

LGBT History Project of the LGBT Center of Central PA

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The Pennsylvania
Gay Conference

Welcome to Pride '78

We, the Conference Planning Committee take Pride in presenting Pride '78. We began many months ago with the modest ambition of gathering gays from across the state for a few workshops, and some consideration of the common problems we deal with. Our plan grew as we worked with it, and, this weekend, we Celebrate the Pride Pennsylvania Gays have learned to take in themselves. With no disrespect to the past or the future, we hope this conference will be remembered as the best.

All of the working members of the Planning Committee were members of the Pennsylvania Rural Gay Caucus. In bringing our work to a close and looking back, we realize that some special persons filled special roles and/or performed herculean tasks in bringing our dream to reality. We wish to acknowledge the following persons with special thanks:

Mary Nancarrow, whose special task it was to assemble a superb staff of workshop leaders.

Bob Woods and Al Kester, who, with the help of a few others handled the huge job of publicity and mailing.

Dave Leas, Editor of the Gay Era in Lancaster, whose knowledge of print and printing are special contributions to which he adds his love and labor.

Ms. Betty Watts, Director of the Gay Community Center in Philadelphia who knew what talented entertainment we would enjoy.

Tony Silvestre, who always gives a little more than we deserve, or could ask for.

A lot of members named and not named who helped. And those we never knew who helped.

You, who have come to enjoy and to participate in Pride '78 with us. We wanted you here. Without your contribution, ours is nothing.

The Conference Planning Committee

The Dark Side

The dark side of Pride '78 has, also, to be told. Some of the experiences of the Planning Committee are living proof that there is widespread understanding and support for Gays in Pennsylvania, some others are proof of hostility and discrimination.

The conference originally planned was much smaller in scale, and would have convened in October. We believed the ideal setting for it would have been a camp. We sought for months, finding most camps closed before October, others open only for religious retreats, and some, simply not interested. Sometimes we waited for calls never returned, information that never arrived, and listened to a lot of voice changes in the parties we talked to when we mentioned the Rural Gay Caucus. We found sites, finally too late, ranging from a gay bar, to a church, a church camp, and others. The quarters of all of them would have been cramped or otherwise inadequate. We wrote it all off to experience.

Beginning anew in late August, we reconceived the conference. We talked to Hotels, determined that the Americus Hotel in Allentown seemed the best choice and opened negotiations with the hotel. On Oct. 15th, with our publicity ready to go to the press, we were told the Americus would not allow us use of their facilities because the group and the people to attend would be largely gay. By now, wary of what to expect, we looked again for sites. By now, most hotels were scheduled with banquets or other conferences and meetings. The first thing we checked was that they would not later discriminate. Initial relations with the Gus Genetti Hotel in Wilkesbarre seemed friendly enough, but we were refused within two weeks.

Unbeknown to us, reporters of the Call-Chronicle newspapers in Allentown heard about the Americus. They called just after the refusal by the Genetti Chain, and we talked. The result of the subsequent story on the Americus, was several calls from motels asking if we would consider using their facilities. Needless to say, we were interested, and we are here.

Again the press found out our meeting place. We meet amid some controversy of community reaction.

RESOLUTIONS AND RULES

A part of the reason for convening Pride '78 is to to establish broad-based support for goals and intentions of the gay movement in Pennsylvania for 1978. For this purpose, the fourth and final session of the Conference will consider resolutions introduced by registered conferees.

For this session, and for all sessions of the Conference, Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised will govern procedure, with the exceptions noted below as Conference Rules on Resolutions.

Conference Rules On Resolutions

1. All Resolutions must be written or typed, and placed in the hands of the Conference Secretary by Sunday Noon.
2. All resolutions will be mimeographed for distribution to conferees before the final session at which they will be considered.
3. All Resolutions will be numbered by the Conference Secretary in the order in which they were received by the Secretary.
4. Resolutions will be considered in the order established by the numbering of the Conference Secretary, unless otherwise ordered by the Assembly.
5. Consideration of any Resolution will be limited to twenty minutes (time established by the officially appointed Timekeeper.) At that time the Chair will determine if the Assembly is ready to vote on the Resolution. If yes, the vote will proceed without further debate. If no, the Resolution will be tabled for further consideration which cannot be ordered until after consideration of all Resolutions previously received by the Conference Secretary.
6. Resolutions not passed by the Hour appointed as the end of the Session will be considered defeated.

