

# Grand River Rainbow Historical Project

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*celebrating the lives and times of rainbow folk in Grand River country*

## *GLOW News*

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# GLOW News

Newsletter of Gay Liberation of Waterloo

January 1983

No. 2

## SAN FRANCISCO RECOGNIZES GAY RELATIONSHIPS

On November 29 the San Fransisco Board of Supervisors officially recognized gay and lesbian relationships in a measure which says that "domestic partners" of city employees have the same status as married couples.

Under the law, two unmarried persons not related by blood may register with the city clerk as "domestic partners". The law would apply to straight as well as gay couples.

The measure accords equal status to gay partners in such matters as visiting rights at county hospitals or jails, bereavement leave, equal consideration by the housing authority and equal coverage in the health insurance program.

"San Fransisco is doing something extraordinarily significant. We are offering the world, which is having a difficult time dealing with changing relationships, a startling definition which says we should not make moral judgements when two human beings come to us and say they love one another," said Supervisor Harry Britt, who sponsored the legislation.

(from Gay Community News, Boston, Mass.)

## THE GAY COMMUNITY IN KITCHENER-WATERLOO, 1982

The following is a brief chronology of some highlights:

April 2 - K-W Gay Media Collective receives standard contract in the mail to rent Victoria Park Pavilion for a dance.

April 5 - After receiving a phone call from a city clerk denying the rental, Joe Szalai and Greg Meadows go to city council to demand access. Council approves rental when Meadows advises there is no connection between

the Media Collective and another gay group that seemed to have had problems. Council refuses Szalai's demand for a by-law prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

June 4 - Dance goes ahead with no incidents. Rumours of queer-bashers appearing because of the publicity kept attendance low.

June 14 - Six delegations approach Kitchener city council asking for a by-law prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation as passed in Toronto, Windsor and Ottawa. Request is referred to civic administration committee.

June 26 - Gays of Wilfrid Laurier University is officially recognized as a student club after refusal of their application in the spring.

July 19 - Recommendation of civic admin to pass the policy goes before council. Meadows asks that policy include city services and facilities as well as employment. The main motion covering employment is passed but a second motion offering protection for services and facilities is defeated.

July 20 - Szalai publicly protests anti-gay literature distributed in downtown Kitchener by Positive Parents of Canada. Stew Newton, head of the group, denies any attempt to influence upcoming municipal elections.

September 15-17 - GLOW sets up table in the Campus Centre during Orientation Week for students and announces plans in the Imprint, the student newspaper.

September 10 - GLOW Cabaret Night featuring entertainers and comedians from Toronto. Prompts critical review by Lorna Warlow in the FM Times.

September 17 - A very successful dance is held at Bridgeport Community Centre for gay groups and the Coalition for Gay Rights in Ontario. There was a feeling that the old magic had been rekindled.

October 15 - Bridgeport happens again but Centre refuses to rent to gay groups in the future.

November 3 - GLOW hosts concert by gay singer-songwriter Charlie Murphy and Jami Sieber.

November 8 - Joe Szalai runs as openly gay candidate in Ward One, Kitchener.

GLOW Wednesday Coffeehouses

Starting January 5, 1983

University of Waterloo Campus Centre Room 110 8:30 pm

Office: Campus Centre 217C 884- [redacted]

Phoneline Counselling hours 7-10 pm weeknights

Annual memberships - 3.00 U of W students and unemployed  
5.00 other

Memberships entitle one to use of our small library, discounts at dances and other events, voting privileges, and having things like newsletter mailed to you, if you wish. The more support we get from you, the more the University will support us.

COMING EVENTS AT GLOW AND GOWLU

January 9 - Dance Committee meeting at 8:30 pm, [redacted] Pequegnat Avenue, Kitchener. Ideas and suggestions welcome.

January 12 - Ian Young, a well-known Toronto writer, will give a reading of his poetry and short stories at the Wednesday night coffeehouse.

January 13 - Gays of Wilfrid Laurier University are showing "La Cage Aux Folles" at their regular coffeehouse.

January 14 - DANCE at the Royal Canadian Legion, Br. 50, 48 Ontario Street N., Kitchener. Tickets will be sold at the door, \$2 for members of the Gay Media Collective, GLOW, LOOK and Gays of Wilfrid Laurier University and \$3 for others.

January 19 - Two staff members from Hassle-free Clinic in Toronto will give a talk on sexually-transmitted diseases, including the AID syndrome, at the Wednesday night coffeehouse.

February 5 - GCDC Dance in Toronto.

February 11 - GLOW presents Track II, a film about the background and events leading up to the 1981 municipal elections and the bath raids in Toronto. The film will be shown at 7:00 pm in room 2083 of the Psychology building (PAS) with a panel discussion following. Admission: \$2.50 for members, \$3.50 for others.

