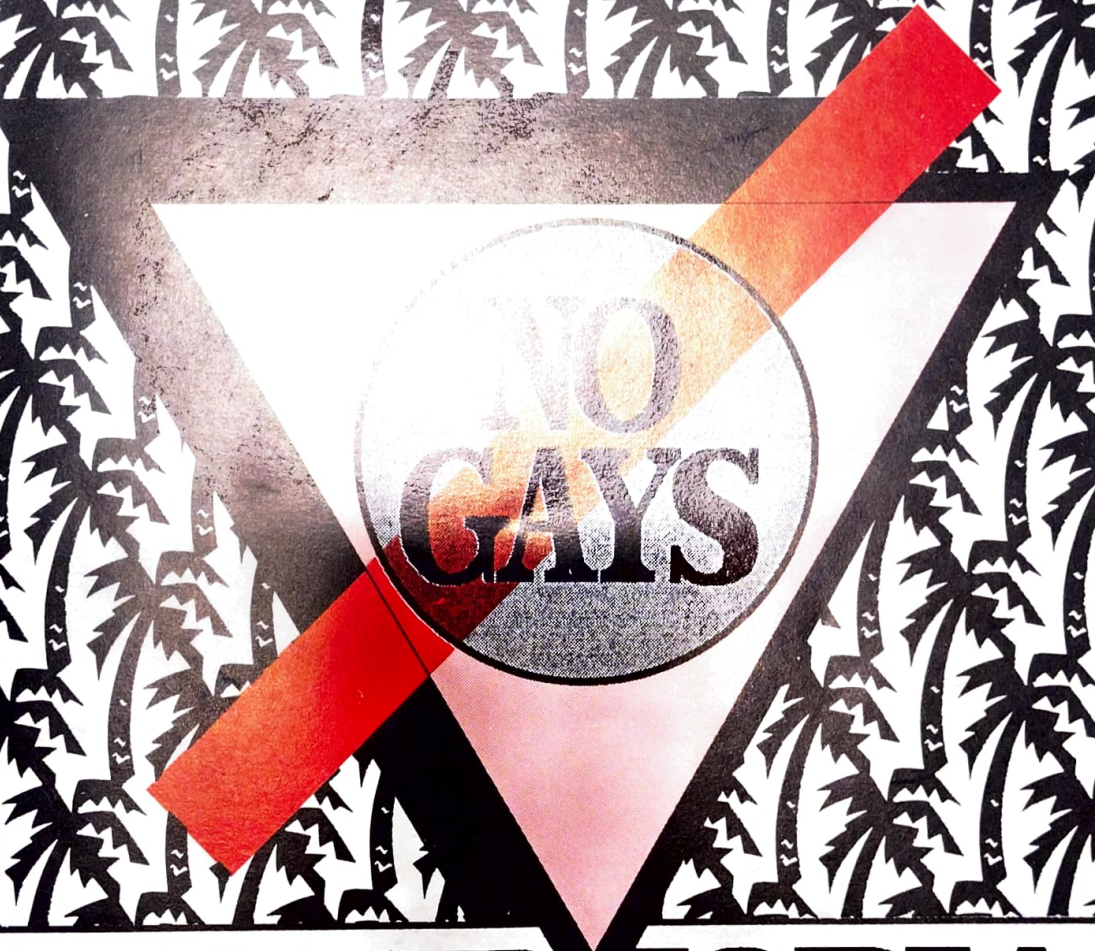


Christopher Street South

Quarterly

A New Generation of Pride...



NO
GAYS

HOMOPHOBIA

fear of the unknown...



Christopher
Street South
Quarterly

February 1993
Vol. 1, Issue 2

For Information Call:
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Christopher Street South
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ABOUT THE COVER

Homophobia...Fear of the Unknown

See inside stories from men and women in the community that have fought this battle for many years...and how they cope with it in their lives...

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LATE BREAKING NEWS...

by R. Daryl Knight

Prior to this issue going to press, General Colin L. Powell, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff issued a statement to his close friends and professional military colleagues.

In essence, he threatened the Clinton Administration he would resign from his post as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the military if President Clinton proceeded to lift the current ban on allowing gay men and lesbians in the military. General Powell went further to encourage any military cadet or enlisted military personnel to do the same should they also disagree and feel as he does. (Now that his Civil Rights have been secured, he apparently feels no obligation to assist other ethnic or minority groups to obtain their Constitutional Rights).

Should you care to write a brief letter as well, please address it to: President William J. Clinton, c/o The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20500.

As President Clinton has told the nation repeatedly, it is time for a CHANGE in the way Washington does business!

