

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, LESBIAN
& BISEXUAL
EQUALITY

ROOM 537, UNIVERSITY CENTRE
824-4120 EXT. 8575

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reading this newsletter

SAFER SEX MESSAGE TAKING HOLD

A survey conducted by the AIDS Committee of Guelph and Wellington County, shows that a majority of men who have sex with men are practising safer sex all of the time.

Of the 30-52 year olds surveyed in Guelph and Wellington County last year, 70% practised safer sex all of the time and 29% practised safer sex most of the time.

In the younger age groups though, the safer sex message is not as prevalent. Of the 18-29 year olds surveyed, only 54% practised safer sex all of the time while 38% did most of the time.

The survey was conducted in the fall of 1992 by the agency's Gay/Bisexual Men's Issues Committee. It was distributed through peer contacts, a bar and anonymous phone line calls. The results are based upon 50 responses. Of the men surveyed, 91% lived in Guelph and the remainder lived in Wellington County. Other significant findings of the survey include:

- 77% of all men surveyed said they would go to an anonymous HIV testing clinic if one was offered in

The Discovery — Gwendolyn MacEwen

do not imagine that the exploration ends, that she has yielded all her mystery or that the map you hold cancels further discovery

I tell you her uncovering takes years, takes centuries, and when you find her naked look again, admit there is something else you cannot name, a veil, a coating just above the flesh which you cannot remove by your mere wish

when you see the land naked, look again (burn your maps, that is not what I mean), I mean the moment when it seems most plain is the moment when you must begin again

Guelph or Wellington County.

- Of all men surveyed, 61% were more likely to take the test if they did not have to give their name. Currently, names are requested for confidential HIV testing at the Sexual Health Clinic at 125 Delhi St.

-Of all the men surveyed, 34% did not know where the closest anonymous HIV testing site was located (Hamilton). Of those 30-52 year olds who were tested for the AIDS virus 90% tested negative. Of the 18-29 year olds, 100% tested negative.

-When asked for their best source of information about safer sex, the responses were: the AIDS Committee (20%); publications (18%); media (16%); the Guelph Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Equality group (GGLOBE) (12%); and health care services/professionals (8%).

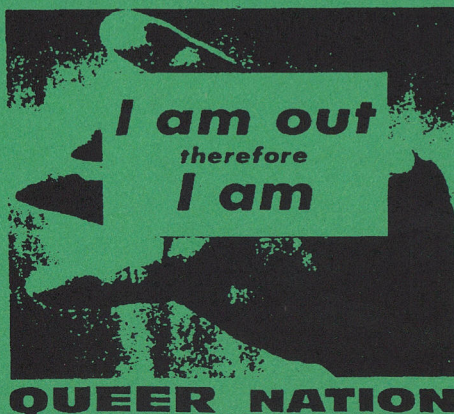
from The AIDS Committee of Guelph and Wellington County

ANNOUNCING:

Starting January 1994 the Sexual Assault Centre of Guelph will be running a 12 week group for survivors of childhood sexual abuse.

This will be a group run by lesbians, for lesbians.

If you are interested contact Chris or Nancy at 823-5806.



AN OPEN LETTER FROM CLGRO

(Coalition for Lesbian & Gay Rights in Ontario)

CLGRO was founded in January 1975 and we've worked on varying issues since then, though grassroots organizing and resource development have been constants. We're perhaps best known for the 12 year struggle to get "sexual orientation" into the Ontario Human Rights Code, achieved in December 1986.

Our relationships recognition campaign began in 1989 with a conference to look at the facts and to garner diverse views. This conference established WGRR, CLGRO's Working Group on Relationships Recognition and in 1991, WGRR/CLGRO published **On Our Own Terms**, a book of legal and practical information about same-sex relationships. In 1992, taking equal rights as the least we could ask for, we researched and published a brief **Happy Families: The Recognition of Same-Sex Spousal Relationships**. From Pride Day to the end of 1992, we sent out 7,000 pink postcards for people to send in to the Ontario government, demanding changes in legislation. Since then, a private member's bill has been introduced and the government promises to act...