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES AT A GLANCE

Compiled by the Houston (Texas) Chronicle

To Do This:—1	You Say This:	May You Interrupt Speaker?	Must You Be Seconded?	Is the Motion Debatable?	Is the Motion Amendable?	What Vote Is Required?
Adjourn the meeting	"I move that we adjourn."	May not interrupt speaker	Must be seconded	Not debatable	Not Amendable	Majority vote required
Recess the meeting	"I move that we recess until . . ."	May not interrupt speaker	Must be seconded	Not debatable	Amendable	Majority vote required
Complain about noise, room temperature, etc.	"Point of privilege"	May interrupt speaker	No second needed	Not debatable—2	Not Amendable	No vote required—3
Suspend further consideration of something	"I move we table it."	May not interrupt speaker	Must be seconded	Not debatable	Not Amendable	Majority vote required
End Debate	"I move the previous question."	May not interrupt speaker	Must be seconded	Not debatable	Not Amendable	Two thirds vote required
Postpone consideration of something	"I move we postpone this matter until . . ."	May not interrupt speaker	Must be seconded	Debatable	Amendable	Majority vote required
Have something studied further	"I move we refer this matter to a committee."	May not interrupt speaker	Must be seconded	Debatable	Amendable	Majority vote required
Amend a motion	"I move that this motion be amended by . . ."	May not interrupt speaker	Must be seconded	Debatable	Amendable	Majority vote required
Introduce business (a primary motion)	"I move that . . ."	May not interrupt speaker	Must be seconded	Debatable	Amendable	Majority vote required

1. The motions or points above are listed in established order of precedence. When any one of them is pending, you may not introduce another that's listed below it. But you may introduce another that's listed above it.

1. In this case, any resulting motion is debatable.

3. Chair decides.

To Do This:—1	You Say This:	May You Interrupt Speaker?	Must You Be Seconded?	Is the Motion Debatable?	Is the Motion Amendable?	What Vote Is Required?
Object to procedure or to a personal affront.	"Point of order."	May interrupt the speaker	No second needed.	Not debatable.	Not amendable.	No vote required, chair decides.
Request information.	"Point of information."	If urgent, may interrupt speaker.	No second needed.	Not debatable.	Not amendable.	No vote required.
Ask for a vote by actual count to verify a voice vote.	"I call for a division of the house."	May not interrupt speaker—2.	No second needed.	Not debatable.	Not amendable.	No vote required unless someone objects—3.
Object to considering some undiplomatic or improper matter.	"I object to consideration of this question."	May interrupt speaker.	No second needed.	Not debatable.	Not amendable.	Two thirds vote required.
Take up a matter previously tabled.	"I move we take from the table . . ."	May not interrupt speaker.	Must be seconded	Not debatable.	Not amendable.	Majority required.
Reconsider something already disposed of.	"I move we now (or later) reconsider our action relative to	May interrupt speaker.	Must be seconded	Debatable if original motion is debatable.	Not amendable.	Majority required.
Consider something out of its scheduled order.	"I move we suspend the rules and consider . . ."	May not interrupt speaker.	Must be seconded	Not debatable.	Not amendable.	Two thirds vote required.
Vote on a ruling by the chair.	"I appeal the chair's decision."	May interrupt speaker.	Must be seconded	Debatable.	Not amendable.	Majority required.

1. The motions, points, and proposals listed above have no established order of precedence. Any of them may be introduced at any time—except when the meeting is considering one of the top three matters listed in the above chart (motion to adjourn, motion to recess, point of privilege).

2. But division must be called for before another motion is started.

3. Then majority vote is required.

PRIDE '78

GAY CONFERENCE

SCHEDULE

Friday, April 7

8:00 - 12 Midnight, Hospitality and Registration.