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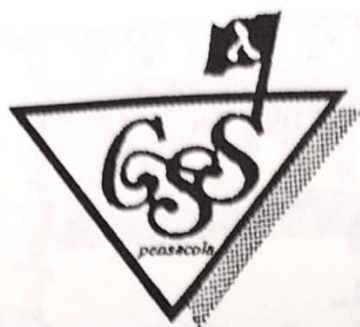
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Andy Anderson, President

Dear Community,

We hope you enjoy this issue. Hopefully it will answer a lot of questions for people about different lifestyles, even among our own community.

As you read this issue, if there are comments or articles that you would like to know more on, please feel free to write to the address on page 3.

We feel that by bringing subjects to both the gay and non-gay communities that are not viewed in other media in this area, it will broaden the view of our gay community and who we are as people. "Everyone" knows that if you don't understand something...it *must* be queer. So, if we educate and inform the public, then we're no longer queer, are we? Gay men & lesbians simply want to be known just like everyone else..."Hi, my name is Andy". I don't ever recall meeting someone and having them say, "Hello, my name is Charlyne and I'm a heterosexual". Think about it...

Our Pride events for the upcoming year will commence May 28 and extend through July 5th. All of our advertisers are encouraged to participate this year. This time frame encompasses three large holidays for the gay community, starting with Memorial Day weekend, then on June 27, National Pride Day, and last but not least...the 4th of July. A representative from CSS will be in contact with you in the very near future to formulate the details of participation in this fantastic time of the year... Approximately 40,000 tourists and visitors will be in this area for each holiday. Don't miss it; think of it as a small investment. The event that you sponsor, or the specials that you decide on will benefit you and will be printed on the back of the '93 PRIDE card that will be laminated and numbered. The card will be sold by local establishments and in bars in the community. A visitor may purchase the card through mail order or locally. The buyer of the card will be given a information sheet with directions to all the listed establishments, including a map & items that are offered on the card will be reflected on the information sheet as well.

This year promises to be the BEST EVER...we will offer the biggest Beach Party, and those cards will also be admittance to the Beach Party events, including the Annual Beer Splash. We are in the process of bringing some entertainers from the East and West Coasts to entertain the "troops" and it's gonna be great!

Call 433-0353 for more information on this year's events. If you are interested in being a part of this year's events, volunteers are needed in all areas. Please take the time to call and talk to me about what interests you and join us in making this the GAY 90's PRIDE YEAR for the Gulf Coast! If you do not wish to be visible or cannot participate, donations are tax-deductible. Thanks Again!

With Love and Pride,

Andy Anderson, President

Southeastern Conference for Lesbians and Gay Men, Inc.

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Seventeenth Annual Conference

"MARCH FORTH" '93

March 4-7, 1993 - Tuscaloosa, AL.

The Southeastern Conference for Lesbians and Gay Men, Inc. (SECSGM) announces the seventeenth annual conference to be held over the weekend of March 4-7, 1993 in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. The theme of this conference is "March Forth". According to co-moderator of the Board, Cindy Vordenbaum, "this theme was chosen to coincide with the March on Washington, D.C. on April 25, the following month". Ms. Vordenbaum claims that "we need to create an environment that will stimulate and inspire lesbians and gay men to support and participate in what will probably be the largest march in history on the nation's capitol." She adds that "the Southeastern Conference is a great way to capture that spirit and move on to the big event."

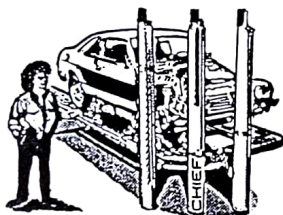
The conference disseminates critical information on politics, health, legal, and gay issues. We offer speakers on current issues and workshops by people who confront problems on a daily basis. For your leisure time we invite a broad spectrum of vendors (books, t-shirts, jewelry, etc.) and exhibitors who seek to enlighten and inform our conferees.

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HOMOPHOBIA - Fear of the Unknown...

So many of our gay and lesbian community have things to share with the public, both analytically and personally. If the "others" in Pensacola are to ever really know us, then as you well know, we have to take the chance of "coming out" of that closet. Nothing worthwhile is ever easy, but when you consider that you are no longer alone in the battle of freedom; from *inside* your heart or *out* in the public, then the battle doesn't seem so frugal.

Some eighteen years ago, I came to Pensacola; still active military and very afraid of being discharged for being a homosexual, even after serving my country during the Vietnam War. After a very short time in this city, I felt like I was finally *home*, especially after my medical retirement from the Navy. Things go a lot slower in the South, because sometimes we choose not to create waves; just go with the flow - *stay in our place*.

