

# Grand River Rainbow Historical Project

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*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 &  
LESBIAN  
EQUALITY**

**NEWSLETTER FOR SEPTEMBER 1990**



## Marchers protest police violence

*Lesbians and gays say brutality won't silence them*



**Church urges police to improve relations with gay community**

## Police raid unites the gay community in a wave of protest

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS** With this the start of the fall semester at the University, I would like to extend a welcome to all of the new students we will be seeing over the course of the semester. Although we are a community - as well as a university-based organization, I do not think we can ignore the influx of new members that is seen every September. Many events are planned for the coming months, some of which are familiar to current GGLE members as well as some that are new to all members alike. One particular feature that current members should notice is the change in the appearance of the newsletter, to reflect our name change, to the Guelph Gay and Lesbian Equality. After what may to some seem like years, we changed our name to give ourselves a more gender inclusive name. Although no longer a student, I'm looking forward to an exciting semester and I'm certain Lonny would like to see a successful first dance of the fall season. As always, we need the cash. (And before I forget, a special thank you to all those who helped me move recently.)

Peter

**TO BE IN MONTREAL** Most of us when they think of Montreal think of the sights, the sounds, and the charm of the city. Often we have fond memories of people we met, the bars and sometimes the openness of two men or women walking hand-in-hand down Rue de St. Catharine. All that of course has changed since the brutal police attack on party-goers in the early hours of July 15. Eight people were arrested after police used billy clubs to disperse those gathered outside a private party. The next day, 250 members of the recently-formed "Lesbians and Gays Against Violence" protested the arrest of the eight by organizing a sit-in which they brought traffic to a halt at de Maisonneuve Blvd. Forty-eight more people were arrested following an especially brutal attack on the group. Police used riot gear and billy clubs to disperse the crowds while attacking men in the groin and women across the breasts. To remain anonymous, many police had removed their badges as if their shameful attack could go unnoticed. An interesting aside was that of the 48 arrested, a surprising number were heterosexual. On July 29, a march was organized, this time with a police escort, to protest police brutality. The 2000-strong marchers ended their march at Lafontaine Park where more speeches were heard. My Montreal correspondent (thanks John), has not informed me of whether the LGAV demands of dropping the charges against the 56 arrested have been successful nor whether an inquiry into the brutality has been initiated.

(Excerpted from *The Montreal Gazette*, 20-31 July 1990.)



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

**AID  
PLAY**

**LOOKING BACK ON THE ACGWC** Well here it is the twenty-first of August, and my last day as volunteer-coordinator/fundraiser with the AIDS Committee of Guelph and Wellington County. It has been a fascinating year! It is with great reluctance and yet with much anticipation that I move on from here. It has been a time of growth, a time of learning, and a time of loving.

I have seen and experienced a great deal during my time spent here in Guelph and the GGLE has played a large part in all of that. I cannot begin to express my gratitude for the support you have given the ACGWC, from the many members who selflessly volunteer their time with the committee, to the executive and GGLE members who have supported our cause through involvement and support of the many issues we face on a daily basis.

Much of the time with the ACGWC has been spent building a solid volunteer program. Volunteers have been and will continue to be the backbone of this agency. Our objective in creating the program is to have a solid organizational structure in place that recognizes, evaluates and trains the men and women who give themselves to help this committee reach its goals and objectives. We also want to offer a rewarding volunteer experience and give something back! I have and will always be most proud of our volunteers! I am also pleased that the program I leave behind will ensure a continuation of the dedication to a solid volunteer foundation. Our first (and I might add most successful) fundraising dance would not have been possible without the assistance of the GGLE and its members who attended "SPRINGFEVER".

GGLE is an important ally to the ACGWC and I hope that all of you will continue to support, encourage and actively participate in the work that the committee undertakes! If you would like more information about the ACGWC or would like to volunteer your time and talents, I encourage you to pick up the phone and call the office at 763-2255. Thank you, best wishes and continued success to GGLE.

- Dave Grant

**REFLECTIONS ON PROVINCETOWN** Three weeks ago I had the opportunity to take a 5-day trip with a friend to Provincetown in Cape Cod, Massachusetts. To those readers still contemplating a visit this year, Provincetown is the major gay-positive resort in the U.S. Northeastern seaboard, and is located on the Northernmost tip of the horn of Cape Cod. I can only say Gay-positive because a large number of Straight tourists patronize this place and seem to comprise about 30% of the street life. There's no doubt about the majority, however, as many Gay couples openly hold hands on the street (you may even catch the odd kiss or two...), and most of the shops cater to Gay clientele. The sight of Gay and Straight couples walking hand-in-hand, side-by-side, without even the slightest concern moved me greatly. There's a lesson here for the rest of this obsessively homophobic world we live in.