The lobbying for spousal recognition is well underway and has attracted much support; if we get enough help to keep the pressure up, we hope to achieve the oft-mentioned level playing field. But we never intended to stop there. Same-sex spousal recognition, even if we get it, won't solve all our problems. Many of us don't want to live in spousal relationships. Some of us see it as buying into a system we don't like. Some of us see it as fine, as far as it goes, but feel it doesn't go far enough.

CLGRO is often seen as an equal-rights group, but in fact we have always been committed to equal rights as a *strategy*, a means to obtain liberation. Our mission statement describes us as "committed to working towards feminism and lesbian, bisexual, and gay liberation by engaging in public struggle for

full human rights and by strengthening co-operative networks for activism." So, work with us on this one! We'd like to hear from as many people as possible.

How would spousal recognition affect you? What would it take to make possible legislative and social recognition of the relationships you choose? What practical steps can we take?

What change(s) in society would have the greatest impact on your life? What would you most like to have happen? What will liberation look like? We need your vision, your thoughts, your energy! We can take on as many projects as people will work on. Write or call and let us know what you think.

▼ C.M. Donald - CLGRO

* Available from CLGRO for \$8 each plus \$2 shipping.

Mailing address: Box 822 Station A, Toronto, ON M5W 1G3; (416) 533-6824

FUCK OFF PATRIARCHY



THE TRAUMA OF OUR JUSTICE SYSTEM

I warn you now, this is a truly scary, yet true story. I expect it will shock some of you and infuriate all of you.

In the winter of 1992, in the tiny community of Killaloe, Gay Doherty met and fell in love with Cherrylle - a married woman with three children: Raphael, a 3 year old boy; Savannah, a 5 year old girl and Ariel, a 16 year old young woman (not their real names). Little did they realize that their growing love and commitment to one another would lead to the massive social, political and emotional hurricane which has blown their lives to bits for over a year now.

Once Cherrylle's husband 'Pete' (not his real name) found out about their relationship he vowed to destroy their lives, to take away Cherrylle's home, children and all her possessions. As hard as it may be to believe, he has been completely successful, with the assistance of the Renfrew County Children's Aid Society (CAS).

Last summer, lawyers on both sides came to some bizarre agreement that allowed Cherrylle to live with her children in the matrimonial home for one week, while 'Pete' lived with the children the next week. Both parents alternately moved in and out of the home every week until one day last September when Savannah revealed to her mother that daddy was doing something sexual to her. She began to show "sexualized" behaviours and said she did not want to go back to daddy.

Gay and Cherrylle immediately contacted the Renfrew County CAS. The first worker they dealt with advised them that it would be best to send Savannah **back for her week with her dad!**

Cherrylle and Gay then spent months trying to get the CAS to help them.

After two initial disclosure of gross sexual abuse perpetrated by the father, the CAS finally agreed they would investigate, but nothing happened. They instead allied with the abuser talking about his rights. He and his lawyer apparently went to the CAS and threatened to sue.

The executive director of the Renfrew County CAS told Cherrylle that he believed she was lying and that the CAS was built on "family values" and women like her shouldn't be allowed to have children.

Meanwhile the children were still spending every other week with their father. A thorough examination by the Child Protection Team at a well-known children's hospital stated that both young children were indeed being sexually assaulted by their father.

In the following eight months that the children were living alternately with their mother, then father, there were more disclosures of sexual abuse which Cherrylle kept reporting to the CAS.

Finally the CAS bared their fangs. They accused Cherrylle of "coaching" the children and dismissed the findings of the experts at the hospital. On May 17, 1993 Pete went to court with affidavits from the CAS.

Eighty-five year old Judge Donlop, who had just come out of 10 year retirement in Pembroke, made a decision to overturn everything. He said the mother was a demented and vicious liar and that being the case, he was giving the matrimonial home and custody of the children to Pete. The only conditions under which Cherrylle and Gay can see the children is for one supervised hour per week in a room with a video camera and a one-way mirror and Pete sitting nearby.

This hideous 'witch-hunt' has made Cherrylle and Gay sick, exhausted and poverty-stricken. They are appealing to us for our help. They desperately need funding to continue this battle. Gay is a trained public speaker, poet, activist-feminist and writer. She spoke in Toronto on Oct. 25, and we are going to attempt to bring her to Guelph in the coming months. We hope to have a fundraising benefit as well to help support Gay and Cherrylle in their struggle.

