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AUGUST 1993



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**Christopher
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Quarterly**

AUGUST 1993
VOL. 1, ISSUE 4

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ABOUT THE COVER

Pride is Over -- So Far As
The World Knows, But, We Celebrate
All Year Long. By Remembering
Who We Are...And Why We Are.
Family Values -- We Always
Had Them, And Always Will.



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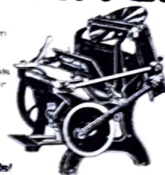
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*Yours Truly in
a Swamp:*

Florida's Johns Committee Sheds Light on NOLA's Bad Boy Aqueno

by Leonard Earl Johnsson

"Queer Pier" performance-artist Frank Aqueno is an unsettling fellow for some in New Orleans. His ACT UP manners, and eye-on-truth posture sting the soft, genteel underbelly of some in the Crescent City.

A few weeks ago Aqueno answered his phone and found Florida Public Radio on the other end. They told him his recent performance at Florida State University had linked him to something called the Johns Committee, a 1956-born witch hunt in the Sunshine State.

The Committee first sought Communists, then looked for homosexuals. In their secret nine years they never caused charges to be brought against anyone except a reporter with the Orlando Sentinel, who criticized the Committee and was set up by them with a female whore.

The real intent of the Johns Committee was quite evil. The kind that breaks spirits, kills dreams, and crushes careers.

It was part Kafka, part the Kremlin and part Apple Pie American. It was self-righteous, nigger-hating, Commie-chasing, and queer-bashing.

Near the Committee's 1965 demise they published a torrid pamphlet on the evils of homosexuality. Included were sexy photographs of handsome young men. Mild photos by today's standards - the St. Petersburg Times ran one last week. Then it was dubbed "The Purple Pamphlet." In sophisticated south Florida, the Dade County District Attorney listed it as pornography and barred its distribution. In other counties, it was a runaway hit.

Stoning committees were sprouting up all over in 1956. They grew in the manure beds left by the "noble failure" of Joseph McCarthy. They were nurtured by Sputnik, and Rosa Parks who set off racist's alarms from Memphis to Mobile. Some of that wind blew into Florida.

The Johns Committee first sortied queer-bashing fire after the courts thwarted its efforts to gain membership lists from Florida NAACP chapters. Blocked, these zealots determined to stone somebody. They moved their efforts into an arena of predictably weak

resistance - unsure, frightened queers. Aqueno's FPR call was followed by the Orlando Sentinel's Donna O'Neal. She wrote a Sunday piece featuring Aqueno. It was complete with his 1961 FSU yearbook photo. Juxtaposed was one newly shot by the Associated Press.

Two days prior to 1993's Fourth of July celebration, forty-five boxes holding documents generated by the Johns Committee were opened. They were sealed nearly thirty years earlier. Most names of targets and their accusers are inked over.

In "Queer Pier", Aqueno tells of being busted in a 1961 sex sting at the Tallahassee bus station. He was a student at Florida State. In the piece, Aqueno acts-out questions put to him concerning the governor's nephew. He knew nothing about the governor's nephew, or why they would be asking him such questions.

The result: he was exposed, expelled, trotted off for years of psychotherapy.
Cont'd on page 8

CRUISING...

By Justin Prince

If you think cruising is just fun and games, think again. Some members of the Pensacola Police Department, a few prosecutors, and some area judges are out to get you! In this journalist's opinion, they have an unspoken agreement to cooperate in harassing gays. Here's the way it works. Young, good looking cops hang around the clubs and cruising areas, looking for men to entrap. They will usually approach you. They may rub their crotch or yours. They may be carrying a gay magazine. They may solicit you for sex. But beware. If you respond, they will arrest you. If you refuse, they may still arrest you. I know. It happened to me.