GCDC DANCE

Next dance: Soap: A Remembrance of the 1981 Bath Raids

Date: Saturday, February 5, 1983

Time: 9 pm to 5 am

Location: The Concert Hall, Yonge & Davenport (just above Bloor), Toronto.

Cost: \$7 (refundable for volunteers)

Tickets available from Carl Boone and Joe Szalai.

Volunteers must submit names to Carl by January 5, 1983.

ZAP!

The Bombshelter (our student pub in the Campus Centre) belongs to us too! On Wednesday, December 8, four gay men and three lesbians found out that same-sex couples can dance without receiving a bad reaction from other students. In fact, by last call there were several other same-sex couples on the dance floor, obviously encouraged by the lack of reaction towards us.

We are planning a repeat in the New Year, possibly starting a regular event. Everyone is encouraged to attend, as the experience is quite exhilarating and greater numbers make exactly what is going on clearer to the patrons of the pub.

Carl Boone

GLOW CONSTITUTION

The process of revising our constitution is still going on, although things have slowed through December. Our next constitution meeting will be some time in January, the date as yet undecided. Hopefully we will be finished our revisions early in the next term and can put the new constitution before the membership.

Carl Boone

DONATIONS PLEASE

Over the years a substantial number of books have disappeared from our library. We are now trying to

(DONATIONS, continued)

build up our library and would appreciate ANY donations. If anyone has the following books and wouldn't mind parting with them, we would be especially grateful.

Sappho - Mary Barnard

Homosexual Behaviour Among Males - Wainwright Churchill

S/M - The Last Taboo - Gerald and Caroline Greene

Out of the Closets - Jay and Young

Sexual Behaviour in the Human Female - Kinsey

Religious Roots of the Taboo on Homosexuality - John Lauritsen

The Early Homosexual Rights Movement - John Lauritsen

Lesbian Images - various Womyn

A Family Matter - Dr. Charles Silverstein

Our God, Too - Thomas Swicegood

Law, Liberty, and Psychiatry - T.S. Szasz

The Beauty Queen - Patricia Nell Warren

BOOK REVIEW

Coming Out Right by Wes Muchmore and William Hanson  
(Available at the GLOW Library or Glad Day Bookshop,  
648A Yonge Street, Toronto.)

A wealth of practical information and advice for a man just entering the gay community. There are chapters on coming out to oneself and others, bars, baths, cruising, first loves and relationships, health care and the law.

This book should have been written years ago. In clear, simple prose authors talk about the problems of the "gay lifestyle" and the options open in dealing with them. The parts on health care and the law take into consideration problems all of us face as gay men but rarely talk about.

A Canadian version of this book would be much appreciated since much of the commentary on the law and social conditions differs from the state of affairs in the U.S.

Greg Meadows

Interest in the Coalition for Gay Rights in Ontario has dropped off markedly since the battle was lost last fall to include the phrase "sexual orientation" in the Ontario Human Rights Code as an area protected from discrimination - at least in the Toronto community.

Most of the groups outside Toronto, having big problems of their own, see the Coalition as a chance to share ideas and resources on a grass-roots, practical level. Over the next year GLOW hopes to add its voice in the process of making the organization relevant to local groups - such as in coordinating skills and forming positive attitudes that are desperately needed by many of the members.

CGRO is important to you as a GLOW member because there is much to be learned from the insights, struggles and success stories of gay communities across Ontario. There can be alot gained if we pull together in an organized fashion across Ontario rather than being narrowly local in fighting discrimination and the popular myths about gay life.

OTHER LESBIAN AND GAY GROUPS IN THE AREA

Lesbian Organization of Kitchener, Box 2422, Stn B, Kitchener, N2H 6M3. 744-██████ or 576-██████. Coffeehouse for womyn first Thursday of every month at ██████ Highland Road West, Kitchener. Listen to Leaping Lesbians, every Thursday from 6 to 8 pm on CKMS-FM, 94.5 or 105.7 cable.

Kitchener-Waterloo Gay Media Collective, Box 2741, Stn B, Kitchener, N2H 6N3. 579-██████. A working group interested in broadcast and print media. Listen to Gay News & Views, every Tuesday from 6 to 8 pm, on CKMS-FM.

Gays of Wilfrid Laurier University, WLU Student Union Bldg., 75 University Avenue West, Waterloo, N2L 3C5. 884-1970 ext. ██████. An informal support group for gay men and lesbians. Coffeehouses every Thursday from 8 to 11 pm, History Lounge (room 4-301) in Central Teaching Building, WLU.

Guelph Gay Equality, Box 773, Guelph N1H 6L8. 836-██████. A variety of events, including a dance at 611 Silvercreek Rd., Guelph, last Friday of every month.