

LGBT History Project of the LGBT Center of Central PA

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Title: *Here's How Newsletter*

Date: June 1979

Location: LGBT-008 Dan Maneval Collection

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HOW Calendar:

- June 16: Picnic supper, 6:00p.m. at Lee's, 326 Baer St., Jersey Shore, rap session/social to follow. RSVP. Everyone is to bring something. Overnight accommodations are possible if reservations are made. Car pools to leave Dan's at 5:30 (it's not that far). Call Dan at 322-7987.
- June 19-24: Gay Pride Week nationwide. Keep your eyes and ears open and be especially proud!
- June 24-30: Gay Pride week in Penna. per Governor Thornburgh. See article below.
- July 11; HOW regular monthly business meeting, Dan's 659 Beeber St., 7:30. Note: the meeting is one week later than usual due to the July Fourth holiday.
- July 24: HOW rap session, at Dan's, 659 Beeber St., Williamsport, 7:30.
- August 1: HOW regular monthly business meeting, 7:30 at Dan's.

NEWS ON THE CONFERENCE AND MARCH

It's not too early to start getting excited about October's activities. The Oct. 14 March on Washington, D.C. may pick up steam after Gay Pride Week (see calendar) when the larger cities will probably start concentrating their efforts. HOW has sent several posters up to Elmira via Jeff and Joe, and Jeff has also placed one in the local adult book store. We still hope for enough response to charter a bus.

The following weekend of Oct. 19-21 is the Pride 79 conference at Pittsburgh. This annual conference is sponsored by the Pa. Lesbian/Gay Support Network and the Governor's Council for Sexual Minorities. Enclosed in this month's mailing is the first flyer on the conference. A brochure with more specifics will be available in late July or August. All voting and all active members of HOW will be mailed one. Additional copies of the flyer are available from HOW upon request or from the Network, Box 4031, Allentown, Pa. 18105.

HOW'S job at the Pride 79 conference will be to co-ordinate the booths, and a workshop will be held as soon as Dan receives necessary information from Joe Burns and/or Sam Deetz. Also, Dan and Gary will be conducting a workshop or two at the conference. More later on, on this.

ELECTION RESULTS

It's official now! All four candidates nominated for the four active elective positions of HOW were unanimously elected at the June 6 meeting. The officers are: co-ordinator, Dan; corresponding secretary, Jeff; recording secretary, Joe; treasurer, Dave. An executive committee meeting of the four officers was moved by Jeff for June 9. The results of this meeting will not be released until July 11.

POLITICS, EVERYONE!

An active political discussion took place at the business meeting regarding Gov. Thornburgh's recent proclamation of a statewide Gay Pride Week for June 24-30 (the week after the nationwide one). This recognition of us as a very viable minority is being taken as a sign that the Governor is just as supportive of us as was Gov. Shapp. Thornburgh has

also continued the Governor's Council for Sexual Minorities. This has caused the ire of many state congressmen and has also revealed their lack of education about us. They still must believe that we are the typical stereotypes and perverted sexual deviates.

Tony Silvestre, chairperson of the Governor's Council, is urging all of us to write even a short letter to Gov. Thornburgh thanking him for his stand on behalf of us. At the business meeting Dan relayed this request to all present. Accordingly everyone took a stamped envelope home with him addressed to: Governor Richard Thornburgh, Governor's Office, State Capitol Building, Harrisburg, Pa. 17120. Everyone, but everyone out there reading this is urged to do likewise in recognition and praise of a good friend. The importance of the letters coming in is significant because when Governor Shapp made a similar gesture, he received many more negative than positive letters.

AN HONOR AND AN ENCORE

In appreciation of his speech at the Unitarian Universalist Church in April Dan was recently gratified to receive an honorarium. This supportive organization deserves our praise as well for its continued existence in this area. They have a struggle too, and with that we can identify.