This travesty of justice is disgusting and totally unacceptable in a Canada that is supposed to protect the rights of all Canadians. You must realize that if this nightmare is happening to them, it is, and will be happening to thousands of lesbians and gay men in the near future.

NOV/DEC 1993

	sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
			9	10	11	12	13
		15	16	17	18	19	20
	14	21	22	23	24	25	26
	28	29	30	1	2	3	4

lesbian, bisexual and questioning women meeting, wrc, uc 107

lesbian, bisexual and questioning women meeting, wrc, uc 107

lesbian, bisexual and questioning women meeting, wrc, uc 107

gober meeting social night uc 536

gober meeting new dimensions counselling 8 pm, UC 536

gober meeting movie - torch song trilogy uc 536

lea delaria trinity - saint pauls centre toronto

gober dance dv8

other dates later this month:
 dec 6 - montreal massacre memorial
 dec 7 - bowling - for location phone globe
 dec 9 - exams start
 dec 14 - gober christmas social, uc 536 at 8
 dec 18 - exams end
 dec 21 & 28 - no meetings

PHONE NUMBERS OF INTEREST

(519) 836-4550 ACKWA
 (519) 824-4120 ext. 8575 ACEWC
 (519) 824-6109 GRFS
 (416) 278- PFLAP (Mary Jones)

GLBE - Gayline (519) 748-5556
 GLBE - Office (519) 763-7255
 GELM (519) 775-
 (416) 457-

Remember to call the GLBE Gayline for updates on calendar events!

JULIE LEE - A TALK ON LESBIAN BATTERING

On October 14, Julie Lee from the London Battered Women's Advocacy Centre presented a seminar on a subject that pertains to us all. Although she focused on Lesbian Battering, same sex battering affects our entire community. Battering is more than just physical abuse. It can be emotional, such as constantly putting your partner down; financial, by limiting her/his access to money; sexual, by pressuring your partner for sex; or physical, by hitting, pinching, pushing, etc. Ms. Lee gave some shocking statistics: one in five lesbians is a victim of abuse by her partner. By the same token, one in five is also an abuser. While some perpetrators and victims have violent backgrounds, other causes like patriarchy and perpetuation of family history were suggested. Patriarchy stresses the domination of the straight white male, and any group who doesn't exactly fit into that category, namely gays and lesbians, are pressured to feel as lesser citizens. A history of family abuse, whether it was directed towards the child, the parent (usually the woman), or an elderly relative, often has a future effect on the child. The strongest message was that unfortunately, we are not a unified group, and we are still victims and perpetrators of abuse.

However, there is hope. There are many groups for abused women and children. While there is one group for male survivors, no group has been started in Guelph for same-sex abusers — yet. But I believe most members of the community will support anyone who is willing to change and overcome the victim/abuser cycle.

HIGHER Quota PRESS

Quota Magazine, a magazine for lesbians,
is available in the GLBE office.

Stop the abuse now - it hurts your partner and it hurts us all - there is help.

▼ Mary

ed. note: If you need more information or want to talk to someone do not hesitate to call Women in Crisis: 836-5710 or 1-800-265-7233. They are there to help you and they are not ignorant of same-sex abuse issues.

"THE GIRLIE SHOW"

It all started when I was asked to attend Madonna's upcoming concert. I had never really been a fan, yet I found that I enjoyed the concert footage on her 'Truth or Dare' video. So, needless to say, I agreed to go and parted with my \$40, trusting that the show would be worth it.

The name of her tour is "The Girlie Show". The set looks something like a cabaret with the billowing red velvet curtain. The show began with a woman, wearing only a red sequined g-string, descending from a pole middle stage!! Suspended in each corner were small boxing rings which contained dancers. Madonna and her entourage came out and performed several of her songs. She did a version of 'Like a Virgin'. The last time she was in Toronto she included the infamous masturbation scene that did not go over too well. This time she did it in a top hat and tails with a German accent. It reminded me of the Hochtaler commercial from a few years ago.

Madonna performed 'In This Life' solo, the song about two friends of hers that died from AIDS related causes. Throughout the entire concert a clown in blue wearing a white mask, which concealed the person's identity, danced in and around the sets. At the end of the concert three well rehearsed, wonderfully choreographed encores were presented to a roaring crowd. The entire concert was an amazing combination of a cabaret, a fashion show, and a carnival. In the final set the curtain raised only in the middle and there stood the blue clown whom revealed herself as Madonna.

▼ Jackie

BARS & CLUBS

The Pink Zone. 223 1/2 King street, Kitchener (519) 744-7465. Wednesday & Thursday, 8 pm to 2 am; Friday & Saturday 8 pm to 3 am.

The Robin's Nest. 26 Hobson Street, Cambridge. (519) 621-2688. Saturdays only (please call to see if open).

The Other Side Club (519) 622-9412

ORGANIZATIONS

AIDS Committee of Guelph and Wellington County (ACGWC); 265 Woolwich Street; Guelph, ON; N1E 6L9. (519) 763-2255. Weekdays 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. ACGWC now has a Newsline at (519) 763-8265.

Lesbian, Bisexual and all Questioning Womyn, meet on Mondays, Women's Resource Centre, UC 107, 5:00 p.m.

Gay and Lesbian Liberation of Waterloo. (GLLOW); c/o Federation of Students; University of Waterloo; Waterloo, ON; N2L 3G1. Office: Campus Centre Room 209, (519) 884-4569, weekday evenings, messages other times. GLLOW provides peer counselling, a book archive, a housing registry, coffeehouses, dances, and general information.

OWLS is a privately organized, non-profit social/cultural group for women over thirty. Call 884-4569 for more information.

Women Out of Doors (WOODS), PO Box 29009, Eatons Centre PO, 55 Wyndham St. Guelph, ON N1H 8J4. (519) 746-████. Social recreational group with various activities, bimonthly newsletter. Membership - \$15/year.

RADIO SHOWS

Feminist Framework Wed. 10:30 to 11 am, CKWR-FM 98.7

Feminist Frequency Sun. 7 to 8 pm, CFRU-FM 93.3

The Leaping Lesbian Radio Show Thurs. 6 to 8 pm, CKMS-FM 94.5

Nowhere to Hide Wed. 8 to 9 pm, CKMS-FM 94.5

Rainbow Radio Network Thurs. 10:15 pm, CHRW-FM 94.7

Women Spin Wed. 6 to 8 pm, CKMS-FM 94.5

Women Wise Wed. 10:30 to 12:30 am, CKWR-FM 98.7

Gaywire Thurs. 7 to 8 pm CIUT-FM 89.5

W O M E N

a discussion group for
LESBIAN, BISEXUAL &
QUESTIONING WOMEN

Mondays 5:00 to 7:00 pm

Women's Resource Centre

University Centre, Room 107

for more info. please call 824-4120 ext. 8559





posters ~ banners
 resumes ~ business cards
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 t-shirt designs ~ brochures
 newsletters ~ promotional
 kits

Room 273, University Centre,
 University of Guelph
 824-4120 ext. 6745

**AIDS Committee of Guelph
 and Wellington County**

265 Woolwich St
 Guelph, ON N1H 3Z8

Tele: (519) 763-2255

Hours: Monday to Friday ~ 8:30 - 4:30 pm



GLBE Newsletter

The GLBE Newsletter is published monthly by the **Guelph Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Equality**, P.O. Box 773, Guelph, ON, N1H 6L8; (519) 824-4120 ext. 8575. All submissions to the newsletter will be 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 GLBE Executive and Membership. Please direct all submissions and any inquiries c/o **The GLBE Executive** to the above address. 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 January 15 1993.

Monthly Advertising

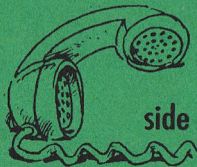
All camera ready advertising and advertising requiring typesetting will be considered for inclusion in the newsletter. For inquiries into monthly rates, please send your correspondence c/o The Editor to the above address. The GLBE reserves the right to limit the amount of advertising sold in the newsletter.

Design, Layout

Kim Paton, *CSA Graphics*.

G . L . B . E .
m e m b e r s h i p s

THE GAYLINE . . . (519) 836-4550



Monday & Wednesday • 7:30 to 9:30 pm
 A 24 hour recorded message is available out
 side of staffed hours.

The Gayline provides peer counselling, support, and information for the Gay and Lesbian community of Guelph and area. Call our office phone at (519) 824-4120 ext. 8575 if you wish to leave a message at any other time.