

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 December 1991

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

A Message from our Executive Director

The end of another year is upon us and the GGLE, now 18 years since its inception, made it through a difficult and trying year.

I would like to take this time to recognize all those people who volunteered their time and energy to make things work, those people who made monetary donations, those people who donated office supplies and to those people who continue to offer their support for the group: a heartfelt THANK YOU!! A special Thank you to James who donated many of the prizes for our Hallowe'en Dance. With an organization like ours volunteers are important and there can never be too many. I would encourage everyone to get involved and help out. All you have to do is offer you time, your energy and your suggestions. For example, people can help out at dances, at meetings - making the coffee or bringing munchies, help organize and maintain our library and lots more! All you have to do is volunteer.

There are about four months left in the current executives' term and before the new executive takes over. There will be seven positions needing to be filled:

- 1 - Executive Director
- 1 - Publicity Director
- 1 - Education Director
- 1 - Dance Director
- 2 - Activities Directors
- 1 - Financial Director

I encourage anyone interested in seeing the GGLE remain in existence to consider running for a position. Descriptions on all

portfolios are available in the GGLE office.

On behalf of all the Executive, I would like to wish everyone a safe and Happy Holiday! See everyone back at the Tuesday night meeting on 7 January 1992 at 8 pm in UC 536 for a Welcome Back Social Night.

Reggie
Executive Director

Magic Tricks

And you say you don't believe in Magic? Are you as amazed as I am? Up until now the celebrities who contracted AIDS were gay and didn't publicly proclaim their association with the disease. The risks of doing so and the automatic association of AIDS with homosexuality has prevented a spokesperson of celebrity status to emerge. Enter Earvin "Magic" Johnson. He made an appearance on the Arsenio Hall Show and after proclaiming himself the self-appointed spokesperson for the disease he received a round of applause for being heterosexual.

In just a few short days, stock in companies researching the HIV virus has risen, the companies that endorse Johnson have had to re-evaluate their policies of financial support to HIV positive individuals, and sudden bursts of political "conscience" have rallied to increase financial support to AIDS victims and research. So now you're thinking, "well it's about time." Isn't there just a little bit of anger and resentment in this statement? Of course there is! There's no doubt that research efforts will be accelerated and that social awareness will be increased but isn't it difficult to forget that

just a few weeks ago, stigma, taboo and ignorance were the prevalent responses to AIDS? Once again, we see that drastic measures and high visibility are the only ways that a social issue actually receives attention. Should we need to wait until Arsenio Hall or David Duke finally comes out of the closet publicly before widespread attention of gay issues creates political changes as well? Thank you Magic for moving us into the 90's on this issue but next time let's not wait so long to catch up!

C.B.

NABWMT Releases Second edition of *Resisting Racism* Manual

Press Release

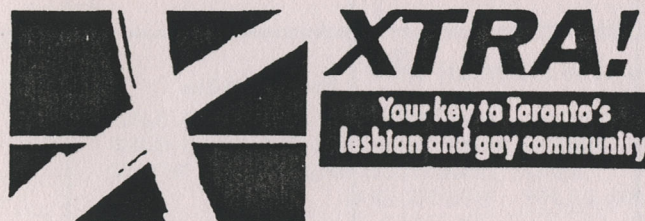
The National Association of Black and White Men Together (NABWMT) has issued a manual to help the gay lesbian community explore the issue of racism. *Resisting Racism: An Action Guide*, edited by Gerald Mallon and published by the Racism Task Force of NABWMT, is a useful tool which should be part of every gay and lesbian organization's library.

The revised manual is divided into four parts: Workshop Outlines; Resource Materials; Essays; and Bibliographies. The first is a series of 20 ideas for workshops to be used by groups to delve in the issue of racism in individual, in groups, and in our society at large. Titles range from "Confronting Racism in the Gay and Lesbian Community," and "Personal Awareness Inventory," to "Consciousness Raising on Racism," and "Examining Our Racial Experience."

Section One contains over 20 workshop outlines, each with the purpose of exploring the roots of racism in ourselves and in our communities. Each workshop module provides an explanation of the workshop's specific purpose and a set of guidelines for the facilitator of the program. In some, there is a list of topics and questions; in others, there are suggestions for materials to be used in conjunction with the workshop. Gays and Lesbians as member of our society are no freer from the racist conditioning that any other members of our culture. They are therefore trapped by institutionalized racism, which goes on subtly and overtly every day. The manual points the way toward exorcising the racist attitudes that are part of everyday life in this country.