Saturday, April 8

8:30 - 10:00 am, Registration (to continue throughout day).
10:00 - 10:30 am, Greetings, Mary Nancarrow and Gary Norton,
co-chairpersons of the Pennsylvania Rural Gay Caucus.
10:30 - 11:30 am, Keynote Speaker: Tony Silvestre, chair-
person of the Pennsylvania Council for Sexual Minorities.
Gloria Sackman-Reed, past president of Pennsylvania NOW
and National Board member of NOW.
12:00 - 1:45 pm, Workshop I
2:00 - 3:45 pm, Workshop II
4:00 - 5:45 pm, Workshop III
6:00 - 7:00 pm, Cocktail Hour with Elaine Noble, Bruce Voeller,
and Tony Silvestre.
7:15 - 9:00 pm, Founders' Dinner, Speaker: Rep. Elaine Noble,
Massachusetts.
9:00 - ?, Entertainment
Tom Wilson, Singer, Philadelphia area
King Goslyn and Friends, West Chester women's band
Disco Dance and cash bar

Sunday, April 9

9:00 - 10:30 am, Continental Breakfast; Registration till 11:00
10:15 - 11:15 am, Speaker: Bruce Voeller, National Gay Task
Force.
11:15 - 12:45 pm, Workshop IV
11:15 - 12:30 pm, Multi-denominational Worship Service,
1:45 - 4:00 pm, All-Conference Session: Priorities for '78,
Onward with Gay Pride.

Child Care Schedule: Child care will be provided by conference
facilitators between 9:30 and 6:00 on Saturday and 10:00 to
4:00 on Sunday. Parents are asked to provide funds for their
children's lunches and to assist at lunchtimes. If child care
is necessary after 6:00 on Saturday, parents may contact hotel
staff at the front desk for recommended sitters.

WORKSHOPS

WORKSHOP I Saturday, 12:00 - 1:45

Feminism and Gay Rights. Dixie White, president of Pennsylvania NOW and an organizer of the gay rights ordinance effort in Allentown. How are the principles of feminism and gay rights intertwined? How do gays and feminists work together? What are women trying to achieve?
Winona Room.

Gay Alcoholism. Tom Ziebold, George Wedemeyer, and Pete Gluick from the Gay Council on Drinking Behavior, Washington, D.C., and Joy Witchell, St. Vincent's Hospital, NYC, Rich Marchall, Smithers Center, NYC, and Ken Williams, Persad Clinic, Pittsburgh. Wolf Hollow Room.

Health- Hospital Regulations and Gays in the Health Professions are what Walter Lear, M.D., of the Pa. Department of Health and the Council for Sexual Minorities will be talking about.
Room B.

Relationships-Women. Rose Weber, West Phila. Mental Health Consortium and the Council for Sexual Minorities. Workshop participants will explore various kinds of lesbian relationships, including monogamy and non-monogamy, as well as some problems that women may find in their relationships with lovers. Kittatiny Room.

Education. Tony Silvestre, member of the faculty at Penn State University. You and Tony will discuss what hassles gay students and teachers sometimes face in schools and colleges. Find out what gains have been made and how to make more. Room C.

Gay Youth. Rachel MacLachlin, Mechanicsburg. Become aware of the special problems gay youth have in meeting each other, surviving school, living with parents, and getting to know older gays. Room A.

Bisexual and Married Gays. Barry Kohn and Alice Kohn, members of the Bi and Married Group, Philadelphia. Loving both men and women. Gap View Room.

WORKSHOP II Saturday, 2:00 - 3:45

Relationships-Men. Explore the kinds of relationships gay men share and some of the snags that may appear.
Gap View and Wolf Hollow Rooms.

The Legislative Front. Barry Kohn, chairperson of the former Pa. Gay Task Force, and Jeff Britton, Walt Whitman Democratic Club. This workshop looks at legislation as a route for obtaining gay rights. Formulating a city or state bill, lobbying for it, monitoring its progress, and electing the legislators to vote for it will be discussed.
Room D.

