

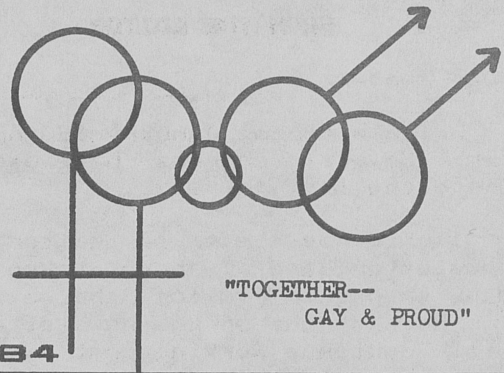
GSO NEWSLETTER

LEXINGTON GAY SERVICES ORGANIZATION

POST OFFICE BOX 11471

LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY 40511

JANUARY, 1984



PRESIDENTIAL LETTER

Well, 1983 is finally over and it's time to reflect. The past year has been an interesting year for the gay community in Kentucky. The Gay Rights issue made its way into the Commonwealth and raised many eyebrows. Sam Dorr, a Louisville banker, was fired from his job because he would not resign his position as president of Dignity/ Louisville. He went to court charging a violation of his constitutional rights and lost. On the surface, this seems like a great set-back in our struggle for equality, but this was the first gay rights case ever brought before the courts in this state and Dorr's loss is not too surprising. What is important is that there was an attempt made to challenge the Kentucky legal system. In the coming years we hope to see more challenges of this sort. This establishes a history on this issue and sets the stage for precedent-setting victories for us in the future.

In 1983, we had our first Gay Pride Week Celebration, which was a success. It is interesting that it took 13 years for Lexington to join with the nation in celebrating this event. My hope is that 1984 will see a larger and even more successful Gay Pride Week.

The past year saw some members of the Gay community opening lines of communication with the Governor's office, the Mayor's office, the police and the media. These liaisons were crucial in establishing the gay community as diverse human beings with concerns about the state and city in which they live and work. This forces elected officials to seriously listen to our problems, and makes them accountable for the continued discrimination directed at Lesbian and Gay individuals and our community.

Finally, the new year will see the end of my presidency of this organization. I am leaving GSO to form a more politically oriented group to fight on the front lines, so to speak, of our rights. I have enjoyed my term in office tremendously. In the past 14 months, I have met and worked with some wonderful, beautiful human beings in this community and to them I want to send my continued love. I have made my mistakes, but I feel I have also contributed at least a little to the quality of life that we can look forward to as members of the gay community.

Go out and make 1984 a banner year for yourselves. I love you all.

Keith Elston

ALUMINUM AND PAPER DRIVE

In order to raise money for GSO, we have started collecting aluminum and news papers for recycling. If you would like to donate, please bring your recyclables to the office. Check the calendar for days and times when the office is open. We appreciate your support.

WORK ON THE NEWSLETTER

Would you like to get involved with the newsletter? We always need help and would greatly appreciate anything you would like to do. That includes writing articles, gathering information from other publications, typing, cutting and pasting, and folding and stamping.

If you would like to help, check the calendar for the time and place of the next newsletter meeting, or come to the general business meeting and let us know you are interested.

FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Reader:

Welcome to the January GSO newsletter. Several changes have been made since the last issue.

1) Tim has left as editor of the newsletter and I have taken over. Many thanks to Tim for the excellent job he has done on the newsletter. He will continue working on the newsletter in a less demanding (hopefully) position.

2) The newsletter and the mailing list are now on computer. This should make the mailing list easier to update and enable us to sort the newsletter for bulk postage (which must be sorted by zip code). The mailing list will remain strictly guarded for confidentiality. Please check your address on the envelope to see if it was copied correctly and let us know so it can be corrected. Also, if you've moved recently and are still getting the newsletter at your old address, please take a few minutes and send a change of address card.

3) Due to a lack of funds, this newsletter is coming to you NON-PROFIT instead of FIRST CLASS. Because the Post Office restricts the amount of advertising that may appear in material mailed NON-PROFIT, limited advertising was accepted for this newsletter. I would like to thank our advertisers for their support in the past.

I hope you will continue to enjoy the newsletter and will let me know how you feel about it. Reader feedback is important (and lets us know that you really read the thing). Watch for changes and enjoy this month's newsletter.

Mac

GAY LINE DISCONTINUED TEMPORARILY

Due primarily to financial problems and also staffing problems, the Gayline has temporarily discontinued operation. Watch the newsletter for new days and times when we are able to reinstate the line.

GAY HEALTH WORKSHOP

On December 14, 1983, GSO and the Fayette County Health Department sponsored a workshop on Gay Health Issues. Questions were answered by Alan Cohen, M.D. (Infectious Diseases) and John Poundstone, M.D. (Fayette County Commissioner of Health). Although the workshop covered all sexually transmissible diseases, the primary topic of discussion was, of course, AIDS.

Many thanks to Doug for his work in organizing this very successful workshop.

