

# Grand River Rainbow Historical Project

[www.grandriver-rainbowhistory.ca/](http://www.grandriver-rainbowhistory.ca/)

*celebrating the lives and times of rainbow folk in Grand River country*

## *Guelph Gay Equality Newsletter → Guelph Gay & Lesbian Equality Newsletter → Guelph Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Equality Newsletter*

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**GUELPH  
GAY  
EQUALITY**

**NEWSLETTER FOR JULY 1990**



**LESBIAN AND GAY PRIDE DAY 1990** It was a cold and wet day but this did not seem to dampen the enthusiasm that was shown at this year's Lesbian and Gay Pride Day. While I'm not good at estimating the size of crowds (Does this mean I'm not a size queen??), both Church and Yonge streets were packed. A better indication of numbers would be that just as the GGE marchers were rounding Carlton and Yonge, the head of the parade was at Yonge and Bloor! This became more significant when I heard we were in the middle of the parade. At least 20 GGE members showed up to lend their support staffing the table and/or march in the parade. Thank you all for your help. We even sold several T-shirts and Tank tops. Lonny will be happy I'm sure.

From the men in leather, the drag queens, and the muscle-bound scantily clad hunks to the "butch" womyn (would the day be complete without seeing the dykes on bikes?) or just the rest of us who lead more ordinary and less glamorous lives, we had fun. But more importantly we were able to do what our heterosexual counterparts take for granted. We could hold our boyfriend's, girlfriend's, or lover's hand in public. We could kiss them on the street (well, actually on the mouth but you know what I mean!). But above all, there was a general feeling that was best described by the lyrics in one of the songs played at the GCDC dance the night before Pride day: "I am what I am and that's all ..."

Peter

Well, the weather didn't stop between 25 and 30 thousand people from attending this year's Lesbian and Gay Pride Day celebrations and for me, this year's events and activities, culminating in the parade itself, were just as exciting as last year's.

There were the usual booths packing Cawthra Park and all along Church Street. Guelph was there proudly displaying information and of course, T-shirts. There was an endless array of people passing by - all openly showing their emotion. Couples, perhaps even a few straight ones, walking hand-in-hand, hugging, kissing, celebrating life!

The Guelph Gay Equality was well represented this year with many members attending for their first time. For many, the day was an emotional one. One person, recalling his own parents reactions to his homosexual orientation, cried when the PFLAG group marched by carrying a sign that read "Homophobia Hurts Families", one parent stopping their march to give him a caring and reassuring squeeze.

There was varied reaction from the motorists who happened to catch themselves along the parade route - one person mouthing the words "fucking faggots" and making a gagging gesture - others were more pleasant; some people laughing and smiling, flattered by shouts and waves and kisses blown in their direction - others had a more guarded reaction - still others even more exuberant, stopping their cars to get out and cheer us on! My heavens!... was that my grade six choir director and organ (pipe organ - the musical instrument found in the back of churches) instructor?? - WOW!

Twelve G.G.E. members, not unlike the apostles, capped off the day with dinner. Entertainment for the evening was provided by ourselves and our very energetic waiter, Brian. We ate and talked and drank and ate and sang and ate and bussed our own table and sang and danced and ate. At the end of it all, still laughing, we left an appropriate tip - 15%, a swizzle-stick sculpture, a condom and a sample packet of lube.

As we parted, like the disciples each going off in their own direction - some to Boots, others home: North York, Burlington, Ottawa, Guelph, we each took with us some unique and precious memories.

An interesting thought occurred to me on the way home. What if lesbians and gay men could celebrate like this every day? Could we live in a world where we are fully integrated into mainstream society - I think so. But we would lose the need for the greatest street party of the year, an event that Dwight has said is, "better than Christmas". I look forward to the day when there is no longer a need to call attention to our pride. A time of full integration and acceptance. We'll have to consider other reasons to have a party that's all. Given all the talent and creative juices that our people possess I don't think that finding a good reason to party will be too difficult a task.

Until next year I hope we can all keep smiling and walking (dancing/skipping) proud. New York perhaps?? Do you think that they are ready for Guelph?