I was walking on the beach near the chimney. A young man approached me and introduced himself. He said he was gay and was interested in a one night stand. I told him I was not interested but he kept talking. As I walked he propositioned me several times and each time asked a peculiar question, "what did you have in mind?" I now realize he was trying to entrap me so he could arrest me. When I refused his overtures, he arrested me anyway. There were no witnesses and it was his word against mine. He handcuffed my hands behind my back with a plastic tie like you use on a garbage bag. Then he drove me to the parking lot at Bayview Cemetery for transfer to a blue and white. Locked in the back of the squad car, I was able to read the arrest report on the front seat. The report alleged that I followed him down the beach, solicited him for sex then grabbed his crotch, all untrue. This

Cont'd on page 8

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CRUISING... *Cont'd from page 5*
was the beginning of an eleven month nightmare.

I sought legal advice from a prominent straight attorney. He wanted \$6500.00 up front to defend me. He added that there was virtually no possibility of winning. "It's going to be your word against his and, judges and juries in Escambia County tend to believe that cops don't lie."

I then sought advice from a closet gay attorney. He told me he knew the cop who arrested me. He had lost a similar case involving this cop just the past week. He advised me that this cop has pulled the same trick on at least 40 gay men in the Pensacola area. Yes, he would be glad to defend me. He would only charge \$1500.00. But perhaps I should think about a no contest plea since this type of case is almost impossible to win in Escambia County. Again, judges and juries tend to believe the cop instead of the cop's victim.

After much debate, I pleaded no contest. The judge now fulfilled his part of the unspoken agreement to harass gays. Although I was innocent, I was fined \$500.00 and put on six month's probation. Additional court costs were over \$400.00. Because my job requires me to travel out of state, I could not

work for the period of my probation. The entire fiasco cost me over \$12,000.00

I no longer go to any cruising areas. If you continue to cruise, be aware of the danger you face. A condom may help protect you against social diseases, but it won't protect you against a crooked cop and a rigged system.

Is it possible there is an hr.

Cont'd on page 7

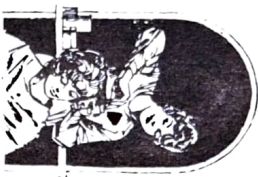
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CRUISING...

Cont'd from page 6

formal agreement in Pensacola, between the cops, the prosecutors and the courts, to harass gays? Is it possible the good ole boys who run the city government intend to accomplish by intimidation what they can not accomplish by legislation?

The following question was overheard in the Pensacola PD squad room, one officer questioned a supervisor. "We are told if we find a heterosexual couple making love in the park on Scenic Highway, tell them to get dressed and go home. But if we find a homosexual couple making love in the park, we are told to arrest them and take them to jail. Why the selective enforcement?" The response was a grin from the supervisor and laughter from the cops in the squad room.

Consider the issue of sodomy. The law in many areas, makes sodomy illegal. Most of the time however, anti-sodomy laws are enforced against homosexuals, never against heterosexuals. Again, if a heterosexual makes a battery complaint against another heterosexual, the cops almost never make an arrest and the prosecutors never prosecute. However, if a heterosexual makes a battery complaint against a homosexual, the cops are glad to make the arrest and the prosecutors are happy to prosecute.

Battery is described in Florida statute as "the touching of another person, against the other's will." There is no reference to sexual orientation in the statute. Invariably however, the statute is used as an intimidating club against homosexuals. Never mind that there are rarely witnesses. Never mind that an accused individual is supposed to be innocent until proven guilty.

In cases where the accused is a homosexual, the presumption of innocence is thrown out the window. The more outrageous the accusation the more credibility it receives from the criminal justice system.

If you are arrested in an area frequented by gays, you are guilty by association. If a cop or a heterosexual accuses you of misconduct you are guilty, ipso facto, by association. A no contest plea means you do not contest the charges in your arrest report. If you plead no contest, because the system is so stacked against you as to make acquittal virtually impossible, you must be guilty.

The powers that be, who hate homosexuals have discovered that harassment is their most effective tactic against us. They threaten us with a jail term, a criminal record, and loss of employment. They levy fines, court costs, and cost of supervision (probation) against us. Then they allow us to plead no contest. This speeds us through the system and allows them to accomplish their goal of intimidation.

The battle for Gay Civil Rights is not about special rights. It is about the right of every citizen to equal safety from abusive authorities who selectively enforce law. It is about freedom from false accusation, police intimidation and judicial coercion. We do not have the same rights heterosexuals enjoy today.

DON'T MISS
THIS ONE!



