

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

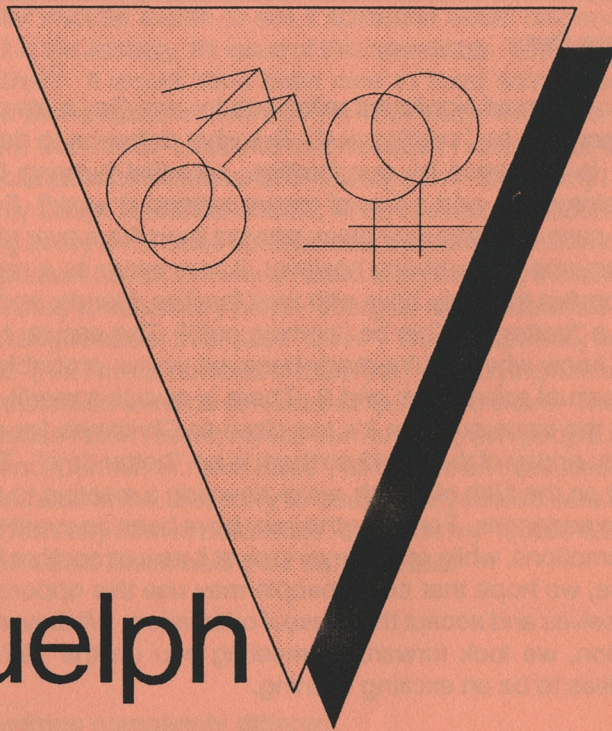
Publishing History: Issued by **Guelph Gay Equality (GGE)** from 1977, May - 1990, August. Issued by **Guelph Gay & Lesbian Equality (GGLE)** from 1990, September - 1993, April. Issued by **Guelph Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Equality (GGLBE)** from 1993, May - 1995, September.

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Guelph
Gay and
Lesbian
Equality

Newsletter for March 1991

News

Coming Out

The single-most significant milestone for any Gay male or Lesbian has often suggested to be "coming out". But what draws us to doing this when it may result in alienation by our families, potential bullying by false-friends and acquaintances, and a fear of repercussions at work? For some, fear of this worst-case scenario may alone prevent them from ever sharing their sexuality with anyone. For others, however, it may serve as a catalyst for testing the relationship that they have with their families, friends, and their colleagues. Is there a "better-time" to be "coming out"? The answer to this is two-fold: 1. You'll know when you're ready because you've probably come to terms with your sexual orientation; and 2. There is always a readily available excuse to avoid the issue such as it's too close to Christmas [or any other significant holiday or day of the week] so there is no "better-time". The point to all of this is that on the 19th of March, we're devoting a meeting to sharing our "coming out" experiences. For some this may have been an event that was too charged with emotions, while others may look at it as just another innocuous event. Of course, we hope that some people may use this opportunity to come out to themselves and accept their sexual orientation. Whatever best describes your situation, we look forward to meeting you on the 19th of March for what promises to be an exciting evening.

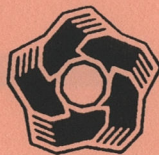
Miscellaneous Affairs & Events

A note of thanks to the Artist

In recognition of Gavin's gracious donation of his painting to the GGLE office, I'd like to thank him on behalf of all the members and the executive for his contribution to improving the appearance of the office.

AIDS Committee of Guelph and Wellington County
Suite 202, 73 Delhi Street, Guelph, ON N1E 6L9
Telephone (519) 763-2255

Hours: Monday to Friday, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Deborah Azim, Support Co-ordinator



And the verdict is...

