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NEW OFFICERS IN JUNE

With the resignation of Frank T. as Training Director, our Co-Directors' have nominated Frank L. to fulfill the remainder of the term. Frank L. is experienced in the teaching field and will bring the needed abilities to the post.

Carl, has been nominated to fill the newly created position of Switchboard Librarian. He will be attempting to reorganize the library under its present honor system, but with an easier system to access resources within the library. Contributions are always welcome. You have been doing a grand job of expanding our shelves since we first requested your assistance.

Nomination for a Publicist, that person responsible for the posters and general communication work for the Switchboard, has been accepted by Bill Os.. Bill will caretake our flyers and their distribution to the public.

The nominations are each thoughtful and made to persons well qualified to undertake the responsibilities involved. However, other nominations will be accepted at the June meeting for any office. The addition of the Librarian post will bring the officer count to 8. Each of the 8 positions will be subject to election in November if the Switchboard approves the Librarian post to continue in succeeding administrations.

JUNE SWITCHBOARD MTG.

The next meeting of GSH is scheduled for June 7, Sunday eve, 7:30 PM, at the home of Carl. His address is 204 Hallmark No. in Hershey. If you're not quite sure of the directions give him a call at 533-6340.

The program is a new filmstrip entitled: "THE HIDDEN MINORITY: Homosexuality in our Society". Following the regular business meeting the filmstrip will be presented with a discussion following.

VOLUNTEERS MEETING SCH'D

A meeting is scheduled for active volunteer to discuss their calls in a special group session. The meeting is aimed at assisting volunteers to better deal with the problem call and to alert other volunteers to unusual calls rec'd.

June 17, Wednesday evening, at Chuck's apartment --104 Hamilton St. Apt. #12. The building also sits on N. 2nd St. #1700, but the entrance is on Hamilton. Seven o'clock.

APRIL STATISTICS A LOW

We still covered 18 of 22 evenings of service in April, but it was the lowest percentile of the year (81.7%). Bar information again led the categories for the leading type/call with 23.3% for the month.

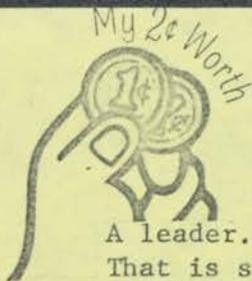
February remains our best month and presently May is battling to keep its head just above April's statistics. And here comes summer . . . oh boy! Can we do it in June? Let's try to best February's 90% coverage.

TREASURE STAYS

At the May Switchboard Meeting, Tom Basehore's resignation as Treasurer was announced and a June election planned for his successor. In the interlude, Tom announced that he could serve as an absentee treasurer, in that he could not attend the monthly meetings.

A 7-day work week was Tom's basic concern in handling the treasury. It was difficult to attend the meetings in addition to his work schedule. Tom will be forwarding a monthly statement to the meetings and continuing his work as Switchboard Treasurer.

We at GSH are happy not to be saying goodbye to Tom at this time. It's hard to replace the best. Thanks for finding a way, Tom.



the editor

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That is someone who has the capacity for moving a group to accomplish the goals they seek to achieve. Something I find very difficult. I have been in positions of leadership before and prior to assuming office as one of your Co-Directors I recognized my distaste for the job. First, I despise manipulating people to accomplish any task. So, I am forthright and often find assistance for our projects very slim. Manipulation will accomplish much, but with a great resentment that gnaws at the core of any organization.

I have begun to recognize my weaknesses as a leader once again. Chuck, in my opinion, is the best leader the Switchboard has ever seen. For he does not undertake more than he feels can be accomplished; he encourages/discourages projects to benefit our organization; and he is not afraid to point out the memberships failure to live up to their commitment to the Switchboard. Chuck, too, is modest. He will probably resent this recognition, but I need to reflect upon him in getting to my point.

I never wanted to be Co-Director of GSH until I witnessed the organization's decline in 1980. We are doing well now, because Chuck and I compliment each other's leadership abilities. Still I want to make some changes in me and I want you to know about it. GSH does not depend upon Chuck and/or me for what happens in 1981. It does depend on Y O U.