Encouraged down a narrow path, he remarked. In 1969, eight years after being drug from the closet by the Committee, Aqueno and his wife divorced. "I came out to myself," he says.

One night, as calls were pouring in from Florida, Aqueno sat on the stage inside the True Brew Theatre. He was doing the first time presentation of a LA GALA, Inc. "Seed Money" commissioned "Work in Progress".

Also on stage and available for audience and cast were iced soft drinks, cookies, pretzels and candy. The work, awkwardly titled "HETERO" transBILIZBOYQUEER - The Pursuit of Happiness", began with Aqueno and John Lawson talking.

Their talk prompted audience talk back. Before you knew it, pretzels were being passed, cookies eaten, and soft drinks lifted as sacraments to this slightly structured discussion. In the final scene Aqueno tells of the Johns Committee and the recent phone calls.

The Johns Committee was named for its venomous second chairman, one-time Governor and state Senator Charley Johns. "Johns Committee? I had never heard of it," Aqueno says. "At least it was appropriately named."

Press coverage of the Johns Committee's belated exposure has been extensive. The Tallahassee Democrat headlined July 2, "Skeletons fall from Capitol's closet." Throughout Florida, the dailies have run multiple page stories detailing the illegal and cruel treatment of lesbian and gay citizens. Stories have appeared in The New York Times and on the Associated Press's national wire.

Knowledge is the road to truth. Truth is the road to freedom. At the moment, the road leads between

Florida and New Orleans. One of Aqueno's Florida calls came from the Palm Beach Post. They hired him to write his story for their elegant pages.

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LAMBDA A Brief History...

Lambda, the eleventh lower-case letter of the Greek alphabet, is the forerunner of our letter 'L'. Originally, the letter was a picture symbol for the scales, often seen being carried by the figure of Justice. With the passage of time, the lambda bore less of a visual resemblance to the scales, and its meaning became more abstract in that it came to represent the concept of qualities of balance.

The Greeks believed that balance was a reconciliation between two opposites, and as such, was not a stable state, but one needing continuous adjustment.

The ancient Spartans adopted the lambda as a symbol of their unity. Worn as a logo on their shields, it signified the special balance which they felt must exist between an individual and the State. They believed that the demands of society should never interfere with each person's right to be totally free and independent. They also thought that each individual must be bound to society only by individual choice and desire. But, each Spartan recognized that only in a common bond could they hope to preserve their existence as a free and equal people.

As Rome rose to power and conquered the then known world, the Romans borrowed many things of value from the Greek culture. Among these was the lambda. Owing to the fact that the Romans saw the overall shape of the lambda as suggestive of a flame, it was used as a symbol for "lamps"---their Latin word for torch.

In the sixties, the quest for gay liberation began to emerge as an organized movement after the famous Stonewall Riots, the lambda

was selected as a gay symbol. Previously symbolizing justice, balance, and the reconciliation of opposites; unity and the relationship of man and his society, freedom, equality, and independence of the individual, and light --- the lambda had those qualities which best represented the objectives of gay people.

In 1970, the Gay Activists Alliance of New York was putting the finishing touches on plans for a demonstration the following day. Someone suggested that they needed some unifying symbol to represent their organization. Someone else suggested the 'lambda' because it was the Greek letter 'L' for 'Liberation'. The decision was made to go with the 'lambda' as a symbol for the Gay Activists Alliance.

Gradually, the lambda became a recognizable symbol of the gay movement and, in 1974, at the International Gay Rights Congress in Edinburgh, Scotland, lesbian and gay representatives from about 70 countries voted to adopt the lambda as the international symbol for gay and lesbian rights.

The connotations of light, balance, etc., make the lambda an ideal and all-encompassing symbol for the lesbian and gay community, and they are all based on fact.

