

LGBT History Project of the LGBT Center of Central PA

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Title: Northeast Pennsylvania Gay Alliance (NEPGA) Newsletter

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N.E.P.G.A.

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SHAVERTOWN, PA.

Our first matter of business is to report on the recent film shown in Wilkes Barre on the Gay lifestyle, that was recently seen on Channel 44 at a very late hour. We urge all members to write the station asking it be rebroadcast at an earlier time. Afterwards all members were invited to a cocktail party at Linda Rushtons a very hard working member of the group. An article from the Sunday Independent was read concerning Gays and members were asked to respond to it, a copy of the article will follow later in the newsletter.

The by-laws are available to any member who wishes to send a self addressed stamped envelope to N.E.P.G.A. or see Phil for a copy.

Several ways were discussed on ways to raise money including a basket of cheer, and a fifty- fifty drawing to be held at each meeting please feel free to offer your suggestions on this matter.

Tom and Mark are attending a dinner in Philadelphia in honor of ex-governor Shapp who while in office showed more concern to the Gay cause than any other politician.

We wish to acknowledge the fact we were informed of a new Gay organization H.O.P.S. or Homophiles of Penn State P.O. Box 805 State College, Pennsylvania 16801, anyone interested in this group may contact them at the above address.

Tom-----696-2326

Phil-----779-9947

Peter-----675-3329



One thing that may relate to Gay buying and political power is the fact that the April 23 edition of Time magazine with a headline entitled How Gay is Gay, or Homosexuality in America sold every copy in just twenty four hours in New York City, so you see brothers and sisters we do have a lot of spy in this area. One last item in this newsletter and this being my own opinion that being the verdict in the Dan White murder case in San Francisco, while not condoning violence I do feel its time all these so called Gays got off their bar stools and did something like this to wake up the so called normal people of this country. We will no longer turn the other cheek as one demonstrator said to a cop you have killed your last fag. Other minorities were not recognized in this country until they took to the streets and its high time the Gay community woke up. Next meeting June 23, 1979 at 5 P.M.

HAWAIIAN PARTY

JUNE 23

Tom's House

B.Y.O.B. COVERED DISH

ALL WELCOME 6 P.M.

The dead line for the trip to Provincetown, Mass. to be held July 13, is July 1 so we have an idea how many are going, also we will be attending the Bavarian Festival some time in July. At our next meeting a discussion will be held on what our group plans to do about attending the Human Rights march on Washington October 14.

We welcome Ron back as a member.

Following the meeting a rap session was held when a member had some questions he wanted answered about the way the group is and has been run in the past. It seems a though if these matters are brought up as soon as possible it causes a lot less ill feelings. This is what our organization has needed for some time to sit down and straighten out these problems no matter how small they seem. Other sessions will be held in the future even if we have to stop a party to held a fellow member with something that may be bothering them at the time.

Reading summer picnic will be held June 17.

Speaking of Governor Shapp we would like to take the time to thank Governor Thornburg for having the courage of his convictions to declare Gay Pride Week in Pennsylvania the week of June 23, im sure our new governor will take a lot of flack on this so lets all sit down a minute to write him, just to thank him for what he has done for the Gay community in this state. Im sure he will get a lot of negative mail on this matter so lets show him he has a lot of support.

Here is another reply to the "Save Our Children".

Support Gays

Editor - After reading the highly emotional letter in the May 6 issue of your paper, written by "Save Our Children," one wonders, doesn't this sound very familiar?

If a few words, dates, and places were changed, the subject could just as well be the poor souls accused of witchcraft in colonial Salem, or the blacks after the Civil War.

Prejudiced people of those times all wrote along the same lines. It is with great amazement that the writer states that perverse reasoning "is flooding every magazine and Talk Show."

Would the writer suggest that the American Psychiatry Association's 1973 decision to remove homosexuality from a classification of mental disorder is a decision made by perverted people?

It would seem that the writer of the letter is reacting from emotion rather than from fact and information. May we suggest that the writer examine his/her attitude of hate and bigotry against the standard of kindness preached by Jesus.

Homosexuals are human beings; they are among the neighbors whom Jesus said we should love.

All of us here at Dignity feel concern for persons such as the writer, and we want to react as Jesus wants us to: "You have heard that it hath been said thou shalt love they neighbor and hate thy enemy, but I say to you, love your enemies, do good to them that hate you; and pray for them that persecute and calumniate you." (Matt 5:43-44)

To "Save Our Children" we say: Try to learn more about your homosexual neighbors before you write so caustically about them.

DIGNITY/NORTHEAST PENNSYLVANIA
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