If you have concerns about AIDS, you might try the National Gay Task Force AID Crisisline. The toll free number is 800-221-7044. The line is in operation Monday through Friday from 3:00pm EST to 9:00pm EST.

Also, the AID ATLANTA NEWSLETTER is available from AID Atlanta, 1801 Piedmont Road, Atlanta, Ga, 30324. AID Atlanta is a nonprofit volunteer organization that was established in August, 1982 by a group of concerned people interested in educating the community about the health crisis affecting many of their friends. The primary goals then and today are education and patient support. Tax deductible donations may be sent to the address given above.

NINTH ANNUAL SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE OF LESBIANS AND GAY MEN

The Steering committee of the Ninth Annual Southeastern Conference of Lesbians and Gay Men is pleased to announce current plans for the upcoming conference, to be held April 12-15, 1984 at the Holiday Inn Medical Center, 420 20th Street, South in Birmingham, Alabama. Speakers are to include Virginia Apuzzo (Director - National Gay Task Force), Abby Rubenfeld (Managing Attorney - Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund) and Mike Rutherford (Executive Director - Gay Press Association).

For more information, write Lambda, Inc., P.O. Box 73962, Birmingham, Al 35253 or stop by the GSO office.

NEWS FROM NGTF

New York Leaders Meet With Glenn

NGTF Executive Director Virginia M. Apuzzo; Peter Vogel, Co-Chair of the National Association of Gay and Lesbian Democratic Clubs; and six leaders of New York City gay/lesbian community met December 13 with Presidential contender Senator John Glenn (D-OH). The meeting, arranged through the offices of Glenn's New York campaign chairman, State Senate Minority Manfred Ohrenstein, came six weeks after the candidate had expressed his opposition to the Federal gay/lesbian civil rights bill in response to a question from an NGTF representative at a New York forum. After the meeting, Apuzzo and Vogel asserted that Glenn "remained intransigent" on issues of special concern to the lesbian/gay community.

The meeting, which lasted for over an hour, did not center around the civil rights bill as a "litmus test", but rather addressed a broad spectrum of issues especially important to lesbians and gay men, including immigration, AIDS, violence, social service delivery and discrimination against gays and lesbians in the military. The group also challenged Glenn's contention, made earlier in the day, that lesbians and gay men were unfit to work as "teachers or YMCA directors."

While the dialogue was cordial, the Ohio Senator continually focused on the idea of sexual orientation as a choice rather than a pre-existing condition like race or gender. "The Senator acknowledged the existence of discrimination," Apuzzo noted, "but was unwilling to supporting any remedy for that discrimination. This intransigence is unacceptable."

"He offered no new departure from his previous positions," added Vogel. Glenn himself stressed that he wanted a "continuing dialogue with the gay and lesbian community," and conceded that "this issue [gay and lesbian civil rights] has become an item on the national agenda."

On December 15, State Senator Ohrenstein announced his resignation from the Glenn campaign. Ohrenstein's district includes one of the largest gay and lesbian constituencies in the nation.

GSO ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS

Due to the resignation of one of the board members, GSO will be accepting nominations for a replacement board member at the January Business Meeting. All interested parties should plan to attend the meeting to be held at the GSO Office on Monday, January 9 at 8:00pm.

NEED

by Paul J.

I was just thinking about
how he touched me
And how I touched him back...

I wanted you so badly
It's too much. Wrong.
I can't have this need.
I do.

You will be easier to
replace, renew, retreat from
I can't see you
Only memories. Not fresh wounds --
at least not so often.

Let me reach new ground
But each day runs in to the next...
I hope. I'll find. My heart
says so.

HELP WANTED

Immediate opening for part time store clerk. Call Paul at 278-1451 between 4:00 and 8:00 pm.

ROOMMATE WANTED

Male roommate needed to share new house in south end. Must be quiet person, non-smoker. Monetary arrangements negotiable. Call 273-6953 after 8:00 pm.

LADY DIANA

HAIR DESIGN

508 East Main Street
Lexington, Kentucky 40508

Tuesday - Saturday
By Appointment Only

252-4595

KEITH BUCHANAN

STYLIST

1:30 PM Jim's WINCHESTER RD 9 MI PAST ANON ON LEFT
#4042 LONG FORD EAST POINT DRIVE RT ON LONG FORD AT END OF COURT
COURT

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 HAPPY NEW YEAR!!	2	3	4 Gay A.A. 8:00pm - Office	5	6	7
269 8766 8 GSO Potluck 299-0352 WICKER'S	9 GSO Business Meeting, 8:00pm at the office. 231-0335	10	11 Gay A.A. 8:00pm - Office	12	13	14
223 4595 15 Birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr.	16	17	18 Gay A.A. 8:00pm - Office	19	20 Last Day for submissions to February News- Letter	21
22	23 Newsletter Meeting, 7:00pm 269-8766	24	25 Gay A.A. 8:00pm - Office	26 Newsletter FOLD AND STUFF Party 7:30 pm, 269-8766	27	28
29	30	31 Gay A.A. 8:00pm - Office				