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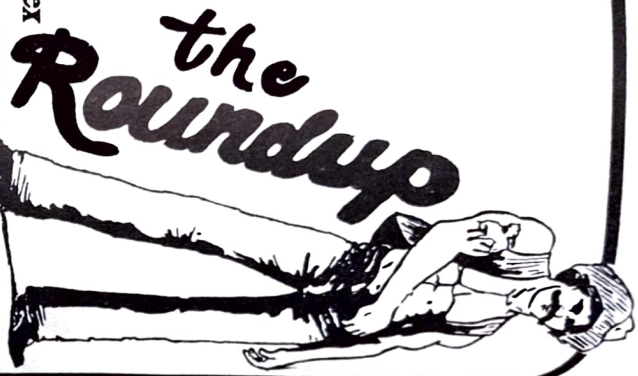
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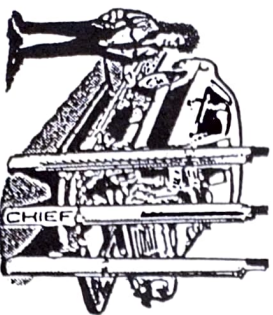
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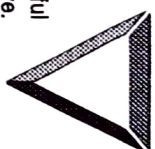
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Through pride our country won it's independence. Through pride the gay movement has advanced enormously throughout the world in the last five years. Through pride Pensacola was put on the "Gay World Map". Through pride nothing is out of reach.

Although pride is powerful it is not without sacrifice and cost. Some sacrifice is small and some is large, but there is sacrifice in gaining Pride. Although Pensacola has demonstrated enormous pride, we still have a long way to go to achieve our goals. Truly, we have not shown the amount of pride we are capable of displaying toward our city, businesses, and our goals. The pride I speak of has to do with our community, specifically our GAY COMMUNITY.

Pride has many facets in which it gains power. Support, Love, Understanding, and Willingness to become involved are but a few of these facets. It was pride that opened the new businesses and maintains the old that we see in Pensacola today and it will be pride and support, by us the gay community, that will keep these establishments functioning. Also, by supporting such organizations as MCC and CSS we (the gay community) will gain a stronghold in both religious and political circles in our community, thus gaining the respect we deserve. If we love, care for, and respect our sisters and brothers (lesbians and gay men) then the world will see that we possess true pride for our kind. The time has come for each "family" member to take a stand and ask themselves what they

can do to care for their community. Although we have made great strides in major metropolitan cities, the battle is far from over and our obstacles grow larger each day. Pride can break through these obstacles and bridge a path to freedom, but only if we have faith in ourselves and in the pride we show.

Each year the number of visitors to our beaches almost doubles. We mainly see this phenomenon on Memorial Day, the 4th of July and Labor Day. I believe one of our goals should be to make Pensacola a vacation spot year round. With just a little love and support for our community this goal can be achieved. Please support your local gay friendly affiliates in the Pensacola area.