The second section, Resource Materials, provides some of the materials needed for use in the workshops, as well as some

... continued on page 4



December 1991

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

<p>1</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Hanukah</p>	<p>3</p> <p>GGLE Movie Night 8 pm UC 536</p>	<p>4</p> <p>GLOW Night Modern Languages Bldg. Room 104, University of Waterloo 9 'til 11pm</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Gaywire CIUT 89.5 FM 7 'til 8 pm</p> <p>GEM Coffee House Unitarian Hall 84 S. Service Road Mississauga. 8 pm</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>																
<p>8</p> <p>GRFS as above</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>GGLE Egg Nog and Christmas Coffee Night 8 pm UC 536</p>	<p>11</p> <p>GLOW Night as above</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Gaywire as above</p> <p>GEM as above</p>	<p>13</p> <p>PFLAG Sharing Christ Church 4 Elizabeth Street North Brampton 8 pm</p>	<p>14</p>																
<p>15</p> <p>GRFS as above</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>GGLE Deadline for January '92 newsletter</p>	<p>18</p> <p>GLOW Night as above</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Gaywire as above</p> <p>GEM as above</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>																
<p>22</p> <p>GRFS as above</p> <p>Winter Solstice (First day of Winter)</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Christmas Eve</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Christmas Day</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Boxing Day</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>																
<p>29</p> <p>GRFS as above</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>New Year's Eve</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Phone Numbers of Interest</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td>GGLE-GAYLINE</td> <td>(519) 836-4550</td> <td>ACCKWA</td> <td>(519) 748-5556</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GGLE-Office</td> <td>(519) 824-4120 ext. 8575</td> <td>ACGWC</td> <td>(519) 763-2255</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GLOW</td> <td>(519) 884-GLOW [4569]</td> <td>GRFS</td> <td>(519) 570- [REDACTED]</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GEM</td> <td>(416) 278- [REDACTED]</td> <td>PFLAG (Mary Jones)</td> <td>(416) 457- [REDACTED]</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">Remember to call the GGLE Gayline for updates on any calendar events!</p>				GGLE-GAYLINE	(519) 836-4550	ACCKWA	(519) 748-5556	GGLE-Office	(519) 824-4120 ext. 8575	ACGWC	(519) 763-2255	GLOW	(519) 884-GLOW [4569]	GRFS	(519) 570- [REDACTED]	GEM	(416) 278- [REDACTED]	PFLAG (Mary Jones)	(416) 457- [REDACTED]
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other helpful information. There are checklists for assessing the degree of racist feelings and attitudes, reprints of articles from the gay press dealing with racism and race-related issues, and other materials that provide useful data for combating racism.

The third section, Essays, provides the reader with a selection of writings by nationally known gay and lesbian activists. It also provides the reader with NABWMT's position on racism, bar discrimination, and the importance of multi-culturalism in our gay and lesbian movement.

Section Four, Bibliographies, is perhaps the most thorough section of all. It is made up of three exhaustive lists. The first was compiled by John E. Bush, PhD, former NABWMT National Co-Chair, and its title is "Recommended Reading List on Race and Racism." The list covers literature as well as nonfiction works. The names of the authors read like a *Who's Who*. The second bibliography was compiled by Ronald L. Trospen, and is entitled "Suggested Readings on Racism and Native Americans." It deals with Native American views on their history, treaty rights, cultural diversity, and how institutionalized racism in this country has separated the original inhabitants of our continent. The third bibliography, compiled by Dr. Bush, is perhaps the most thorough of all. It is made up of more than 90 reading selections and provides a sound basis for anyone wishing to know more about how to combat racism. Altogether, these bibliographies are indispensable for anyone wishing to be well-read

Why not share with other readers your experiences that you feel may be of interest to them . . . Your contributions are what make this newsletter.

on the topic of combating racism.

In all, *Resisting Racism* is a volume worth having and, better yet, worth using. In the words of John Teamer, former National Co-Chair, "*Resisting Racism* is an outstanding educational resource, and contains over 20 proven action plans for confronting racism. The essays, resource materials and bibliographies alone are worth the price of the manual. The anti-racism workshops are designed for easy presentation to any group, and they do not require a professional facilitator. Each of the workshops in the manual has been tested in a variety of community settings around the country." The value of the manual is summed up well by Michael Warner, "A source of indispensable information that pursues unity among diversity. Those utilizing this manual will be the beneficiaries of powerful knowledge that will expand our community well in the next decade."

