### **Grand River Rainbow Historical Project**

### 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

Publishing History: Issued by Guelph Gay Equality (GGE) from 1977, May - 1990, August. Issued by Guelph Gay & Lesbian Equality (GGLE) from 1990, September - 1993, April. Issued by Guelph Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Equality (GGLBE) from 1993, May - 1995, September.

Copyright Permission: Copies of individual issues of this *Newsletter* have been reproduced with the kind permission of its copyright holder, Guelph Queer Equality (GQE). This permission is part of a broad agreement to grant the Grand River Rainbow Historical Society copyright permission to reproduce publications of Guelph Queer Equality under its current and prior names back to its inception in 1973 (University of Guelph Homophile Association → Guelph Gay Equality → Guelph Gay & Lesbian Equality → Guelph Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Equality → Guelph Queer Equality). No further reproduction is permitted.

**Digitized Files**: After the PDF file has displayed, we suggest that you set your viewing window to a fairly large size and then adjust the PDF magnification so that the text can be read comfortably.

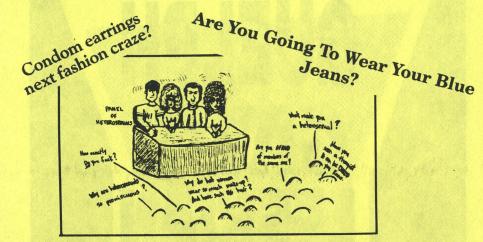
**Telephone Numbers & Email Addresses**: These documents were published many years ago. Please do **NOT** use them as a source for telephone numbers or email addresses for local businesses or agencies. Reliable sources for that kind of information include <a href="http://www.canada411.ca/">http://www.canada411.ca/</a> and other search engines on the Internet.

**Redaction**: Certain parts of the digitized text have been **blacked out** in accordance with our <u>Redaction Policy</u>. The **Grand River Rainbow Historical Society** maintains a separate collection of unmarked (unredacted) copies of the issues of this magazine for consultation as necessary.

# GEREN EGUALTY

NEWSLETTER FOR NOVEMBER 1990





FORUM ON HETEROSEXUALITY

Courtesy The Peak 27 09 1990

# Here's to you, Mr. Robinson

**BGLAD - A SUCCESSFUL FIRST (AND HOPEFULLY) ANNUAL EVENT** So you thought that BGLAD (Bisexual, Gay and Lesbian Awareness Days) was going to quell homophobia forever allowing us to live freely without having to hide anymore? If that was your expectation then I don't think BGLAD was a success, but if you thought it raised people's awareness of whom we are then I would have to agree it was successful.

Tuesday evening's highlighted event was an insightful speech that Svend Robinson, MP for Burnaby-Kinsgway, delivered to an audience of about 120 people in Peter Clark Hall. The focus of his speech was visability and awareness. By remaining invisible we would be condemning ourselves to a life of having to hide and make excuses for our actions. "We've all heard the expression that silence equals death," Mr. Robinson explained. He also noted how surprised he was of the ignorance he saw in communities to the blatant discrimination that is practised openly today against the lesbian and gay community. To that end he cited many examples of which many of us can attest to personally. He concluded his speech by stating one of the most important things missing in the lives of most lesbian and gay youths are prominent role models. What was tragic about this is that one could consider it a form of abuse since it resulted in a teen suicide rate that is two to three times higher than that of heterosexual youths. Therefore, he suggested, "Coming out is the single most powerful act that any of us can do." It would provide today's youth with the role models they are so sadly lacking.

The second day of BGLAD was the day on which most of the classroom forums occured. It was also the day that Faith Nolan sang at *The Albion*. Both events were well received. And although some voyeuristic questions were asked by a few students, in the lecture halls, most went away with the knowledge that not "all dykes are as ugly or as wide as the trucks they drive" and that not "all fags are limp-wristed and swish hairdressers."



