

Grand River Rainbow Historical Project

www.grandriver-rainbowhistory.ca/

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

GLOW News

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GLOW NEWS

Gay Liberation of Waterloo

July 1983

Volume 1 No. 8

UPDATE ON AIDS

AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) continues to increase as both a health crisis and a political challenge for gay communities throughout North America and the world.

AIDS breaks down the body's natural immune system, leaving victims unable to fight off a once-rare kind of pneumonia or various forms of cancer. So far the disease is almost always fatal, and neither the cause nor the cure have been discovered. Most doctors believe, however, that the illness is transmitted through body secretions or blood. Generally it has been assumed that the risk of AIDS increases for gay men having a large number of sexual partners.

About 70 per cent of AIDS victims have been gay men, followed by Haitians, intravenous drug users and hemophiliacs. The Centres for Disease Control in Atlanta reported that as of June 24, 1983 there were 1,640 cases of AIDS and 644 fatalities in the United States. In Canada, there have been 30 confirmed cases and 17 deaths resulting from AIDS. Researchers expect that the number of cases will double in six months.

In Toronto, an AIDS Committee has been set up to provide community information and patient support, to act as a liaison with the media and medical community and to raise research money to combat AIDS. The Committee has been granted \$62,000 from the COED programme, a federal-provincial job-incentive project. The Committee will employ six people for six months, one of whom will update a bibliography on AIDS published by the Canadian Gay Archives. The Committee must raise another \$6,000 from the community to match the grant.

At a rally June 29 at Jarvis Collegiate Auditorium, sponsored by the AIDS Committee of Toronto, Hassle-free Clinic and Gays in Health Care, speakers



These three gay men in New York join thousands seeking more research money for AIDS.

Chantal Regnault/Explorer

called on the gay community to organize around the AIDS issue before it is too late.

"This is a time when we most need to come out of the closet," said Michael Lynch, an associate professor of English at the University of Toronto. "Scared, we can run off to hide in the shadows or we can organize to fight for better care. . . . There is a myth that gays are villains (in spreading AIDS) which suppresses the fact that we are victims of AIDS," said Lynch.

So far the provincial government has set up a six-member committee to advise on medical service needs for AIDS patients. According to Larry Grossman, Ontario health minister, there is a possibility that money from government lotteries could be allocated for AIDS research, but he added that "we want to make sure we're not just going to duplicate on a minor scale something that's being done on a major scale in other jurisdictions." According to sources in the medical community, however, the health ministry may

Cont. on page 2

AIDS cont.

allocate \$250,000 to set up a primary care facility at Toronto General Hospital to deal with AIDS patients from Toronto and area.

Health and Welfare Canada has also called together a federal task force on AIDS. The group has made recommendations and is awaiting the response of federal health minister Monique Begin.

During the early part of June thousands marched throughout major cities in the US calling for increased government attention to the AIDS crisis. Probably in response to the increased pressure the House of Representatives passed an emergency appropriation of \$12 million for AIDS research which passed the Senate easily. It seems that there is a great deal of resistance within the Reagan administration to funding research on AIDS.

Dr. Edward Brant, Assistant Secretary of Health in the Reagan cabinet, said on May 24 that he felt no additional funding for AIDS was necessary. However the city of San Francisco has budgeted a total of \$4.1 million for AIDS research.

There are a few items of good news on the AIDS front. Some researchers believe they may have isolated a virus linked with AIDS called HTL, known to cause leukemia in humans. The virus or its antibodies have been found in 25% of AIDS patients, opening the door to possible treatments. Also, the *New York Native* has reported an improvement in patients undergoing an experimental treatment known as plasma-pheresis therapy. The treatment involves removing the patient's blood, separating it into component parts, cleaning it and returning it to the body.

Until very recently it was widely expected that the number of cases of AIDS would double every six months, projecting from past statistics. On June 29, however, the city health commissioner for New York, Dr. David Sencer, announced that the number of cases has not been increasing as much as was expected. For the first five months of 1983, Sencer expects to record 293 cases of AIDS in New York, compared with 194 cases in the same period last year.

