of survival. Most of them are victims of broken homes and of truly terrible home situations. Many, for example, have been physically or sexually abused by their fathers or other male relatives. Many come from homes where the parents are alcohol and/or drug abusers and are physically abusive to their children. Many run away to survive. Many are thrown out because they are gay. Many are not gay.

Not all of these boys run away or leave home. Some cope with intolerable situations by living at home but gaining "independence" through money they get from selling their bodies or drugs (many sell both). There are some, of course, who hustle because they enjoy it and they like the money.

What does a boy do without a home, without money, without a high school diploma? How does he survive? He can survive by prostituting himself and by selling drugs. The people who engage the boys for sexual purposes are almost always male adults.

Faced with this very real problem, the authorities have chosen to focus their efforts on catching the adults who use the boys and punishing them with imprisonment. The situation becomes sensationalized in the media and the violence increases when more people, looking for trouble, are attracted to the area.

The police "wire" teen/agers and use them as decoys. Recently, a teen shot to death another teen. The violence spirals upward. I do believe that adults involved should be brought to justice. But I believe that focusing on them, as the criminals, is wrong because it tends to undervalue and almost ignore the victims.

I believe that in order to reduce the violence and to help the real victims, the boys, and to reduce the incidence of crime in this area, the focus of our attention has to shift to them.

A boy found to be engaging in hustling and/or drug trafficking should be offered help in changing his behavior. His parents must be brought into the situation and they must help the authorities to encourage change. If the parents are part of the problem, the youth must be taken away from the parents and he must receive all the help possible. Job training, counseling, education and alternative activities need to be available. Sending a boy back to a destructive home life only exacerbates a bad situation.

But, our community does not have the resources nor the will to do this. So we essentially ignore the boys or, even worse, force them to return home. Even worse than that, the police recruit them as decoys. To recruit a boy as a decoy is to say that that youth is "expendable" and not worth saving. It is because we are more interested in arresting the men and punishing them than in helping the youth that the authorities feel justified in engaging in the awful act of using children as decoys.

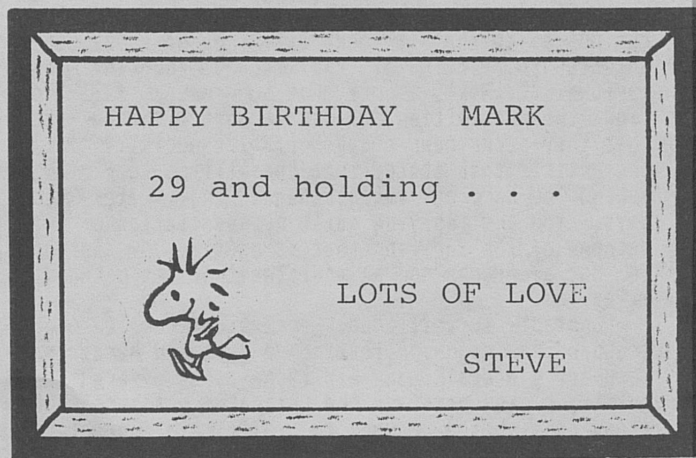
If we were truly interested in "solving the problem" we would invest our time and monies and resources in identifying and helping youth who desperately need help.

AIDS VIRUS CLONED

Scientists of the Chiron Corp., a biotechnology company in Emeryville, California, announced that they have successfully grown in the laboratory all of the genetic material from a virus that is a probable cause of acquired immune deficiency syndrome, or AIDS. Cloning the genes of the virus is considered an important step toward developing a treatment for AIDS.

Copies of individual genes can be used to turn laboratory bacteria or yeast into living factories that can manufacture large quantities of key substances from the virus. Such laboratory grown substances might be used for improved diagnostic tests or as a vaccine against the disease.

Now, there is no vaccine against AIDS, no known effective treatment, and most experts say AIDS kills most people who contract it. (76% of all AIDS patients diagnosed before July of 1982 have died)



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GET YOUR ACT TOGETHER

We know that lots of you out there are closet performers, so we've decided to give you all a chance to come out! On November 28th, GSO will sponsor a Gong Show to give each and every one of you an opportunity to show us what you've got. Auditions will be held on Tuesday, October 9th, at 7:30pm at the Unitarian Universalist Church on Clays Mill Road. Any act is welcome, singing, dancing, comedy and drag are a few examples of what we might expect, but use your imagination and surprise us, we don't mind. Come on out and try out your number, the auditions may just be as much fun as the show! If you would like more information, call Jim at 299-0352.