As always, Marty



AIDS COMMITTEE OF GUELPH AND WELLINGTON COUNTY  
SUITE 202, 73 DELHI STREET, GUELPH, ONTARIO N1E 6L9  
TELEPHONE (519) 763-2255

HOURS: MONDAY TO FRIDAY, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

DEBORAH AZIM, SUPPORT CO-ORDINATOR

PLAY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Grand River Free Spirit Community Church Call Office for location of service	2	3 GGE Movie Night "Drama" 8 PM UC536	4 We are Everywhere CFRU 93.3 FM 12:30 & 5:15 p.m.	5 Gaywire 7-8 PM CIUT 89.5 FM GEM Coffee Night 84 S Service Rd. Miss.	6	7
8 GRFS as above	9	10 GGE General Meeting 8 PM UC 536	11 Gaywire as above	12 Gaywire as above GEM Coffee Night	13	14
15 GRFS as above	16	17 GGE Baseball 6:30 p.m. Location T.B.A.	18 We are Everywhere as above	19 Gaywire as above GEM Coffee Night	20	21 WOODS Camping, Scuba/Smoking Call for details @ Bruce Prov. Park
22 GRFS as above WOODS Camping as above	23	24 GGE Social Night Bookstave Terrace 8 PM	25 GGE Camping Trip Tobermory Call for details	26 Gaywire as above GEM Coffee Night GGE Camping	27 GGE Camping	28 GGE Camping
29 GRFS as above GGE Camping	30	31 GGE BBQ: Riverside Park 6:30 p.m.	<b>Phone Numbers of Interest</b> GEM (416) 536- [redacted] Gary (V.P. for GEM) GILLOW (519) 844-GILLOW (4566) GRFS (519) 570- [redacted] Office for GRFS Community Church PFLAG (416) 457- [redacted] Mary Jones WOODS (519) 579- [redacted] Lisa			

**A NOTE OF THANKS** To the many volunteers who have helped in setting up, staffing, and cleaning up after the dances, your help has been greatly appreciated and has not gone unnoticed.  
Nicole

**PUBLICATIONS** The GGE office receives regular issues of Xtra, Rites, RFD, LGYT newsletter, HUGS newsletter, HALO newsletter, GLO Niagara newsletter, Go Info and several others. Check out these and our library - all available in the GGE office.

We now have the most recent edition of Spartacus ('90/'91) available in our office. So when you're planning that summer excursion to some exotic locale (i.e. Cleveland!!) check out the guide to find the location of your nearest gay or lesbian bar, hotel, etc. Even if you're not interested in any of these, the guide has a great deal of very useful information about the place you may be staying.

And on a somewhat more serious note, the University of Guelph library apparently has available *The Journal of Homosexuality*. It may not feature all of the cruise zones in Burlington, but it does provide a forum for publications on homosexual issues.

**WE ARE EVERYWHERE** This radio talkshow is featured on CFRU 93.3 FM at 12:30 and 5:15p.m. Look for the specific dates in our calendar. The focus of past shows has been to interview people on their experience of coming out, dealing with discrimination and other topical issues.



**BY ALL MEANS  
NECESSARY!**

HAPPY PRIDE DAY  
AND LETS DO IT  
AGAIN NEXT YEAR

**THE NAME CHANGE - AN UPDATE** Just to remind all of the readers, July 10 is an important day for members of the GGE. This is the date when the membership will decide on the new name for the GGE. The options that will be available to choose from were listed in last month's newsletter, but merely to serve as a reminder, the proposals for the new name are:

1. GALG Guelph Area Lesbian & Gays
2. GGLA Guelph Gay & Lesbian Association
3. GLG Guelph Lesbians & Gays
4. GGL Guelph Gays & Lesbians
5. GGLE Guelph Gay and Lesbian Equality

Furthermore, the amendment to the constitution would appear as follows:

**Article I: Name**

The name of the organization shall be (insert one of the five options).

So I urge everyone to attend this meeting as we require your input into this decision.

Peter

**CUSTOMS DELAY OF BOOKS** Harassment seems to be commonplace at Toronto's Glad Day Bookshop. Jearald Moldenhauer, the store owner, has pointed out that between 50 to 100 shipments are detained annually by Canada customs for consideration on the status of the material. Admittedly, some of the material is considered pornographic but all of the material released is first examined by a board of citizens to determine if the material is pornographic under the Criminal Code. Previous seizures of material has prompted Moldenhauer to launch lawsuits against Customs for business lost resulting from the delays waiting for the ruling on shipments. Similar harassment has been experienced by other bookstores selling gay and lesbian literature in both Montreal and Vancouver.  
Globe and Mail 17 06 1990

## MISCELLANEOUS AFFAIRS/EVENTS

**HOLISTICS AND DUALITY OF LIFE** During the early 1980s when AIDS was new, some of those who were diagnosed with the disease felt the medical profession offered them nothing more than a death sentence. They were told the disease was fatal and given an approximate length of time to live. A percentage of persons that were HIV+ /PLWA refused to give into this pessimism and decided to look at AIDS as an opportunity to improve their attitudes and their lives. Many HIV+ /PLWAs have replaced chemotherapy and experimental drugs with affirmations, visualizations, self-love and determination. They have taken time out for themselves to look inward and to do some re-evaluating.