"Since we represent about half the cases, the fact that we're not going through the six month doubling that was predicted ought to be good news for the rest of the country."

Readers wishing to obtain further information on AIDS are encouraged to contact the groups listed below.

AIDS Committee of Toronto, c/o Hassle-free Clinic,

556 Church St., Toronto, Ontario M4Y 2E3 has issued a pamphlet summarizing what is known about AIDS and carries out support functions as previously described.

Gay Men's Health Crisis Inc., Box 274, 132 West 24th St., New York, NY 10011, has a monthly newsletter giving current news on AIDS in New York. Please send them a donation to offset costs.

Canadian Gay Archives, Box 639, Stn A, Toronto M5W 1G2 has published a bibliography on AIDS called *Gays and Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome*, available for \$4 postpaid.

OTHER LESBIAN AND GAY GROUPS IN THE AREA

Lesbian Organization of Kitchener, Box 2422, Stn B, Kitchener, N2H 6M3. 578-████ or 745-████
Womyn's coffeehouse first Thursday of every month;
general meeting third Friday of every month. Since
times and locations for LOOK events have changed,
call the above numbers for information. Listen to
Leaping Lesbians, every Thursday from 6-8 pm on
CKMS-FM, 94.5 FM 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 6-8 pm on CKMS-FM.

Gays of Wilfrid Laurier University will be active again in the fall. Contact Jeff through GLOW for further information.

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

Gay? Got a drinking problem? Call 578-████ or 745-████.

GAY RADIO IN NORTH AMERICA

For over a month now, **Gay News & Views** has been broadcasting **Intergay**, a half hour weekly news report from the Intergay Broadcasting Corporation (IBC).

Intergay features gay news from around the United States with reports from correspondents from various cities including Tim McCaskell from Toronto.

Intergay is the largest of three electronic gay information services. The other two are **San Francisco Beat** and **Another Voice**.

Presently, there are some 35 lesbian/gay radio programmes in the United States and seven in Canada. Of these programmes two are in Vancouver (**Coming Out** and **The Lesbian Show**), two in Montreal (**Côte à Côte** and **Parallèles Lesbiennes et Gais**), one in Québec (**L'Heure Gaie**), and two in Kitchener-Waterloo (**Leaping Lesbians** and **Gay News & Views**).



John Fraser (L) and Allan Miller (R) from the Canadian Gay Archives being interviewed on Gay News & Views.

In the United States efforts are now underway to pool the resources of all the existing radio programmes and to establish a national network which would provide news, feature articles and in-depth interviews. This programme could be made available by satellite to National Public Radio's (NPR's) 300 stations or by cassette to non-NPR stations.

In preparation for this project, the Americans have developed an extensive reference library of books and periodicals which has been catalogued by subject matter, thereby making it possible for a broadcaster to do research into a given area. It's an ambitious project and the prognosis looks good.

If you're interested in finding out what is happening in the gay world, or to get the latest on AIDS, or simply to hear a gay perspective on the latest movie listen to **Gay News & Views** every Tuesday evening from 6 to 8 pm on CKMS-FM, 94.5 MHz or 105.7 on cable in the Kitchener-Waterloo-Stratford area. **Intergay** news can be heard from 7:00 to 7:30 pm.

Joe Szalai

GLOW NEWS is a monthly publication of Gay Liberation of Waterloo, a student club at the University of Waterloo since 1971.