So you want to see this "Gay utopia"? I'll provide you with a bit of "survival kit" first, so that your trip will be as problem-free as possible. (I wish I'd known about all THIS before I went!!):

1. Bring lots of friends. Not only will they share your expenses but your driving as well. The 1100km trip will take 13 or more hours to complete, far too much for one driver. You could, of course, stay a night along the way, but this will drive up your costs (sorry about that, I couldn't resist...).
2. Bring lots of clothes. You can be assured that once you arrive in P-town, you won't be able to do any laundry. The reason for this is that the whole area is on a severe water restriction. There are no laundromats in town and even the locals are rationed to two loads a week, and I don't think they'll sacrifice one sock's worth for a hapless Canadian tourist.
3. Bring lots of money. Much of what you've heard about cheap American accommodations is so much horsefeathers when it comes to a tourist-trap. Budget between \$50 to \$65 a night per room for guesthouses, \$10 more for B&B's. Camping is available nearby but you'll have to book early. Meals will run about \$35 a day per person, if you have three per day. Nearly every event worth going to has its own cover-charge or admission fee ranging from \$2 to \$10 per person, so count on about \$15/day. Notwithstanding the inevitable souvenir shopping...
4. Bring lots of smiles. Remember that you are ambassadors of your country in a foreign land. I detected a faint aftertaste of resentment on behalf of the locals against Canadians, who for whatever reason have gained a reputation for being dour, undisciplined drinkers, and poor tippers.

Places you should see: The Boatslip, Atlantic House, and Gifford House (bars); The Lobster Pot, Sebastien's, and Cafe Euro (restaurants); the charming little shops on Commercial Street, and the beach (there is a clothing-optional section for the less-inhibited among you). Pick up a copy of the local town magazine on arrival to find out what shows are in town. There's usually one "place everyone goes to" every night. One tip: Be sure to attend at least one tea-dance at the Boatslip, running from 3:30 to 6:30 every afternoon. I found these to be the most fun of all.

One last piece of advice I can leave you with: Plan your trip well in advance (as with any journey). We went on a whim (2 hours lead time) and were only very fortunate to have made it through without any major complications. I have a Gay travel guide and some P-town material left if anyone wishes to borrow them for booking accommodations and making up an itinerary. Best of luck to all and Bon Voyage!

- Bruce



**TOBERMORY OR BUST...** Just picture it, approximately 20 fags huddled around their Coleman stoves making their French Toast, Bacon & Eggs, and brewing their coffee. Imagine the commotion when to their horror they discovered there wasn't an electrical outlet for miles. Where would they plug in their hair dryers, and their curling irons or, God-forbid, their portable microwave ovens? Or picture the calamity when they found out that mousse, gel, hair spray and cologne all attracted flies and mosquitoes. And let's not forget there was not a shower within walking distance--unless you particularly liked the jog to Tobermory! What a sacrifice and all in the spirit of having a good time. That's right, the 2nd annual GGLE camping trip was another overwhelming success. Thank you David for all your organizational efforts. I don't know if the people at the Bruce Peninsula National Park will ever be the same. And what a selection of bodies to ogle over that particular weekend--the only continuously sunny weekend of the summer. Did you manage to plan that as well David!

Of course who can forget the remark that Marty's parents made (who, by the way, appeared before Marty and Dwight arrived) when Marty's father suggested the reason for their tardiness was probably because Dwight was busy blow-drying his hair (the entire brush cut). Or who can forget Jeff's rather risqué exposure of himself--I have photos to prove it! And naturally there was the usual assortment of sunburned bodies, the birthday cake that caught fire (just how old are you Dan??), the rattle snake that crossed our path, the frigid waters of Georgian Bay, as well as the spectacular display put on by Ma Nature with her showing of the Northern Lights. And then there was the letdown when the weekend ended, when we all had to return either to work or back to classes. But despite all of the sacrifices we had to endure, all of us had a great time and wished we could stay longer. Until next year...it's a long way to Tobermory. Peter

**CELEBRATION '90 - GAY GAMES III AND CULTURAL FESTIVAL** Celebration '90 was the official name for all events surrounding the Gay Games III held in Vancouver, August 3 to 11. Over 8500 people from around the world met to participate in 29 sports and 14 cultural events, and approximately 10,000 more came to watch, cheer, and have a good time in one of the largest outpourings of Gay pride the world has ever known. To be there was truly a moving experience, especially to one not yet well-versed in Gay life and the community.

In addition to some of the sports events, I had the pleasure of attending a concert by the Vancouver Men's Chorus entitled "Rise UP!" a 3½ hour performance at the Orpheum by the 75-voice chorus and a number of special guests. The next evening I went to see a truly excellent play held in the Vancouver East Cultural Centre entitled "Warm Wind in China". It was a powerfully-acted piece, about a young Nova Scotia man who in 1981 contracted AIDS, showing how both his parents and his very sensitive lover handled his decline and eventual departure from this world. I've never cried at a play before.

