

# **LGBT History Project of the LGBT Center of Central PA**

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## **Documents Online**

**Title:** Lily White & Company Managing Director and President's Report

**Date:** 1994 to 1995

**Location:** LGBT-043 Lily White & Company Collection

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## Managing Director's Report

-----On Saturday, October 8, 1994, the Ways and means committee held a bake sale at the Broad Street Market in Harrisburg. Total proceeds came to \$71.50 and will be used toward our Christmas Show production costs.

-----On October 22, 1994 we held our Halloween cabaret at the Strawberry Café. Total raised came to \$1,083. Monies collected were used for Stan's cremation with the remaining expense going towards Stan's expenses at York House Hospice.

-----On November 6, 1994, we had an All-You-Can-Eat Turkey dinner at The Paper Moon Restaurant. Proceeds raised will go towards production costs for the Christmas show. Turkeys were donated by Jack Sowers, Chris Green and Jeff Roberts, Ken Oakes and Eric Selvey and Victor. Al Kochick donated the use of his kitchen for the event.

-----On November 20th, Lily White will hold a memorial celebration show in remembrance of Stanley Light (Polly Grip) at The Paper Moon. All proceeds will donated to York House Hospice in Stan's memory.

-----Lily White's Christmas production will be held on December 4, 1994 at The Paper Moon. Proceeds benefit the Lily White Patient Relief Fund.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert E. Leonard  
Managing Director

President's Report  
November 11, 1994

**Touring shows**

I've instructed our Managing Director to compile a list of locations in eastern Penna., New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia to send our Lily Touring Packets in anticipation of next's touring show. The proposed packets are to be ready to be sent in early January.

Relative to this, a Lily supporter informed me of an individual who is willing to assemble a videotape with snippets of past Lily performances for free! Tape should be ready by December's end.

**Mailing/Patron Lists**

I've asked the Secretary to produce a copy of the Lily Mailing/Patron list on a computer disc so it will be available for the Ways & Means and Public Relation committees.

**"New" Computer**

Thanks to Jack Sowers, Lily is the proud owner of a used computer donated by Jack Poppert.

**YHESS**

At the suggestion of the Board, I inquired into York AIDS organizations and I felt the best place to donate the remaining funds from last fiscal year's Lily Patient Relief Fund would be York Health Extended Social Services (YHESS). Among other services, YHESS provides financial assistance for PWA's. I directed the Treasurer to disperse the approved funds to this organization.

**Resignation**

I've talked to Eddie Steigerwald who has indeed resigned as a community member of the Lily Board. It goes without saying that he will continue to be a member and avid supporter of Lily White & Co.

## Stanley Light

I conducted a phone poll of the Board for input of a motion immediately following the death of Lily member Stanley Light which went:

That Lily White & Co., Inc. cover the costs of the cremation and internment of Stanley Light up to the maximum of \$500.

The vote was 8-0-0 with one member unable to be reached for a vote.

## Topics of Discussion for New Business

### Early Fund Dispersal

Since the October 22nd Strawberry show, (originally planned to raise Christmas show production funds), was changed to cover Stanley's expenses at York House Hospice, I've also asked Ed to take the cremation/internment costs from the show proceeds and donate the remainder to the York hospice.

Since the dispersal of funds to an organization is not to occur until March, and since York House Hospice is in dire need of funds, I'm seeking a motion release the remaining Strawberry funds to YHH immediately.

### Annual Dinner

I've asked Bob Leonard to check into having our January 15, 1995 Annual Meeting at the Paper Moon Restaurant along with a dinner for those who attend. Dependent on the cost per person for the dinner, I am proposing that Lily pay for 50% of an individual's meal for our first dinner. However, Lily should pay 50% of dinners for paid Lily members. I will be seeking a motion to this effect.

Respectfully,  
Ed Leonard

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

### Stanley Light Memorial Show

The money raised at the November 20th tribute was immediately turned over by myself to Joy Ufema, director of York House Hospice.

### A Lily White Christmas Tweek

I was very pleased to see show become the success it was. A lot of the credit goes to Paul as well as the members of the cast and tech staff for their creativity, spunk and all around good nature (because with everything going wrong as it did, it took a many a cool head to maintain relative calm). Our \$1,000+ in tips is further proof of the community's confidence in our mission.

