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Fifth Freedom, 1973-12-23

The Mattachine Society of the Niagara Frontier

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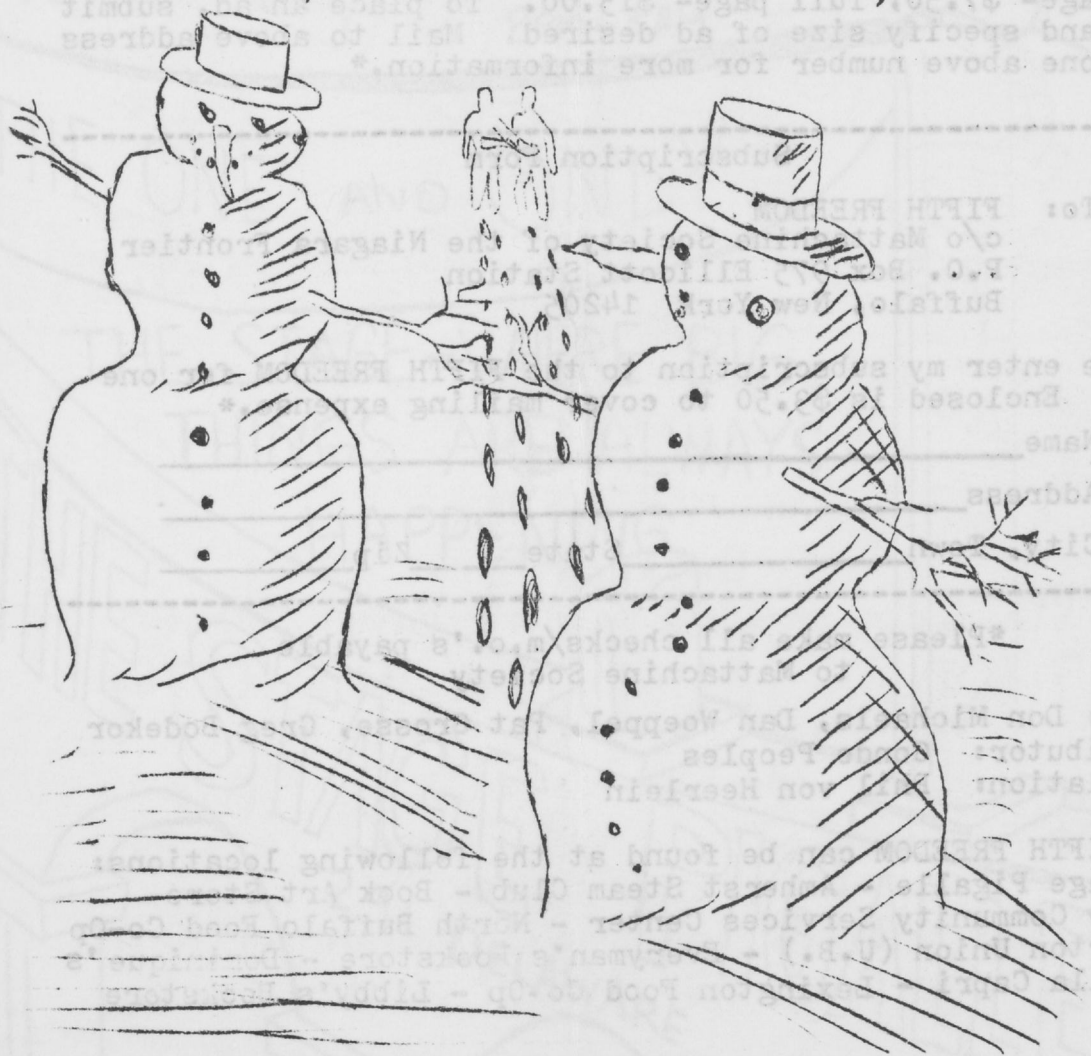
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publication of the niagara frontier gay community

FIFTH FREEDOM

volume 2, number 15 december 23, 1913



THE FIFTH FREEDOM IS PUBLISHED
BY

THE MATTACHINE SOCIETY OF THE NIAGARA FRONTIER, INC.

Phones: (716) 881-5335 or 684-5315

WE WELCOME RESPONSE: If you have any comments or contributions, send them to the below address, attn: FIFTH FREEDOM.