One day in my new civilian job, some one in my work space found out that I was gay. When the boss told me they were laying people off and I knew my work was good, it made me wonder if it was my choice of sexual orientation. Being so afraid of asking for the truth, sometimes we settle for *nothing* instead. I had been out with some friends the night before and came in late to work for the first time. They called me into the office and told me I had to go. The boss told me they were cutting back, and I asked why? This prominent shiner told me they didn't need my "*kind*" in their shop. I should have walked away quietly, but I've always had difficulty with that. Instead we appeared in front of a hearing officer for the state wages division of Florida Employment...and I won. He had marked all my evaluations for state training as excellent so he could be reimbursed for half my wages...The state does not condone such behavior from employers, even in Florida.

I suppose what I'm driving at, is if you want things to *change*, you must take part in the *action*. I am in my mid-40's now, and realize that I too, hid for so long because I was afraid of *myself*. I had been raised in the Midwest in a very small country town, with smaller ideas than Pensacola has. With objection, I went to church every Sunday, and prayed to God that I could be *normal* so my family would love me like they loved my step-brother and sister. My father was old Navy and said "only two kinds of women go in the military - queers and whores". I lived with that sick statement for many years and tried to be different. I was married almost 6 years to a man I would rather have had as a brother. Sure, I wanted children but I didn't want to have a man in my life that I didn't feel comfortable with, and I felt like I was not being fair to him. He wanted me to be something that I just couldn't live with comfortably - a wife in the traditional sense...

After many years of desperately trying to please others with no regard for my own mental health, I decided to finally try to find out who I AM. I have a partner now that is very understanding, and she's stood by me through it all. Isn't that what we all seek in a partner - gay or straight? Don't we all wish for common ground and someone who understands us?

If you want to *change* your life, you must first take the *action*. You must *believe* in yourself, before you can expect others to do so. Free yourself of the bondage of the past...stand up for what we all endured for so many years and simply say "*NO, I've had enough*".

by Andy Anderson

Homophobia

...fear of the unknown

by Babs Johnson

The dictionary describes homophobia as "a fear of those sexually attracted to members of their own gender." People who are homosexual realize homophobia is just another name for prejudice, and blame heterosexual society for using it to keep us "in our place". But there is something scarier and more detrimental to our community than heterosexual homophobia - the homophobia that exists in the gay and lesbian community.

Most of us were raised to be homophobic, as we were taught other prejudices within our own racial, social or economic groups. Because of this, confusion and a tendency to hide our differences became almost second nature.

Like many gay men in the 70's, I married and had children because that was the "acceptable" thing to do. Very few people were openly gay, and those who were were labeled "freaks". I didn't want to be a freak, so I became a gay basher myself—at the same time calling myself tolerant because I believed in equal rights for women and minorities.

When I finally began to understand and accept the fact I was homosexual, a new form of homophobia - that among homosexuals. You see, the same week my divorce was final I began professionally as a female impersonator - and found that, among some members of our community, I was still a freak - not quite "normal" because I chose this line of work.

I also saw this attitude aimed at gay blacks, leathers-men, fat gays, nellye gays - anyone who didn't quite fit the perfect mold (who wrote these rules, anyway?). Then there was the gay man vs lesbian issue - mere tolerance

if not downright rejection seemed to be the norm.

Of course, as I made friends with all sorts of homosexual persons, some of these barriers were knocked down - but why did they have to be there in the first place?

I married and had children because it was the acceptable thing to do

My point is, if we continue letting these prejudices and misguided opinions rule our lives, we're no better than the most homophobic heterosexual. Working together - uniting and letting our differences work for us instead against us is the only way we'll ever show the world we think with our brains instead of our genitals. We might even rediscover what true love and compassion is all about and use that example to try and convince homophobes to rethink their position. What a concept...

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BEYOND THE BOUNDARIES... "OUT AT UWF"

by Carl Cox

There is a new organization at the University of West Florida comprised by gays, lesbians and bisexual students. Our name is the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Awareness League (GLOBAL), and we were formed for the purpose of giving a voice to our homosexual and bisexual student community -- a voice that has been silent for too long.

U.W.F. was founded approximately 25 years ago, and over this quarter of a century gay and lesbian students have lived somewhat dual lives, being "out" socially while at gay establishments and with close friends, but closeted while on campus and with fellow students. Over the years this silence gradually stopped being an act of protection and became an

acceptable, even given, standard of behavior. Such behavior has proved destructive at U.W.F., the results of which we in GLOBAL are now repairing.