### Candlelight Tour

Lily White was originally asked by Frank Iadecola, whose home was included on the tour, to assist by giving his house a bit of Lily flair during the tour. Due to last minute snags unforeseen by Frank, proper preparations could not allow the company to do their schtick at his residence. I told Frank that we would take his generous rain check and do something else for him at a later date.

### Personal Wish List

Though I presented my wish list to the board in Sept., three of the four items are coming to fruition with the fourth--- completion of ad hoc committee plans---being eventually accomplished by the board.

I'm very proud of the board for initiating the monthly meetings and if last meeting was any indication, we should have all goals completed by this time next year.

### Farewell

In the event that I am not returned to the board, I wish to express my gratitude to all of you for making my tenure pleasurable. It is my fervent hope that the next president will be blessed with the cooperation I've been fortunate to have and that more will be achieved through the new board.

## Topics of Discussion for New Business

### Lily White Mailing List

I have been asked by the Friends of the Quilt for the use of the Lily White mailing list for the purpose of sending publications from the org. Because the quilt is a commemoration of those who have succumbed to AIDS as well as an educational tool in the against AIDS, I urge that Lily consider the lending of this list to the Quilt group.

In exchange, Chuck Atwell, co-chair of the Quilt group and a member of Lily White & Co., Inc., has offered his services in maintaining the list by making the necessary additions, deletions and changes to the list as well as printing labels when needed.

Though Lily should keep a copy of our list, and though the latter is not a condition of our giving the Quilt org our list, I feel since they are basically working in tandem with Lily, we should allow them usage of the list.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric W. Selvey

## Managing Director's Report April 23, 1995

### *Poodles, Parking & Pigskin Preppies*

First of all, I would like to thank the *Poodles* production crew and volunteers for the fine job they performed. Special thanks goes to Jack Sowers, Jeff Nagle and Glen Wagner for keeping it all together.

*Poodles*, from a logistical standpoint, was a fair production at best. Lessons to be learned:

1. We should begin publicizing the tour shows to our organizations two months in advance with tickets to be released to them one month prior to the show. Organizations did not have enough time to advertise the show via their newsletters, mailings, meetings, etc.
2. Notice of our shows should be sent through our mailing list. Because of the membership recruitment mailing, which included a blurb about *Poodles*, we had ten people come to the last show. Mailings should go out one month before **any** show.
3. Have backup people in place for as many tasks as possible—show techs as well as decorating and kitchen/wait staff.
4. The producer should be responsible for overseeing put-in and strike of stage, decorations, etc. Though the events following *Poodles* remain unclear, it is important for the host or business in which we perform are cognizant of the Lily rep responsible in overseeing such duties.

Paul and I traveled to York in the hopes of booking *Poodles* as a benefit for York House Hospice. Joy Ufema is looking to have the benefit staged at Altland's Ranch. Plans at this time are for a picnic and show.

Find enclosed the financial report on the show.

### **A Quiet End**

I began to assemble outside individuals to help Lily make the most financially for the recipient of the funds from this production. Eddie and I met with Lily supporter Michael O'Malley who made several good points concerning this play and our intentions:

1. We should choose one beneficiary to whom we should disperse our funds instead of the customary two or three that we give money to during our hotel shows. In this way, people will be more inclined to make a contribution even if they choose not to attend the play.
2. Work with the Doshi gallery to make the opening night really special. Plans are afoot to have an exhibition of art works and reception at Open Stage with partial proceeds going to our beneficiary.
3. Michael will work on a letter to be sent with our patron packet as well as to community businesses in the hopes of blocks of tickets to be given to generous donors.

## **Lilygram**

The new Lilygram will be completed by month's end; in time for our new members to receive it.

## **Office Space**

I spoke with Rev. Eva O'Diam of the Metropolitan Community Church of the Spirit (MCC) concerning office space for Lily. Though the space is not an immediate goal of the board, MCC's desire to buy a church, with available space for community orgs, intrigued me enough to pursue a dialogue.

MCC, looking to purchase the Sacred Heart edifice (from the Catholic diocese) at Cameron and Sycamore Sts. Harrisburg, is considering leasing office space free of charge to orgs. with a stipulation that Lily perform one show for the benefit of the church. With an additional payment of \$50/month/org., MCC would hire a part-time receptionist to monitor phone calls, copy, etc. Stay tuned.

## **Membership Recruitment**

The campaign is underway! The packets were sent April 8th. Lily brochures have been placed in the bars and though I suspect financial contributions will not be high via the bars, it is a way for us to increase our exposure to those who are uncertain as to Lily's mission.