PHONELINE VOLUNTEERS CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Everyone has those moments when they need someone to talk to, but imagine what it would be like if there was no one you could confide in, ask advice of, or simply chat with when you are experiencing that need. Many of our callers are in that very situation, desperately needing to talk to another person who is gay, wondering just what it means to be gay, or maybe just to share the pain of being different with someone who might understand. For many individuals their first call to the GSO Phonenumber may be the first step in coming out and learning to deal with their sexual identity. As a Phonenumber listener, you can make a real difference in someone's life. Most everyone can spare a few hours each month, and this extremely worthwhile project needs your help. If you would like more information about how to volunteer to take part in one of GSO's most important projects, call Barry at 268-3935.

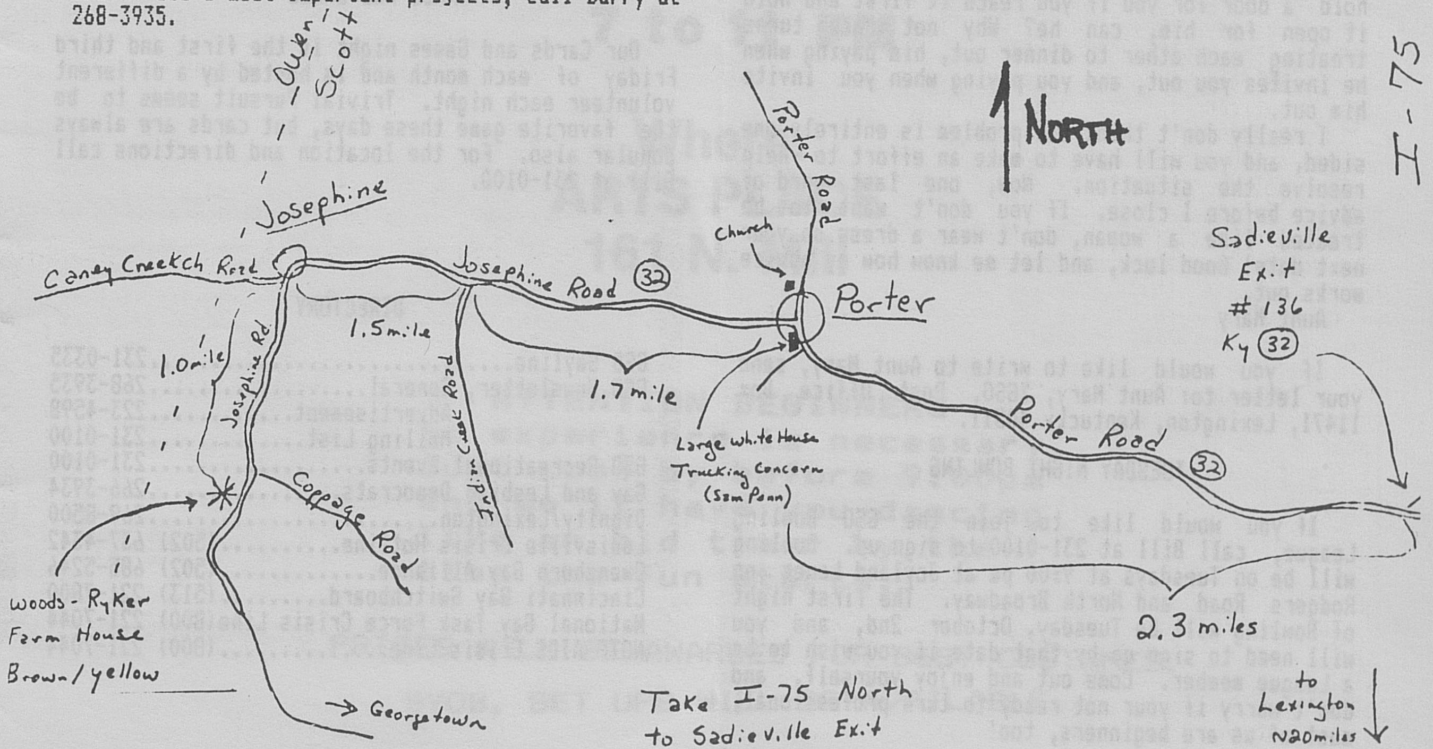
YOU WON'T STAND A GHOST OF A DANCE

On Sunday, October 28th, GSO will sponsor a Halloween Square Dance at Arts Place on North Mill Street from 7:00pm to 11:00pm. Admission will be on a sliding scale basis, from \$3.00 to \$10.00, which includes snacks. Set ups will be available for \$.50, and you are invited to bring your own bottle. Our last Square Dance was a great success, so put on a costume, grab a partner and join us for a great time! Don't worry about being inexperienced, instructions will be provided.