GLOBAL is not principally a social group, though each month we try to have a relaxed social event. We are also not a counseling group because homosexuality and bisexuality are not neurotic conditions in need of treatment, but authentic and healthy orientations deserving of the kind of awareness and respect that we at GLOBAL have. Our membership is diverse, consisting of gays, lesbians, bisexuals, and heterosexuals; but our ideal is singular: to educate ourselves and others about variant sexual orientations, demythologize heterosexism, and to promote the recognition and protection of gays, lesbians, and bisexuals on the campus of U.W.F.. We present the rational and healthy over the irrational and destructive.

Before the formation of GLOBAL the attitude on campus and in our classrooms was principally that, since the voice of gays and lesbians wasn't heard, gays and lesbians apparently didn't attend U.W.F., at least not in the numbers that one might find at other "experimental" campuses such as Berkley or U.C.L.A.. They pretended that we existed beyond the boundaries of U.W.F., out "there", in other places.

All of the silence enabled U.W.F. to fail gays and lesbians in the most basic ways. For example, sexual orientation is not afforded to staff or

Continued on Page 12

faculty either is not listed in the university's anti-discrimination policy, an oversight whose correction is high on GLOBAL's agenda. Academically there are omissions also. No class specifically teaches the many heroic contributions made by gays and lesbians in the fields of science, art, letters, politics, etc.; nor do they usually address variant sexuality in any other tone than clinical. These and other failures ignore one fundamental truth: hom/bisexual-ity are natural and elemental, and the countless numbers of us who gallantly choose to be honest about our sexual orientation in the face of opposition should not only be recognized, but honored.

GLOBAL is addressing these failures and promoting honesty and respect by a variety of means. We provide educational panels to classes in which we speak candidly about our lives and decisions. We write letters to the university newspaper. We present relevant films, lectures, and sponsor such events as "Gay History Week". We meet with university officials for the purpose of redressing university policy. We present the fact that sexual honesty is always more noble than sexual dishonesty, and that every professor or student who denies this nobility chooses to condemn the virtue of veracity and pride, while glorifying deceit and loathing.

The most important thing that we of GLOBAL do is meet weekly

in an open forum for the purpose of support and reciprocation. All of these meetings are open to the public, and all who share our principles are welcome. We observe confidentiality and insist on the same. Our meetings are held in secure location, building 20 west near the U.W.F. campus police station, at 8:00 pm every Thursday evening. ♦

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I Never Dreamed I Would Wear Pumps

by Baby Bear

1974 marked a moment in Jimmy Brown's life that would change his future forever. As this young man ventured into the ever-popular Red Garter for the first time; friends told him he would love the floor show and that he did. He commented that "the "women" were beautiful!". With this, a friend remarked "Jimmy, those aren't women - they're female impersonators". "My god, those are really men?" Jimmy asked. "Yes" replied his friend, "and I'll bet you'd look really great with makeup too".

Upon arriving at his home later in

I enjoy what I do... It's an art form.

the evening, Jimmy's roommate offered to do a make over "just for fun". The results were astonishing - the future Misty LaMour was born; Jimmy was beautiful! The thought of being an entertainer never entered his mind at that time. Though he had always enjoyed dancing and entertaining his friends for fun, he had never realized he could make money.

Before stepping into his future career, Jimmy had worked in a shoe store for 8 years pushing pumps on women's feet that even after convincing them the shoes were too tight, their vanity forced them to buy tiny parcels of leather that killed their feet. He had never dreamt that he'd be wearing pumps one day...

When Jimmy decided to make his debut in Pensacola; the crowd loved



him. They asked him to come back; that was in 1974. Shortly after his appearance, he entered the Miss Gay Alabama Beauty Pageant. To his great surprise, he won! Then in 1976, after traveling in the south, appearing at different night clubs and shows, he returned to Pensacola for yet another pageant. He won 2nd Runner Up and it enabled him to be offered a job at the Red Garter. Jimmy (Misty Lamour) appeared nightly for 13 long years with the Garter Review, and as he still states, "I enjoyed what I did - it is an art form". Granted, he will be the first to agree, it is hard work, but when you see all those people cheering, laughing and crying for you, it means so much. After all, the idea behind an entertainer's life, is to keep their captive audience in a sense of fantasy if but only for a moment. For escape of reality is what we all look for from time to time...Misty gave that to Pensacola for over 17 years.

For both the gay and non-gay communities who can remember this show girl and her fantastic productions, it is a memory long lived in our hearts.

Look forward to Part II of this story...in the next issue: "What happens when an entertainer retires?"

GAY RIGHTS VS. EQUAL RIGHTS

By R. Daryl Knight

The Gay and Lesbian communities have made many inroads into social acceptance since the Stonewall Bar riots in New York City in 1969.

