# **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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# ROOM 537, UNIVERSITY CENTRE

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## **WOMEN'S CAMPUS SAFETY INITIATIVE**

Guelph Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Equality recently applied for and received a \$1,000 conditional grant to make needed improvements to it's Library (which is located in its office, University Centre 537, University of Guelph). The availability of literature, etc. on homosexual/lesbian/bisexual issues in the Guelph area, including the University, is unfortunately quite inadequate. Over the years, G.G.L.B.E. has gathered a good collection of books that deal with gay men's issues and homosexuality in general. It has unfortunately been unable to guarantee equal quantity and quality of literature dealing with lesbian issues and bisexual issues. This grant will specifically go toward purchasing new books and periodicals to improve the G.G.L.B.E. Library, making it more inclusive and representative of the diverse community it is supposed to serve.

The Education Coordinator will be receiving recommendations for possible book purchases until early February. A list with costs will then be drawn up and forwarded to the Women's Campus Safety Initiative Committee and the grant will then follow. Those wishing to recommend a book for purchasing, please forward this request to Matt by Feb. 3, 1995. Requests can be dropped off either at the G.G.L.B.E. Office in University Centre 537 or in the G.G.L.B.E. mailbox in the CSA Office in University Centre 273. Requests must contain the book title, the author, the store from which it can be purchased, and the price.

### **MEETINGS**

### The Practical Alternative to Work

The Annual General Meeting for Guelph Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Equality will take place on Tuesday, March 28, 1995 at 8:00 PM in the University Centre 536, University of Guelph. Several amendments will be proposed to the constitution of G.G.L.B.E. dealing with executive duties and attempts to make the organization more inclusive and representative of the diverse community it is supposed to serve. One proposed amendment will be to ensure representation of both sexes on the executive by stating that at least two (2) Executive members must be women and at least two (2) be men. Another proposed amendment will be to ensure bisexual representation and representation of people of colour or Aboriginal people on the executive. The membership present will decide on these changes by a vote at the Annual General Meeting.

Currently, the Executive consists of (1) the Executive Coordinator, (2) the Treasurer, (3) the Education Coordinator, (4) the Dance Coordinator, (5) the Activities Coordinator and (6) the Publicity Coordinator. These positions will be filled at the A.G.M. So come on out and vote on the future of G.G.L.B.E.

# DANCE

G.G.L.B.E.'s monthly dances for the two month period will be on Friday, January 27 and on Friday, February 24. Both locations will be at the "Old Schoolhouse" at 611 Silvercreek Pkwy North, 9 PM to 1:30 AM. January's Dance is entitled the "Make or Break Dance," and February's Dance in entitled, "Fetish Night."

		Old Schoolhouse 611 Silvercreek
Hanlon Express (Hwy #6 N)	Silveracek Pkwy.	Woodlawn Rd. (Hwy #7)

FEBRUARY 1995							
sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday	
		globe meeting 31 movie night the wedding banquet 8 pm, uc 536	bi mooting 1 5-7 pm, uc 536	2	3	4	
5	6	globe discussion 7 on support services & combing them with WRC & Bi 8 pm, sc 536		9	10	11	
12	13	pink triangle day interview with a vampire - bookshelf 9 pm followed by a social	bi meeting check entarion for time & location	16	17	18	
19	20	no meeting 21	22	go fish 23 bookshelf cinema	dance 24 (fetish night) old schoolhouse silvercreek pkwy	25	
26	27	no moeting 28 reading week					
		PHONE NUMBERS OF INTEREST  GLBE - Gayline (519) 336-4550 GLBE - Office (519) 336-4550 GLBE - Office (519) 236-4520 GLBE - Office (519) 236-4520 GLBE - Office (519) 236-61000 GLBE - Office (519) 236-610000 GLBE					

# **Does It Matter?**

My parents asked me if I am gay. I said, "Does it matter?"
They said, "No, not really."
So I said, "Yes."
They said, "Get out of our lives!"
I guess it mattered.

My boss asked if I am gay.
I said, "Does it matter?"
My boss said, "No, not really."
So I said, "Yes."
My boss said, "You're fired, queer!"
I guess it mattered.

My friend asked me if I am gay.
I said, "Does it matter?"
My friend said, "No, not really."
So I said, "Yes."
My friend said, "Don't call me your friend!"
I guess it mattered.

My lover asked me, "Do you love me?"
I said, "Does it matter?"
My lover said, "Yes."
So I said, "I love you."
My lover said, "Let me hold you in my arms."
For the first time in my life,
Something matters.

My God asked, "Do you love yourself?"
I said, "Does it matter?"
God said, "Yes."
I asked, "How can I love myself? I am gay."
"That's the way I made you," God said.
Nothing again will ever matter!