DOWN ON THE FARM

GSO's fourth annual camping trip will be on Saturday, October 6th and Sunday, October 7th on Eddie's farm in Saddieville, Kentucky. This is always one of our most popular events and usually draws people from both Lexington and Louisville, so mark your calendar now and don't miss this exciting weekend. Plan to arrive any time after 3:00pm, bring your own dinner and breakfast. This is primitive camping (no facilities), and you should be prepared for fall temperatures! Come out and share our bon fire and lots of good company! In case of rain, this trip will be held on October 13th. For more information, call Jim at 299-0352. DIRECTIONS: Take I-75 North to the Saddieville exit, then follow the map below.

Celebrating the Gay Experience



ASK AUNT MARY

Dear Aunt Mary,

I hope you can help me with my problem. Whenever my boyfriend and I are on a date, he always insists on treating me like a woman. Holding doors for me, helping me with my chair, even paying the bill when ever we eat out. Honestly, Aunt Mary, I appreciate his signs of affection, but he feels hurt when I tell him that I would rather he wasn't so smothering. I would prefer more equality in our relationship. What should I do?

Smothered

Dear Smothered,

I should have such a problem! It sounds to me as if he was brought up to be a perfect gentleman, is his father available, by any chance? At any rate, I can see that this is of genuine concern to you. However, I see no simple solutions to this complex problem. One can not easily change values that have been acquired over a lifetime, and in this instance I don't think that would be desirable anyway. Dispite certain recent re-evaluations of male/female social interactions, the basic values that make up a true gentleman are still very desirable qualities, particularly in someone who may prove to be a life partner. The fact that in this case the relationship is male/male only adds to the problem, but since one quality possessed by a gentleman is his consideration for others, with some gentle encouragement from you, and some initiative on your part, I feel certain you can both find your relationship to be satisfying and fulfilling. For instance, your boyfriend can't hold a door for you if you reach it first and hold it open for him, can he? Why not take turns treating each other to dinner out, him paying when he invites you out, and you paying when you invite him out.

I really don't think the problem is entirely one sided, and you will have to make an effort to help resolve the situation. Now, one last word of advice before I close. If you don't want to be treated like a woman, don't wear a dress on your next date! Good luck, and let me know how my advice works out.

Aunt Mary

If you would like to write to Aunt Mary, send your letter to: Aunt Mary, ZGSD, Post Office Box 11471, Lexington, Kentucky 40511.

TUESDAY NIGHT BOWLING

If you would like to join the GSD Bowling League, call Bill at 231-0100 to sign up. Bowling will be on Tuesdays at 9:00 pm at Joyland Lanes on Rodgers Road and North Broadway. The first night of Bowling will be Tuesday, October 2nd, and you will need to sign up by that date if you wish to be a League member. Come out and enjoy yourself, and don't worry if your not ready to turn professional, must of us are beginners, too!

THE SEPTEMBER 10TH GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Barry reported there were over 85 people on the new mailing list since the purge.

Jim announced that reservations for the Elkorn canoe trip were lined up. He had nine names signed up. He was unable to reach Montie for progress on his canoe trip plans.

Marshall reported he had not yet mailed out thank you cards to sponsors of the show auction. Also, he reported that it is illegal to sell tickets for liquor on Sundays. You can, however, close the event to non-members and sell tickets in advance that include bar priviledges. An alternative discussed was a BYOB type event.

Barry expressed concern over the cost of renting equipment for Casino Nite. It was voted to delay Casino Nite and concentrate efforts on the Halloween Square Dance. Jim announced a possible conflict of dates in holding the Square Dance at the Senior Citizens Center.

Jim also announced that the phonenumber is hooked up and callers will receive a recorded message.

The yard sale made \$37.94.

Marque was not present to report on progress of the Marquee.

Bill reported the Bowling League will meet on Tuesdays at 9:00 pm at Joyland Bowling Alley starting October 2nd.

Tentative Gong Show auditions to be in October.

Keith discussed at length holding a town meeting concerning recent media issues. Edwin expressed concern with the idea, also at length.

CARDS AND GAMES

Our Cards and Games night is the first and third Friday of each month and is hosted by a different volunteer each night. Trivial Pursuit seems to be the favorite game these days, but cards are always popular also. For the location and directions call Bill at 231-0100.