Pride fully Yours,
Christopher Wilcox

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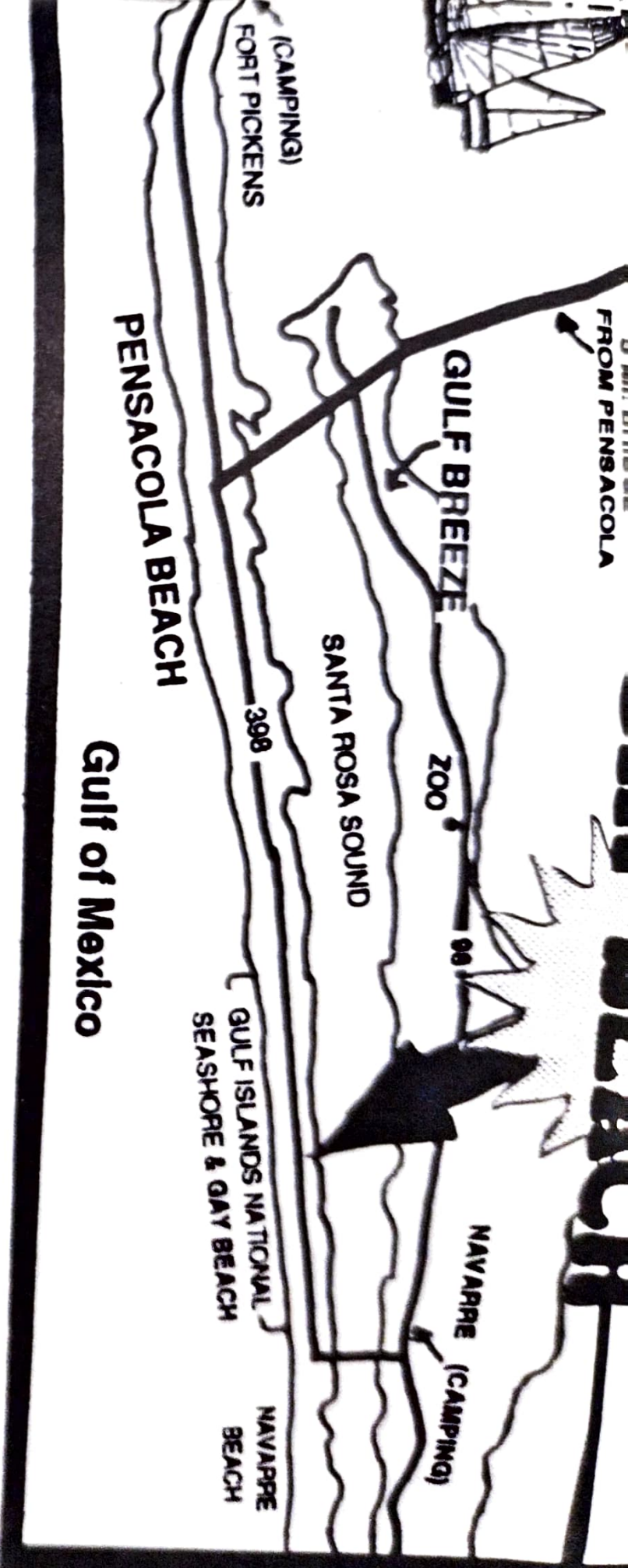
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Setting The

Record Straight

By Michael P. Kirel

"Community Service"



The success of Pensacola's Gay Pride '93 festival and beach party leaves us at CSS with lots of warm and fuzzy feelings. It is also the feeling of "a job Well Done." Now in the afterglow of this success it is time to reflect on the future and what it holds for the Gay Community in Greater Pensacola.

Community Service is a catch phrase of the 90's. The Bush administration and its (hopefully more successful) successor The Clinton Administration have called for a return to the spirit of volunteerism which America was founded on.

The Gay Community here in Pensacola also needs a breath of this fresh air of Community Spirit. Womyn and Man power alone can do the job which will get us the respect and recognition we deserve, which will make our lives here on the emerald coast better. It will also show the non-gay community that we too have an interest in improving the lives of all here in Greater Pensacola.

Everyone out or closeted needs to find a way to participate in this community. It is time to stop the attitude that leads many to say

"If I was running the community I would do..."

It's time to take our energy out of the bars and out of our mouths and put it to work through action.

It's time for out "leaders" who have been pouring us cocktails for the ten years to stop tearing down the foundations we are trying to build and start

doing some real work. Those who have nothing good to say about the organizations which serve our community outside the bars are usually the ones who have done no good.

These people are usually the ones who say "they don't me at CSS meetings because I'll tell them what's on my mind..." they are wrong. They are just the people we want. We want to hear our critics. We can take it. The reason they don't come to these meetings is because there is nothing in their minds. Or worse yet they don't have any action or conviction behind their words.

For one year, I've heard much bitchin' and very little positive about the organizations which serve the gay community. It's always the same people and they know who they are and probably stopped reading two paragraphs ago.

To you who have kept reading I welcome you to our organizations whether they be CSS, Southern Knights, WSO, MCC, etc... If you don't belong, if you don't participate, we both lose. We lose the chance to truly belong and to grow with this community.

Also, if you don't participate then you have no right to bitch if you don't like the way things are. Finally, if you are not part of the solution then you are part of the problem. ▽

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456-7079

Christopher Street South, Inc.
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434-3384

Southern Knights (men's group)
Call E.A.S.E. 456-7079 for #

Everybody's Brother(men's group)
P.O. Box 7518, Pensacola, Fl 32534
New Womyn's Social Organization

P.O. Box 34461
Pensacola, Fl 32507
434-3384/492-5719

Open Door AA
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When Do I Have To Have An Attorney?