## **Pride Festival**

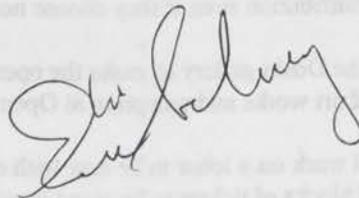
Lily has reserved a booth for the July 30th festival. We will serve Mexican food and drink at the building where we had the Dunk-a-Drag last year.

## **Azalea Sale**

I wish to thank Jeff Nagle for the fine job he did in handling the sale of the azaleas.

## **Baltimore Gay Press Harrisburg Article**

Please find included a copy of the second half of a two-part article featuring Harrisburg's gay community and mentioning Lily White & Co., Inc.



MEMO

DATE: October 20, 1995  
TO: Lily White & Company Board Members  
FROM: Eric Selvey, Managing Director  
RE: Managing Director Position &  
Lily White's Reorganization

The position of managing director is up for renewal at the next meeting of the Lily board. My term will be completed at that time. I wish to remain in the M.D. position, full-time, for only the next six months and part-time (as co-M.D.) for the remainder of the term.

The reasons for this decision are:

- 1.) I am currently starting a company and within it a venture that is consuming more time than I had anticipated. Therefore, for its success, I must curtail some of my community activities, including some of the extra tasks I've taken on as current M.D. of Lily.
- 2.) The reorganization and creative aspects of both the Public Relations and Ways and Means committees are vital to the life of Lily and, by extension, important to me. Therefore, I will oversee this which will take a lot of time in itself.
- 3.) I see 1995-96 as a watershed year for Lily. The administrative success or failure of the company. It's important that the search for a M.D. begin immediately by every member of the Board. I am willing to immediately work with that individual when selected so that they are comfortable in assuming all their duties full-time, if they choose to continue, in September 1996. Their part-time assignment must begin in March '96 so that they will have a summer show under their belts.

My other concerns have been expressed time and again at Board meetings, but I feel they bear repeating. Due to the recent revisions to the Lily By-Laws, I feel it imperative to express the following:

—It is important for the performers to help out at shows in which they are not cast. It is great to assume that performers should serve on committees, but as the past has proven, we cannot count on that. As board members, we have the responsibility to recruit from outside the company. This has already begun with the Dance Marathon.

The membership campaign was a good start and should be incorporated into next year's schedule. However, we need to reach out beyond the company and, yes, the gay community, to find talented, dedicated individuals who believe in the mission of Lily White & Co.

—Committee must be prepared to report to the Board at its meetings. We, as a Board, must find a way to limit the time of discussion and dissection of committee work so we do not hold committee meetings in the Board room, thus decreasing time spent in that room.

Therefore, committee chairs must be prepared to give their reports in ample time to

Lily White & Company, Inc.  
Managing Director Report  
October 29, 1995

### Publicity/Ways and Means Joint Meeting

The joint meeting of the PR and W&M committees was held September 20th. Six people were there (one PR & three W&M members). After a discussion of the responsibilities of the committees, conversation turned to the proposed dance marathon for Spring 1996. Suzanne Lavardo, a non-Lily member, is the chairperson. The 12-hour marathon will be held for the benefit of the Harrisburg AIDS hospice—Our House—and its theme is "Face the Music, Meet the Challenge". The committee is currently looking at locations to hold the event, working on logos and advertising ideas and compiling a budget for approval by the Lily Board.

The next meeting was held October 25th with the following meeting to be held on November 29th.

Please find enclosed information given to meeting participants.

### Our House Donations

Over \$350 was raised at a picnic in July. The funds, which were given to Lily to donate to SCAAN, have been turned over to the organization.

### Tasha Mikhail Memorial Shows

Funds raised, over \$1,800, have been given to the family of Lily White member Ron Davis, aka Tasha Mikhail, to cover his funeral expenses. The remaining money will go into a fund begun for by the three bars that will be used for people who do not have the money for the purposes such as funerals, etc. At this time, I do not know who will oversee the funds.

A tree, bench and plaque will be dedicated at the Forster Street portion of Riverfront Park on November 11th. The ceremony will be performed in memory of Ron and deceased Lily White member Eddie Steigerwald. All are welcome to attend.

### Lilygram

I produced and sent the last Lilygram to our members. The next Lilygram will go out no later than November 6th.