I have tried hard, but not too successfully to follow some of Chuck's leadership examples. I am too impatient. I want it done NOW! and consequently I do it myself. I don't like that, and that brings me to my point. It will be very difficult for me to do this, but somehow, someday, I will do it.

First, I will continue as one of the Co-Directors until December 31, 1981. Second, I will only encourage you to make the risks that are necessary to keep us functioning as GSH. Chuck and I cannot do it all--you have got to help. And thirdly, I will strive always to stifle negative comments whenever possible and practical.

Since taking office, I have heard far too many discouraging remarks concerning our activities as a Switchboard. Think for a minute before you through out that black scarf. Such comments are very damaging. The Speaker will usually make some apologetic concession in delivering the words, but the damage has already been accomplished. The apology is essentially worthless.

Recently a friend told me that fund raising killed many groups that he was a part of as a boy. Okay, I understand that, but we are not doing it constantly. And some of you are just plain scared! You won't assist us to raise a dime. Your prerogative, granted, but we need your help. Fund raising is not all that difficult. The only reason you "can't" do it is that you say you "can't".

If you think I was just bursting to get out an sell tickets for That Rabbit, you are wrong. Dead wrong. I had hoped that the group would enthusiastically sell all the tickets and I would concentrate on the program itself. A few of you did! You were spectacular! I talked with people who bought your tickets and with some of you personally (the excellent salesmen/women). You had enthusiasm! You grabbed people and said, "have I got something for you"!

It was harder for me to do that, "being" the program itself, but I did it. I sold about 20 tickets easily. And sure, some people said, "no", but it didn't kill me. I met some new people and many who "wanted" to help the Switchboard. If we never ask them, they can't help us.

So, my lengthy dissertation comes to an end. It is not easy being a leader. However, I will strive to be a better one until Dec. 31, 1981. Co-Directors need your enthusiasm. Admitted, I dwell on the negative aspects too much. Chuck continues to remind me to concentrate on the positive things that are happening.

I try. But I am such an idealist (from childhood) that one negative nearly wipes me out. I get angry and I want to swing. I have controlled that and even controlled my own pot shots at the negative people. Possibly, from here on in the sailing will be easier for me, having gotten this off my chest. I am no longer an idealist, but its ghost still haunts me at times.

You have done a marvelous job of covering the Switchboard in 1981. I have commended you in the past, and again I commend you for a terrific job. I only want to see some more enthusiasm FOR the Switchboard...and less negatives. I will settle for 99 and 44/100% positiveness!

Colin

PEOPLE are like stained-glass windows
They each sparkle in the sunshine
But in the darkness, pervades only darkness
Without a light from within...

GAY PICTURE OUT OF HOLLYW'D

The director of the infamous box office hit, LOVE STORY, was recently signed by 20th Century-Fox to direct a "gay" motion picture titled MAKING LOVE.

The story line is that of an L.A. doctor who leaves his wife of 8-years to share his life with a homosexual writer. The leading roles are given to Michael Ontkewan and Harry Hamlin, who are carefully designated as stright men in their private lives. Gasp, not a homosexual playing a homosexual! But at least attention is being paid again to those notorious men and women breaking up closets across the U.S.A..

Kate Jackson, one of Charlie's Angels, has been cast as the wife who loses her husband to "the other man". The cast appears to be of a high caliber, and they certainly couldn't top CRUSIN' for mistruths or could they?

The movie is scheduled for release later this year. Keep your fingers crossed. Maybe eyes will be opened. Hope.

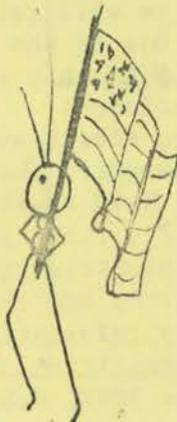
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'81 TRAINING UPDATE

In January, our first training session began with approximately 11 potential volunteers. When the dust cleared we were left with 5 active volunteers. The second training session in March began with only 3 new volunteers but each of the three are presently active volunteers. In May, our 7 latest training session potentials fell to 4. But overall, 12 new active volunteers have been added to the Switchboard since January. Actually 8, as 4 new volunteers have not completed their in house training and still have the option of declining as volunteers.