DIRECTORY

GSD Gayline.....	231-0335
GSD Newsletter, General.....	268-3935
Advertisement.....	223-4598
Mailing List.....	231-0100
GSD Recreational Events.....	231-0100
Gay and Lesbian Democrats.....	266-3934
Dignity/Lexington.....	269-8500
Louisville Crisis Hotline.....	(502) 637-4342
Owensboro Gay Alliance.....	(502) 685-5246
Cincinnati Gay Switchboard.....	(513) 221-7800
National Gay Task Force Crisis Line.....	(800) 221-7044
NGTF AIDS Crisis Line.....	(800) 221-7044

GSO

Square

GSO

Dance

FEATURING THE

Reel World String Band

Price:

Sliding Scale

\$3.00 - \$10.00

When:

SUNDAY

OCT. 28, 1984

7 to 11 PM

Where:

ARTS PLACE

161 N. Mill

ATTENTION BEGINNERS

No experience is necessary.

Just come by before 9:00pm

and we'll have you dancing

like an old timer by the

time the fun starts.

PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED FOR BEST COSTUMES.

BYOB, SET UPS WILL BE AVAILABLE.

PARENTS OF GAYS

"Coming Out to Your Parents" is a 16-page booklet, published for gay men and lesbians who are considering coming out to their parents. The booklet, by Philadelphia Parents of Gays (POG), identifies six stages most parents go through when they learn of their gay child's sexual orientation.

The six stages of understanding (shock, denial, guilt, anger, personal decision-making and true acceptance) are described, along with specific ways young adults can assist their parents in each of these stages. The author, the father of a gay son, identifies the stages based on his personal experience and hundreds of other parents who have attended Philadelphia POG.

The booklet begins by raising 12 questions that need to be considered before one comes out to his or her parents. It offers an annotated list of resources about coming out to parents; it also provides an appendix of books and pamphlets to give to one's parents.

A list of over 100 parent groups/contacts in 47 states is provided. These parent groups are members of the Federation of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (Parents of FLAG), whose headquarters is in Los Angeles.

The booklet was published to use at Philadelphia POG's November 18, 1984 "Coming Out to Your Parents Workshop". This annual workshop is conducted by POG because they want to assist young adults in considering coming out to their parents and to enable them to do so in a manner that is helpful and productive to the family. "We considered how we could strengthen the family during this usually stressful time," said POG president, Tom Sauerman. "As parents who know first-hand the full range of emotions and responses, we felt we can guide young people even before the moment of disclosure to their parents."

For a free single copy send a self-addressed, stamped business envelope to POG, Post Office Box 15711, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103. (Address the envelope as you wish; no additional marks will be added by POG.) Additional copies are fifteen cents each; \$10.00 per 100 includes postage.

MYTHOLOGY IN 1984: ONLY A VERY SMALL MINORITY OF PEOPLE ARE HOMOSEXUAL

Approximately 10% of the population of the United States is, by self-definition, homosexual -- 20,000,000 adults. About 14% of the men and 4.25% of the women in the United States identify themselves as predominately homosexual. These figures are based on self-identification, however, and due to the stigma attached to homosexuality in our society, they could represent an underestimation.

MONDALE/FERRARO CAMPAIGN APPOINTS GAY VICE CHAIRS

The National Association of Gay and Lesbian Democratic Clubs announced today that two openly Gay political leaders have been appointed to serve as Vice Chairs of the national Mondale/Ferraro Campaign.

The new officers -- Jack Trujillo, Co-Chair of the National Association of Gay and Lesbian Democratic Clubs, and Mary Nancarrow, President of the Pennsylvania State National Organization for Women -- have both been active in the Mondale campaign for many months. They will join a long and distinguished list of other Democratic and political leaders who have also been selected for this special designation including Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan of New York; Judy Goldsmith, President of the National Organization for Women; and, Mayor Andrew Young of Atlanta.

"We are delighted by the Mondale-Ferraro Campaign's special recognition of the ongoing contribution of the Party's Lesbian and Gay constituency," Trujillo stated. In addition to his leadership role in the National Association (a network of 110 political organizations in 46 states and the District of Columbia), Trujillo, a San Francisco activist, also serves as the Northern Secretary of the California Democratic Party.

Nancarrow, who attended this summer's Democratic National Convention as an at-large Mondale delegate from Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, praised the Mondale/Ferraro Campaign's "continuing commitment to social and economic justice for all Americans." In 1983, Nancarrow was very active in helping to secure passage of Harrisburg's Lesbian and Gay Rights ordinance.

In accepting this honor on behalf of their community, both Trujillo and Nancarrow stressed the stark contrast between the Democratic Platform's expanded commitment to end discrimination against Lesbians and Gay men versus the Republican Platform's Far Right tone and total silence on Lesbian and Gay Rights. (The 1984 Democratic Platform calls for an end to discrimination against Lesbians and Gay men in employment, immigration and the military and pledges to redouble its efforts to deal with the AIDS crisis and anti-Gay violence.)