ADVERTISING RATES: 1/3 column- \$2.50; 1/3 page- \$5.00;
1/2 page- \$7.50; full page- \$15.00. To place an ad, submit copy and specify size of ad desired. Mail to above address or phone above number for more information.*

Subscription Form

Mail To: FIFTH FREEDOM
c/o Mattachine Society of the Niagara Frontier
P.O. Box 975 Ellicott Station
Buffalo, New York 14205

Please enter my subscription to the FIFTH FREEDOM for one year. Enclosed is \$3.50 to cover mailing expense.*

Name _____

Address _____

City, Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

*Please make all checks/m.o.'s payable
to Mattachine Society

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Contributor: Conde Peoples
Circulation: Phil von Heerlein

The FIFTH FREEDOM can be found at the following locations:
Stage Pigalle - Amherst Steam Club - Book Art Store
Gay Community Services Center - North Buffalo Food Co-Op
Norton Union (U.B.) - Everyman's Bookstore - Dominique's
Villa Capri - Lexington Food Co-Op - Libby's Bookstore

ATMOSPHERE - MUSIC - MERRIMENT

FIT FOR A KING AND QUEEN

DISC JOCKEY DISCOTHEQUE

FEATURING QUADRAPHONIC SOUND NIGHTLY

8PM - 3AM

THE ONE AND ONLY

THE STAGE - WHERE BIG
THINGS ARE ALWAYS
HAPPENING

THE STAGE PIGALLE

291 DELAWARE

THE GAY CENTER AND MATTACHINE
IN ASSOCIATION WITH
MOTHER BRUCE AND Miss Tish
Proudly PRESENTS

THE SNOWFLAKE JOLLIES



RANDEE CARDELL

TRACY DURAYE

BOBBI LANDON

STARRING

SANDY STORM

AMANDA SANCHEZ

CLAUDETTE

AND MR. GARY DEE

IN A DAZZLING REVUE

PLAYGIRLS SHOWTIME: 9:45 PM - BUFFET 11:00 PM

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19th 1974

BEER
20¢

UNITARIAN HALL

ELMWOOD AND WEST FERRY

POP
20¢

9:00 PM - 1:00 AM

\$4.00 - INCLUDES - DANCING - ENTERTAINMENT & BUFFET

TICKETS SOLD AT THE DOOR OR THE CENTER

STAGE PIGALLE

2911 DELAWARE

Buffalo's most popular
MALE BAR

PROGRESS REPORT

In growing numbers, people are taking advantage of what the Gay Community Services Center has to offer. Our Coffee Houses are becoming very popular. Men and women are spending an evening with coffee, games, tea, talk, and relaxation. We are also proud to announce that our counseling training groups have graduated and have doubled our staff of counselors. This helps, because our calls for legal, medical and counseling help, as well as for information have increased greatly. Our counselors are being asked to help train the counseling staffs of three Erie County Mental Health Centers.

In terms of publicity, the Advocate in California, Spectrum at UB, STRAIT at SUCB and the Buffalo New Times have approached us for articles and they hope that we can do weekly or monthly articles. The Fifth Freedom is going into the business of making gay greeting cards, calendars, stationary and limited reprints of original gay art works, all at very inexpensive prices. Businesses in Allentown are interested in advertising in the Fifth Freedom. I guess they realize where their bread is buttered, so to speak. The VD Clinic in the Rath Building has asked us to create some gay VD literature and posters that they will reprint and distribute.

Many mutual assistance ties are developing with mental health, medical and legal organizations here in Buffalo. They are realizing that we can be as much help to them as

(con't on p.6)

Progress Report (con't from p.5)

they can be to us.

As to what we offer to the larger Gay community--we are moving ahead in the entertainment field. We have set Jan. 19th as the date to give the gay community the Playgirl Showgirl Revue. A form of entertainment that gays want as witnessed at Big Daddies. A February date is set for the Miss Empress Contest with open competition to all female impersonators in the area.

For those with other tastes, plans are in the works for booking many of the full-length gay flicks you can only see in New York City or Toronto.

But of course we need alot of help. We lack the people power to get these and other projects roling. If your grumbling that it's a bore to be gay in Buffalo, tell us what you want and get some people together to help.

Greg Bodekor
Center Director

Due to their popularity, the counselor training sessions will start weekly in late Jan. Call the Center or stop in to sign up now. It's good for your head.

The sessions will last eight consecutive weeks and will be limited to an enrollment of 10 persons per group.

Upon completion of the sessions you will be eligible to be a staff counselor at the Center if you wish it and on approval of your instructors.



POETRY

POEMS BY CONDE PEOPLES

TWO PEOPLE

Two people defying all the senseless pratter
"You are sick, you'll burn in hell
For your unnatural crime!"
Two people who love, openly and without fear
Who walk toward that new dawn of freedom.

While the moon smiles so gently down upon them
And the sun pronounces his blessing
Two people walk hand in hand defying all the
senseless pratter
"You are sick, you'll burn in hell
for your unnatural crimes"
But I ask what can be more natural
than two people who love.