In contrast the Closing Ceremonies the next evening were full of happiness and optimism for the future. Unveiled for the first time was the Dr. Tom Waddell trophy, a gift from the City of Vancouver to the Federation of Gay Games, named in honour of the late founder of the Gay Games movement. All 8500 participants were crammed onto the floor of the huge BC Place Stadium, as the stands filled with spectators. There were performances by the Vancouver Mens' Chorus, Long John Baldry, and the Nylons. The dancing and parties that followed continued well into the night. I was so proud to be there and to be Gay. I can only conclude with the words of the chorus:

People loving boldly,  
People loving boldly,  
People loving boldly,  
Never looking back,  
NEVER LOOKING BACK!

Love to you all, - Bruce.

**LOOKING AHEAD**

October 9 - 11

BGLAD (Bisexual, Gay, and Lesbian Awareness Days). An event organized at many Ontario universities to raise awareness of our community.

October 14 - 20

AIDS Awareness Week '90. The slogan, "Out Living, Out Loving, Out Lasting AIDS" has been chosen for this year's Awareness Week to demonstrate that having AIDS need not mean you should feel your life is over. Many exciting and interesting events have been planned to raise awareness for all members of the Guelph community.

**SEPTEMBER 1990**

Sunday      Monday      Tuesday      Wednesday      Thursday      Friday      Saturday

2	Grand River Free Spirit Community Church Call Office for location of service	3	GGLE Movie Night "Diana" 8 PM UC536	4	GGLE Welcome Back Social 8 PM UC 536	5	We are Everywhere CFRU 93.3 FM 12:30 & 5:15 pm	6	GEM Elections/ Coffee Night 84 Service Rd. Miss. WOODS - joggng 6 PM call Lisa	7		8	
9	GRFS as above	10	GGLE	11	GGLE Games Night with AIDS Committee reps 8:00 p.m. U.C. 536	12	GEM Coffee Night Location as above WOODS as above Gaywire 7-8 pm CILT 89.5 FM	13	WOODS - joggng 6 PM call Lisa	14		15	
16	GRFS as above	17	GGLE Games Night with AIDS Committee reps 8:00 p.m. U.C. 536	18	We are Everywhere CFRU 93.3 FM 12:30 & 5:15 pm	19	GEM Coffee Night Location as above WOODS as above Gaywire	20	WOODS - Camping G-Towne Resort Cabin rentals/sports Call Kim	21		22	WOODS as above
23	GRFS as above WOODS as above	24	GGLE PFLAG - Mary Jones 8:00 p.m. U.C.536	25	We are Everywhere as above	26	GEM Coffee Night Location as above WOODS as above Gaywire	27	GGLE Dance Polish Hall 5 Empire St. 9 pm - 1 am	28		29	
30	GRFS as above WOODS 2nd Anniversary Hike 1 pm - St. Jacob's Behind Mill	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Phone Numbers of Interest</b></p> <p>GEM (416) 536- Gary (N.P. for GEM)          GLOW (519) 844-GLOW (4569)          GRFS (519) 570- Office for GRFS Community Church          PFLAG (416) 457- Mary Jones          WOODS (519) 747- Kim (519) 579- Lisa</p>											

**WE ARE EVERYWHERE** This radio talkshow is featured on CFRU 93.3 FM at 12:30 and 5:15pm. 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.

**S: SAFE**



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





**GENERAL POLICY** The GGLE Newsletter is published monthly by the Guelph Gay and Lesbian Equality, P.O. Box 773, Guelph, Ontario, N1H 6L8. Typesetting and layout are completed by CSA Graphics. The newsletter's purpose is to keep members informed about GGLE activities, to present issues of particular interest to the lesbian and gay community in the Guelph area, and to provide a forum for discussion. All submissions to the newsletter are welcomed and will be considered for publication. Opinions expressed in submissions are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the GGLE executive or its membership. Submissions may be edited for printability, readability, and length while attempting not to change their content. Names of the contributors should be included but will not be published without their express consent. Where a decision to exclude a submission must be made due to insufficient space, members' submissions will receive preference over non-members.

**ADVERTISING POLICY** All camera ready advertisement will be considered for inclusion in the newsletter. The appearance of an ad in the newsletter should not be construed as official approval of such an ad by the GGLE. If you have responded to an advertisement and feel that the ad was in any way fraudulent please notify the GGLE executive as soon as possible. The GGLE reserves the right to limit the amount of advertising sold in the newsletter.

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

**DEADLINE**

Submissions for the next newsletter must be received by: September 20, 1990.

**MONTHLY ADVERTISING RATES FOR 1990**

Full page	\$25.00
Half page	\$15.00
Quarter page	\$10.00
Eighth page	\$5.00

**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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