The new Vice Chairs also took the occasion to urge Lesbians and Gay men to actively participate in the October 7th dinner parties being held in private homes across the country: America for Mondale/Ferraro. This special event, which will help to build greater grass roots involvement in the campaign, falls on the evening of the first presidential debate. Additional information can be obtained from the local Democratic Party or by calling the National Association at (202) 547-3104.

In an earlier development, the Mondale/Ferraro Campaign announced last month that Sandra Gillis will serve as Liaison to the Lesbian and Gay community. As an openly Lesbian member of the campaign staff, Sandra will work closely with the newly appointed Vice Chairs and with the National Association.

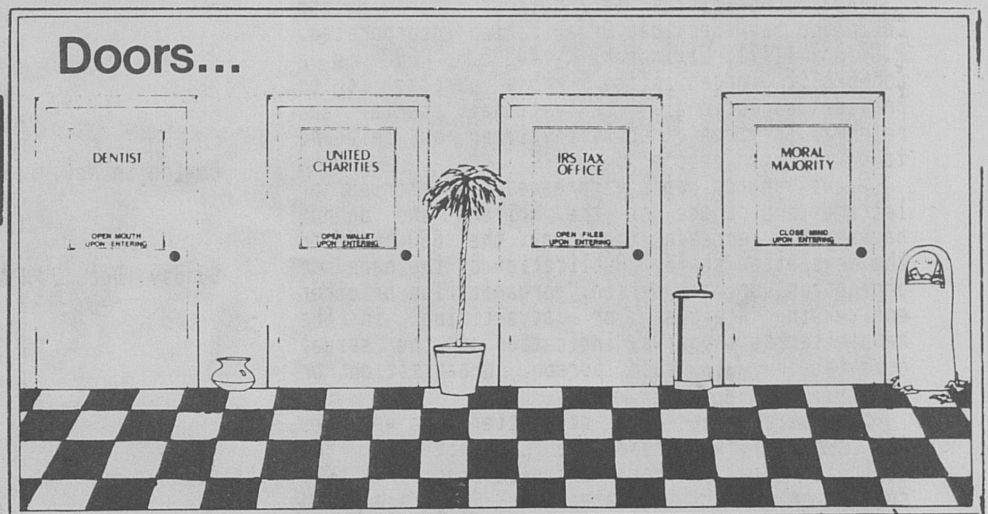
WAYNE



9-21-84



Please send us your change of address before you move.



MEMBERSHIP/NEWSLETTER APPLICATION

Newsletter Check here to receive your free copy of the GSO Newsletter: _____

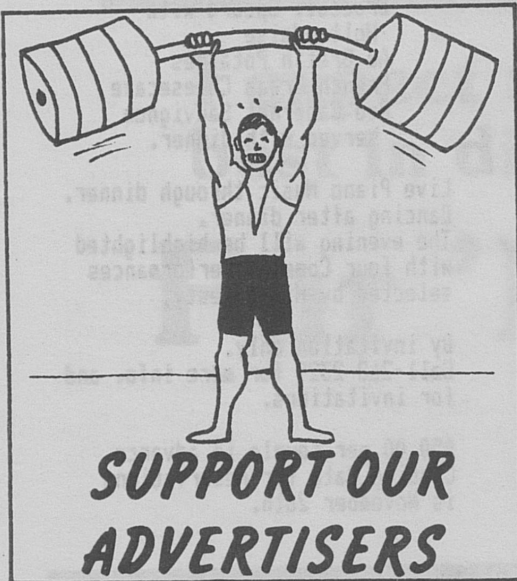
Membership To become a GSO member, include the membership fee of \$10.00 or \$5.00 for students.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

Please mail above form to: GSO, PO Box 11471, Lexington, KY 40575



NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING
POLICY

If you would like to advertise in the newsletter, please send your ad copy and payment to GSO, P.O. Box 11471, Lexington, Ky 40575. See the calendar for the newsletter deadline. Due to postal regulations, we reserve the right to refuse advertising due to content or space availability.

RATES

Full Page	\$40.00
Half Page	\$25.00
Quarter Page	\$15.00
Eighth Page	\$ 8.00
Classified	\$.05/letter (\$3.00 minimum)

The GSO newsletter is published monthly by the Lexington Gay Services Organization Incorporated, P.O. Box 11471, Lexington, Ky 40575. GSO is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to provide educational, recreational, social and referral services directly involving or relating to gay/lesbian people.

Views or opinions expressed in stories or letters are those of the writers and do not necessarily represent those of the GSO board or the newsletter staff. Publication of the name or photograph or any person, organization or other entity in articles or advertising in the newsletter is in no way indication of the sexual orientation of such person, organization or entity.

