

Milwaukee Update: March/April 1980.

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MILWAUKEE UPDATE

A Monthly Publication of Gay People's Union, Inc.

MARCH/APRIL 1980

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF GAY RIGHTS NATIONAL LOBBY TO SPEAK IN MILWAUKEE: Gay Peoples Union will have Mr. Steve Endean, Executive Director of the Gay Rights National Lobby in Washington, D.C. as the guest speaker at the Monday, March 31, 1980 meeting of GPU at the Farwell Community Center, 1568 North Farwell. GRNL is the only full-time national lobbying organization for civil rights for lesbians and gay men. Mr. Endean's Milwaukee visit is part of a 15 city tour that will stress the importance of an effective and professional lobbying effort in achieving basic civil rights for the gay and lesbian communities. The 8:00pm meeting is open to the public.

SPECIAL ELECTION - APRIL 7TH: The resignation of Ms. Janet Revolinski from the position of GPU Treasurer was received on March 3, 1980. In accordance with the by-laws of the corporation, a special election to fill the unexpired term of the Treasurer will be held at the membership meeting on Monday, April 7, 1980. Nominations for Treasurer will be accepted at the meeting prior to the election. Nominees must have been a member of GPU for a period of at least 120 days prior to their name being placed into nomination. For more information contact Paul DeMarco, GPU President at 276-0246 or 342-9955. All members are urged to attend the April 7th meeting and participate in the election process.

SEXUAL PRIVACY BILL ADVANCES: On March 6, 1980, the Wisconsin State Senate's Human Services Committee recommended for passage Senate Bill 552, which, if passed into law, would decriminalize consensual adult sex in private. Current Wisconsin statutes prohibit most sexual activity between adults whether married or unmarried, heterosexual or homosexual. You can help assure passage of this important sex law reform bill by contacting your State Senator on the toll-free "Legislative Hotline". Then number (in operation 8:30am to 5:00pm, Monday through Friday) is 1-800-362-9696. If you don't know who your legislators are, the people on the end of the hotline will give you that information. TAKE THE TIME NOW to help eliminate penalties for private sexual activity between consenting adults--write or call your State Legislator.

VD FACTS/WARNING SIGNS: Men who notice drops of white, yellow or green fluid at the tip of the penis or staining their underwear, or who feel pain when urinating and an increased urg e to urinate, should know that these may be WARNING SIGNS of gonorrhea. You should also know that GPU operates a confidential Venereal Disease Clinic at the Farwell Center, 1568 North Farwell, every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evening from 7:00pm to 10:00pm and Saturday afternoons from 11:00am to 2:00pm. For more information about V.D. and the services we provide call 347-1222 during the clinic hours. GPU VD CLINIC provides both examinations and treatment of V.D. by a physician. We can continue only if you donate the money to maintain the project. If not for the GPU VD Clinic, where would YOU go?

GPU SURVEY OF CANDIDATES IN CITY ELECTION: In an effort to learn the various candidates stands on human rights issues as they effect gay people, Gay Peoples Union has sent requests to all candidates in the upcoming city elections asking for their positions on these issues. In addition the Mayoral and Aldermanic candidates were asked to endorse a Human Rights and Non-Discrimination Statement which includes the criterion of age, sex, race, religion, marital status, sexual preference or orientation, and lawful source of income. Once compiled, the data will be made available to the gay voters of Milwaukee so that they may make an informed decision in the voting booth on Tuesday, April 1, 1980. If you would like a copy of the results of the survey, send a stamped self-addressed envelope to G.P.U., Candidates Survey, P.O. Box 208, Milwaukee 53201.

GAY A.A. and AL-ANON: Support groups for recovering alcoholics (Gay AA) and for friends and relatives of alcoholics (Al-Anon) meet every Sunday at 6:00pm at the Farwell Community Center. Gay people helping each other in a supportive environment which increases self respect and respect for others is the purpose of these support groups. For more information call "GROUP 94" at 272-3081 or attend one of the Sunday evening meetings.

GAY PEOPLES UNION NEEDS YOU! If for some time you've felt the need to become involved in a UNION of people who come together in the common purpose of promoting human rights and dignity for all people. If you have an unfilled need to give of yourself--your time or your special talent (whatever that may be)--then consider this: Stop referring to G.P.U. as "they". Begin to accept the fact and realize that this organization or any organization is only as strong, only as effective, only as productive, and only as responsive as the people who are willing to give of themselves. Giving their time or talent and making a sincere commitment to a better life for gay people. Why not get involved; come to a meeting of G.P.U., become a member, or volunteer a few hours a week or a few hours a month. We need mature and dedicated men and women to work on the various projects of G.P.U., and to take the initiative and start new projects to better serve the needs of our community. If you'd like more information , would like to volunteer or become a member of G.P.U., give us a call at 271-5273, drop by the Farwell Community Center (open Mon-Sat 7-10pm) or write to us: GPU, PO BOX 208, Milwaukee 53201.

GAYVOTE 1980 * * * * *

The Board of Directors and Officers of Gay Peoples Union remind you to exercise your right to vote in the upcoming April 1st Election. Voters in Milwaukee will be elected their representatives in City Hall for the next four years. Furthermore, we urge you to find out what position the candidates have taken on various issues facing the community at large, as well as the position each candidate has or hasn't taken regarding human rights and how that may effect you as a gay person in the City of Milwaukee. Write for the G.P.U. Candidates' Survey, P.O. Box 208, Milwaukee, 53201.

GAYVOTE 1980 * * * * *

CONGRATULATIONS TO GOVERNOR JAMES R. THOMPSON OF ILLINOIS for having issued an executive order aimed at curbing sexual harassment in executive agencies. In his order, Thompson made clear that harassment among homosexuals, as well as heterosexuals, would not be tolerated among the estimated 60,000 employees directly under his control. The governor ordered that equal employment opportunity officers stationed in most state agencies be trained to identify sexual harassment and investigate complaints from workers about it. If Illinois can do it, why not Wisconsin? Come on Wisconsin gay and lesbian voters, let's send a clear message to Governor Lee S. Dreyfus. We want the same protections in Wisconsin that the governors of Pennsylvania, California and Illinois have seen fit to guarantee by their executive order authority.

PROGRAM FOR GAY TEENAGERS: Under the supervision of the UWM Dean of Students, the Gay Community at UWM is sponsoring an outreach program to lesbian and gay teenagers (under 18 years) in the Milwaukee area. Recognizing the limited support system available for these teenagers, the group will offer a supportive atmosphere to discuss and examine the gay satellite culture and how this relates to the development of one's personhood.

Milwaukee area gay teens are presently meeting on the first and third Saturdays from 1:00pm to 3:00pm in the UWM Student Union Room E.301.

More information may be obtained by phoning the facilitators Greg Ward (962-1978) and Joan Yelanjian (277-7857).

* VOTE ON APRIL 1st * VOTE ON TUESDAY APRIL 1ST * VOTE ON TUESDAY APRIL 1ST * VOTE ON APRIL 1ST

"The policy of Gay Peoples Union has always been to support any and all activities which enhance human dignity. As regards Milwaukee and national actions in protest of the movie "Cruising", be it understood that Gay Peoples Union fully supports these activities and urges all members, in the strongest terms, to support organizational policy as reflected in the activities of the Gay Peoples Union Media Committee." Statement issued by G.P.U. Board of Directors, 2-21-80

In response to a request for access to, for inspection and duplication, Milwaukee Police Department records pertaining in any way to Gay Peoples Union, Inc., Milwaukee Police Chief Harold A. Breier writes: "Please be advised there will be an extended delay because of other requests that are still pending. As soon as we have completed those requests for records made before yours, we will gather the records pertaining to your request. At that time, each record will be reviewed to determine which records in the best public interest may be disclosed."

Come on Chief, just what is it that may not be in the best public interest to disclose?? Your bigotry and racism is evident--what else are you hiding?

This is the third issue of MILWAUKEE UPDATE. We are open to your comments and suggestions. Write GPU, Milwaukee Update, P.O. Box 208, Milwaukee, Wi 53201. We'll also put your name on our confidential mailing list if you just request it.