Dan's talk to the WACC class in late April has prompted an invitation for him to give another on June 13, 1979 at 7:45 at the community college in a small "Abnormal Psychology" classroom situation. You can rest assured that his opening statement is that, "Homosexuality is not abnormal." This leads to a presentation of facts from the American Psychiatric Association, the Kinsey statistics, etc. Later on, he will review the range of occupations gays pursue, the discrimination they encounter, and the stereotypes with which they are branded. Finally, he will recount a brief history of gay activism and give a plug for HOW, its goals and accomplishments.

Some GOOD NEWS

Another chapter, and perhaps the final one, in Dan's harassment by a neighborhood teenage gang has been written. The ugly story began last fall at Bloomsburg when Dan spoke at the anti-Anita Bryant rally and was caught on the television camera. The following night brought jeers, which led to tomatoes and eggs, which led to stones and eventually damage to windows on all four sides of the house. The attacks which intensified throughout the fall, became a bit more sporadic during the winter, but a few attacks were quite severe. However, Dan has recently learned, thanks to a neighborhood gossip, that the police have finally intervened and dispersed the group who had also been doing much mischief to other homes in the vicinity. The group has not been seen for almost two months now. With spring here, and more people out and about, and no attacks and no sightings, it could very well be all over. Dan has breathed a sigh of relief, and a source of worry to all members of HOW ~~has~~ has been removed, as it has been a reign of terror and "living in fear isn't easy."

RENEWAL OF SUBSCRIPTION TIME

Your newsletter expiration date will be indicated in your mailing this month if your renewal is due. You can renew for \$3.00 for about ten issues a year. We don't enjoy terminating anyone's mailings, but we must deal with an economic necessity. If you are financially unable to contribute to the group, let us know and we will consider this circumstance

Letters and articles always welcome at HOW, Box 1072, Wmspt., Pa. 17701

PENNSYLVANIA LESBIAN/GAY SUPPORT NETWORK

P.O. Box 4031 Allentown, Penna. 18105

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PLEASE PUBLISH, POST, AND PASS ALONG THIS INFORMATION

PRIDE '79, the annual Pennsylvania Lesbian/Gay conference, will be held the weekend of October 19, 20, 21, 1979.

PRIDE '79 is sponsored by the Pennsylvania Lesbian/Gay Support Network, and will take place, this year, in Pittsburgh - at the Airport Holiday Inn.

Following is the tentative schedule:

FRIDAY, October 19: Evening - registration and reception; Exhibit area for Lesbian/Gay organizations and businesses will be open all weekend

SATURDAY, Oct. 20: Morning & Afternoon - workshops
Evening - banquet & presentation of Community Service Awards
Entertainment by local Lesbian & Gay performers followed by "Conversations with Pat Bond" commentary and reminiscences by the wacky ex-WAC from the film "Word is Out".

SUNDAY, October 21: Morning - workshops, followed by the regular monthly meeting of the Lesbian/Gay Support Network

Other activities are sure to be added as further details are worked out. Suggestions for workshop topics and other events are more than welcome.

PRIDE '79 is open to all Lesbians, Gays and their friends in Pennsylvania and adjoining states. Child care and sign language translation for the deaf will be provided.

The Pennsylvania Lesbian/Gay Support Network and the PRIDE '79 planning committee are committed to the full involvement and consideration of the needs of Women, Third World, Handicapped, Young and Older, and other minority Lesbians and Gays in all aspects of planning and operation of PRIDE '79. Recovering alcoholics will have full consideration, and vegetarianism will be allowed for in meal planning.

In order to protect the anonymity of the conference participants certain rules governing press coverage have been adopted. Details of these rules are available upon request.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON PRIDE '79, CONTACT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING REGIONAL COORDINATORS

Western Pa. (Pittsburgh; Erie)
John Zinsmeister
(412) 665-0710

Upper Central Pa. (Williamsport; State College)
Dennis Derr
(717) 398-0454

Lower Central Pa. (Harrisburg; Lancaster; York)
Steve Leshner
(717) 232-6517

Northeast Pa. (Allentown; Scranton)
Joe Burns
(215) 432-6043

Southeast Pa. (Philadelphia area)
George Bodamer, Jr.
(215) 379-3416