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

All PLAY The third day of BGLAD was designated as blue jeans day. This was so that everyone who wished could show their solidarity with Gays and Lesbians in the community. But why blue jeans? Doesn't everyone own at least one pair? That was just the point. It would be a little difficult to expect that everyone just happened to have at their disposal a small pink triangle. but a more interesting way of interpreting this clothing choice (one that I hadn't really considered - Thanks Nicole) was that by not wearing blue jeans one would be compelled to wear alternative clothing thus identifying to everyone your bigotry. The point of all of this is that bigotry is still alive at The University of Guelph. Two such examples were: 1) the inclusion of a personal ad in *The Ontarion*, by someone known only as "disgusted", condemning the day and what it represented; and 2) someone walking through the University Centre courtyard in their underwear while holding their blue jeans in their hands. Suffice it to say that "disgusted" and this other individual are compelling examples of why events such as BGLAD are still necessary in the hopes of making an impact on these geniuses from the palaeolithic era. Overall, however, BGLAD was a resounding success and I look forward to this becoming an annual event - at least until the days that we will no longer need it.

AIDS AWARENESS WEEK 1990 Outliving, outloving, outlasting AIDS was the theme for AIDS Awareness Week (AAW) 1990. The AIDS Committee of Guelph and Wellington county (ACGWC) jumperd the gun a bit with two joint presentations on the weekend prior to the offical start of AAW. The first at Ed Video saw some 500 people (over two days) view "Video Against AIDS", a collection of independently produced pieces whose goal was to combat the ignorance surrounding the epidemic. "Our Mission" was a beautifully choreographed production that included a collage of singing, dancing, acting vignettes, and poetry reading. I'm looking forward to the video that was filmed the day of the event that one of the ACGWC's volunteers is currently editing. Perhaps we'll be able to view it at a future GGLE meeting.

Throughout the official part of AAW, many speaking engagements were held; all with the intent of raising awareness. The Youth and AIDS seminar, held at John F. Ross CVI was well received by a group of about 50 students. The Hot Rap Workshop was very entertaining especially when all of us disclosed, sometimes with a hint of embarrassment, our two preferences in a sexual partner. But why restrict it to only two? The Therapeutic Touch Workshop and the Women and AIDS Workshop were the only two events that unfortunately were poorly attended. While advertising was certainly not an issue, perhaps the problem was that the former was held the same evening as Hot Rap and the latter simply reflects our societal misconceptions that AIDS is not a women's issue.

The presentation to health care workers, at the General Hospital, as well as the dance on Saturday both were very successful. According to one of the speakers at the Health Care Workshop, a few very straight-laced conservative individuals were in tears by noon. The workshop apparently made an impact. But of course, it was not the intent of the speakers to bring the audience to tears. The dance on Saturday, as all such events, was an evening to unwind. With the frantic pace of AAW 1990 behind, now was the time to stop, relax, catch a few breaths, chat about the week with friends... and to get ready for AAW 1991! But just what type of encore can follow "Our Mission?"

With AAW 1990 now behind us, let's hope that the message is starting to find its way to the people that are truly ignorant of the impact that AIDS will have on our future. It's a disease that cannot be regarded as lightly as many other STD's. It's not simply a matter of going to your drug store and getting a prescription to make it go away. But by spreading information and by educating the public, we can all learn to enjoy very active safe sex lives. And it doesn't have to be dull either! In closing, I would also like to extend on behalf of Marnie Neve, the Education Co-ordinator at the ACGWC, a vote of confidence and thanks to the GGLE for all the support and organization we have provided the ACGWC.

racen ship, ka a granda ship, ka a granda ship	GGLE Dance Polish Hall 5 Empire St 9 pm · 1 am	We Are Everywhere/ Gaywire as above	GLLOW Coffee House 9-11 pm CC110	GGLE Games Night 8 pm UC 536	26	25 GRFS as above
24	GLLOW 23 Dance - CIRCLES 24 Charles St., Kitch. 9 pm - 3 am information	We Are Everywhere/ Gaywire as above	19 GGLE 20 We Are Everywhere/ bance - CIRCLE Gaywire 24 Charles St., k as above 9 pm - 3 am GLLOW SEXUALITY AWARENESS WEEK - Call GLLOW for further information	GGLE 20 Dr. Gary Gibson to speak on relationships 8 pm UC 536 UALITY AWAREN	- GLTOM SEX	18 GRFS as above
17		We Are Everywhere/ Gaywire as above	GLLOW Coffee House 9-11 pm CC 110	GGLE Discussion · open forum 8 pm UC 536	<b>1</b>	GRFS as above Judy Small in concert 8 pm - details: see ad
200 400 400 500	6	We Are Everywhere/ Gaywire as above	A STATE OF THE STATE OF T	GGLE Social 8 pm UC 536	5	Grand River Free Spirit Community Church, Call Office for location of service
3	No.	We Are Everywhere 1 CFRU 93.3 FM 5:45 pm Gaywire CIUT 89.5 FM 7 - 8 p.m.	(519) 836-4860 (519) 824-4120 (ext 8575) (519) 844-04.0W (4869) (APPS Community Church (416) 487- Mary Jane	(519) 838-468/ (519) 824-4120 (ext 857) (519) 844-0LOW (4688) (519) 570- Office for ORES Community Church (416) 457- Mary Jan	ON all the response	Phone Numbers of Interest GOLE - The GAYLINE GOLE - Our Office GOLOW GRFS PFLAG
Saturday	Friday	90 Thursday	NOVEMBER 1990 Wednesday	NO	Monday	Sunday