LOVER

Lover, there I see you sleeping
Your hair tousseled in
A shapeless mass
I listen to your breathing,
I study the smile which plays
So gently upon your face
You are so content, so free, so happy
It is a pity that I must leave
That I must continue my aimless wanderings alone
Comes the dawn, I must depart
Sleep on lover and dream
Dream of better days and happier times
Lover of the night.

Gay Poets--This is your opportunity to reach the Buffalo
Gay audience. Send copies of your poems to the address on
the inside cover.

12/16/73

Dear Editor,

I am writing this letter in the hope that my other gay brothers and sisters will be made aware of the blatant oppression that exists in one of our our so-called "gay" bars.

Last night a small group of us (a mixed group of men and women) went to this "gay" bar to enjoy each other's company over a few drinks. We were sitting at a table--quite inconspicuous, quite respectable--when a charming (and I do use that word loosely) gentleman came over, put his hand on my shoulder and said, "Boys, that's against the rules,"--I had my hand on my lover's knee!

Now come on--this isn't 1960, or even 1970, and I don't understand why we continue to put up with this nonsense. I thought "gay" bars were for gay people?! The laws against holding hands, even kissing have been abolished! Why do we continue to be harassed this way?

I am not radical--yet this kind of treatment leaves room only for radical action. I am a proud gay. A gay that likes to hold the one he loves. A gay that enjoys going out and having fun--but a gay that will not be harassed by his own people--who too, claim to be gay.

This is not the first time treatment like this has gone on, nor will it be the last unless we do something about it.
(con't on p.9)

1

FOLIE MAGNIFIQUE
GIFTS-DECORATOR ITEMS
MOBILES-BAR FIXTURES

FREE COFFEE

0

OPEN XMAS DAY

5

SELMWOOD

ROOMMATE WANTED: to share house on Transit Rd., Wmsvl. \$65/month, utilities incl., Own bedroom. To move in Jan. 1st, '73. Call 688-5036. Ask for Mike or Bob.

OUR THANKS TO OUR FRIENDS IN NIAGARA FALLS FOR THE LARGE AMOUNT OF FOOD FOR POOR GAYS. WE ALL APPRECIATE IT. THE RESPONSE OF THE GAY COMMUNITY HAS BEEN GREAT AND WE ARE CONTINUING THIS AS AN ONGOING EFFORT.

LETTERS (con't from p.8)

We should think more of ourselves than to subject ourselves to harassment from the gay world--Damn--we get enough of that from the straights. So please touch, hold, feel, express your love for each other. I will!

Thank you,
Steve

FIFTH FREEDOM STAFF MEETING

Every Thursday night, 8PM at the Gay Community Center, 45 Allen St. If interested in joining, please attend. We are interested in people who have experience in advertising work, layout, photographers, writers, and artists. Big changes are planned in the near future which will change the entire appearance of the FIFTH FREEDOM.

YOU CAN HELP!!

The Gay Community Ctr. library needs all of the gay material you can find.

Fiction and non-fiction books, new and used, will help to increase our now developing central point of gay printed material in the Buffalo area.

Please spend some time looking through back issues

of magazines and newspapers for articles that concern gay life in any way.

If you wish to keep the original article, we will photocopy and return it.

Someone may be looking for what you find, so bring it or send it to: Gay Community Ctr., Rm 26, 45 Allen St., Buffalo, N.Y. 14202

3PM-2AM-MON-FRI-12NOON-2AM-SAT-SUN
ROCHESTER 430 MAIN ST 325-9420
ACROSS FROM THE EASTMAN
THEATRE

THE FABULOUS NEW
RED CARPET LOUNGE

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
THURS-SUN
FEATURING: PATTI AND
THE BOYFRIEND, VOCAL AND ORGAN

The following is a continuation of a series of questions and answers about homosexuality. This series is reprinted from a booklet distributed by GAA (Gay Activists Alliance) in New York called "20 Questions About Homosexuality." Mattachine now has reprints of the booklet available at the Gay Community Services Center, 45 Allen St.

QUESTION #18 MUST THERE BE ANY LAWS
RELATING TO HOMOSEXUALS?
WHAT ABOUT PROSTITUTION? PUBLIC SEX?

Lesbians hardly ever patronize prostitutes, and homosexual men do so much less frequently than heterosexual men (this may come as a surprise to those reading about homosexuality is limited to books about male hustlers). But our experience as the real victims of laws against victimless crimes leads us to the view that all such laws should be repealed--whether applied to homosexuals or heterosexuals.