Submissions for the newsletter are welcome. All submissions become the property of the Lexington Gay Services Organization, Inc. All submissions must indicate the full name and address of the author, although no byline will be published without permission of the author. Non-original material must indicate the source publication. Original material which contains names of persons must indicate that that person has given his/her permission for the use of his/her name in the publication. Anonymous submissions can not be accepted. The editorial staff has the right to alter submissions (including advertisements) to meet publishing requirements.

IMPERAL COURT NEWS

Once again, The Imperial Court of the Bluegrass Empire represented Lexington and the state of Kentucky in an out-of-state coronation. Those in attendance at Coronation IV of the Sovereign Court of the People of Denver, Colorado, Inc. on August 25th were Emperor III Greg Lee, Empress III Renie Alexander, Emperor II Chuck Bruner, and Crown Princess II Jerry Bray. ICBE made many new friends, renewed old friendships, and received the trophy for best out-of-town entrance. The newly elected monarchs of Denver, Diamond Heart and D.J., will be attending our upcoming coronation with approximately five out-of-state court systems in April.

ICBE News Calendar

- Sunday Oct. 14 Dance Party
Circus Disco
8pm-midnight
\$3 admission
- Sunday Oct. 28 Celebrate Halloween Early
with our Costume Skate Party
Champs Rollerdrone 8pm-12
Clays Mill Shopping Center
\$5 admission
Prizes for best costumes
- Sunday Nov. 11 Veterans Day "Fighting Forties"
USO Show
Circus Disco
8pm-midnight
\$3 admission or Toy of greater
value. All proceeds to benefit
needy children at Christmas.
- Coming in Nov. 1984-85 Mr. Gay Kentucky
Call 268-2329 for further
information or for applications.
- Sunday Dec. 2 First Annual Emperor's White
Ball
Sheraton Inn Grand Ballroom
8pm-midnight
8:00-Cocktails Available
Receiving Line Opens
8:30-Complimentary Champagne
Toast by Emperor III,
Greg Lee
9:00-Dinner Served
Spinach Salad Vinaigrette
Roast Prime Rib Au Jus
Broccoli Spears with
Hollandaise
Au Gratin Potatoes
French Cream Cheesecake
Red Cabernet Sauvignon
served with dinner.

Live Piano Music through dinner.
Dancing after dinner.
The evening will be highlighted
with four Command Performances
selected by His Majesty.

By invitation only.
Call 268-2329 for more info. and
for invitations.

\$50.00 per couple in advance.
Closing date for reservations
is November 26th.



**I expect and receive only the
best in dining pleasures from**

Fur 'N Feathers

**2909 Richmond Road
Lexington, KY 40502
266-0226**

JOE BOLOGNA'S

RESTAURANT

2909 RICHMOND ROAD
365 SOUTHLAND DRIVE
103 W. MAXWELL STREET

FAMOUS GARLIC STICK Buy One, Get One FREE

Limit 10
Free Sticks

Expires
10/31/84

JOE BOLOGNA'S

14" PIZZA or LARGER \$2.00 OFF

No Limit

Expires
10/31/84

JOE BOLOGNA'S

PARTY ROOM AVAILABLE FOR LARGE GROUPS 365 SOUTHLAND DRIVE

10" PIZZA or LARGER \$1.00 OFF

No Limit

Expires
10/31/84

JOE BOLOGNA'S

EGGPLANT OR ZUCCHINI PARMESAN DINNER WITH SPAGHETTI

\$4.75

No Limit

Expires
10/31/84

JOE BOLOGNA'S



GAY AND LESBIAN DEMOCRATS OF KENTUCKY

GLD will be set up at The Bar for a voters registration drive from September 22nd through October 5th. If you are not registered, but wish to vote in the November election, just stop by the booth on your next visit to The Bar and they will have the correct forms and will give you any help you may need in filling it out. You must register on or before October 5th to be eligible to vote in November.

GLD will continue to man their booth from October 6th to November 5th for information purposes.

GLD is begining its fall schedule of meetings at The Bar, in the Cafe. All meetings held on Saturdays at 6:00 pm.

Meeting Dates:

Sept. 29
Oct. 6
Oct. 20
Nov. 3

On October 7th Gay and Lesbian Democratic Organizations across the country, including GLD of Kentucky, will be holding fund raisers to benefit the Mondale/Ferraro campaign. If you are interested in the local fund raisers please contact Kieth Elston at 266-3934. Money raised will go back into the State Democratic Party to show the power of the gay vote.