The *Resisting Racism* Manual can be ordered by sending a cheque or money order for \$19.95 (US) payable to NABWMT Publications, P.O. Box 408641, Chicago, Illinois 60640. It is also available at most gay and lesbian bookstores.

Editor's Notes: Although I realize that this publication may in some ways be more suited to an American audience, the issue of racism is just as prevalent in Canada as it is in the U.S. Perhaps, after reading this manual, someone may attempt to compile a bibliography which has more Canadian content (depending, of course on availability). Lastly, before mailing your cheque to NABWMT Publications, why not go to Glad Day Books or a similar book store that sells gay and lesbian publications and see if they don't already carry this manual.

Peter

Out in the Classroom: Lesbians and Gays in Education

A two-day conference on lesbo/homophobia in the education system

The conference has come and gone the weekend of 9-10 November 1991 and in many ways was a resounding success. There were unfortunately a few glitches, some unforeseen and others that could not be helped [the University's reluctance to allow minors attending the conference from gaining entry into the dance Saturday evening for example], but these did not hinder the main purpose of the conference. That, of course, was to address issues pertinent to lesbians and gays who are in some way affected by lesbo/homophobia and heterosexism within the education system. The format involving Panel Discussions and Workshops allowed for audience members either to simply sit and listen, absorbing what the speakers had to

say, or to become actively involved. Some of the things I got out of the conference was a better sense of the problems that educators face at all levels. The timing of the conference, just before the Municipal Elections, also gave me some impetus to gain a little more knowledge of where the candidates stood concerning gay and lesbian issues. As several speakers at the conference said, having an enlightened Board of Education can only be in our favour when issues of changing curricula, for example, arise.

To all of the volunteers who helped out with billeting delegates, sitting at the registration table (at 9:00 am Saturday and Sunday morning!), and to those GGLE members who attended the conference, thank you for all your support. Thanks also to those people from GLAM and CLGRO who offered their help at the registration table throughout the weekend. A special thank you to John who at the 11th hour came through by helping with some organizational details that I did not have time for or had simply overlooked. I couldn't have done it without you. [Are you thinking perhaps of being the CLGRO representative for the GGLE?]

Peter

**To all GGLE members,
Have a safe and
Happy Holiday season . . .**

See you in '92!

— Your executive

Parents FLAG

Parents FLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays: Toronto/Mississauga/Brampton) meets the second Friday of the month, from September to June, at 8 pm at Christ Church, 4 Elizabeth Street North in Brampton (corner of Elizabeth and Queen Street West). We welcome parents, friends, lesbians, and gays to all our meetings.

For more information please contact:

Mary Jones
Parents FLAG
P.O. Box 92509
160 Main Street South
Brampton, Ontario
L6W 4R1

Phone (416) 457-████

For information regarding specific meeting topics, look at the GGLE monthly events calendar.

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

Sorry for the delay . . .

If this month's newsletter arrives at your home late, don't blame Canada Post Corporation. At least not this time! My work load at work has been incredible this month and subsequently I haven't been able to give the newsletter my full attention. My apologies.

Peter

GGLE Newsletter

The GGLE Newsletter is published monthly by the **Guelph Gay and Lesbian Equality**, P.O. Box 773, Guelph, ON, N1H 6L8; (519) 824-4120 ext 8575. All submissions to the newsletter are welcomed and will be considered for publication. Opinions expressed in any articles or letters are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the GGLE executive or its membership. Direct your submissions or any inquiries c/o **The GGLE Executive** to the above address. Please note that names of contributors should be included but will not be used without their express consent.

Deadline

Submissions for the next newsletter must be received by **19 November 1991**.

Monthly Advertising

All camera ready advertising will be considered for inclusion in the newsletter. For inquiries into monthly advertising rates, please send your correspondence c/o **Peter Fryns** to the above address. The GGLE reserves the right to limit the amount of advertising sold in the newsletter.

The Gayline (519) 836-4550

staffed Mondays through Thursdays from 7:30 to 9:30 pm

office phone (519) 824-4120 (ext. 8575)