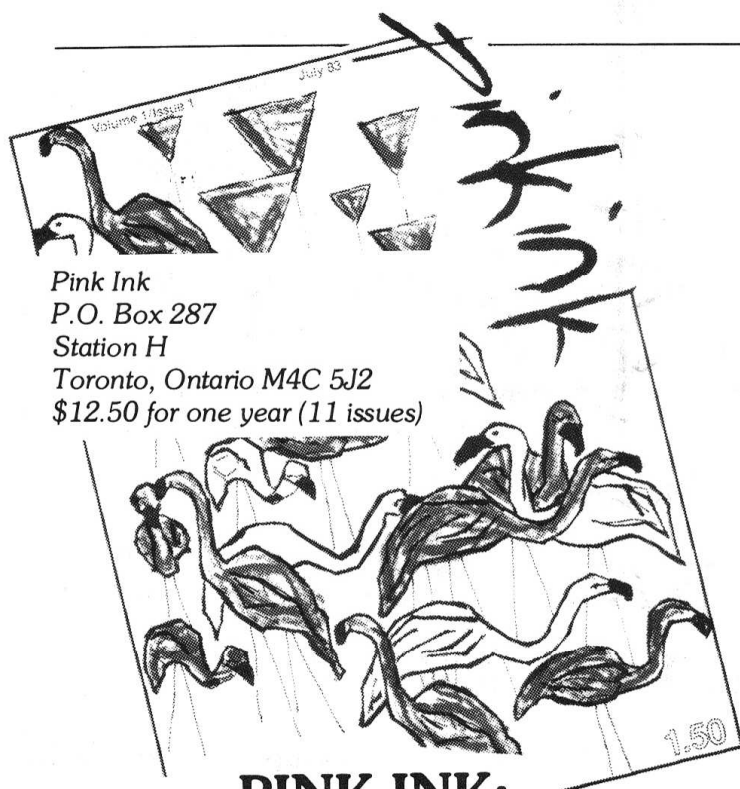
GLOW acts as an educational resource on homosexuality as well as a support and social group for the gay community.

Any ideas or suggestions for this newsletter are welcome. Send material to GLOW NEWS, c/o Federation of Students, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario N2L 3G1. Deadline for the August issue is Wednesday, July 20.

Personal ads will be accepted at the rate of five cents a word; acceptance of ads is at the discretion of the GLOW executive. GLOW cannot convey messages to these taking out ads — use your own address or post office box. For further advertising information contact Greg Meadows through the GLOW office.

The opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of GLOW or the Federation of Students unless otherwise indicated.

This newsletter was designed and typeset by volunteer labour at Dumont Press Graphix, 97 Victoria St. N., Kitchener.



Pink Ink
 P.O. Box 287
 Station H
 Toronto, Ontario M4C 5J2
 \$12.50 for one year (11 issues)

PINK INK: A New National Magazine

Canada has a new national lesbian/gay magazine. The first issue of *Pink Ink* (*PI* — what an unfortunate abbreviation!) hit the stands in time for Lesbian and Gay Pride Day.

It's a clean, crisp-looking magazine with lots of copy but not copy heavy. It has a wonderful article on Lesbian and Gay Pride written by Michael Riordon, one of Canada's best gay writers. The rest of its pages are filled with news, both Canadian and international, an article on gays and the peace movement, women's rights, abortion rights, a profile of Fredericton, NB, interviews and articles on lesbian and gay artists, two regular columns called *Lesbiantics* and *Faggotry* and much, much more.

In many ways it reminds one of the early issues of the *Body Politic* (*BP*). In fact many of the writers and contributors at one time wrote and contributed to the *BP*. *PI*, like the *BP*, wants to provide "an opportunity for the free exchange of ideas: social, political, cultural and sexual. . . ."

In some ways, *PI* is different from the *BP*. For example, *PI* has "a primary commitment . . . to the equal involvement of men and women in all aspects of the magazine. . . ." Although the *BP* might have wanted equal involvement of men and women they have

never succeeded. They have always had more men than women working for it. Perhaps that was due to the fact that years ago there was a national lesbian paper called *The Other Woman* which no doubt drew lesbians away from the *BP*. One can only speculate what would happen if there were a national lesbian paper today.

The other major difference between the *BP* and *PI* is that *PI* does not operate as a collective as does the *BP* and that *PI*'s writers and staff get paid.

Why *Pink Ink* and why now?

The *BP* has often been criticized around the country for being *tooooo* Toronto. That's great for Toronto but not too good for those of us who have chosen to live or remain in smaller cities and rural areas. Our stories have often (but not always) been downplayed in the pages of the *BP*. Events in our communities which are of great importance to us often get scant mention in our national paper. *PI* promises better service. We'll wait and see.