### Membership Letters

Letters will go out to members soon apprising them about costume rentals for Halloween, the Turkey dinner and our Christmas show.

the Secretary so packets can go out. I feel that, unless a question needs to be asked during the Board meetings. If a Board member does their homework, they can ask questions of the chairpeople via phone before coming to the Board meetings.

—So that we can affect a smooth running year administratively, we must have a calendar that, as with a budget, can be followed so that time can be sufficiently budgeted for activities.

Committees should draw up their own schedules before the beginning of the fiscal year as was proposed a few years ago. The schedules should be examined and dissected by the board members and once again, questions should be asked of omm. members by Lily Board members.

I have always believed in the power of this company and am proud of its past achievements. I know of no organization, staffed as have been in the past six years, can boast of having raised and donated over \$55,000! However, we have a disturbing knack of consistently resting on our laurels without taking the time to prepare for the next event. This company is vital to the community. Gays, straights, bisexuals, transgendered individuals have benefited by our works and it would be devastating if we did not make a concerted effort to pull it together and create a tighter, more efficient organization.

Every Board member needs to actively search for talented individuals to come upon our Board. Lily White is an equal opportunity organization in that anybody, no matter their sexual persuasion, can do a great job for the company if they share our group's mission.

I know that we, as Board members, have the commitment and I hope we all will give 110% to see that Lily White & Co., Inc. does not become a footnote in the work of community benevolence.

OLD SCHEDULE  
SHOULD BE  
REVISED!

# LILY WHITE & COMPANY, INC.

## Administrative Calendar

### SEPTEMBER

- 1 Personnel Committee - Written recommendations submitted to Board for Managing Director position.
- Nominating Committee - Begin evaluation of the company roster with the Artistic Director
- Public Relations Committee - PR plan for coming year submitted to Board.

### BOARD MEETING

- Approval of Ways & Means General Fund Raising Outline (GRFO) for fiscal year
- Approval of all standing committee chairpersons
- Dispersal of patient fund expenditures collected after March Board meeting
- Selection of Managing Director

### OCTOBER

- 15 Public Relations' plan completed for December show

### NOVEMBER

- 1 Nomination Committee - Search for candidates for soon-to-be-vacant Board positions to begin as well as By-Law changes/additions

### BOARD MEETING

- Approval of Nomination Committee/Artistic Director revised membership roster

### DECEMBER

- 1 - Membership sent Nomination Committee report

## JANUARY

- 1 Personnel Committee begins search for Artistic Director  
Artistic Director, Managing Director, President and Treasurer reports for Annual Report readied and given to Managing Director

## BOARD MEETING

- Approval of Nomination Committee Report

## ANNUAL MEETING

- Election of Board members

## FEBRUARY

- Finance Committee conducts Budget review

## MARCH

- 1 Finance Committee - Report of budget review submitted to Board  
Personnel Committee - Written recommendations for Artistic Director positions submitted to Board  
Public Relations Committee - Begin PR plan for August show

## BOARD MEETING

- Selection of Artistic Director
- Approval of Finance Committee budget report and recommendations
- Dispersal of Lily Patient Funds collected since September Board Meeting
- Elections of officers (President & Secretary in odd-numbered year, Vice President & Treasurer in even-numbered year)

## APRIL

- 1 Ways & Means begin work on GFRO for next fiscal year
- 30 Public Relations plan completed for August show

## MAY

## BOARD MEETING

## JUNE

- 1 Finance Committee requests individual budgets from committees and Board
- 15 General fund raising outline for next fiscal year completed and submit to Board
- 30 All budget requests given to Finance Committee

## BOARD

Board Retreat

## JULY

- 1 Personnel Committee begins Managing Director search
- Public Relations Committee begins creation of PR plan for next fiscal year

## BOARD MEETING

- Approval of Ways & Means GFRO for next fiscal year
- 31 Deadline for submission of resumés applications for Managing Director to Personnel Committee

## AUGUST

- 1 Finance Committee submits budget to Board
- 31 Committee chairpersons selected by respective committees  
Budget approved by Board for upcoming year

## SEPTEMBER

## BOARD MEETING

## OCTOBER

## BOARD MEETING

## NOVEMBER

## DECEMBER

Handwritten notes at top right of page, including "2000-2001" and "Spend for..."

JANUARY

BOARD MEETING

ANNUAL MEETING

FEBRUARY

MARCH

BOARD MEETING

APRIL

MAY

BOARD MEETING