The 1960's were a time for many radical changes that involved several minority based groups. We had the Civil Rights for the Afro-Americans, the long haired "hippies" with daisies painted on their vans, the cross sections of our sexual society declaring a "free sex and drug" revolution, and then came US, to join with them. It marked the beginning to an end of hatred and discrimination not only against us, but many times within our own ranks.

Homosexuals now began to evolve into separate but equally important and driving forces. We are now self-identified, and by the mainstream press as gay men and lesbians. It was at this beginning I can ever remember the unity and solidarity between gay men lesbians. I grew up in an era when the men had their bars and the women had their own. More often than not, men were not welcome in the women's bars, and vice-versa. As is normal, time changes many things; some are just more adaptable to faster changes.

During the early and mid 1970's, the gay rights movement gradually and quietly began to mo-

bilize forces nationwide to expedite the changes without too much fanfare. There were committees to set up, foundations to establish, and of course we had to have our own task forces. We may be a lot of things, but no one can ever accuse the gay and lesbian communities of being disorganized.

It marked the end of the 1970's and the beginning of the 1980's when I first remember reading the words "activists" and "radicals". This was when broadcast or print media referred to unified maneuvers to end all discrimination directed at the gay and lesbian community. This

Continued on Page 17

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OFFICE - I was told the night of the Christmas party our success was primarily due

to our traditional serving of free cocktails. Stemming from all the thanks and appreciation personally expressed to me, I am extending free cocktails on Tuesdays through April 7 till 9. We will also be providing live music and entertainment. Feb., March & April promise much excitement. Please see our ad for more details or call 432-7969 or stop by and visit.

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THE PARK & CONNECTIONS GOOD NEWS!! The Park is not moving. Instead, Pensacola has been blessed with a New Gay Owned & Operated establishment. "Connections" is the new "ALTERNATIVE" Bottle Club at Palafox & Intendencia Streets. Featuring shows, dancing & more. The Park proudly celebrated its one year anniversary in January & will continue to provide the gay community with a neighborhood bar atmosphere where everyone feels at home. Voted Pensacola's Best Neighborhood Bar - Thanks Pensacola for your continued support.

ROUNDUP - is open from 3AM until 3 AM 7 days. Happy hour everyday from 3 until 9PM and all day Wed. & Sun. \$10 bar tab drawings at 7-9-11 & 1 Mon. thru Thurs. Pool Tournaments Wed. & Sun. at 9PM. No entry fee. 1st place \$25 cash, 2nd place \$20 bar tab, and a \$10 bar tab consolation drawing for players. Birthday jackpot drawing nightly at 11PM & 1AM. Jackpot starts at \$25 cash and progresses \$5 per day.

continued from page 13

was equivalent to pouring gasoline on an open flame! The national fight was now in progress and making front page news as our leaders for this cause were demanding "Gay Rights".

Meanwhile another revolutionary group was past their formation stages. We now have a national, and very well organized group of women asking for "Equal Rights". This may have been an ideal opportunity for both groups to join together in the battle to end discrimination of all kinds. I hope it is a situation the gay and lesbian leaders do not regret they missed. Could we have celebrated our triumph of cause by now? Will it take us another 10 years to see national eradication of discrimination against us? Time, again, will tell us.

Had we joined forces, I may have had the opportunity to participate more openly and fought harder, rather than quietly work behind the scenes doing journalism and investigative reporting. Having spoken with so many people in the gay and lesbian communities across the nation, I have heard similar if not identical responses.

An Equal Rights Amendment to the Constitution encompasses all human beings. It will protect the gay men and lesbians, it will promote and enhance the many abilities of professional women, it guarantees Constitutional fairness to the red-headed school teachers in Kansas, and goes on and on to

protect every minority and ethnic group that now share this land of plenty.

We are special people only to ourselves and each other in the gay community. Maybe our leaders who are composing the front lines for changes should concentrate on insisting for Equal Rights. Hopefully then, you and I will all live to see the end of discrimination and the beginning of acceptance. ♦

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Gay Civil Rights Movement Comes of Age

1969-1990: 21 Years of Saying "NO"

by Pete Smith

On the night of June 27, 1969, the New York City police staged yet another "routine" raid in the Greenwich Village area of the city. Patrons of Gay bars knew the raids would take place and often had warning...at least enough to sit down and try to look casual as the lights went up.

This raid was no different for awhile, police arrested the bartender and owner for operating without a license (no license was available for

After the paddy wagon had taken its first load and as a dyke was struggling against being hustled into a police car, the crowd erupted.

Gay bars) and started the routine of harassment and arrests of the patrons. Cross dressing was against the law (and still is in most cities) and if an inspection revealed that a person had on "too many" items of cross gender clothing they were arrested as were any who were obviously Gay.