I thought I'd wait for another month to see if someone would respond to the question I'd raised in the January '91 issue of this newsletter. What do you call your significant other? It would have been nice to have some readership response to see if there was a consensus on what term we could all use. Unfortunately, there was none. I assume that because I still equate the term "lover" with some clandestine relationship on the sly is the reason why I haven't adopted it to identify Doug. I could, of course, while in a more political frame of mind, refer to Doug as my lover since spousal unit, spouse, or husband all just seem too inappropriate. I haven't, however, been that politically inclined lately. Instead, I am more likely to call him by name--doing so clearly identifies who he is and roles off the tongue easier than does "lover". This is especially so for my colleagues at work. (No, I'm not out to all of them yet.) Identifying him by name doesn't, however, establish the type of relationship that we share. That to me is unfortunate because I then restrict myself from sharing with people our true involvement. "Friend, partner, or room-mate", all do him an injustice since he is more than any of these to me. So, sorry to disappoint you folks who thought I may come up with an easy term to use. While I continue my "quest" for finding the ideal term, I still would like to hear your input on this.

Peter

And now for something completely different

Just when you thought it was safe to ask perfectly innocent questions, someone, somewhere will likely either correct you on the way you should phrase it or you'll find you have to ask something and you just don't know how to say it without offending the party in question. What to do? You consult with that know-it-all for social etiquette--Judith Martin who is more popularly known as Miss Manners. Her popularity is such that she not only has a syndicated column but also a book called *Guide for the Turn-of-the-Millennium*. So after having perused the index, I decided to reprint these little gems on homosexuality.

Volunteers Needed - Administration

The AIDS Committee of Guelph and Wellington County
requires understanding and compassionate persons with free-time available during the day for volunteer work in the Guelph area.

If you have any computer knowledge, we would like to hear from you.

Confidentiality is a must.

Interested persons are invited to call the Volunteer Co-ordinator, Gloria Laird, at (519) 763-2255. Please help us to help others.

March 1991

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 Grand River Free Spirit Community Church Call GRFS office for location of service	4	5 GGLE General Meeting Elections 8 pm UC 536	6 GLLOW Night Modern Languages Bldg. Room 104, University of Waterloo 9 'til 11 pm	7 We are Everywhere CFRU 93.3 FM 5:45 pm Gaywire CIUT 89.5 FM 7 'til 8 pm GEM see below	8 PFLAG Meeting Guest Speaker - The Rev. Douglas Graydon, Chap- lain of Casey House.	9
10 GRFS as above	11	12 GGLE Gay Fathers 8 pm UC 536	13 GLLOW Night as above	14 We are Everywhere/ Gaywire as above GEM Coffee House Unitarian Hall 84 S. Service Road Mississauga. 8 pm	15	16
17 GRFS as above	18	19 GGLE Coming Out 8 pm UC 536	20 Guelph Inter-Agency Fair 10:00 am to 4:00 pm Italian Canadian Club 135 Ferguson St., Guelph GLLOW Night as above	21 We are Everywhere/ Gaywire as above GEM as above	22 GGLE Dance The School House 611 Silvercreek Parkway Guelph 9 pm 'til 1 am	23
24 GRFS as above	25	26 GGLE Social Night 8 pm UC 536	27 GLLOW Night as above	28 We are Everywhere/ Gaywire as above GEM as above ACCKWA - Dyke Night at Club Circles	29 Good Friday	30 ACCKWA - Auction at Club Circles Auction will commence at 11:30 pm. Prizes. See details in newsletter.
31 Easter Sunday GRFS as above						

Dear Miss Manners:

I have several gay friends. A few of my friends inquire about the sexual preference of every person I mention in the course of normal conversation. I find this very rude. It is none of their business and is usually irrelevant to the conversation. If I answer "It's none of your business," it is taken as "Yes."

Gentle Reader:

Surely the obvious answer here is a cold "Why, I have no idea. I wouldn't dream of asking about anything so extremely private." This is also the correct answer when one is asked why one's friends don't get married, divorced, or pregnant and how much they paid for their houses.

And how about this next one...after all wedding season is just around the corner folks!

Dear Miss Manners:

My daughter would like to invite to her wedding a friend, who happens to be homosexual, and his live-in friend. But his parents, who do not condone his lifestyle, will also attend the wedding, and I am concerned that tension may result and spoil the atmosphere. Am I wrong to suggest that my daughter invite her friend without his partner? Should I give in and hope for the best?

