

LGBT History Project of the LGBT Center of Central PA

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Title: *Here's How Newsletter*

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HOW Calendar:

- _____ Sept. 27: Rap session, David's, 955 Louisa St., 7:30 p.m. No smoking requested.
- _____ Oct. 3: HOW regular monthly business meeting, 7:30 p.m., Dan's, 659 Beeber St.
- _____ Oct. 14: National March on Washington, D.C. for Lesbians and Gay people. (See article below.)
- _____ Oct. 17: Mini-reception (wine and cheese) for Gary's visit and HOW'S third anniversary, 7:30 - 9:30, Dan's, 659 Beeber St.
- _____ Oct. 19-21: Pride 79 conference, Pittsburgh. (See article below.)
- _____ Nov. 7: HOW regular monthly business meeting, 7:30 p.m., Dan's, 659 Beeber St.

MARCH ON !!! ---

Enthusiasm across the country is spreading (finally) for the upcoming march on Washington, D.C. for lesbians and gay people. More than 100,000 gays and supporters are expected to attend the Oct. 14 event. A freedom train is travelling across the country. People from as far as San Francisco have already made the commitment. Gary reports that from Houston, all available means (train, plane, and bus) are now booked up solid, bound for the D.C. area, for that weekend. NGTF and the Metropolitan Community Church have come out in favor of the march recently. This historic happening will be covered in all the media.

Locally interest appears to have waned. Original projections called for a bus from the area, but present plans call for a rented van accommodating 15. There are still seats left on the van. \$10 per person must be received now to secure your seat (please let us know now). A timetable will be determined at the Oct. 3 meeting.

---- to PRIDE 79 !!!

Final plans for members of HOW attending the Pride 79 conference in Pittsburgh Oct. 19-21 will be made at the Oct. 3 meeting. At least two cars are projected to leave Friday morning. Registration forms will be available soon for anyone desiring them. Please let us know as we may not do an extra mailing on this and registration fees of \$15 are due in by Oct. 10. Registration forms should be mailed together (all people in one room). The Inn fees are due upon arrival there.

The schedule of activities has been released (last month's newsletter carried a list of the workshops); it is full and encompasses the whole spectrum of necessary activities. A reception, exhibits (booths), displays, keynote addresses, workshops, banquet, awards, entertainment, disco dance, religious worship services, and a regular meeting of both the Governor's Council and the statewide network. Nobody will be able to take it all in, so Dan would at least like to have HOW members attend different workshops so that we can bring back the most information possible. We will discuss this at the Oct. 3 meeting.

HOW: An Overview, by Gary

Homophiles of Williamsport is and has been for three years the only Gay organization in a large radius (over 60 miles) around Williamsport in north central Pennsylvania. The basic purpose has always been improvement of life for and within the gay community and other minorities. As we near our third anniversary, HOW is making a conscious effort at evaluation of what we have done and where we will go in the future. One of several ways this is being done is through the questionnaire in the newsletter, which will be circulated throughout our community of friends. Your response to HOW in this and other ways is appreciated and actively solicited.

We can all be proud of the accomplishments of HOW. Officers, former officers, and active members, past and present, have been painfully aware of some of our shortcomings. Often we have fallen short not because of lack of knowledge or ability of the relatively small nucleus (different people at different times) that has made HOW a vital and effective part of the movement in this state, but rather because of a lack of resources such as : 1) time (those already involved can only give so much); 2) person-power; 3) people who can be up front; 4) money (although HOW has always been financially solvent, more would mean more and better projects).

HOW is your organization, the only one of its kind in this part of the state. With the help of people like you, our organization can be even more successful. Thanks for filling out the questionnaire on page 3.

Editor's note: As always, HOW is deeply indebted to Gary for his past and present support, his concern, his energies, and the frequent monetary donations he makes to HOW. Though he is far away from us in miles, he is right with us in spirit.

AN IMPORTANT PERSONAL NOTE FROM DAN

Since it does affect HOW directly, I must announce at this time that I have listed my house with a realtor. My plans are to move into a trailer in the area after selling the house. I would still be willing to open my home, wherever it is, to HOW for meetings. I am moving for three reasons: the attacks upon my house; the many necessary and costly home repairs; my own straitened circumstances.

THEATER NOTES

The current Lycoming College production of Michael Cristofer's Tony award winning drama, The Shadow Box, merited a strong recommendation from our co-ordinator, Dan, who praises the handling of the gay relationship between a young man in his 30's who is dying and his lover, a mature, hunky, young stud, formerly a hooker, and played by the sexy Bucknell student, Jon Krause. Jon received much acclaim this summer in the Williamsport Players' production of Pippin as the "unfulfilled" lead. There is even a strong hugging scene between the two men at a moment when their love is being rekindled, after the dying man's former wife leaves. The scene draws such mixed audience reactions as disdain, scorn, shame, compassion, sympathy, and respect.

The dominant theme of the drama is how we, straights and gays, humans all, deal with our common fate - death and dissolution. See The Shadow Box if you get a chance.

QUESTIONNAIRE

Please take 5 minutes to fill out the following and return to an officer of HOW or to HOW, Box 1072, Williamsport, Pa. 17701, Thanks.

1. I am: (a) an active member; (b) a dues paying member; (c) a supporter; (d) a newsletter subscriber; (e) an inactive member; (f) a non-member.
2. I have known about HOW for _____ (how long?).
3. How did you first learn about HOW? _____
4. I think the three most significant things HOW has done in the past three years are:
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
5. I think HOW has been least successful or failed in the following:
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
6. I think HOW should give priority to the following in the coming years:
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
7. HOW should be more political. Yes. ___ No. ___ Stay the same. ___
8. HOW should be more visible locally. Yes. ___ No. ___ Stay the same. ___
9. HOW should be more active in the state. Yes. ___ No. ___ Stay the same. ___
10. HOW should be more involved in the Women's movement. Yes. ___ No. ___ Stay the same. ___
11. HOW should restrict itself to social activities only. Yes. ___ No. ___
12. HOW has been too slow in moving forward and should have an active outreach throughout Lycoming County and surrounding areas. Yes. ___ No. ___
13. Other comments: