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Take Heed!.

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TAKE HEED

NEWSLETTER from G.P.U.
Volume 1. issue 4.

WHY BOTHER ????

I have been asked several times recently why I am active in Gay People's Union. "Why bother", said a friend. "Most of them are lonely, unattractive people with a lot of hangups."

I was about to launch into a long lecture on the aims and goals of the gay liberation movement when it occurred to me that perhaps he was voicing his own feelings. I kept silent and let him continue.

After putting down our open rap sessions as nothing more than "mild group therapy" where everyone sat around telling about his troubles, he got back to the thing that was bothering him.

"You don't need a group like that," he said. "You're well established, adjusted, and very popular."

Soon we were rapping about his personal problem and I was glad that I had not gone into my aims and goals lecture. His problem is one that crops up with such frequency that I would like to beg the question as to why I am active in G.P.U. and discuss the problem.

The problem is stated in many ways by many people:

"Everyone I meet has just one thing on his mind. SEX! Doesn't anyone ever talk about anything else?" (From a guy who has lots of it, I've heard!)

"How do I meet people? I go to the bars and stand there just waiting for someone to talk to me. I don't know how to start a conversation." (This from one of the most attractive young men I've met in a long time.)

PAUL GOLDMAN SPEAKS

Nationally known attorney, PAUL GOLDMAN, will speak at the Fireside Lounge, Student Union Building at 8 pm., Monday JULY 26th.

His topic will be "Recollections of 42 years in the Homophile Movement". Among other things, Mr. Goldman is noted for his work with ONE INC. of Chicago, which was instrumental in securing passage of the nation's first consenting adult sex law in Illinois. He has argued homophile cases before the Supreme Court and gave testimony to Parliament during the Wolfenden hearings which ultimately resulted in changed sex laws in Great Britain.

An open question period will follow the speech. We urge to attend this lecture. Tell your friends too! We would like to have a good attendance to honor Mr. Goldman for the work he has done.

OPEN RAP/SOCIAL SESSIONS

Every Monday night at

1155 N21 Street Mil.
from 8:00PM til --
for information call 342-1722

Every Tuesday night at

1814 E Newberry Blvd (upper)
from 8:00PM til --
for information call 962-8611

If you can't ~~come~~ on Mondays,
COME on Tuesday!!!!

"WHY BOTHER" from page 1.

"I don't like the bar crowd. They are too shallow. I've never met a really worthwhile person in a bar." (My answer --- You met me in a bar, you bitch!)

In examining these questions about how to meet people the unasked question is really "How do I meet worthwhile people?" Most gay people are seeking more than just a bed partner for the night; they are seeking worthwhile friends. Although in a gay bar the undercurrent of sex - for - the - night has priority over friendship, I would hesitate to say that you can't make friends at a bar.

However, it is easier to meet and get to know nice people where alcohol and sex are not the prime motives. Therefore, the social functions and more serious open rap sessions of G.P.U. serve a function in the Gay Community that is not often thought about.

If you feel that the charges of self-serving frivolity that are often leveled at the homosexual community are true, you haven't been around people who are involved in the homophile movement.

On the other hand, don't get the idea that the homophile movement is filled with "lonely, unattractive people with a lot of hang-ups" either. Just because we can get serious and have the guts to try to do something about the oppression of gays doesn't mean that we don't know how to have a good time.

If you are sitting on the fence about the gay movement; if you want to meet some thoughtful, worthwhile people; or if you are just curious, why not attend one of our social functions or meetings? Who knows what you might have been missing?

★E.E.M.



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The time has come for all those who have been saving their "Baubles, bangles, and beads", house-hold items, furniture and hideous old things "you can't live with but are too nice to throw out", to our storage area.

We will have a WHITE ELEPHANT AUCTION this early fall to raise funds for our work! You may deliver your precious items to the G. P. LOUNGE. It is located at 144 E Juneau Ave. Date, time, and other pertinent information will be found in the next newsletter!

for information on advertising, contact RICK (editor) 342-1722

A PICNIC TOO!!! Within the circularity of it all
at high noon, on July 18th, the cosmic riddle of
Milwaukee Gay bars are sponsor-
ing a picnic and ballgame in - life - - and death -
appreciation for the support of - and life - again
Gay Kings & Queens. The events
will be held at:

LINCOLN PARK AREA #3
(Greenbay and Hampton Ave.)
July 18th - 12noon picnic
2 PM ballgame
contributing bars:
Buckskin Inn; Castaways South;
The G.P. Lounge; Nite Beat;
Nite Owl; Rooster; Seaway Inn;
Your Place. *classical*
Each swan is always a swan - -
with all its beauty and grace
and - - the blue jay remains
a jay - -
Not turtle would try to induce
a frog - to live his way....

Bring your gloves (baseball
gloves that is) and join us
for another climactic afternoon.
Perhaps....
there-in - -
lies the secret
of peaceful coexistence....

RADIO PROGRAM !!!!!!!
GWEN
A GAY PERSPECTIVE is now being
broadcast on two stations.
Sundays:
WZMF (98.3 FM)
11:30 -- Midnight
the most beautiful person
is the person

Mondays:
WUWM (89.7 FM)
12 midnight til 12:30
neat
someone
has helped
you to
become
or
let
you
be

GAY PEOPLE'S UNION now has a
P.O. Box!!!
P. O. Box 90530
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202
STORMY

Write to us and let us know your
problems, bitches, for information, how you love, but what you love!
advertising; anything!!
It's not who you love, or
dignity

GAYS WELCOME TO RELIGIOUS SERVICES AT:

St. Nicholas Orthodox Parish
1155 North 21st Street -- Milwaukee Father Joseph Feldhausen
Mass at Noon on Saturdays and 9 PM on Sundays

Metropolitan Community Church
held at Church for All People
21st and Highland -- Milwaukee Pastor Paul Sydman
Service at 1 PM on Sundays

Counsel and Counselling

GPU has an abiding counselling or rapping service. The friendly warmth of the house at 1155 North 21st Street houses this service much used by members of Milwaukee's Gay community. Despite a certain attempt on the part of some would-be detractors to malign him, Fr. Joe, unruffled, continues to exercise the skill in counselling attested to by his Masters degree in psychiatric social work. If you or a friend, or a group of friends would like to talk call the reliable GPU telephone number and come on over: 342 1722.

Parade

All around the nation the weekend of the 26th was observed as Christopher Street Day, a kind of Gay holy day in memory of the birth of Gay Lib at the Christopher Street disturbance in front of the Stonewall bar in the Village in New York. NYC and LA and Chicago had the largest bangs with thousands of Gay women and men in various stages of full regalia marching down the streets to rally points. There were no untoward incidents and no one was irreparably harmed in any way. The Gays survived and so did the straights, the former a little freer and the latter a little broader. Read the accounts in the Advocate and ask yourself if there is sufficient reason for living in a closet.

Essay

Bars indeed. And special churches. And those "spots". You were arrested where? Why did you hang out there? A community is a group of people with a common interest and an identifiable space or territory and a common sense of purpose and life. Now the Gay Community has territory and a common interest but what of that other more qualitative requirement of community? Its absence is the result of oppression. When a people has the other requisite faculties for true "community" and lacks the purpose and life force that make for real identity and pride in self, that allows for the kind of personality development that is marked with reasonable stability and happiness unfettered by guilt and hiding that is the result of some outside force called oppression.

It is to combat this lack of holy spirit that Gay Lib exists. Laws have been changed in England and Canada and in the progressive territory of Illinois and there is no noticeable drop in the intensity of oppression experienced by Gay people. The kind of spirit and gusto needed for healthy community life can only come through a group process working toward building structures, organizations, values, a name, proper image: those linaments of a free social process that give the structure and integrity to the context in which a people live their lives that will allow their personalities to develop freely as mature and unfettered openly relating persons, not as isolated cold and alienated individuals. How much do we need this. Look around you in the bar or wherever some night and see all the happy honest relating going on about you. Smile knowingly as you go home alone or have the seventeenth drink for the night. Gay liberation loves you.

*Nothing matters anyway,
but it hurts*