Feminism and Gay Rights. See Workshop I. Winona Room

Grass-Roots Organizing. Gary Norton, member of Homophiles of Williamsport and co-chair of the Caucus; Sam Deetz, Lancaster, and others. The panel and participants will explore how gay groups get started and what they offer to lesbians and gay men socially and politically. Special attention will be given to problems that groups are likely to come up against. Room C.

Gays and Religion. Don Borbe, MCC of Philadelphia. Discuss what it means to be a Christian or Jewish gay person in America. Kittatiny Room.

Minorities in the Gay Movement. Lisa White, Council for Sexual Minorities, and Cynthia Cauthern, Philadelphia. Shatter racial and sexual stereotypes we hold against our own transsexuals, transvestites, gay Blacks, and S and M adherents. Propose ways to reach and include minority persons. Room A.

Coming Out. Marilyn Hewitt, Council for Sexual Minorities, and Joe Burns, CCBC and the Caucus. Coming out to yourself or to others can be rough. Talk about the best and worst ways, or is it necessary? Room B.

WORKSHOP III

Gay Alcoholism. See Workshop I. Room A.

Grass-Roots Organizing. See Workshop II. Room C.

Relationships-Women. See Workshop I. Kittatiny Room.

Relationships-Men. See Workshop II. Gap View and Wolf Hollow Rooms.

Making a Gay Switchboard Work. Marilyn Hewitt, Harrisburg Gay Switchboard. Consider how a good switchboard serves the gay community and all the aspects of a hotline: staffing, training, maintaining morale, and knowing the community.
Room D.

Gays and Religion. See Workshop II. Winona Room.

WORKSHOP IV

Coming Out. See Workshop II. Winona Room.

Gays and The Law. Bob Eimers, Philadelphia, answers your questions about legal hassles in employment, housing, and harrasment. Room A.

The Legislative Front. See Workshop II. Wolf Hollow Room.

Multi-denominational Worship Service. Led by Chet Jones, M State College. Kittatiny Room.

The National Level. Bruce Voeller, National Gay Task Force. Gap View Room.

Minorities Within the Gay Movement. See Workshop II. Room D.

Note: Workshops may be added during the weekend; watch for them.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION....

Armbands - Yellow indicates Facilitators or volunteers who are helping with the Conference.

Red indicates emergency person(s) in the event of sickness or emergency situations.

White is the Conference Secretary to whom resolutions should be handed.

Ribbons - Attached to the Convention Badge.

Lavander indicates workshop leaders.

Blue indicates Conference Committee persons.

Alternative food sources

Sandwich shop - two country blocks east at the Texaco station (left after leaving the motel.)

Natural foods - past the Texaco station to T in Delaware Water Gap, left at T, five country blocks to Omega Foods (on left), closes 6:00 P.M. A trip for those into earth foods and earth people. Restaurant specializes in natural foods pizza.

Churches are listed on the bulletin board to the right of the motel registration desk.

Gay bars - Blue Bugle, Main Street in Stroudsburg - Country, good mix of ages and people, slow dancing - don't everybody try to crowd in at one time! Closed Sunday.

Stonewall, Allentown (45 mins. one way) 35 North 10th St.- disco, generally young, mixed, galactic lighting on dance floor - Cover Charge: Friday, \$5.00, open bar 9:00 - 12:00; Saturday, \$3.00; Closed Sunday.

Rubes, Allentown, 9th and Hamilton (the main street, across from the P.P. & L Building which you will recognize.) - mature crowd, mostly male, no dancing.

Sign language interpreters are available, see Conference Committee person.

Child Care - registration desk.

Handicapped - facilitators will help you, if asked.

Dinner Menu

Tomato Juice
Crisp Garden Salad
Roast Stuffed Chicken Half
With Giblet Gravy and Cranberry Jewel
or
Vegetarian or Dieter's Alternative
Chef's Salad
Seasoned Green Beans
Rolls and Butter
Pumpkin Pie
Coffee, Tea, or Cola

Sunday
Continental Breakfast

Fruit or Danish
Coffee or Tea

NOTES