Another charge leveled at the *BP* is that it is too gay male identified. While this may be an accurate charge there is only so much that that *BP* can or could do to invite or involve women and thereby give a great (or gasp! equal) coverage of lesbian issues.

The murmurings and disgruntlements about the *BP* seem to have come to a head when the *BP* published an ad for Red Hot Video. (Red Hot Video, as some of you may know, was firebombed earlier this year by women who were angry and outraged by the material it was selling.) It is therefore not too surprising to see many of the people who signed a letter critical of *BP*'s actions working on *PI*. The *BP* was criticized for a breach of solidarity with the women's movement. The *BP* countered that the breach of solidarity was committed by some in the women's movement who are helping to arm our common enemies — namely, the state, the police, the priests and politicians.

This debate and struggle will no doubt continue for quite a while. *PI* hopefully will contribute to this debate.

Political debates and struggles will from time to time create division in our community. That is not necessarily bad — as long as we recognize our common enemies when times are really tough.

The continued growth and success of *Pink Ink* and the *Body Politic* is, in the final analysis, a healthy development for our diverse lesbian and gay communities.

Joe Szalai



LESBIAN & GAY PRIDE DAY TORONTO 1983

Lesbian and Gay Pride Day was celebrated in Toronto on Sunday, June 26 by about 2000 people and a wide variety of social, religious, political and professional lesbian and gay groups.

Groups set up booths in the park at King's College Circle at the University of Toronto, bands played and speakers talked throughout the sunny, humid afternoon. CGRO (Coalition for Gay Rights in Ontario) sold fruit juice and fruit salad, Right to Privacy Committee provided hot dogs and pop and the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence set up a "guilt disposal booth" next to a display of the Metropolitan Community Church.

A parade followed at 5 pm, winding its way along Bloor, down Yonge Street for a few blocks and back along College. The mood was festive as the crowd cheered at passers-by and danced on the street. There were no problems along the route — most spectators seemed sympathetic/amused. A dance followed at the park with music provided by the Parachute Club.

Lesbian and Gay Pride Day commemorates the Stonewall Riots of June 1969. Patrons at the Stonewall Inn, a gay bar in New York City, reacted to what was supposed to be a routine police raid by trapping cops inside the bar and setting up barricades. Demonstrations and other forms of gay public action followed — and, according to legend, the current gay liberation movement was born.

The comparative vastness of the Toronto parade made me aware that much of the gay movement has centralized in larger cities and that smaller communities are organizing at a slower rate. It is common for gay people in Kitchener to live a closeted life at home while enjoying the large bar and bath scene at the Mecca on Lake Ontario. They feel they can enjoy the benefits of a large community without incurring the risks of coming out to friends, family, employers, neighbours. I saw a more than a few Kitchenerites on Yonge Street as I walked in the parade, and not all of them acknowledged me.

Many who do come out get discouraged and seek a less conservative atmosphere. But those who stay find they need the support of others who are out and claiming their right to live here. (Still others go to Toronto and come back, finding it just too damn expensive!)

Right now it seems ridiculous to talk about a public Lesbian and Gay Pride Day in Kitchener-Waterloo. But it probably seemed just as ridiculous ten years ago in Toronto.

If Toronto and other larger centres have shown us anything, it is simply that the coming out of our community is a steady, thoroughgoing process that makes the impossible thinkable.

Greg Meadows

SOUND OFF

Soundoff is a space reserved for the free expression of ideas. Send yours today to: GLOW NEWS, c/o Federation of Students, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario N2L 3G1.

One night last week I was sitting at the bar in the American Hotel in downtown Kitchener cruising men and otherwise minding my own business when it happened again.

A man who I knew from before and who knows that I'm active in the gay community came up to me and said, "Do you know what's wrong with the community here?" Oh good, I thought to myself, a possible diversion from the cruising which was not that good that evening anyways. I always enjoy a good political rap. So I quickly gathered my thoughts and said, "Well, there are some problems. There's lots to do but not too many guys want to dirty their hands. And . . ."