Most people believe that they can take care of their own business. However, a lot of our personal affairs are really legal matters, like contracts, wills, personal injuries and real estate transactions.

PREVENTING LEGAL PROBLEMS

People often think of an attorney as the person who gets them out of trouble. But, by seeking professional advice in advance, you can avoid most legal problems before they occur.

An attorney can serve you best by preventing difficulties instead of bailing you out of them. Use an attorney this way. You will save time, trouble, money and sometimes embarrassment.

Your family doctor knows your history and your physical problems. Preventive care may keep you out of the hospital. The same reasoning applies to your legal protection. An attorney who is familiar with you and your needs can help you keep your legal affairs in order.

HOW TO FIND AN ATTORNEY

You should choose someone who practices the highest standards of ethical and professional conduct. If you have chosen an attorney who has both the skill and qualifications needed, then your investments will

be protected and your interests will come first. You will be guided safely through the maze of problems that sometime emerge in even the simplest transaction of business.

THE ATTORNEY'S ROLE

The attorney that you select strives to assure that the entire transaction is carried out in the most pleasing and expedient manner possible. There is peace of mind in knowing that your questions have been answered, and the doubts resolved in whatever type of problem you may have incurred.

ABOUT THE FEES

In selecting an attorney, do not hesitate to inquire about legal fees. Attorneys fees are generally based on the various services desired and the time required to do the job.

Some people are reluctant to go to an attorney. They say they can't afford one. Usually the opposite is true. Fees for preliminary conference to determine your needs are usually quite moderate. The experienced attorney will answer fee questions first. You are at liberty to decide if the fee is fair and reasonable before making a commitment. Remember, your attorney can help, if only by giving advance notice of potential problems before they arise. ▼

What is Pride?

In the early 60's, blacks had struggled for civil rights, losing most of what their white bosses had loaned them in exchange for centuries of slavery. Finally the civil rights bill was passed and the world would have to learn to understand there are no second grade people - just different shades of God's children.

That brings us to an interesting story of another struggle ongoing into today's daily problems. As proud of victory as the blacks must have felt with the triumph of the bill, the battle is still on for the gays that likewise began in 1969 with this story...

Pride has, as its roots, a profound sense of gratitude, a feeling of triumph and victory based on real events of history. The Gay Rights movement began in 1969, after a series of events triggered what today we call the "Stonewall Riots." I would like to give credit to this person; however, I received the story second-hand. It is worth knowing how our community which we know today began.

THE STORY OF STONEWALL

It is 1969. Men are wearing their hair long, women, their skirts short. Our involvement in the war in Vietnam had secretly spilled over into Cambodia. Dan O'Leary, at 21, has just entered the National Guard, while thousands of men flee to Canada and thousands of others die in the jungle. In Washington, Nixon is president. In New York City, Lindsey is mayor. It is the third weekend in June. New York is hot and muggy, and people's tempers are short. Those with money or friends or privilege have already fled to the Hamptons or the Berkshires or Fire Island. In Greenwich Village, all who are left are those that can't leave.

The Village had been gay for time immemorial. No one, in 1969, could remember when it had first been known as an enclave.

But now, in the summer, Christopher Street (the heart of the Village) was full with society's pariahs: drag queens,

street queens, kids on dope, kids on smack, men looking for their lives, and men looking for that which only the village, the bathrooms in the Museum of Natural History, and secretly zoned selections of Central Park may offer.

Uptown, Lindsey is fulfilling a campaign pledge. He was a liberal mayor, and had difficulty with his reelection the previous year. Like so many before him, he talked of "cleaning up the city." The electorate took him at his word, and voted him into office. Now he was making plans to shore up his record with the police department.

Most people, in the summer of 1969, think Lindsey is a good man, who occasionally has to do what politicians in large urban centers have to do. So when he ordered the raid on the Stonewall Inn, no one expected anything out of the ordinary. Politicians had been ordering raids on the bars on Christopher Street for years.

Cont'd on page 18

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Then, at election time, they could point to their records as 'Law and Order' candidates. This is how politics is played in New York in 1969.

