

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

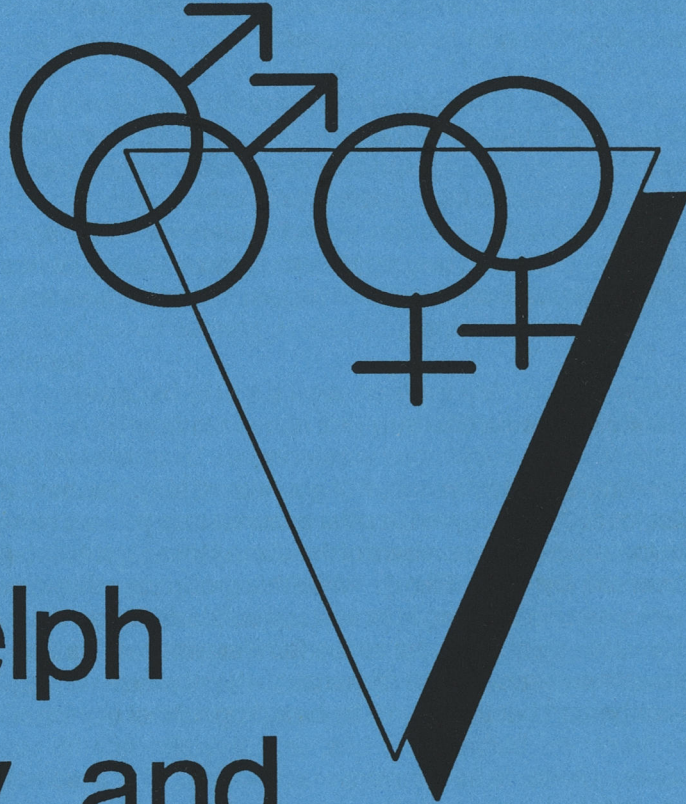
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Guelph Gay and Lesbian Equality

Newsletter for May 1991

Please pass along to a friend or recycle when you're finished reading this newsletter.

News

Adoption ruling in favour of gays

If you happen to be living in Monroe County, Florida, and you are gay then according to a recent ruling, you will now be eligible to adopt a child. The ruling handed down by Judge Ignatius Lester was in opposition to the 1977 statewide ban that barred all homosexuals from adopting children. The judge ruled that the ban violated the privacy and equal protection rights of homosexuals. Although the ruling only applies to Monroe County, it has statewide implications because it can be cited in appeals in other jurisdictions.

March 1991, *Toronto Sun*

Aussie Dykes on Bikes

Planning a trip to Australia? If you intend to go to the "colourful Paddington district of Sydney" you can rest assured that you are being watched by Nora Savona and other members of the Vixen Motor Cycle Club (Sydney's answer to Toronto's Dykes on Bikes). While this group says they are not vigilantes, they present an intimidating front which is sufficient to be a deterrent to gaybashing--something which we are all too familiar with here as well. Nora said that the group's presence was in response to the numbers of her gay male friends who were getting beaten mostly by boarding school boys "out to kill a poofteh."

2 March 1991, *London Times*

What's fit to print?

It seems that when some people try to inform those that really need to be educated on safer-sex practices it is not a good idea that they use terms that their intended audience will understand. It is, furthermore, a bad idea that it be written in a such a way that they will even read it. Clearly, if some people were to have their way, we should only dress-up the "nasty words" and sugar coat

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 to 5:00 pm
Deborah Azim, Support Co-ordinator



them so that they will seem more palatable. I am referring, of course, to the "controversial" article that has closed down a newspaper (*The Cord* at Wilfrid Laurier University: See the 5 March 1991 issue of the *Kitchener-Waterloo Record*) and has resulted in all copies of another being seized by campus administrators (*The Phoenix* at Vanier CEGEP: See the 23 March 1991 *Montreal Gazette*). The crux of the argument that angry administrators present is that because the article describes "excessively erotic behaviour with the intent of creating sexual arousal and sexual excitement"; therefore, it is pornographic and consequently should not be made publically available. Unfortunately, what the administrators do not recognize is that telling someone to "ensure that they protect themselves before having intercourse with another individual because when you're sleeping with someone else you're sleeping with all of their partners" sounds about as exciting as watching grass grow.

Now if the individual is instructed to use a latex condom and use only water-based lubricants then the administrators can truly pat themselves on the back because they've now disseminated the necessary information and who really wants to tell people how to do it right anyway. The problem, however, is that while the information is there, there are many who still do not use it effectively or consistently. So much for patting ourselves on our backs. But a pair of writers (Patrick Barnholden and Padraic Brake) at the Muse, the Memorial University newspaper in St. John's, Nfld., in a well publicised article, described how two male students "get pleasure from anal sex with a condom and lubricating jelly, mutual masturbation and oral sex." The questions we should be asking ourselves at this time are: Are we ethically bound to educate someone completely on safe-sex practices and if so should we do so by whatever means necessary? Or is it sufficient to make the information available albeit unclear or vague so that we can at least say, "We made it available. It's for them to decide how to use it properly."