After the paddy wagon had taken its first load and as a dyke was struggling against being hustled into a police car, the crowd erupted into the first instance of Gay resistance to police harassment. Word spread rapidly about the "queens" and "sissy boys" fighting back. Word spread that Gays had violently said "NO" to the harassment and refused to be treated as criminals because of who they were.

The last week of June has become a time to celebrate Gay Pride around the

country as each year for twenty one years the "word" has spread. Gays are saying "NO". "NO, I won't accept harassment." "NO, I will not be ashamed of who I am and who I love."

As the Gay Civil Rights Movement comes of age this year it has also begun to grow up in many ways. Voices within the Movement have begun to speak of our own homophobia, our own sexism, our own ageism, our own classism, and we have begun to listen. We are beginning to grow up. We are looking back on a history that has seen its first group of Gays marching in the streets of August 27, 1969, then two national marches on Washington, D.C. as well as smaller more segmented marches and demonstrations.

In 1969 there were many who criticized the Stonewall boys (and girls) for fighting back...for getting violent. There were many who felt that it was more appropriate to fight in the courts, raise money, publish literature, be politically active...quietly...decently...but, certainly not offensively! No one knows where the Movement would be today if that particular raid on The Stonewall Inn had not taken place on that particular night and those particular people had not been pushed...pushed...pushed one time too many. No one knows what our legal, civil estate would be today if those particular people had continued to "take it," and never fought back.

The laws against us are still on the books ready to be used by police, city councils, legislatures, courts and congress against us. Again and again, we continue to say "NO" to those who oppress and harass. Again and again, we continue to say "YES" to life and liberty. As we Look to the Future and Honor the Past in our struggle for Gay Civil Rights, let us learn to say "NOW."

News in Brief

Advocate, Jan. 26, '93
International medical experts began 1993 by warning that AIDS may be escalating out of control. Up to 5 million Americans could have AIDS or be infected with HIV by the year 2000, said William Haseltine, human retrovirology division chief at Harvard University's Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

In the decades after 2000, HIV could infect more than 1 billion people, a fifth of the world's population, Haseltine said. HIV infection has been reported in almost all nations, and full-blown AIDS, in 164, according to World Health Organization (WHO) statistics.

Dr. Michael Merson, AIDS program chief at WHO, said the spread of HIV still can be slowed by teaching people to protect themselves. "The next two to three years are critical," he said. "We are running out of time when we can make an impact, especially in Asia."

Doctors at WHO project that 1.2 million Asians were infected with HIV by mid 1992, compared with 675,000 six months earlier. They say the disease appears ready to explode throughout Asia-much as it did in Africa a decade ago. In Africa, AIDS is overwhelming health care systems and damaging whole economies. WHO estimated in December that most of the 10 million children that AIDS will have made orphans by the year 2000 will be from sub-Saharan Africa.

Yet the Global AIDS Policy Coalition, an advocacy group, warned in its annual report, issued in late 1992, that many countries appear to be growing complacent about trying to curb AIDS in the Third World. Industrial nations' spending to fight the disease in developing nations has been static since 1986. In 1991 eight times more was spent on AIDS prevention in North America than in the entire developing world; six times more was spent in Europe, even though the statistics show that AIDS is increasing a Third World problem.



WORSHIP 11:00 AM SUNDAYS

Wednesdays - Deeper Life Studies 7PM

Holy Cross Metropolitan Community Church

Rev. Lee J. Carlton, Pastor

415 N. Alcaniz, Pensacola, Florida 32501

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A HOUSE OF PRAYER FOR ALL PEOPLE

The Corp's Finest...

Where does it start? Perhaps the scientists are right...it starts in the chromosomes, or maybe some other genetic material...but this young boy of 7 was terrified that his mother might one day catch him wearing her clothes and it would be horrifying to think of what might happen to him then.

By Andy Anderson

To protect this man's identity, we shall call this person "Megan". In the past two years, Megan has gone from Marine Corp Officer and Pilot; the Corp's Finest...to Megan, the soon to be genetically and for all purposes...woman. Megan is nearly 41 and at this age, has decided it is imperative to achieve some happiness in life. All of Megan's life, she has dreamt of the day when she could be rid of this male body. For inside, she feels like a woman and wants the world to accept her as a woman.

She was married as an officer in the Corps and has 3 young children. Though her marriage was rocky with her wife of the time, she misses her children terribly, and like all of us, hopes that one day, they'll want to know why Dad became a woman. It will be very important for their mother to reinforce the fact that Dad/Megan will never stop loving them, but more importantly...Megan wants to live.