I believe a lot can be learned from this simple "poem." What's more, you can help raise consciousness over this issue, particularly homophobic friends and acquaintances, by clipping this and sending it to them. If you know Albertans or have contacts in P.E.I., Newfoundland, or the N.W.T., be sure to include them in your list. The time has come to end legal discrimination against lesbians, gays [and bisexuals] in Canada once and for all.

# An Excerpt from The Toronto Star, by Tom Harpur

Alberta is undoubtedly one of the most beautiful and most richly endowed places in the world. It has wonderful people. But it's also home to some of the most bigoted people on Earth. Many of these are fervently ethical and religious, professing to follow Christ. But, whereas their Master embraced the lepers and other outcast minorities in the society of his day, they choose quite deliberately to do otherwise. I'm referring in particular to homophobia and discrimination against [gays, lesbians and bisexuals]. In Alberta (as in Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island and the Northwest Territories), you can be fired legally from your job or be denied housing simply because you are homosexual or bisexual. This is a alaring injustice on any grounds, humanist or religious.

According to a Canadian Press feature on Jan. 6, Alberta's Court of Queen's Bench has ordered the province to include sexual orientation in the Individual's Rights Protection Act, the province's human rights code. However, the Conservative government, knowing it has public support on this issue, is engaged in appealing this decision!

Gary Mar, the minister responsible for Alberta's Human Rights Commission, reportedly supports protection from discrimination for gays, [lesbians and bisexuals]. He rejects the often-heard, silly argument - particularly from his own caucus - that homosexuals are looking for special rights. He is quoted as saying: "We protect people under our human rights code on the basis of the colour of their skin and their religion but that does not give black people or Catholics special rights." Mar is right on target. But prejudice always blinds its victims to clear logic of this or any other kind.

I was in my study thinking of this stroy and of the way in which the current battle for gay, lesbian [and bisexual] rights in North America just now is following virtually the very same pattern that the struggles for racial equality and for women's rights have taken (with all the same arguments as were used then to frustrate basic justice), when a letter came. It was from a dedicated Roman Catholic, who quit the church apparatus and got married many years ago. He has a great concern both for his own Church's attitude to homosexuals and for the current spate of homophobia evident on all sides.

With a brief note saying that it had "moved me very deeply," he included the following piece, which originally appeared in 1980 in La Voz, the newsletter of Dignity, New Mexico. Dignity is an international organization for gay, lesbian and bisexual Roman Catholics and their friends.

CONTINUED -7







### BARS & CLUBS



### **RADIO SHOWS**



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

The Robin's Nest. 26 Hobson Street, Cambridge. (519) 621-2688. Sat. only \$2 members; \$3 non-members

The Other Side Club. 22 Dickson St. Galt (Cambridge) (519) 622-9417. Open Fri. & Sat., 8 pm to 2 am; \$2 members, \$3 non-members, includes buffet.

Club Renaissance. 24 Chalres St. W, Kitchener. Wed. -Sun.; open til 3 am Fri. & Sat.

# F

### **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.

Gay and Lesbian Liberation of Waterloo. (GLLOW); c/o Federation of Students; Univ. 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. 884-4569 for more info.

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.



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

Leaping Lesbian Radio 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

Gaywire Thurs. 7 to 8 pm CIUT-FM 89.5

### **NOTICES**

The G.G.L.B.E. newsletter has a classifieds ads section. Contact the office to place an ad for gay/lesbian/bipositive accomodation, services or friends seeking friends.

PFLAG meets every third Friday of the month. This group offers support to family and friends of bisexuals, lesbian and gays. Please call the Gayline or visit the G.G.L.B.E. office for more information, or call Grace at (519) 822-

The Gayline is looking for a woman volunteer. Hours of volunteer work would be either Monday or Wednesday evenings, 7:30 PM to 9:30 PM, once every two weeks. No experience in phone counselling is necessary, although some training will take place. This kind of volunteer work can be very rewarding. If interested, please call the Gayline at 836-4550 and leave a message for Matt. Thank you.

A new Bisexual Discussion and Support Group has been created as a result of the B.G.L.A.D. Workshop on the issue of bisexuality. "The BI Group" meets biweekly in University Centre 536 (OTAS Lounge). For the past two months, it has met from 5 - 7 PM on Wednesdays. At press time, the group was considering changing the day from Wednesday to some other weekday. For meeting times, consult the Ontarion classifieds section or call the Gayline, 836-4550.



posters ~ banners ~ resumes
business cards ~ photo
mechanical transfers ~ f-shirt
designs ~ brochures ~ newsletters
promotional kits ~ laser printing

Room 274 ~ University Centre 824-4120 ext. 6745

AIDS Committee of Guelph and Wellington County

265 Woolwich St Guelph, ON N1H 3Z8 Yele: (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 February 15 1995.

### **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.B.E. memberships

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, Lesbian and Bisexual community of Guelph and area. Call our office phone at (519) 836-4550 if you wish to leave a message at any other time.