Perhaps what the outraged individuals should do, instead, is hire someone to design a new information packet using only visual stimuli (not unlike those funny hand symbols on the hand dryers at a public washroom--you know the symbol I mean. It looks like the hands held in a praying position are evaporating!) Just picture it: 1. Two male cartoon figures apparently engaged in



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May 1991

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
Phone Numbers of Interest			1	2	3	4	
GGLE--GAYLINE (519) 836-4550 GGLE--Office (519) 824-4120 ext.8575 GEM (416) 278- WGLA--GAYLINE (519) 438-4329 ACCKWA (519) 741-8300			GLOW (519) 884-GLOW [4569] GRFS (519) 570- PFLAG (Mary Jones) (416) 457- ACGWC (519) 763-2255	GLOW Night Modern Languages Bldg. Room 104, University of Waterloo 9 'til 11 pm	Gaywire CIUT 89.5 FM 7 'til 8 pm GEM see below		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
Grand River Free Spirit Community Church Service held at Unitarian Fellowship House 7:00pm 136 Allen St. E., Waterloo Call GRFS office for any changes		GGLE Yard Sale Social Night 8 pm UC 536	GLOW Night as above	Gaywire as above GEM Coffee House Unitarian Hall 84 S. Service Road Mississauga. 8 pm	PFLAG Meeting Guest Speaker Michael Robinson 8 pm Christ Church 4 Elizabeth Street North (Elizabeth & Queen W.) Brampton	GGLE Yard Sale/Bake Sale 89 Victoria Road North Guelph (South of Victor Davis Pool on same side of street)	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
GRFS as above		GGLE Movie Night 8 pm UC 536	GLOW Night as above	Gaywire as above GEM as above			
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
GRFS as above		GGLE Discussion Night Gaybashing 8 pm UC 536	GLOW Night as above	Gaywire as above GEM as above			
26	27	28	29	30	31		
GRFS as above		GGLE Barbeque 6pm Riverside Park	GLOW Night as above	Gaywire as above GEM as above	GGLE Dance The School House 611 Silvercreek Parkway Guelph 9 pm 'til 1 am		

intercourse and bedecked in something resembling a caricature of a condom with a large green circle surrounding them; or 2. The same scenario but neither man bedecked in anything and instead they are surrounded by a big red circle with a slash across them. I say this with tongue firmly in cheek because of the amazement I feel for the individuals who suggest that it's fine to keep people ignorant. For some people, having information presented in an abrupt manner is the only way that they understand it. The other issue, which I only briefly alluded to, is compliance with following instructions. Which is more likely to achieve greater compliance, eroticizing safe-sex or reducing it to a clinician's health manual? What is your opinion on this issue? If readers express an interest, I will include the article in a future issue of this newsletter. In the meantime, I would greatly appreciate some reader response on the approach of this article. In your comments tell me if you think the article should be published as written or edited for content. And if you think it needs to be edited, how would you go about it? Lastly, is it enough to slap a warning label on the article? All responses will be greatly appreciated so start writing now.

Peter

Miscellaneous Affairs/Events

Donations to our Library

Some recent additions were made to our library by Jennifer and another member. The books include: *Small Changes* by Marge Piercy. A novel set in the early days of the feminist movement. *Dusty Answer* by Rosamond Lehmann. First published in 1927, this book depicts a "sensitive treatment of homosexuality." *Una Troubridge—The Friend of Radclyffe Hall* by Richard Ormrod. A biography that includes some great pictures. *Being Homosexual—Gay Men and their Development* by Richard A. Isay M.D. A psychological development of homosexual men.

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 Jackson Station
 P.O. Box 57457
 Hamilton L8P 4X3

or phone Festival '91 office
 (416) 524-0673
 evenings or please
 leave a message



In keeping with our policy of informing members of our finances, the following is an account of our financial status at the close of the fiscal year ending 31 March 1991.

Income Statement for the GGLE for the year ending 31 March 1991

Balance Sheet as of 31 March 1991

Income	
Dance (net)	2317.72
Miscellaneous	543.00
Memberships	516.00
Donations	28.00
Interest	2.25
	<hr/>
Total Income	3406.97

Expenses	
Newsletter	1629.58
Miscellaneous	726.10
Phone (Gayline)	582.16
Phone (Office)	292.00
Meetings	388.28
Advertising	268.25
Special Events	134.97
Sponsored Events	133.79
Bank Charges	96.50
Library	73.65
Printing	73.09
Travel	62.80
Donations	44.00
Office Supplies	4.30
	<hr/>
Total Expenses	4509.27
Net Income (Loss)	<u>(1102.30)</u>

Assets	
Chequing Account	159.05
Petty Cash	133.98
Dance Float	1250.00
Promissory Note	295.00
	<hr/>
Total Assets	1838.03

Liabilities	
Accounts payable	0

Capital	
Members Equity	1912.79
Retained Earnings	-74.76
	<hr/>
Total Capital	1838.03
Total Liabilities + Capital	<u>1838.03</u>

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.

Deadline

Submissions for the next newsletter must be received by **14 May 1991**.

1991 Monthly Advertising Rates

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

Membership SALE!!!

For this month only, memberships will be available for a reduced rate of ten dollars. Contact any of the executive to renew yours or to purchase a new membership.