"Well," he interrupts, "I'll tell you what's wrong around here. We have an image problem. The groups in town are too militant. You're not going to win any friends that way. And the dykes. Have you seen the way some of them dress? And they're such diesels. They're the ones who always cause the fights in here."

"Wait a second," I said. "You shouldn't generalize like that. And I think the groups in town aren't militant enough."

"Well, maybe," he said. "But we really do have an image problem. I'm not saying what you should do, but I know gays in the States who give money to kid's charities . . . and they don't even tell they're getting it from gays. It makes the gays feel good and they're actually helping people who really need it. I think the groups in town would be further ahead doing things like that."

"Look," I said. "The groups in town don't have that much money and if they did we would be better

off helping ourselves because no one else will. Besides I know of gay groups who have wanted to help kids and others but their donations were refused because it was from gays."

"Well, that's what I'm trying to say," he said. "You don't have to tell them that you're a gay group."

By now I was getting a bit hot around the collar.

"If you want to make a donation, go right ahead. I don't have the money," I said.

He must have sensed my irritation because suddenly he said, "Oh, excuse me, there's someone I have to see and he just came in. I'll talk to you later."

"Sure. Anytime," I said.

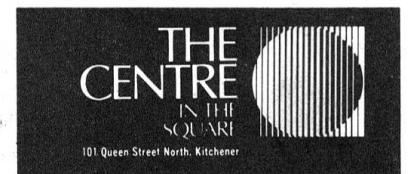
Fuck. He's gone. And then all the things I wanted to tell him came flooding into my mind.

The first thing I was going to tell him was that one can be gay and an asshole at the same time. And that he was both. Although I would have called him homosexual. The second thing I was going to tell him was that it was straights who have an image problem. I was going to tell him that it's straights who can't deal with gays. It's straights who for centuries have oppressed, mutilated and killed not only gays but their own kind as well. I was going to tell him that I wasn't going to solve my image problem. That I wasn't going to get married and have kids and live in Forest Heights, or Beechwood or Gresham Place.

I was going to tell him all this but I didn't. Perhaps he'll read this but I have my doubts . . . he probably only reads (or more likely looks at) *Mandate* or *Blueboy* . . .

Joe Szalai

KW-LGDC Dance Dates for 1983



THE STUDIO

July	15
August	5
August	19
September	2
September	16
October	21
November	18
December	2
December	31

All dances are from 9:30pm 'till 2

\$1.50 for members
\$2.50 for non-members
unless otherwise indicated

SARNIA PAPER CONDEMNED FOR ANTI-GAY EDITORIAL

The *Samia Observer* was severely criticized by the Ontario Press Council on June 30 for an anti-gay editorial relating to discrimination against gays in the armed forces.

A January 4 editorial entitled "Even Canada's queers want full rights," described gay men and lesbians as "perverts," "pansies," "another species," "moral degenerates," "wishy-washy types" and said that "... the day our country's regulations allow gays and lesbians to fight side by side with the normal soldiers will be the day the war is lost. . . ."

Gays of Ottawa brought the editorial to the attention of the Press Council, calling it an "incredible mixture of hate, innuendo and stereotypic falsehood."

The Council "considers the editorial tone and content cruel and vicious, the attitude dehumanizing, the language distasteful, the insensitivity and the attitude toward human rights appalling."

The Press Council is a voluntary association of daily and weekly newspapers in Ontario. Newspapers are

under no obligation to follow the rulings of the Council but are required to publish its findings to remain as members.

In other gay-related media news, GLOW has taken the *Kitchener-Waterloo Record* to task for its policy towards gay "Companion" ads, in which readers may advertise for a friend, spouse, lover and so on. The *Record* refuses to print any ad with gay content.

GLOW members wrote a letter to the *Record* calling the policy "highly discriminatory and arbitrary". The *Record* was asked to state its policy in writing and provide some rationale for it.

Sandy Baird, publisher of the *Record*, responded that the policy comes under review on a regular basis and that GLOW's criticisms would be taken into consideration. The paper has published the letter but so far has not explained its policy. If no satisfaction is found in dealing with the *Record* directly, GLOW has the option of appealing to the Press Council.