Gentle Reader:

Let us certainly hope that no guests consider your daughter's wedding to be a proper arena for either condoning or condemning anyone's living arrangements. It is not nice for people to speculate on the bridal couple's private behaviour, much less the wedding guests'. Surely the gentleman's parents have other occasions for expressing their attitude. Anyone concerned who feels in danger of spoiling the wedding should decline the invitation. In any case, the hosts should assume that guests will behave themselves. If your daughter otherwise sees the gentleman and his partner as a social couple, she should treat them as one on this occasion.

Phone Numbers of Interest

GGLE--GAYLINE	(519) 836-4550	GLOW	(519) 884-GLOW [4569]
GGLE--Office	(519) 824-4120 (ext.8575)	GRFS	(519) 570- [redacted]
GEM (Gary)	(416) 332- [redacted]	PFLAG (Mary Jones)	(416) 457- [redacted]
WGLA--GAYLINE	(519) 438-4329		

Looking Ahead

28 March **Dyke Night at Club Circles** - Voluntary cover in support of ACCKWA. There will be live entertainment.

30 March **Auction at Club Circles** - Voluntary cover in support of ACCKWA. Auction will commence at 11:30 pm. Prizes include a weekend package in St. Jacobs, tickets to Stratford, Shaw and Blythe Festivals, dinner for two at Chaps in Toronto, two nights accommodations at Hotel Selby, six month memberships at the Valhalla Inn and The Platinum Fitness Centre, two fully autographed posters of the Canadian production of the Phantom Of The Opera, plus several others. A full list will be available 1 March 1991.

6 April **Cabaret/Dance at the Loft in Guelph**. This event is the first time two regional committees have worked on a joint fundraising event. Doors open at 8:00 pm, Cabaret starts at 8:30 pm, dance to follow at 10:00 pm. Performers are from the Guelph Little Theatre, University of Guelph, Wilfrid Laurier University and the GGLE. Cost is \$8.00 in advance and \$10.00 at the door. Tickets can be purchased at the Bookshelf or by calling (519) 763-2255 or (519) 741-8300. All proceeds will support the committees in Guelph and Kitchener-Waterloo.

25-27 April

Presentation of DREAMING, an original musical fantasy for all ages. Performances will be the 25th, 26th, and two on the 27th and will be presented at the Theatre of the Arts, University of Waterloo. Curtain time is 8:00 pm and 2:00 pm on the 27th. Tickets are \$6.00 in advance and \$8.00 at the door. Tickets can be ordered by calling (519) 741-8300 or by calling the Humanities Theatre box office at (519) 885-4280.

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XTRA!

Your key to Toronto's
lesbian and gay community

Available at the Bookshelf Cafe, Quebec St.,
Guelph and the GGLE office.

Guelph Inter-Agency Fair

Wednesday, 20 March 1991 from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm
at the Italian Canadian Club
135 Ferguson Street, Guelph (Wheelchair Accessible)

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 issues. Please contact Shawn at (519) 824-4120 ext 6919 if you wish to contribute to the show.

Deadline

Submissions for the next newsletter must be received by 18 March 1991.

1991 Monthly Advertising Rates

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

GGLE Newsletter

The GGLE Newsletter is published monthly by the Guelph Gay and Lesbian Equality, P.O. Box 773, Guelph, Ontario, N1H 6L8; (519) 824-4120 ext 8575. For submissions of articles, advertisement, or general information about the newsletter, direct your inquiries to the GGLE executive at the above address.

GGLE Membership

A GGLE membership entitles you to *reduced* (\$2.00) dance admission, voting privileges, discounts at GEM, GLOW, and CLGRO affiliated activities as well as a copy of this newsletter sent to you in the mail (in a plain brown envelope). Get your membership today; still available for only \$12.00. Help support the GGLE!

The GAYLINE (519) 836-4550
Staffed Monday through Thursday
from 7:30 to 9:30 pm
Office Phone (519) 824-4120 (ext. 8575)