Frank T., our capable training director, announced that he will be taking a job in Washington next month and this will be his last session as director of training. We will sorely miss Frank and his excellent leadership in training new volunteers. However, our next training session remains scheduled for July and we will announce those dates in the June Newsletter along with the individual who will be running the July session.

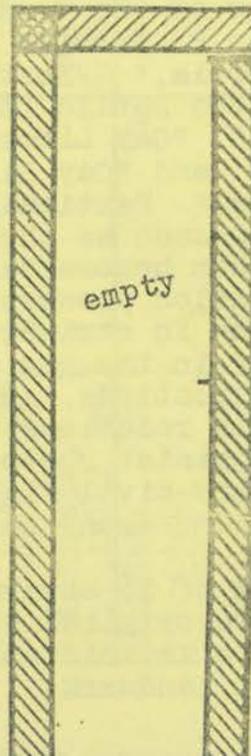
FLEA MKT. JUNE 6

The Switchboard earned \$42.18 at the Friend's Flea Mkt. on May 23rd. Your support was impressive.

If you still have not completed your spring housecleaning ...try to be before June 6th. That's the date of the North St. Sale in downtown Hsbg.

We will be situated on the South side of North Street, mid-way between 2nd & Green Sts

We'll look for you bright & early Saturday morn.



BOOKS

A SEPTEMBER PUBLICATION

Under the auspices of the Caucus on Gay Male & Lesbian Concerns of the Speech Communication Assoc., a new book entitled Gay Male & Lesbian Communication will be available for classroom adoptions and as a personal reference work in Sept. 1981. The volume is edited by Dr. J. W. Chesebro of Temple Univ. and is being published by The Pilgrim Press of the United Church in New York.

The book posits a new approach for dealing with homosexuality as a social issue. Previous approaches have emphasized the overt biological and sexual release which occurs between two members of the same sex and then traced consequential behaviors as extended by-products of the sexual act. The alternative and central premise of this book is that homosexuality is a social issue because of the social reality people have created about homosexuality. Human reactions have made homosexuality a social issue. Insofar as responses to homosexuality are the issue, this book argues that these responses should be the proper subject of inquiry when dealing with homosexuality as a social issue. The communication perspective adopted by this book is particularly well designed to deal with an inquiry into the use of human responses and counterresponses as the method used to define the social meanings of sexual behavior.

Major sections within the book deal with "The Social Meanings of the Words Homosexual, Gay & Lesbian," "Inside the Gay Community," "Homophobia," "Institutional Forces Shaping the Public Images of Gay Males & Lesbians," "Gay Liberation as a Rhetorical Movement," and "Gay Rights & the Political Campaigns." Particular chapters deal with topics such as the effect of labeling a person homosexual, coming out as a communication process, recognition among lesbians in straight settings, gay masculinity in the gay disco, gay fantasies in gay publications, Anita Bryant & homophobia, media reactions to gay liberation, lesbianfeminist rhetoric as a social movement, and gay civil rights and the roots of oppression, among several other topics.

The book is composed of 26 essays. Eighteen of the essays are original works published for the 1st time in this volume while 8 are major, if not landmark,

articles on gay male & lesbian communication issues which have appeared in print before. Authors of these essays are typically communication professors associated with the major institutions of higher education throughout the United States.

The volume is tentatively priced at \$13.95 per paperback copy. All royalties derived from the same of the book are donated to the Caucus on Gay Male & Lesbian Concerns of the Speech Communication Assoc., a solely educational, non-profit division of the Speech Communication Assoc.. Copies of the book can be obtained from: Order Dept., The Pilgrim Press, 132 W. 31st St., New York, New York 10001.

MCC NEWS

-Gary Norton

Metropolitan Community Church, Hsbg. Parrish Extension holds regular services on Sundays at 7 PM at the Friend's Meeting House. There is also Wednesday evening Bible Study and Prayer Meeting at 1622½ No. 2nd St., Harrisburg, 7:30 PM.

The one exception to this regular schedule will be Sunday, June 14, when we will car-pool and travel to Philadelphia to hear Rev. Troy Perry preach. Those interested in joining the group please meet at the Friend's building at 4 PM.