In the past, the raids had all been rather mundane. The police would arrive at a bar, and arrest the owner and employees. Each of the patrons would be asked for identification. If they showed and ID, their names would be recorded. If they didn't, they were arrested. The next day, the names of those who had avoided arrest by showing their ID's would be published in the news. There, under the headline, "COPS RAID HOMOSEXUAL HAUNT IN VILLAGE", would be the names of lawyers, clerks, construction workers and secretaries, all of whom would strangely lose their jobs in the ensuing weeks for "poor performance."

But something "is" different this time. Last week, there had been a raid on a bar in the village. A man who had refused to give identification had been arrested and brought to the police station. There, subject to the jeers and taunts of the NY-CFD, knowing that his employer, his family, his friends would all eventually find out "why" he had been arrested, he was overcome with grief and shame. He jumped from a second story window, landing on the spike of a rod iron fence, impaling himself. He later died.

Now, something is "different". There is an air of anger and rebellion forming. People in the village are beginning to say he was pushed. Not by the hand of a cop, mind you, but by the hand of society. Our great country pushed that poor man out the window to his death.

Now he was not the first. Gay men had been committing suicide since there had been gay men. But still, something was "new" in the Village. In the times that had brought us civil rights and women's rights, the men of the Village were beginning to think it was time for "their" rights too. No more would they jump to their deaths silently and alone. If they were going to die, there were becoming ready to pull their assailants down with them.

In this environment of anger and tradition and violence, the police drove their paddy wagon up to the entrance of their Stonewall Inn.

The Stonewall was a speedy dive. Mostly known as a street bar, it was populated mostly by drag queens and street people. All gay, all disinclined. It was drab and dark, and a wholly unimpressive spot on the face of the earth. Until, of course, that night when the police arrived.

No one knows how it happened. There was confusion and pushing and glass breaking. There was shouting and a great deal of activity all in the space of a very short time. No one could see the importance of the event, at the time, no one could foretell the impact it would have on later generations. All these men knew then was that they had had enough, they had nothing left to lose. In the space of five minutes, they learned how to say,

"No!"

"No, I won't go quietly.

"No, I won't give you my name.

"No, I won't leave this bar.

"No, I won't allow you to use me as a pawn in the workings of the city government uptown.

"No, I won't accept the status of victim.

No one knows how it happened, but a riot broke out. Within five minutes, the police, those fierce men in blue with the riot sticks and guns and badges and the 'approval' of the society at large behind them were barricading themselves 'inside' the Stonewall Inn desperately calling for reinforcements while outside, the patrons of the bar and the thousands of people who began gathering on the street were jeering and taunting and threatening them. Someone shouted to burn the place down.

When the reinforcements came, the crowd dispersed. It had grown to an enormous size by then, and throughout the night people met in Washington Square, at the Path dock, in the East

people village to talk about what had happened. For the en-
spectivity seized the Village. For the en-
weekend, there were small riots
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Persecution That Hitler's Fall

by Deb Price
Detroit News Washington Bureau

The pink triangle is sported around the world on T-shirts and jewelry as a sign of gay pride. History professor Klaus Mueller is gay and proud but cannot bring himself to wear it: The pink triangle never can be just an abstract symbol to him. It remains the very real way Nazis marked the clothing of homosexuals.

"The more you know about personal victims' stories, it is not easy to wear it," says Mueller, a German teacher in Amsterdam.

Who were the men forced to wear the pink triangle? We have no hope of fulfilling the admonition, "Never Forget," if they remain a nameless, faceless symbol of oppression. A few of their names and faces have been rescued from oblivion by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C.

Thank to the museum consultant Mueller, the silent companions include nine men of the pink triangle and a lesbian, probably branded "asocial."



Nearly five decades after Hitler's defeat, little is known about the men who wore the pink triangle. The reason is simple: Homosexual people freed from the hellish camps were viewed as criminals, not victims. They feared that speaking out would mean new persecution.

"For homosexuals, the Third Reich did not fully end with its defeat," explains Richard Plant in his groundbreaking "The Pink Triangle: The Nazi War Against Homosexuals." Some homosexual people found that being 'liberated' by the Allies meant a transfer back to prison, not freedom. Time in a concentration camp did not even count as time served.