Before seeking professional help, Megan tried suicide many times, along with trying desperately to burn his genitals off. We think we have problems until we come face to face with something so saddening as this. Megan appears to have a great deal of education and knowledge and this writer doesn't believe she could ever have gotten this far without an immense amount of inner-courage that most of us only wish we had.

Can I Afford This Change...What Will Happen If I Don't Like It?

Psychology. The Science of Mind and Body Behavior, by John W. Santrock, 1986, states that **Transsexualism** is a psychosexual disorder in which an individual has an overwhelming desire to become a member of opposite sex. The individual's gender identity is at odds with the anatomical facts, and he or she may undergo surgery to change sex. **Transvestism** is a psychosexual disorder in which an individual obtains sexual gratification by dressing up as a member of the opposite sex. Most transvestites view themselves as heterosexual and lead quiet, conventional lives, cross-dressing only in the privacy of their home.

Megan has been on hormones for nearly 2 years now, and many of her predominantly male features are fading. She is learning to stand tall and be proud of who she is. One of the things that she is finding hard to relate with is that no matter who he or she is in the end, pride in who you are as a person is most important. As a young child, Megan felt ashamed of the feelings she had about wanting to be the other sex. She knew that to disclose this information back then would surely mean institutions and doctors and she felt very isolated. This is the reason for most suicides involved in Transgender lives.

This operation to remove or alter sexual organs is available in nearby states and must be regulated very closely to insure the psychological well-being of the patient. If you read this article and want to know more either for yourself or a friend or relative, please call 433-0353. *Screening Is Necessary to Insure Anonymity.*

Reflections of an '87 Marcher

by Tim I. McFeeley

On October 11, 1987 over a half million people assembled on the Ellipse behind the White House and marched on Pennsylvania Avenue to the Capitol of the United States, and none of us will ever forget the experience. Beyond the sensations - the sight of blocks of Gay and Lesbian Americans of all ages, races, shapes, colors, and dress walking, wheeling, riding, and skipping behind fanciful and creative signs and decorations past the monuments and museums; the sounds of laughter, shouts, speeches, chants, songs, and applause; the smells of crisp October, salty hot dogs, popcorn, incense, and the feel of hands, hugs, bumps, feet on pavement - the things that I most remember are the emotions that welled up over and around as we tried to make ourselves visible as a people and as a movement of power, passion, and pride.

It was a joyful experience. Smiles were everywhere. We were proud and reflected that pride in our faces. I remember not one complaint - can you imagine? - from any one about the hours of waiting, long-winded speeches, aching backs and sore feet, bursting bladders, and lack of space. We were creating the biggest and loudest demonstration that Lesbian and Gay Americans had ever mounted, and one of the biggest and loudest marches in the history of the United States. We couldn't stop smiling. We were visibly happy and happily visible.

That night as we watched the national news broadcasts that made no mention of our march, we realized we were still invisible, and we weren't happy. The world had not noticed. Our smiles disappeared and we were puzzled. Was Sunday's march a dream or was there a conspiracy of silence? If the world didn't see us or hear us, what was the point?

The 1987 March on Washington was certainly a turning point in our history. Pride marches and demonstrations of

solidarity and visibility, begun in 1969, culminated in this massive march. But the march showed us that visibility was a beginning, not an end. Marches precede and follow battles, but they are not the battle. After we left, Washington and the world were never the same - oftentimes hostile to our community. Individually and collectively, we realized that if we wanted change we'd have to work for it. As important as these events are to building solidarity and affirmation, marching one day a decade won't cure AIDS or cancer or bring us our civil rights. The '87 marchers went home and started Lesbian and Gay political and advocacy groups, publications, ACT UP chapters, Queer Nation groups. The hard work carried on for years by a small group of dedicated activists was now shared by many more people. The progress and change that this work has effected in the past five years are a direct result of the March on Washington. And the progress and change are visible and have been noticed by the United States and the world.

"We'll march again. And it's time we did."

The enduring legacy of the 1987 March on Washington was not the unforgettable sensations and euphoria, but the sobering reality that no matter how large and loud we are, the world will never give us our rights. We have to work and fight every day we're alive.