WELCOME TO ALL U.F.M.C.C. DELEGATES

CANADA EH?

AMONG FRIENDS ENTRE AMIS

A LESBIAN AND GAY DANCE
SATURDAY, JULY 16, 1983
CONCERT HALL • 888 YONGE ST • TORONTO • 9 PM - 5 AM
TICKETS: \$7.00/\$5.00 AFTER 1:30 AM
AVAILABLE AT GLAD DAY BOOKSTORE
PROCEEDS TO: Gay Community Dance Committee

gay

got a drinking
problem?

578-██████ or 745-██████

COMMUNITY EVENTS

July 5 — **Gay News & Views** radio programme, 6-8 pm on CKMS-FM, 94.5 FM or 105.7 cable. Gay News & Views now features **Intergay** from 7:00 to 7:30, an information service carrying news from gay communities all across North America.

July 6 — **GLOW coffeehouse**, 8:30 to 11:00 pm in Room 110 of the Campus Centre, University of Waterloo. A regular social event — non-alcoholic, non-smoke-filled.

July 7 — **LOOK coffeehouse** for womyn. Call 578- [redacted] or 745- [redacted] for information on time and location.

— **Leaping Lesbians** radio programme, 6-8 pm on CKMS-FM. Members of the Lesbian Organization of Kitchener present womyn's music and news of interest to the lesbian community.

July 12 — **Gay News & Views**, 6-8 pm on CKMS-FM.

— **AIDS Committee of Toronto** meeting. All welcome. 519 Church St. Community Centre, 8 pm. Info: Hassle-Free Clinic, (416) 922-0603.

July 13 — **GLOW coffeehouse**, 8:30 to 11:00 pm in Room 110 of the Campus Centre.

July 14 — **Leaping Lesbians** radio programme, 6-8 pm on CKMS-FM.

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July 15 — **DANCE** sponsored by the K-W Lesbian and Gay Dance Committee at the Studio, Centre in the Square, 101 Queen St. N., Kitchener, 9:30 pm to 2:00 am. Tickets will be sold at the door, \$1.50 for members and \$2.50 for non-members; free admission until 10:30 pm! Door prizes, new D.J. Out-of-towners — just follow the signs to the Centre.

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— **LOOK General Meeting**. Call 745- [redacted] or 578- [redacted] for details of time and location.

July 16 — **"AMONG FRIENDS/ENTRE AMIS"**, A Lesbian and Gay Dance sponsored by the Gay Community Dance Committee (see notice). Tickets available in advance at the GLOW coffeehouse or from Joe Szalai for \$7. (Refundable for volunteers.) 888 Yonge Street, Toronto — the Concert Hall at the corner of Yonge and Davenport, 9:00 pm to 5:00 am. Tickets also sold at the door for \$7 or for \$5 after 1:30 am.

July 18 — **Right to Privacy Committee** general meeting. 519 Church St. Community Centre, 8 pm. Speaker to be announced.

July 19 — **Gay News & Views**, 6-8 pm on CKMS-FM.

July 20 — **GLOW coffeehouse**, 8:30 to 11:00 pm in Room 110 of the Campus Centre.

July 21 — **Leaping Lesbians** radio programme, 6-8 pm on CKMS-FM.

July 23 — **"How to Get Anti-Discrimination By-Laws in Every City in Ontario."** A workshop, part of a two-day Coalition for Gay Rights in Ontario meeting in Guelph. Billeting, daycare available by advance request. Info: (416) 533-6824.

July 26 — **Gay News & Views**, 6-8 pm on CKMS-FM.

July 27 — **GLOW coffeehouse**, 8:30 to 11:00 pm in Room 110 of the Campus Centre.

July 28 — **Leaping Lesbians** radio programme, 6-8 pm on CKMS-FM.

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July 29 — **DANCE** sponsored by Guelph Gay Equality at the Old Schoolhouse, 611 Silvercreek Parkway, Guelph 9:00 pm to 1:00 am.