"None of the lucky few who came out alive was granted any compensation...Families frequently refused to take back a homosexual ex-inmate. Former gay friends were usually displaced or dead. Although they were no longer compelled to wear the stigmatic pink triangle, they felt marked for life," he writes.

Their tragedy began with arrest under Germany's Paragraph 175, an 1871 law toughened by the Nazis and which until 1969 outlawed sex between men. Homosexual people had no place in the Nazi dream of a master race. They were "as useless as hens which don't lay eggs," Nazi SS Chief Heinrich Himmler said.

Up to 15,000 men are believed to have worn the pink triangle in Nazi camps. Most did not survive.

The museum is dedicated to all those consumed by the Holocaust: "May their memory serve as a blessing -- and a warning."

Exuberant New Orleans

by Ray Ruiz

Considering a trip to New Orleans? Well, it's well worth it. The city feels more like a Mediterranean port town than any other place in America. Bars stay open all night, and there are more than 30 gay clubs, which you may walk to and from. As the sun sets, cool breezes wait through the French Quarter (if you're lucky). The steamy chance encounter, a la Tennessee Williams is just around the corner. Perhaps. A variety of live music such as jazz, soul, R&B, and Cajun accelerate the tempo as you walk down world-famous Bourbon Street. About

the 800 block, you come upon three bars, the Bourbon Pub, and discos Parade and OZ, with overflowing crowds spilling and the open French doorways. Suddenly, there's no doubt you've entered the Gay Zone. Now you may let your imagination run wild. For whatever you want to happen may - and probably will. Gay bars are "hot" in New Orleans, many open 24 hours. Cafe Lafitte in Exile, known simply as Lafitte's is the oldest gay bar in the South (40+ years), and burns the "Eternal Flame of the Unknown Faggot" as we've always called the gas flame sculpture near the doorway. Good talk bars for all ages are Good Friends at 740

ourphine, and the Mint at 504 ourphine. Both of these are beautifully decorated and well-kept something different, try Jewell's Tavern at 1207 Decatur, or the Phoenix and its upstairs at the Room ("Where Men Can Be Men") at 941 Elysian Fields Avenue. The premier bar for women is Charlene's at 940 Elysian Fields Avenue. Come and see us. We're always kind to strangers!

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The Roundup - 706 E. Gregory - is open from 3pm until 3am 7 days. Happy hour everyday from 3-9pm and all day Wed. & Sun. Pool Tournament Wed. & Sun. at 9pm. No Entry Fee - 1st Place \$25 Cash, 2nd Place \$20 Bar Tab, & \$10 Bar Tab Consolation drawing for players. Birthday jackpot drawing Mon thru Thurs. at midnight. Jackpot starts at \$25 Cash & progresses \$5 a day.

Numbers Pub - 200 So. Alcaniz - As summer sizzles, stop at Numbers for Labor Day where you can have a good time and get a schedule for the planned festivities. The Annual Auction Against Aids raised \$2,100.33 and the Jeff Miller Concert kicked in another \$123.00. If you plan to go to any of the numerous festivals planned in Seville Park over the next three months stop in at Numbers to wet your whistle afterwards. Also look out for Numbers Halloween Surprises!!!

Park Pub - 312 E. Gov't St. - Where Everyone Is Family! Pool Tournaments are BACK! 9pm Tues. & Ball, 6pm Sun. 9-Ball - NO ENTRY FEE! Check out our new CD jukebox! Check Out Our New Women's Cruise

Bar... RUMORS - Ice Cold Beer & Wine, located at Corner of Palafox & Intendencia. **Sluggo's** - 15 E. Intendencia - Live alternative music every Tues., Fri., & Sat. Open Mic every Wed. \$3 pitchers every Thurs. & Sun. Open 8pm-2:30am Tues. thru Sunday. **Bedlam** - Experience the rhythms of the new generation... only at Pensacola's underground after-hours. Dark 2 Down... 1 West Main (the old Red Carter #3) 11pm-5am. 18-B-Y.O.B. Trash Disco, Reno New Wave, Trance, Tribal, Rave & Future Sounds.

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