Five people from Harrisburg attended the Mid-Atlantic District MCC Conference on May 15-16. Space does not allow for a full report, but as a veteran of many conferences of a gay or religious nature, this writer agrees with the others who attended, that this was the best one any of us had ever attended. In addition to the conference, 10 people attended the MCC Baltimore Anniversary the week before.

We are beginning to build a fund for the day when we will call a minister for Harrisburg. One of the ways we are doing this is an M & M candy sale. Your support will be appreciated.

Upcoming social events include a monthly pot luck supper. The June 26th pot luck will again be held at 446 So. 13th St., 7:30 PM. On June 21, there is a community picnic offered in conjunction with Dignity/Cent. Pa. and the Lancaster MCC Parrish Extension.

For more information concerning MCC services or activities, call 238-3746 or write MCC, Box 3897, Hsbg., Pa. 17105.

A NEW BOOK

Guess who's coming to the prom! No one in Cumberland, Rhode Island was surprised when Aaron Fricke appeared at the high school prom with a male date; he had sued his school for the right to do so, and the papers had been full of the news ever since. Magazines like Newsweek and People reported the case, and Fricke appeared on the Phil Donahue and other talk shows.

Yet until his senior year, there would have been nothing to distinguish Aaron Fricke from anyone else his age. You would not have guessed that he was gay--and Fricke did his best to keep it that way. He created a shell around himself as projection against a world that he knew would reject him if it knew the truth. But finally his anger at being stifled became too great, and he decided to make a stand.

Reflections of a Rock Lobster is Aaron Fricke's story, but the thoughts and feelings he describes will ring true with millions of other people who grew up in the closet. With insight and humor, Fricke tells how he first became aware of his homosexual feelings in childhood, then learned to hide them from adults, and finally to repress them completely, before he developed a positive gay identity. Ultimately he gained enough self-confidence to take a gay date to his senior prom, and thus for the first time drew nationwide attention to the fact even teenagers can be gay.

REFLECTIONS OF A ROCK LOBSTER,

by Aaron Fricke, \$4.95 (May 1981)



by Steve M.

On 11 April members of the Gay Community were treated to a 'unique theatrical experience', That Rabbit, sponsored by the Gay Switchboard of Harrisburg. Not only was the presentation a financial success, but additionally, it was far above being unique. It provided the opportunity for members of the Community to come together and experience an enjoyable social event - something which occurs all too infrequently in our locality.

As an extra bonus, however, the performance was conceived and carried out entirely by a member of the Community and, for those of us who were fortunate enough to participate in this experience, we applaud the very talented and courageous efforts of Colin who took the initiative, time, energy and risk required to make this event a success. We would also like to express thanks and appreciation to all those who assisted in this function, regardless of how small their task may have been.

The Switchboard hopes to sponsor another such 'event' in the future and for those of you who still believe that there just isn't any place to meet people except the bars - why not give it a try?!

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

The new deadline for this newsletter is now the 3RD MONDAY of each month. If you have news, just call the Switchboard at 234-0328 and request 'dateline' to rep't your news.

VOLUNTEER'S STAGE SET

There's still time to get new people involved in the GSH. So far, we only have 3 or 4 people scheduled to take the training. The dates are still 7 & 14 May, 1981 from 7:30 til 9:30 (PM). We will be concentrating on listening skills and how to use them on the telephone. Please help us reach our goal of at least seventeen people in this training session. So, if you haven't had a chance to talk to your friends about the GSH now is the time to do it.

my daddy likes boys
instead of
girls



at school, everyone says
people like my daddy are
SICK! and they laugh



but, my daddy tells me
funny stories when i'm
sad... and when i do some-
thing i shouldn't, i get
a spanking. — like the
time i locked maryanne
ellis in the bathroom...

but she had it coming
to her!!!! she broke all
my **BEST CRAYONS!!**



and when i have scary
dreams — my daddy
lets me sleep in his
bed.

So long as he keeps
doing all other things—
and he keeps **LOVING ME.**
I DON'T CARE IF HE LIKES
GIRAFFES!!!!!!



by
Gary de Maria

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