Not completely abandoning allopathic medicine, they have developed a holistic lifestyle to augment it. Where allopathy deals only with curing the physical, holistics combines the physical along with the mental and spiritual being to help create a total balance within the person. With the help of pioneers from the San Francisco area, such as Louise Hay and Jay Serinus (author of *Psychoimmunity and the Healing Process*), HIV+ /PLWAs have strengthened their immune systems through positive thought that encourage self-esteem and help to do away with unwanted stress. Those who put their faith in this combination feel that AIDS will give holistics the chance it needs to establish itself as a viable form of healing.

For years the western medical profession has believed that the immune system functioned on its own, separate from the mind. But due to tests and testimony of persons with cancer and more recently those with AIDS, a serious inquiry has arisen. PNI - psychoneuroimmunity - has developed to describe the exact ways in which state of mind can affect the body. Frustration, alienation, and the feeling that things are out of control all contribute towards a negative effect on a person's physical condition. A diseased mind leaves a person feeling victimized. The healing process begins only when the individual is able to overcome these feelings. Recently, George Solomon and Lydia Temoshok, along with a consultant group of long surviving men with AIDS (Ed. note: I assume this to be a gay population), have come up with a list of psychological characteristics that are common among those who have lived longest with the disease. It is important that they accept the diagnosis of AIDS but not see it as a death sentence, take personal responsibility for their health, and resolve any 'unfinished business' in their life. They should also come to terms with their sexuality and not see AIDS as a form of punishment. Lastly, they should have the ability to find purpose and a new meaning in their life and take an active responsibility to enjoy it.

Having a positive attitude is not the only answer to AIDS. But using a personal combination of western medicine and holistics that is right for each individual may result in a higher standard of living and a longer life.  
Roberta Rowe, ACGWC Volunteer

IDS:  
SAFE



**XTRA!**  
Your key to Toronto's  
lesbian and gay community  
Available at the Bookshelf Cafe, Quebec St.,  
Guelph and the GGE office.

**GAYCARE PROGRAM** A proposal has been forwarded to the GGE executive outlining an eight week Gaycare Program to start in the Fall of 1990. Meetings to be held weekly, on an as of yet undecided evening and location, would likely start in October and finish in early December. The objective of the program is "to explore how we are like and unlike others." The program is open to both men and women and will cost \$10.00 (to cover materials) or \$20.00 (if refreshments are desired). Assessments of the program will be completed at the end of every meeting as well as at the end of the program. More details will be available at a promotion night which is tentatively scheduled for a GGE meeting in September.

**T-SHIRT UPDATE** The T-shirts and tank tops have arrived and are selling incredibly fast. Get your T-shirt for \$16.00 or tank top for \$14.00 They look fabulous and make terrific gifts for your family members or spousal units.

When our current supply runs out and if numbers warrant, we will print more shirts. To do this, however, we will ask for your commitment (spelled, cash up front!), the specific size you desire, and the combination of slogan and/or design you wish to appear on the shirt.

**GGE MEMBERSHIP** A GGE membership entitles you to *reduced* (\$2.00) dance admission, voting privileges, discounts at GEM, GLOW and CLGRO affiliated activities and GGE newsletter free in the mail. Get yours today, only \$12.00. Help support the GGE!

## DEADLINE

Submissions for the next newsletter must be received by: July 24, 1990

The GGE Newsletter is published monthly by the GGE. Typesetting and Layout by CSA Graphics. Editing, Marty Russell. (Editor Emeritus) and Peter Fryns (Publicity Director)

## Manfred's Meadow Guest House

Dear GGE Members,

We offer an all-inclusive resort about an hour from Guelph that's open year round. Stay in our century old log house, pine-panelled rooms.

Enjoy our 100-acre farm, hot tub, sauna. Feast on home-cooked meals with fresh bread, eggs, honey.

Write or phone for a brochure. See you this summer at Manfred's Meadow.

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## rites

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STAFFED MONDAY THRU THURSDAY, 7:30 -9:30 PM

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