Laws against sex in public places are somewhat more complicated, since they are partially designed to protect non-participants from unwanted annoyance. Also, only a small proportion of gay people prefer to indulge in sexual activity in such places as public men's rooms. But those who have studied the subject extensively, like sociologist Laud Humphreys, point out that the "action" in such settings is structured so that no individual need fear being an unwilling witness or participant, and that if such action were truly "public" it would hardly be necessary for the police to use such techniques of discovery as peepholes, trick mirrors and closed-circuit TV. They add that the socially destructive side-effects of such "tearoom" activity--blackmail, corruption, destruction of families and reputations--are largely the result of police activity, and they urge that law-enforcement manpower be used where there is the greatest need: to protect people against genuine crimes.

THE PLAYGIRLS ARE COMING

FEMALE IMPERSONATORS WANTED

The entertainment committee of the Gay Community Center wishes to get our act together, and try to make a better social life for our Gay brothers and sisters. We're looking for people interested in show biz, and who would like to show their talents. If you like drag and like to act it out to records, NOW is your chance for entertainment. If interested, please call the Gay Community Center at 881-5335. You must be able to supply your own drag (costumes), make-up

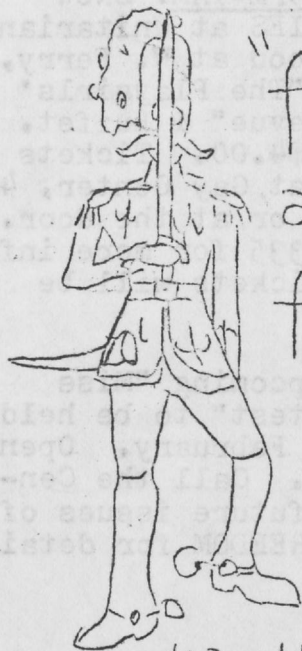
and wigs.

We will be open to any suggestions such as monthly drag shows. They will tentatively be held at the Unitarian Hall, Elmwood, at W. Ferry. Your time and talent will be donated for the cause of keeping gays together socially. Thank you.

The Entertainment Committee
----get involved Now----

T. Tish
Chairman

881-5335
45 Allen St.



"fashions from
around the world
for the liberated male"

The
Town Squire

43 allen st.

buffalo

BULLETIN BOARD

CALENDAR

- FRI., 12/21-7PM-?: Coffee House at Gay Community Ctr., 45 Allen St., Good times for all.
- MON., 12/24-11PM-MID: "Sisters of Sappho"-Lesbian Radio Program, WBFO FM 88.7
- TUES., 12/25: Season's Greetings from the FIFTH FREEDOM & Mattachine Society
- WED., 12/26-9:30PM: "Stone-wall Nation" Radio Program, WBFO FM 88.7.
- FRI., 12/28-7PM-?: Coffee House at Gay Community Ctr., 45 Allen St.
- SUN., 12/30-8PM: Mattachine General Meeting at the Gay Community Services Ctr., 45 Allen St., you need not be a member to attend.
- MON., 12/31-11PM-MID: "Sisters of Sappho"-Lesbian Radio Program, WBFO FM 88.7
- TUES., 1/1: Happy New Year!
- WED., 1/2-9:30PM: "Stone-wall Nation" Radio Program, WBFO FM 88.7.
- FRI., 1/4-7PM: Coffee House at Gay Community Ctr., 45 Allen St. Good times for all.
- MON., 1/7-11PM-MID: "Sisters of Sappho"-Lesbian Radio Program, WBFO 88.7. 8PM: Gay Liberation Front meeting at Norton Union, UB, Rm 233.
- WED., 1/9-9:30PM: "Stone-wall Nation" Radio Program, WBFO FM 88.7.
- FRI., 1/11-7PM-?: Coffee House at Gay Community Ctr., 45 Allen St.
- SUN., 1/13-8PM: Mattachine General Meeting at the Gay Community Ctr., 45 Allen St.
- MON., 1/14-11PM-MID: "Sisters of Sappho"-Lesbian Radio Program, WBFO FM 88.7 8PM: Gay Liberation Front meeting at Norton Union, UB Rm 233.
- WED., 1/16-9:30PM: "Stone-wall Nation" Radio Program, WBFO FM 88.7.
- FRI., 1/18-7PM-?: Coffee House at Gay Community Ctr., 45 Allen St.
- SAT., 1/19-9PM-1AM: SNOW FLAKE FOLLIES at Unitarian Hall, Elmwood at W. Ferry, featuring "The Playgirls' Showgirl Revue" & Buffet. Admission \$4.00. Tickets available at Gay Center, 45 Allen St., or at the door. Call 881-5335 for more info. Only 250 tickets will be sold.
- Watch for upcoming "Miss Empress Contest" to be held sometime in February. Open competition. Call the Center or see future issues of the FIFTH FREEDOM for details.