650

SPONSORS

650

- * The Stylists, 1641 Nicholasville Rd. 278-7481
- The Bar, 224 E. Main St. 255-1551
- Joe Bologna's, 103 W. Maxwell St. 252-4933
- * Lady Diana Hair Design, 508 E. Main St. 252-4595
- Kentucky Theatre, 214 E. Main St. 254-6010
- Brett Johnson Gallery, 144 Harrison Ave. 255-2124
- Movieola, 1759 Alexandria Dr. 278-1451
- * Fur'N Feathers, 2909 Richmond Rd. 266-0226
- Reflections in Hair Design, 835 Winchester Rd. 255-3325
- Richardson Vision Center, 1757 Alexandria Dr. 278-0618
- * Flowers by Don, 200 Southland Dr. 278-0555
- Cafe' LHMOP, 337 E. Main St. 252-7131
- Bluegrass Landscape Design, 4387 Harrodsburg Rd. 223-9114
- Silk Green House, 1050 Chinoe Rd. 268-8100
- * Marque Cross Productions, PO Box 25601, Lex., Ky. 40524
- Jesters, 107 W. Short St. 252-6510
- Green Earth Landscaping Company, 272-1100

* Ask about DISCOUNTS for 650 members!!

A RENDEZVOUS WITH OUR PAST
The Gilded Cage

by Greg Lee

The Gilded Cage was the appropriately named ancestor of The Bar. Brass chandeliers and a gold bust at the front door were no doubt intended to give the place a "gilded" look, but as far as calling it a "cage" goes, I'm not sure whether it was a prophetic gesture or a coincidence. Although many of us now hold the assumption that the Gilded Cage was nothing more and nothing less than a gay bar, this simply wasn't the case.

The Gilded Cage opened 21 years ago at 224 East Main as a restaurant/piano bar. It appealed to an "artsy" crowd and tended to have an older clientele. Everyone interviewed agreed that the crowd was not openly gay. About half of those went so far as to say that the "cage" was extremely (and even uncomfortably) closeted.

As for the decor of the Gilded Cage, there are two basic opinions held by those who were there. One group remembers it as being emaculately decorated with Gibson Girl prints, brass fixtures, wooden moldings, and art deco. The other group described it as being "half done" and "chintzy".

When the Gilded Cage opened around 1963 it took the place of the Southern Cocktail Lounge (refer to last month's article) and continued to share 224 with Pal Optical for about a year. The Main Record Shop then came to 224 in 1965, filling the vacancy left by Pal Optical. Two-twenty-six East Main was still occupied by Seaboard Finance and 228 by Hagar's Beauty Academy and Congress Bowling Alley.

The Gilded Cage closed around 1966, making way for the Living Room Restaurant in 1967. Upon opening, the Living Room was basically the same as the Gilded Cage, with the additions of a few more oil paintings, printed rugs and heavy draperies. As time went on, other additions included the infamous spiral staircase at the front entrance (this is now long gone), and the church pews which are now downstairs.

The Living Room has a split history, and there is a very good reason for that - it existed twice! First, there was the Living Room Restaurant, then in 1973 the Restaurant Montparnasse (named after a section of Paris) appeared in its place. Evidently the name as the only major alteration. Even the phone number remained the same (which, by the way, is still the same number for The Bar.) By this time it was generically referred to by the local group as "the bar". (Many gays didn't mark their calendar when the Living Room was revived in 1975 as a "nite club." According to the City Directory of 1975, both the Restaurant Montparnasse and the Living Room Nite Club shared 224 simultaneously. It's no wonder everyone simplified it as "the bar".

All this name switching led to a fiasco when people were asked to recall what they could about the place. One of the outstanding occurrences was the fire that most all of us have heard rumor of. According to the paper on July 13, 1973 (a Friday, no less) the Restaurant Montparnasse suffered damages of approximately \$50,000.00 the morning before. The Living Room did not exist at the time

(either as a restaurant or nite club) although you'll always hear people talking about "when the Living Room burned".

During the time that Montparnasse was closed for repair, a temporary facility was made available to (according to one interview) "get the queens off the street." Eighty-fourty-five Lane Allen filled this need (which was recently the Hidden Door). Blacked out windows, booths, beer and a dance floor with a Juke Box are the only real memories of the temporary cite.

Montparnasse was soon reopened and, as mentioned, was rejoined with the Living Room Nite Club in 1975. By this time it was well considered by all to be a gay bar by night and a mixed restaurant by day. At day, the Montparnasse served lunch downstairs, and usually had a very active happy hour. Then each night a transition would take place at about 9:00 when the second floor of 224 would be opened for dancing. You would go up the spiral staircase in the front of the gunshot building and find a little standing room around the stairs. In front of you would be a deep but narrow dance floor lined on both sides with church pews. Some of the popular "hymns" then were "Midnight Train to Georgia" and a whole cantata of Diana Ross numbers. Of course it was nothing short of a religious experience when Gloria Gaynor's "Honeybee" came on. You'd dance to the entire album on a tiled floor under a few neons and a mirror ball.