# MISCELLANEOUS AFFAIRS/EVENTS

THE NEXT FASHION CRAZE?? It's five minutes to eleven. You are about to embark on a night of frivolity, merriment, and some good old-fashioned animal lust. But wait. You can't leave without slipping on your latest fashion accessories. How else are you going to indicate that you believe in safe-sex... especially when those jeans you're wearing do not hide the fact you're not even sporting so much as the smallest of G-strings. In fact, folks can probably read the date stamped on that Loony in your back pocket. But don't fret. Enter the new rage available from Lovecraft Ltd. Condom earrings! Not only do they free your pockets from those unsightly circular bulges but also they may lead to a wealth of opening lines that are sure to invite you to make more than just a few snappy comebacks. Manufactured in New Jersey, the circular earrings safely carry condoms inside. They will be available soon for a mere \$13.95 so get a pair, or two, and make your fashion statement. They also make ideal Christmas stocking stuffers.

from The Globe and Mail 25 10 1990

WE ARE EVERYWHERE This radio talkshow is featured every Thursday on CFRU 93.3 FM at 5:45 pm. The focus of past shows has been to interview people on their experience of coming out, dealing with discrimination, and other topical issue. Please contact Shawn at (519) 824-4120 ext. 6919 if you wish to contribute to the show.

A BIT OF LOCAL PRIDE I'm sure everyone has heard about the altercation we had at the last dance - local headbangers breaking into a vehicle, stealing goods, and then getting caught. I just wanted to say I'm really proud of the way we handled the matter - we stood up for ourselves and each other. We were calm and collected. Various people took immediate charge of the situation and ensured that we made a sharply-worded but non-violent response that did not get out of hand. The police did not show - but perhaps we did not need them.

I looked around during the incident and saw the street filled with gay and lesbian people walking resolutely en masse towards the culprits. I was proud. We protected ourselves and told them in no uncertain terms where to go. As Nicole said to one of the thugs, we were the men and women his mother warned him about.

David H.

Ed. note: While the situation was thankfully diffused, this is not to say we should calmly act as if nothing happened nor should we assume that it could escalate futher. In future, we should be more aware of our neighbours at the Polish Hall and we should attempt to take all necessary precautions to ensure the safety of all our members and their guests. I hope that this incident will not deter people from coming to future dances.

WOODS EVENTS Please direct all inquiries to WOODS c/o PTCC, P.O. Box 986, Waterloo, ON N2J 4S1. We regret that a current phone contact is unavailable due to several epsilon-semi morons who abused the disclosure of a WOODS member's home phone number. Until a workable alternative can be found, we ask that all womyn wanting information about WOODS events use this method instead. It isn't the best solution but it is the only one that can be used at present.

WGLA EVENTS Western Gay and Lesbian Association is having its next "Homo Hop" on November 22, 1990 at the Halo Club at Colborne & Pall Mall Street in London. While visiting London, you can call the WGLA Gayline at (519) 438-4329.



**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.

**QQLE MEMBERSHIP** A GGLE membership entitles you to *REDUCED* (\$2.00) dance admission, voting privileges, discounts at GEM, GLLOW 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: November 20, 1990

### MONTHLY ADVERTISING RATES FOR 1990

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





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

☐ THE GAYLINE ☐ 836-4550 ☐