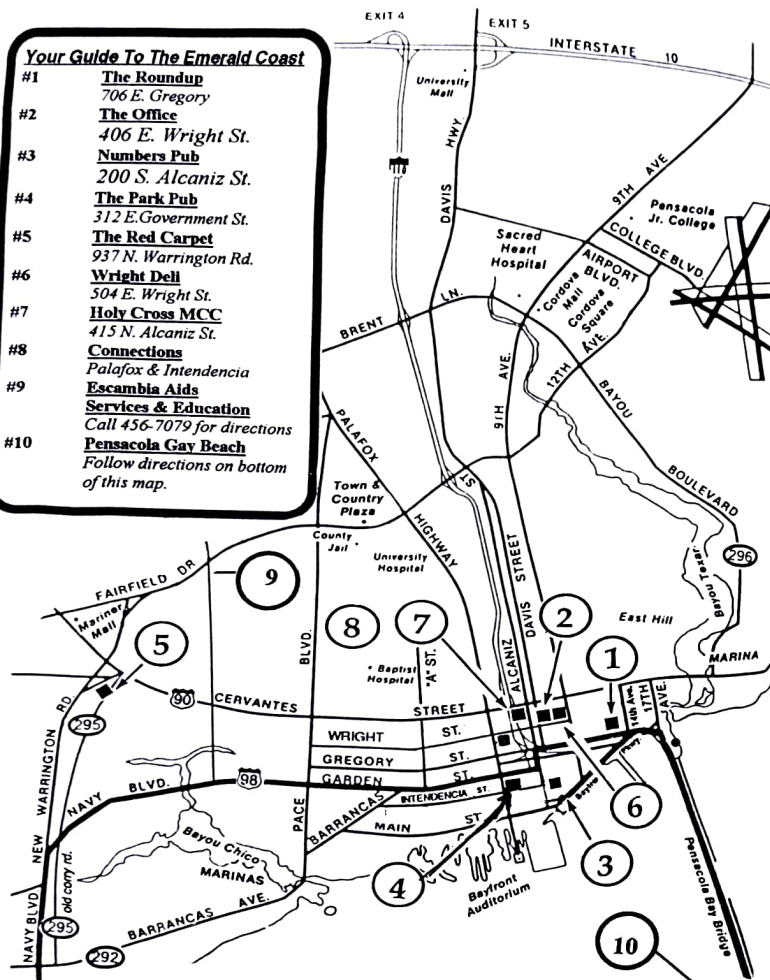
On April 25, 1993 we'll march again. And it's time we did. Because of the hard work of the past five years, this time the world will notice. What the world will see is not only pride, but also power.

See you all on April 25th!

Tim I. McFeeley is executive director of the Human Rights Campaign Fund. In 1987, he marched as a member of the Board of Directors of Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders of Boston. HRCP is a sponsoring organization of the 1993 March.

Your Guide To The Emerald Coast

- #1 **The Roundup**
706 E. Gregory
- #2 **The Office**
406 E. Wright St.
- #3 **Numbers Pub**
200 S. Alcaniz St.
- #4 **The Park Pub**
312 E. Government St.
- #5 **The Red Carpet**
937 N. Warrington Rd.
- #6 **Wright Deli**
504 E. Wright St.
- #7 **Holy Cross MCC**
415 N. Alcaniz St.
- #8 **Connections**
Palafax & Intendencia
- #9 **Escambia Aids**
Services & Education
Call 456-7079 for directions
- #10 **Pensacola Gay Beach**
Follow directions on bottom of this map.



Directions To The Gay Beach

Take U.S. 98 through Gulf Breeze and to Pensacola Beach. Head east towards Navarre Beach, look for the Circle K store by traffic light on your left, pass it and go to the 2nd Circle K store. When you pass the 2nd store, the Gay Beach is approximately 5.8 to 6 miles on the right. Have a Great Time...Remember to bring lotion if you are easily burned...it gets hot!



HELP WANTED...

There's a new magazine in the area produced by local Pensacolians, to provide the community with information about events locally and nationwide. This magazine is produced for education, information and to bring together the gay and non-gay communities of Escambia County and the Gulf Coast at large.

There's lots of out-of-town magazines around, but if Pensacola is to continue to grow, we need to keep our money in our area. Selling ads to local companies for local customers will allow the non-gay community to see the economic increase of the gay community in their businesses. It will also show businesses an increased income from the gay tourists coming to Pensacola that will know that this business is "gay-friendly".

This magazine is distributed to New Orleans, Biloxi, Mobile, Ft. Walton, Panama City, Atlanta, Ft. Lauderdale, the Carolinas and as far south as Key West.

Get involved on the ground floor. We offer variable expense allowances for our sales staff. Pensacola is already over 21,000 strong. Help increase that number with us.

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CELEBRATION

1st Anniversary

February 12, 13 & 14

Feb. 12

Flashlight Party

9 til closing

Feb. 13

1st Anniversary Dance

FREE CHAMPAGNE

(9 til closing)

Feb. 14

Valentine's Dance

.75 well drinks/.50 draft (8pm-10pm)

LOOK FOR JUNE AUCTION

**2nd Annual EASE Auction in June...Donations being
accepted - contact Mike Varvel at Numbers.**

200 S. Alcaniz - Pensacola, Florida

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