Most people interviewed stated that the crowd was very group-oriented or cliquish. The pews were practically reserved for the same people every weekend. In the back of the "Wildcat Blue" room upstairs was the service bar. But because there were waiters, you didn't have to leave your pew if you didn't want to.

Around November of 1977, a metamorphosis began. The upstairs was closed as the plaster was torn away to expose the brick walls. Two Two Four East Main Corporation bought 226 and 228 East Main and integrated them with 224 via huge archways. The spiral stairs were torn down and the entire first floor was extended so that you could dance in what is now storage areas.

Yes, something major was definitely taking form...

to be continued

CLASSIFIED

- House For Sale or Lease
1050 sq. feet, Ranch. Large 2 car garage. 3 bedroom, LR, Utility, Kit/Dining Room combination. 1 bath.
Purchase Price: \$48,000.00
Lease/Rent: \$400.00/mo.
Info: 299-0352
- 6 piece maple family room group,
6 piece dining room set, and large
gray couch, call 299-0352

OCTOBER

SUNDAY

MONDAY






TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

 <p>CELEBRATE!</p>	<p>1 GSO General Business Meeting 8:00 PM Comp. Care Center</p>	<p>2 Bowling 9:00 PM League</p>	<p>3 Take some time and write to 'Aunt Mary'!</p>	<p>4 Lambda Louisville Volleyball 7:00 PM Central Park</p>	<p>5 Cards and Games For time and place call 231-0100 Gay AA, Comp. Care Center 8:00 PM </p>	<p>6 Camping Trip Eddie's Farm</p>
<p>7 GSO Potluck Call 231-0100 for time and place. Gay Al-Anon 6:00PM Room 186 St. Joseph Hospital </p>	<p>8 Join GSO and help us to serve Lexington's Gay and Lesbian Community.</p>	<p>9 Gong Show Auditions 7:30 PM Unitarian Universalist Church Bowling 9:00 PM League Happy Birthday Paul</p>	<p>10 Gay AA 8:00 PM Room 186 St. Joseph Hospital Dignity Liturgy 7:30 PM UK Newman Center</p>	<p>11 Lambda Louisville Volleyball 7:00 PM Central Park</p>	<p>12 Gay AA, Comp. Care Center 8:00 PM</p>	<p>13 Camping Trip Rain date</p>
<p>14 Gay Al-Anon 6:00 PM Room 186 St. Joseph Hospital</p>	<p>15 November Newsletter Deadline</p>	<p>16 Bowling 9:00 PM League</p>	<p>17 Gay AA 8:00 PM Room 186 St. Joseph Hospital Louisville Women's Connection 5:30PM YWCA</p>	<p>18 Lambda Louisville Volleyball 7:00 PM Central Park</p>	<p>19 Cards and Games For time and place call 231-0100 Gay AA, Comp. Care Center 8:00 PM</p>	<p>20 Lambda Louisville Octoberfest 5:00 PM Happy Birthday Mac </p>
<p>21 Gay Al-Anon 6:00 PM Room 186 St. Joseph Hospital</p>	<p>22 Take advantage of your GSO membership by using it to obtain discounts at participating GSO Sponsors. </p>	<p>23 Bowling 9:00 PM League Louisville Women's Connection 5:30 PM YWCA</p>	<p>24 Gay AA 8:00 PM Room 186 St. Joseph Hospital Dignity Program 7:30 UK Newman Center Happy Birthday Ron</p>	<p>25 Lambda Louisville Volleyball 7:00 PM Central Park</p>	<p>26 Gay AA, Comp. Care Center 8:00 PM</p>	<p>27 Louisville MCC Halloween Party Community Center 8:00-12:00</p>
<p>28 Halloween Square Dance 7-11 PM Arts Place Gay Al-Anon 6:00 PM Room 186 St. Joseph Phoneline Meeting 2:00 PM Comp. Care</p>	<p>29 GSO Board Meeting 8:00 PM "Happy Birthday Jim!"</p>	<p>30 Bowling 9:00 PM League</p>	<p>31 Halloween Gay AA 8:00 PM Room 186 St. Joseph Hospital</p>	<p>This Space is Intentionally BLANK!!</p>	<p>Lamda Louisville events are held at the Community Center 1311 S. Preston when no other location is listed.</p>	<p>Do you have a birthday you would like to see on the calendar? Call or write and let us know.</p>