

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

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## **Documents Online**

**Title:** *Here's How Newsletter*

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**Location:** LGBT-008 Dan Maneval Collection

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BULLETIN: Sun-Gazette Says No!

Last month the advertising was handled in the usual manner. But when the time came for the ad to appear, appear it did not. Upon inquiry Dan learned that the ad was rejected. The newspaper spokesman invoked its "right to accept or reject any ad that comes in," stating that they "reject as many as 10 to 20 in a week." This was a first for us, however, and it leaves us extremely angry and without a source of local advertising for gaining new members. In short, future growth may be next to nil.

When we tried to place the ad again, it was again rejected. The head of the classified ad department was nice and helpful about it, and said it was all up to the publisher. He said they could not and would not produce a written statement of rejection because it would cause them trouble. Our last check for \$6.90 is supposed to be refunded.

Other facts you all should be aware of: we have given them hundreds of dollars over the course of almost three years and no ad was ever refused before. It was not a new ad -- same wording as before. It was totally routine. In contacting Bob Elion's law office, Dan found out that it would cost us \$50 to \$100 to have a legal letter written to the newspaper. We have not yet decided to have the letter written. The Sun-Gazette, however, is "expecting repercussions from this," as Dan was told. Let's give it to them!

Last month we asked for letters from members and friends to go to Governor Thornburgh regarding his gay pride proclamation. This month we're asking everyone - member, voter, supporter, gay, straight, to write a letter to: Publisher, Williamsport Sun-Gazette, 252 West Fourth Street, Williamsport, Pa. 17701, politely protesting their refusal to run our ad. After all, it is discrimination to a minority.

Dan has also been in contact with many supportive organizations to urge them to write letters -- Williamsport NOW, the Governor's Council for Sexual Minorities (Tony Silvestre and Dr. Walter Lear), the Pa. Lesbian/Gay Support Network (Roger Beatty).

Just as we went to press, Dan made a contact with an ACLU member locally (John Harer), who gave Dan another name to contact and the hope that ACLU might take an interest and might provide some free legal aid.

Why is this all happening? Your guess is as good as ours. Somebody has possibly put pressure on the Sun to stop running that "queer" ad. Is it possibly a reaction to the House of Representatives of the state reminding everyone that, in this state, homosexuality is still a crime?

## HOW Calendar:

- July 24: Rap session, 7:30, Dan's, 659 Beeber Street.
- August 1: HOW regular monthly business meeting, 7:30, Dan's, 659 Beeber St.
- August 15: Rap session, 7:30, Dan's, 659 Beeber St.
- \*August 25: HOW picnic, 6:00, Lee's, Jersey Shore (as before).
- RSVP by Aug. 15. Everyone is to bring something, as well as BYOB.
- Sept. 5: HOW regular monthly business meeting, 7:30, Dan's, 659 Beeber St.

\*Please note: HERE'S HOW will not be published again until after the Sept. 5 business meeting. That issue will contain final information on October's activities. Also, this is the only newsletter advertising the August 25 picnic, so please keep and remember it.

NEWS FROM THE NETWORK: PRIDE 79

We are pleased to be able to list below the many diverse workshops recently announced for the Pride 79 conference in Pittsburgh, Oct.19-21, by the statewide network sponsoring it. The first block is on Personal Growth. Our own Dan will be moderating one called "Harassment and Discrimination - On the Job and in the Streets." He may also be assisting in one on life in rural Pa. if there isn't a conflict. Our own Lee and Pat may be involved in one on "Drinking Problems in the Community." And Lee may be involved in one on "Outreach to Older Lesbians and Gays." An S&M workshop will be offered, and our past co-ordinator, Gary Norton, will be doing that one. Others in this bank include: Issues in Parenting, Coming Out, Economics of a Relationship, Bisexuality, Racism, Transexuality/Transvestism, and Men and Feminism.

Series II is called Sister Space/Brother Space and this block will include: For Women: Lesbian AA Meeting, Are We All In This Together-Who Is a Politically Correct Lesbian?, Women's Poetry, Women's Music, Lesbian Sexuality/Relationships, and Lesbian Health Issues. For Men: Gay Male AA Meeting, Male Autonomy, Our Cultural Heritage, Men's Music and Poetry, Gay Male Literature and Theater, and Gay Male Health Issues. Also a workshop for Lesbian/Gay youth will be in this bank.

Series III is on Community Growth. Workshop topics include: Youth/Ageism, Alcoholism - The Lesbian/Gay Disease, Media, Objectives for the 80's, Grassroots Fund Raising, Political Strategies, Demonstration Tactics, and Self Defense.

OTHER NEWS: A new organization out of the Harrisburg area has been formed. Called the Central Penna. Gay Alliance, they can be reached via the Harrisburg Switchboard (717-234-0328). We wish them much success.

Since 1979 was the International year of the Child, 1977 was the International Women's Year, and it's probable that 1980 or 1981 will be designated the International Year of the Older Person, the network has unanimously called for 1985 to be the International Lesbian/Gay Year.

The network also would like more local activities next year during gay pride week in June in all parts of the state, culminating in a mass parade/rally/block party in Harrisburg. The network welcomes letters, giving your opinions, etc. Write to the Pa. Lesbian/Gay Support Network, Bx. 4031, Allentown, Pa. 18105.

WANT TO GO TO WASHINGTON, D.C.?

If HOW is to charter a bus to go to the Washington, D.C. rally on Oct.14, a \$50 check must be deposited immediately to the bus company. We will not do that until we have ample reservations. A \$6 deposit from each person going is required now. Thirty-eight people is the minimum number needed and up to 46 could be accepted. Total cost for the 38 passenger bus is \$424.35, and total cost per person is \$12. You can't go to D.C. and back on \$12 worth of gas! If not enough reservations come in, your money would be applied to dues or refunded; you should stipulate which alternative you want with your check.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT.

Tens of thousands of gay men and lesbian women have been discharged from the United States Armed Forces with less than honorable discharges merely because they are gay. It is now possible to have these discharges upgraded to honorable and receive all the attendant benefits. This will not be possible after Jan.1, 1980 because the statute of limitations on the amnesty bill will expire. The ACLU of Southern Calif. Gay Rights Chapter sponsored and is distributing a brochure on this. It includes many addresses. For more, write 633 S.Shatto Pl., Los Angeles, Ca. 90005.